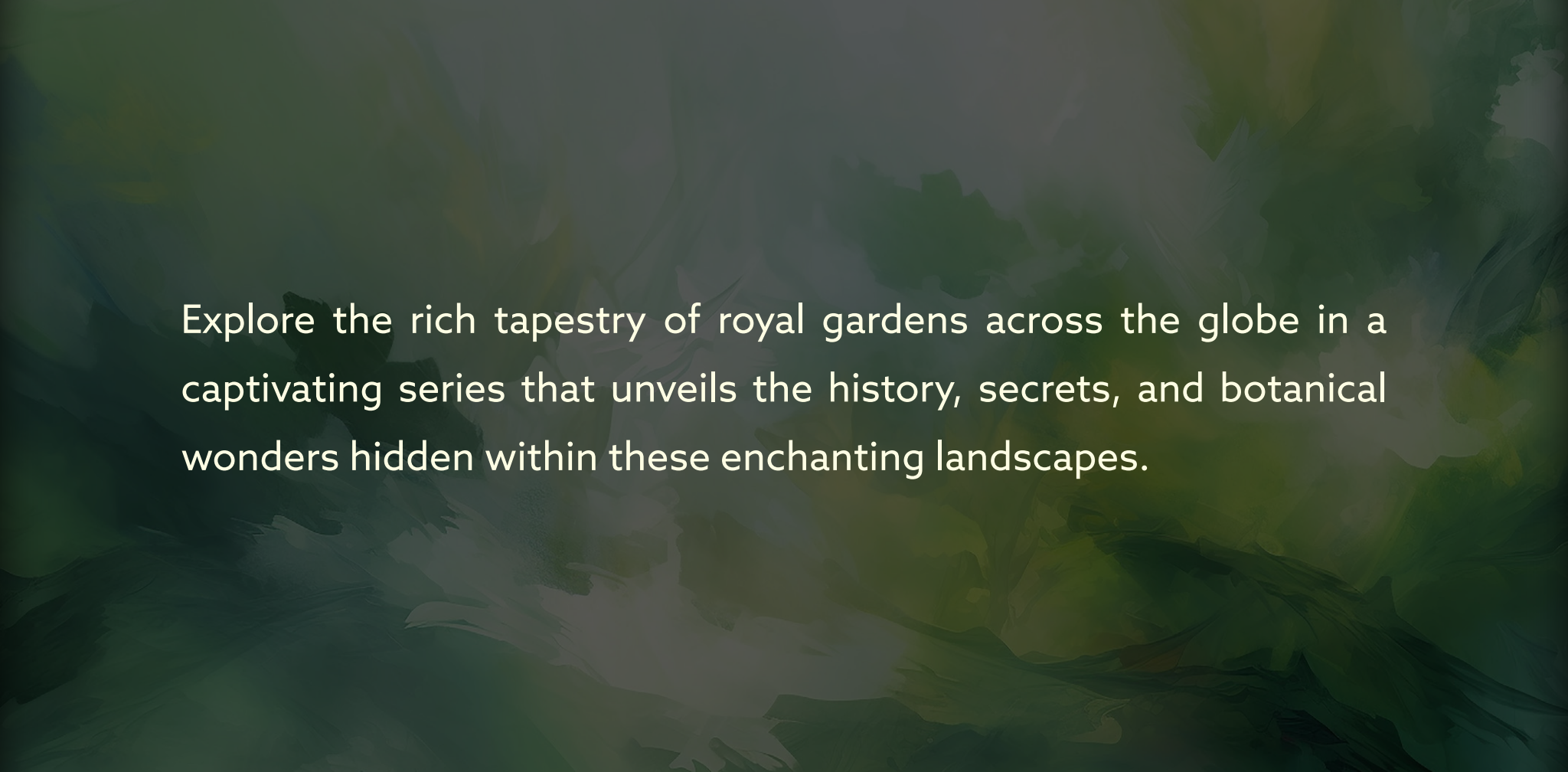




# Royal Gardens

6x60'

**BIG**  
MEDIA



Explore the rich tapestry of royal gardens across the globe in a captivating series that unveils the history, secrets, and botanical wonders hidden within these enchanting landscapes.



A peacock with vibrant blue and green feathers is perched on a white stone railing with intricate carvings. Below the railing, a stone fountain with a tiered base and a central spout is visible. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with green foliage and a blue sky. The word "SYNOPSIS:" is written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

## SYNOPSIS:

**Royal Gardens** is an enchanting new series that delves into the majestic and storied gardens of royal estates across the globe. Each episode unveils the secrets, history, and botanical wonders hidden within these exquisite landscapes. From the opulence of the Palace of Versailles to the historic grandeur of Sandringham Estate, the regal charm of Sanssouci to the lush oasis of the Botanical Garden in Banská Štiavnica and the captivating Hampton Court Gardens; viewers will embark on a visual journey through time and nature. The series will be hosted by a Botanist and a Royal Expert, providing insights and expertise across each episode. With contributions from renowned experts, historians, and garden enthusiasts, **Royal Gardens** promises a captivating blend of history, culture, and the breathtaking beauty hidden within these royal landscapes.

# Example ROYAL EXPERTS:



**Tracy Borman**

Author, Tudor Historian and joint Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces



**Victoria Howard**

Royal Commentator, Founder of Crown Chronicles and Expert on the British Royal Family and Royal History



**Lucy Worsley**

British Historian, Author, Curator, Television presenter and joint Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces



**Kate Williams**

British Historian, Author, Television Presenter and Professor of Public Engagement with History at the University of Reading



*Example*  
**GARDENING  
EXPERTS:**



**Mark Lane**

Landscape Designer, Columnist, Writer and Curator of the RHS-  
BBC Morning Live Budget-Friendly Garden at the Hampton Court  
Palace Garden Festival in 2023



**Advolly Richmond**

Garden, Landscape and Social Historian, Writer and Television  
Presenter



**Alys Fowler**

British Horticulturist, Journalist and Television Presenter



**Frances Tophill**

British Horticulturist, Author, and Television Presenter

An illustration of a peacock on a balcony. The balcony has a decorative railing with a repeating geometric pattern. The background is a dark blue sky with stylized clouds. The peacock is on the right side of the balcony, facing left. The text 'EPISODE LIST' is centered on the balcony railing.

# EPISODE LIST





# THE GRAND PARK OF THE PALACE OF VERSAILLES

In 1661, Louis XIV commissioned André Le Nôtre to create the iconic gardens of Versailles, a project that spanned over 40 years alongside the construction of the palace. The gardens, transformed from meadows and marshes, maintain their design through a century-replanting cycle initiated by Louis XVI and continued by Napoleon III and most recently in 1999 after a storm. The Grand Park of the Palace of Versailles, with its rich history involving rulers, religious leaders, politicians, and the French Revolution, holds many untold secrets.



## Contributors:

- **Catherine Pégard**, Head of the Public Establishment of the Palace, Museum and National Estate of Versailles.
- **Alain Baraton**, Head Gardener of the National Estate of Trianon, the Grand Park of the Palace of Versailles and Head of the National Estate of Marly-le-Roi.
- **Tony Spawforth**, Emeritus Professor of Ancient History at Newcastle University and author of "Versailles: A Biography of a Palace".





## SANDRINGHAM ESTATE

Nestled in the 8,000-hectare Sandringham Estate, Sandringham House features enchanting gardens shaped by generations of the Royal Family since 1863. Notable for Queen Elizabeth II's late-1960s influence, the gardens boast lush shrubbery, a woodland walk, and formal enclosed areas designed by Geoffrey Jellicoe in 1947. Recently, King Charles III announced plans to transform one of the lawns into an eco-friendly topiary garden.



## Contributors:

- **Jack Lindfield**, Head Gardener at Sandringham Estate.
- **Clive Aslet**, Architectural Historian and Journalist and author of "Landmarks of Britain: The Five Hundred Places that Made Our History".
- **Martin Woods**, Former Head Gardener at Sandringham Estate, current Gardens Project Manager at Sandringham Estate.





# SANSSOUCI

Built by Prussian King Frederick the Great as his summer palace, Sanssouci is often considered a German counterpart to Versailles. Initiated by Frederick in 1744, the transformation of a barren hillside into terraced vineyards resulted in three expansive terraces featuring a diverse array of fruit and wine varieties. Sanssouci Park, with 3,000 fruit trees and greenhouses cultivating oranges, melons, peaches, and bananas, reflects Frederick's vision and invites visitors to relive a bygone era of Prussian royalty amidst a remarkable fusion of architecture and landscape gardening.



## Contributors:

- **T.C.W. Blanning**, English Historian, former Professor of Modern European History at the University of Cambridge and author of "Frederick the Great: King of Prussia".
- **Jean Francois Bédard**, Associate Professor at Syracuse University's School of Architecture.
- **Clemens Alexander Wimmer**, German Garden Historian, Garden Planner, Author and Painter.





# BANSKA ŠTIAVNICA BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Botanical Garden in Banská Štiavnica, Slovakia, is a lush oasis preserving diverse plant species, established alongside the historic Mining Academy in 1762 by Empress Maria Theresa. Now used by local high schools, the Neo-Renaissance premises showcase architectural splendour. The garden, created for forestry education, features trees planted since the 19th century, including giant sequoias and cedar.



## Contributors:

- **Milan Augustín**, Art Critic, Cultural Historian, Columnist and Author of "The Last Judgment of the Štiavnica Miner".
- **Barbara Stollberg-Rilinger**, German Historian and author of "Maria Theresa: The Habsburg Empress in Her Time".
- **Alan Sked**, Emeritus Professor at LSE's Department of International History and expert on the Habsburg Monarchy.





# HAMPTON COURT GARDENS

In Hampton Court Palace, the gardens, initially shaped by Cardinal Wolsey in the 16th century and expanded by King Henry VIII, boast diverse styles like the Privy Garden and the Great Fountain Garden. The enduring legacy is embodied by the world's oldest and largest grapevine, the Great Vine, while the Hampton Court Maze adds an adventurous touch. Walked by queens such as Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard, these gardens offer an enchanting atmosphere where centuries of stories unfold with each step.



## Contributors:

- **Tracy Borman**, Author, Tudor Historian and joint Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces.
- **Mark Lane**, Landscape Designer, Columnist, Writer and curator of the RHS-BBC Morning Live Budget-Friendly Garden at the Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival in 2023.
- **Dr Terry Gough**, Head of Gardens and Estates at Hampton Court Palace.





# EL REAL JARDÍN BOTÁNICO

Established in 1755 by King Ferdinand VI, Madrid's Real Jardín Botánico uniquely serves as both a research institute and a botanical garden. Relocated in 1781 to its present Paseo del Prado location under King Charles III's orders, the garden endured challenges, including a cyclone in 1886. Recognized as an Artistic Monument in 1942, it stands as a testament to its historical roots, educational mission, and commitment to advancing botanical science.



## Contributors:

- **Ricardo Austrich**, Director of Landscape Architecture at BSC Group and Author of "El Real Jardín Botánico de Madrid and the Glorious History of Botany in Spain".
- **Alex Gómez López**, Expert in Bonsai Growing, Maintenance and Design, Tree Technician and Curator of Collections at El Real Jardín Botánico.
- **Anneli Bojstad**, Author of "Great Gardens of Spain" and International Expert on Spanish Garden History and Design.





# VILLA D'ESTE

Villa d'Este, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Tivoli near Rome, epitomizes the Italian Renaissance. Commissioned by Cardinal Ippolito II d'Este, son of Lucrezia Borgia, and designed by Pirro Logorio, the villa features a 4-hectare complex with a residential palace and renowned gardens. The gardens boast around a hundred masterful fountains, including the Fontana dell'Ovata and Bernini's Fontana del Bicchierone. A Renaissance art and architecture masterpiece, Villa d'Este is a testament to Cardinal Ippolito II d'Este's vision and grandeur.



## Contributors:

- **George Plumptre**, Chief Executive of the National Gardens Scheme, Garden Expert, Author and Journalist.
- **Deborah Trentham**, Art Historian, Architecture and Garden History and Historic Gardens judge for the Society of Garden Designers Awards.
- **Dr. Rocky Ruggiero**, Professor of Art and Architectural History and TV Specialist on the Italian Renaissance.





# SCHÖNBRUNN GARDEN

Schönbrunn's baroque garden, commissioned by Maria Teresa to assert power and rival Versailles, is a historic masterpiece. Built amid wars, the palace and gardens, featuring the iconic 'Vienna Yellow' colour, reflect the empress's resilience in ruling a vast empire and mothering 16 children. Notable elements include parterres, the Gloriette, and the 'oldest in the world' Tiergarten Zoo. Opened to the public in 1779, Schönbrunn stands as a symbol of order and authority. From Napoleon's headquarters to the Habsburg Emperor's 1918 abdication, the garden bears witness to the rise and fall of empires.



## Contributors:

- **Martin Mutschlechner**, Historian and Host of Imperial Impressions online video series for Schönbrunn Palace.
- **Elfriede Iby**, Historical Expert of Schönbrunn Palace and its interiors and Head of the Department of Research and Documentation of the Schloss Schönbrunn Kultur
- **Anna Mader-Kratky**, Art Historian and Local Editor of the RIHA Journal





# Royal Gardens

**BIG**  
MEDIA