Study Abroad Garden Tours

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“Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.”

Miriam Beard
Program Director’s Role

- Goal: Change your life (Grand Tour)
- Rewarding experience
  - Timeliness vs. fines
  - Noise control in 2-star hotels - no air
  - Uphold Office of International Education Regulations
  - Right to send you back home
Course Content:
Qualities of a Cultured/Educated Person

3 “P’s” of Cultured Renaissance Person
- Poetry/Philosophy
- Painting
- Plants
Course Content

- Garden appreciation
- Garden design influences
  - Climate (Plant hardiness)
  - Topography (Italian terraces)
- Politics (Catholic - French Grand)
- Art (Lorraine - English Landscape)
- Philosophy
Course Requirements

- Independent study reading and test
- Garden writeup - one page
- Journal, scrapbook - notes, memories, bus quizzes, key points
- Plant catalog - 30 new plants-pictures, use
- Best 30 pictures (drawings)
Due Dates

- Paper - six weeks before leaving
- Independent study questions: one week before leaving
- Journal - six weeks after returning
- Plant catalog - six weeks after returning
- Importance of completing work - grad school
Payment Schedules

- 1st - Deposit - ASAP
  - Limited numbers
- 3.5 months before leaving
  - Group airline tickets
- Tuition - early May
Marketing

- Intro classes – Intro Horticulture
- Study abroad fairs
- Arts and Science Advisers
- Study abroad listings
Orientation Meeting

- Passports
- International Student Card-not for two weeks
- Course requirements- Syllabus and outline
- Course logistics
  - Payment schedule
- Packing
- Food
- Meeting at destination
Webct

- Due dates
- Assignment guidelines
- References
- Tour guidelines
- Packing tips
- FAQs
Money

- Bring $100 in currency
- Souvenirs and entertainment
- Suggest ATM with Visa
- Carry a money belt or document pouch
Food

- Continental or English breakfast
- Provided dinners (parents pay)
- Vegetarians?
- Grocery stores and delis
Packing

- Pack light - all one color scheme
- One suitcase
- Prescriptions
- Medicines: stomach
- Layering
- Rain or shine: overshoes, rain suit
Medical

- Doctor on call
- Health insurance brochure
- Extra glasses, contacts
- Disclosure of disabilities - stay on medication
Safety

- Crime
- Overindulgence - no alcohol in rooms
- Terrorism - no joking
- Neck pouches
- Bus driver cell phone/ hotel phone numbers card
Emergency

- Training in emergencies
- Emergency handbook
- Emergency numbers
Forms

- Application, interview, transcript - weed out non-desirables
- Agreement for Participation/Covenant not to Sue
- Health Form
- Evaluation - after trip
“Half the people don’t read and half the people don’t listen”

Tim Smalley
Cultural Adjustment

- Drive on the other, not wrong side of street
- Don’t use the phrase “In America,...”
- Blend in, don’t talk loudly
  - Volume - inversely correlated to civility
- Anti-American criticism - take the high road
- You are a guest, experience the culture - warm beer, no ice, no water, no iced tea
“There is as much difference between us and ourselves as between us and others.”

Michel de Montaigne
French Philosopher (1533-1592)
Potential

- 40 to 80 students per year
- One of best courses at university