





VICTORIA'S GARDENS IN TAORMINA

These delightful gardens form part of a fascinating 16th century agricultural estate, known as the Schisò fiefdom. The garden continues to evolve, with the recent installation of an ornamental garden, showcasing several flower collections, alongside the well-established orange and lemon grove, the Mediterranean garden with olives and Italian oaks, plants typical of the maquis, a bio-lake, a pomerium,

an orchard with a collection of ancient Sicilian fruit varieties.

This is an historic estate belonging to the same noble family for many years, and in doing so they continue, with each season, to care for its every changing landscape.

Visits are by appointment only.



OUR YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITIES

- Guided tours of about 2 hours in the company of Donna Vittoria Alliata dei Principi di Villafranca, owner and founder of the Gardens.
- Guided tour with gourmet picnic.
- Guided tour with lunch or dinner in the villa with the owner.
- Tastings of our local olive oils, honeys, wines and cheeses accompanied by other local delicacies.







SEASONAL ACTIVITIES

Our gardens offer a splendid framework for unique experiences.

Our offers include:

- * Olive harvesting and tasting.
- **Orange picking and marmalade making.
- Photography safaris of seasonal flowers and botanical rarities.
- Book launches.
- Painting workshops.
- Language courses.



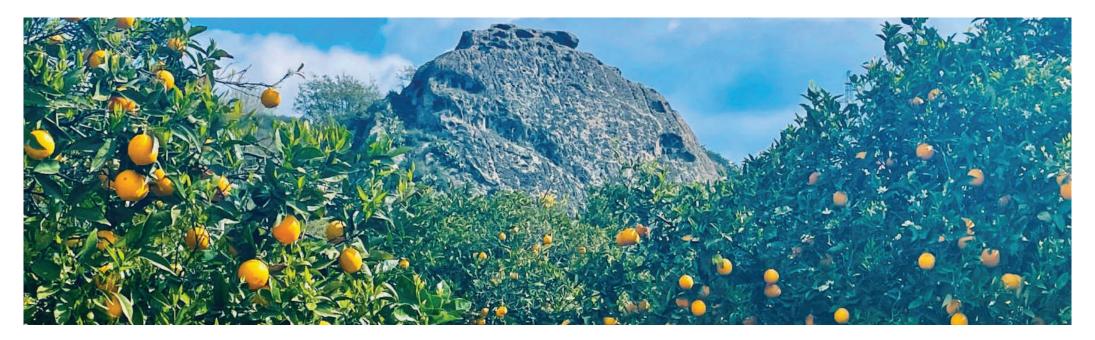


January, February and March: Storytelling around the campfire relating to plant mythology, history of the locality, the garden and an ancient lineage.

This is accompanied by tastings of prestigious Etna wines and local Gins with delicious local products and home-baked bread.

Charge € 70/90 per head, according to choice of wines and spirits.





Storytelling around the campfire: mythology, history, stories and traditions.





April: Garden visit enveloped by the heady scent of the citrus blossom (zagara)

- * Tasting of Sicilian citrus blossom honey.
- Lunch in the villa with a menu adapted to citrus blossom honey and citrus fruit (such as risotto with lemon and olive oil).
- Charge € 70/90 per head, according to the wines selected.





May: an ode to roses and the bio-lake

Guided tours with particular emphasis on the rose collection and flowering plants surrounding the bio-lake.

Lunch in the villa with the owner: € 70-90 per head, (according to the wines selected).

Yune: Guided tours immersed in a triumph of flowers with bougainvilleas, oleanders and many others

Lunch in the villa with the owner: € 70-90 per head, (according to the wines selected).





THE BIO-LAKE

The Bio-lake is an oasis created by water from the Alcantara river (whose name derives from the Arabic *al-Qantarah* "arch, bridge" referring to an ancient Roman bridge), fed by melted snow straight from Mount Etna. The water purification system is completely organic.

GIRDIII

A splendid host of flowering aquatic plants decorates the lake as well as an orange orchard with ancient olives, oaks, almonds and a Jacaranda avenue.

Cocktails, gourmet picnics

and other activities can be organised

around the Bio-lake.



October and November: the olive harvest.

Tasting the new oil from the Gardens and local extra virgin oils with other local specialities and products.

\(\psi\) Charge € 70 per head

GIARDINI DICTORIA

Above: Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca, the creator and owner of the Gardens next to a centenarian olive tree.



CHARGES

GIRDIII

Guided tours: € 15/person; minimum charge: € 60 (4 people)

Gourmet picnic: € 45/person without wine; from € 50 according to the choice of wine. Minimum charge: € 180.

Breakfast or lunch in the villa: € 65/person without wine and € 70/90 according to the choice of wine. Minimum charge: € 200.

¥ Etna wine tasting with local delicacies: € 70/90.

* Tasting of extra virgin oils with local delicacies: from € 70.



The Victoria Gardens are a part of the Grandi Giardini Italiani Network of gardens of excellence. www.grandigiardini.it





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