

## THE OLD CHARM OF THE WISTERIA AT VILLA DELLA PERGOLA

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With the coming of spring the gates once again open to Villa della Pergola at Alassio: **Guided tours** of this fine Anglo-Mediterranean garden, a rare example of its type in Italy, **restart on 14<sup>th</sup> March**.

The tours will run **through to the end of October** giving visitors the chance to admire the splendid flowering of the Mediterranean maquis and the exotic species that have been introduced to give the garden its unique appearance.

**The tours can be booked for Saturdays and Sundays at the starting times of 9.30, 11.30, 15.00 and 17.00. During the rest of the week visits can be arranged for groups only.**

**For Bookings: tel. +39 0182.646130 - [info@giardinidivilladellapergola.com](mailto:info@giardinidivilladellapergola.com).**

Facing Alassio bay, the grounds follow the natural lie of the hill which is terraced at different levels that are joined by the pergolas that give their name to the Villa. These pergolas **burst into life in the spring with the wisteria blossom**,

The collection consists of over **20 varieties with many forms and colours** (including *Wisteria brachybotrys* "Shiro Kapitan Fuji", *Wisteria floribunda* "Burford", *Wisteria floribunda* "New Blue Fountain", *Wisteria floribunda* "Nishiki", *Wisteria floribunda* "Lilac Rose", *Wisteria floribunda* "White Blue Eye", *Wisteria sinensis* "Jako", *Wisteria macrostachya* "Clara Mack", *Wisteria* "Nana").

The highly perfumed flowers were much loved by the Hanbury family that owned Villa della Pergola for nearly all of the twentieth century. In the post Second World War years, Ruth Hanbury used to organise the "Wisteria Festival" during the flowering season. Writers, journalists and old officials from the British Empire came from far and wide.

**The "Relais" suites at Villa della Pergola, where you can soak up a unique "fin de siècle" atmosphere**

# Made in Italy/now

12 MARZO 2015

**The "Relais" suites at Villa della Pergola, where you can soak up a unique "fin de siècle" atmosphere**

At the same time as the reopening of the gardens, the Villa della Pergola also opens the doors of the "Relais" from 14<sup>th</sup> March .

The Relais suites offer guest a quite unique opportunity to stay in a true **architectural masterpiece of the turn of the century**. Its history is intimately bound up with the life of the British community that chose this as their favoured shore side location to spend the winters in the years straddling the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Each of the thirteen suites is dedicated to one of the many historical personalities who stayed at Villa della Pergola, or who were members of the community of Brits in Alassio, evoking memories of that fascinating *fin-de-siècle* atmosphere.

## Opening times

The gardens are open with guided tours for visitors who book for dates from 14<sup>th</sup> March to the end of October on Saturdays and Sundays with tours from 9.30 to 11.30 and 3 until 5 pm.

Bookings can be made for groups for weekdays.

Guided visits can be carried out individually or in small groups, for a tour lasting around an hour and a half.

## Disabled access

Most of the garden's area are accessible to disabled persons. There are just a few areas that may be out of reach due to the lie of the land and the need to climb short flights of stone steps.

## Tickets

Entry tickets can be purchased on site and include the cost of a guided tour.

Single: 12 euro, FAI members: 10 euro.

Free for children up to 6 when accompanied by an adult. School students: 6 euro.

**For any further information** please contact:

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