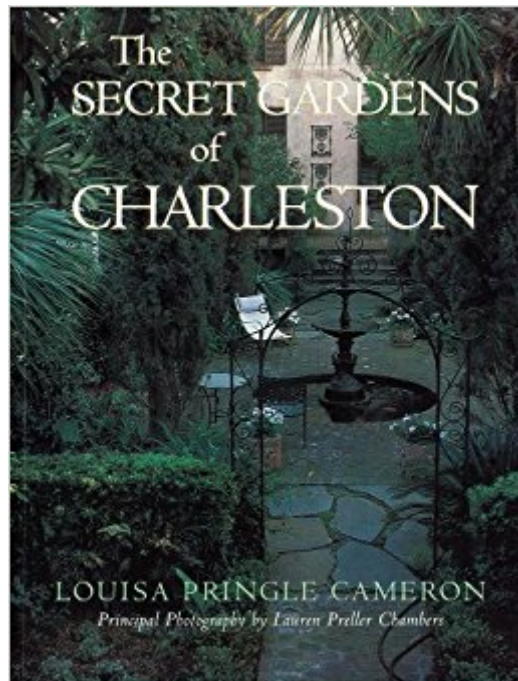


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# The Secret Gardens Of Charleston



## Synopsis

A city renowned for the preservation of its vast collection of Georgian and other antebellum architecture, Charleston is equally famous for the intriguing private gardens that make it one of the greenest cities in the nation. From within hidden sites and from behind ancient city walls, the nearly two dozen exquisite gardens Louisa Pringle Cameron profiles in this book leave little doubt that Charleston has earned its moniker as "a city set in a garden." Although all are situated in Charleston, each garden is unique, offering the reader the aesthetic experience of discovery and renewal with the turn of a page. Readers step through shrubbery and meander under trellises bulging with flowering vines, with each photograph providing a unique perspective into the horticultural character of this urban city. Surrounded by native gardeners' encouragements, tips, and stories, the narrative details a vibrant life and history in each space. *The Secret Gardens of Charleston* captures the distinct architectural composition of this remarkable city and provides a rewarding collection of ideas, advice, and anecdotes from the city's experienced gardeners.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Another look at the exclusive gardens, both popular and lesser known, of Charleston, South Carolina

Louisa Pringle Cameron grew up amid historic gardens in her native city of Charleston, South Carolina. Cameron is a graduate of Hollins College in Virginia and of Clemson University's Master

Gardener Program in Charleston. She is an accomplished gardener, watercolorist, and lecturer. Lauren Preller Chambers is a freelance photographer who lives on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina.

This was a problem with an earlier book by Cameron. I assumed, incorrectly, that the issue had been resolved in this new release. However, those of us who garden and care about the gardens of others, will find this book to be inferior, in spite of the superior subject matter. The gardens of Charleston are, indeed, secret to most of us and I was looking forward to a look. The photographs are quite dark and, while I cannot say they are actually blurry, there is not a sharpness either. Any gardening magazine features superior photographs. I am returning the book, which is something that I have never done before. Very disappointing.

Charleston is one of my favorite cities in the US. I loved looking at this book. Wish I could have a landscaper to turn my garden into one of the ones pictures. The book was most enjoyable.

Having just returned home from Charleston, I am inspired to work on my garden. This book has some great pictures for inspiration. Received the book promptly and in great shape.

"Today, the garden has something in bloom all year-round: roses and sasanquas at Christmas; pansies and snaps in winter; jasmine, bulbs, and alyssum in the spring; geraniums, phlox, petunias, and impatiens in the summer. Window boxes spill periwinkle, violas, verbenas, and ferns." Louisa Pringle Cameron loves gardening and she grew up in the mysterious world of historic gardens in Charleston, South Carolina. She lives in an eighteenth-century house and joins Lauren Preller Chambers in the creation of this beautiful book. Many of the gardens in this book cannot be seen from the street and are hidden behind ancient walls and are not open to the public. So this book is a taste of the wide variety of hidden paradise. Gardens include a Japanese Garden with delicate ferns, Italian themes with cypress reaching to the pale blue sky, Misty morning gardens near a Marsh, Herb gardens and Formal gardens with gothic style carriage houses. The quaint house with jasmine growing over the mailbox attached to a white fence reveals a sense of care and beauty. Flowerboxes outside the windows add a sense of nostalgia. The lush foliage speaks of a more humid climate. As you read this book you can imagine having picnics behind a walled garden or sipping tea on a greenhouse porch. Shaded benches and courtyards are all part of the charm. One of my favorite pictures is the courtyard with cedar trees and a fountain. The paving stones look very

natural and you imagine the owners of the home must enjoy sitting out in the cooling shade in the summer.~The Rebecca Review

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