



FRENCH
HERITAGE
SOCIETY

Dear Friends,

It is with enormous enthusiasm that I encourage you to join me on our upcoming trip to the Côte d'Azur. Personally, I am so happy to invite you to my own home in the hills above the Riviera for a lunch on my terrace overlooking Grasse, and the Esterel mountains. I would like to congratulate Dominique Flahaut de la Billarderie and Isabelle de Laroulière for the extraordinary program that they have organized. It will be a trip of exceptional quality, beauty and originality. As always on our trips, special doors will be opened. I hope you can join me in visiting the homes and gardens of many of my close friends in this magical part of France.

Best wishes to all,

Libba

*DW → D. Borgeaud
pour info*

**SAVEUR AND SPLENDEUR
LUSH GARDENS OF THE FRENCH RIVIERA
JUNE 28th – JULY 3rd, 2010**

June 28th and June 29th: Discover the hidden gardens nestled in the rolling hills surrounding Grasse and Opio.

We enjoy lunch at Les Accores chez **Elizabeth Stribling**, FHS's Chairman of the Board, as we discover secret gardens in the charming village of Opio. We explore the celebrated but very exclusive garden by **Tom Parr** and **Claus Scheinert**, where classicism is harmoniously combined with the landscape of Provence, with an infusion of blue and white flowers. We then enjoy a dinner hosted by **Monsieur and Madame Roland de l'Epée** at their refined estate secluded in the midst of olive tree rows.

In Grasse, we visit the splendid garden of **Saint Jacques du Couloubrier**, partially created by **Russell Page**. **Jean Mus**, the celebrated landscape gardener specializing in creating gardens in the South will then give us a guided visit of one of his unique creations. At la **Bouscarella**, **Jean-François de Chambrun** and his wife, Nicole, will host us for a delightful lunch, while he shares with us his passion for his garden. Dinner is served on the ramparts of the fortress of **Villeneuve Loubet** with a spectacular view giving onto the Mediterranean from the park.

June 30th: Leave the countryside for the coast.

At Saint Paul de Vence, we visit the gardens of the **Maeght Foundation**, adorned with contemporary and monumental sculptures. We continue on to the Presque isle of Saint Jean Cap Ferrat and are received for lunch by **Carole Weisweiler** in her villa entirely decorated with frescoes painted for her mother by Jean Cocteau. A special visit of the celebrated botanical garden of **Les Cèdres villa** follows.

The evening ends with an exclusive, private dinner in the prestigious setting of the **Ephrussi de Rothschild villa**.

July 1st and July 2nd: Discover the jagged coast along the sea.

Take in the typical craggy landscapes and spectacular scenery just inland from the coast of Nice while ascending toward the **Château du Vignal** in Contes. At the end of a long alley lined with cypress trees and terraced olive groves, **Monsieur and Madame Chiesa-Gautier** host us at their magnificent family estate.

At Annonciade Hill in Menton, **François Mazet** guides us through **La Citronneraie** with its exceptional citrus orchards, producing the finest varieties of lemons served at the tables of France's most celebrated chefs.

In Roquebrune Cap Martin, we visit the renowned « cabanon » built by **Le Corbusier**. We have the rare privilege of visiting the extraordinary gardens of the **Torre Clementina villa**, facing the sea and offering a breathtaking view of Monaco. We dine in the fragrant **gardens of Cynos villa** built for Empress Eugénie.

We enjoy an elegant farewell dinner followed by fireworks in the magical setting of the gardens of the **Grand Hôtel** in Saint Jean Cap Ferrat.

July 3rd: Breakfast and check-out from hôtel

Hotels:

- June 28th and 29th in Mougins, at « Le Mas Candille », a four-star hotel, part of the prestigious « Relais et Châteaux » chain.
- June 30th, July 1st and 2nd in Saint Jean Cap Ferrat, at the « Grand Hôtel du Cap Ferrat » with luxury, elegance and the ultimate in refinement. This prestigious Hôtel is the first to have received a fifth star in France.

Information

- The first day, we meet at Hôtel du Mas Candille in Mougins. The trip does not include transportation to and from the French Riviera. Nearest international airport is in Nice.
- All ground transportation, by luxurious minibuses to easily navigate the narrow, winding roads of the region, is included.
- The gardens in this region are laid out on the slopes of hills, often with rugged and uneven terrain. They feature numerous stairs which are not always level or in good condition, which can make climbing difficult. It is essential to wear very comfortable shoes and to be able to walk a fair amount.
- Please note that this trip is open to FHS members at the Sponsor level and above.

This program may be subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control, in which case program substitutions will be made on par with the activities originally proposed.