

SECRET GARDENS OF VENICE



DESTINATION ITALY

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Being Venice a medieval town, not too much space was left for public gardens, unless you were rich and famous enough to have one. In fact most of the richest Venetian families have, beside their own palace, their own garden.

These aristocratic gardens projected in a typical Venetian style with circular parterre with box hedges and roses, a central fountain, a shady pergola with a well, are still used by the owners to walk and spend few hours in a quiet, private and definitely comfortable environment.

Nowadays we have the chance to visit these gardens located along the Grand Canal and in many areas of the city.



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GARDENS ON THE GRAND CANAL

PALAZZO NANI BERNARDO

This XVI century palace, between Ca' Rezzonico and Ca' Foscari, has XIX century secret garden with many roses flower-beds, the highest palm tree in the city and a splendid hundred-year-wisteria. We shall be received by the owner herself, countess Lucheschi Czarnocki or by her butler and we shall visit also the noble floor, now reserved for parties.

PALAZZO MALIPIERO BARNABÒ

A triumphant garden of roses, irises and other pastel-coloured flowers reflecting on the Grand Canal, protected by a white balaustrade. Created in the XIX century, it is inspired by Renaissance style and inhabited by antiques statues. In the magnificent palace, Casanova was often a guest. We shall be received by the owner herself, countess Barnabò, and we could visit the magnificent noble floor where she lives.



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GARDENS ON GIUDECCA ISLAND



MANIFATTURA FORTUNY

It is an elegant private garden created in the Fifties by the countess Gozzi, the lady who decreed the commercial success of Mariano's fabrics that today are still produced here with the original machinery from the 1920's.

Now the garden belongs to the new owners, the Riad family.

VILLA HÉRIOT

An airy garden with an incomparable view over the southern lagoon, created in the early twentieth century to wrap an eclectic-style villa and a chalet in greenery; it later served as a public school and now houses the offices of important cultural institutions.

RESIDENZA I.R.E. ZITELLE

In the southern part of the Giudecca, where the convent of the Zitelle once cultivated its farmland, the tradition is perpetuated with old vineyards, a wide fruit and a synergetic vegetable garden cultivated by the association Spiazzi Verdi.



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GARDENS OF CANNAREGIO

CA' MOROSINI DEL GIARDIN

Originally this was a celebrated garden with a 'casino' projected by Palladio and fresco by Veronese, unfortunately destroyed. Today it's a silent and unexpected 'hortus conclusus' with long pergolas, roses, wisteria, aromatic herbs and fruit trees cared by Dominic nuns.

PALAZZO CONTARINI DAL ZAFFO

The garden of Palazzo Contarini dal Zaffo was one of the largest Renaissance gardens in Venice, where artists like as Tiziano, Giorgione and Aretino could meet and talk about arts. Now garden and palace has been divided in two different religious rest houses for Venetian ladies and nuns: Casa Cardinal Piazza and Piccola Casa della Divina Provvidenza Cottolengo. From the terrace of the Casino degli Spiriti a wonderful view of the north lagoon just in front of Murano and San Michele islands!



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GARDENS OF CANNAREGIO



PALAZZO GRIMANI AI SERVI

An aristocratic garden projected in a typical Venetian style: a circular parterre with box hedges and roses, hydrangea borders, a fountain with a sculpture of a child, a shady pergola, an ancient well, stone lions and a small vegetable garden for the family protected by many tall trees.

PALAZZO RIZZO PATAROL

This elegant garden was built on XVII century as a botanical garden and was changed in XIX in a "romantic" one with a fascinating "ice house". The palace was the house of botanists as Lorenzo Patarol and Francesco Rizzo Patarol, of the aristocratic Giovanni Correr, the embassy of France and Savoia and in XX century a convent. Nowadays it is the luxury and very exclusive Boscolo Venezia.



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