EXPO GARDEN TOURS

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PRESS RELEASE

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Tour the Emerald Isle in escorted first class style!

LITCHFIELD, CT. February 2003. Looking for a relaxing, stress-free way to live out your dream of visiting gardens of the Emerald Isle? Expo Garden Tours will take you there in the comfort and luxury of their fully escorted **Hidden Gardens of Ireland** package. The next tour runs June 11th to 21st, 2003.

Expo handles every detail of your trip. They book your air tickets and accommodations, drive you from your arrival airport to your hotel, and include exceptionally prepared meals and itineraries. The groups are intimate at no more than 26 people and each tour has its own dedicated English-speaking Irish guide.

You'll slumber in splendor in properties ranging from a charming old world hotel in a thatch-roofed village and a magnificent gothic castle in the picturesque foothills to a splendid luxury hotel in busy downtown Dublin.

As for Ireland itself, well you just can't get any friendlier. The generosity and warmth of the people is matched only by the lush grandeur of the countryside. The secret gardens and stately homes the tour visits will make for memories of a lifetime.

2003 marks the 15th anniversary of Expo Garden Tours' excellence in garden touring. The rarely seen gardens, classical art and antiques, small villages and stunning architecture make the tours unforgettable.

Other 2003 tours include:

• Flora & Fauna, and Safari in South Africa
• Landscapes of New Zealand
•Food, Wine & Gardens of Italy
• Secret Gardens of the Pacific Northwest
•Bulbs and Blooms of Holland
•Several tours to the England & the Chelsea Flower Show

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"We take an insider's look at the gardens we visit. We don't herd large groups around crowded sites. Our groups of no more than 26 like-minded travelers make every garden visit a delight. Tour-goers talk directly to the garden owners who often lead the tour of their own gardens," says Expo president Michael Italiaander, who often stops in to check on the tours in progress.

"We base our itineraries on what the upscale, learned gardener wants to see. I personalize the tours anew each year to guarantee a fresh, one-of-a-kind look at the country we visit. I'm always adding undiscovered and rare gardens and visits to surprise even the most seasoned traveler," says Italiaander who's been to every destination he offers.

Expo Garden Tours is a Connecticut based tour operator specializing in first-rate garden travel. Established in 1988, Expo is the leading garden touring company in North America. Expo works directly with individuals as well as travel agents and is delighted to create custom group itineraries for organizations, clubs, and travel agents. Single and older travelers are always made welcome and special requests are cheerfully handled.

For a free 2003 catalog or more information contact Expo Garden Tours, 33 Fox Crossing, Litchfield, CT 06759. 800-448-2685, fax: 860-567-0381. www.expogardentours.com, info@expogardentours.com

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