Gardens, Villas and Culture
Join Dartmouth OSHER Program

and Jo Evarts

on a journey to Italy

Featuring: Milan, Lake Maggiore, Lake Como, Venice, Florence, Tuscany and More!

May 15-27, 2016 with optional extension to Rome
until May 30, 2016

For information contact: Susan Prendergast  email- Susan@select-intl.com
Select International Tours 1-800-842-4842
May 15- Day 1: DEPART U.S.A.
We depart this evening on an overnight flight to Italy from Boston.

May 16- Day 2: MILAN- LAKE MAGGIORE
Upon arrival short drive to see Villa Cicogna Mozzoni, a classic example of a 16th century Renaissance Italian Villa. The buildings etched into the steep hillside are accompanied by magnificent garden rooms on three levels, an arcade courtyard with frescoes, broad terraces, and a spectacular water staircase, flanked by cypresses. We board our motorcoach and head for Lake Maggiore where we have dinner prepared from local produce accompanied by regional wine. Overnight in Lake Maggiore/Stresa. (Special dinner with wine.)
Hotel Regina Palace, Stresa

May 17- Day 3: LAKE MAGGIORE
The gardens of Villa Taranto, a 100-acre estate overlooking the lake, encouraged by mild winter climate, high rainfall, and hot summers, provide a botanical feast which cannot be missed. Continue by private motor-launch to the Barromean Islands, for a stop on Isola dei Pescatori for lunch. Then to Isola Bella, the 17th century Baroque palace. "From the garden student point of view, there is nothing in Lombardy as important as Isola Bella," wrote Edith Wharton in her classic The Italian Villas and their Gardens. The gardens, first seen from the shore at Stresa, seem to float on the lake's surface. This is undoubtedly one of the most dramatic gardens in Italy, inviting exploration by the architectural and garden historian as well as the amateur gardener. The boat takes us to the lovely town of Stresa, where you may explore on your own and have dinner, before we return as a group to the in Lake Maggiore/Stresa. (Buffet breakfast and restaurant lunch)

May 18- Day 4: COMO-BELLAGIO
Villa d'Este in Cernobbio is palatial and has been from the moment it was conceived until its present state as a sumptuous hotel. Princes of the Church and princesses of the realm have prayed and played here. Fortunes have been lost in the extravagant gamble of owning the villa, and many have indulged their fantasies and left their marks on the house and gardens of Villa d'Este. A scenic drive along the shores of Lake Como takes us to Tremezzo, where we visit Villa Carlotta, built in the 18th century by the Marquis Clerici and gifted to Princess Charlotte of Nassau as a wedding present. The villa houses numerous works of art, and beautiful terraced hillside gardens overlooking the lake. Here one also discovers a relaxed English-style garden, filled with exotic trees, flowers and shrubs. Cross by boat to Bellagio known as the prettiest town in Europe where you have time to explore on your own. Return to the hotel together. Overnight Como area. (Buffet breakfast and hotel dinner)
Hotel Metropole et Suisse au Lac

May 19- Day 5: LAKE GARDA - VERONA
Today we drive to Lake Garda to visit Vittoriale, home of Italian Poet Gabriele D'Annunzio with its beautiful gardens, and a house filled with an eccentric collection of art and other unusual items. After lunch we continue to Verona, home of Renaissance dukes, for an overnight. (Buffet breakfast and hotel dinner) Hotel Veronesi La Torre, Verona

May 20- Day 6: VENICE (VIVALDI CONCERT)
Our visit today includes Villa Valmarana and Villa San Zibio. Rest of the day at leisure. In the evening we attend a concert of Vivaldi at Santa Maria della Pietà, on the Lagoon; this was Vivaldi's church, and the lead violin in such a concert is always a Stradivarius. Overnight in Venice. (Buffet breakfast and Special dinner with wine) Hotel Saturnia, Venice

May 21-Day 7: VENICE
Venice, the incomparable, awaits us. We will see the “Forbidden tour” of the Doge's Palace followed by Gardens of Palazzo Contarini. The residence of the leaders of Venice and the seat of its government is decorated by artworks of the Venetian masters Tintoretto and Titian. We cross the Bridge of Sighs, which connects the palace with the prisons. We visit the Church of St. Apostoli to see the gardens of the Dominican Nuns, and finally our tour ends with a visit to Hotel dei Doghi to see its beautiful garden and enjoy a refreshing drink. Overnight in Venice. (Buffet breakfast and restaurant lunch) Hotel Saturnia, Venice

May 22- Day 8: RAVENNA
We will travel to Ravenna today to see the breath-taking mosaics at San Vitale, Sant' Apollinare in Classe and Sant Apollinare in Nuovo before driving to Florence to arrive late this afternoon. Overnight in Florence. (Buffet breakfast and hotel dinner)
Hotel Villa D'Annunzio, Florence
May 23 - Day 9: FLORENCE
This morning we explore Villa Medici, created by Lorenzo de Medici “Il Magnifico,” who made the villa the cultural center during the Renaissance. The garden was restored by the English designer Cecil Pinsent. After lunch, we visit Villa Gamberaia, a perfect example of Tuscany’s traditional landscape architecture. This is one of the most celebrated Italian villas since its restoration; the garden is considered a masterpiece. Overnight at Hotel Villa D’Annunzio, Florence. (B. Special dinner with wine)

May 24 - Day 10: FLORENCE
In the morning, we walk to the Accademia to see Michelangelo’s David and the two Slaves. Then a stroll through Florence introduces us to the sculpture of Donatello and the beautiful Piazza della Signoria outside the Uffizi. Crossing the Ponte Vecchio we come to the Boboli Gardens which we explore on a private guided tour. Rest of the afternoon is at leisure for a visit to the Uffizi or the Medici Chapels. You may wish to visit San Lorenzo market or explore the winding streets of the Renaissance city. Tonight dinner is on your own in the Renaissance city. Overnight in Hotel Villa d’Annunzio, Florence. (Buffet breakfast)

May 25 - Day 11: THE BEAUTY OF TUSCANY
This morning we make our last visits in the city of Florence, with free time to visit San Marco, the Science Museum, or shop on the Ponte Vecchio. In the afternoon, we visit a local farm which produces olive oil and wine, before we return to our hotel, Hotel Villa Casagrande. Dinner is at leisure tonight. (Buffet breakfast and restaurant lunch)

May 26: Day 12: VITERBO - ROME
The Tuscan hillside is dotted with silvery olive groves and majestic cypress trees, charming villages, and quaint medieval towns. We arrive in the enchanting town of Viterbo, an ancient Etruscan town, with charming winding streets and shops harboring their own Etruscan tombs. Here we visit Villa Lante. Then we continue on to the beautiful Villa Caprarola (Palazzo Farnese), designed by Vignola for the Cardinal Farnese in 1556. “There is nothing in all Italy like Caprarola,” Edith Wharton wrote in Italian Villas & their Gardens. Our journey continues on to Rome for overnight in our Rome hotel, Hotel Victoria. (Buffet breakfast and hotel dinner)

May 27 - Day 13: ROME to USA
For those leaving today, after breakfast, we are transferred to the airport for our flight home. (Buffet breakfast)

OPTIONAL: ROME Extension
May 27 - Day 13: ROME
Today we visit the Villa Pia in the Vatican Garden, St. Peter’s Basilica, and the Villa Borghese. Rest of the day at leisure to explore on your own. Dinner on your own. Overnight in the Hotel Victoria. (Buffet breakfast)

May 28 - Day 14: ROME
This morning we visit Villa d’Este in Tivoli. Renowned for its spectacular use of water, it represents the quintessence of the Italian garden of the High Renaissance in central Italy. Rest of the day at leisure, although we will have an optional group visit to Villa Medici, Rome. Overnight in Hotel Victoria. (Buffet breakfast and hotel dinner)

May 29 - Day 15: ROME
Today we visit Villa di Papa Giulio in the morning. In the afternoon, we drive to Frascati to see the extraordinary Villa Aldobrandini. Tonight’s farewell dinner is among the vineyards of the Frascati wine region. (Buffet breakfast and Special Farewell Dinner with wine)

May 30 - Day 16: Return to USA
We are transferred to Rome Airport for our flight home. (Breakfast)

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES:
* Accommodations in four star, centrally-located hotels
* Open hot buffet breakfast daily
* Dinners as per itinerary
* Lunches as per itinerary
* Beverages, wine with meals: 2 glasses per person per meal with a choice offered of red or white wine or soft drinks & water
* Coffee and tea with meals
* Private air-conditioned bus
* English-speaking tour director
* Local guides for garden tours and city tours
* All admission charges as per the itinerary
* Baggage bandling for one suitcase per person included at the hotels
* Parking fees for busses
* Local hotel taxes
* Gratuities for the local city and garden tour guides, baggage handling (one suitcase per person), bus driver, tour director and wait staff for included lunch and dinners.
* Whisper Sets

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE:
* Personal expenses
* Trip cancellation and medical insurance which are optional and highly recommended for the protection of your investment
* Any items not specifically mentioned in the listed inclusions
* Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
* Airline baggage charges
* Airport transfers for land only passengers
* Gratuities which are not stated
Gardens, Villas and Culture of Italy

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

Deposits and final payment: A deposit of $750.00 per person should accompany the registration form along with your optional insurance payment and a copy of your passport picture page by November 2, 2015. Final payment is due March 11, 2016. Late payment fee of $100.00 per person applies. Please mail your payment to: Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 ATTN: Susan Prendergast.

Pricing and Rate of Exchange: Trip cost of $4895.00 per person for 13 Day tour. Land portion is based on two people per room or $6905.00 for 16 Days. Round trip air from Boston on Delta airlines is an additional $1425.00 per person. Land only programs start and end at the hotel and do not include individual airport transfers. Price is based on a minimum of 15 passengers traveling and discounted for payment by cash or check. Prices are based on the exchange rate of 1.25 Euro to 1.00 USD and may be subject to change based on the rate at the time of final payment. Deposits: Initial registration deposit must be paid by check.

Single supplement: A few single rooms are available at an additional $795.00 per single room main tour, 13 day tour, $895.00 for 16 day, $1590.00 additional for single stay in a double room 13 days or $1790.00 16 days. Number of participants utilizing single rooms may not exceed approximately 10% of total room number.

Tour Cancellation Policy: Up to 90 days prior to departure a reservation fee of $500.00 is withheld. From 90 days to 60 days prior to departure a $1000.00 cancellation fee applies. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable and name changes are not possible. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. We strongly urge you to purchase travel insurance for the protection of your investment.

Trip Cancellation/Travel Insurance is highly recommended. Two policy options are available through our carrier Travel Insured. Group Deluxe Plan Coverage or the Cancel for Any Reason. All coverage and pricing information is available upon request or on our website at www.selectinternationaltours.com. Insurance payment premium should be made at the time of your initial trip deposit by a check issued to Select International Tours, Inc.

Airline seating and special requests: We do not reserve specific seats with the airline. You may secure your seat at the airport prior to departure, or by calling the airline upon receipt of your ticket number. Please inform us in writing regarding any special dietary, mobility or travel requests you may need. We will pass on any special request to service providers but cannot guarantee they will be adhered to. Mileage program information may be added by calling the airline directly or at the airport prior to departure by the passengers. Should your flight be delayed or cancelled please work with the airline directly on rebooking your travel arrangements and notify Select International as well as the ground operator for the program of any details so they may arrange your for your transfer. Costs incurred due to flight delays are the responsibility of the passengers.

Baggage: Each participant is permitted to check in (1) suitcase weighing no more than 50 lbs., and to take one small carry-on bag on the plane. Airline baggage fees are not included in the trip cost.

Responsibility: Joanne Evarts, Dartmouth Osher Program and/or Select International Tours and Cruises and/or any related service supplier in connection with this travel program are not responsible for any loss, sickness or injury to person or property, any delays, changes or extra costs incurred due to the delays or cancellations caused by the airlines, weather or events beyond anyone’s control. Details of the program are subject to change based on events beyond the tour company’s control. All other terms and conditions are as per our website, www.selectinternationaltours.com. Travel documents will be sent to the group organizer approximately 2 weeks before departure, pending timely receipt of all payments.

Media Disclaimer: Select International Tours reserves the right to use travelers’ pictures and videos for marketing and promotional purposes including on social media and print materials. If you do not wish your media to use your pictures or video, please let us know.

Printing Disclaimer: Select International Tours, is not responsible for typographical or print errors. We reserve the right to modify trip itineraries when necessary without notice.

REGISTRATION/CONSENT FORM

Gardens, Villas, and Culture May 15-27 or May 30, 2016

Please complete this form and mail it to Select International Tours 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 ATTN: Susan Prendergast along with your deposit, insurance premium, and a copy of your passport picture page.

Last Name:____________________________________  First Name:______________________________________Middle Name:_______________________________________

Street Address:___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

City:_____________________________________________ State: _______________Zip Code:_____________________

Home Phone:_______________________________ Cell Phone:_________________________________________

Email Address__________________________________________________________________________________

Updates about your trip will be sent by email only. Please be sure that your settings allow for electronic communication originating from select-intl.com

Special dietary, mobility or medical needs:__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Name of Preferred Roommate: _________________________________________________________________ ___________________________________________________________________

Single room ___ Single stay in a double room ___ No preferred roommate, but I would like to share a room ______________________________

Emergency Contact (Name): ____________________________________________________ (Phone) _____________________________

Airport of departure: ____________________________________________________ (Land only) _____________________________

(if different from the main group gateway)

Enclosed is a check/money order in the amount of $ ___________________________ for my initial deposit.

I am purchasing trip cancellation/travel insurance: ___ Yes ___ No, I decline. Enclosed is $ ___________________________

___ Deluxe Policy  or ___Cancel For Any Reason Policy

By signing below, I agree to any price changes at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers travelling in the group. I also acknowledge that I have read and agree to Select International Tours & Cruises’ TERMS AND CONDITIONS located at www.selectinternationaltours.com and outlined in this brochure. I agree not to dispute any forms of payment associated with this trip. I understand that Select International Tours & Cruises recommends the purchase of travel insurance and the cancellation penalties associated with this trip cannot be waived for any reason. I agree not to hold Select International Tours responsible in case of any itinerary or hotel changes, additional costs incurred or time lost due to airline delays or flight cancellations, lost personal items, cancellations, injuries or sickness related to this trip.

Signature:______________________________________________________________________Date:_____________________________________

Joanne Evarts, Dartmouth Osher Program and/or Select International Tours and Cruises. Signature not to be disputed by any means associated with this trip.