

You are invited to join **Sue McDougall**  
on the Travelrite International 2019

# Garden Cruise of the **MEDITERRANEAN**

aboard Norwegian Epic

**PLUS** London, Cornwall, Devon and Somerset, England

Barcelona, Palma Majorca, Spain; Naples, Rome, Livorno, Italy;  
Cannes, France; London, Redruth and Taunton, England

21 June to 11 July, 2019

Includes the  
**Hampton Court  
Flower Show**



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NEWS TALK

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Sue McDougall

Sue McDougall has been passionate about plants and gardening from a very young age. She ran her own garden centre for 16 years and for over 21 years has been part of the gardening programs on 6PR. Sue also writes regular gardening columns for magazines, websites and newsletters and runs gardening workshops. Sue is once again looking forward to sharing her love of gardens with you.



## Itinerary

**Day 1** Friday June 21, 2019

**Departure**

We depart Australia today on our flight to Barcelona, Spain.

**Day 2** Saturday June 22, 2019

**Barcelona, Spain**

This morning we arrive in Barcelona, capital of Catalonia and the second largest city in Spain. We will enjoy a sightseeing tour with a local guide of Barcelona. We will see the historic cathedral and the beautiful streets of the Gothic Quarter as well as the modernist L'Eixample district and see examples of Gaudi's stunning architecture, including the famous Sagrada Familia. We will visit Parc Guell, which is a combination of architectural and landscape features with mature and natural looking plantings. The park was commissioned by Count Eusebi Guell in the 1890s. By 1914, Antoni Gaudi had completed the famous features that are most enjoyed by the park's visitors today. Among them is the grand iron-balustrade entrance, with its mosaic tile work on the walls and the imposing staircase dragon.

**Day 3** Sunday June 23, 2019

**Embarkation**

This morning will be free for independent activity. Later we will be transferred to the port to board the Norwegian Epic for our garden cruise in the Mediterranean. This evening we will enjoy welcome drinks to formally meet Sue and other tour members.

**Day 4** Monday June 24, 2019

**At sea**

The day is free to enjoy the wonderful facilities of the ship. In the afternoon Sue McDougall will give an insight into her life in the media and her love of gardening.

**Day 5** Tuesday June 25, 2019

**Naples, Italy**

Today we arrive in Naples and we travel to Sorrento and board a ferry for the island of Ischia where we visit the famous garden, La Mortella, the home of Sir and Lady Walton. Here we explore a garden massed with rare trees, palms, shrubs, ferns and bulbs to excite the plantsman and botanist. There are many interesting features including an Islamic-style rill of water leading to a pool. This is part of an extension to the garden by famous designer Russell Page. He also constructed a series of rock pools, their banks a home for bog plants, ferns and bamboo, which contrast with the parched Mediterranean hillside. Lady Walton, who died a few years ago, has a beautiful memorial set in the garden. This garden delights all the senses.



**Day 6** Wednesday June 26, 2019

**Rome, Italy**

We arrive at Civitavecchia this morning and travel to the beautiful Gardens of Ninfa (Giardin di Ninfa), located in the Lazio region of Italy, about 40 miles south-east of Rome. Ninfa was a substantial town going back to the times of the Romans. Having fallen into decay over centuries the ruins were transformed into a botanical garden. Now plants wind over ruined towers and walls, rejoicing in the lush damp conditions. The setting is indescribably atmospheric, with roses scrambling for footholds in ruined archways, and the frescoed church wall still standing open to the weather. Roses, banana trees, maples and resident ducks thrive in the microclimate of Ninfa. The dampness of the location, under the hills facing the coastal plain, leads to an unusual mixture of species.



**Day 7** Thursday June 27, 2019

**Livorno, Italy**

On arrival in Livorno we travel to visit Villa Torrigiani. We reach the villa by a long avenue of cypress trees which very scenically frame the gate and villa. The downhill part of the park contains fountains reflecting the façade of the villa, which date back to the layout of the 17th century. The garden is one of the most beautiful of its kind in Italy and is famous for its 'waterworks' which are equipped with suitable hydraulic mechanisms, allowing water to spring out to create an overall scenic effect. We stop for lunch in Lucca, a city well-known for its well-preserved Renaissance walls and cobblestone streets. We continue our travels to explore Villa Garzoni, an ornamented baroque spectacle in a beautiful valley. The garden rises from a semi-circular parterre, through terraced flights of steps to a water cascade, thrusting into the woods. The cascade widens as it ascends the hill, making it more dramatic when seen from below and more extensive when seen from above. A heroic terracotta statue of Fame waves gaily from a highpoint in the garden. Overall, the garden displays a fine baroque transition from cultivated to wild.

**Day 8** Friday June 28, 2019

**Cannes, France**

This morning we arrive in Cannes on the French Riviera. A local guide takes us sightseeing to see the best of the French Riviera. We explore the narrow picturesque streets of Nice and drive along the Corniche Road, which provides spectacular views of the ocean and cliffs as we travel to Menton. Later we visit the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. The garden was laid out at the beginning of the 20th century by Baroness Ephrussi de Rothschild, a member of the wealthy Rothschild family. The garden was developed as a series of compartments representing different architectural and planting styles. The garden is the ultimate in manicured French exotic style. Seven gardens laid out around the pink, Venetian-style villa, represent a voyage around the world including - French, Spanish, Florentine and Japanese, which are furnished with the 'spoils' of her travels. The sea views are wonderful and the interiors of the villa are simply beautiful.

# Norwegian Epic



Explore the history of the Mediterranean and relax while you enjoy the fabulous facilities on the premium cruise liner. Whatever you choose to do, Norwegian Epic is sure to dazzle. Awarded Best Cruise Ship Entertainment by Frommer's, Norwegian Epic keeps the bar high with two new Broadway shows: Ballroom Blitz and Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. Not only is Norwegian Epic offering world-class performers but a new wave of accommodation as well – from Studios, designed and priced for the solo traveller, to the private Haven. Add more than 20 different dining options and you'll understand why this is Freestyle Cruising on a truly grand scale. A voyage on Norwegian Epic is an experience to be savored and remembered.

## Clothing on board the Norwegian Epic

During the day casual clothing is typical, although shorts and swimwear are not permitted in the formal restaurants. Freestyle cruising requires smart casual dress for dinner.



## Don't Worry About Coming Alone

We will match people in twin-share cabins when available, saving you the single supplement. You won't be left alone; Sue McDougall and the Travelrite International Tour Manager will be looking after you with group activities every day.

### Day 9 Saturday June 29, 2019

#### Palma, Majorca, Spain

After docking in Majorca early afternoon, we travel to Esporles to visit La Granja, a historic country house on a site known since Roman times. Since 1447 it has been privately owned by various noble families. We will see the gorgeous aristocratic drawing room with its own theatre and a dungeon with a torture chamber. We will also explore the gardens, which contain spectacular waterfalls and an extensive botanical park.

### Day 10 Sunday June 30, 2019

#### London, England

This morning we disembark the ship in Barcelona. We travel to the airport, fly to London and upon arrival we are transferred to our city hotel. The remainder of the day is free for independent activity.

### Day 11 Monday July 1, 2019

#### London

This morning we meet our London Blue Badge guide for a comprehensive tour of the main sights. We take in Buckingham Palace, Whitehall, Trafalgar Square, The Strand, St Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. Later we visit Raworth's Garden, a private garden in West London. This is a true collectors' garden, with perennial borders, a knot garden, bog garden, conservatory and views to a private park. We also enjoy a delicious afternoon tea. This visit will be a highlight of the tour.

### Day 12 Tuesday July 2, 2019

#### London

Today we visit the Royal Horticultural Garden, Wisley. The RHS was given Wisley Estate in trust by Sir Thomas Hanbury in 1903. The garden will capture the imagination with richly planted borders and luscious rose gardens and amazing glasshouses, which recreate tropical, moist temperate and dry temperate habitats. Trials of flowers, vegetables and fruit were expanded at Wisley and they continue to be some of the principal features of the garden. Several Chelsea Flower Show prize winning gardens are displayed in the grounds. Our visit will be an interesting look at the history of gardening in Britain.

### Day 13 Wednesday July 3, 2019

#### London

A free morning today before we visit the famous Kew Gardens, London's largest UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to the world's most diverse collection of living plants and a scientific research centre of international renown. Set in 122 hectares, we will discover beautiful glasshouses including the iconic Palm House and its exotic rainforest; the Princess of Wales Conservatory with ten of the world's climatic zones; and the Waterlily House with its amazing, giant lily pads.

### Day 14 Thursday July 4, 2019

#### London

Today we visit RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, the world's largest annual flower show, stretching over 14 hectares. Flanking both sides of the Long Water at Hampton Court Palace, we will enjoy Show Gardens, the Rose Marquee, Floral Marquee, plant pavilions and a variety of talks, demonstrations and exhibits.

### Day 15 Friday July 5, 2019

#### Redruth, Cornwall

Today we travel to Cornwall. On the journey we will visit Stourhead. Sue will take the group on a tour of delightful Stourhead and explain the visionary design of Henry Hoare II. It is claimed by many that this garden is the greatest surviving example of a classical garden. We arrive at our hotel late afternoon. We will enjoy an included dinner this evening.

### Day 16 Saturday July 6, 2019

#### Redruth

We visit two gorgeous Cornish gardens today. Our first garden, Trebah, has an extensive collection of Mediterranean plants, a stream and a carp pond. There are blue and white hydrangeas giving summer colour and

many beautiful mature trees and shrubs. We continue with a visit to nearby Glendurgan Garden. This sheltered 10 hectare valley garden slopes down to the atmospheric Helford River. Majestic trees abound and the sheltered environment permits plants from all over the world to flourish. We will enjoy an included dinner this evening.

### Day 17 Sunday July 7, 2019

#### Redruth

The morning will be free for individual exploration. This afternoon we will visit St Michael's Mount. It is a private 18th-century walled garden, which rises in terraces from just above sea level. Because of the micro-climate many tender and exotic sub-tropical plants thrive. Tour members will have a steep climb to the castle walls, where they will have a magnificent view. We will enjoy an included dinner this evening.

### Day 18 Monday July 8, 2019

#### Taunton, Somerset

Today we travel to visit the Garden House. The garden was originally developed in the 1940's, centred around the ruins of a medieval village. The three derelict terraces were developed with a diverse range of plants including rhododendrons and mahonias. There has recently been a program of re-planting in the walled garden and long walk, which have resulted in a stunning high standard garden. We continue to the historic city, Taunton.



### Day 19 Tuesday July 9, 2019

#### Taunton

Today we will visit two superb gardens. Cothay Manor is located in a magical setting, surrounded by 6 hectares of garden and wildflower meadow. During the 1990's the present owners completely re-made the garden as a series of rooms and courts within the original framework. There is a Bishop's room, where the colour scheme is reds and purples reflecting the episcopal robes and a white garden called the Green Knight garden. We continue our journey to visit Knightshayes garden. Near the house the terraces are planted with shrub roses and tree peonies and herbaceous plants. Battlement hedges frame the pool garden with a backdrop of acer's and topiary foxes repeated throughout the garden. We will have a farewell dinner this evening to say good-bye to our new friends.

### Day 20 Wednesday July 10, 2019

#### Departure

This morning we visit stunning Hestercombe Gardens. This superb product, a collaboration between Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll blends architecture with planting. Jekyll's original designs have been replanted as close to the original as possible. To the north of the house are the landscape gardens, a unique example of 18th-century pleasure grounds. We also see an 19th-century yew tunnel with views towards a Victorian tower. We continue to London Heathrow for our flight to Australia.

### Day 21 Thursday July 11, 2019

#### Arrival Australia

The tour group arrives in Australia and the tour concludes.

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Cabin	Description	Deck	Cruise Fare	Single Fare
IF	Interior	9	\$ 10595	\$ 13390
BE	Balcony	9,10	\$ 11495	\$ 14495
BC	Mid-ship Balcony	8	\$ 11595	\$ 15095
B3	Family Balcony	13,14	\$ 11695	\$ 15310
Included air taxes			\$ 250	\$ 250
Included port and handling charges			\$ 500	\$ 849
Included cruise gratuities			\$ 173	\$ 173

**Availability:** All cabins are subject to cabin availability. Please call for fares and information on other cabin categories. Please call for details on 1800 630 343.

**Extending:** You can stay longer in Europe for minimal extra cost. Please contact 1800 630 434 for more information.

## Included in the price:

- Economy-class air travel from Melbourne/Sydney/Brisbane/Adelaide/Perth to Barcelona and return from London back to Australia
- Travel on Norwegian Epic in the selected cabin category
- All meals, entertainment and service charges on Norwegian Epic
- Private activities on board Norwegian Epic
- 1 night in Barcelona, 5 nights in London, 3 nights in Cornwall, 2 nights in Taunton including breakfast in three and four-star accommodation
- Welcome Drinks on the Norwegian Epic, three dinners in Cornwall, Farewell Dinner in Taunton
- Sightseeing tours and garden visits in Barcelona, Palma Majorca, Spain; Naples, Rome, Livorno, Italy; Cannes, France, London and the West Country, England
- Tour leadership by Sue McDougall
- Fully escorted by a professional Travelrite International Tour Manager
- Port and handling charges on Norwegian Epic
- Cruise taxes
- Air taxes as of 3 June 2018
- Onboard gratuities

## Not included in the price:

- Travel insurance
- Additional travel arrangements not detailed in the itinerary. These will be quoted for separately
- Passport and visa fees
- Drinks on board
- Lunches when not on the ship



## General Information and Booking Conditions

**International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the assistance from others.**

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour organiser Norwegian Epic operated by Norwegian Line Cruises and the Norwegian Epic fly/cruise arrangements are subject to the terms and conditions and general information detailed in the Norwegian Line 2019 brochure. All passengers must complete the Norwegian Line on line check in and complete a Travelrite International booking form.

**DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT:** A deposit of \$900 per passenger should be sent with a completed Travelrite International booking form that lists your requested cabin category. As soon as the booking is confirmed, (usually within 24 hours), a cruise confirmation advice will be posted to the client. The confirmation advice will contain all details. The passenger must also complete a Norwegian Line online check in. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 120 days prior to the commencement of the Norwegian Line fly/cruise. A 1.5% administration fee will be added to payments by Visa, Mastercard and Amex Cards.

**CANCELLATION CHARGES:** Number of days before sailing.

Days prior to Departure	Cancellation Fee
Over 120 days	loss of deposit
120 days to 91 days	50% of full fare
90 days or less	100% of full fare
Non-appearance/no written notice:	100% of full fare.

**REFUNDS:** The cruise is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** All passengers will require a valid passport. If not an Australian passport holder check with Travelrite International for visa requirements.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Adequate travel insurance is highly recommended to cover cruise members for the consequences of unforeseen events during the cruise and for cancellation fees which could result from events such as illness, accident, death etc.

**BAGGAGE:** Passengers qualify for a 23kg free baggage allowance on flights to join or return from the cruise.

**MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS:** The fly/cruise arrangements have been made on the basis of a minimum number of passengers travelling. In the event that less than the required number of passengers have confirmed their booking 120 days from the date of departure, Travelrite International reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of monies paid, or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified fare.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ATAS No A1038) is the tour organiser. Travelrite International Pty Ltd, its agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to, or in connection with these fly/cruises, shall act only as agents in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, including transportation by ship, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or a default of any hotel, carrier restaurant company or person rendering any services included in fly/cruises, or by act of God. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery break-down, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or other causes beyond their control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omission, delays, re-routing or acts of any government authority. Baggage is at owners' risk throughout the fly/cruise. The passage contract between the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of this fly/cruise and/or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any fly/cruise and/or make such changes in the fly/cruises as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the fly/cruise. This contract shall be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be undertaken in the state of Victoria.

Attention is also directed to the terms and conditions of Norwegian Line detailed on their website. If you do not have these details please contact Travelrite International and we will send them to you.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Bookings can be made by sending full names and addresses of intending tour members with a deposit of \$900 for the tour. Please send to:

**Travelrite International Pty Ltd.**

**423 Whitehorse Road  
Balwyn 3103 Victoria**

Further information or a booking form can be obtained by telephoning Travelrite International on the following numbers:

**Toll Free 1800 630 343**

**Phone: (03) 8803 6868 or**

**Fax: (03) 9836 8068**

**Email: balwyn@travelrite.com.au**

**www.travelrite.com.au**

**ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a well-established travel company which has been operating in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne for more than 30 years. It is a member of ATAS (number A10538) and has two accredited IATA offices Heathmont, and Balwyn. As such, it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international tour and transport operators. Travelrite International has been operating special interest tours for over 30 years, and now runs over 90 tours a year. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents - AFTA.