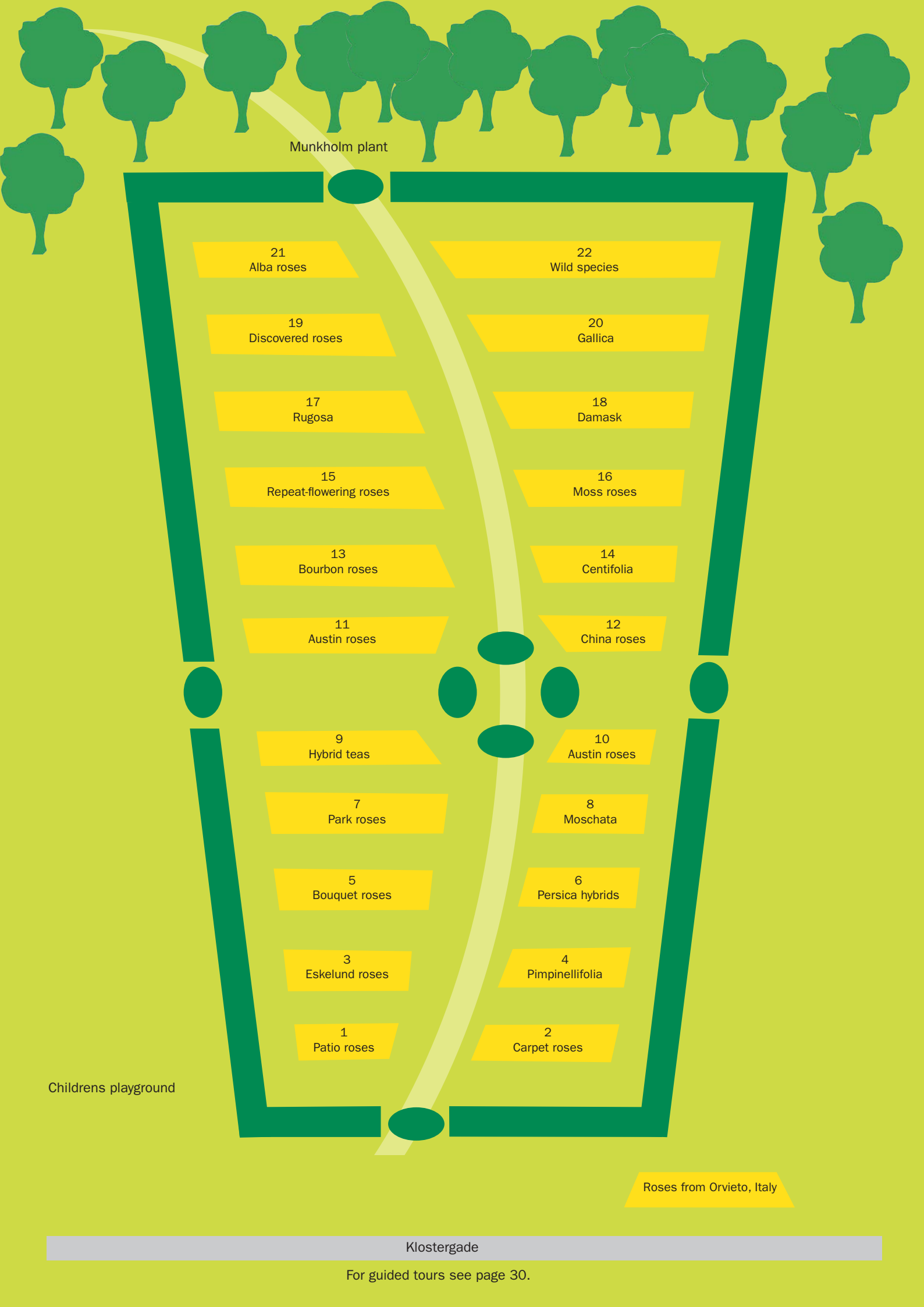




The Rose Garden in Mariager

*A rosarium with roses dating from
BCE to the present day*





Munkholm plant

Childrens playground

Roses from Orvieto, Italy

Klostergade

For guided tours see page 30.

Preface

Mariager, one of Denmark's smallest market towns today, has been known as the 'City of Roses' since 1912. It is alleged that it was the director of publishing, author and journalist Peter Nansen, who came up with the idea of naming Mariager the 'City of Roses'. Peter Nansen had been literary manager of the Gyldendal publishing house for twenty years. He loved Mariager, which he visited – and for the last time – while seriously ill in 1918. He died during this stay, at the age of 57.

A number of other poets had also fallen in love with Mariager at that time, including Nis Petersen who called Mariager “the world's most wonderful little town”. However, the idea of the 'City of Roses' was brought to life by Gudmund Effersøe, a district doctor who loved roses. He took the initiative of planting approx. 250 roses along the city's streets. The rose population has increased considerably, and today Mariager can undoubtedly call itself the 'City of Roses'.

The desire to promote Mariager as the 'City of Roses' has advanced in a lot of ways throughout the years. However, the first occurred when Mariager's former mayor, Erik Kirkegaard Mikkelsen, together with the CittaSlow organisation, which Mariager had become a member of, took the initiative to include part of the former agricultural fair/campsite to form a rose garden/rosarium.

The area was transferred to Mariager in 1977 by the private association, *Klostervænget* with a clause stating that it may not be built on. Since then, it has remained a grass area with a public playground in one corner. The area is perfect for a rose garden. It is located in *Klostergade* on the outskirts of Mariager and creates a beautiful entrance to the historic pleasure gardens of Munkholm.

Financing of the project has been provided entirely by *ELRO Fonden*, without which the project would never have been completed. The entire construction phase was carried out exclusively by volunteers, and local rose expert, Eskild Skau was responsible for purchasing approx. 800 roses and preparing planting plans for each and every rose. A special thanks goes to these volunteers.

I am sure that everyone will have a positive experience when visiting the rose garden. And while older visitors study the many different roses, the younger ones can play in the playground. And then everyone can come together to enjoy their packed lunches in the lunch huts.

I hope everyone has a great time.
Municipality of Mariagerfjord, June 2016

Mogens Jespersen
Mayor



A journey through Mariager's rose garden

It's been a challenge to design a garden, or rather, a rosarium, with as many different roses as possible in the given space. The vast majority of parks around the world show so-called historical roses in rosariums, while the more recent breeds (from the last 125 years) are reserved for actual rose gardens with few varieties planted en masse.

In Mariager, we have decided that old and new should go hand in hand. We have created a garden that presents the magnificence of the rose family from the very beginning to the present day. The entrance from the car park is adorned with an arch of two beautiful climbing roses. They are both Danish and highly prized for their beauty and fine fragrance. Poulsen Roser developed 'Grand Award'. Rosa Eskelund developed 'Our Last Summer'. Spreading at the foot of these two new roses is 'Rosa Sancta', which is proven to be the world's oldest cultivated rose hybrid. It was found in the tomb of a Pharaoh king dating back to 60 CE, in the form of a rosary bound with flowers in bloom.

Within the scheme of this 2,000-year timeframe, visitors can experience the garden at its best with 22 themed areas surrounded by an outer edge of climbing roses, bush roses and bouquet roses. Each rose in the garden has a sign indicating its name, the breeder and year it was bred.

No other plant genus has as much cultural history. Roses have always been the subject of noble cultivation and admiration, and to a large extent, their names carry stories about royal houses, wars and much more. This, of course, applies in particular to 'historical' roses. But these days, roses are named after personages and celebrities such as Danish actor Ghita Nørby, Spanish tenor José Carreras, Danish author Karen Blixen, American singer-songwriter Barbra Streisand etc. Many variety names also relate to a locality or city, e.g. 'Mariager Rose'.

Viewed from the entrance, the garden is built as a rosarium. Starting with the most recent, and ending with the oldest rose groups and wild species – the origin of all that has since been created.

I would like to express my gratitude to Erik Kirkegaard Mikkelsen and the volunteer helpers. In addition, a big thanks goes to the plant nurseries that were involved for their commitment and patience. The garden would not have been created without these efforts.

*Eskild Skau
Rose expert*



The friezes of rose images show only a small selection of the planted roses in each bed.



BED NO. 1

Patio or Miniature roses

The China rose (*R. chinensis*) 'Ponpon de Paris' is the ancestor of this new group of garden roses. Back in the 1930s, Pedro Dot in Spain and Jan de Vink in the Netherlands began to cross the China rose with other groups, primarily bouquet roses. As a result, Pedro Dot created the early variety 'Perla de Alcanada', which is still considered by many to be a genuine China rose.

The process of developing patio roses diminished in the 50 years that followed. But in the 1980s, comprehensive cross-breeding work began, accelerated by the growing need for low-growing roses for the gardens of detached houses. Well-known breeders such as Poulsen Roser (DK), Kordes Rosen (DE), Meilland (FR), Tantau (D) and Moore (US) came to the forefront. Patio roses are characterised by: their low bush form; their height (rarely taller than 40cm); a great number of full flowers; and their propensity for repeat flowering. Patio roses can be found in every colour of the rose family. They only need a bit of fertiliser and pruning can be carried out by completely cutting the bush back by a few centimetres in July. This starts new and rapid repeat flowering, which lasts until the frosts sets in.

Everyone is familiar with roses in small pots in windowsills. Supermarkets sell unnamed varieties by the millions and they are actually a waste product of patio rose cultivation. During the process, new plants are pruned to create tighter branches. This results in a lot of cuttings, which in a controlled greenhouse operation, can quickly develop roots and be ready for sale in pots after only six or seven weeks. Two Danish companies, Poulsen Roser and Rosa Eskelund have between them 75% of the global market share for these small windowsill roses. Kordes Rosen from Germany has used patio roses in the garden's bed, which have proven to be hardy and healthy. 'Tribble Hit' from Poulsen Roser and 'Perla di Alcanada' have also been planted in between, whose genes are in almost all varieties that developed later.

Charmant | Zweigenfee | Perla di Alcanada | Tribble Hit | Sonnenröschen

Little Sunset | Coco | Mandy | Lupo





BED NO 2

Carpet roses

The term is not an adopted rose group, rather an indicative description of the use of roses and, used in most nurseries, often referred to as ground cover roses. They are called Kleinstrauchrosen (translation: small shrub rose) in Germany, which is a really good term because they are characterised by low bushes with broad growth and lush flowering that make the plants suitable for covering open areas between perennials and under large bushes.

These roses have the most complex cross-breeding conditions, and they are most likely to be found as members of other roses groups such as bouquet roses and patio roses. In general, they have large numbers of quite small flowers, full and some on bushes up to a metre tall. Fragrance is not their biggest virtue, but they continually offer repeat flowering until the frost comes.

Virtually all rose breeders have worked with these roses. The most famous are from Poulsen, McGredy, Tantau, Meiland and, in recent years, Rosa Eskelund in Denmark. Many people like to propagate from cuttings, as own-root roses take a bit longer to grow compared to grafted roses. But the upside is that they are more winter hardy. Carpet roses should never dry out and they require plenty of fertiliser. Pruning is carried out in the spring by removing dead material. The middle of April or, if you have to be guided by the order of nature, when the birch tree leaves are the size of mouse ears (house mouse).

Candy Cover | Sea Foam | Viking | Linnaeus Cottage | Lavender Cover | Bassino | Flaming Cover

My Story | Amber Cover | Leonardo da Vinci | Butterflies Cover | Fairy Dance | Gentle Cover | Summerwind





BED NO 3

Fantasy roses

Called 'Rose Apart's' in France, 'Kabaalrozen' in the Netherlands, and 'Impossibles' in the USA. They can be bouquet roses, hybrid teas and regular bush roses. Climbing roses too. What these roses have in common is that there is no officially agreed group for them, and they each in their own way break all the rules on how a rose should look. They are the experimental playthings of dedicated rose breeders.

With their extremely complicated cross-breeding process, they often take up to 20 years to develop, and many of them are sensitive and only suitable for greenhouse cultivation. The French breeder George Delbard has probably made the most progress in this specialist area. His so-called 'painter roses' are all named after famous Impressionist painters and the flower petals themselves look as though they've been painted with a wide paint brush in shades of striking colours. In the United States, Tom Garruth has created spectacular, almost frivolous varieties in striped and single-coloured versions. In Holland, gardeners have developed tulip-like roses in unique colours for florists' bouquets. And in Belgium, Martin Vissers has created the wonderful bluish, dark bordeaux-coloured hybrid tea, 'Minerva'. Even the usually conservative company, Tantau couldn't stop itself from developing 'Twice in a Blue Moon', an almost a two-tiered rose flower, which is blue-purple in colour.

Nursery owner Ole Hviid Jensen has selected a number of varieties, which he believes are hardy enough for the Danish climate. If successful, this bed will probably be the garden's most visited, as the peculiar roses naturally invoke some curiosity.

The bed must never go without water, and it needs plenty of fertiliser. Conditions for pruning vary according to which group the individual variety belongs to (hybrid tea, bouquet rose, park rose). Pretentious rose people wrinkle their noses and call these creations 'showy roses'. The same was said about repeat-flowering roses 150 years ago, and nobody would even think about denouncing them today.

Maurice Utrello | Minerva | Henri Matisse | La Rose de Petit Prince | Hanky Panky | Alfred Sisley | Camille Pissaro

Guy Savoy | Twice in a Blue Moon | Strike it Rich | Midnight Blue | Claude Monet | Hot Chocolate





BED NO 4

Pimpinellifolia

This group originates from the wild species, *R. spinosissima*. It was already known as a wild-growing variety in Scotland in the 16th century. They were metre-high bushes with simple flowers in different shades of light pink and one with red flowers. At the start of the 19th century, a few Scottish brothers decided to cross-breed these natural hybrids with each other. The result was almost 200 different varieties with more or less full flowers, all rich flowering, fragrant and summer flowering over a relatively short period of time. Many produced black or brownish rosehips.

The salad herb, Pimpinelle is called 'Burnet' in English, and the leaves are reminiscent of those on rose bushes. Therefore, the early varieties were called 'Burnet roses'. They soon gained popularity but fell into oblivion just as quickly, as hybrid teas saw the light of the day and totally dominated the market. Around 1930, Wilhelm Kordes from Germany dug the Burnet roses up again and cross-bred them with the hybrid teas. This work resulted in the still very popular 'Frühlingsrosen'. They were bush roses that grew two-and-a-half metres tall, with rich summer blooming and were fragrant. Others experimented – most notably Valdemar Petersen from Denmark who created 'Aicha' with its simple, creamy-yellow flowers with slight repeat flowering.

Burnet roses are generally easy to grow. They grow in all sorts of soil and look after themselves, but like a bit of fertiliser. No pruning, unless it's to give the bush some shape or to remove dead branches. Rose gardener, Knud Pedersen has been working with this group for 25 years to see if it's possible to create low-growing bushes with repeat flowering. This work is still ongoing but there are signs of success. From a rose breeder's point of view, this would be a global sensation and would certainly result in a completely new rose group. Thanks to the close collaboration with Knud Pedersen, who created the garden's Pimpinellifolia bed, the garden can give pride of place to three of Knud Pedersen's trial roses. They are closely monitored to assess their characteristics and durability and represent a future in rose development. Some of the tall Burnet roses are planted in the borders, including 'Aicha' and 'Frühlingsduft'.

Namdalsrose | KEP 3 | KEP 2 | William IV | Falkland | Stanwell Perpetual
(Williams Double Yellow)

William III | Double Blush | KEP 1 | Double White | Prairie Peace | Alberta Bouquet





BED NO 5

Bouquet roses

Polyantha and Floribunda are the two rose groups that are usually marketed under the description of 'bouquet roses'. This development started at the end of the 19th century when French breeder, Guillot cross-bred the Japanese *R. multiflora* with different China roses and therefore created a bush that presented its flowers as bouquets through the foliage. It was challenging work because the hybrids were sterile except for a single fertile seed from which Guillot managed to create several varieties, the first in 1870.

The Danish breeder Svend Poulsen worked with the new hybrids as well and created the 'Ellen Poulsen' variety, which in addition to being a popular variety to this day, has been the most widely used hybrid rose in the explosive development of bouquet roses. The popularity of Polyantha roses lasted until around 1920. Svend Poulsen continued his relentless work and cross-bred hybrid teas. The 'Rødhætte' variety was the result of this work. Later, the 'daughters' followed: Kirsten, Else, Karen and Anne-Mette Poulsen – each with their named variety. In fact, a new rose group was created and today's global development of bouquet roses is based on the Poulsen family's original concept. Poulsen Roser was the market leader in Scandinavia and England between 1920-1940. At the end of the 20th century, Poulsen Roser managed to get a serious foothold in the United States with the variety 'Grand Canyon' ('Riberhus' in Denmark). The variety is like a character rose planted by the million at entrances to the Grand Canyon. That was in 1998, and Poulsen Roser continues to hold a strong position in the United States.

As a rule, multiflora roses should be grafted on strong roots in order to survive. A cultivated form of the wild *R. multiflora* is most commonly used as a rootstock. Bouquet roses should be pruned in spring and should not exceed a third of the height of the shrub. Subsequently, the rejected flowers can be removed continuously, quickly generating new flowering that lasts until late autumn. Should be watered and fertilised well. The garden's beds have been created in collaboration with Kordes Rosen from Germany, which delivered the plants except for 'Mørk Ellen Poulsen', which, despite all the new creations, is ancestor to or has its genes in all of them.

Kosmos | Jasmina Flower Circus | Novalis | Gebrüder Grimm | Schöne vom Zee | Black Forest Rose

Airbrush | Goldmarie | Abracadabra | Rosenromantic | Mørk Ellen Poulsen | Dusky Maiden





BED NO 6

Persica hybrids

The wild rose *R. persica* is a bit of an oddball in the rose world. Also the most beautiful, according to many, because it has quite a large, simple and deep yellow flower with a breathtaking red-brown base of long stamens that are like a flower within a flower. As a rule, all other roses have a light base surrounded by darker petals. Unfortunately, the number of chromosomes in the *R. persica* is almost incompatible with other roses, but this minor detail does not deter optimistic breeders from trying. The fact that the rose is also a delicate and difficult thing to grow doesn't make things any easier. Historically, the wild species of *R. persica* was discovered as late as 1784 by French botanist André Michaux in the Steppe region between Iran and Afghanistan. As such, it lived anonymously until around 1960 when the Harkness brothers from England decided to try cross-breeding, which, with a lot of patience and effort, led to a single hybrid of *R. persica* and a China rose. It was called 'Euphrates' with the synonym 'Esther Queen of Persica'. The variety can be purchased in some specialised nurseries. After a few years, the Harkness brothers handed their work and material over to colleague Christopher Warner. He has continued to work vigorously with this impossible task and has produced some hybrids that seem viable. Only half of these are commercially available.

The garden can give pride of place to these brand new roses, which cannot be seen anywhere else in Denmark apart from Knud Pedersen's nursery in Harlev, where the roses are under observation for performance in Danish gardens. It is largely thanks to Knud Pedersen that the garden can show these roses of the future, including two varieties that have not yet been launched in the market but planted with permission from Warner Roses in England. Persica hybrids are small rosebushes with unbelievably beautiful flowers. Flowering is unfortunately short-lived around the end of June/beginning of July. The individual flower maintains its full glorious display for just a few days. The bushes produce beautiful green rosehips and should therefore only be cut off along with other dead material in spring. It's a rose that is suitable for garden pots in the winter garden or in a rockery. We hope for the best.

Chewsalimat | Chewdelight | Bright as Button | Roco | Bull's Eyes

Show me Sunshine | Euphrates | Show me Music | Tangerine Tango | Alisat Prince of Phoenix | Eyes for You
(Esther Queen of Persica)





BED NO 7

Park roses

It's called Zierstrauchrosen (translation: ornamental shrub rose) in Germany. It's a good description because it's a bush of a certain size that fits nicely with other ornamental shrubs, but probably best in larger gardens. They can all be attributed to other specific rose groups, and all of them except the lowest groups are included. Park roses, at least the newer ones, are all repeat flowering with a high number of flowers. In addition, they are healthy and easy-to-grow plants that can be used to decorate perennial beds on their own and as larger plantations in parks between old trees.

They are typically a few metres tall and at least one metre wide. They should not dry out, but well-established plants with deep roots can handle a dry period. They must be well fertilised. Pruning can be limited to the removal of dead branches and a little trimming, but it should otherwise be matched to the groups to which they belong morphologically.

New varieties come on the market every year. Primarily from German breeders such as Kordes and Tantau, but English breeders are also getting in the game. Many of Austin's tall varieties could be called park roses, if you look at the possibilities. The garden's bed was created in collaboration with Kordes Rosen from Germany, which also primarily delivered its own varieties. Everything except 'Raubritter' is repeat flowering. The 'Verschuren' and 'Papageno' varieties should be hard pruned in spring as they are both hybrid teas.

Several park roses have been planted around the edges.

Goldspatz | Rosenstadt Freising | Ulmer Münster | Papageno | Eifelzauber | Summer Memories | Rosenresli

Raubritter | Centarie de Lourdes | Freisinger Morgenrothe | Dronning Margrethe | Verschuren





BED NO 8

Moschata

The original *R. moschata* is known to have been growing wild in Pakistan since around BCE. It is described as an early and dense blooming climber with strong fragrance. It was only in 1822 that it was reported in Europe, but was forgotten until Peter Lambert from Germany figured out how to pair it with a hybrid of *R. multiflora* and an American Noisette rose. The result was a bush with a lot of fragrant, slightly full flowers and frequent repeat flowering until the frost sets in. Lambert named the rose 'Trier' after his hometown.

All the Musk roses that have been created since have come from this rose. *Moschata* is not really a historically defined rose group, but a product of 20th century breeding. Lambert created a number of fine varieties, but the group is inextricably linked to the English priest and rose breeder Pemperton who, from 1915 until his death, created varieties still planted in the gardens of Europe. Pemperton's work was continued after his death by his faithful assistant Ann Bental who produced a number of fine examples of cross breeding. In 1960, Valdemar Petersen from Denmark created his world-famous hit 'Menja'. Today, new Musk roses are being developed primarily by the Belgian company Lens Roses as shrubs, which are one to two metres tall and wide with a dense bloom of flowers arranged in an ear and wonderfully fragrant.

Musk roses can be simple and full in almost all pastel colours. Several of these roses are planted in the garden's borders. They are said to be a little sensitive to frost and, in severe winters, they can also freeze all the way down, but they shoot up from the root again with lots of new shoots and flowers. Musk roses must be fertilised and must never go thirsty. They are cut in spring down to a height of approx. 60cm. They may be planted a bit deeper than other roses and must be covered well in winter. Some varieties produce a lot of beautiful rosehips in the autumn.

Moonlight | Eva | Elisabeth Oberle | Menja

Rush | Daybreak | Will Scarlet | Prosperity





BED NO 9

Hybrid teas

There was some deliberation about whether the hybrid teas should have their own bed in the garden. But their historical status is indisputable, which is why they have been included.

In 1867, the French rose company Guillot created the first named hybrid of *R. odorata* and a repeat-flowering rose. It was named 'La France' and has been adopted by the rose world as the rose that represents the transition from historical to modern roses.

As a rule, hybrid teas are the most complex of hybrids with the aim of creating large-flowered roses with the propensity for repeat flowering and in all the known colours of the rose family. Bushes can grow to a height of between 60 and 120cm, some up to two metres. The fragrance ranges from non-existent to strong. They are generally delicate creatures that require compost-rich soil, water and a lot of fertiliser. They are all more or less susceptible to plant disease, but their poorest trait is durability. Maximum 10 years. The plants should be replaced after seven years.

No other rose group is cultivated and bred as intensively as hybrid teas, and the work continues tirelessly. We all know the kind of rose bouquets that are sold cheaply in supermarkets as well as the many different unnamed, but beautiful examples on display in florists' windows. They are grown by the million in Dutch-owned giant greenhouses in Kenya and South America and are a modern industrial product. More than 10,000 different hybrid teas have been developed in the space of half a century.

Hybrid teas are called 'Edelrosen' (translation: noble rose) in Germany, as if they're especially noble compared to all the others. Of course, it could be a matter of personal taste, but surely the noblest roses are the wild species that were created by nature.

Hybrid teas should be pruned in spring. They should be cut right down to approx. 20cm or less above ground. The bed is composed of roses, which Kordes Rosen in Germany has recommended to be strong enough for the Danish climate.

Valencia | Kleopatra | Sunny Sky | Swartze Madonna | Königin der Rosen | Memorie

Barbra Streisand | Cinco de Mayo | Las Vegas | Winter Sun | George Dickson | Spielwark | Sympathie





BED NO 10

Austin roses

Never before has a single breeder had an entire rose group named after him. David Austin is the exception. Under the motto 'New roses the traditional way', Austin has created more than 100 fine varieties since 'Constance Spray' was brought to market in 1961.

Austin cross-bred new bed roses with the fine qualities of the historical roses, and the result was roses that live up to the strict standards of repeat flowering, flower shape, colour, fragrance and health. Austin roses are bush roses in all possible colours. The bushes are low at approx. 70cm up to a few metres high. Growth is generally bushy with flexible branches and the flowers are big and hanging.

Austin roses are often referred to as 'English roses', which might be going a bit too far, since there are a number of other English breeders whose roses are just as valuable.

Mortimer Sackler | Wollerton Old Hall | Tess of the d'Urbervilles | Darcy Bussell

Mortimer Sackler | Lady of Shallot | Pat Austin | Wildeve | Scepter d'Isle | Molineux





BED NO 11

Austin

More than a single bed is needed to present Austin's fine roses. They are all the result of a comprehensive concept of cultivation. It starts with sowing approx. 10,000 seeds from a theoretical composite hybrid. In the five to eight years that follow, a careful selection is made amongst the most varied roses that the spermatophytes produce. The finest of these are selected and then put into production.

Austin roses are low- and tall-growing varieties and some do well as climbing roses. Many are distinguished by their golden and 'burned' colours, which have in fact set the trend in the textile industry. Most varieties are reasonably easy to propagate on summer cuttings, but, as a result, take several years to grow in size. Grafting on a stronger stem, e.g. R. multi-flora is therefore always recommended.

The roses are quite expensive to buy. This is due to a very restrictive licensing policy, which results in about 1 GBP per sold rose no matter where in the world it was sold.

Austin roses should be pruned by a third of the height of the bush in spring as well as an ongoing basis throughout the season to get rid of withered flowers. They need good soil, lots of fertiliser and must never go thirsty.

Tranquility | Jubilee Celebration | Gentle Hermione | Graham Thomas | Cottage Rose

Princess Alexandra of Kent | The Dark Lady

A Shropshire Lad | Queen of Sweden | Lady of Shallot | Munstead Wood | William and Catherine

Charles Rennie Mackintosh | Princess Anne





BED NO 12

China roses

It is an established fact that the Chinese cultivated roses 5,000 years ago, and that there have been selections from spermatophytes of the wild-growing *R. chinensis*. Other than that, not a lot is known about the earliest roses of China. The original rose was single flowering, but there is evidence of repeat-flowering China roses in the BCE period.

It was the Far East merchants who first brought China roses to Europe. This came about after a rose that was previously thought to be extinct was found in Bengal. It was in 1751, and the rose was pink, full, fragrant and repeat flowering. With the help of genetic engineering, researchers have established that this rose is a mutation of *R. chinensis*. Some years later in China, a mutation with deep red flowers was found. It was brought to Europe in 1770. The former was called 'Old Blush', the latter 'Slaters Crimson China'. At the start of the 19th century, French gardeners began to cross-breed the two roses with well-known European roses. It revolutionised rose breeding. We can therefore thank the China rose for two significant properties: the red colour and the propensity for repeat flowering.

China roses are quite small, slightly sparse bushes at about one metre in height with medium-sized, often slightly full flowers in difference shades of colour from white to yellowish pink to completely dark red. They all smell wonderful, and in contrast to other roses, the colours deepen as the flower matures. One China rose curiosity is the 'Viridiflora' variety with green flowers, which take on reddish shades during late maturation. In addition, it is the only rose with no fragrance. Only one variety is a climber; 'Climbing Ponpon de Paris' is planted by the bed's rose arch.

China roses are generally quite fragile and require good living conditions in the form of well-composted soil, good watering and plenty of fertiliser. Pruning is limited to the removal of dead twigs in the spring. Knud Pedersen has recommended varieties that can withstand the Danish climate. The plants are wonderful as pot plants, as well as in the winter garden and for growing in greenhouses. As cut flowers, they are long lasting and very fragrant.

Louis XIV | Mme Laurette Messimy | Perle d'Or | Sempervirens | Viridiflora

Climbing Ponpon de Paris | Sophie's Perpetual | Schneewitchen | Glorie des Romanes | Old Blush | Comtesse de Guyala





BED NO 13

Bourbon roses

Bourbon roses make up an important group in the series of historical roses. The name refers to the island Ile d'Bourbon, known as Réunion today, in the Indian Ocean east of Madagascar. Here, two rows of roses were used to fence in cultivated fields, because it was thought that they would intercept diseases and insect attacks that could harm crops.

The Far East merchants brought the roses to the island in the 18th century. It was the China rose and the Damask rose 'Quatre Saisons'. The two roses created a natural hybrid and the seeds from this were sent to France in 1819. The spermatophytes from the planted seeds became the ancestors of the Bourbon roses, which were created by mainly French breeders in the late 19th century. About 600 varieties were cultivated. Today, only a few of these roses exist, and they constitute a unique group of roses that have longevity, great beauty and rich flowering.

The bushes can grow between one and two-and-a-half metres in height, and a few are climbers. Some varieties, e.g. 'Zigeunerknabe' produce beautiful rosehips. The flowers are large, full and fragrant, in pink to red shades. Just a single 'Boule de Neige' has white flowers. There are also variegated varieties. Bourbon roses are cross-bred into several of our modern garden roses, especially Austin roses. Pruning should only consist of removing dead material from the repeat-flowering bushes. 'Zigeunerknabe' is not repeat flowering, but should not be pruned otherwise it will not produce rosehips.

As with all the historical roses in the garden, it is Jens Anton Solbjerg from the Danish island of Funen who has supplied the fine and in many cases rare roses for the garden. JAS, as Anton is known in the rose world, has worked for many years preserving rare planted historical roses at his nursery in Brenderup.

Souvenir de Sct. Annes | Honorine de Vaucluse | La Reine Victoria | Bourbon Queen | Souvenir de la Malmason
Madame Lauriole de Barny | La Reine Victoria

Baron J.B. Gonella | Martha | Honorine de Brabant | Champion of The World | Commandant Beaurepaire
Zegeunerknabe





BED NO 14

Centifolia

R. x centifolia is the origin of the Centifolia group of roses. It is a complex hybrid of cross-breeding in the Damask and the Gallica rose groups. A closer study has not yet produced results, but it is a high priority for researchers. However, it is thought to have started in the Netherlands in the 16th century, but it was only in the 18th century that a series of rose varieties appeared with the purpose of creating large and dense flowers. The individual varieties have emerged as mutations, since all the hybrid attempts have proven to be sterile.

Centifolia roses are approx. 150cm tall. Some varieties can be grown as climbing roses. The bushes have long flexible branches that are weighed down by large heavy flowers, so it looks as though the flowers are hanging from them. Centi means 'hundred', which refers to the number of petals. However, there aren't as many as that, but 60-70 is quite normal. They are all single flowering but wonderfully fragrant. The colours range from white, pink, shades of rose-pink to almost red. Centifolia roses were the favourite motif of the Dutch flower painters.

A dear child has many nicknames: Hundredebladsroser (hundred-petaled rose), Cabbage rose, Dutch rose and Mormorsroser (Grandma's rose) are the names used in many different countries. The full and heavy flowers are sensitive to persistent rain causing buds and flowers to rot or break off the branches. A little support eases the problem, and damaged heads should be removed to prevent infection. It's best to let the long branches of the climbing rose extend under the eaves or suchlike. Apart from a lack of resistance to fungal diseases, the centifolia roses are strong and easy to grow. With a little fertiliser, they can almost look after themselves, and the bushes can get very old. If pruning is required, it can take place after flowering in late summer. This allows the plant to create new shoots that are strong enough for overwintering.

A big thanks goes to Jens Anton Solbjerg for delivery of the predominantly rare varieties of centifolia roses.

Unica Alba | Variegata | Tour de Malakoff | Bullata | Pepite Lisette

Cristata | Blancefleur | Fantin Lateur | Duc de Fitzjames





BED NO 15

Repeat-flowering roses

It's not possible to identify the ancestor of the repeat-flowering rose. Their genetic composition is so confusing and complex that even botanical researchers find better things to do with their time. The first repeat-flowering roses were cross-bred by French gardeners at the beginning of the 19th century when rose breeding really started to take off. It was highly fashionable to grow roses at castles and estates, and they could never be pompous enough. Cultivation was at its peak in the first half of the 19th century, especially in France.

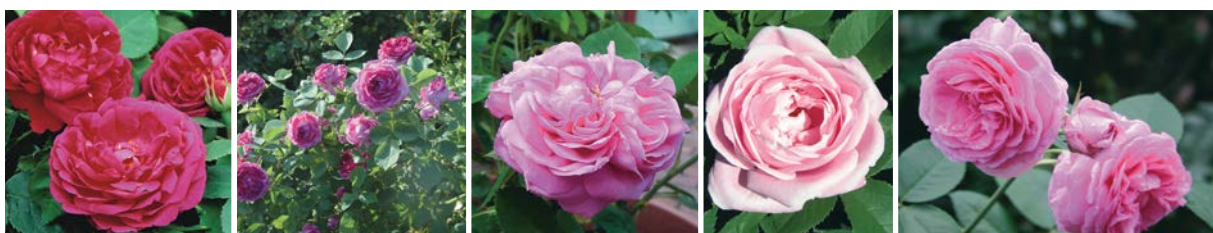
During the next half century, the English went into a frenzy in a quest to cross-breed the spectacular roses. Skilled gardeners were employed in droves by the estates and they cross-bred roses that were not intended for horticulture, but were only meant to impress at large-scale exhibitions. The gentry took the credit, the gardeners toiled the soil, and approx. 2,000 different varieties were created. The more resourceful gardeners realised that their creations and folk's snobbery could earn a pretty penny, and they sold the roses to the upper crust who had them named after their wives, daughters and mistresses. Only a few of the beautiful repeat-flowering roses exist today. Namely those that proved strong enough to grow in ordinary conditions. Repeat-flowering roses were the 'showy roses' in those days, and they are the last ones in the historical category.

Hybrid teas took over. Tea roses, which had been cross-bred with repeat-flowering roses, incorporated some of their properties. A more specific description is in the hybrid tea section. Repeat-flowering roses are bushes with large, colourful and full flowers. And as the name suggests, they are repeat flowering. The vast majority have a full and powerful fragrance. They should be pruned as little as possible and can be problematic during cultivation as they are widely susceptible to fungal diseases.

The garden's repeat-flowering roses are, for the most part, rarely planted in Danish gardens. Thanks to the assistance from Anton Solbjerg Nielsen and Knud Pedersen, it has been possible to get hold of some fine examples of 19th century majestic roses.

Marvelle de Lyon | Baron Girod d'Ain | Alfred Columb | Clio | Hugh Dickson | Baroness Rothschild
Reine des Violettes

Mrs. John Laing | Tom Wood | Triumphe d'Expositon | Ferdinand Picard | Souvenir de Docteur Jamain
Victor Hugo | Baronne Prevost





BED NO 16

Moss roses

R. centifolia muscosa is the correct botanical term for this group of bush roses. A centifolia rose's marvellous mutation with a layer of 'moss' on buds and twigs is ancestor to the group. The oldest known description is from 1696 and comes from southern France. It was reported in the Netherlands in 1720 and in England in 1724. Around the middle of 1800, French breeders in particular decided to tackle this strange phenomenon and they cross-bred it with a number of other centifolia roses, as well as roses from other groups. The most proactive was the diligent M. Laffey. Several tried, and in Hungary the legendary Rudolf Geschwind created his atypical 'Göthe' variety, which, in comparison to the norm, has small simple flowers of unimaginable beauty.

The 'moss' has nothing to do with moss. It is enlarged gland hair that has a musky fragrance and covers the buds and branches to a greater or lesser extent. The flowers, like the centifolia, are large and full and highly fragrant, but more robust against persistent rain. The colours are generally darker from light to dark pink with bluish colour tone to red with shades of maroon, bordeaux and chestnut brown. A few varieties with white flowers can also be found.

The development of moss roses has long stagnated but in 1932 Pedro Dot from Spain created the first and so far the only yellow moss rose. It was called 'Golden Moss' and is of course featured in the garden bed. Moss roses are healthy and slightly demanding. They are between one and two metres in height and some repeat flower sporadically. However, the norm is that they blossom over a long summer period. During maturation, the flowers can change tone with an almost dusty appearance. They all smell wonderful and are great for the flower vase. Pruning is best done just after flowering to develop the bush's shape the following year. You can also completely refrain from pruning altogether.

Knud Pedersen and Jens Anton Solbjerg have found rare moss rose varieties for the garden. The two most famous varieties, 'Henri Martin' and 'William Lobb' are also included – above all for their indisputable beauty.

Nuits de Young | Quatre Saisons Blanc Mousseux | William Lobb | Zoe | Golden Moss
Blance Moreau | Mousseux de Japon

Capitaine John Ingram | Alfred de Dalmas | Göthe | Blue Boy | Henri Martin





BED NO 17

Rugosa

The rosehip rose! Everyone knows it as the plant that appears in great numbers at the side of railway tracks and motorways and as a natural coastal barrier in the Danish countryside. It forms a dense, impenetrable network of roots that stifles all other vegetation and is treated today as an invasive weed. Its botanical name is *Rosa rugosa*, and it is the ancestor of this group. It is a fantastic group, and it is old. A full version can be seen in a Chinese picture from approx. 700 CE, where it must have been cultivated, because it has simple flowers in its wild form. It took approx. 1,000 years to reach Europe, but was only involved in the breeding of new roses in 1887.

Rugosa roses should really be divided into two groups: the typical and the later hybrids. The typical are selected natural hybrids that have proven to be different in colour and density and then propagated and botanically named. The newer hybrids are *R. rugosa* cross-bred with hybrid teas and repeat-flowering roses. The thing they have in common is their powerful root system, which is controlled by grafting onto a foreign rootstock. The colours cover the whole scale of bright colours and white, and they are available in all types of bloom density from simple to full. The vast majority smell wonderful and are suitable for cutting. The bushes are between one and two metres in height and are quite wide. Many, especially those with simple flowers, produce large beautiful rosehips, which are rich in vitamins and suitable for making jam etc. The bushes often produce rosehips and new flowers at the same time. Rugosa roses are easy to work with; they do not need water or much fertiliser, and they are not affected by disease. If necessary, it can be pruned all year round.

French breeders in particular have worked with the rugosa roses, but many of us know the so-called 'Nellikeroser' (translation: Clove rose) created by Grootendorst from the Netherlands. In the last 30 years, Canadian breeders in particular have launched into the strong roses and cross-bred them with Gallica roses to create plants with a high degree of hardiness in cold climates. Especially breeders like Svejda, Bugnet and Skinner have been getting stuck in. Even Austin in England has introduced a couple of new varieties. The most recent, 'Wild Edric' is planted in the garden's Rugosa bed.

Marie Bugnet | White Grootendorst | Dr. Eckner | Wild Edric | Sarah van Fleet | Parfume de La Hay

Nordens Dronning | Morje Hammerberg | Selma Lagerlöf | White Perfection | Will Aldermann | Gul Dagmar Hastrup





BED NO 18

Damask

Damask roses constitute a group of historical bush roses with a height of approx. 150cm and large, full and fragrant flowers. The group is based on *R. x damascena*, whose origins have been the subject of intense discussion among botanists. Until a few years ago, *R. damascena* was considered a natural hybrid of *R. gallica* and *R. phoenica*. In the year 2000, Japanese scientists used DNA analysis to determine that three wild roses had contributed genes to the Damask rose, in that cross-breeding between *R. moschata* and *R. gallica* was the pollen-giver to a *R. fedtschenkoana* rose. In botanical language, it's written as (*R. moschata* x *R. gallica*) x *R. fedtschenkoana*.

The interesting thing about the discovery is that none of the three wild species had originally grown in the same geographical area of the world. *R. moscata* originates from Western Asia, *R. gallica* from Europe and *R. fedtschenkoana* from Central China. They were brought together one way or another and formed the Damask rose naturally. This story has not been confirmed, but we can only guess that it could have been people migrating in ancient times who would have brought different roses with them – and if so, to Persia. In any case, the crusaders brought the Damask rose to Europe in the 13th century. There are several witness accounts that verify this. This long and complex story together with contemporary research point to the fact that rose knowledge can also reflect the magnitude of history.

For 600 years, the Damask rose has been planted in French, Greek and Italian gardens, but it was only during the intensive breeding practices in France that the Damask rose was used. About 300 different varieties were created. Of these, only a few have survived. Flowering takes place over a long summer period, and the range of colour goes from white to dark rose-pink. Striped flowers also occur. They are healthy and easy-to-grow roses that like a bit of fertiliser. They are pruned after flowering and again lightly in spring or in order to maintain the shape of the bush. Some varieties can get a mild attack of mildew. They are reasonably easy to form on winter cuttings and grow well on their own roots. Damask roses contain high levels of essential oils. It is used in the production of expensive rose oil, especially in Bulgaria where the 'Kanzalik' variety is planted in their millions for extraction. This precious liquid is also used in Iran (for the perfume industry), and ongoing research is being carried out in both countries to breed roses with high concentrations of oil, e.g. by cross-breeding with the equally oleaginous Alba rose.

Pink Leda | Mme A. Labby | Kanzalik | La Negrette | Oratam | Duchesse de Rohan

Botzaris | Omar Khayan | Isphahan | Celsiana | Quatre Saisons | Sct. Nicolas





BED NO 19

Discovered roses

Occasionally in nature and in old gardens, there are roses that cannot be immediately attributed to a specific group or wild species. Most of the time, they are natural hybrids that are only found within a limited area. They are named after the place where they were discovered and always cause roseaphiles to wonder, and is probably something more for rose geeks. Nevertheless, the roses are beautiful creations that can be admired by everyone. Most are bushes at one to three metres in height, and they are usually single flowering and produce plenty of rosehips in the autumn. Enthusiastic nursery owners take them in to ensure their reproduction and therefore their future as a cultivated plant.

Knud Pedersen has always helped to safeguard new discoveries, and there are some fine examples from his selection. A few of the varieties appear to have grown in the Russian tsar's garden in Saint Petersburg. The communists destroyed the garden during the revolution, but one of the castle's gardeners managed to escape to Finland, taking some of the roses with him. They were planted in secret locations in Finland. The gardener's abandoned notes were found a few years ago, which accurately indicate the places where the roses were planted and since discovered.

'Bizar' is another discovered rose. It's a botanical sensation in that it has been proven to be a hybrid of a rose and an apple. The plant was discovered amongst a large batch of root vegetable plants at the Belgian rose company Lens Roses SA and sent to Japan for DNA analysis.

The rose garden in Mariager has been given special permission to plant this rose, which, as well as being at Lens Roses of course, can only be found in Knud Pedersen's nursery in Harlev. As the plant has not yet flowered, the rose world is waiting with bated breath. We hope that it will happen in Mariager.

Discovered roses tend to be able to look after themselves and only need to be pruned to get rid of dead branches. 'Bizar' is nurtured and monitored very closely because of its unique botanical conditions.

R. 'Ristinummi' | Polarstjärnan | Bizar | R. blanda 'Hartoneemi'

R. hemisparica | R. pendulina 'Harstad' | Yndisros | R. 'Snoghøj'





BED NO 20

Gallica

According to ancient writings, Gallica roses are the ones that can be traced back to being the oldest of cultivated roses. On a preserved memorial plaque in Asia Minor's Babylon, there are stories of rosewater going as far back as 2,500 BCE. It requires large amounts of roses to extract rosewater, which indicates intensive cultivation, possibly even breeding. The roses that were cultivated were undoubtedly Gallica roses. Throughout the ages, they have been proven to be cultivated in Iran, Greece, Macedonia and Turkey, and are all natural variants of the original *R. gallica*.

Roses were brought to Europe along with people migration, as spoils of war or with the crusaders, primarily to the area around the town of Provins in the region of Gaul (present-day France). The roses lived here for about 600 years, and were enjoyed by Asterix and his band of fearless Gauls, whether they existed or not. The group's apogee, like so many other rose groups, is connected to France in the first half of the 19th century. Around 2,000 different varieties of Gallica were grown and cross-bred. But interest waned after the arrival of the more grandiose remontant (repeat-flowering) roses, and only a small number are preserved.

Gallica roses are bushes at a height of one to two metres. The flowers can be simple or very full, fragrant and in vibrant colours ranging from white, pink, rose-pink and dark red. No Gallica rose is definitively yellow. Even today, new Gallicas are occasionally produced by breeders. One of the most recent, 'James Mason', created by Peter Beales in England in 1982, can be found in the garden's Gallica bed.

Today, their greatest value is in their fine qualities as hybrid roses for bouquet roses and park roses, as well as Austin roses to a large extent. Gallica roses are strong plants with an intensive sucker formation, which can be rectified by grafting them onto other rootstocks. Lush flowering occurs during summer with occasional second blooming. Most produce fine rosehips in the autumn. Knud Pedersen and Jens Anton Solbjerg have found the rarely planted Gallica varieties, which are featured in the garden.

Belle Isis Tuscany | Duc de Montebello | Antonia d'Ormois | Duchesse de Buccleugh | Charles de Mills | Rosa Mundi
Camaieux | Orpheline de Juillet | Duchesse d' Angouleme

Sissinghurst Castle | James Mason | Belle Doria | Hippolyte | La Favorite | Northern Yellow
Bouquet de Venus | La Belle Sultane | Jenny Duval





BED NO 21

Alba roses

The Alba rose group is a very old variety group that has been grown since 300 BCE. The group includes some of the very best historical bush roses. Their development has not moved on that much from wild roses, and they have maintained a wonderful authenticity in their form. The ancestor is *R. x alba* (White rose).

In the first half of the 19th century, European breeders began working with these exclusive white roses by cross-breeding them with *R. canina* (Dog rose). This produced some good varieties with pink and light rose-pink flowers on tall bushes up to two metres in height, with long flowering in the middle of summer. The flowers can be simple to slightly full and they all smell lovely due to the amount of essential oils they contain. A single variety produces red flowers. It was found in a Danish garden in 2009 as a mutation of 'Maiden's Blush' and was subsequently propagated by Knud Pedersen in Harlev, where the rose can be bought under the name of 'Anna' or 'Rød Maidens Blush'.

Many have heard of the Alba rose 'Königin von Dänemark', which does not refer to Margrethe II, but to Marie Frederikke, who was married to Frederik VI. And 'Alba Maxima', which has the local name of 'Skagensrosen' that adorns Krøyer's famous painting of his wife Marie in the garden. Not to mention 'Celestial', meaning 'heavenly', which it is. According to renowned Danish rosarian, Torben Thim the flower opens with the breath of an angel.

The bushes can completely take care of themselves except for pruning, which is done by thinning out old branches at the base at two-year intervals.

Mme Legras de St. Germain | Celestial | Mme Plantier | Alba Maxima

Maiden's Blush | Chloris | Anna | Königin von Dänemark





BED NO 22

Wild species

The more immersed you are in the subject of roses, the more you are exposed to the purity and authenticity of wild species. Worldwide there are between 150 and 200 different wild species of roses, but only about 50 of these grow wild in Denmark. Roses have never been found to grow wild south of the Equator, but do exist there of course as introduced plants.

Wild roses blossom handsomely, albeit often for a short period early in the season. Most produce very beautiful rosehips in autumn to the delight of birds in winter. The roses come in all possible heights and widths as well as climbing. Colours vary right across the scale, but they are mostly white or pink with simple flowers. They can also have full flowers. But above all: None of the other roses would exist if it weren't for wild roses. It all started with them.

There were some thoughts about whether Mariager's rose garden should have been turned into a forest of wild roses, but this idea has been used in many other places in Europe. So we have to be content with the ones that we found room for in the bed and as a feature in the surrounding beds. There are approx. 30 wild species in the garden. They can completely look after themselves and the oldest branches just need to be thinned out every other year or every third year at the base. The wild rose *R. oremiensis* x *pteraconta* (Flammetorn) blossoms early in mid-May or at the end of May.

R. serafinii | *R. webiana* | *R. willmottia* | *R. villosa duplex* | *R. oremiensis* x *pteraconta*

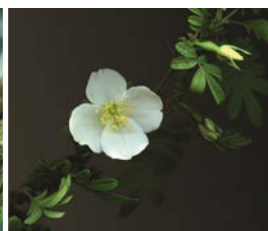
R. nutkana 'Tarja Hallonen'

R. californica

R. roxburghii normalis | *R. moysii geranium* | *R. fedtchenkoana semi* | *R. majalis plena* | *R. pisocarpa*

R. elliptica

R. paulustris





Kantbedenes beplantning

Inner row

All bouquet roses are modern roses. This can include patio, ground cover and polyantha roses. They all have sumptuous flowering with the bush presenting its flowers as bouquets through the foliage. They are repeat flowering from the end of June until the frost sets in. Bouquet roses come in all sorts of colours, but mainly white, pink, rose-pink and red. New hybrids come on the market every year. Ole Hviid Jensen's nursery in Bjerringbro has specialised in bouquet roses and has Denmark's largest assortment while keeping an eye on new varieties. The bouquet roses in the surrounding borders have been delivered by Ole Hviid Jensen and include approx. 40 different varieties from 50 to 100cm in height. They should be pruned in spring by a third of the height of the bush. Removing faded flowers quickly generates new flowering. Due to the fact that they give so much, they need to be fertilised and watered well.

Middle row

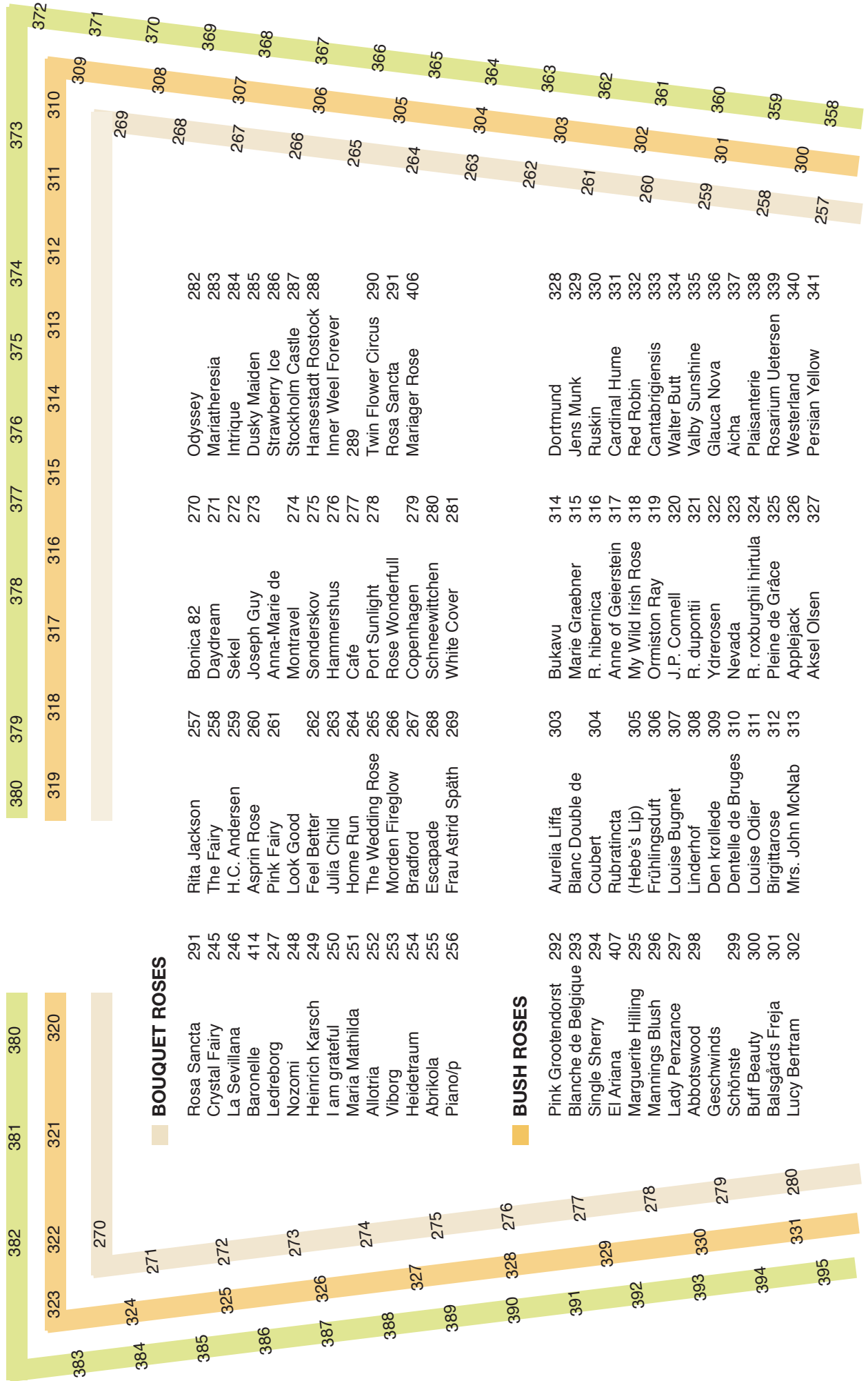
Bush roses are defined very broadly as being the original species, and their nearest hybrids, historical roses, the new Canadian roses and Austin roses. Bush rose is therefore a term that indicates a certain plant size. They all have an affiliation to a defined rose group. All the bush roses in the surrounding borders have been selected from Knud Pedersen's ample assortment with the added fact that they all (approx. 50 different varieties) have a height of at least 150cm. They can be single flowering or repeat flowering, depending on the variety. Together, they create a protective and festive border around the garden's inner beds. Some bush roses can be trained like climbing roses through pruning. This type is planted in the four corners of the garden where the outermost branches can harmonise with the fence's climbing roses. Pruning bush roses should be done individually or according to variety and conditions. Modern bush roses in particular like a bit of fertiliser.

Outer row

Denmark's largest collection of climbing roses has been planted at the fence around the entire garden and at the rose arches. They cover all the rose groups, with a few exceptions, and deliver shoots up to 2.5 to 15 metres in height. They are often divided up into two groups: Climbing roses and rambling roses. Their common features are the ability to climb up wire fences, trellises and wooden fences. Some can cover entire walls and trees. It is the historical roses, and those most closely related to wild roses, that grow the longest shoots. As a rule, they are single flowering and produce plenty of rosehips in the autumn. The lower-growing varieties are repeat flowering. New varieties are continuously cross-bred by today's breeders. They like a good amount of fertiliser. The garden's approx. 70 different climbing roses are, regarding the historical roses, supplied by Anton Solbjerg Nielsen, and the modern roses, selected from Knud Pedersen's ample assortment. All of them can be continually pruned to maintain branch length and desired fullness. Many respond well to being tied.

Please refer to the overview on the following pages.

Munkholm plant



CLIMBING ROSES



The following can be seen at the rose garden's driveway: Variegata di Bologna. A rose from Orvieto. CittaSlow Mariager's twin town in Italy.

Klostergade



A wealth of literature about roses was used to source information in the preparation of this booklet, including:

Gustavsson, Lars-Åke	<i>Rosor för Nordiska Trädgårdar, 1998</i>
Jamain & Farney	<i>Les Roses, 1873</i>
Thim, Torben	<i>Historiske Roser, 1988</i>
Thim, Torben	<i>Om roser jeg ved, 2012</i>
Throll, Angelika	<i>Rosen, 2012</i>
Beales, Peter	<i>Classic Roses, 1997</i>
Redouté, Pierre-Joseph	<i>Les Merveilluses Roses, 1835</i>
Cruse, Éléonore	<i>Roses: Old Roses and Species Roses, 1998</i>
Lyngar, Dag	<i>100 av våre beste roser, 2012</i>

Articles from the Danish Rose Association's members' magazine, *Rosen Nyt*.

Antiquarian and new catalogues from plant nurseries in Denmark and abroad.

Searches on relevant websites.

The garden and its plants have been reproduced as per the inauguration on 3 July 2016. It is possible that some of the approx. 850 plants will not live up to expectations. Strong freezing winters can take their toll on roses. Replacement of sensitive varieties will therefore take place as problems arise, without disturbing the overall idea of the garden.

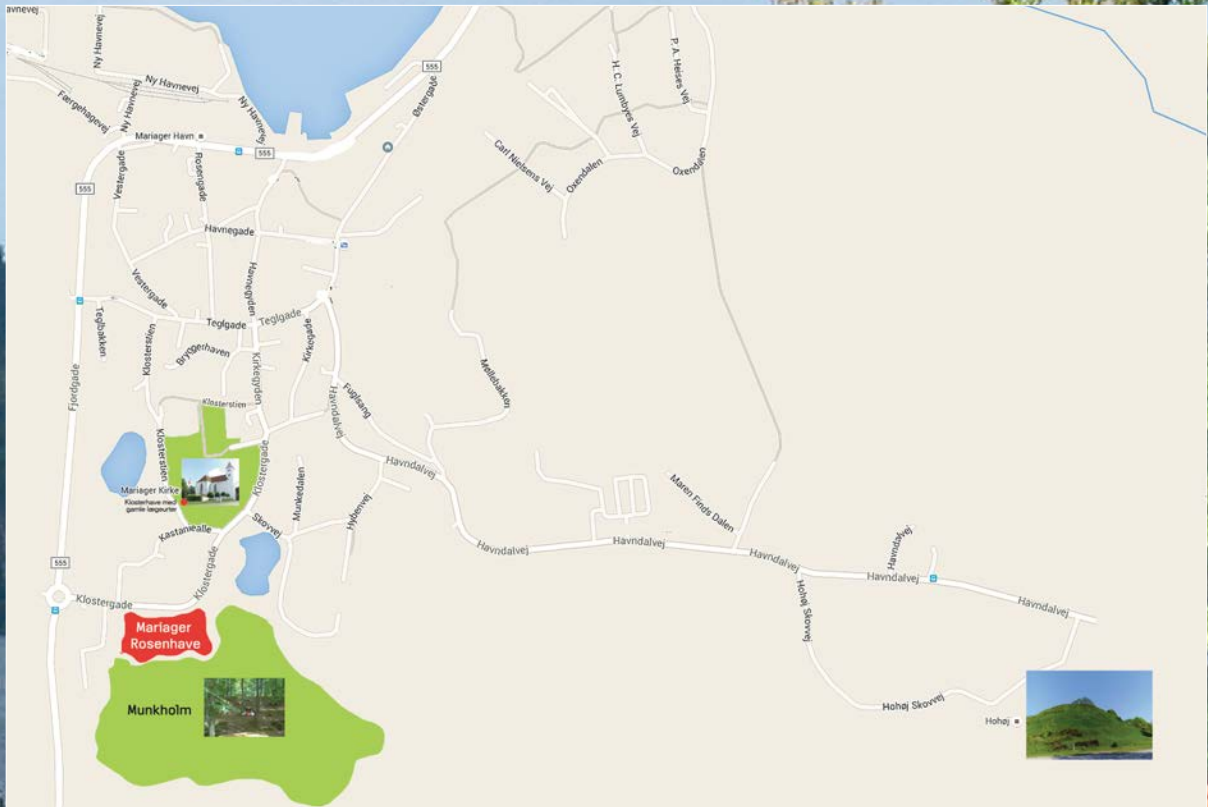
With the booklet in hand, visitors can be guided through the garden and find the roses that they might find particularly interesting. For each species or variety, signs indicate the name, origin/breeder and year.

The tourist office in Mariager can arrange guided tours of the 'City of Roses':

Byliv@mariager.dk. Tlf +45 6014 8300



*The Danish 'Our Last Summer'
developed by
Rosa Eskelund*





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Mariager June 2018

