

# Lotusland, USA

[images by Bill Dewey]

Ganna Walska Lotusland is a unique 37 acre estate and botanic garden situated in the foothills of Montecito to the east of the city of Santa Barbara, California. This botanical wonder contains subtropical and tropical plants from around the world. Lotusland is home to several extraordinary collections including rare cycads, cacti, palms and euphorbias. Additional gardens feature ferns, aloes, succulents, lotuses, waterlilies, bromeliads and the newest addition, the cactus garden.

Theme gardens include the blue garden, theatre garden, butterfly garden, a Japanese garden and an Australian garden, featuring an arbour covered with tea tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) and a eucalyptus grove. Other classic features of Lotusland are the topiary garden, a horticultural clock, the Neptune fountain, a parterre and hedged allées.

The gardens now covering the estate were created by Madame Ganna Walska, who owned the property from 1941 until her death in 1984. Before her death, Madame Walska established the non-profit Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation. Lotusland incorporates the principles of sustainability into the preservation and maintenance of its extraordinary plant collections.

Docent-guided tours of Lotusland are offered at 10.00 am and 1.30 pm, Wednesday to Saturday between mid-February through to mid-November.

Advanced registrations are required by calling + 805-969-9990 or visiting [www.lotusland.org](http://www.lotusland.org)

## Join Us

Join us on a trip to Lotusland and other great horticultural gardens of California in May 2008. For more details call (07) 4630 0147 or email: [jhandy@bigpond.com](mailto:jhandy@bigpond.com)

