

Potager Gardens of France

An exploration of authentic kitchen gardens

Visit some of the most elaborate and decorative Potager gardens with head gardeners and owners. Visit historic Abbeys, Chateaux and of course, sample the gourmet delights of the region!

Paris

Begin your French journey with 2 nights at the chic Signature Saint-Germain-Des-Prés Hotel, located in one of the most prestigious districts of Paris. Visit the 17th century garden created for King Louis XIV - Potager du Roi, explore the fabulous food markets, and enjoy a meal in a restaurant that puts garden produce centre stage.

Loire

Renowned for its chateaux and rolling hills, the Loire Valley is home to some of the finest decorative potager and formal gardens. Home for the next 4 nights, is the 17th century mansion of Le Clos d'Amboise, in the heart of the Royal City of Amboise. Visits include the highly acclaimed Ornamental Kitchen Garden in Renaissance style at Villandry, the contemporary kitchen garden at Château de Candé, meet the Broglie family who have a passion for tomatoes at Château de la Bourdaisière, and see the diverse vegetables at Château de Valmer, nestled amongst the Vouvray vineyards. Enjoy a very special visit to the garden of French chef Alain Passard, head of the three Michelin starred L'Arpege restaurant. Here you will meet head gardener, Sylvain Picard, who manages 4 hectares with over 500 varieties of vegetables, fruits and aromatic roots. Visit former monastery and listed historical monument, the Prieuré d'Orsan, where you will meet owner Patrice Taravella and explore the remarkable gardens followed by lunch in the prestigious restaurant, which uses the freshest, most tasteful organic ingredients from the kitchen garden.

Normandy

Spend 2 nights at the charming Le Domaine Le Clos des Fontaines,, set in an apple orchard and overlooking Jumièges Abbey, a Benedictine Monastery. Visits will include Château de Bosmelet, where a rainbow of fruits, vegetables and flowers flourish within the garden walls, and Château de Miromesnil, where you will meet the owner and enjoy lunch. A visit to Normandy wouldn't be the same without visiting a traditional cider farm and tasting the Calvados too!

Return to Paris for departure or choose to extend your stay in Paris, or perhaps take the Eurostar to London or even Provence?

