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The Private Gardens Of Charleston



Synopsis

Beyond the magnificent old walls and gates of Charleston's historic homes lie lush private gardens of extraordinary beauty and distinction. This book presents twenty-five of the city's most superb private gardens in color photographs and essays, from the meticulous restoration of a classic, early-nineteenth-century landscape to the lush attraction of a typical Charleston garden, to a rare collection of exotic tropical plants. The Private Gardens of Charleston offers a detailed view of these gardens in color photographs and essays which explore the diversity of gardening interests and styles, ranging from the elegant distinction of a "typical" Charleston garden-narrow, shady and verdant, and accented with the glorious color of azaleas and camellias-to an exotic garden containing a rare collection of tropical palms. Louisa Cameron presents the story of each garden with perception and intelligence, describing its background and unique artistry. The author provides useful information on a variety of plants, trees and gardening techniques that are successful in this area. The owners tell of their achievements and mistakes, offer problem-solving solutions to design and growth, and recall the personal and social joys a garden can inspire. Complementing the text are Mrs. Cameron's vibrant color photographs that capture texture, design and ornamentation in detailed perspectives of gardens, as well as inviting views from porches and walkways. The Private Gardens of Charleston offers an intimate tour of gardens which are rarely seen by the public. It is a book for those who love gardening, landscape design and the beauty of nature. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

The Private Gardens of Charleston Beyond the magnificent old walls and gates of Charleston's distinguished historic homes lie lush, private gardens. The Private Gardens of Charleston presents a detailed view of twenty-five of these gardens in color photographs and essays which explore the diversity of gardening interests and styles, ranging from the elegant distinction of a "typical" Charleston garden--narrow, shady and verdant, and accented with the glorious color of azaleas and camellias--to an exotic garden containing a rare collection of tropical palms. Louisa Cameron presents the story of each garden with perception and intelligence, describing its background and unique artistry. The author provides useful information on a variety of plants, trees and gardening techniques that are successful in this area. The owners tell of their achievements and mistakes, offer problem-solving solutions to design and growth and recall the personal and social joys a garden can inspire. Complementing the text are Mrs. Cameron's vibrant color photographs that capture texture, design and ornamentation in detailed perspectives of gardens, as well as inviting views from porches and walkways. The Private Gardens of Charleston offers an intimate tour of gardens which are rarely seen by the public. It is a book for those who love gardening, landscape design and the beauty of nature. Back Flap Copy Louisa Pringle Cameron is a native of Charleston, where she currently lives with her husbandm Dr. Price Cameron, a plastic surgeon. She received her B.A. degree in English from Hollins College in Virginia, and is a graduate of Clemson University's Master Gardener's Program in Charleston. A watercolor artist and garden photographer, she has exhibited her paintings throughout the Charleston area. Mrs. Carmeron is also a member of the American Horticultural Society. Jacket photographs by Louisa Pringle Cameron Jacket design by Sandra Strother Hudson

Louisa Pringle Cameron grew up amidst historic gardens in her native city of Charleston, South Carolina. Author of the best-selling book The Private Gardens of Charleston, Louisa is an accomplished gardener, watercolorist, lecturer, and author. She lives with her physician husband and son in an eighteenth-century house in Charleston's old historic district.

you don't always get a chance to see the gardens behind the gates and fences in Charleston, SC. This book gives you a great treat of allowing you to see what many others do not get a chance to ever view for themselves. Lovely photos.

Beautiful photographs accompanied by captivating description of the gardens of historic Charleston.

If you want a private tour of Charleston gardens, then this book is for you.

I must say I was very disappointed with this book. Although there are plenty of photos of the various gardens, the photography is in my opinion very poor. The pictures lack "life". They are dark, some seem to be out of focus, and I would describe most of the pictures as being "lackluster, or lifeless." They are just not of the quality one would expect from this type of book. For someone who loves to pour over beautiful pictures of mature gardens to drink in all the inspiration one can, you will be disappointed as I was.

I was a little bit disappointed in this book as I remember lovely gardens in Charleston when I holidayed there several years ago. I would have liked to have a bit more detail and the names of some of the stand out plants

If you haven't had the opportunity to see the beautiful gardens of Charleston in person, then this book should suffice until you can get there. Twenty-five private gardens are presented here with color photos and an essay for each. All of the elements that make these gardens so special - brick walls and pathways, neat boxwood hedges, colorful flowers like azaleas and camellias, fountains, wrought-iron gates and cobblestoned courtyards - are on delicious display. Various garden styles are represented here - classical, contemporary, an atrium garden and the garden of a palm collector are just a few examples. The author's own garden, featuring neat brick-edged beds filled with roses and perennials is included.

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