

Diverdeinverde – Open gardens of the city and the hillsides Bologna 17th-19th May 2019

Three days to discover that Bologna is a garden

In 2019 *Diverdeinverde – Open gardens of the city and the hillsides* is at its sixth edition. Once a year, during **the second last weekend of May, more than fifty private gardens** in Bologna are open to the public.

These are often **secret gardens** not visible from the outside, whose presence can be guessed even only by looking at the map of the historical centre on Google or by climbing the Asinelli tower; to enter these hidden places is often a magical experience.

So, among the many peculiarities that Bologna has to offer its tourists is also the chance to **discover a Bologna that is surprisingly green**. Being welcomed by the owners in their private spaces maintained with great love and care, who generously open these spaces to the public only on this special and unique occasion, is definitely worthy of attention for those who plan a trip to the city. The tourists can walk under the arcades or in the narrow medieval streets of the historical centre and combine more interests: moving from a garden to another they can visit some of the most beautiful churches (Santo Stefano and Santa Maria dei Servi), enter in the Music Museum (Museo della Musica) or in what was the home-atelier of the painter Giorgio Morandi. They will have the chance to discover the gardens of the senatorial palaces, those of the former people's houses (transformed from places which used to be vegetable gardens and poultry houses up to fifty years ago into green spaces differently revisited according to the owner's taste), the former conventual gardens and those still in use. Outside the city centre, reachable by public transport or by a dedicated shuttle bus, villas, gardens in the hillsides and other unexpected places can also be visited, created by the owners' passion (collections of magnolias, zen gardens, sculptures and works of art scattered in well-kept spaces).

During the three days, *Diverdeinverde* also offers some side events (concerts, readings, meetings) on the subject in places of charm or in the logistics base of the event that is located at the Arena Orfeonica, which previously hosted a convent. Here you can stop to rest or eat and meet other plant and garden lovers or simply people who are curious about the event in a

pleasant environment that allows you not to interrupt the magic of the day visiting the gardens.

The complete programme with the map of the gardens open to the public as well as the visiting hours of each space and calendar of the collateral events will be available in mid-April. The **visiting hours** are, in general: Friday 17th May from 3 to 7 pm; Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May from 10 am to 1 pm and from 3 to 7 pm, with some locations open all day. Access to the gardens requires the purchase of a **nominal card** costing \in 10 in advance by Thursday 16th May, and at a full price of \in 12 from Friday 17th May until the end of the event; children under 13 years old can enter the gardens for free.

Diverdeinverde is organised by the Fondazione Villa Ghigi of Bologna, which has been active for over thirty years in the field of environmental education, in collaboration with Silvia Cuttin. It takes inspiration from the Open Gardens Days events that have been proposed for many years in London and Amsterdam.

The event has the patronage of: Municipality of Bologna, Bologna Welcome, IBACN Emilia-Romagna, University of Bologna, Chamber of Commerce, Confcommercio-ASCOM, Confesercenti, FAI (Italian Environment Fund), ADSI (Italian Historic Residences Association), AIAPP (Italian Landscape Architecture Association).

http://diverdeinverde.fondazionevillaghigi.it - https://www.facebook.com/diverdeinverde Info: diverdeinverde@fondazionevillaghigi.it - tel. 051.3399084/3399120

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