

IX European Forum on Historic Gardens

DRAFT PROGRAM

"Historic Gardens Grow Europe"

Hosted by
National Gardens
(Athens, Greece)

October 7th-9th, 2026



European Route of
Historic Gardens
Itinerario Europeo del Jardini Storici
Itinerario Europeo de Jardines Históricos
Itinéraire Européen des Jardins Historiques

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



DAY 1 WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 7th

8.30-9:00 REGISTRATION

9:00-17:30

IX EUROPEAN FORUM ON HISTORIC GARDENS

Open to all interested parties, until full capacity
ERHG members (partners, collaborators, members of
the scientific committee), lecturers, guests, Acanthus
Prize winners, and partner candidates:

free attendance

Others: **50 euros** (in person attendance).

Attendance fee includes the guided visits planned for
October 8th and 9th

9.00-9.30 OFFICIAL OPENING
OF THE FORUM

9.00-9.15

Welcome by **Mr. Nikolaos Fournarakis**,
CEO of Green Athens, **Mr Haris Doukas**,
Mayor of Athens, **Mr Łukasz Przybylak**,
President of the European Route of
Historic Gardens

9.15-9.30

OPENING SPEECH

**Introduction of Western
Landscaping Schemes in Greece:
an Early Cultural Transfer** by Prof.
Dr Alexander Papageorgiou – Venetas,
Architect, Town Planner and Urban
Historian, Greece

9.30-15.00 GENERAL CONFERENCE:
“HISTORIC GARDENS GROW EUROPE”

9.30-9:50

Perceiving the Garden Heritage
by **Albert Fekete**, Hungarian Garden
Heritage Foundation; Institute of
Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning
and Garden Art Budapest, MATE,
Hungary

9.50- 10.10

**Reviving Athens' First Garden: Tending
the Legacy of Botanical Heritage
and Conservation** by **Apostolos-
Emmanouil Bazanis** (1), **Katerina Goula**
(2), **Theophanis Constantinidis** (3);
Department of Biology, National and
Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

10.10-10.30

**Growing Europe through Historic
Gardens: Building a Network across the
Medici Villas UNESCO Site**

by **Federica Bergamini** (1), **Claudia
Mezzapesa** (2); (1) Director Ville e Residenze
Monumentali Fiorentine – Ministero della
Cultura, Italy (2) Head of the Parks and
Gardens Department Ville e Residenze
Monumentali Fiorentine – Ministero della
Cultura, Italy

10.30-11.00

Coffee break

11.00-11.20

**Impacts and Strategies for Coping with
Climate Change in the Historic Gardens
of the State Palaces, Castles and Gardens
of Saxony** by Dr. **Claudius Wecke**, Head of
the Gardens Department at State Palaces,
Castles and Gardens of Saxony, Germany

11.20-11.40

**The Municipal Garden of Rethymno:
101 Years of History and Living Heritage**
by **Eftihia Alevizaki** (1), **Nikoleta
Gkolfinopoulou** (2), **Giorgos Papadosifos**
(3), **Panayiotis A. Nektarios** (4), Municipality
of Rethymno, Department of Green Spaces
and Urban Environment, Greece

11.40-12.00

**Restoration and Revitalization of
Historic Gardens in Croatia through
European Union Funding: Examples and
Experiences** by **Mara Marić**, University of
Dubrovnik, Department for Mediterranean
Plants, Croatia

12.00-12.20

Resilient and Circular Water Management for the Historic Domaine de Sceaux by **Kinga Grege**, Head of Unit Sceaux Estate Park / The Bièvre Valleys Promenade - Nature and Landscapes Directorate – Hauts-de-Seine Departmental Council, France

12:20-12:40

Palazzo Parisio: A Case Study of Maltese Garden Heritage by **Frederica Agius**, Curator at Palazzo Parisio and Lecturer at University of Malta, Malta

12.40-13.00

Growing Opportunities in European Historic Gardens through Digital Experiences by **Susana Silva** (1), **Paulo Carvalho** (2), Universidade de Coimbra, CEGOT – Centre of Studies in Geography and Spatial Planning, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Portugal

13.00-14.00

Lunch

14.00-14.20

From El Parc de Miramar to UNESCO World Heritage: The Legacy of Archduke Ludwig Salvator in the Serra de Tramuntana (Mallorca) and Its Implications for Heritage Tourism by **Júlia Roman Quetglas**, Professor at the Department of Historical Sciences and Theory of the Arts, University of the Balearic Islands (UIB), Spain

14.20-14.40

Balancing Heritage Conservation and Visitor Engagement in Historic Spa Towns: A Landscape-Based Approach by **Julia Nerantzia Tzortzi** (1), **R. M. Cristina Musacchio** (2), **María Stella Lux** (3), Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

14.40-14.50

Enhancing Historic Gardens through Cultural Experiences: The MERITA Platform by **Chiara Borghese** (1), **Bianca Traxler** (2); (1) Coordinator of MERITA platform, Le Dimore del Quartetto, Italy; (2) Executive Director, Le Dimore del Quartetto, Italy

14.50-15.00 Introduction to the panel

15.00-15.30

Coffee break

15.30-17.30 **PANEL: “HISTORIC GARDENS UNITED IN CHALLENGES. The Journey of plants and their impact in today’s identity of Historic Gardens: successful stories”**

15.30-15.40

The Journey of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants in Orthodox Monastic Landscapes by **Kristina Ilektra Maknea** (1), **Claudia Fabian** (2), **Nerantzia - Julia Tzortzi** (3), **Nikolaos Thymakis** (4), **Sofia Daskalopoulou** (5), **Adrian Constantin Asanica** (6); (1) Independent Researcher in Landscape Architecture and Urban Horticulture, Greece; (2) University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Romania; (3) Politecnico di Milano, Italy; (4) Hellenic Agricultural Organization Dimitra, Greece; (5) Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture/School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece; (6) University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Romania

15.40-15.50

**The Whispering Trees:
Digital Storytelling of the
Athenian National Garden**

Flora by **Aikaterina L. Stefi**
(1), **Konstantina Mitsigiorgi**
(1), **Danae Papageorgiou** (1),
Aikaterini Agorastou (2), **Nikolaos**
Christodoulakis (1); (1) Section
of Botany, Department of Biology,
Faculty of Sciences, National and
Kapodistrian University of Athens;
(2) National Garden of Athens,
Municipality of Athens, Greece

15.50-16.00

**Old Trees of Hungarian Historic
Gardens in Young Volunteering**

Hands by **Barbara Sólyom**,
Project Manager, Hungarian
Garden Heritage Foundation, MATE
University, Hungary

16.00-16.10

**Diversity and Significance of
Zugdidi Botanical Garden's
Introduced Plants** by **Larisa Tirkia**,

Professor of Biology, Head of the
Plants Collection Management
Section, Zugdidi Botanical Garden,
Georgia

16.10-16.20

**Monastic Gardens –
Unfulfilled Potential**

by **Katarzyna Hodor**, Architect
and Assistant Professor at the
Chair of Landscape Architecture,
Cracow University of Technology,
Poland

16.20-17.20

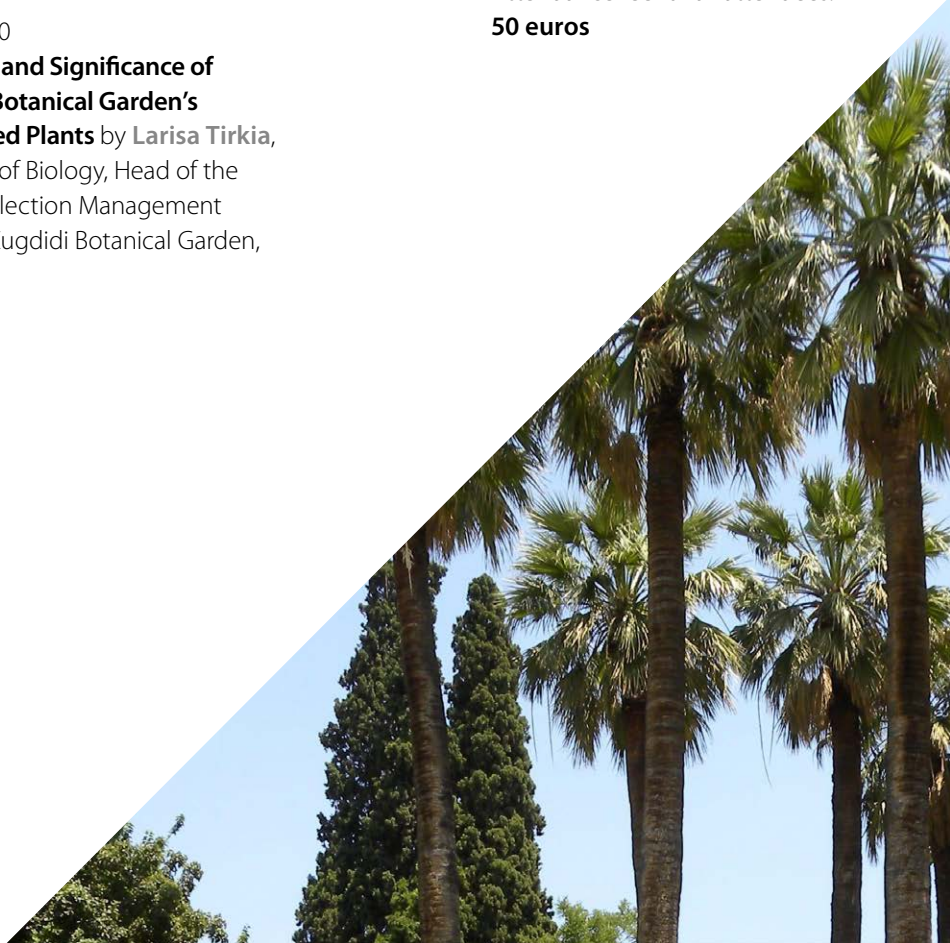
Round Table

17.20-17.30

Closing, by **Albert Fekete**,
President of the Scientific
Committee of the European
Route of Historic Gardens

17.30-19.00 **Visit to historic city center**
[Open to all Forum attendees](#)

19.30-21.00 **Optional dinner**
[Open to all Forum attendees](#)
Attendance fee for all attendees:
50 euros



DAY 2 THURSDAY

OCTOBER 8th

ERHG GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Venue: Serafeio Sports, Culture
and Innovation Center

Address: Ehelidon 19 & Pireos street 144 - Athens

9.00-9.30 **ERHG EXTRAORDINARY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

9.30-11.00 **ERHG ORDINARY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Only for ERHG members and
candidate members

11.00-11.30 **Coffee break**

11.30-14.00 **Workshops**

Only for ERHG members
and candidate members

14.00-15.30 **Lunch**

15.30-17.00 **Visit To National Gardens
of Athens**

Open to all Forum attendees

17.30-18.30 **MERITAcubed CONCERT
by New Cretan Quartet**

Open to all interested parties

20.30-23.00 **ERHG official dinner and
Acanthus Prize awards ceremony**

Open to all Forum attendees

ERHG members (partners,
collaborators, members of the
scientific committee), lecturers,
guests, Acanthus Prize winners, and
partner candidates:

free attendance

Others: **90 euros**

DAY 3 FRIDAY

OCTOBER 9th

HISTORIC GARDENS VISITS

Athens (Greece)

9.00-11.00 **Guided visit to Pikionic Landscape
of Acropolis and Philoppapos Hill**

Open to all Forum attendees

11.30-14.00 **Guided visit to the worldwide
landmark of Mediterranean
Gardening "Sparoza"**

Open to all Forum attendees



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**The European Route of Historic Gardens has been
a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe since 2020**

