

The Cultural Landscape Foundation®

connecting people to places™

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDENS OF NORMANDY 9 to 18 JUNE 2024

The Parks and Gardens of Normandy attract enthusiasts from all over the world, who come to soak up the serenity of the place. From French gardens to exotic gardens, including art gardens, plant lovers will never cease to be amazed. This trip has been designed especially for The Cultural Landscape Foundation.



- **SATURDAY 8 JUNE: USA- PARIS.**

1. SUNDAY 9 JUNE: PARIS.

AM

Individual arrivals. Check into the **Paris hotel for 1 night**. Free time.



Meliá París Champs Elysées*****

102 Av. Victor Hugo, 75116 Paris

Tel + 331 56906100

<https://www.melia.com/es/hoteles/francia/paris/melia-paris-champs-elysees.com>

PM

7pm. Welcome drinks and dinner at the hotel. Briefing on the trip by Sofia Barroso, your lecturer and tour leader and Charles Birnbaum, president of TCLF.

2. MONDAY 10 JUNE : PARIS- ROUEN. Giverny , Château d'Acquigny & Champ de Bataille.

AM

8:00 am. Departure with luggage by private coach to Normandy.

09:30 am. Arrival **Giverny**. Private tour of gardens & Monet's home. Located on the right bank of the Seine River, just 1 hour from Paris, this town is famous throughout the world thanks to some paintings such as the famous water lilies by Claude Monet, who lived here from 1883 until his death in 1926. The presence of the master of Impressionism in Giverny attracted numerous artists of different nationalities who also contributed to making this place a particularly emblematic place. In addition to the artist's gardens, the opening of the American Museum reaffirmed Giverny's position as a tourist destination of international prestige. The park surrounding the house is divided into two parts: Clos Normande, a French-style garden with cherry trees, apricot trees and rose arches and the water garden. In this last part there is a beautiful pond covered with water lilies. A Japanese bridge and plants of bamboo, peonies and weeping willows create an atmosphere with an oriental flavor.

Free visit of the house & the gardens



Lunch box provided at the tea room "Les Nymphéas"

12:00 am. Arrival at the **Château d'Acquigny**. Welcome by owner: Mr. Bertrand D'Esneval. Aurigny castle is a French Renaissance castle, now a museum and arboretum, located in the Acquigny commune. The garden has an area of 15 hectares, including both the botanical

collection, the local vegetation, and a small nursery for rare species. The visit around the garden with your host will **last around 2 hours**.



PM

2:00 pm. Departure (30m). Drive to the **Château du Champ de Bataille**, a colossal work! The transcendence, the unacceptable, the impossible on oneself, the strength and tenacity of top interior decorator **Jacques Garcia** led to the outcome of his work. In the Bible, it is said: «in the beginning, there was Man». For Jacques Garcia, the beginning of Champ de Bataille was a thought of eternity, this is what comes out of this endless perspective, which is linked to the levels of the human knowledge. In the beginning was the mineral with the castle and its terraces, which is followed by the vegetal with the Boxwood Lace Gardens (“Les Dentelles”), the Grove of Eden and the Grove of Erebus – Heaven and Hell. We enter the animal world with the Temple of Leda, the Dolphin’s Pond – the first settlement on Earth, the anthill with the insects, the Temple of Cypris for the mammals, the Salamander for the fire, which lead to this large perspective with its twelve vegetal doors which evoke the journey of Mankind. At the center, on the left, mankind representation is symbolized with the Theatre, on the right mankind meditation is represented with the Hermitage. At the end of this perspective, the Steps, inaccessible with its waterfalls, its water jets and its water pyramids allow us to ascend the levels of our own conscience, with at the top of the elevation, the Grand Canal, our own reflection, which separates us from our spirit, embodied by Zephyr’s column, unfortunately unreachable. Patrick Pottier lies within this perspective by creating successive lateral groves, the Rams’ Alley, the Squares of Diana and Apollo, the Greenhouses, the Aviaries, the Temple of Leda’s Treasure, the bowers of roses, the vine banks, the Belvedere Garden, the Theatre of Verdure and the Mogul Garden. In each place, the spirit, the quirk, the astonishment, the elegance, and the vegetal knowledge intertwine for a conceptual journey. We could have communicated figures on the thousand trees that have been planted, the thousand cubic meters of water passing from a basin to another, the thousand cubic meters of soil that have been moved, the only figure we will specify is the figure of the impossible: you can try to guess the amount. The inhabited house and the outbuildings have 80 meters of development each. They are two admirable buildings of similar appearance made of bricks and rocks with a slate roof. The style is classical with perfect lines. The play of colors and volumes make it a unique set. <https://www.chateauduchampdebataille.com/horaires-et-tarifs/>



5pm Departure to Rouen.

6pm. Arrival Rouen. Check-in for **3 nights** at the **Hôtel de Bourgtheroulde, Autograph Collection******* The hotel has a lovely pool. Dinner at the hotel.

Hôtel de Bourgtheroulde.

15 Pl. de la Pucelle,

76000 Rouen,

France

Tel. +33 2 35 14 50 50

<https://www.hotelsparouen.com/>



3. TUESDAY 11 JUNE: GARDENS AROUND ROUEN. Le Jardin de Plume- Jardin d'Angélique- Jardin de Valériane- jardin d'Agapanthe.

AM

9:30 am. Departure from Rouen. Visit **Le Jardin Plume**, beautiful private garden near Rouen created by owners Patrick et Sylvie Quibel. Their design borrows many formal elements from traditional French gardens, but these have been used in a very contemporary way. There are formal allées, reflective pools and parterres, all designed in a modern style. This formality is offset with exuberant and romantic plantings of wildflowers, grasses, and perennials. They have a small nursery.



11:30 am. Continue to **Les jardins d'Angelique**. It's two gardens that frame a 17th century property. On a little less than one hectare, discover an English garden with romantic paths and a more formal garden with clean lines, thus offering two original and very distinct visitor experiences. Les Jardins d'Angelique is a real two-in-one!



1.00 pm Departure for lunch at **La Charette**.

PM

3:00 PM. Visit the Valeriane Garden. Ranked 6th favorite garden of the French It is in the middle of the countryside that you will find this English garden fully integrated in the environment. A visit will reveal the passion of its owners Michel and Marylin. The garden has two parts: an old garden and a recently created new garden, planted in 2000.



Then we will continue to visit the **The Agapanthus Garden**.

The **Agapanthe Garden** located north of Rouen in the village of Grigneuseville is the subject of permanent research by its designer Alexandre Thomas, landscape architect. In constant evolution, this contemporary garden is characterized by a strong structure over more than 9000 m²: very accentuated land movements, maze of terraces, waterways and ponds create a succession of atmospheres

This garden hosts numerous decorations, furniture, fountains which make this ensemble unique. You will have the pleasure of discovering a large collection of garden objects and antiques. Decorations and furniture feed the staging and are thus continually renewed, to the delight of visitors and antique enthusiasts. On site: nursery. <https://www.jardin-agapanthe.fr/en/>



At the end of the afternoon, **time permitting**, we will visit **Jumièges abbey gardens**.

An exceptional witness to the first great achievements of Romanesque art in Normandy in the setting of a park with hundred-year-old trees. Powerful and uncluttered, the Romanesque facade is flanked by 46 m high towers. The large gallery porch is a survival of pre-Romanesque traditions. The post-revolutionary destruction caused the cloister to disappear, the location of which remains clearly visible and left only rare vestiges of the conventual buildings. You have the possibility of going back in time and immersing yourself in the history of the "most beautiful ruins of France" thanks to an innovative application: "Jumièges 3D", which digitally restores the architectural characteristics, buildings and facilities that have disappeared from the abbey, combining with the current appearance of the monument. "Jumièges 3D" allows a breathtaking virtual journey through time. You can download the application from the AppStore or Google Play for use on smartphones and tablets. iPad are also available on site, at the Abbey reception.



Return to the **Hôtel de Bourgheroulde**. Dinner at the hotel.

4. WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE. ROUEN- VARENGEVILLE sur MER.

Bois de Moutiers -Bois de Morville-Jardin de Vastérial – Jardin de Miromesnil. AM

9:00 am. Departure. Visit the **Bois de Moutiers**. The house was designed by Edwin Lutyens and the gardens by the great Gertrude Jekyll. It was conceived as separate 'rooms', each 'room' with a different theme, either color, type of plant, setting or view. This ancestral home and surrounding gardens were saved with the help of **Robert Mallet**, Director of The Shamrock Collection, France's national Hydrangea Collection. It is the largest in the world. Bois was planned and executed by Mr. Mallet's grandfather, Guillaume Mallet, in 1898 in the English Arts and Crafts style. His hope was to recreate a lush English garden, sourced from American nurseries exclusively. The house was magnificent to experience, on a tour conducted by a 21-year-old family member, who had a 10-year-old with her, learning how to conduct a tour. Family members take turns conducting the tours. The sweeping vistas and intimate areas of this garden are not to be missed. <https://www.boisdesmoutiers.com/>

It is now under restoration by Madison Cox, but we hope it will be finished by June.



12:00noon. Light Lunch at L'Auberge du Relais

PM

1 :00 pm Visit the **Bois des Morville**, created by the late landscape architect **Pascal Cribier** as a garden-lab for his projects. It now maintained by Eric Choquet and Robert Morel, and it is one of the very beautiful landscape Normandy gardens, in including a labyrinth.



3:00 pm Visit **Le Vasterival**. For more than 50 years (1955-2009), Princess Greta Sturdza, transformed 30 acres of wild thicket into magical undergrowth where the shapes, colors and scents of more than 9,000 species and varieties blend in a perpetual change all year round.



Le Vasterival



Chateau de Miromesnil

On our way back to Rouen, and time permitting, we will visit **Le Chateau de Miromesnil**. Dominated by a two-hundred-year-old Lebanese cedar, the grounds of Château de Miromesnil are enclosed by 17th-century brick walls sheltering fruit trees, rose bushes, magnolias and tree peonies.

Return to the **Hôtel de Bourgtheroulde**. **Independent dinners.**

5. THURSDAY 13 JUNE : ROUEN – Chateau du Mesnil & Jardin d'Étretat - HONFLEUR

AM

9:30 am. Departure from Rouen with luggage.

10:20am. Visit the **Château of Mesnil Geoffey**. It is rare to be able to visit a chateau (classified as a « monument historique ») where the current owners live. The chateau is fully furnished with period furniture decoration and fabrics which reflect 18th century design!

The chateau is surrounded by a 10-hectare park in the formal French manner designed by Colinot – one of the nephews of the garden designer Andre le Notre whose greatest gardens were designed for Louis XIV's residences. The chateau is also well known for its rose garden which has over 2900 plants representing 2000 different varieties of rose. All the plants are labelled. The rose garden had in 2016 the award of the best garden of collection in Normandy. Since 2015: A newly laid out kitchen garden containing old varieties of vegetables planted alongside flowers. All are helpfully labelled. Award of the best kitchen garden in France by the « Potager du Roi » in Versailles. Welcome by Princess Anne Marie Kayali.



12:30 pm. **Lunch at le Parentheses Restaurant.**

PM

Visit the **Jardins d'Étretat** is a magical place on the Falaise d'Amont in Étretat, with an exceptional view of the famous Aiguille. Poetically mixing landscape art and land-art sculptures, the gardens seem to have been there forever. It was Madame Thébault, a famous actress from the beginning of the 20th century, a close friend of Claude Monet, himself a lover of beautiful gardens, who decided to plant the first tree on this virgin territory. Resolutely avant-garde, the original spirit of the place has been preserved while giving it a poetic dimension. It will delight topiary enthusiasts and lovers of impressionist landscapes as well as admirers of contemporary art. Created by landscape architect **Alexandre Grivko of IL NATURE**, the gardens, both extraordinary and surprising, blend completely into the surrounding nature.

WINNING PROJECT OF THE EUROPEAN GARDEN AWARD IN THE CATEGORY "BEST DEVELOPMENT OF A HISTORIC PARK OR GARDEN", JARDINS D'ETRETAT ALSO POSSESSES TWO MICHELIN STARS IN THE GREEN GUIDE, IS LISTED AMONG "GREAT GARDENS OF THE WORLD" AND HAS THE LABEL "REMARKABLE GARDEN" FROM THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF CULTURE.



16:30 bus to Honfleur. (50 min)

Arrival **Honfleur**. Check-in for 2 nights at **Hotel La Ferme de St Simeon**.

Hotel La Ferme de St Simeon.
RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX.
20 Rte Adolphe Marais,
14600 Honfleur,
Tel. +33 2 31 81 78 00
<https://fermesaintsimeon.fr/eu/>



In the afternoon free time to visit **Honfleur**. Luckily Honfleur was not damaged during the war. Stroll through the Vieux Bassin and the medieval streets, viewing the church of St Catherine the Musée Boudin or the surprising Maison Satie...

8pm. **Dinner at the Vieux Honfleur** - Located on the old port, facing the Quai Saint-Catherine and the Lieutenance, it's the oldest restaurant in the city. It is in this authentic setting, in the heart of the historic district, that you will taste the gourmet and delicious cuisine concocted by

our Chef. Discover a varied menu, combining a fine selection of seafood and tasty variations of meat and fish.



6. FRIDAY 14 JUNE. HONFLEUR-DEAUVILLE- CAEN- HONFLEUR.

AM

9:30 am. Departure to **Deauville. (30m).**

Enjoy a stroll on the planches, on the beach, see splendid houses, casino...

11:30 am. Departure to **Boutemont (30m).** Visit the **Chateau and gardens of Boutemont.** The general organization and the design of the park were imagined at the beginning of the 20th century by renowned landscape architect Achille Duchêne, at the request of Mr. and Mrs. Drouilly. By imposing a return to the tradition of French gardens, he wanted to move away from British landscape art, which had been very popular in France since the 19th century. An official landscape painter of high society, he designed the largest gardens of his time.



1 pm Lunch at the **Creperie** in the garden

PM

2:30pm. Departure to **Caen**. (1h). Visit the **parc La Colline aux Oiseaux / Bird Hill Park**, that was created on the 50th anniversary of the landing of the Allied troupes. Located on a former landfill, it is a fine example of rehabilitation. It is made up of numerous themed gardens (boxwood and yew maze, perennials, floral trial gardens, etc.). There is a superb rose garden which has more than 15,000 roses including 570 varieties from the Middle Ages to the present day. This green space is a real success since it went from a municipal dump to a superb floral universe dedicated to peace.

Since its creation, the park has been a place of experimentation and testing of environmental techniques with respectful gardening practices such as natural mulching, the use of auxiliary insects to limit aphids or weeding without phytosanitary products. We will also visit the castle of Caen, Abadie des femmes, Abadie des hommes.



5pm. Drive back to Honfleur.

8pm. **Dinner at the hotel.**

7. SATURDAY 15 JUNE. HONFLEUR- BRECY- BAYEUX-ESURES-COMMES. **AM**

9:00 am. Departure with luggage to the **Château de Brécy**.

10:15 am. Arrival. This private 17 th Century chateau has been meticulously restored- His owner Didier Wirth has created a richly ornamented Italian style garden, laid out over four terraces, connected by a beautiful staircase with convex steps and rising above the parterre at the back of the house to the gate overlooking the sky. These terraces have an increasing width to correct the perspective. The central aisle ends with two successive portals. The carved decorations are of great refinement: balusters with acanthus leaves, vases, pilasters, consoles. Also note the numerous trees trimmed into topiaries, the holly balls in orange tree boxes and the small aromatic herb garden. The gardens are green, white, and blue. Boxwoods, yews, and hornbeams offer greenery. A collection of laurels, osmanthus, holly leans against the wall of the last terrace. Depending on the season, the flowers are tulips, irises, hellebores, peonies, romneya coulteri, cardoons, magnolias. On the house, the pearly white "Madame Alfred Carrière" rose rubs shoulders with Decumaria sinensis. In the blues, clematis durandii or jackmanii accompany agapanthus, nepetas, perovskias and solanums. A large collection of clematis dots the garden as well as old roses behind the church. Brécy has kept a strong

medieval imprint, independent walled gardens, Renaissance acquisitions, sculpture, and embroidery, while announcing the great compositions of classical French gardens, in close relationship.

Welcome by owner Didier Wirth.



Departure 12:00 noon to **Bayeux.** (30m)

12:30 pm. **Lunch at L 'Alcove** (200 m from museum).

PM

2pm Visit the famous **tapestry of Bayeux** that depicts the Normand invasion of England at tye the **Musee de la Tapisserie.** It was one Normandy's best none and most important artistic treasures.



After the museum we will enjoy a stroll and visit V the cathedral and medieval town.

There is also a Botanical Garden (Jardin Botanique de Bayeux).

5.30 pm Drive to **Hotel la Cheneviere** . (20m). **Check in for 2 nightS.**
Dinner at the Hotel



Hotel Château la Chènevière
Escures-Commes,
14520 Port-en-Bessin
Tel.+33 2 31 51 25 25
<https://www.lacheneviere.com/>

8. SUNDAY 16 JUNE. LA CHENEVIERE- CASTILLON- ALBIZIA

AM

9.30am. Departure. Drive to the **Jardins de Castillon** (30m). Just outside of Bayeux, Normandy, in the peace and quiet of a leafy valley, the gardens of Castillon await your discovery. You will be treated to a feast for the eyes and a wealth of knowledge about plants and gardening. On one side of a broad central path, a series of theme gardens will let you stroll from "room" to "room": exuberant mixed borders, poetic aquatic plants, lush humidity-loving plants, scented herbs, sculpted conifers of the Far East and Colette Sainte Beuve's diverse collection of cranesbill geraniums...On the other side, three vast terraces punctuated by yew topiary and beechwood hedges each offer a unique ambiance: a collection of ornamental grasses, a blue garden and an ensemble of daylilies and hostas arranged around a reflecting pond. An arboretum and box tree labyrinth with their strong graphic lines and integration into the surrounding landscape complement the theme gardens. Many of the plants you see in the gardens can be purchased in the adjoining nursery.



11:30am Departure to **Jardins d'Albizia** (15m). The gardens of Domaine Albizia Normandie move us at least as much as they delight us. Their designer, Frederic Tinard ,their scribe, does not fit into any known box...A trained landscaper, former florist, gardener, artist, entrepreneur, musician, creator, **Frédéric Tinard** is above all a tireless worker, with a touch of his own. The Tinard touch is this extra fantasy and depth (if by depth we mean this perseverance in imagining something more fundamental behind everything). It is seeing the world as a succession of visible and invisible links. It's gaining height to understand existence, and through a particular garden, entering into the souls of men by staring at a translucent pebble before their eyes."



12:30pm. **Brunch at Jardins d'Albizia.**

PM

Return to **La Chenevière**. Rest of the afternoon free.

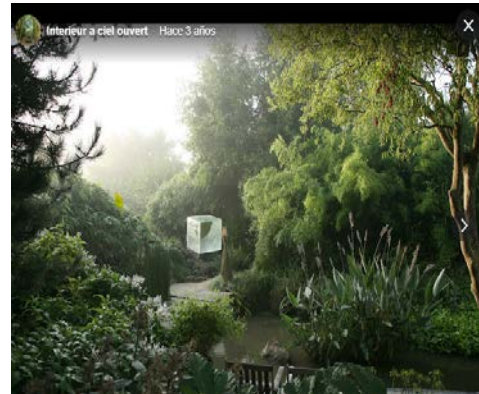
Dinner at the Hotel

9. MONDAY 17 JUNE: LA CHENEVIERE- PARIS.

AM

9:00 am. Departure from hotel with luggage and box lunch.

10:30am. Visit the **Jardin Ciel Ouvert**. This contemporary garden was started in March 2000 by the owners, **Dominique and Benoit Delomez**, both of whom are sculptors. It is managed so as to respect both the environment and biodiversity. Poetic, intimate or fun, tamed wilderness and luxuriance stand side by side with radicality in a completely restructured site, consisting of banks, pools and rocks. Water is a major feature: wild ponds, fountains, and water courses bring this garden to life, giving a calming effect, encouraging quiet lingering reflection, and the discovery of hidden-away places. Over 1,200 varieties of plants are currently to be found here, including perennials, grasses, and shrubs: species from the region feature as well as a collection of 136 taxa of heather. With its tones of red and orange, the vegetable garden, magnified by mirrors, has fruit trees, vegetables, as well as herbs and medicinal plants. Along a path, which resonates with the garden, the visitor will unexpectedly come across contemporary works of art.



12.00 pm. Departure to the **Jardins du Château du Champ de la Pierre. (40m)**

Pre- Romantic Park from the end of the 18th century: temple and factories, labyrinth. Labeled 'Remarkable Garden'. An alley connects the castle to the edge of a pond surrounded by woods, meadows, and orchards. Two small ports, a labyrinth and pre-romantic factories designed by a gentleman from the Enlightenment era lead the visitor along a poetic path.
<https://lechampdelapierre.com/parcs-et-jardins/>



PM

2:30pm. Continue to the **Jardins de Montperthuis**. These gardens designed in 2010 by landscaper **Philippe Dubreuil** around a typically Percheron complex currently being restored, consisting of a 15th-16th century manor house, its farmhouse, its seigneurial barn, stables and pigsties, bakery, hemp oven and covered well. This garden is structured according to the buildings and their uses, vegetable garden and conservatory orchard of old Percheron cider and knife apple trees near the outbuildings, medieval simple garden near the manor, embroidery of osmanthus and grasses, collection of Ornamental cherry trees, oaks, lime trees, hawthorns, peonies, hydrangeas. Rose garden with more than 300 varieties of old roses. Allée d'Ormes, vegetable garden and ornamental ponds, rill and waterfall. Greenhouse with collection of cacti and citrus fruits. Surrounded by fields and bordered by a river and woods, the garden takes up the themes and outline of the history of gardens. The heart is composed of a source dividing into four arms like the garden of paradise and its four rivers, it is surrounded by bowers repeating the pattern of the garden of the Middle Ages. A walk on different levels revolves around the formal garden as if we were in a cloister. A rose garden with its pergolas punctuates this initiatory journey. A large east-west axis structures the garden, like a spine, leading to the entrance porch and the source of life. Rooms of greenery frame this axis with collections of peonies, heucheras, viburnums, hydrangeas. A vegetable garden contains in its walls forgotten vegetables and flowers to cut, an attached greenhouse allows you to store citrus fruits and

cacti. An orchard made up of palmette and cordon fruit trees completes this vegetable garden. A conservatory orchard of old varieties of cider and razor clam apples from Perche and Normandy enhances the garden. A secret garden houses a collection of hellebores, peonies, and Magnolias, two ancient statues watch over the calm of the place. Italian-style terraces will complete this bucolic ensemble. Year after year, this garden sees its morphology appear and its contours strengthen.



5:00pm. Drive back to Paris.

7:00pm. Arrive to hotel **Meliá Champs Elisées** for 1 night.

8:30pm. Farewell dinner at the hotel.

10. TUESDAY 18 JUNE: PARIS-USA.

Individual transfers to the airport.