

A photograph of Villa Reale di Marlia, a grand 18th-century villa in Tuscany. The villa is a two-story building with a light-colored facade and numerous windows with dark green shutters. In the foreground, there is a large, ornate garden featuring a central pond with a stone fountain, surrounded by manicured hedges, topiary, and vibrant red and pink roses. The sky is clear and blue.

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VILLA REALE

di Marlia

Marlia, Capannori
LUCCA

Villa Reale in Marlia

The Villa is considered to be one of the most important historic residences in Italy. In the 19th century, the Villa was home to **Elisa Bonaparte Baciocchi**, Napoleon's sister and Princess of Lucca. Only 8km from the historic centre of Lucca, the property extends over 16 hectares and features numerous gardens, botanic rarities and impressive architecture – a striking array of points of interest.

In **2015**, the new owners launched a significant programme of restoration works. Having fallen in love with the location, they took on the challenge of bringing Villa Reale in Marlia back to its former glory. A visit to the park will surprise and delight – a multitude of paths and gardens offer a huge range of picturesque viewpoints. Allow at least 1 or 2 hours for your visit to make the most of your time here and discover the gems inside the Park.



Visitor Map

GREEN THEATRE

The oldest Green Theatre in Europe. Its stage saw performances by internationally famous musicians and actors.

CLOCK HOUSE

Designed to house the stables, kitchens and other services areas, the building takes its name from the unusual six-hour clock.

WATER THEATRE

Waterfalls, fountains and gargoyles feature in this large scale, baroque style water feature.

VILLA REALE (OPEN TO VISITORS)

Refined historic residence in neoclassical style, now open to the public after the completion of restoration works commissioned by the current owners.

LOVER'S FOUNTAIN

TWIN BUILDINGS

Symmetrical, Palladian buildings which constitute the main visitor entrance to the Villa.

MOUND

CAMELLIA WALKWAY

One of the most important collections of historic camellias in Tuscany, with more than 40 varieties of *Camellia japonica*.

LEMON GARDEN

Spread over two levels, this garden features a 17th century fish pond and over 200 pots containing citrus trees.

LEMON HOUSES

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHAPEL

Dating from the 18th Century, the chapel is the burial place of the Bourbon-Capua and Pecci-Blunt families.

SPANISH GARDEN

Inspired by Spanish-Moorish traditions, this garden is reminiscent of the shapes and colours of the Alhambra.

SWIMMING POOL

Part of the estate dedicated to sport in the 1920s, the swimming pool features opulent Art Deco changing rooms.

PAN'S GROTTO

Unusual nymphaeum with curious decorations made from stone and limestone, dedicated to the god Pan.

BISHOP'S VILLA

Built on the remains of a medieval castle belonging to the archbishop of Lucca. Features a terrace with a striking view and an Italian-style garden.

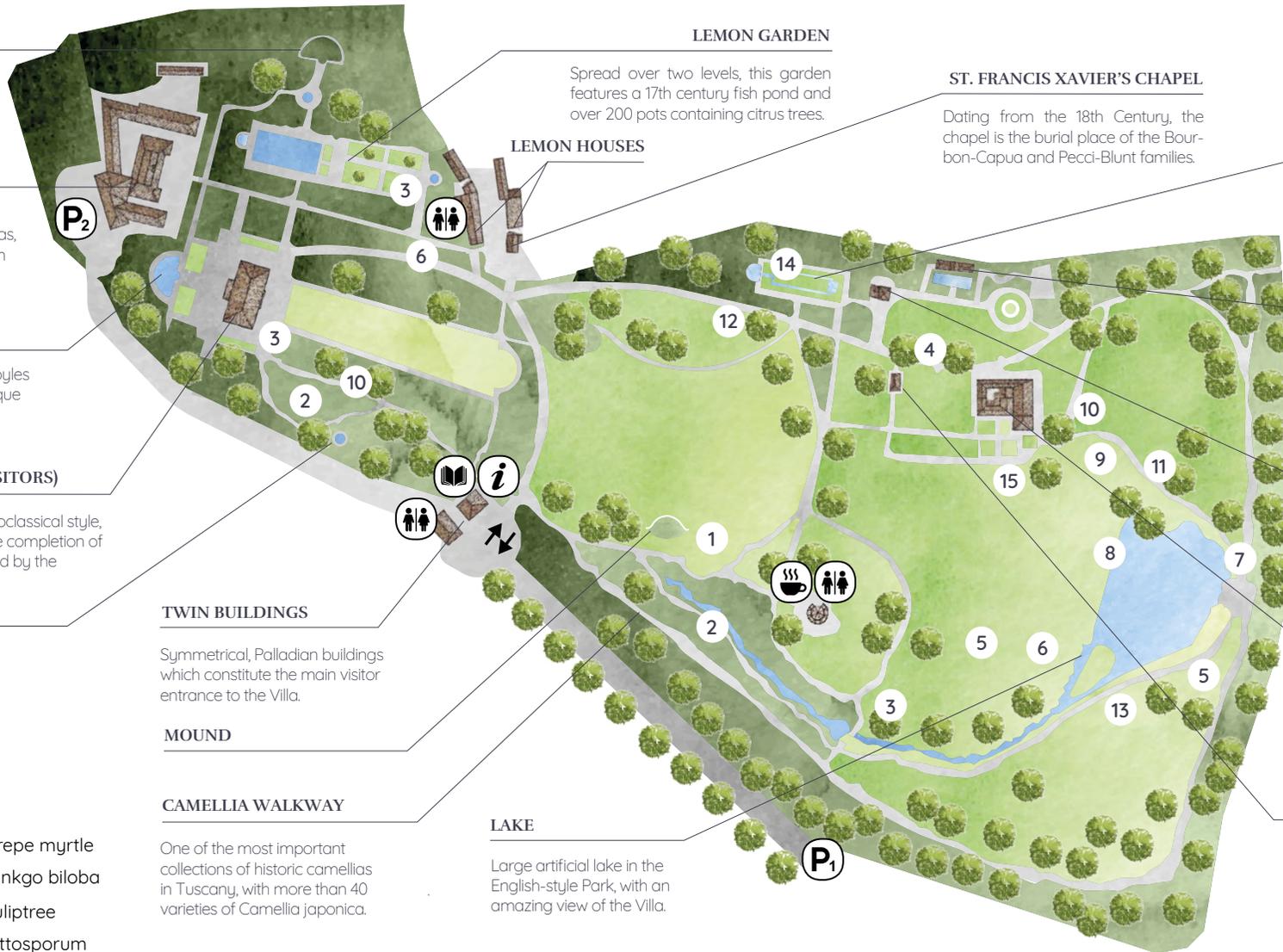
ORTHODOX CHAPEL

Ancient chapel converted in the 1800s to perform Greek orthodox ceremonies.

- 1 Mimosa
- 2 Camellia
- 3 Magnolia
- 4 Wisteria
- 5 Lime
- 6 Plane tree
- 7 Sophora
- 8 Weeping willow
- 9 Crepe myrtle
- 10 Ginkgo biloba
- 11 Tuliptree
- 12 Pittosporum
- 13 Liquidambar
- 14 Hibiscus
- 15 European nettle tree

LAKE

Large artificial lake in the English-style Park, with an amazing view of the Villa.





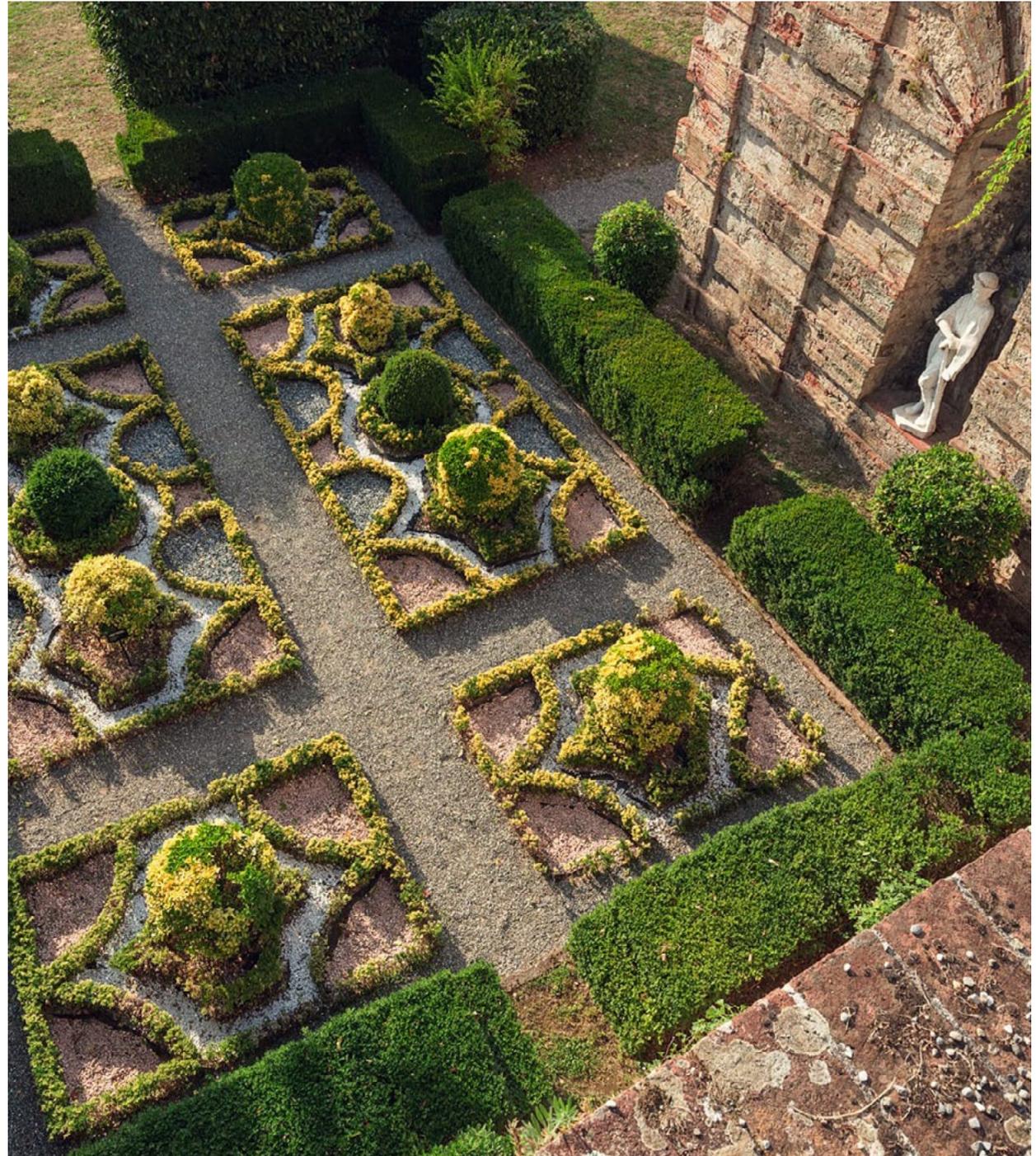
The Architecture

A variety of buildings from a range of eras are located across the estate. The majestic **Villa Reale** and the adjacent **Clock House** dominate the upper part of the park, and the central area features the **Chapel of St. Francis Xavier**, who was the protector of missionaries. Towards the south end of the park, you can visit the nymphaeum of **Pan's Grotto** and the oldest building on the estate, the **Bishop's Villa**.



The Gardens

The park is unusual for its number of gardens and styles. Following the route around the park, you can admire the **Italian Garden** of the Bishop's Villa, the **Spanish Garden** with its visible Spanish-Moorish influences, and the famous **Lemon Garden** with over 200 potted citrus plants. At the end of the route, enjoy the spectacle of the **Green Theatre**, where Paganini entertained Elisa Baciocchi on summer evenings.



The Water Features

Another unique element of the park is the presence of water in many forms. The Camellia Walkway is flanked by an artificial stream which runs into the Lake, while a little further on the striking 1920s Swimming Pool offers another distinctive view. The Lemon Garden features a historic fish pond, from which you can glimpse the Green Theatre fountain. The Water Theatre is particularly lively, with its unique architectural forms and waterfalls.



The Interiors

For the first time in history, Villa Reale has **opened Princess Elisa Baciocchi's private rooms** to the public, displaying their refined empire-style interiors, additionally to the **Clock House**, home to cultural heritage of the great collector and patron of the artes, the countess Anna Leatizia Pecci-Blunt.

Only 25 people at a time may enter into the museums.

Extra cost to visit the museums: €6 extra to visit the museums



The Café

This 1920s pavilion has found a new purpose as **Café Villa Reale**, where visitors can relax with a drink or snack in the shade in a stunning natural setting.

A perfect spot to take a break during your visit to the Villa and Park. The Café is open all day.



Useful Information for Tours

 **Strategic location:** 8 km from Lucca - 27km from Montecatini Terme - 30km from Pisa - 34km from Torre del Lago Puccini - 77km from Florence - 87km from Cinque Terre

 **Free Parking**

 **Visit duration:** usually 2 hours (with the possibility to stay longer)

 **Restaurants** with capacity for more than 40 people in the immediate vicinity

 **Payment in advance** is possible via bank transfer, or on location in cash or by card

We provide information **brochures**, and inside the Park there are information panels in 4 languages. We also suggest downloading our **app** onto your smartphone.

Tour guide service is excluded.

If you would like a guided tour, please contact the main association of qualified **Tour Guides** in Lucca.



How to Get Here



Opening Hours

FEBRUARY, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER:
weekends and holidays

MARCH- FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER:
everyday

Opening Hours PARK 10am - 6pm and

MUSEUMS 10:30am - 5:30pm

Please, consult our website for updated timetables:



Prices

	REDUCED*	STUDENT**
 PARK	9€	5€
 PARK + MUSEUMS	15€	10€

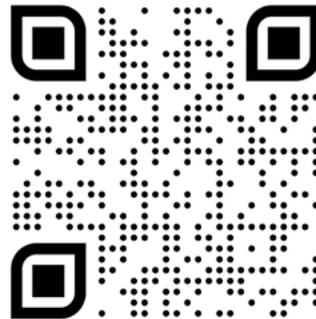
* Groups > 10 people

** School groups up to high school, free entry for teachers





Let us guide you! Download our free Villa Reale app
discover the gardens with video itineraries and the interiors of the Villa with our audio guide.





VILLA REALE
di Marlia

Via Fraga Alta 2, 55014 Marlia, Capannori (LU) Tel. +39 0583 30108

info@villarealedimarlia.it

www.villarealedimarlia.it

