

Saturdays
11.00
13.30

ROMAN GARDENS IN HISTORY

Guide: Francesco Cecchetti

Italian gardens are the starting point for modern garden architecture, in this perspective Roman gardens hold a special position. This course will explore Rome's history through its gardens and landscapes. We will go through crucial events through styles, art movements, historical characters, wars, places and ruins... This is not however a History course. This is an eclectic path through history of gardens and landscapes in the city organized in one lesson and four walks. Each one can be seen as a stand-alone-session or as a whole.

INTRODUCTION FEBRUARY 22

The architecture of gardens in Rome throughout history

A history of symbols - Gardens in Italy

Italian gardens are the turning point of a story that began centuries before the Common Era, while being at the same time the ancestors of our idea of garden, whether formal or extremely informal. We'll explore the architectural evolution of the roman (and italian) gardens, so that we'll get in touch with the secrets that lie behind them: their relationship with Art and Science, the similarities between styles and eras in terms of design choices, how those who stayed in the garden lived it? Choosing as a starting point how the Romans imagined and lived public parks, we will try to find those elements that came from India across Mesopotamia and reached the garden of Pope Nicholas III, the nucleus of modern Vatican Gardens. After that, the Renaissance, the Baroque Era, the shaping of our modern way of thinking. All within the garden walls

WALK I FEBRUARY 23

Cliffs, swamps and enclosures - from the Campidoglio to the Ghetto

In our culture the word garden can be traced back to the concept of enclosure. Rome is a city that host in themselves the contrasts of humanity: born from the fight between two brothers, grown up in clashes and forced unions with neighbouring peoples. Jupiter Capitolinus is the Jupiter Latialis subtracted from the Latin federation.

The eternal City built on a swamp, formed by many enclosures - sacred, political, cultural ones and among these the gardens. From the Suburra to the fortified villages of the Middle Ages, to the Ghetto, to Trastevere and the Leonine city up to the Sanjust Plan and today's borgate, Rome is a city where every neighbourhood seems to live its own life, animated by an elusive yet recognisable Genius Loci. We can therefore try to think of a history of the fences of Rome, whether them being gardens or not.

WALK II MARCH 9

Deities, Romanticism, cycle lanes - Parco della Caffarella

We'll retrace Rome through its iconic countryside landscapes. The Caffarella Park contains the fundamental elements of the Roman, classical and modern identity.

Nymphaeums, farmhouses, sheep, sacred woods and waters full of duckweeds; all of these elements can summarize in the same area centuries of images and cults, the relationship between people and gods. We can find out how these elements are still alive today, transformed and adapted for our vocabulary.



SCUOLA DEL VERDE

WALK III MARCH 23

Gardens are always exotic - a walk through Villa Doria-Pamphilj

The largest urban park in Rome contains in itself the elements necessary to explain how the gardens have evolved from being places symbol of power to pastimes. We start from the Arco dei Quattro Venti and will arrive at the Vaccheria: this route will show all the elements that have led from the Roman Horti to the baroque gardens and beyond, up to the present day

The route is therefore not just a story of Villa Pamphilj, but a story of how gardens have evolved through history, in contact with The Exotic, whether it were cultures, guilloches, plants and animals; important matters to think about the present times, given the centrality of ecological questions in our contemporary gardens and landscapes architecture

WALK IV APRIL 6

The mighty and the estates - Villa Alberoni Paganini and Villa Torlonia

What we call Nomentano neighbourhood, was once an area often chosen by prominent citizens of the Roman Republic, an area rich in villas and treasures, whose gardens and artefacts collected in them showed the eclecticism of those who lived there, as well as their power. Largo di Villa Paganini - we'll compare the roman rich people tastes and those of the modern era, explaining how Villa Paganini has evolved from its original form to the current one, from being a vineyard to the project designed by Raffaele De Vico.

Villa Torlonia - the Torlonia family passed from being wealthy parvenus to powerful nobles, contributing to the creation of one of the most eclectic and innovative parks of the XIX Century. It is a literary park, a place of power, but also a place where one can rest.

The tour will lead us to face the rage of Roland the paladin, we will discover how a garden can tell about naturalistic engineering and superheroes. The botanical collection witnesses the tastes of past eras and the problems of contemporary ecology, and is an occasion for reflection and discussion on the responsibilities of those who make gardens and those who care for them

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INTRODUCTION **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22** H. 18.00 – 20.00

WALKS FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 9 – 23 - APRIL 6

SATURDAYS H. 11.00 – 13.30

MIN 10 - MAX 30 PERSONS

CONTRIBUTION € 100 SINGLE WALK € 30

NOTE IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER THE WALKS WILL BE RESCHEDULED



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