



August 2011

Greetings!

Through an amazing turn of luck, I am able to secure confirmed space in Holland at "Tulip Time" and tickets to the Floriade in its first month of opening! We've added the famous Aalsmeer Flower Auction and visits to private nurseries at the height of the season as well as a day at the most beautiful spring garden in the world – Keukenhof. The itinerary is alive with glorious gardens, comfortable hotels, English-speaking guides, private transportation and the very best the Netherlands has to offer!

Pat Jeremiah will accompany the trip representing the Gardens. She is personable, attractive and great fun to travel with because she has so much fun too! If one of our guests is not feeling well or needs extra assistance in any way, Pat will be present for help and guidance!

The price of the trip and deposit are very reasonable! The cancellation policy is flexible. Hotels are comfortable and well located. Don't miss this exceptional offering to visit a combination of the most extraordinary spring flower venues!

Contact us now!!

Warmest Wishes,

*Patricia*

Patricia E. West,  
Travel Coordinator "Garden Getaways"  
Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens

*Patricia E. West, Director Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc*  
*Tel: 207-633-4883 \* Fax: 207-633-6740 \* Email: distvoy@zwi.net*

# *Floriade 2012*

# *Holland*

*April 18 to April 24, 2012*  
*7 Days/6 Nights*

To Benefit







# Holland and the Floriade 2012

April 18 to April 24, 2012  
7 Days/6 Nights

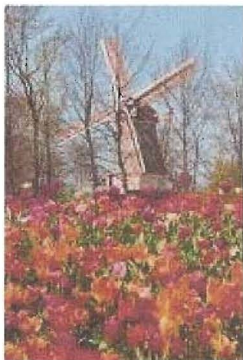
Join the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens for the **World Horticultural Expo – “Floriade”** – staged once every ten years! Add one of the world’s most beautiful Gardens – **Keukenhof**, the famous **Aalsmeer Flower Auction** and **“Tulip Time”** in Holland for the most gorgeous garden trip of a lifetime!



## **April 18 Wednesday:**

- ❖ Transfer by private coach with your English speaking guide from the airport to your hotel with City Orientation tour enroute.
- ❖ Luncheon at a nearby restaurant.
- ❖ Afternoon at leisure to rest, relax, or shop.
- ❖ **Welcome Dinner Cruise** on one of the most charming canals in the historic heart of Amsterdam.

L, D



## **April 19 Thursday:**

- ❖ Breakfast at leisure.
- ❖ **Full Day Excursion to the Aalsmeer Flower Auction and a Private Greenhouse Nursery.**
- ❖ Luncheon at a local restaurant in the countryside.
- ❖ Enroute to Amsterdam, enjoy a stop to view the **Windmills of the Zaanse Schans** on the banks of the River Zaan.
- ❖ Dinner is on own arrangements.

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### April 20 Friday:

- ❖ Breakfast at leisure.
- ❖ **Full Day Excursion to the Keukenhof Gardens and medieval Delft.**



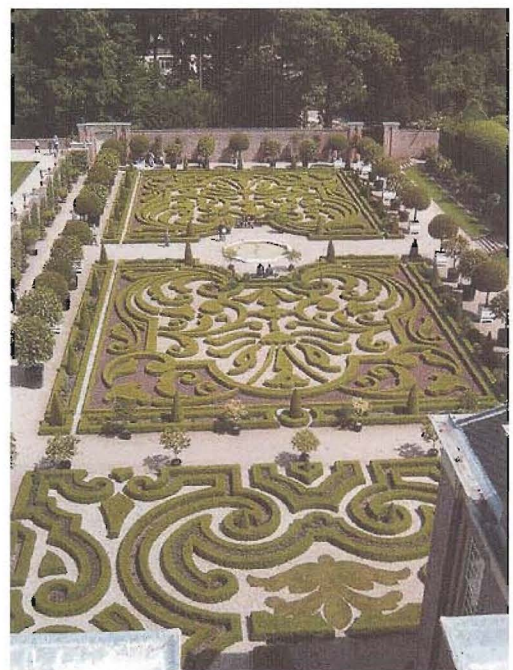
**Keukenhof** is an historic park covering an area of thirty-two hectares, full of tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and all the other spring bulbs. The floral displays in the park and unique flower shows in the various pavilions are a glorious visual feast. In the midst of this magnificent spectacle of color there are also exquisite works of art. An unforgettable experience!

- ❖ Luncheon at the Gardens.
- ❖ Enroute a stop in **Delft** – one of Holland's most perfectly preserved medieval city centers. After a visit to the Delftware factory, you'll have time to explore on your own.
- ❖ Dinner is on own arrangements.

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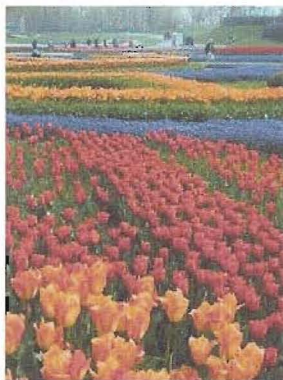
### April 21 Saturday:

- ❖ Breakfast at leisure.
- ❖ **Transfer to the Floriade and visit .Costerus Gardens and the Palace of Het Loo.**
- ❖ In the ancient fortified town of Naarden visit the **Botanic Garden of Dr. Costerus**. It's an oasis of color, plants, shrubs, ponds and trees which preserves species of The Netherlands.
- ❖ Luncheon enroute on your own.
- ❖ Visit the **Palace of Het Loo**, the former Royal Palace of Queen Emma. Gorgeous, renowned French gardens.
- ❖ Proceed to the town Vlodrop, a small town near the Floriade 2012 grounds. Check into your hotel.
- ❖ Dinner is on own arrangements.



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### April 22 Sunday:



- ❖ Breakfast is at leisure.
- ❖ **Full Day Excursion Floriade.** This will include a one-hour tour through the Floriade with an English-speaking guide and a luncheon voucher that is valid in all restaurants at the Floriade. Free time to explore on your own.
- ❖ **Floriade** is a World Horticultural Expo staged once every ten years in the Netherlands. The participating countries, businesses and horticultural companies, as well as public and semi-public bodies, present visitors to Floriade 2012 with the opportunity to enjoy the world's most exquisite and exceptional flowers, plants, trees, fruits and vegetables. Floriade 2012 offers even more! Each day features a cultural programme of music, dance, literature, theatre and visual art from all



over the world. Floriade 2012 is a spectacular voyage of discovery. Using the senses of sight, hearing, taste, touch and smell you can experience at first hand the influence horticulture has on the quality of our daily lives.

- ❖ Transfer back to the hotel followed by dinner.

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### **April 23 Monday: Asparagus and Mushrooms**

- ❖ Breakfast is at leisure.
- ❖ ***The National Asparagus and Mushroom Museum.***

Enjoy a guided tour of ***Farmstead "De Locht"***, a wonderful museum depicting farm life as it used to be. This is Holland's most important region (Limburg) for the production of both asparagus and mushrooms. The sandy soil is very suitable for asparagus. The museum shows how the vegetable is grown



and various special tools and implements used in the production and harvesting.

- ❖ Continue to ***Utrecht*** for luncheon on your own.

The city of Utrecht was founded by the Romans in the year 50. It is located in the very heart of the Netherlands. Its rich history is visible around every corner of the historic centre.



- ❖ Farewell Dinner in a traditional restaurant in old Utrecht.

B, D

### **April 24 Tuesday:**

- ❖ Breakfast at leisure.
- ❖ Transfer to the Schipol Airport in Amsterdam.

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## Payment Schedule

Land Tour Cost: \$3,750.<sup>00</sup> Per Person

Single Supplement: \$860.<sup>00</sup>

Deposit: \$600.<sup>00</sup> Per Person.

Final Payment: February 10, 2012.

Cancellation Policy: After deposit paid and before final payment if you cancel there will be a 10% penalty kept from deposit (\$60.<sup>00</sup>). If cancelling after final paid: 2 – 3 months prior 15%, 1 – 2 months prior 35%, 2 weeks to one month prior 60%, 7 – 14 days prior 85%, one week prior 100%. Insurance is always highly recommended.

Procedure: Payments can be made by Visa, MasterCard, American Express or check. **Please call me (207-633-4883) with full details of your credit card and if paying by check make out to Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. Kindly post to Patricia West, VWT, P.O. Box 299, Southport, ME 04576.**

Air: Approximate additional cost \$854.<sup>00</sup> per person economy, lowest applicable, restricted, non-refundable fare. Boston gateway and return (Aer Lingus via Dublin). Non-stop on Delta \$1,155.<sup>00</sup> roundtrip.

## **TOUR CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### WHAT IS INCLUDED:

- Comfortable 3/4 star plus accommodation, six nights.
- English-speaking guides.
- Meals as indicated in itinerary.
- Baggage handling.
- All special visits and fees; transportation as indicated in itinerary
- Tax deductible donation to the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens – \$300.<sup>00</sup>.

### WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfare to and from Amsterdam.
- Some meals as indicated, gratuities, excess luggage charges, passports, immunizations, personal items such as valet/laundry services, travel insurance, communications.

### INSURANCE:

A package of trip cancellation, baggage and medical insurance is available through Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. for coverage of non-refundable expenses incurred in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident.

Participation is highly recommended.

### A NOTE ABOUT THE ITINERARY:

While every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned, the itinerary as described is subject to modification and change by Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. and Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.

### RESPONSIBILITY:

Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. and Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant services and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. or Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens control. Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. or Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens therefore shall not be responsible or liable in any way for any loss, death, injury or damage to persons or property suffered or incurred by any person in connection with this program or portion of it. The passage contract in use by each airline or other

carrier shall constitute the sole contract in use by each airline or other carrier and the passenger. Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. or Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens shall not be responsible for any delays, substitutions of equipment or hotels, change in services and accommodations, or other acts or omissions on the part of carriers or operators of facilities described in the program or for any changes in the itinerary deemed necessary or appropriate for the safety or convenience of passengers. Nor do we accept responsibility for losses or delays arising from sickness, pilferage, acts of terrorism, weather conditions or acts of God. All such losses or expenses shall be borne by the tour participant. All claims for refunds must be made within thirty (30) days after termination of services and must be in writing. Refund limited to net amounts received from suppliers converted at current exchange. Liability for luggage is strictly limited and participants are urged to

take necessary insurance for their protection. The tour participant agrees on behalf of himself, his dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the above conditions and release and holds harmless Valerie Wilson Travel Inc. and Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and any of their representatives from any and all liability.

### CURRENCY EXCHANGE:

The land cost of this tour is based on a current exchange rate of approximately 1.50% at time of design. At time of final payment if the US Dollar's value has decreased greatly, a small supplement may be charged.

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

A valid passport is required of all participants for entry into the Netherlands. No visas are required for US citizens. No specific inoculations are required however we suggest you consult your physician for recommendations.



## Hotels

### ***Amsterdam: Hotel N H City Centre***

Located in the heart of the city and overlooking the Singel Canal, the hotel is only a brief walk to the famous floating flower market, the powerfully moving Anne Frank House and the bustling shops of Dam Square. Housed in five historic 17<sup>th</sup> century buildings, a lovely restaurant is also on the premises (Restaurant d'Vijff Vlieghen). Comfortable, full service hotel. Rooms all with private facilities.



### ***Vlodrop: Hampshire Boshotel Vlodrop***



The hotel is beautifully situated in the middle of the forests of National Park De Meinweg. A star each for comfort, fantastic facilities, culinary delights and a breath taking beautiful environment. Attend the “Floriade” moments away and return to the hotel for your choice of fitness room, squash, a Clarins Gold beauty salon with seven treatment rooms, an indoor swimming pool, sauna and much more! Restaurant “de Meinweg” offers opportunities from small snacks to beautiful dinners.

### ***Utrecht: Hotel N H Centre Utrecht***

The hotel is set inside a charming historical building dating from the 1870's, offering old world atmosphere combined with modern facilities and amenities. The location is within five minutes of shops, restaurants and lounges. Also close by are the Dom tower, the Dutch Railway museum and the Museum van Speelkok tot Pierement. Beatrixtheatre, Griftpark and Wilhelminapark, all must-sees during your stay in Utrecht.





## Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens Representative



***Patricia M. Jeremiah***

You may recognize me from the Gardens! My volunteering takes on many characters and delights – from the Fairy House Gala to Miss McGonigle from Harry Potter to dear Miss Rumphius where I sit in this glorious chair and read fabulous books to an enthusiastic audience of young people!

I have been gardening since I was four years old and grew a bumper crop of gourds! I am now a “Master Gardener” in Maine and hold a Certificate of Gardening from the New York Botanical Gardens. Before moving to Maine in 1998, I had a “Garden Design and Care” business in Connecticut for fifteen years.

I am very honored to host the Floriade! It is a fabulous event that every garden enthusiast should attend. Please join me for gorgeous spring gardens, delights of Holland at her peak and the once in ten years – ***Floriade!!***