Pre-and Post-Congress Tours

Two study tours are organised, one before and one after the European Botanic Gardens Congress, each to a different region of France. Thus delegates may participate in both tours if they wish.

The first tour, Gardens & Arboretums of the Loire Valley, will focus on the region of Touraine surrounding the elegant city of Tours. It is here that the great River Loire is joined by the Rivers Indre & Cher, bringing water and life into the heart of France. This region has played a key part in the history of the nation and also in the development of garden style.

The second tour, Gardens of Haute-Normandie, departs on the last day of the Congress, travelling to Normandy to the department of Seine-Maritime. There is a wealth of remarkable gardens that thread their way from Varengeville to Giverny, from the sea to the River Seine; country gardens set amidst old cider orchards, lush rolling pastures and mixed woodland, mostly owned by passionate gardeners with fine plant collections.

The tours will be accompanied by a linguistic guide (speaking French, English and Italian) and a botanist from the Jardin des Plantes of Paris able to introduce the local vegetation.