WATERSCAPES IN SPAIN

Art, Gardens, and Landscapes of Castile

May 23 – June 1, 2016

In support of the

University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley

Escorted by Katherine Greenberg
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Come with us to visit beautiful gardens and diverse landscapes in the regions of Old and New Castile. From Madrid and La Granja, we will explore the historic cities of Aranjuez, Segovia, Pedraza de la Sierra, and Toledo. In the course of our travels we will see several outstanding private art collections, and we will discover how water has been used in gardens and landscapes from Roman times. The theme of water is relevant both in Spain and in California.

Several of Spain’s leading garden designers and artists will talk to us about their work and the importance of water in contemporary and historical Spanish gardens. We have invitations to visit private homes and gardens and a special collection at the Royal Botanic Garden in Madrid. Along the way, we will enjoy Spanish hospitality and regional cuisine in private homes and acclaimed restaurants. Join us for a unique and memorable experience!

Monday, May 23 – USA to Madrid

Tuesday, May 24 – Madrid (D)

Independent arrivals to Madrid. Check into the Wellington Hotel for five nights.

Our tour begins with an afternoon walk through the Retiro Park with our guide and lecturer. We will continue to the home of art collector Sofia Barroso for refreshments and a talk by landscape architect and sculptor Alvaro de la Rosa, followed by a welcome dinner.
Wednesday, May 25 – Madrid (B, L)

This morning we will visit the Royal Botanic Garden, founded in the 18th century by King Carlos III, and meet the Director, Gonzalo Nieto Feliner. We will also see an important collection of 18th century botanical drawings in the Garden’s archive. Later in the morning, we will visit two private town gardens designed by Alvaro de la Rosa. We are invited for lunch at Real Club de Puerta de Hierro, a private club with beautiful gardens and views of the Guadarrama Mountains. In the afternoon we will drive to the residential quarter of La Florida to see a private garden designed by Fernando Caruncho, followed by a visit to La Zarcilla, the private garden of artist Blanca de Rueda.

Return to the hotel for a free evening. Optional Flamenco performance.

Thursday, May 26 – Madrid – Toledo (B, L)

This morning we will drive to Toledo, with a short lecture en route about the history of the city and the painter El Greco. On arrival we will visit the private garden of the Marquis and Marchioness of Eslava and see their private chapel, with paintings by El Greco. Then we will visit the Cathedral and the Church of Santo Tome to see El Greco’s paintings, the Synagogue Santa María la Blanca, the gardens of the Royal Toledo Foundation, and the lovely cloistered garden of San Juan de los Reyes.

We are invited for lunch at the Palacio de Galiana, a restored private palace and garden along the banks of the Tagus River, with the remains of a Moorish water clock on the property. Owner Dolores Araoz Maranon will be there to welcome us. Then we will visit the Cigarral de Menores, private home and garden of the Marquis of Maranon, featured in Architectural Digest (February, 2015). We will end our tour of Toledo with a visit to the 18th century Torre del Aguato see a sculpture representing the theme of water in Toledo by Cristina Iglesias.

Return to Madrid for an evening on your own.

Friday, May 27 – Madrid – Aranjuez (B, L,D)

This morning we depart for Aranjuez, a World Heritage site. We will view the 18th century Royal Palace and its gardens, including Jardin del Príncipe and Jardín del Labrador. After lunch at Rana Verde on the banks of the Tagus River, we have arranged a private visit to the Casita del Labrador.

On our way back to Madrid, we will see the new parks that have been created along the Manzanares River by young architects and artists. This once-neglected part of the city now attracts Madrileños of all ages.

Dinner at Taverna de Capitan Alatriste.
Saturday, May 28 – Madrid – Guadalajara (B, L)

After breakfast we will visit the Sorolla Museum, formerly the home and garden of Joaquin Sorolla, an important Spanish Impressionist painter of the early 20th century. The Andalusian-style garden was created by Sorolla, and the museum exhibits some of his paintings of landscapes and gardens. Then we will drive to Guadalajara to visit Piedras Menaras, the private home of the Marchioness of La Guardia, where we will have lunch. The garden, designed by landscape architect Javier Matiategui, is surrounded by fields of wildflowers and Spanish oaks. We will also visit the neighboring garden of the Marquesa de Casa Valdes.

Return to Madrid. This evening we will have drinks in the art gallery of Marita Segovia, a short walk from the hotel.

Sunday, May 29 – Madrid – Segovia – La Granja (B, L, D)

This morning we depart Madrid for a scenic drive through the Guadarrama Mountains to Segovia. On arrival we will see the city’s famous Roman aqueduct and the mint, created by King Philip II in the 16th century and powered by water. We will also visit the charming garden of the El Parral Convent. To complete our morning, we will visit Romeral de San Marcos or San Juan de los Caballeros, with gardens designed by the late Leandro Silva, Spain’s leading landscape architect in the 20th century.

We will continue to La Granja for lunch in a private country home and garden and then check into the Parador de La Granja for two nights. The Parador is just a short walk from the Royal Palace, created in the 18th century by Philip V, the first Bourbon King of Spain. Extending over 1,500 acres, the palace gardens feature 26 spectacular fountains with mythological themes.

This evening we will visit a private garden in the village of La Granja, where drinks will be hosted. Our dinner tonight is at the Parador.

Monday, May 30 – La Granja – Pedraza de la Sierra (B, L, D)

This morning we will drive to the medieval walled village of Pedraza de la Sierra to see its charming plaza, pewter workshop, and centuries-old castle that was the home of the 20th century painter Zuloaga. We are invited to the private home of Savine Deroulede de Munoz for lunch.

In the afternoon we return to La Granja for a walk through the gardens of the Royal Palace and a spectacular display of the fountains on the occasion of the Festival of San Fernando. Dinner is at the Parador.
Tuesday, May 31 – Madrid (B, L, D)

We depart La Granja after breakfast and drive to Boadilla del Monte to see the private Ciudad del Santander, created by Spain’s leading bank. The complex has a collection of olive trees and extensive gardens, designed by Luis Vallejo. The award-winning buildings, designed by Kevin Roch and his international partners John Dinkloo & Associates, have “green” roofs. We will enjoy a tapas lunch and then return to Madrid for a free afternoon.

We check into the Hotel Wellington for one night. Our farewell dinner will be at the Goizeko Wellington.

Wednesday, June 1 – Madrid to USA

Independent departures.
**Additional Information**

Guides and Escorts:

**Tour Escort:** Katherine Greenberg is a garden designer and author with a life-long interest in Spanish gardens, history, and culture. She studied at the University of Madrid and the University of California. Katherine has led many tours to Spain, and she has given several talks at the Royal Botanic Garden in Madrid. A member of the UC Botanical Garden Advisory Board, Katherine is a past-president of the Mediterranean Garden Society, the Pacific Horticulture Society, and the Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden.

**Lecturer/Guide:** Mervyn Samuel has lived in Madrid for many years. He is a scholar of Spanish history, natural history, art and culture, as well as the translator for the English edition of the official Visitor’s Guide to the Royal Seat of La Granja de San Ildefonso and Riofrío. Mervyn studied at Oxford University before making his home in Spain. He is on the board of the Spanish heritage conservation body, *Hispania Nostra*, and Secretary of the Xavier de Salas Foundation in Trujillo (Extremadura).

**Hotels:**

The 5-star Wellington Hotel is centrally located in the elegant Salamanca district of Madrid. Just one block from the Retiro Park, the hotel is a short walk from the city's museums, shops, and restaurants. The hotel has a swimming pool, several restaurants, and a roof garden, Las Raíces, with views over the city. The garden provides organic herbs and vegetables for the hotel’s restaurants.

The Parador of La Granja is located in an area of outstanding natural beauty and historical interest near Segovia. San Ildefonso de la Granja, famous for its lovely palace, impressive gardens, and spectacular fountains, was a summer retreat for the Spanish kings. The Parador was formerly the Casa de Infantés, built in the 18th century by King Carlos III for the princes Gabriel and Antonio.

**Post-tour activities:** Madrid is famous for world-class museums, elegant shops, and great restaurants, as well as the best tapas in Spain. There will be limited free time during the tour, and additional visits may be arranged upon individual requests for those who wish to extend their stay. A list of museums, shops, and restaurants will be provided.

**Physical Endurance Level:** The tour includes a moderate amount of walking, and some of the places that we will be visiting can only be seen on foot. Walking surfaces may be uneven, and comfortable shoes are recommended.
Costs

Tour land cost per guest based on double occupancy:

Based on a minimum of 15 guests: $5,980.00 per person for members of the University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley. Non-members pay a $50.00 supplement. We suggest non-members join before registering for the tour. Single supplement: $975.00

Costs include:

- 8 night’s accommodation, all rooms with private bathrooms
- All hotel taxes and service charges
- Breakfast daily, lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Deluxe private coaches and top drivers
- Special English speaking local guide
- All sightseeing and entrances as per the itinerary
- Deluxe portfolio of documents
- Escorted by Katherine Greenberg
- Donation of $450 to the University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley

Costs do not include:

- Airfare
- Travel insurance
- Passports

To make a reservation, please complete and submit a printed booking form (page 9)

Or contact: Sterling Tours, Ltd
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Terms & Conditions
This information is important. Please read it carefully. Submission of an online or printed Booking Form along with payment of required trip deposit indicates you have read and expressly agree to these Terms and Conditions. If there is something that you do not understand please ask us about it!

Reservations and Payments – A non-refundable deposit of $600 per person is required at time of booking. Written confirmation will be provided upon receipt of deposit. Balance of payment will be due 60 days before departure. Tour price is based on exchange rates in effect as of March 2015 and are subject to adjustment on final invoice.

Number of Guests: A maximum of 21 guests can be accommodated. A minimum of 15 guests are required to operate the tour at the quoted price. Purchase of non-refundable services outside of the tour itinerary (such as airline tickets) before minimum number of guests have registered is at the sole risk and expense of the guest.

Cancellations – All cancellations must be made in writing. As noted, final payment is due 60 days prior to departure and is non-refundable. Accordingly we strongly recommended that you purchase appropriate cancellation insurance.

Hotels – Hotels are shown on your itinerary. Sterling Tours reserves the right to change any hotel through any circumstance—the substitute will be of equal or higher quality.

Scheduled Activities – Every effort will be made to provide such services as listed, but where unavoidable circumstances necessitate changes, the best substitute alternatives will be made at the discretion of Sterling Tours, the local escort, or the ground operator without financial compensation to tour members.

Service Fees, Tips & Taxes – Today there are frequently service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, suppliers, and governments. These fees and taxes are included to the extent possible, but where pre-payment is not allowed the amounts concerned must be paid locally by tour members. Tips to your guides and drivers are not included and are left to your discretion.

Baggage – Sterling is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to your baggage—travel insurance is strongly recommended to protect against loss. Guests are responsible for airline and government-imposed baggage regulations and fees.

Exclusions – Your arrangements exclude passports, visas, excess baggage charges, items of a personal nature such as laundry, communication expenses, room service, meals not specified in your itinerary, gratuities to guides and drivers, optional sightseeing and other excursions, and any items not listed in your documents.

Travel and Trip Cancellation Insurance – We strongly recommend that you purchase Travel Insurance.

Travel Documents – A passport valid for at least 6 months after last date of this tour is required for this trip.

Physical Capabilities - The tour includes a moderate amount of walking and occasional use of stairs or steeply sloped pathways. Walking surfaces may be uneven or unpaved. Some of the places that we will be visiting can only be seen on foot with no other access possible.

Responsibility Clause – SterlingTours – the “Operator”, Katherine Greenberg, UCBG, and/or their agents or representatives, act only as agents for the various companies involved in providing services. They assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any means of conveyance which may be used either whole or in part in the performance of its duty to the passenger. Likewise they will not be responsible for any act, error or omission or for any personal injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, irregularity or inconvenience which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through any act, neglect or default, or any company or person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued, whether negligent or not, including, but not limited to, any act of God, terrorism or war. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the Operator. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain passengers as members of the tour. Legal proceedings against the Operator may be instituted only in a State or Federal Court within the County of San Diego, State of California, and any claim involved in such proceedings shall be decided in the County of San Diego, State of California. Any legal proceedings against the Operator must be commenced within one year following the date of tour completion. Neither the Operator nor Katherine Greenberg nor UCBG shall in any case be liable for compensatory damages and you hereby waive any right to punitive damages.

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Katherine Greenberg, University of California Botanical Garden, and Sterling Tours invite you to join Waterscapes in Spain: Art, Gardens, and Landscapes of Castile May 23 – June 1, 2016

IMPORTANT: Submitting this form and paying tour deposit confirms you have read and accept the Terms and Conditions for this tour. Please review and be sure you understand the terms and conditions before registering for this tour.

Reservation Form ----Please Complete One Form Per Person Traveling

Full Name as on your passport: ____________________________________________________________

First name you prefer to be called: _______________________________ Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr: __________

Date of Birth: ___________ Passport # _______________ Expiration Date: ________________

Expires: ___________ Country: _______ Telephone: ________________________________

Email: ________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip, Country ____________________________________________________________

Emergency Contact Name and Phone #: ______________________________________________

Special Food or Physical Requirements: ______________________________________________

Celebrating an event during the tour? ________________________________________________

Need help booking flights? _______ Planning to arrive early or stay after the tour? _________

Hotel Room Please check appropriate room type

Double Room, One Large Bed: _______ Double Room, Two Beds: _______

Sharing room with: ________________________________________________________________

Single Room, I am willing to share _______ Single Room, not sharing _______

(We will attempt to find a roommate, but if unsuccessful the single supplement will apply)

Insurance Information to be provided prior at time of deposit.

Land-Only Tour Price and Deposit Information

Tour Price for members is $5980 per person land only based on double occupancy & a minimum of 12 guests. Non-member price is $6030.

Single occupancy of a room requires additional payment of $975.

A nonrefundable deposit of $600 per person is required to register for this tour.

Please make your check payable to Sterling Tours, Ltd and mail with this form to the address below.

Payment by credit card is subject to 3% surcharge, please call Sterling Tours with credit card information.

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