



AGM tour - Tuesday 13 to Tuesday 20 October 2026

Côte d'Azur : Gardens, towns and villages (France /Italy/Monaco)

Tour description

Day 1 Tuesday 13 October: Arrival

Arrival of participants in Nice. Transfer to the hotel arranged by participants. Check-in at the **Hotel Saint Paul** in Nice. Welcome cocktail for all participants. Dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 2 Wednesday 14 October: Hanbury Garden, Italy

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure by coach to the Hanbury Garden, Italy, for a full day visit. This wonderful garden has spectacular views over the Mediterranean. It includes several zones: a succulent and arid plant zone, Australian forest and trees, aromatic garden, citrus groves, pergolas, fountains, terraces as well as remainders of an ancient roman road. **Picnic included** in the café located close to sea level. Return to the hotel. Dinner at leisure. Overnight stay.

Day 3 Thursday 15 October: Discover Menton and the beautiful Val Rahmeh Garden

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure by coach to Menton. We will start the day with a visit to the Val Rameh Garden, which houses an exceptional plant collection of 1,800 subtropical, tropical and Mediterranean species. There, along shady paths and dense foliage, in the coolness of fountains and pools, a peaceful haven of 1.5 hectares is offered to you. Late morning, we will walk from the garden to the old town of Menton. Lunch at leisure.

Afternoon: Guided visit of Menton Old Town: An opportunity to discover the different styles of architecture (Italian and 'Belle Epoque') and to learn about the fascinating history of this charming town on the seaside. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 4 Friday 16 October: Villa Ephrussi and Villa Kérylos

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure by coach to the Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat peninsula. In the morning, guided visit of the impressive Ephrussi de Rothschild Villa and Garden; a Belle Époque masterpiece offering themed gardens and breathtaking sea views. After the visit, departure to Beaulieu-sur-Mer.

Lunch at leisure in Beaulieu-sur-Mer. In the afternoon, audio-guided visit of Villa Kérylos and gardens, a reconstruction of an ancient Greek villa on the seaside, where architecture and history meet. Return to the hotel. Dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 5 Saturday 17 October: Nice - UNESCO heritage, gardens & history

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Nice city centre. Half-day guided tour to see and hear about the cultural and historical heritage of Nice during the period of the English aristocracy. Discovery of palaces, villas, grand hotels and hotels reflecting English influence and Belle Époque architecture (exterior views). Lunch at leisure. The afternoon will be dedicated to a free visit of the city's gardens and/or old town of Nice. (Castle Hill, Coulée Verte) Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 6 Sunday 18 October: Grasse, the city of perfumes and gardens

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Visit to the terraced private garden **Jardin Fort France** in Grasse, a magnificent Mediterranean terraced garden classified as a "Jardin Remarquable". Valérie de

Courcel, the owner (and painter), has brought her artistic sensitivity to the garden for 30 years through the constant search for harmony of colours and shapes and the integration of plants into their environment.

(Note: groups will be split to respect visitor capacity and alternate between morning and afternoon.)

Lunch at a restaurant in Grasse (included)

Visit to the renowned Fragonard perfume factory in Grasse, where you will learn the secrets of harvesting local flowers and creating perfumes.

Afternoon: guided visit of the gardens of the International Perfume Museum (MIP) offering a great diversity of Mediterranean plants, roses, fruit trees and citrus trees. You will discover the plants which have provided precious raw materials for the perfumery industry for centuries. Beautifully set in the heart of fields of perfume plants traditionally cultivated in the Grasse area, the gardens of the International Perfume Museum are part of the territorial project led by the 'Pays de Grasse' Community and thus serve as the museum's conservatory of perfume plants, a natural space bearing witness to the olfactory landscape linked to local agriculture. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 7 Monday 19 October: Monaco and its Gardens

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure by coach to Monaco, where we will visit the recently renovated Exotic Garden, an impressive garden housing a collection of rare plants and offering a spectacular view over the sea and Principality.

Lunch at leisure. In the afternoon, time to visit other Monaco gardens around the Palace area and old town. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 8 Tuesday 20 October: End of the trip

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. End of the trip

Please be aware that this tour will involve a fair amount of walking. In addition several gardens are on a hillside, requiring good walking shoes.

TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON IN EUROS

Based on sharing a double room € 1450 / person

Based on single occupancy € 2115 / person (Single supplement is € 665)

Included:

- Luxury coach transport from 14 October to 20 October, as indicated in the programme
- Accommodation in a 3*** hotel, Le Saint Paul, located in Nice, based on a double room
- Tourist tax : 2,28 euros per person, per night
- Welcome apéritif
- Buffet breakfasts as indicated in the programme
- Picnic on Day 2 at Hanbury Garden
- Lunch in a restaurant in Grasse, drinks included (¼ bottle of wine and coffee),
- Entrance fees: Hanbury Garden (Ventimiglia), Val Rahmeh (Menton), Jardin Fort France (Grasse), Villa Ephrussi, Villa Kérylos, Monaco Exotic Garden
- Audio-guided visit in English of Val Rahmeh Garden
- Audio-guided visit of Villa Kérylos
- Guided tour of Menton in English
- Guided tour of Villa Ephrussi and its gardens
- Half-day guided visit of Nice
- Guided visit of Jardin Fort France
- Guided visit of the gardens of the International Perfume Museum
- Visit of the Fragonard perfumery factory
- Civil liability insurance
- Travel pack with travel documents (electronic format)

This price does not include:

- Lunches and dinners except those included in the programme

- Insurance (assistance, repatriation, cancellation, trip interruption): all those participating are required by French law to be covered by such insurance. The Travel Agent proposes an appropriate package if required.
- Any services not mentioned

Registration

This event is open only to **fully paid up MGS members**. To secure a place, via the portal on the MGS website :

Step 1

Fill in the registration form. You will be contacted by email and if your request is successful, asked to pay the MGS a non-refundable registration fee by bank transfer.

Step 2

You will be asked to submit the travel agency registration form, which MGS will send you via email, once the non-refundable registration fee has been received by MGS. The cost of the tour will be invoiced by our travel agent at a later date.

Due to practical constraints, there is a limit of 50 places, so early booking is recommended.

Cancellation

The MGS reserves the right to cancel the AGM in the event of circumstances beyond its control.

Disclaimer

This programme is as complete as possible at the time of publication, but the cost and itinerary may be subject to changes. If you take part in a Mediterranean Garden Society event, you do so entirely at your own risk. Neither the Mediterranean Garden Society, nor the organisers and/or tour leaders of these events are in any way responsible for the safety of those taking part. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the programme due to unforeseen circumstances and/or inclement weather.

Participants are solely responsible for ensuring that they hold valid and appropriate travel and identification documents required for entry into France, Italy, and Monaco (passport, visas where applicable, and any other required documentation). The organisers cannot be held responsible for any refusal of entry, delays, or costs incurred due to insufficient or invalid documentation.

Travel arrangements to and from Nice (including international and domestic transport) are the individual responsibility of each participant. The organisers accept no liability for missed connections, delays, cancellations, or any expenses arising from personal travel arrangements.

By registering for the MGS 2026 trip, participants acknowledge and accept these conditions.