

Super Deals

Special Early Bird Discounts*

Diggers Club & Botanica like to reward our customers who make the choice to book early. Our current offers with great savings for you are:

Save \$500 per couple or \$250 per person on:

- Mekong Cruise - 2013
 - Gardens, Gourmet & Golf Rhine & Danube - 2013
 - British Isles Cruise - 2013
- For details call 1300 305 202 for a brochure.
- 50% off the single supplement* on
- WA Wildflowers & Gardens - September 2012
 - NSW Floriade & Tulips - September 2012
 - SA Wine & Roses - October 2012

For details call 1300 305 202 for a Botanica Garden & Gourmet brochure.

* See conditions on the back page.

Free Transfers

In Australia & New Zealand Botanica provides a complimentary transfer to your hotel on arrival at your destination and then a transfer back to the airport on departure. All we need are your flight details.



Botanical Experiences

Last Seat Sales 2012

We have a few remaining seats on the following small group land tours and our last Floriade Europe Rhine & Rhône Cruise for 2012 if you have been planning to book and haven't yet.

- French & Italian Gardens - departs 5 May 2012
- Italian Lakes, Gardens & Villas, plus Croatian Wildflowers - departs 25 May 2012
- Hampton Court Flower Show - departs 27 June 2012
- Floriade Rhine & Rhône Cruise - Arles to Amsterdam - departs 26 April 2012
Amsterdam to Arles - departs 5 July 2012

Call 1300 305 202
to book before they sell out!



Ross McKinnon - Mekong Cruise 2013

Ross McKinnon is the curator in charge of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens and is a world expert on tropical plants. He has also hosted television & radio gardening programs and is involved in 28 horticultural organisations.



Holly Kerr Forsyth - Rhine & Danube Cruise 2013

Holly is a photographer, garden writer, historian and journalist. As well as an extensive academic background, Holly has written ten gardening books and has a regular column in The Weekend Australian.



Spring in Europe

There is something magical about spring in Europe when the wildflowers bloom on the sides of river banks and roads. Red poppies, Queen Anne Lace, Cornflowers and Nigella all put on a show for those passing.

Come and see Botanica

Better Homes & Gardens Show Melbourne - 24-26 February 2012
Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show - 28 March - 1 April 2012

At both events we will be upstairs in the Royal Exhibition Buildings and would love to see you.

Information Seminars

Sydney - Wednesday 15 February at 10.30am at Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, Sydney
Brisbane - Thursday 16 February at 10.30am at the Sofitel Hotel, Brisbane
Melbourne - Tuesday 21 February at 10.30am at the RACV Club, Melbourne

Ballarat - Monday 5 March at 10.30am at Craig's Hotel, Ballarat
Adelaide - Wednesday 14 March at 10.30am at the Sebel Playford Hotel, Adelaide
Bookings are essential.

Simply call 1300 305 2020, or visit www.botanica.travel and click on Information Seminars.

For more information call Botanica on 1300 305 202

www.botanica.travel
email: botanica@aptouring.com.au

*Conditions apply. Prices shown are per person, twin share unless otherwise stated. All offers are subject to availability at time of booking. Offers are for new bookings only, until sold out and not combinable with any other offer or discount. EarlyBird discount: Must book & pay full deposit before 29 February 2012. Only for new bookings. Only one discount can apply. Solo offers: Valid until 30 March 2012. Limited seats on set departures. Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd ABN 44 004 684 619 Lic No 30112 MKT9920

BOTANICA
WORLD DISCOVERIES
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Diggers Club & Botanica News

Discovering great gardens, natural and created, combined with iconic sights



Clive Blazey
Founder,
Diggers Club



Judy Vanrenen
Founder, Botanica
World Discoveries

Welcome to our first 2012 joint Diggers Club & Botanica newsletter, with all the latest on new tours and cruises for 2013. We have also included some special discounts for you.

Why not join our Diggers Club botanical guides in Europe this year? Priscilla is escorting the Italian Lakes & Croatian Wildflowers small group tour; Yvette the French & Italian Gardens tour and Julian the Hampton Court Flower Show & UK gardens tour. They invite you to join them on their botanical discoveries.

We have also included newly released details of our 'exclusive' botanically themed cruises for 2013 which will book out quickly, so call 1300 305 202 for your own colour 2013 cruising brochure.

"The Botanica cruise exceeded our expectations. We were incredibly impressed with the organisation and the careful attention to detail."
Jim May, Kew, Victoria

2013 Cruises - 50% deposit*

Secure the suite of your choice on one of the three Botanica 2013 exclusive charter cruises by 29 February 2012, and you only have to pay 50% of the deposit*! See the Botanica Cruising brochure for details. Remaining deposit due 30 April 2012.



Botanica Exclusive Cruises

The Benefits of Small Ship Cruising with Botanica



- Unpack once
- Small intimate group sizes
- Like minded travellers who share a common interest
- Flexible Sightseeing options
- Special Guest Lecturers and Guides so you can learn
- Add an extra dimension to your sightseeing experience
- Gratuities and tipping included
- Most meals plus wine included with dinner
- Latest luxurious ships

Book early for the chance to choose your suite category. Only pay 50% deposit* if you book 2013 tours before 29 February 2012*.

"I have never felt so cared for on a holiday before - impeccable service."
Alana Innes, Frankston, Victoria

Mekong River, Tropical Plant & Culture Cruise



Pre and post cruising touring available in Saigon and Siem Reap

8 day Mekong River cruise on the brand new ship RV Amalotus. Escape summer and enjoy cooler temperatures in Vietnam and Cambodia in its dry spring season. See tropical plants flower and thriving village life on the Mekong River, a nautical highway from Laos to Vietnam. Explore floating markets & fishing villages, a silk weaving village, French Colonial buildings, Phnom Penh and learn more about the atrocities of Pol Pot's regime and the notorious Killing Fields. History, cultural immersion and exotic plants and flowers are an integral part of this unique cruise. Learn about tropical plants from special Guest Lecturer and Botanical Guide, Ross McKinnon, curator of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens. Ross' engaging personality and incredible plant knowledge will expand your

botanical understanding. Leading botanical artist, Jenny Phillips, will also share her knowledge of botanical plants and painting. **Departing:** 4 February 2013 from Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City) For details call 1300 305 202 for a brochure



British Isles History, Gardens, & Birdlife Cruise



Combine your cruise with a visit to the Chelsea Flower Show or Cornwall Gardens

11 day cruise exploring gardens & history in Scotland, Ireland, Wales and Isle of Scilly the group and deliver lectures on the birdlife of the British Isles. Tony Musgrove will be your Botanical Guide. **Departing:** 24 May 2013 from Edinburgh For details ask for a 2013 Boutique Small Ship Cruising brochure. This normally inaccessible area has spectacular scenery, rugged coastlines and very ancient history. Feel like an intrepid explorer by day with easy access to magnificent sightseeing, then return to your floating ship with all its modern day comforts every evening. Enjoy unique bird spotting opportunities, with a special ornithologist on board to escort

the group and deliver lectures on the birdlife of the British Isles. Tony Musgrove will be your Botanical Guide. **Departing:** 24 May 2013 from Edinburgh For details ask for a 2013 Boutique Small Ship Cruising brochure.



Botanica Tours & Cruises

Gardens, Gourmet & Golf on the Rhine & Danube Rivers



15 day cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest on the newest river ship in Europe This wonderful combination of themed cruises on the new ms AmaVerde offers multiple Freedom of Choice Touring options to suit even the most independent travellers. Choose from a selection of sightseeing options, explore the medieval villages on your own, or take an on board bicycle for a ride.

Dr. Holly Kerr Forsyth, author of many garden books and gardening columnist for The Weekend Australian, will be the Botanical Guide and Lecturer. She is also happy to share her garden photography tips with you. Jane Webster, the author of At My French Table, and owner of the magnificently restored French Chateau Bosgouet, will be our on board gourmet enthusiast. Jane's

husband is a French wine expert and together they will share their wine and food secrets with you. Charles Quest Ritson, author of Great Gardens of Europe and the RHS Fact Finder, will also deliver a Lecture on the gardens to visit. **Departing:** 27 April 2013 from Amsterdam



Botanically Themed Floriade Europe River Cruise



The Floriade Horticultural Expo in 2012 will cover 66 hectares and will feature five themed garden areas, including: Environment, Green Engine, Relax & Heal, Education & Innovation and a World Show Stage.

15 Day Dutch Floriade Rhine & Rhône Cruise Arles to Amsterdam.

Sightseeing Highlights:

- Enjoy a full day to explore the sixth Floriade Horticultural Expo
- Flexible Freedom of Choice Touring with botanical options at no extra cost
- Visit the historical town of Arnhem, complete with a visit to the Airborne Museum Hartenstein
- Optional visits to exceptional European gardens will be a true highlight of your trip
- Enjoy a cruise aboard two luxurious river ships on the Rhine & Rhône rivers
- Most meals, plus wine with dinner included on board

- A comprehensive Guest Lecturer program
- Services of expert local guides and a Botanica guide

Departing: 26 April 2012 (northbound) & 5 July 2012 (southbound) ^AItinerary operates in reverse.



12 Day Italian Lakes & Croatian Wildflowers



Sightseeing Highlights:

- Spend three nights in the Italian Lakes area - spectacular coastal scenery of the Dalmatian Coast
- Visit the beautiful gardens of Isola Bella and Isola Madre
- Villa Carlotta & Villa Balbianello Gardens
- Journey to the romantic city of Verona
- In Croatia, visit Zadar, Split and Dubrovnik
- Explore Plitvice Lakes National Park
- Escorted by Botanical Guide and English Speaking Tour Manager
- Enjoy Wildflowers in Croatia
- Montenegro and Kotor
- Giardi Giusti Garden established 1580

Price - Land Only

Price from \$6,415 per person, twin share. Solo price from \$7,955 per person. Commencing in Milan, 25 May 2012. Tour Code: BTILC12



Small Group Land Tours - 2012

16 Day French & Italian Gardens in Spring



Discovery of France and Italy in spring - landscapes of Provence and Tuscany plus grand European Gardens

Sightseeing Highlights:

- Explore the romantic city of Paris, including Monet's Garden
- Travel through Burgundy, Avignon and Provence stopping to visit local wineries and explore the beautiful gardens
- Visit Grasse Perfumery and the Loire Valley, Chateaux Chenonceaux and Villandry
- Visit the gardens of Ephrussi de Rothschild
- In Italy, explore the Cinque Terre villages, sample Italian cuisine at a Tuscan vineyard and enjoy a sightseeing tour in Rome including the Vatican City
- Travel south to Sorrento and visit the ancient ruins of Pompeii. Explore the beautiful Ninfa, set in rambling ruins
- Cruise to the island of Ischia and visit La Mortella Garden

Price - Land Only

Price from \$9,575 twin share, per person. Solo travellers \$11,995 per person.

Departing: 5 May 2012 from Paris.



10 Day UK Castles, Gardens & Hampton Court Flower Show

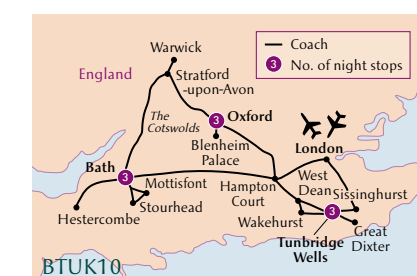


Sightseeing Highlights:

- Enjoy a visit to the Hampton Court Flower Show, considered the most spectacular and largest of the English garden shows
- Explore RHS Wisley, Hestercombe Sissinghurst and Great Dixter Gardens
- Visit Wakehurst Place Gardens
- Explore the famous castles such as Hidcote Manor, Warwick Castle, Sudeley Castle and Scotney Castle
- Journey to Stourhead Gardens, a garden inspired by great landscape painters
- Explore Blenheim Palace and grounds
- Stay three nights in Bath, Oxford & Tunbridge Wells
- See English Herbaceous Borders at their most colourful

Price - Land Only

Price from \$6,135 per person, twin share. Solo price from \$7,595 per person. Commencing in London, 27 June 2012. Tour Code: BTUK10



9 Day Melbourne Flower Show & Gardens



Sightseeing Highlights:

- Melbourne Flower and Garden Show
- Stay 6 nights in the heart of Melbourne
- Private garden visits
- 21st Century Garden, Geelong
- Dandenong Ranges
- Cloudehill and Beechmont Gardens
- Mornington Peninsula
- Heronswood and St Erth gardens
- Tugurium Garden of Stephen Ryan
- Cranbourne Botanic Gardens
- Bright and country gardens
- Brown Brothers Winery
- Beechworth

Price - Land Only

Price from \$2,955 twin share. Solo price from \$3,995* per person. **Departing:** 25 March 2012. 7 Days also available on request.

