

some of the oldest manuscripts in England all with superb artwork, the sixth-century Gospel Book which has the oldest narrative illustrations of the Bible in western art and early books from the sixth century onward. We also view part of the 1000 pieces of historic silver dating back to the 14th century. Late afternoon return to London.

### Friday, December 10th

We visit the *Order of St John's Templars* which was formed during the first crusade. These warrior knights of the Holy Grail had their monastery destroyed by Henry VIII but the Elizabethan gate and Norman crypt remain as reminders of their times. Entry is by private invitation of a Member of the Order.

Dinner. Guests of Richard Freeman, Free Warden of the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers, to the company's annual formal banquet with the Lord Mayor at **The Mansion House in The Egyptian Hall**, We enter to the majestic accompaniment of cornets which later give us a virtuoso performance.

Invitations to private institutions are by members. They have an obligation to their institution to ensure that they know their guests. Participants must either be known personally to Arts to Life or introduce themselves by letter upon registration. White tie and tails can be easily and quickly rented in London and we will direct you to the resources.

Full evening dress, white tie, tails and decorations and fans for the ladies.

### Saturday, December 11th

Hotel check out

### Fee and Registration

The fee for the program which includes six nights luxurious accommodation at **The Connaught Hotel**, all special entrance fees, meals in private halls as well as formal dinner in the Mansion House, lunches, lecture fees and museum entrance fees, bus transportation and program materials is \$4,450 for double occupancy with a single supplement of \$500.00. The program is limited to fifteen participants and a registration fee of \$1,500 is required to reserve a space. The balance of payment is due September 1st. Cancellations will be accepted up to September 1st with a refund of \$150.00. No cancellations will be accepted after this date. Travel insurance is mandatory. For more information please call (212) 996-1183.

## LOCAL TRAVEL

# PROGRAMS

## *A Summer House Party in the Hamptons*

June, Monday 14th  
- Thursday 17th, 1999

THE dunes and tall beach grass, the sweeping potato fields and sparkling sea are a backdrop to the extraordinary homes and gardens that are on the eastern tip of Long Island. Here shingled houses by architects such as *Robert Stern* are offset by the wildest expressions of the gardener's imagination. English cottage, French formal, ideas taken from *Gertrude Jekyll*, sculptural topiary, and fields of wildflowers greet you as you conquer the high privet hedges. The Hamptons too are a delight for decorators who sweep in to give color, definition and finish to the interior. They add to the confusion of taste with rooms with French provincial furniture, American Federal or the flowered



chintzes and charm of the English Country House look.

As the flowers burst into bloom and the beaches fill with summer residents we center ourselves in the heart of the Hamptons to explore its delights. We visit an array of houses and view a sampling of each garden type. Cocktails in private gardens, lunches overlooking the sound, picnics under the trees and dinners



beside a warm glowing fire make us feel like weekend guests. With time to relax and enjoy the surroundings we invite you to join us for an intimate house party at the **1708 House**, an historic house recently converted to a charming bed and breakfast in Southampton. From here we make forays into Bridgehampton, East Hampton, Sag Harbor, North Haven and Amagansett.

### Monday, June 14th

Mid morning departure from **The Metropolitan Museum** and arrive at the 1708 House in the early afternoon. Visit to one of Southampton's most beautiful gardens designed by *Deborah Nevins*. It includes a long driveway lined with trees, a swimming pool offset by vine covered trellises, a rose and cutting garden. Next we enjoy the garden of Mrs. Bruce Bockmann. This park-like garden situated on 8 acres with a reflecting pool and pond is the creation of the *Australian landscape architect, Paul Bangay*. The house built in the late 20's was designed as a theater and retains its original structure. Dinner.

### Tuesday, June 15th

"*The stories behind the Glorious Façades*"— we traverse the grandest houses as we learn their secrets from a long time resident. Visit to the home and garden of *interior designer*

*Betty Sherrill*. Lunch in historic **Sag Harbor** by the waterside. Here we visit the home of a former sea captain. Carefully restored by the present owners it allows us to see an example of a true period interior. Visit the home of *Judith Lieber* to see how the principles of the formal French and English styles have been reinterpreted for a contemporary garden. Cocktails at the splendid home of *interior designer Richard Hare* in **Amagansett**. Dinner in a private club on the ocean.

### Wednesday, June 16th

Visit to the award winning East Hampton garden of Carol Mercer overlooking the dunes and sea. **East Hampton**, known for its elegant homes allows for a rare opportunity to visit a shingled house with a formal garden and superb formal interior. Picnic lunch under the trees at **Bayberry Nursery** followed by a study of one of the captivating gardens they have so carefully and imaginatively designed. The home of a decorator shared by an avid collector houses a dramatic interior where several collecting interests come together with a startling result. The day ends with cocktails at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sabin. In this typical East Hampton house there is an eclectic mix of period and contemporary furniture combined with a rare collection of early carousel horses. All of this is offset

by the mysterious surrealistic portraits painted by Mr. Sabin.

### Thursday, June 17th

Southampton's loveliest of gardens is that of Mrs. Jan Cowles. Here we take a leisurely walk through acres of wild flower meadows and have tea in one of the arbors. We end with a garden, also in Southampton, that demonstrates the skill of an imaginative owner. Bus return to New York.

### Fee and Registration

The fee for the program (including 3 nights accommodation at the 1708 House, all meals, English breakfast, transportation, private visits and cocktail receptions) range from \$1,450 for a double room, \$1,550 for a two bedroom suite or shared cottage, to \$1,850 for a single. Full payment is due upon registration. Cancellations will be accepted up to six weeks before the program less a \$250 non refundable fee.