

*For the opening of the Royal Carriages  
exhibition*

## **Parade of Original Carriages in the Gardens of the Reggia di Venaria**

**Sunday September 29 – from 15.00**

To celebrate the opening of the exhibition *Royal Carriages. A gala parade of Popes, Princes and Kings*, on **Sunday September 29** the Gardens of the Reggia will come alive with a must-see event: a **fairytale Parade of evocative Period Carriages** organized in collaboration with Gruppo Italiano Attacchi.

The parade will **start at 15.00 from the Grand Parterre** in the Upper Park: the procession includes around 40 original harnesses and carriages from the North of Italy, most of which date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and some from the early 1900s.

The carriages include finely crafted masterpieces by the most celebrated carriage makers, like *Cesare Sala* (Milan), *Locati e Torretta* (Turin), *Flandrau & C.* (New York), *Bouillon* (Paris), *Ferrari & Orsaniga* (Milan) and *Macchi* (Varese).

The public can follow the parade across the Gardens: the carriages will be driving from the Upper Park along the Canal in the Central Alley, to the remains of the Temple of Diana, continuing to the Lower Park along the Pond, and they will return to the Grand Parterre after about an hour, where a **spectacular line-up will close the event to present each carriage and to hand out commemorative plates.**



Horse and carriages (single-horse carts), carriages pulled by two horses in *teams* or *tandems*, and *four-ups* (four-horse pull carriages) will be on show, driven by their passionate owners.

**Carriage types include:** carriages driven by coachmen, like *Landau*, *Milord*, *Calèche*; sports carriages, hunting carriages and leisure carriages like *Break*, *Dog Cart*, *Phaeton*, driven by their owners; and utility carts like *Pistoiese* and *Dottorina*, that were used primarily by professionals to move about town. Also on show, in addition to two- and four-wheeled carriages, is a rare example of a dashing *sulky* – a cart that was popular among young dandies. Several carriages will be driven gracefully but with great dexterity also by “coachwomen” in period attire.



All the driver teams will be wearing elegant period clothes as was required at the time: charming parasols, delightful summer hats, simple hairdos, the perfunctory gloves that all passengers were expected to wear, children wearing short trousers and frilled shirts. The grooms will be impeccably attired in their boots and top hats, their attention focused on the horses, on the words of the coachmen and the wishes of their master, ready to step off the carriage also while moving. Details inside the carriage also contribute to the overall effect: candles inside the lamps, a stick holder on the side, the color of lap blankets matching that of the carriage, precious clocks and whips.

The event is part of the **King for a Day** calendar of events. Admission with GARDENS or REGGIA/GARDENS and EXHIBITIONS tickets.

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