

Montreal Gardens Tour
Monday, August 14, 2006

You will not want to miss this day tour to one of the world's top garden attractions, the Montreal Botanic Gardens, *and* a special new treat this year—the Flora gardens exhibit in the Old Port area. Leaving the Horticulture Research Center in So. Burlington (behind Heritage Ford off Rte. 7 south) at 8am, returning around 7pm, we'll travel in a Premier luxury coach.

You'll have a couple hours in the morning to visit the 45 different gardens comprising Flora, showcasing new garden trends, some quite novel design ideas and garden structures in various garden styles. Each garden represents the creativity of a different designer or design team from as far away as France and England. This is the first year of this exhibition, located in the old port area of the city in the park where the previous mosaiculture exhibition was held. Check out some online photos (pss.uvm.edu/ppp/gardens/gm0706.htm).

You'll then have three hours in the afternoon to visit the botanic gardens, where you can have lunch at one of their cafes on your own. The 11 greenhouses have changing seasonal displays, and extensive collections of plants such as orchids, begonias, ferns and cacti. The gardens also include the largest Chinese garden outside China (done in the style of the Ming Dynasty) and the largest Penjin (Chinese bonsai) collection in North America; the modernistic Japanese garden, tea room and tea garden, and bonsai collection; and many specialty gardens such as rock garden, perennials, roses, trees and shrubs. The Insectarium has many "hands-on" exhibits and can easily take a couple hours just learning about the magical life of insects. The most recent garden is the First Nations, celebrating the culture and plants used by the original peoples of this continent. A tram ride around the gardens is included in the admission, and is a good way to cover the 100 or so acres and to get an overview.

Refreshments will be served going and coming, and the videos on the bus will give you an overview of these gardens-- the second largest in the world-- and show you the development of them on the way up, and showcase other gardens including several new ones from England on the way back. The tour price includes admission to the greenhouse conservatories, gardens, and insectarium at the botanic gardens, and admission to Flora. Keep in mind the mileage alone (figured at the federal rate) if *you* drove would be more than the total price of this tour, wouldn't even include parking and gardens admissions, and you would have to deal with Montreal traffic. Any family or friends interested in joining you? Send in your registration NOW in order to guarantee seats on this unique, relaxing, comfortable and educational tour sponsored by the Friends of the Hort Farm, in collaboration with Dr. Leonard Perry of UVM Extension.

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Montreal Tour Registration—August 14, 2006

Address _____
_____ phone _____

Attendee names:

Enclosed is my check (payable to "Friends of the Hort Farm") for ___ persons at \$69 per person for adults, ___ persons at \$65 for seniors (65 or over), for a total of \$ _____. Tour cost includes luxury motor coach, refreshments throughout the trip, and admissions. Registrations will be confirmed and further details provided prior to the trip. **Return registrations by July 31** to: David Heleba, Hills Bldg--UVM, Burlington, VT 05405. Questions? 656-0473, david.heleba@uvm.edu