

QUEBEC GARDEN TOUR

Wednesday June 25th to Sunday June 29th, 2025

Five days/Four nights

Featuring:

- *Reford Gardens – home of the Himalayan Blue Poppy*
- *Domaine Joly de Lotbiniere.*
- *Parc Marie Victorin.*
- *La Jardin de la Pocatiere*
- *Jardins Vivaces de Fernand*
- *Champs de Reve*
- *Montreal Botanical Garden*



Tour Itinerary:

Day 1 – After departing the GTA, we start our journey travelling east with a midday lunch stop at a new garden adventure – **Champs de Reve** (<https://www.champsdereves.com>) *Stroll through the landscaped gardens and admire the amazing sculptures that combine thousands of plants with high-quality materials. They have created world-class sculptures that are truly one-of-a-kind and a must-see.* Our first night's accommodation is at the Hotel Clarendon in Old Quebec City – steps from the Chateau Frontenac – ideally located - steps from many restaurants. (L)

DAY 2 – Our day starts with a tour of our perennial favourite – Domaine Joly de Lotbiniere (on the banks of the St. Lawrence).

Domaine Joly-De Lotbinière:

www.domainejoly.com set in a breathtaking location; we are guided through acres of gardens alongside the St. Lawrence River. This immense, romantic, 19th century park is recognized as one of the most beautiful gardens in North America. Fans of history, nature, the outdoors, and horticulture will find a thousand and one things to discover on this charming site: an interpretation centre; an art gallery; gardens with more than 2200 varieties of plants – most are identified! At Domaine Joly-De Lotbinière, time stands still as guests relive the end of the 19th century and life at the Maple House manor of Sir Henri-Gustave Joly de Lotbinière. **You will be amazed at the grandeur of this setting and outstanding gardens!**

After our buffet lunch (included) we start the journey to Rimouski. Our hotel, the Hotel Rimouski, is located on the shores of the St. Lawrence. After our included dinner, a stroll along Rimouski's boardwalk is always inviting. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 – Early in the morning we arrive at Reford Gardens for a full day of viewing. With Alexander Reford as our guide, we will be amazed at the garden created by his Great-Grandmother. Also included is time to stroll through the International Garden Festival exhibits, where you have an opportunity to vote for your favourite garden exhibit. Our included

lunch – a highlight of the eating portion of our tour - will be served at the historic Estevan Lodge.

Reford Gardens: *and the Blue Himalayan Poppies*

www.jardinsmetis.com **Reford Gardens** (Les Jardins de Métis) is recognized as one of Canada's outstanding gardens. A national historic site, they were created by a passionate gardener and plant lover, Elsie Reford, between 1926 and 1958. Visitors to this verdant domain of more than 200 acres can admire the splendors of some 3,000 species and varieties of native and exotic plants displayed in fifteen gardens. Sculptures by contemporary artists punctuate the visit and integrate harmoniously with historic gardens.

One of the highlights of any visit is Estevan Lodge, the 1887 37-room house built by Lord Mount Stephen as a fishing retreat. Celebrating its 125th anniversary last year, it welcomes visitors to its dining rooms, temporary exhibitions and museum. The museum explores the story of the summers spent by Elsie Reford and her family enjoying salmon fishing and gardening. The Garden Shop offers a selection of garden books, seeds, gardening items and gifts; the Gift Shop offers a wide range of products made by local artisans.

We will meet her Great-Grandson, Alexander Reford, under whose current direction these gardens continue to be a must-see for any plant lover.

After lunch, we make our way back to Quebec City – first stopping for a visit (plus tailgate party) at **La Jardin de la Pocatiere**. Some of us will get energetic and hike the “mountain” for an absolutely fabulous panoramic view of the St. Lawrence. We then continue to our overnight once more to the ideally located, Hotel Clarendon, Old Quebec City. (B,L)

La Jardin de la Pocatiere is a public botanical garden whose southern exposure creates an ideal microclimate for over 500 labelled plants. This enchanting place is home to special plant collections, themed gardens, ponds, waterfalls and picnic areas. Several scenic lookouts and a park pavilion offer panoramic views of the two-hectare (five-acre) hillside garden.

DAY 4 – We depart Quebec City after breakfast (included) and travel towards the Eastern Townships of Quebec. Our day starts with the chance to explore the **Parc Marie Victorin**.

At **Parc Marie Victorin**, nature comes alive through amazing giant 3-D mosaicultures, 6 fantastic gardens and a tropical greenhouse teeming of exotic birds. Explore their new fantastic garden where a gigantic representation of Brother Marie Victorin (founder of the Montreal Botanical Gardens) is on guard, 16 feet in height.

After lunch (included) we will then continue to the southern part of the Eastern Townships and be treated to a fabulous **private gardens in the area: Jardins Vivaces de Fernand**

The Garden of a Life (Lise and Fernand) is over 4 acres of fully landscaped gardens of perennials, with more than 2300 varieties of perennials and beyond 100,000 plants, including a beautiful collection of lilies, daylilies, coneflowers, hostas, heucheras, etc.

All the plants in the garden are furnished in different flower beds, including an aquatic garden and a Japanese garden. Purchased in 1970, Lise and Fernand built their house and started gardening on their 4 acres. In the 1980s they created rockeries around the house and each year expanded. In 1994, Fernand became unemployed and began to expand and develop the property and within a few years, opened the garden to the public.

Our last night will be at the beautiful Chateau Domain Bromont with dinner included. (B, L, D)

Day 5 – After a beautiful buffet breakfast, we begin our journey home, with a stop at the **world renowned Montreal Botanical Garden**. Our visit will include a tour of the MBG plus time for lunch (on your own). ***Montreal Botanical Gardens.***

Montreal Botanical Gardens - With its collection of 22,000 plant species and cultivars, 10 exhibition greenhouses, some thirty thematic gardens, and teams of researchers and activities staff, the Montréal Botanical Garden ranks as one of the world's largest and most spectacular botanical gardens.

You are sure to be captivated by the colors and fragrances from around the world as you wander from the delightful Chinese Garden to the heart of the Sonoran desert, from the peaceful oasis of the Japanese Garden to the classically designed French garden or the woodlands of the Laurentians

We depart in the afternoon, and stop at a beautiful private garden before reaching the GTA in the early evening. (B)

Please note that the itinerary is subject to change.

Your package includes:

- Return motor coach transportation.
- Four nights' accommodation:
 - 2 nights at the Hotel Clarendon, Old Quebec City, QC
 - 1 night at Hotel Rimouski, Rimouski
 - 1 night at the 5 star - Chateau Domain Bromont, Eastern Twp, QC
- Tours/admission to attractions listed in Itinerary.
- TEN Meals: 4 breakfasts; 4 lunches; 2 dinners
- Services of Margaret Dailey-Plouffe, HNA Travels Tour Director

Cost: \$ 1,699. per person/double occupancy + HST (single \$ 2,199 + HST)

Non-refundable deposit of \$ 500. due upon booking; Balance due by May 1st

PICK-UP INFORMATION: This tour originates in the Ajax/Pickering area and then travels east with pick-ups along Hwy 401 east. Please call the office for departure information.

NOTE – from the Ottawa region? – please join us at the Kingston pick-up.

Note: This tour is a fundraiser for the Oshawa Garden Club – membership is required.

Please talk to Margaret for more information.

READY TO BOOK? Simply call us and you are on your way.

- Ottawa: 613-843-9900; TOLL-FREE 1-877-672-3030 OR e-mail: hnatravels@gmail.com
- Pay by Cheque/Visa/Master Card.

CANCELLATION INSURANCE AND OUT OF THE PROVINCE MEDICAL INSURANCE

is always recommended,

Please contact SANDERSON TRAVEL INSURANCE 1-877-226-8728

and tell them HNA [Travels](#) sent you!

HNA Travels

TOUR AND EVENT PLANNERS

219086 Ontario Inc.

55 Holitman Drive, Ottawa, K2J 2K1

TICO #50017223

1-877-672-3030 613-843-9900

hnatravels@gmail.com

www.hnatravels.com