

# MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN CRUISE & TOUR with Phil Dudman

15 September to 4 October, 2026



## Included in the tour price:

- Tour leadership by Phil Dudman
- Economy-class air travel from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth to Rome; and return to Australia from Barcelona
- Travel on Celebrity Equinox in the selected cabin category
- All meals, entertainment, and service charges on Celebrity Equinox
- Private activities on board
- Travel in first-class chartered coaches
- 2 nights' accommodation in Barcelona, 3 nights' accommodation in Bagno Vignoni, Tuscany, 3 nights' accommodation in Rome in 3 and 4 star hotels on a bed and breakfast basis
- 3 evening meals in Bagno Vignoni and a farewell dinner
- Sightseeing tours as listed in the itinerary
- Entrances to gardens and attractions as detailed in itinerary
- Tour management by Travelrite International Pty. Ltd. with the tour manager meeting the group in Rome

## Not included in the price:

- Passport and visa fees
- Travel insurance
- Meals unless specified in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and general expenses unless specified in the itinerary
- Additional travel arrangements not in the detailed itinerary. These will be quoted for separately

## Per person in Australian Dollars

Early Booking Discount  
Enquire with our travel consultant

Cabin / Description	Deck	Twin -share	Single Fare	Twin -share	Single Fare
I2 Inside	3,7,8	\$ 13,490	\$ 18,790	\$ 12,990	\$ 17,790
I1 Prime Inside	9,10,11	\$ 13,790	\$ 19,090	\$ 13,290	\$ 18,090
O2 Ocean View	3	\$ 14,190	\$ 19,790	\$ 13,690	\$ 18,790
O1 Prime Ocean View	3,7,8	\$ 14,390	\$ 19,990	\$ 13,890	\$ 18,990
V2 Veranda	6,7,8	\$ 14,590	\$ 20,490	\$ 14,390	\$ 20,090
V1 Prime Veranda	6,7,8,9	\$ 14,690	\$ 20,790	\$ 14,490	\$ 20,390
C2 Concierge Balcony	9,10	\$ 14,890	\$ 21,190	\$ 14,490	\$ 20,390
C1 Prime Concierge Balcony	9,10,11,12	\$ 14,990	\$ 21,390	\$ 14,990	\$ 21,390
A2 Aqua Balcony	11	\$ 15,790	\$ 22,990	\$ 15,590	\$ 22,590
Included port and handling charges		\$ 720	\$ 1,190	\$ 720	\$ 1,190
Included ship gratuities		\$ 290	\$ 290	\$ 290	\$ 290

**Availability:** All cabins are subject to availability. A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy. *Please call for fares and information on other cabin categories.*

**Extending:** You can stay longer in Europe for minimal cost. *Please contact 1800 630 343 for more information.*

## General information and booking conditions

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 need of assistance from others.

**TOUR OPERATOR:** TTravelrite International Pty Ltd, (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour operator.

**TOUR COSTS:** The tour costs are based on airfare, general transport, accommodation costs and foreign exchange rate at 1/8/25. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to price will be made within 92 days of departure from Australia.

**AIR TAXES:** from Sydney/Melbourne/Brisbane/Perth as listed in the itinerary. Please contact us for air taxes from different cities. Air taxes are as at 1/8/25. If they change due to government and airline charges and currency variations, Travelrite International reserves the right to charge additional amounts.

**DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT:** A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 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 an online check in with Celebrity Cruises. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 92 days prior to the commencement of the 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 92 days	loss of \$1000
91 - or less	100% of full fare
Non-appearance/no written notice:	100% of full fare.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

**MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS AND CONDITIONS:** The tour has been priced on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 92 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost.

**TOUR ORGANISATION:** Travelrite reserves the right to change advertised entrances if necessary for the smooth operation of the tour.

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

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** All passengers will require a valid passport. Visas for countries visited are not required for Australian passport holders. If you hold another passport please check with Travelrite.

**BAGGAGE:** All passengers qualify for the 23kg free baggage allowance.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd. is the tour organiser. Travelrite acts only as an agent in the making of arrangements for hotels, transportation, 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 the tour, 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, rerouting or acts of any government authority. The passage contract between the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of this tour and/or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any tour and/or make such changes in the tour as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the tour. This contract shall be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any action must be taken in the State of Victoria.

**DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS:** You engage Travelrite International to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite International acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or



make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite International your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Bookings can be made by sending full names and addresses of intending tour members with a non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 for the Mediterranean Garden Cruise Tour. Please send to:

**Travelrite International Pty Ltd**  
**423 Whitehorse Road,**  
**Balwyn, Victoria 3103**

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

**Toll Free: 1800 630 343**

**Phone: (03) 9836 2522**

**Email: sales@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 40 years. It is fully ATAS accredited (No. A10538) and fully IATA credited and 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 38 years, and now runs over 120 tours a year. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Travel Industry Association – ATIA.

You are invited to join **Phil Dudman** on the Travelrite International 2026

# MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN TOUR & CRUISE

ONBOARD CELEBRITY EQUINOX

15 September to 4 October, 2026



Visiting Bagno Vignoni, Tuscany, Rome, Naples, Lucca, Florence, Portofino, Italy; Villefranche sur Mer, Marseille, France and Barcelona, Spain



TRAVELRITE  
INTERNATIONAL

Celebrity **X** Cruises®



# MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN TOUR & CRUISE



## with Phil Dudman

Phil Dudman is a horticulturist, garden designer, writer and broadcaster with a passion for making gardening easy, practical and enjoyable. His latest book, *Down-to-Earth Garden Design*, perfectly captures his no-fuss, accessible approach. A seasoned traveller, Phil has explored gardens, landscapes, food and culture across Australia, Europe and Asia and is always on the lookout for great places, great people, and a great story. Before following his horticultural calling in his late 20s, Phil dabbled in architecture and business and even fronted a Sydney rock 'n' roll band. Since then, he's spent over 30 years inspiring gardeners through his work in top gardening magazines, three books with ABC Books, and TV appearances on Channel Nine's *Garden Gurus*. He also hosts ABC Radio's *Good Gardening* program and the popular new *Get into your Garden* podcast. Phil's looking forward to meeting you and sharing good garden chats along the way.



### DAY 1 Tuesday 15 September, 2026 Departure

Our holiday begins with our flight to Rome, Italy.

### DAY 2 Wednesday 16 September, 2026 Bagno Vignoni, Tuscany

On arrival in Rome we travel north to the Tuscan village of Bagno Vignoni, a small Orcia River valley village, which has long been a favourite among painters and travellers seeking solitude in a beautiful location. We'll spend the next three nights at Le Terme, a charming, family-run 15th-century hotel, originally built by Rossellino as a summer retreat for Pope Pius II. Set beside the village's historic hot spring, the hotel offers the unique opportunity to relax in ancient thermal waters at its wellness spa, renowned for their soothing and revitalising properties. Each evening, we'll enjoy delicious home-cooked Italian meals, prepared with local ingredients and served in true Tuscan style.

### DAY 3 Thursday 17 September, 2026 Bagno Vignoni

In the morning we will visit La Foce established by the author Iris Origo and her husband Marquis Antonio Origo on the site of an Osteria. In 1927, they enlisted renowned garden designer Cecil Pinsent to help shape their vision. Pinsent framed the garden with cypresses and hollies, creating a green architectural border. Within this elegant structure lies a series of distinct spaces: a classical Italian Renaissance garden, a tranquil fountain garden, an orangery, and an upper flower garden inspired by the rich, romantic planting style of Gertrude Jekyll. This afternoon will be free to explore the gorgeous village of Bagno Vignoni.

### DAY 4 Friday 18 September, 2026 Bagno Vignoni

This morning we visit Villa Vicobello a magnificent 16th-century estate built by the influential Chigi family. The gardens are a splendid example of Italian Renaissance garden design, laid out across a series of elegant terraces linked by stairways and laid out along two distinct axes. As we soak up the magic of this wonderful garden you will delve deeper into the history of the Chigi family, who have owned the villa since 1500s. After our garden visit, a



local guide will introduce us to the major sights of Siena, including the famous Piazza del Campo with its splendid civic tower and the enormous, partially completed Duomo. The main piazza is the track for the twice-yearly Palio horse race festival, a fierce competition between the local city wards. Siena is also home to the oldest bank in the world and has a spectacular town hall.

### DAY 5 Saturday 19 September, 2026 Rome

This morning, we will travel south to Rome. On the journey we visit the magnificent gardens of Villa Lante near Viterbo. This is a perfect Renaissance Garden in which murmuring water, flashing fountains, shade and sunlight alternate under vast plane trees. The garden, organized on four levels along a main axis, emphasized by fountains, has perfect symmetry. Upon arrival a local guide takes us on a tour of Rome – an entire city designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Highlights include the iconic Colosseum, the ancient Roman Forum, St Peter's Basilica and the Vatican, along with the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain.

### DAY 6 Sunday 20 September, 2026 Rome

Today we explore wild and romantic gardens that will be unforgettable highlights of our journey. The Garden of Ninfa (Giardino di Ninfa) is widely regarded as one of the most beautiful and acclaimed gardens in the world. Located in the Lazio, about 40 miles southeast of Rome, Ninfa was once a thriving town dating back to Roman times. The ruins have been transformed into a botanical garden. Plants wind over ruined towers and walls, rejoicing in the lush conditions. The atmospheric setting features roses scrambling for footholds in ruined archways, and the frescoed church wall still standing open to the weather. An unusual mixture of species including magnolias, maples and tropical plants thrive in the damp microclimate. After lunch we visit the extraordinary private gardens of Torrecchia Vecchia near Cisterna where striking plantings weave through ancient ruins in a style that beautifully balances wild nature with

thoughtful design. The gardens encircle a hilltop dotted with medieval ruins and a 17th-century villa adjoining the remains of a 13th-century castle. In 1994, the owners enlisted celebrated British landscape designer Dan Pearson to create a 1.75-hectare garden set among the ruins. He later brought in renowned English gardener Stuart Barfoot, who has since expanded and deepened the garden's wild, romantic spirit.

### DAY 7 Monday 21 September, 2026 Rome

This morning, we will enjoy free time to explore Rome. In the afternoon, we travel to Tivoli to visit the spectacular Villa d'Este, celebrated for its extraordinary use of water in garden design. Fed by a tunnelled aqueduct from the River Aniene, the garden was created by the architect Pirro Ligorio for Cardinal Ippolito d'Este. Highlights include the enchanting Rometta, a miniature representation of ancient Rome with its seven hills and the Tiber River, the famous Path of One Hundred Fountains, and the remarkable Fountain of the Organ, which plays music using waterpower, based on hydraulic principles first described by Hero of Alexandria in 100 AD.

### DAY 8 Tuesday 22 September, 2026 Embarkation

This morning we travel to Civitavecchia, to board the luxurious Celebrity Equinox for our nine-night Mediterranean cruise.



### DAY 9 Wednesday 23 September, 2026 Naples

After docking in Naples we travel to the ferry terminal, and take a boat across to the island of Ischia to visit the renowned garden, La Mortella, once home of Sir William and Lady Susana Walton. This lush, hillside garden is a paradise for plant lovers, filled with rare trees, exotic palms, vibrant shrubs, ferns, and bulbs from around the world. Highlights include an Islamic-style rill that leads gracefully to a reflective pool, part of an extension by celebrated designer Russell Page. He also constructed a series of rock pools, bordered by bog plants, ferns and bamboo, that provide striking contrast to the parched Mediterranean hillside. The garden is also home to a beautiful memorial to Lady Walton, nestled in a tranquil corner. La Mortella is a feast for the senses.

## Highlights of the tour

- Staying for three nights in a small Orcia River valley village of Bagno Vignoni
- Visiting La Foce, established by the author Iris Origo and her husband Marquis Antonio Origo
- Visit the perfect Renaissance Garden magnificent Villa Lante
- Sightseeing tour of Rome with a local guide
- Visit the Garden of Ninfa (Giardino di Ninfa), widely regarded as one of the most beautiful and acclaimed gardens in the world.
- Visit the spectacular Villa d'Este, celebrated for its extraordinary use of water in garden design
- Visit the renowned garden, La Mortella, once home of Sir William and Lady Susana Walton
- Visit the small but idyllic Villa Gamberaia, beautifully restored to its 16th-century splendour
- Visit to the exquisite Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild
- Sightseeing tour of Barcelona including a visit to the world-famous Park Güell, designed by Gaudí

### DAY 10 Thursday 24 September, 2026 At Sea

Enjoy a relaxing day at sea, making the most of the ship's fabulous facilities at your leisure. In the afternoon, join Phil for a fun-filled Gardening Trivia competition. We'll divide into teams for some friendly rivalry, with prizes awarded to the winning group – bragging rights included!

### DAY 11 Friday 25 September, 2026 La Spezia/Lucca

This morning, we dock in La Spezia for an overnight stay and travel to the town of Collodi, famous for its connection with the Pinocchio legend. Our day begins with a visit to the magnificent Villa Garzoni, an exquisite example of Italian baroque garden design. Built shortly before 1652 by the Garzoni family, the garden layout makes the dramatic use of a steep hillside in a manner more commonly associated with Roman landscapes. Its highlights include a grand water garden at the base of the slope, elegant balustraded terraces and a series of sweeping symmetrical staircases connecting the lower water gardens to the villa above, the cascade, the teatro di verdura and formal plantings. We then continue to Lucca arriving in time for lunch or some free time to explore. In the afternoon a local guide leads us through this enchanting walled city, rich with churches, palaces, and charming piazzas that reflect its well-preserved Renaissance character.



### DAY 12 Saturday 26 September, 2026 La Spezia/ Florence

This morning, we journey through the stunning Tuscan countryside to the heart of Florence. On arrival we'll enjoy a guided walking tour of the city's historical centre exploring the Piazza del Duomo, home of the magnificent Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore – one of the largest in the Christian world – topped by Brunelleschi's wonderful dome. We'll also see the elegant Campanile and the octagonal Baptistery with its famous bronze doors. Our walk continues through the Piazza della Signoria, where we take in the Loggia della Signoria, the Palazzo Vecchio and nearby, the Ponte Vecchio spanning over the Arno River.



We visit the exquisite Villa Gamberaia, nestled in classic olive-grove country. This small but idyllic garden is beautifully restored to its 16th-century splendour. The main terrace is laid out with parterres de broderie and the water gardens evoke the serene beauty of Persian reflecting pools.

### DAY 13 Sunday 27 September, 2026 Portofino

Today we dock in the gorgeous village of Portofino, often ranked among Italy's top ten most beautiful villages. You'll have time to wander its charming streets, enjoy the views of the picturesque harbour, and perhaps browse the local boutiques or enjoy a coffee by the waterfront. Later we visit the Abbey of La Cervara in Santa Margherita Ligure. Founded in 1361 for Benedictine monks, the abbey boasts a magnificent terrace overlooking the sea. The formal garden, created in 1868 features elegant box parterres centred around a fountain adorned with cherubs.

### DAY 14 Monday 28 September, 2026 Villefranche/Nice

This morning, we visit the renowned La Serre de la Madone a beautifully layered garden designed by Lawrence Johnston during the interwar years, following



his celebrated work at Hidcote in England. In the afternoon Phil will lead the group on our visit to the exquisite Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Created in the early 20th century by Baroness Ephrussi de Rothschild, this opulent estate features a series of themed gardens, each reflecting a distinct architectural and planting style. From Spanish to Japanese to Florentine, it's a dazzling display of French elegance and exotic charm – an unforgettable highlight of the Riviera.

### DAY 15 Tuesday 29 September, 2026 Marseille

This morning, we arrive in Marseille, a vibrant port city that has served as a crossroads of trade since its founding by the Greeks around 600 B.C. From here, we travel to the elegant Domaine D'Albertas, set in a picturesque valley nourished by natural springs. Originally used to irrigate orchards and vegetable gardens, these springs were harnessed to create ponds and fountains that define the gardens today. Designed in the 17th century, the grounds reflect a harmonious blend of Italian and Renaissance styles, featuring formal box hedges, graceful judas trees, and grand statues inspired by Greek mythology.

### DAY 16 Wednesday 30 September, 2026 At Sea

Today is yours to relax and enjoy the wonderful facilities of the ship. In the afternoon, join Phil for an engaging talk as he shares stories from his fascinating career in the media, spanning radio, television, writing, and garden design.

### DAY 17 Thursday 1 October, 2026 Disembarkation/Barcelona

This morning, we arrive in vibrant Barcelona, the captivating capital of Catalonia and Spain's second-largest city. We begin with a guided sightseeing tour, taking in the city's rich history and dynamic architecture. Highlights include the striking Cathedral of Barcelona and the winding medieval streets of the Gothic Quarter. We then head to the Eixample district, known for its bold modernist design, where we admire some of Gaudí's most iconic works - including the awe-inspiring Sagrada Família. In the afternoon, we visit the whimsical and world-famous Park Güell, also designed by Gaudí. This unique space blends architecture and landscape in brilliant harmony, with lush, naturalistic plantings, a grand iron-balustrade entrance, colourful mosaic-tiled walls, and the famous staircase dragon – one of Barcelona's most beloved symbols.

### DAY 18 Friday 2 October, 2026 Barcelona

This morning, we travel north to the Costa Brava to visit the Jardí Botànic Marimurtra, a remarkable garden created by plant enthusiast Karl Faust. Faust designed a series of distinct garden zones to showcase his vast collection of plants from around the world. Today, the garden is thoughtfully divided into tropical, temperate, and Mediterranean sections, each offering its own unique atmosphere and botanical treasures. In the afternoon, we visit Santa Clotilde, a grand estate built on the site of an old vineyard. It is an Italianate Garden in the Renaissance style, where the symmetry of paths, planting and carefully placed focal points create a sense of harmony and timeless beauty. This evening, we gather for a farewell dinner to celebrate the tour and the unforgettable gardens we've explored together.

### DAY 19 Saturday 3 October, 2026 Departure

Today we transfer to Barcelona Airport for our return flight to Australia.

### DAY 20 Sunday 4 October, 2026 Arrive Australia

The group arrives in Australia and tour arrangements conclude.

## Celebrity Equinox



### Clothing on board Celebrity Equinox

The Celebrity dress code combines both smart casual with evening chic. During the most evenings onboard, smart casual dress is expected at dinner, consisting of a jacket or shirt and trousers for men. The evening chic nights offer the chance to dress to impress with black tie and cocktail dresses the most popular choices or what you consider as chic. For those who prefer not to dress for dinner the buffet dining always offers a casual dress code, ideal after a long day of shore excursions.

### 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, the Travelrite Tour Manager will be looking after you.