Due to the popularity of our gardens tour to this region a couple years ago, and rapid sell-out, we’re offering it again—only with many different sites, and at an earlier time of summer. The Coastal Maine Botanical Garden, McLaughlin Gardens—one of Maine’s favorite public gardens, historic Strawberry Banke village and gardens in Portsmouth, NH, plenty of garden-related and other shopping, and a couple of waterfront group meals including a presentation by nationally-known speaker Kerry Mendez, are some of the reasons this tour is not to be missed.

Co-sponsored by the King’s Garden at Fort Ticonderoga, this tour will have as co-host their Director of Interpretation, Stuart Lilie. Hosting also will be Dr. Leonard Perry, Horticulture Professor Emeritus at the University of Vermont and Horticulturist-in-Residence consultant with the King’s Garden. Sarah Kingsley-Richards from UVM will be back with us as well.

**Day one** will begin at the Horticulture Research Center in So. Burlington, with pickup points in Montpelier and Sharon, and will include:

**Rolling Green Nursery** in Greenland, NH (rollinggreennursery.com) where we’ll have a boxed lunch (included) and time to shop in their greenhouses, nursery (including perennials), and gift shop of unique and local items.

Much of the afternoon you’ll have to visit the historic homes and **gardens of Strawberry Banke**, or shop in downtown Portsmouth, NH, or take in the sights of the harbor, or visit the All-America Selections flower display gardens at **Prescott Park** (pescottparknh.org) on the waterfront adjacent to Strawberry Banke. (www.strawberybanke.org)

After a group dinner (included) at landmark **Warren’s Lobster House** in Kittery, Maine, we’ll spend the night at the **Hampton Inn hotel in So. Portland, Maine** next to the Maine Mall.
Day two in Maine, after our hot breakfast (included) at our hotel, includes:

**Shady Glen nursery** in Freeport (www.shadyglennursery.com), where we can tour their display gardens and shop from their many specialty perennial varieties—almost all propagated and grown by them. The owners—one with a university horticulture degree and the other a landscape architect, can answer many of your questions.

Our visit to the famous, well-loved and highly rated **Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens** in Boothbay will include a group lunch, hour tour, and more time to shop or visit more of the gardens on your own. (www.mainegardens.org). Then you have an option to visit **Boothbay Harbor**, where you can see this picturesque seaside town, shop, and have an afternoon refreshment or ice cream. Or, spend more time at the Gardens instead.

The **evening will afford you one of three options** to chose from: shop at the outlets and dine in Freeport (with over 200 outlets, boutiques, and Maine-owned shops – all set in a 19th century village—Freeport is an award-winning, and Maine’s favorite, shopping destination); shop/dine in historic downtown Portland; or return to the Hampton hotel to relax or shop at the mall, and eat at a nearby restaurant (within walking distance, or use the free hotel shuttle service).

Day three, after our hotel breakfast (included) and check out, finishes the tour with…

A visit to **McLaughlin Gardens in South Paris**, where we’ll have a guided tour of the landmark and intensely planted two-acre gardens. Begun in 1936 by Bernard McLaughlin, and managed by him until his death in 1995, it is listed as a Cultural Landscape on the National Register of Historic Places. We’ll see many perennials, shrubs, ferns and wildflowers under a canopy of trees, surrounding the 1840’s Maine Farmstead. There will be time to wander and visit their gift shop. (www.mclaughlingarden.org)
Our buffet lunch (included) will be at Dimillos on the Water in Portland Harbor. In our own room on the second floor (steps only, no elevator), we’ll enjoy a presentation by noted author and speaker Kerry Mendez while dining. Kerry will speak on “Double Your Pleasure with Perennials Boasting Flashy Foliage AND Flowers. Discover how foliage can add incredible color to a garden without depending on flowers for a dramatic effect. And the bonus, if not the main attraction, is that foliage centered landscapes require little maintenance! This presentation features standout perennials for their wide array of foliage textures, forms, and colors. Gorgeous flowers are icing on the cake!”

Before our trip back, we’ll visit the highly commended Snug Harbor Farm in Kennebunk, which “provides plant enthusiasts with healthy, well grown, interesting plant material and unique garden accessories all with an “old world” style. There you’ll find specialty plants, imported terra-cotta pots, topiaries, and more. (snugharborfarm.com)

We should arrive back in So. Burlington in early evening.

Included in the price are all admissions and guided tours, snacks and refreshments throughout the tour, lodging, most meals (2 breakfasts at the hotel, 3 lunches, group dinner day one), and driver gratuity. We'll travel in a Premier luxury coach, with videos periodically on various gardens locally and abroad, lesser known and more famous. Of course you'll have the chance to network with and get to know other gardeners, and to learn much and have your questions answered by your expert tour hosts.

Sign up soon to make sure you get one of the limited spaces. Register for two or more garden tours this summer hosted by Dr. Perry (pss.uvm.edu/PPP/forpecon.htm#tours), and you’ll get a $10 discount coupon good for tours in 2018. If you have any special needs (food, seating and accessibility, or other), please let me know at least one week prior to the tour. Do let me know, too, if you have any questions: 802-318-8453, leonard.perry@uvm.edu
Seacoast Gardens Tour Registration Form  
Monday-Wednesday June 26-28, 2017

Due by May 22, 2017-- Register sooner and save $$! See below; space is limited.
Please complete a separate form for each person

Name_________________________________ Mail Address_______________________________________________
City___________________________________ State_______        Zip Code__________
Daytime Phone _____________________    email_____________________________________________________

Room Bed Preference (if available): King       2 Queens
(This is a non-smoking hotel. Also there is no smoking on the motorcoach.)

Roommate’s Name__________________________

Emergency Contact ______________________     Phone number____________________________

Departing From (circle) UVM Hort Farm I-89 Park and ride: Montpelier       Sharon

Payment (Please make checks payable to “Fort Ticonderoga”)

Dreaming of Spring Special, prior to Feb. 14 $539 ________ (double occupancy)
Vermont Flower Show Special, Feb. 15-Mar. 15 $549 ________ (double occupancy)
Registration Mar. 16-May 15 $565 ________ (double occupancy)
Single room supplement $160 ________ (Covers additional hotel costs)
Total $__________

Refund Policy: Cancellation before May 22, 2017-- complete refund less a $30 processing fee
Cancellation on or after May 22, but before June 12-- 50% refund; Cancellation on or after June 12-- no refund
Requests for cancellation must be received in writing.

In the event that we must cancel the tour due to insufficient numbers or other reason, you will get a full refund.
Otherwise, note the refund policy. While travel insurance is mainly used for trips abroad or involving flights and cruise ships, you may want to look into this if you want to be covered in case you need to cancel, due to medical or similar reasons. There are many firms you can use and find online (www.insuremytrip.com/products/providers), with the cost often about 10% the tour cost for multiday trips.

Mail Registration Forms by May 22 (early registration dates as above) to:
Gardens tour Attn: Sydney Collier, Fort Ticonderoga, PO Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883.
Confirmation receipt, itinerary, and directions to departure sites will be mailed prior to the tour. For questions on registration and payment, contact SCollier@fort-ticonderoga.org, 518-585-2821. For other questions, contact tour host Dr. Leonard Perry (leonard.perry@uvm.edu, 802-318-8453).

Dr. Leonard P. Perry  
Horticulture Professor Emeritus  
University of Vermont

Organizing and leading garden tours in the U.S. and abroad since 1985