



# Barrington Community School & Barrington Garden Club

present

## The Art & Gardens of the French & Italian Riviervas

Cultural Adventures From Nice to the Cinque Terre

May 3 - 11, 2011

The legendary beauty of the French and Italian Riviervas has beckoned visitors for centuries. Artists have been inspired by its brilliant light and deep shadows, poets and writers have been moved to pen great works and holidaymakers from the very rich and famous to everyday travellers have come to bask in the sunshine and glamour that these coastlines offer. This spring join the Barrington Community School and Barrington Garden Club on an unforgettable exploration of the art, culture and gardens of the French Cote d'Azur and Italy's Ligurian Riviera.

We'll make our French base in the exotic city of Nice, where panoramic sightseeing will introduce the vastly different areas of the city. We include a visit to the world-famous Matisse Museum as well. Day excursions from Nice capture the contrast of the magnificent scenery – coastal and mountainous – which surround the city. Highlights will certainly be our visits to Renoir's house and garden, the Picasso Museum and the extravagant 19th-century estate of the Baroness de Rothschild.



Nice, the Promenade des Anglais

Crossing the French/Italian border, we visit the Principality of Monaco and the commanding gardens of Sir Thomas Hanbury. We feature two Italian gardens on the Riviera de Ponente: Villa Grimaldi and Villa Pallavicini. An optional extension allows us to explore the almost mythic beauty of the Cinque Terre, five rugged seaside villages connected by panoramic coastal footpaths.

The cost of this itinerary, per person, double occupancy is:

Boston departure:	<b>\$3990</b>
Land Only:	<b>\$3090</b>
Single supplement:	<b>\$690</b>

The following services are included:

- Airfare:** Roundtrip air from Boston on British Airways daytime flight. All customs fees and airport taxes included.
- Hotels:** 8 nights accommodation in first-class hotels. All hotel taxes and service charges included.
- Coaching:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
- Meals:** Breakfast daily; 4 dinners.
- Guides:** Services of BSC Director, Sandi Tinyk and a Discover Europe tour director throughout.
- Expenses:** Portage of one large suitcase per person.
- Entrances:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary.
- Additional:** Roundtrip coach transfer from Barrington to Boston.
- Insurance:** Complete travel insurance inc. cancellation coverage.

### Cinque Terre Extension:

The cost of this optional extension is **\$980** per person, double occupancy (single supplement: \$240) and includes 3 nights accommodation with breakfast, 2 dinners, and all other inclusions as listed above.

Your traveling party will be escorted by BCS Director, Sandi Tinyk and Discover Europe's, Fiona Bennett as they once again join forces to lead you through scenic landscapes and ancient towns on this customized tour which has been designed exclusively for BCS and the Barrington Garden Club.

### Day-by-day Itinerary

**Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.** This morning we leave Barrington early to take our private bus to Logan Airport where we board British Airways' daytime flight to London, where we'll connect with the onward service to Nice. On arrival we'll transfer to our hotel in the center of the city and go straight to bed. **Overnight: Nice**

**Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.** After a leisurely breakfast, panoramic sightseeing introduces the glories of Nice: la Place Garibaldi, la Place Massena, les Boulevard des Etats-Unis. We'll end our tour at Cimiez, on the hill overlooking the city. Here we'll see the remains of the old Roman city and visit the Matisse Museum. We head back down into the city center where a visit to the Chagall Museum is included. The afternoon is free to wander through the narrow, cobbled streets of the old town. Dinner at the hotel this evening. **(B, D) Overnight: Nice**

**For further information & registration please contact:  
Sandi Tinyk at the Barrington Community School  
(401) 245-0432**



**Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.** Our excursion today begins in the little town of Cagnes sur Mer, where Renoir made his home for 11 years. We'll visit his house, "Les Collettes," and the attached garden. We continue to the town of Le Cannet, above Cannes, where we visit the brand new museum dedicated to the work of the painter Pierre Bonnard. After free time for lunch in nearby Cannes, we continue to Antibes for a late afternoon visit to the Picasso Museum. The evening is free to explore one of Nice's excellent restaurants or cafes. **(B)** **Overnight: Nice**

**Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.** Our day begins in style at the extravagant gardens of the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Created for Beatrix de Rothschild, the themed gardens (Spanish, Italian, Japanese) occupy one of the most beautiful points on the peninsula of St-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. We'll visit the villa as well, furnished in the grandest 18th-century French style. After lunch we leave the coast for a visit to Eze, an

ancient village perched on the summit of a pyramidal rock. We return to Nice for dinner. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Nice**

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.** Another excursion from Nice today takes us up into the mountains, the Alpes Maritimes, behind the city. We'll visit the towns of Vence and St. Paul (also known as St. Paul de Vence) which have been made famous by their associations with artists throughout the last hundred years. Marc Chagall lived here and we'll pay a visit to the Matisse Chapel. We'll also visit the contemporary art museum, the Fondation Maeght, and have free time to wander the village streets and have a leisurely lunch before returning to Nice for a free evening. **(B)** **Overnight: Nice**

**Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.** Leaving Nice, we visit the Jardin Exotique at Monaco. The garden was founded by Prince Albert I, whose palace we will also visit before we continue across the French/Italian border for a guided tour of Sir Thomas Hanbury's garden "La Mortola." Dinner at the hotel this evening. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Arenzano**



*The "Perched" Village of Eze*

**Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.** A short ride along the coast brings us to Genoa, where panoramic sightseeing with a local guide introduces the historic city, capital of the region of Liguria and Italy's leading port and maritime center. From the city's hub at the Piazza de Ferrari, the streets radiate outwards with their riches: the Cathedral, the Doge's Palace, the many marble palazzos which give Genoa its epithet "la Superba," and, of course, the small and unremarkable Casa di Colombo. Free time this afternoon in Genoa for lunch and individual exploration. We'll return to Arenzano where the evening is free to sample a local restaurant. **(B)** **Overnight: Arenzano**

**Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.** Traveling along the Riviera di Ponente, we make our way to two gardens just outside Genoa. The first is the romantic Villa Grimaldi, known as "Il Rosetto di Nervi," and famous for its rose collection. After time for lunch, we travel a short distance to the remarkable Villa Durazzo Pallavicini. Its various features recall some of the main civilizations of the world – Roman, Chinese, Greek, Turkish – and the garden is full of symbolic mythology from the Grotto of Hades to the sparkling Temple of Diana. We return to our hotel for dinner. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Arenzano**

**Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.** We transfer by coach this morning to Milan, where we'll take the short British Airways flight to London to connect with our transatlantic flight to Boston. Our private transport will meet the flight for the journey back to Barrington. Alternatively, why not stay on and take an extension to the fabulous Cinque Terre? **(B)** **Overnight: Home**



*The Cinque Terre*

**Optional Cinque Terre Extension:**

**Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.** This morning you bid a fond farewell to some of your recent traveling companions as they head for Milan airport. Your trip will continue with a drive along the beautiful Ligurian coast to the Cinque Terre and your hotel in the neighboring town of Portovenere. On arrival there will be free time to unpack, relax and begin exploring the town. Dinner is included this evening. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Portovenere**

**Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.** The Cinque Terre (literally the Five Lands) is a stretch of coastland that is wild and isolated, but at the same time spectacularly beautiful and hospitable. Old traditions and customs live on here side by side with the modern tourism that the region's status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site has attracted. The five towns that make up the region (Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza and Monterosso) are connected by walking paths and by train or boat – but not by road. Today we take the train and explore, returning to Portovenere for a free evening. **(B)** **Overnight: Portovenere**

**Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.** A completely free day – go back on the train to see what you missed yesterday, take one of the hiking trails, or just sit in that café by the water and watch the world go by. You choose. This evening we'll gather for a farewell dinner at our hotel restaurant overlooking the Mediterranean. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Portovenere**

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.** We transfer by coach this morning to Milan, where we'll board our British Airways' flights back to Boston, via London. **Overnight: Home**

*Key to included meals:  
B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner*