

Park and Palace of MONSERRATE

PALACE of Monserrate

In 1856 the Palace of Monserrate was fully rehabilitated, under the supervision of English architect James T. Knowles, into the summer residence of the Cook family. Taking the ruins of Gerald de Visme's Neo-Gothic mansion as its starting point, the building is a unique example of the eclectic spirit of the nineteenth century

Palace of Monserrate © PSM | EMIGUS

MUSIC ROOM

A room with excellent acoustics, which exclusively occupied the building's northern tower. Dome in decorative plasterwork with gilded floral motives. Frieze with depictions of Apollo, the Muses and Saint Cecilia, among others.



1 MAIN HALL

Octagonal atrium with a Carrara marble fountain at its centre

2 STAIRWELL

Marble structure decorated with naïf ivy leaved pattern

3 INDIAN PANELS IN MARBLE

Marble jalis from the Jaipur region of India, 19th century, which served as screens in the western atrium and on the balustrade on the first floor of the central tower.

OPENING TIMES

		Last ticket
High season:		
Park	9:30 am - 8:00 pm	7:00 pm
Palace	9:30 am - 7:00 pm	6:15 pm
Low season:		
Park	10:00 am - 6:00 pm	5:00 pm
Palace	10:00 am - 5:00 pm	4:30 pm

PARQUES DE SINTRA MONTE DA LUA, S.A.

Parque de Monserrate
2710-405 Sintra
Tel.: +351 21 923 73 00
Fax.: +351 21 923 73 50
@ info@parquesdesintra.pt
www.parquesdesintra.pt
parquesdesintra



WILLIAM BECKFORD (1760-1844)

Novelist, art critic, bibliophile and an eccentric constructor (with Fonthill Abbey in Wiltshire, Britain being one example), renowned as the richest young Briton of his time; he made three visits to Portugal.

LORD BYRON (1788-1824)

English poet. A famous figure in the romantic movement and acknowledged as one of the greatest European poets. He visits the Estate in 1809 and praises its beauty in the poem "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage", this sparking widespread English interest in the site

1540

Construction of a chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Monserrate on the hill where the Palace now stands. The property belonged to the All Saints Hospital of Lisbon

1601

The property was leased to the Mello e Castro family

1718

Purchase of the Quinta by Caetano de Mello e Castro, "Comendador de Cristo" and Viceroy of India

1755

The Lisbon earthquake rendered the houses on the Quinta uninhabitable

1790

Gerard de Visme rented the property and built the first neo-gothic palace on the ruins of the old chapel

1794-1795

William Beckford rented and inhabited this property during his second visit to Portugal.

1856

Sir Francis Cook buys the restoration of the palace and the construction of the gardens

1949

The Portuguese State acquires the Estate and its Hunting Grounds, a total of 143 hectares



1995

UNESCO lists the Sintra Hills where Monserrate is located, as Cultural Landscape, World Heritage.

2010

Reopening of the restored areas of the Palace of Monserrate

THE BUILDERS OF MONSERRATE



GERARD DE VISME
English merchant holding the concession to import Brazilian teak. He was responsible for the construction of the first palace of Monserrate



FRANCIS COOK (1817-1901)
English textile millionaire, 1st Viscount of Monserrate and owner of one of the greatest private art collections in Britain. He conceived the present Romantic Palace and Gardens as a family summer residence



MAIN HALL DOME



Stucco-clad wood frame

South Tower
Francis Cook's private chambers

4 DINING ROOM



Room decorated in plaster and stencil, a technique very common in Britain. The adjoining pantry features an elevator for foodstuffs.

5 GALLERY



Corridor connecting the three towers of the palace. The illusion of depth is accentuated by the series of arches and columns

6 ENTRANCE HALL

Octagonal a hall composed by Gothic arches and pink marble columns

RENAISSANCE VENETIAN WELL-HEAD

Example of tiles used in planters

TRITON FOUNTAIN

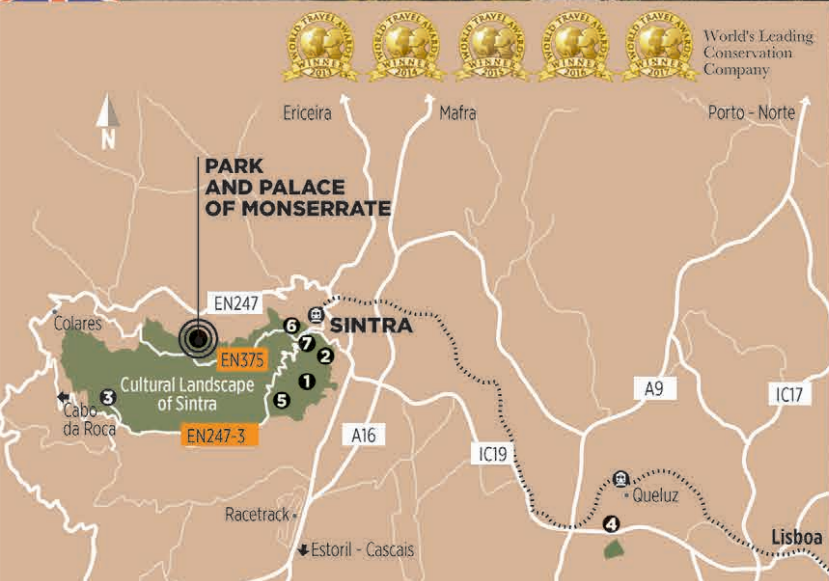
Example of tiles used in planters

HISPANO-MOESQUE TILES

Example of tiles used in planters

7 LIBRARY

Restored in 2008/9, with particular attention to the walnut shelves, the high relief door, and the decorative wall painting and wallpapers



PARK

of Monserrate

One of the finest landscape gardens of the romantic era, created by Sir Francis Cook. This ancient country estate with an area of 33 hectares contains a remarkable botanical collection of species from all over the world, successfully acclimatized and offering contrasting environments along winding paths, among ruins, secluded crannies, lakes and waterfalls

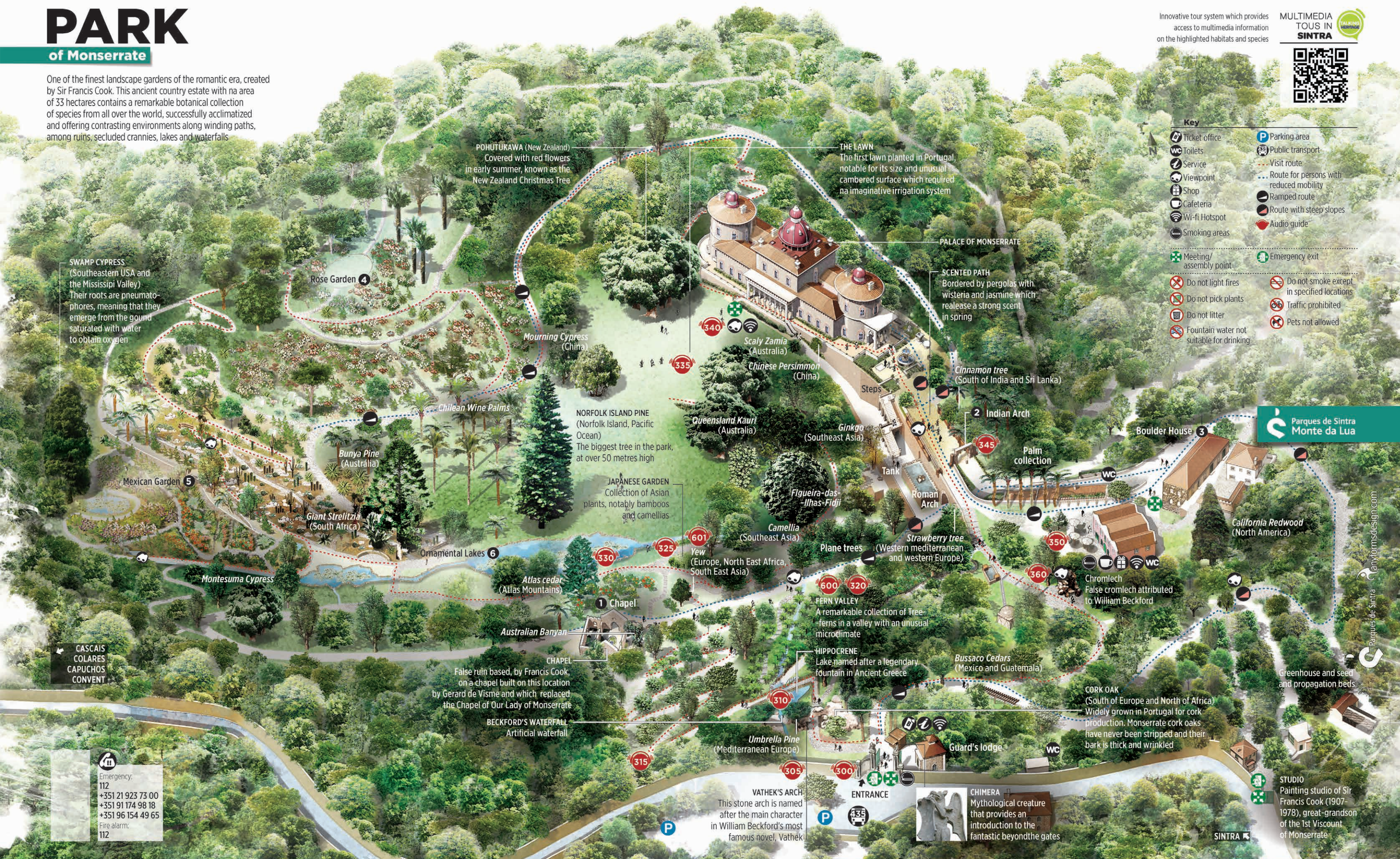
Innovative tour system which provides access to multimedia information on the highlighted habitats and species

MULTIMEDIA TOUS IN SINTRA



Key

- Ticket office
- Toilets
- Service
- Viewpoint
- Shop
- Cafeteria
- Wi-fi Hotspot
- Smoking areas
- Meeting/assembly point
- Do not light fires
- Do not pick plants
- Do not litter
- Fountain water not suitable for drinking
- Parking area
- Public transport
- Visit route
- Route for persons with reduced mobility
- Ramped route
- Route with steep slopes
- Audio guide
- Emergency exit
- Do not smoke except in specified locations
- Traffic prohibited
- Pets not allowed



Emergency:
112
+351 21 923 73 00
+351 91 174 98 18
+351 96 154 49 65
Fire alarm:
112

1 Sarcophagus

The niche in the chapel housed one of three Etruscan sarcophagi which served as garden ornaments. They are now deposited in the Archeological Museum of São Miguel de Odrinhas, in Sintra



2 Indian Arch

Ornamental arch acquired in India by Sir Francis Cook from Charles Canning, Governor-General of India, after the Indian Rebellion of 1857



3 Boulder House

The top floor housed the carpenter's workshop and the lower floor the oxen. Today it houses the head office of Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A.



4 Rose Garden

A collection of 200 historic rose varieties planted naturally in the valley. After complete restoration it was inaugurated by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall in March 2011



5 Mexican Garden

The hottest and driest area of Monserrate, created by the diversion of water away from the centre of the valley. It contains collections of plants from hot climates. Completely restored in 2010



6 Ornamental Lakes

The largest lake has areas of various different depths and different temperatures, creating the ideal conditions for a collection of exotic aquatic plants such as papyrus plants and water lilies



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