Gardens of Northern Ohio
September 10 – 15, 2015

Continuing with another journey centered on great cities on the Great Lakes, our 6 day/5 night tour this coming fall will find the Arboretum exploring the gardens of Cleveland and Northern Ohio. Like last year’s visit to Chicago and Milwaukee, Cleveland has the flavor of a hard-working, ethnic city with a lot to see and do. The vibrant lakeside city of Cleveland is filled with world-class arts, hip eateries and bars, cool concert clubs and top-notch attractions like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland Museum of Art and the lively Theater District. Travel & Leisure Magazine, Fodor’s, the Los Angeles Times and the New York Times all have listed Cleveland on their list of must-visit cities for 2015.

The area is also rich in horticultural gems such as the Holden Arboretum, the Cleveland Botanical Garden, and the Cleveland Cultural Gardens. Nearby gardens include Stan Hywet Hall and Garden, Kingwood Gardens and Qualicrest Farms.

We’ll visit Stan Hywet Hall and Garden incorporating a trip aboard the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway, one of the oldest, longest and most scenic tourist excursion railways in the country. The historic rails are owned by the National Park Service as part of its goal to preserve the significant cultural resources in the Cuyahoga Valley.

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, having been built from 1912 – 1915 for the Seiberling family. The gardens were designed between 1912 and 1915 by renowned American landscape architect Warren Manning. Stan Hywet’s grounds represent one of the finest remaining examples of Mr. Manning’s private work in the United States. In addition, the English Garden, redesigned by Ellen Biddle Shipman in 1929 (and restored in the 1990s) is one of the only Shipman gardens open to the public.

We’ll also visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens, perhaps the world’s first peace garden. The Gardens embody the history of twentieth-century America, revealing the history of immigration to, and migration within, the United States. They comment on how we have built communities and constructed our identities as individuals and collectives. The gardens reveal the stories of the major conflicts that gave shape to the century: World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. They also provide insight into the large social, economic, political, and cultural upheavals that roiled through the nation during the last century: the Great Depression, suburbanization, the Civil Rights Movement, and the deindustrialization of America’s industrial heartland. This is a story of hope and despair, joy and sadness, conflict and cooperation, growth and decline. The stones, paths, and memories of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens tell us what it has meant to be an American.

We’ll visit gardens at Kingwood Center and Qualicrest Farms as well as the Cleveland Botanical Garden and Holden Arboretum, and we’re including some private gardens which will be available to us in the Cleveland area during our stay. Combine this with a few interesting side trips, such as our tour to the Cleveland Museum of Art and you’ll experience a full weekend of delightful fall activity in the northern Ohio area.

The tour will be escorted once again by Peter Olin, and will be guided as well during our time in and around Cleveland by our local tour manager.

For details on the tour, along with tour pricing and registration information, please visit the Arboretum’s website at http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/events programs. We’re saving a spot for you in September – don’t wait to sign up – take advantage of our Early Bird Booking Discount and $ave!

Make your reservation and deposit by March 1 and you can save $50 off the price of the tour as well! Contact Peter Olin at the Arboretum at 612-301-1275 or e-mail at: olinx002@umn.edu to secure your place on this great tour!

Tour price: $2,395 per person, based on double occupancy ($2,345 if booked by March 1, 2015)
Single supplement $550 extra

Note: Non-members of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum add $100 to tour cost.
TOUR ITINERARY

Thursday, September 10
Morning departure from Minneapolis for our flight to Cleveland. Upon arrival we'll check into our hotel in downtown Cleveland before heading for the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame located near our hotel for a visit. Following our visit here, we'll have a welcome dinner at the House of Blues in the trendy East Fourth District.

Friday, September 11
After breakfast, we travel by coach to the depot of the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, where we board our train for the two-hour scenic journey to Akron. Upon arrival we visit Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens where we have lunch, a guided tour of the manor house, and a self-guided tour of the gardens and conservatory. Following our visit here, we'll make a short stop at the Westpoint Market for chance to shop and perhaps enjoy a coffee or after lunch snack before returning to Cleveland this evening. You are on your own this evening for dinner.

Saturday, September 12
This morning we depart for Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield for a tour of the manor house, gardens and greenhouse. Kingwood Gardens were built in 1926 for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelley King, whose fortune was made with Ohio Brass Company in Mansfield. Consisting of 47 acres there are a number of gardens to view. Most of the estate was left to a private foundation to operate the garden. It was opened as a public garden in 1953. Afterwards, we'll have lunch at the Brown Derby Roadhouse Restaurant en route to Quailcrest Farms in Wooster. Located just on the edge of Ohio's farmland, Quailcrest was begun as a perennial nursery in 1925 and is well known throughout the state for its herbs, perennials, old roses, flowering shrubs and scented geraniums for the serious and hobby gardener. There is a Tea House Garden as well as a formal Herb Garden. Near the Tea House Garden the 1800's Schoolhouse was originally a smoke house that had stood at a nearby farm. Using the original bricks, trusses and size, including the window openings and lintels, it was reconstructed here and now contains a collection of early antiques of the era. Surrounding it are a variety of old fashioned plants: ilex, lilac, southern magnolia, fothergilla, crab apple and herbs such as artemisia, lavender, bouncing bet and thyme. The formal Herb Garden was constructed in 1986 with climbing roses and Clematis Paniculata. Mints are grown in terra cotta tiles. There is a scented geranium bed, 21 thyme species, 10-20 rosemary varieties, a bed of culinary herbs and a border of lavender. In the center is a knot of germander, Varder Valley boxwood and Crimson Pygmy barberry. Several gardens have water as a focal point. We return to our hotel afterwards, and the evening is free (dinner on own).

Sunday, September 13
After breakfast this morning we visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens, consisting of over 30 gardens representing the ethnic communities that settled in Cleveland over the years. We stop at the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, conceived in 1903 and finished in 1905, on part of the 270 acres donated to the city of Cleveland by industrialist John D. Rockefeller. Initially, the greenhouse was used to house and nurture plants destined for the city's parks, but eventually the scope grew to include display gardens. The Greenhouse consists of outdoor and indoor gardens. Highlights include a formal Japanese Garden, planted in the 1960s; a desert-like Latin American garden; a tropical garden; and the outdoor Peace garden. From here we visit the Cleveland Museum of Art, where we have a docent-led tour of the exhibits, with lunch in the cafe and time to explore the museum on your own as well. The afternoon is for us to visit the Cleveland Botanical Garden. Founded in 1930 as the Garden Center of Cleveland, today it encompasses 10 acres of beautiful outdoor gardens and the 18,000-square-foot Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse. Your Glasshouse adventure takes you into the Costa Rican rainforest full of lush plants, butterflies and birds, as well as to the spiny desert of Madagascar, where prickly plants, out-of-the-ordinary blooms and wonderfully weird plants and animals welcome you. Afterwards we return to our hotel where you enjoy dinner on your own, with the evening at leisure.

Monday, September 14
Today after breakfast we visit some local sites of interest in the morning – Dunham Tavern Museum and Lake View Cemetery before lunch and then on to Holden Arboretum in the afternoon. Dunham Tavern was once a stagecoach stop on Buffalo-Cleveland-Detroit post road. Today Dunham Tavern Museum is the oldest building still standing on its original site in the city of Cleveland. The 1824 home of Rufus and Jane Pratt Dunham in Mid-Town Cleveland is now a designated Cleveland Landmark listed on the Register of National Historic Places. In stark contrast to the cityscape that surrounds it, the museum and its gardens offer a glimpse of history and insight into the lifestyles of early Ohio settlers and travelers. Lake View Cemetery’s founders used horticulture as an integral part of their cemetery planning process. In doing so, they created a showcase of trees and shrubbery, cultivated for scientific, ornamental and educational purposes – an arboretum in every aspect of the word. Lake View dates from 1869 when the grounds were thoughtfully planned to create the decorative urban oasis it is today. Ornamentally speaking, the combination of two 19th century developments gave birth to an innovative style called the “garden cemetery.” For lunch you are dropped off at Tommy’s, a Cleveland dining institution started in 1972. Lunch is on own, but there are so many choices of good food at Tommy’s you’ll have no problem selecting your favorite. After lunch we visit Holden Arboretum. Covering 3,600 acres, Holden Arboretum is among the largest arborets in the United States. Documenting more than 120,000 plants, Holden’s horticultural focus is on a recognized collection of trees and shrubs, which are displayed in gardens accompanied by groundcovers and perennials, and in themed collections. In addition, Holden has been named as an Important Bird Area by the Audubon Society, with more than 20 miles of hiking trails, and is a haven for bird watchers as well as hikers, gardeners and nature enthusiasts. This evening we are treated to a special farewell evening at one of Cleveland’s more interesting restaurants – La Dolce Vita. Our dinner features a wonderful evening of Italian food and opera especially designed for us – and a great way to say farewell to Cleveland.

Tuesday, September 15
Today after breakfast we check out of our hotel and are taken to the airport for our return flight(s) home.
Note: In order to qualify for the member’s price, each traveler must be a member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Contact the Arboretum for membership info at 612-301-1257.

This outstanding tour includes:
- Round-trip airfare from Minneapolis to Cleveland
- Five nights’ deluxe hotel accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- Three lunches
- Two dinners
- Sightseeing as indicated in the itinerary
- Local tour guide for all sightseeing
- Deluxe motor coach transportation throughout tour
- Pre-departure information
- All taxes and service charges while on tour
- Escorted by Peter Olin
- A $200 tax-deductible contribution to the Arboretum

Not included on the tour:
- Gratuities to guides
- Items of a personal nature – laundry, telephone, etc.
- Anything not listed as included on tour.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
Deposit due with booking: $500 per person
Final payment due: June 1, 2015

Cancellation Fees:
Before June 1: $250
June 1 – August 15: 50% of tour cost
August 16 or later: no refund

Tour Cost:
$2,395 per person, double occupancy
$2,345 if booked and on deposit by March 1, 2015
$550 additional, single supplement
(Non-members of the Arboretum add $100)

OUR HOTEL
Cleveland Marriott Downtown Hotel at Key Center
This hotel combines luxury and convenience in a premier downtown location. Offering stunning views of Lake Erie and breathtaking city skyline, this 25-story Cleveland hotel boasts 400 guestrooms with sleek furnishings, an indoor pool and fitness center. For casual dining, relax among warm wood styling at Jake’s sports lounge or taste contemporary American cuisine at David’s Restaurant in the hotel. The stylish guest rooms boast flat-screen TVs with cable and coffee/tea making facilities along with an in-room safe. Free wi-fi is available in the lobby and in public areas of the hotel.