American Horticultural Society
Travel Study Program

SUMMER GARDENS & CASTLES IN DENMARK & SWEDEN
July 15–26, 2019

WITH AHS HOST TERRY HAYES AND TOUR LEADER ANTONIA LLOYD OWEN OF SPECIALTOURS
Dear Friends of the American Horticultural Society,

I personally invite you to join our latest AHS tour, “Summer Gardens & Castles in Denmark & Sweden,” July 15 to 26, 2019. The trip is so chock-full of delightful experiences that I had to omit many highlights from this brief overview, so be sure to peruse the full itinerary.

We’ll begin in Copenhagen, Denmark’s capital and a gastronomic overachiever with a combined 19 Michelin stars. The United Nations’ World Happiness Report has rated Denmark number one — yes, the happiest place on Earth — three times in the past six years, and I’m sure this charming country will have the same effect on you.

As the tour’s title indicates, spectacular gardens and equally fabulous castles and palaces will vie for your attention. For instance, while Sweden’s Sofiero Palace is impressive in its own right, I know you will be equally enchanted by its vaunted rhododendron gardens, which feature more than 400 different species and varieties.

How often do you get to see a nearly extinct species? Among the many wonders we’ll behold at Gothenburg Botanical Garden — one of the largest and most beautiful in northern Europe — is the rare Easter Island tree, which no longer exists in its native environment.

We’ll receive the royal treatment at Drottningholm Palace, the residence of the Swedish royal family. This magnificent Baroque palace, theater, park, and Chinese Pavilion constitutes one of Stockholm’s three World Heritage Sites. The Drottningholm Palace Theater is considered the best-kept 18th-century theater in Europe.

Is there any place quite like Gamla Stan, Stockholm’s old town? One of the largest and best-preserved medieval city centers in Europe, it will charm us with its narrow, winding cobblestone streets lined with shops, cafés, and several notable churches and museums.

Our superb accommodations will include Hotel Sankt Petri in Copenhagen, a former department store located in the city’s Latin Quarter. At the Grand Hotel Lund, Art Nouveau-style interiors and rooms with Persian carpets are sure to delight us. The Elite Plaza Hotel in Gothenburg blends old and new designs beautifully in a 19th-century building. Stockholm’s Hotel Diplomat is set in the city center with views of the waterfront. In Falun, Hotel Bergmastaren is a beautiful building dating from the early 1930s. For decades, Sastaholm Hotel in Taby served as the residence for many of Sweden’s retired actors and actresses, and the rooms are named after the stars who once lived there.

Hosting this extraordinary program is Terry Hayes, a member of the AHS Board of Directors and an experienced garden traveler who has graced many previous AHS tours with her horticultural knowledge and enthusiasm. A garden designer based in Woodinville, Washington, Terry is also active with the Northwest Horticultural Society, the Northwest Perennial Alliance, and the Pacific Horticulture Society.

Our tour leader is Antonia Lloyd Owen of London-based Specialtours. Antonia has a degree in the history of art and architecture (she is a passionate enthusiast of the decorative arts) and has been with Specialtours since 2002. Her organizational skills and personal charm ensure that this tour will be an experience you’ll always remember.

I highly recommend that you accompany us to Denmark and Sweden in July. The AHS has cultivated many relationships worldwide, so this program includes visits to private gardens and other sites that are not available to the general public. Our tours have become very popular and are selling out quickly so be sure to make your reservations as soon as possible. For your convenience, a reservation form is included in this brochure.

Most sincerely,

Beth Tuttle
President and Chief Executive Officer
SUNDAY, JULY 14
Leave the United States for Copenhagen’s Kastrup Airport.

MONDAY, JULY 15 — COPENHAGEN (L, D)
Our Scandinavian sojourn begins in Copenhagen, Denmark’s capital and most populous city. It might be small in size but it’s large in offerings. At last count, its restaurants boasted a total of 19 Michelin stars. We’ll meet up at our first accommodations, the Hotel Sankt Petri. It is located in the city’s Latin Quarter and just a few minutes from the Stroget, a pedestrian-only boulevard lined with shops, restaurants, and cafes. We’ll stroll to our lunch date at Restaurant Sankt Annae before embarking on a private cruise along Copenhagen’s canals, where we will pass by the city’s icon, a bronze statue called *The Little Mermaid* that was inspired by Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen’s fairy tale about a mermaid who is willing to give up her life in the sea to gain a human soul. Our next stop is the Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen’s amusement park, cultural center, and public garden. Opened in 1843, it served as the inspiration for Andersen’s fairy tale *The Nightingale* and, much later, fueled the imagination of Walt Disney. The park boasts one of the world’s oldest wooden roller coasters, indoor and open-air music venues, and other amusements. Of special interest to us will be the orangery, both for its gardens and relaxing ambience. Then it’s back to the hotel for drinks and a formal reception, where we will get to know our fellow travelers and horticulture enthusiasts, followed by dinner at the intimate and relaxing Nimb Brasserie, which offers spectacular views of the well-lit buildings of the Tivoli Gardens after dark.

TUESDAY, JULY 16 — COPENHAGEN (B, L)
This morning, we will leave by coach for the island of Fyn, where we will visit the recently restored gardens of Sanderumgaard (by arrangement with Erik and Susanne Vind). The original gardens, set on 37 acres, were planted by Johan Bulow in the late 18th to early 19th centuries and were among the first romantic landscape gardens in Denmark. Bulow wanted visitors to think about humanity and nature, and centuries later, his work still invites this reflection. We’ll stay on the property for lunch. In the afternoon, we will visit the Baroque gardens of Ledreborg Palace, by arrangement with John and Countess Silvia Monro. Built in the 1740s by Count Johan Ludwig Holstein, the estate represents one of the country’s finest examples of 18th-century architecture and landscaping. The palace features a unique collection of original furniture and paintings and is surrounded by restored Baroque gardens and forests. We will return to the hotel and dine on our own this evening — perhaps at one of Copenhagen’s Michelin-starred restaurants.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17 — LUND (B, L, D)
We say goodbye to Copenhagen as our coach takes us (and our luggage) to Frederiksborg Castle. This stunning Renaissance castle in Hillerod, north of Copenhagen, dates from the early 17th century and has a wonderfully restored Baroque garden featuring a parterre and cascade with water canals and fountains. The castle houses the Museum of National History, where we’ll learn about Danish history from the Middle Ages into the 21st century. Next, we travel to the King’s Garden, sometimes called Rosenborg Garden, which was created during the reign of King Christian IV in the early 1600s. It is the country’s oldest royal garden and a popular retreat in the heart of Copenhagen. It features a large herbaceous border, a rose garden, a selection of sculptures — including a statue of Hans Christian Andersen — and the symmetrical Renaissance garden Krummspringet. Our day will continue with a guided tour of the 18th-century Baroque-style palace of Fredensborg. We’ll admire the private garden of the Danish royal family, an intimate and peaceful idyll, and the Baroque Gardens, for which King Frederick V commissioned a series of sculptures by Danish neoclassical artist Johannes Wiedewelt in the late 1700s. We will continue to lunch and a visit to the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, located north of Copenhagen overlooking Oresund Sound. The most visited art museum in Denmark has an extensive collection of modern and contemporary art, including works by Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Alberto Giacometti, Pablo Picasso, and David Hockney. Afterward, we will cross the Oresund Bridge to Lund, Sweden, where we’ll check into our next accommodations. The Grand Hotel Lund is set in a 19th-century sandstone building with Art Nouveau-style interiors and Persian carpets. Many literary and intellectual figures have lived or studied in Lund, including writer August Strindberg, widely considered the father of modern Swedish literature, and scientist and naturalist Carl Linnaeus; we’ll learn more about him later on our tour. We will dine at the hotel tonight.
THURSDAY, JULY 18 — LUND (B, L, D)
A guided walking tour of Lund will get our day off to a brisk start. We will visit Kulturen, which features a museum of cultural history and an open-air museum of 30 historic buildings surrounded by gardens. It was begun in 1892 by local historian Georg Karlin, who wanted to preserve Sweden’s vanishing farming culture. Kulturen has a collection of more than two million historic items, including clothes, furniture, tools, and jewelry dating back to the Middle Ages. Our day continues at Lund Cathedral. Surviving sections of this Romanesque building date as far back as 1123, and its 160-foot-tall towers are a landmark on Lund’s skyline. Our next stop is Lund’s Botanical Garden. Founded in the late 17th century, it boasts more than 7,000 species on 20 acres. In the large greenhouse, we’ll see 2,000 additional plant species from predominantly tropical and subtropical regions in nine climate zones. We’ll surely have worked up an appetite, so we’ll depart for lunch at Ostarps Gastgivaregard. This family inn has been in business since 1946 and proudly uses as many local and organic ingredients as possible. This afternoon, by kind arrangement with Baron Otto Ramel, we will have a private tour of Ovedskloster Manor, an 18th-century palace that boasts original furniture and gardens that date from the Baroque era. The French garden, based on that of Versailles, includes terraces and fountains. When King Gustav III of Sweden visited the manor in 1774, he is reported to have declared, “Too royal for an ordinary citizen!” Next we’ll visit Bosjökloster Castle, a former Benedictine convent, for a garden tour and private dinner by kind arrangement with Count Tord Bonde. The estate, which overlooks Lake Ringsjon, is surrounded by gardens and parkland on three sides and is home to a 1,000-year-old oak tree.

FRIDAY, JULY 19 — GOTHENBURG (B, L, D)
We’ll depart by coach (with luggage) for Krapperup estate on Sweden’s Kullen peninsula. The heart of the manor dates back to the 16th century, and the brick facade is decorated with the seven-pointed gold star of the Gyllenstierna family. The gardens, covering about 80 acres, were transformed during the 19th century from a utilitarian design to a romantic layout that features winding paths, carp ponds, a rose garden, and an abundance of rhododendrons. It will whet our appetites for our next stop at Sofiero Palace, the former home of Crown Prince Gustav Adolf (who later became king of Sweden). His British-born first wife, Princess Margaret of Connaught, was an avid gardener. The 19th-century palace’s rooms are decorated with period furnishings, but Sofiero is best known for its stunning rhododendron gardens, which include some 10,000 individual plants comprising over 400 individual species and varieties. We will have lunch at Sofiero’s Veranda and Café, with time to explore the gardens afterward. Then we will move on to Gothenburg and our next lodging, the Elite Plaza Hotel. Stucco ceilings and mosaic floors blend harmoniously with modern art and design in this 19th-century building. Gothenburg is the second-largest city in Sweden, the largest port in the Nordic countries, and home to automaker Volvo. Dinner tonight is at the picturesque Sjomagasinet restaurant in Gothenburg.

SATURDAY, JULY 20 — GOTHENBURG (B, L)
The Gothenburg Botanical Garden is first on this morning’s agenda. Opened in 1923, it boasts 20,000 plants and is one of the largest and most beautiful botanical gardens in northern Europe. We will have a chance to explore the greenhouses, where we will encounter not only the largest collection of tropical orchids in Sweden, but the rare Easter Island tree (Sophora toromiro), which is extinct in its natural environment. Then we will travel by coach to Gunnebo manor in Molndal. Our visit will include lunch and a guided tour of the manor and garden. Built in 1778, Gunnebo is one of the most complete 18th-century estates in Scandinavia. The house, with its original furniture, is surrounded by three styles of gardens, including one of Sweden’s finest Baroque gardens. We’ll return to Gothenburg for a guided tour of the Garden Society of Gothenburg’s park, one of the best-preserved 19th-century parks in all of Europe. The garden boasts thousands of roses, a 19th-century palm house, greenhouses, and lush woodlands. Several prominent international landscape architects and garden designers have contributed to the site, under the watchful eye of Swedish landscape architect Ulf Nordfjell. We will have a chance to explore Gothenburg’s restaurants as we dine independently this evening.

SUNDAY, JULY 21 — STOCKHOLM (B, L, D)
We will travel first-class on a high-speed train to Stockholm, Sweden’s capital and largest city. Stockholm is situated on an archipelago that consists of thousands of inhabited and uninhabited islands. We’ll continue by private coach to the island of Lidingo, where we’ll have lunch at the Millesgarden Lanthandel restaurant. Then it’s on to a guided tour of Millesgarden, former home of Swedish sculptor Carl Milles and his wife, Austrian painter Olga Graner. A work of art in its own right, the garden is a mix of terraces, fountains, and sculptures. Millesgarden sits on top of a cliff, with wonderful views of Lake Vartan. Next, we will check in at the Hotel Diplomat, located on Strandvagen in the center of Stockholm. After getting settled, we will take a guided walking tour of the narrow, winding cobblestone streets
of Gamla Stan, Stockholm's unique and charming old town. The city originated in this area in 1252, and it is now one of the largest and best-preserved medieval city centers in Europe. Pedestrian-friendly, Gamla Stan is full of attractions, including shops, cafés, and several notable churches and museums, including Stockholm Cathedral, the Nobel Museum, and the Royal Palace. We'll pause for dinner at Fem Sma Hus restaurant.

**MONDAY, JULY 22 — STOCKHOLM (B, L)**

This morning, we will take a ferry to Drottningholm Palace, the residence of the king and queen of Sweden. This magnificent Baroque palace, theater, park, and Chinese Pavilion constitute one of Stockholm's three World Heritage Sites. The Drottningholm Palace Theater is the best-preserved 18th-century theater in Europe. The Chinese Pavilion is full of luxury items brought to Sweden from China, and the interior is among the foremost in Swedish rococo design. Nicodemus Tessin the Younger designed the Baroque garden, which was begun in 1681, and King Gustav III of Sweden directed the construction of the English garden, consisting of two ponds with canals, large grassy areas, and trees in groups and avenues. We will pause for lunch at the on-site café. Next, our coach will take us for a guided tour around the allotment gardens on Sodermalm. This collection of charming, small private gardens — many set around picturesque cottages — will provide an intriguing contrast with the grand, heavily funded gardens we've seen so far. Originally developed so that Stockholm's neediest residents could grow food during World War I, these gardens we've seen so far. Originally developed so that Stockholm's neediest residents could grow food during World War I, these gardens now also teem with perennials, roses, and climbing plants. We will return to the hotel and have the opportunity to explore the restaurants of Stockholm as we dine independently tonight.

**TUESDAY, JULY 23 — STOCKHOLM (B, L, D)**

A colorful morning awaits us as we leave the hotel (with luggage) to visit Karret, a garden created by artists Agneta Gussander and Magnus Persson. The typical Swedish farmhouse is complemented by terraced beds, an orchard, a vegetable garden, and a view that extends to a distant lake. We'll stop for lunch in Trosa, a picturesque small town south of Stockholm. The afternoon will kick off with a guided tour of Tullgarn Palace, the summer residence and favorite palace of King Gustav V. Built in the 1720s, the building features an interesting mix of rococo, Gustavian, and Victorian styles, and its interior design is considered one of the finest in Sweden. Afterward, we will return to the hotel, where we will depart by coach for a private visit to the garden at Storangen on the island of Nacka, at the kind invitation of owners Olle and Eva Bjorkstrom. The garden's layout was influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement, and natural plantings are used to create different moods in a series of terraced “rooms.” We'll stay on Nacka for dinner at Hotel J, with views overlooking the water.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 24 — FALUN (B, L, D)**

Our coach will whisk us away (with luggage) this morning for a guided visit to Skokloster Castle, a magnificent Baroque house and garden on Lake Malaren that date back to the 1600s. It is home to remarkable collections of paintings, furniture, textiles, and silver and glass tableware. Uppsala, the fourth-largest city in Sweden, is our next destination. We will stop for a light lunch at Café Victoria, set in the University of Uppsala Botanical Garden. Afterward, we will take a guided tour of the garden. Olof Rudbeck, a medical professor whose name will be familiar to those who grow black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia* sp.), created the garden in 1655 to grow medicinal plants and educate students in their use. In 1745, celebrated botanist Carolus Linnaeus (who in later life was known as Carl von Linné) redesigned the garden to illustrate his revolutionary classification of plants. It is now called the Linnaeus Garden. In the 200-year-old orangery, we'll see cacti and bay trees, as well as fig and olive trees. The Tropical Glasshouse, home to Uppsala's only rainforest, features coffee bushes, banana plants, and orchids. We'll also see its sister garden at Linnaeus' Hammarby, the summer home built for Linnaeus in 1762. Next, we will travel to Falun. In the 19th century, a naturally occurring pigment derived from the copper mined in the town was used to make the distinctive falu red paint that coats houses and barns in Sweden. We will check into Hotel Bergmastaren, a beautiful building dating to the 1930s, and dine at the hotel this evening.

**THURSDAY, JULY 25 — TABY (B, L, D)**

We will leave with our luggage for the most popular house in Sweden: the residence of Carl and Karin Larsson in Sundborn. We'll be treated to a tour of the house, studio, and garden of this beloved and talented couple. Carl's paintings decorate the walls, and Karin designed most of the modern textiles and rustic furniture that adorn the house. Their enchanting garden is filled with the same plants that the couple grew in the late 19th century, and we'll see the garden furniture they built themselves. Nearby Sundborn Church was built in 1755 and redecorated by Carl in 1905. The Larsson family graves lie here. Our memorable morning concludes with lunch at Hyttstugan restaurant. Then it's back to the Stockholm area for our stay at Sastaholm Hotel, formerly a home for Sweden's retired actors and actresses. We'll dine there and bid farewell to our fellow travelers, now our newfound friends.

**FRIDAY, JULY 26**

We depart on our respective flights from Stockholm Arlanda Airport back to the United States.

While revisions of this itinerary are not anticipated, the AHS and its travel partners reserve the right to make changes, with or without notice, which may become necessary.
Announcing an American Horticultural Society Travel Program

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JOIN US FOR MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES, INCLUDING:

• Copenhagen, Denmark’s capital, is a gastronomic power that sports 19 Michelin stars among 15 restaurants. The United Nations’ World Happiness Report ranked Denmark number one in three of the past six years.

• Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen’s much-loved amusement park, was an inspiration for Walt Disney.

• Sofiero Palace’s rhododendron gardens feature nearly 500 species.

• Drottningholm Palace — along with its park, theater, and Chinese Pavilion — is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

• Gothenburg Botanical Garden, one of the largest and most stunning botanical gardens in northern Europe, is home to the rare Easter Island tree, which is extinct in its native environment.

• Gamla Stan, Stockholm’s old town, is one of the largest and best-preserved medieval city centers in Europe.

• The fascinating homes and brilliant gardens of two Swedish luminaries — botanist Carolus Linnaeus and artist Carl Larsson — are on the itinerary.

THE SUPERB ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THIS PROGRAM ARE:

• Hotel Sankt Petri, located in Copenhagen’s Latin Quarter, features a beautiful garden courtyard that complements the restaurant and lobby area.

• The Grand Hotel Lund, set in a 19th-century building, is an example of Old World elegance.

• The Elite Plaza Hotel in Gothenburg dates from the 19th century and is conveniently located near two shopping districts.

• The Hotel Diplomat is close to Gamla Stan, Stockholm’s old town.

• Hotel Bergmastaren in Falun is set in a beautiful building dating from the 1930s.

• Sastaholm Hotel is an Art Deco gem that once served as a residence for many of Sweden’s retired actors and actresses.

Please refer to the enclosed reservation form for pricing and instructions for reserving your place on this AHS Travel Study Program tour. For more information about Travel Study Program tours, please contact development@ahsgardening.org or (703) 768-5700, ext. 127 or ext. 132. Information is also available at www.ahsgardening.org/travel.

Designed with the connoisseur of garden travel in mind, the American Horticultural Society Travel Study Program offers an exceptional itinerary that includes many exclusive experiences and unique insights. Your participation benefits the work of the American Horticultural Society and furthers our vision of “Making America a Nation of Gardeners, A Land of Gardens.”