

Round the world Permaculture Research Tour

Applying the Holistic Management methodology:

The whole under management:

A Permaculture research tour, around the world (Australia + USA), done by a landscape architect/permaculture designer in search for efficient design and regenerative, productive landscapes.

Statement of purpose (the purposes of this trip – setting clear goals):

- See live mature projects of regenerative landscape design in farming and urban landscapes;
- Exchange ideas and knowledge with professionals and other individuals applying Permaculture and Holistic Management on their lands, enterprises and lives (looking for people who "walk their talk");
- Exchange knowledge and ideas regarding the appliance of Permaculture to Landscape Architecture with the University of Porto, in a research partnership with Landscape Architecture Phd Isabel Martinho da Silva;
- Envision a synergy between Landscape Architecture, Holistic Management and Permaculture as professions able to give creative solutions for the current time challenges;
- Look in the field for the evidences of the importance of the design work prior to implementatio work;
- Research for Permaculture and Holistic Management techniques and strategies that can be adapted and applied to different Portuguese landscape units, for example: vineyards, orchards, vegetable gardens, etc. in order to cross this information with ancient and traditional Portuguese techniques and strategies;
- Look for new techniques and strategies that can be adapted and applied to different Portuguese contexts, for example: vineyards, orchards, vegetable gardens, etc. in order to cross this information with the ancient and traditional Portuguese ways of working the landscape.

Quality of Trip statements:

What motivates me in doing this trip...

- I am continually seeking for knowledge and creative solutions that can contribute to the regeneration of human and natural systems and create resiliency;
- I am searching for efficiency and innovation in my professional life;
- I am researching in the best match between Permaculture, Holistic Management and Landscape Architecture, both as disciplines and as professions;
- I am an open hearted and curious youngster receptive to learn from everybody who is motivated to be of benefit to the world;

- I am full of enthusiasm and willpower to learn from experienced designers and mature full-blown projects;
- I am willing to share with transparency my study/professional backgrounds in Landscape Architecture and Permaculture with those that show the same eagerness; I want to share, with those that support my research, the most valuable information collected during the tour;
- I do this research tour with enthusiasm, professionalism and integrity;
- I am a resilient traveler, I base my relationships in mutual respect, empathy and professionalism;
- I am committed and truthful in sharing my research results with everyone that supports this research tour;
- I am a conscious traveler regarding the budget I've committed to.

What am I now and what do I want to become...

- I am a young landscape architect and permaculture designer with 4 years experience in the combination of both disciplines, many specialized studies in the Permaculture field, a few projects developed (small/large scale, urban/rural) and a lot of enthusiasm and willingness to grow together with other experienced designers;
- I am both a dreamer and hard worker that wishes to develop skills professionally and personally in order to be of benefit to all;
- I want to become an honorable and good professional that is known for her knowledge in various fields, related to Permaculture and Landscape Architecture, for her enthusiasm, empathy and professionalism;
- I want to work in Portugal and internationally in both rural and urban contexts, in developed and under developed countries.

What are the needs I want to satisfy now and what is the mission I want to fulfill in the medium /long term?

- I have the need to see mature projects of Permaculture and Holistic management;
- I have the need to exchange ideas and knowledge with other permaculture professionals, specially about the importance of design prior to implementation;
- My mission is to find the most appropriate approach to my professional life, the one that gives me the most enjoyment, equilibrium, professionalism and that at the same time allows me to be a good designer, efficient worker and creative solution orientated person in order to develop a balanced way to be a joyful professional.

What do I want from this research? What do I want to offer to it?

- I want to create good connections with other professionals from all over the world in order to develop a wide working network, internationally and nationally; I want to learn and get inspiration from those who have more experience;

- I want to offer my enthusiasm and professionalism in researching for positive and creative solutions over Australia and USA, that can be transported to our Portuguese context;
- I want to offer my social and communication skills and my adventurous spirit; I want to offer my professional/study backgrounds and experiences as an landscape architect and permaculture designer and teacher;
- I want to offer my willingness and humility in learning from others;
- I want to offer my photography skills, my drawing skills and my systems thinking capacity;
- I want to offer my ability to get and summarize information;
- I want to offer my organizing and planning skills.

What might be challenging during this PM research trip? (Relationships/challenges, growth/purpose, contribution/economic)

- Difficult people crossing my way (farm managers, woofers, city people...)
- Sudden changes of plans (something that was booked and suddenly is canceled)
- Trip schedules
- Not being able to get all the information intended when visiting or living in a project
- Health issues that might appear along the trip
- Looing some equipment or personal objects
- ...

Forms of Production/ Rewards (what do I need to produce/do in order to satisfy my “quality of Trip” statements):

Actions/Need to do

- Walk this journey grounded in the PM ethics and my family values and I look for cooperation instead of competition;
- Look for the appliance of Permaculture principles in the sites and places I visit;
- Observe the places I visit through the lens of Key Line design scale of permanence;
- Search for creative techniques and strategies on the sites I visit and relate these to the Portuguese context;
- Create new networks with individuals and professionals I encounter during this research trip;
- Interact with people with respect, humility and empathy;
- Work with motivation and energy in the places I visit and stay as a woofers;
- Produce graphic and written materials with quality and share them on time;
- Keep the journey posted online on a weekly basis, so that those who have supported me can follow my adventures/tour in the search for knowledge;
- Interact with people with respect, humility and empathy;
- I observe the places I visit through the lens of key line design’s scale of permanence, this allows me to be a “constructive reporter” during this trip;
- Walk this journey grounded in the Permaculture ethics and my family values;
- Look for cooperation instead of competition.

Future research base (consider how it must be many years from now if it is to sustain what you have produced in order to create the “quality of the tip” you want):

- Receive the respect from the people that supported crowdfunding;
- Have a competent Permaculture and Landscape Architecture office in Portugal, together with a multi skilled team, working nationally and internationally;
- Have a well established Permaculture demonstration site;
- Have good relationships with other Permaculture professionals from around the world;
- Maintain a good connection with the Landscape Architecture department from the University of Oporto;
- Give good quality Permaculture Design Courses;
- Do efficient design + implementation work merging Permaculture with Holistic Management and Landscape Architecture (design work that has in consideration the social/environmental and economic situation and presents creative ecological solutions).