

Historic Fruit and Kitchen Gardens
Newsletter number 9, November 2024
Special issue World days of the art of espalier

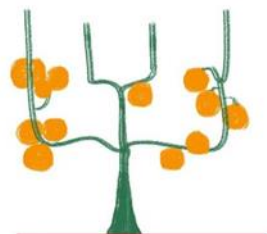



Espaliers at Potager du Roi ©Jacques Beccaletto

Join us in the organization of the first world days of espaliers and in the meeting of the organizing team on January 30, 2025.

Reminder: don't miss our online conference on November 29 on Nordic kitchen gardens and slow flowers.

Invitation to join the organizing team of the World days of the art of espaliers



**World days of the
art of espalier** 
**Journées mondiales de
l'art de l'espalier**

You are cordially invited to the meeting of the World Espalier Days organizing team, that is scheduled on **January 30, 2025 at 17h (Continental Europe time) English -French** with simultaneous translation. Please join by using this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84060617494>

The art of espalier - trees trellised against a wall (espalier stricto sensu), trees trellised against a free-standing structure, and trees conducted in small volume forms - is an art practiced throughout the world. It is an intangible heritage that has been developed over the centuries through the multitude of little inventions made by gardeners. Since 2023, this heritage has been part of France's intangible cultural heritage, and we hope it will be included in UNESCO's list of intangible cultural heritage in the future. It is a heritage we have often come across in the European symposium for the conservation of historic fruit and kitchen gardens. It is also a living heritage that can provide solutions to today's challenges: espaliers, for example, can help reintroduce fruit trees to urban and peri-urban environments, thanks to their small volume.



Apple trees in espaliers at Gaasbeek © Alix de Saint Venant

That is why we have decided, along with a number of European and American colleagues, to organize two weekends a year to celebrate the art of espalier.

The dates chosen for 2025 are: the first weekend in March - dedicated to winter pruning (March 1-2, 2025) and the third weekend in September (September 20-21, 2025, voluntarily on the same weekend as the European Heritage Days) - dedicated to the fruits that are the real reason to practice the art of espalier.



Fan trained pear trees at Wisley © Jim Arbury

It goes without saying that each partner in each country will organize these days in the way that seems best suited to their specific environment. The organizing team's sole aim is to build up a network of espalier enthusiasts and enable them to exchange ideas on the activities that could be proposed during these days... and on their shared passion!



Espalier plum tree in winter at Dekema State, Jelsum, The Netherlands.

You will find more information on the World days of the art of espalier and on the art of espalier on the website [l'art de l'espalier](#)

Reminder: don't miss our next online conference on Friday afternoon November 29, 2024, 14h - 16h (13 – 15h UK time).

To receive the link to the webinar, please write to amisdupotagerduroi@yahoo.fr



Rosendal Manor near Bergen, Norway

Nordic kitchen gardens and slow flowers

Ever wondered what is typical about a Nordic kitchen garden? You will hear all about it from Joakim Seiler, head gardener of Gunnebo House and Gardens near Göteborg (Sweden) in our next online conference. Joakim will also talk about the reconstruction of two kitchen gardens at Gunnebo Gardens several years ago. Since a few years only seasonal, locally grown flowers are used at Gunnebo House. Responsible for this transition and for growing slow flowers in the kitchen gardens is gardener and florist Viola Johansson. Why grow slow flowers and how can you decorate the house, once the flowering season is over? Viola has some interesting answers.



Fast flowers at the Royal FloraHolland flower auction ©VisitAalsmeer



Slow flowers at Gunnebo Gardens @Gunnebo House



Gunnebo House and Kitchen Gardens ©Gunnebo House

At Bergen, Norway, the kitchen garden of Rosendal Manor was recently restored. Annegreth Dietze-Schirdewahn, Professor at the School of Landscape Architecture of the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, was closely involved with this restoration and will tell us about conservation issues that Rosendal faces. An important issue being the choice of (historic) plants to use.



The gardens at Rosendal Manor ©Rosendal Manor

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