

WHV – Parks and Gardens of Classical Weimar

Classical Weimar, Germany

PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1998) 31 August - 13 September 2025

THE SITE - In the late 18th and early 19th centuries the small Thuringian town of Weimar witnessed a remarkable cultural flowering, attracting many writers and scholars, notably Goethe and Schiller. This development is reflected in the high quality of many of the buildings and of the parks in the surrounding area.

OBJECTIVES - The project continues the long-standing European Heritage Volunteers initiative at Classical Weimar, focusing on the preservation and revitalisation of historic parks and gardens, specifically the "kitchen garden" of Belvedere Park. The objectives include conserving dry-stone walls and reconstructing historic paths to safeguard the integrity of this World Heritage Site. The project also aims to raise awareness about traditional gardening and sustainable practices while promoting international collaboration and education on heritage conservation.

ACTIVITIES - Participants will engage in practical conservation activities, including restoring lateral dry-stone walls that support the hill near the kitchen garden and reconstructing pathways and a stone stairway. Tasks include careful deconstruction and reassembly of unstable wall sections, removal of invasive plants, and uncovering historical pathways. In addition, there will also be conservation works carried out in the gardens of Wieland Estate in Ossmanstedt. Under the guidance of a specialist in dry-stone masonry, participants will learn traditional techniques, sustainability principles, and the importance of preserving natural habitats for rare insects. Educational activities include discussions on Climate Change resilience strategies in historical gardens, the UNESCO World Heritage convention system, and site management. Guided tours and museum visits will deepen participants' understanding of Classical Weimar's cultural significance.

PARTNERS - Weimar Classic Foundation

European Heritage Volunteers

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