



Welcome to Trauttmansdorff – Garden season 2025

We are happy to welcome you and your group on your visit to the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle and to the Touriseum. In this pamphlet you will find plenty of information you can pass on to your group when the coach arrives at Trauttmansdorff, so that everyone can fully enjoy their visit.

The admission ticket to the Gardens is also valid for admission to the Touriseum.

THE GARDENS OF TRAUTTMANSDORFF CASTLE

Covering a surface area of 12 hectares, the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle are home to plants coming from all over the world, planted on the slopes of a natural amphitheatre with an altitude difference of more than 100 metres. The result is a stunning view of over 80 garden landscapes present in the Gardens as well as the surrounding mountains and the spa town of Meran.

The Four Garden Worlds

The Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle are divided into four thematic areas:

- The Forests of the World with miniature forests of America and Asia
- The Sun Gardens with enchanting Mediterranean landscapes
- The Water and Terraced Gardens showcasing elements of European landscape architecture, with stairways and waterways
- The Landscapes of South Tyrol offering a view of the traditional cultivated landscapes of South Tyrol

Artist pavilions, experience stations and a highly varied fauna

Distributed throughout the Gardens are ten pavilions where the various themes of the botanical universe are artistically interpreted. There are also experience stations, such as the Viewing Platform designed by the South Tyrolean architect Matteo Thun, the Aviary, The Grotto with the multimedia show about the genesis of life, and the Adventure Bridge, just to name a few. The Gardens are also populated by a multicoloured fauna.

TRAUTTMANSDORFF CASTLE AND THE TOURISEUM

In the heart of the Gardens stands Trauttmansdorff Castle that today hosts the Touriseum, the Provincial Museum of Tourism that tells in a highly entertaining manner the 250 years of history of tourism in the Alps.

The Empress Elisabeth

The most famous guest at Trauttmansdorff Castle was certainly the Empress Elisabeth – also known as Sissi – who stayed at this mansion for many months in 1870 and again in 1889 as a place of retreat and relaxation. In 2008 a permanent exhibition was set up in the rooms once occupied by the Empress to tell the story of her visits to Meran and to Trauttmansdorff Castle.



TIPS FOR AN ENTERTAINING AND RELAXING VISIT

ORIENTATION IN THE GARDENS

Walking circuits and panoramic trails

The Gardens are visited by walking on four circuits or three panoramic trails along a slight incline, all efficiently signposted. The information signs present along the trails provide information about each single area of the Gardens. Together with the admission ticket, each visitor receives an info flyer and a general map of the area.

Barrier-free complex

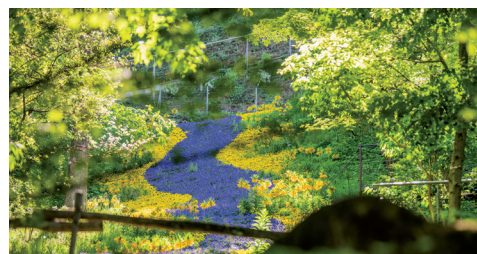
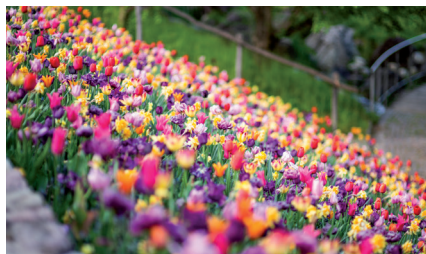
All of the walkways – except for the panoramic trail that leads to the “Matteo Thun’s Binoculars” – can be accessed by wheelchairs and children’s pushchairs. Not barrier-free accessible paths, are marked with a stairs or a wheelchair prohibition sign. The Water Lily Pond – at the heart of the Gardens - is just a few minutes’ walk from the main entrance. Even the castle and the restaurant are close to the main entrance and can be reached via two lifts A and B (after crossing the footbridge).

Many washrooms throughout the area

The grounds are well served by various rest areas, indicated on the information flyer and at every crossing. There are washrooms also at the Visitor Centre and after the footbridge (close to the main entrance) on the left. We suggest using the latter structure because the rest rooms of the Visitor Centre are usually crowded.

Where does what bloom?

The flora in the Gardens vary almost from one week to the next. On the day of your visit, you can check where the most blooming floral areas are located on the posters at the Visitor Centre or on the website www.trauttmansdorff.it.



TRAUTTMANSDORFF FOR EVERYONE

The Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle have something for everyone, garden lovers and botany enthusiasts as well as visitors who simply wish to enjoy a relaxing day or an invigorating walk.

Garden lovers

Take a leisurely walk through the Gardens and take in the rich variety of plants: the four walking circuits are on a very slight incline but allow to admire the surrounding mountain ranges.

Botany enthusiasts

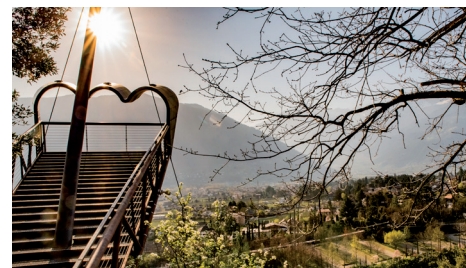
On a long walk, botany lovers will discover the many species of Mediterranean, exotic and native plants as well as ornamental, wild and crop plants plus various herb gardens. 80 information signs along the way describe the features of the various areas of the Gardens.

A relaxing day

The centre of the complex, i.e. the Water Lily Pond, is just a few minutes' walk from the main entrance and, together with the Palm Café and the comfortable deckchairs on the platform looking out onto the water, is the ideal place for relaxation, while the Castle, the Touriseum and the Schlossgarten restaurant with its panoramic terrace are easily reached with two lifts. The first lift is located on a passageway immediately after the footbridge. The second lift is reached after crossing the internal courtyard.

An invigorating walk (if you don't fear heights)

Physical activity enthusiasts will enjoy the scenic trails that have an elevation difference of 100 metres and will be compensated by a breathtaking panoramic view. If you do not fear heights, you can climb up the steps to the Matteo Thun Binoculars or venture out onto the 15 metre long runway of the aviary to admire the view of the Gardens, of the hollow with the city of Meran and the mountains in the close background.



TRAUTTMANSDORFF IN ANY WEATHER: OUR TIPS

On rainy days

Come and discover the magical atmosphere of our Gardens on a rainy day! The Glass House, the Grotto, the Botanical Underworld, the Tube Cottage and the many artist pavilions offer shelter from the rain. Also visit the Touriseum at Trauttmansdorff Castle and the current temporary exhibition.

Please note that access to the panoramic platforms is forbidden in bad weather conditions.

On hot summer days

On mornings, visit the areas of the Gardens located to the right of the footbridge and enjoy the shady areas of the woods (e.g.: Fern Valley with its refreshing waterfall), the air-conditioned Castle with the Touriseum and the Botanical Underworld that is kept at a constant temperature of about 18°C throughout the year.

EATING AND DRINKING

The Schlossgarten Restaurant

The restaurant (seating 140 guests) with its covered panoramic terrace (seating 200 guests) is located inside the Gardens, close to the Castle. It offers local and Mediterranean specialities with Spring, Summer and Autumn menus. The staff is committed to offering quick and courteous service so that the schedule of visiting groups can be respected without delays.

Reservation: info@schlossgarten.it / +39 0473 232350

Palm Café

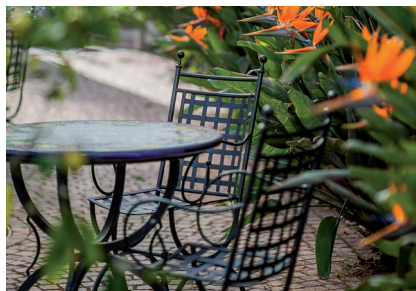
Located close to the Water Lily Pond, the Palm Café (seating 70 guests) offers an assortment of homemade cakes and desserts, tastings of regional cuisine and ice cream specials.

Drinking water

Within the complex, visitors will find fresh, high quality drinking water dispensed via drinking fountains, in the rest rooms and at the various drinking water distribution points. In addition, there is a dispenser at the Visitor Center with cool and sparkling water for refilling.

Rest areas and picnic areas

The many rest areas invite visitors to stop and rest, like the picnic area that is equipped with picnic tables and benches, the Sissi terrace, the platform on the Water Lily Pond, the South Tyrolean Vineyard, the Palm Beach, the Garden for Lovers and the terrace on the lake with comfortable deckchairs.



PLANNING YOUR VISIT AND OTHER INFORMATION

Parking

Coaches can park in the 9 free slots (P1) close to the main entrance. If the slots are occupied, coach drivers can allow the visitors to get off at the main entrance and then go park for free in the P3 parking area about 300 m away.

Fast entry for groups

The group entrance is located in the immediate vicinity of the P1 bus parking area. Please purchase tickets at the group ticket desk, distribute them to the group outside the Visitor Centre and then proceed to the entrance control together with the group. Online tickets purchased in advance (A4 paper printout or mobile devices) also allow the use of the group entrance.

Free entrance for coach drivers and tourist guides (with ID document)

Coach drivers and tourist guides (with ID document) can accompany the group for free (entrance and guided visit for free).

Did you book a guided tour?

The meeting point is in front of the visitor center. If you enter the Gardens earlier, you will be informed of the meeting point at the ticket office.

The guided visits of the Gardens are conducted in all weather conditions.

Please notify the ticket office (+39 0473 255620) about any delay in arrival on the day of the visit, otherwise the guided tour may not be available any longer.

Visit cancellation or visit date changes are allowed within 5 working days before the booked date.

Shop Trauttmansdorff

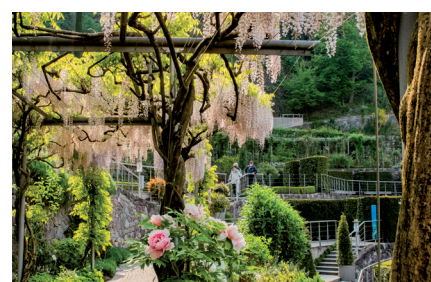
In the shop located at the Visitor Centre you will find souvenirs as well as the products of the Trauttmansdorff line consisting of herbal teas, herbal salts, etc., and the new garden book ideal as gifts or as mementoes of your Trauttmansdorff visit.

Dogs not allowed

Pets are not allowed to enter the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle because the Gardens are supposed to ensure cleanliness and safety. Unfortunately, due to organizational reasons, the presence of dogs and pets is not compatible with the works of the gardeners and of the many visitors.

Group rest

It is not allowed to set up tables and benches in front of the Visitor Centre and in any of the parking areas of the Gardens of the Trauttmansdorff Castle for visiting groups.



Emergencies

In an emergency, please contact any member of our staff.

International emergency number: 112

Please inform the ticket personnel by calling the internal emergency number +39 0473 255628.

We hope everyone enjoys an entertaining and relaxing visit of the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle in Meran!