



# NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## 2011 Tour of German Gardens

### June 15 – June 30, 2011



Karl Foerster Garden, Potsdam (near Berlin)

The Northwest Horticultural Society is sponsoring a tour of German gardens from June 15, 2011 beginning in Munich, Germany and ending in Amsterdam on June 30, 2011 (14 days and 15 nights). The tour will be managed by STITA Group Tours, a professional tour company located in Britain that has been in business for over fifty years. They have been responsible for several German garden tours taken over the past few years by the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon and come highly recommended by them. They will provide a tour manager who is fluent in English, German and Dutch. The Tour leader will be Robert Herman.



Robert Herman

Robert has over 30 years of experience as a professional horticulturist, seven of which were spent as Garden Master for the Countess von Zeppelin Nursery in Germany. He currently teaches plant materials and design courses and chairs the Horticulture Department at Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury, CT. Robert was the introductory speaker at our 2009 Symposium. His talk explained the German ecological approach to design by combining perennials by habitat, where plants are selected and grouped and planted according to their ideal growing situation. This is the basis of the New Perennial gardening movement.

Robert is very knowledgeable about contemporary German gardens and designers. He has personal contacts with designers and has been able to arrange visits to private gardens and is also arranging for us to meet these designers as part of this tour. He will also provide us insights into the gardening culture of the gardens we visit.

The tour is priced in Euros. STITA Group Travel will set up a Euro account that you can transfer funds into from your bank. We will let you know when this has been set up. We are strongly encouraging participants not to use a credit card to pay for this tour, as it will add up to 8% to your total cost. We will send information on credit card use and the use of ATM's in Europe to those participating in the tour. The pricing on the tour is guaranteed by STITA Group Tours through December of this year. Tour price will depend on the number of participants.

#### Priced in Euros

Participants	15+	20+	25+	30+
Per person-twin	2900.00	2550.00	2350.00	2250.00
Single Supplement	380.00	380.00	380.00	380.00



# NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## 2011 Tour of German Gardens

### June 15 – June 30, 2011

We have included hotel stays for the night you arrive in Munich and the last night when we end in Amsterdam -15 nights , 14 days. Here is the list of what is included in the cost of the tour:

- 15 x nights hotel accommodation
- Breakfast daily at hotel, 2 dinners (including beer hall dinner) & 2 lunches
- Coach services for the itinerary as specified
- Train journey between Frankfurt & Berlin (one way - standard class).
- Entrances to Nymphenburg Palace, Rhineland Castle (e.g Soonek/Rheinstein or similar), Sans Souci
- Entrances to gardens as per itinerary
- Vineyard visit & wine tasting
- Rhine lunch cruise
- Entrance to BuCa show in Koblenz (including cable car)
- Services of English/Dutch/German speaking tour manager throughout
- Local taxes and service charges for included services
- Portage 1 piece per person
- Tips for divers & guide

As you can see, we have included all tour costs including tips, so that the only out of pocket should be meals other than breakfasts and personal expenses, i.e., should you decide to indulge yourself in a spa. Let me note that breakfasts in Germany are a substantial meal, normally all you can eat. Not having most other meals together gives people flexibility to have more free time and avoids problems of dietary choices.

Here are the hotels where we will be staying:

- Jederman Hotel, Munich [www.hotel-jedermann.de](http://www.hotel-jedermann.de)
  - Hotel Hollaenderhof, Heidelberg [www.hollaender-hof.de](http://www.hollaender-hof.de)
  - Lann Rhein Hotel, Rudesheim [www.rheinhotels-kessler.de](http://www.rheinhotels-kessler.de)
  - Sylter Hof Hotel, Berlin [www.sylterhof-berlin.de](http://www.sylterhof-berlin.de)
  - Concode am Leineschloss, Hannover [www.concordehotel-am-leineschloss.de](http://www.concordehotel-am-leineschloss.de)
  - Bilderberg hotel, Oosterbeek [www.bilderberg.nl](http://www.bilderberg.nl)
  - Mercure Amsterdam Airport [www.mercure.com](http://www.mercure.com)
-



# NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## 2011 Tour of German Gardens

### June 15 – June 30, 2011

Not all gardens in Germany are in the 'new perennial' style, far from it. There are literally hundreds of large estates and palace gardens (think Palace of Versailles or Vaux-le-Vicomte in France) built from the middle of the eighteenth century and later. We will visit some of the best of these, including Nymphenburg Palace with its nearby Botanical Garden outside Munich, San Souci Palace in Potsdam, the summer palace of Frederick the Great and the Herrenhausen Gardens around the site of the Herrenhausen Castle, residence of the Kings of Hanover, who during the eighteenth century were also the Kings of England. The castle was destroyed during WWII and is currently being rebuilt, due to be completed in 2012.

The tour will begin in Munich where we will spend four nights. Besides Nymphenburg Palace we will see two important gardens influencing the new perennial style, Westpark which hosted the 1983 IGA (International Garden Show). It is a good example of the style of the times: curvilinear abstract modern, with daring use of herbaceous plants. The second garden is in Weihestephan where much of the scientific research for perennial planting has been developed, including the method of analyzing specific sub-habitats within the garden and match plants to that habitat.



Sichtungsgarten Weihestephan,  
Freising (near Munich)



Killesberg,  
Stuttgart



Orel Park Garden, Frankfurt

While in Munich, we will take a day trip to Garmisch-Partenkirchen, in the German Alps. We will also have an evening dinner in an authentic Munich Beer Hall. From Munich, the tour will go northwest, where we will stop in Stuttgart to visit Killesberg Park. We are also trying to arrange a visit to a roof garden in Stuttgart. We will continue on to Heidelberg, where we will spend the next two nights.

From Heidelberg we will drive to Weinheim and visit Hermanshof with its renowned North American prairie garden, a Mecca for designers of the new perennial movement, including the Dutch designer Piet Oudolf, who says Hermanshof is the only garden he visits for inspiration. We will meet with Cassian Schmidt, the garden director.

From Heidelberg we will also visit the Orel Gardens in Heilbronn and meet with designer Christine Orel. There will also be time to sightsee in Heidelberg, as we are in the heart of the town and within walking distance of the castle. After two nights in Heidelberg, the bus will take us to Ruedesheim on the Rhine for the next two nights. While in Ruedesheim we will visit wineries in the Rheingau, one of Germany's most famous wine regions. We will have tours with the owners as well as tastings of wine. We will also be visiting a Rhein castle, and can arrange for an optional visit to a spa in Wiesbaden, for those so inclined. On the second day of our stay in Ruedesheim, we will board a Rhein tour boat and cruise down the Rhein Gorge, past the famous Lorelei Rock to Koblenz, where the Mosel river flows into the Rhein. We will have lunch on the boat and when we get to Koblenz, we will visit the German National Garden Show for the afternoon. We will also meet with Petra Pelz, who is the principal designer for this show. The bus will pick us up from the show and take us back to Ruedesheim.

The next morning we will drive to Frankfurt, where we will visit the Orel Park Garden. From Frankfurt we will take a train to Berlin, where we will spend the next three nights.

While in Berlin, we will take one day to drive to Potsdam, where we visit San Souci Palace and also visit the house and restored gardens of Karl Foerster, the visionary behind the use of grasses in the garden as well as a champion of the use of American prairie perennials. The restoration of his garden was finished in 2003 and is just stunning. His old nursery is still operational and run by his granddaughter. The second day in Berlin, we will visit private gardens designed by Christian Meyer and be able to also meet Christian. We will also visit the new gardening school and garden of Isabel von Groenigen, who has designed a number of award winning gardens at the Chelsea Flower Show.

From Berlin we drive to Hanover where we visit Herrenshausen and the gardens on the castle estate, including the Berggarten. We will spend a single night in Hanover. The next morning we drive to Wuppertal and see a garden designed by Anja Maubach, the granddaughter of Georg Arends the famous plant breeder and nurseryman of the early twentieth century. Anja also has a small school we can visit. Anja is well known to a number of NHS members, as she spoke in Seattle a number of years ago at the NW Flower and Garden Show. In the afternoon we take a short drive to Essen, where we visit Gruapark, the site of a previous German National Garden Show (1965) and has many different gardens. We then drive to Osterbeek, across the German border in the Netherlands, where we will spend the night.

The last day of our tour we will see Piet Oudolf's garden and nursery in Hummelo. As we all know, Piet is the most celebrated of the current designers using the new perennial planting style and it is fascinating to see it used in his own garden. We will visit several other gardens in Holland and end the tour at a hotel at the Amsterdam airport. We chose the airport for several reasons. First, downtown Amsterdam hotels are exceedingly expensive and would add unnecessarily to the cost of the tour. Second, for those wanting to fly out of Amsterdam, the airport hotel is very convenient and third, one can get to downtown on the train very quickly from the train station which is one floor down in the airport.



Hermannshofen, Weinheim

If you are interested in participating in the tour please contact Karin Kravitz,  
[nwhort@aol.com](mailto:nwhort@aol.com) or 206-780-8172.