



Uzès

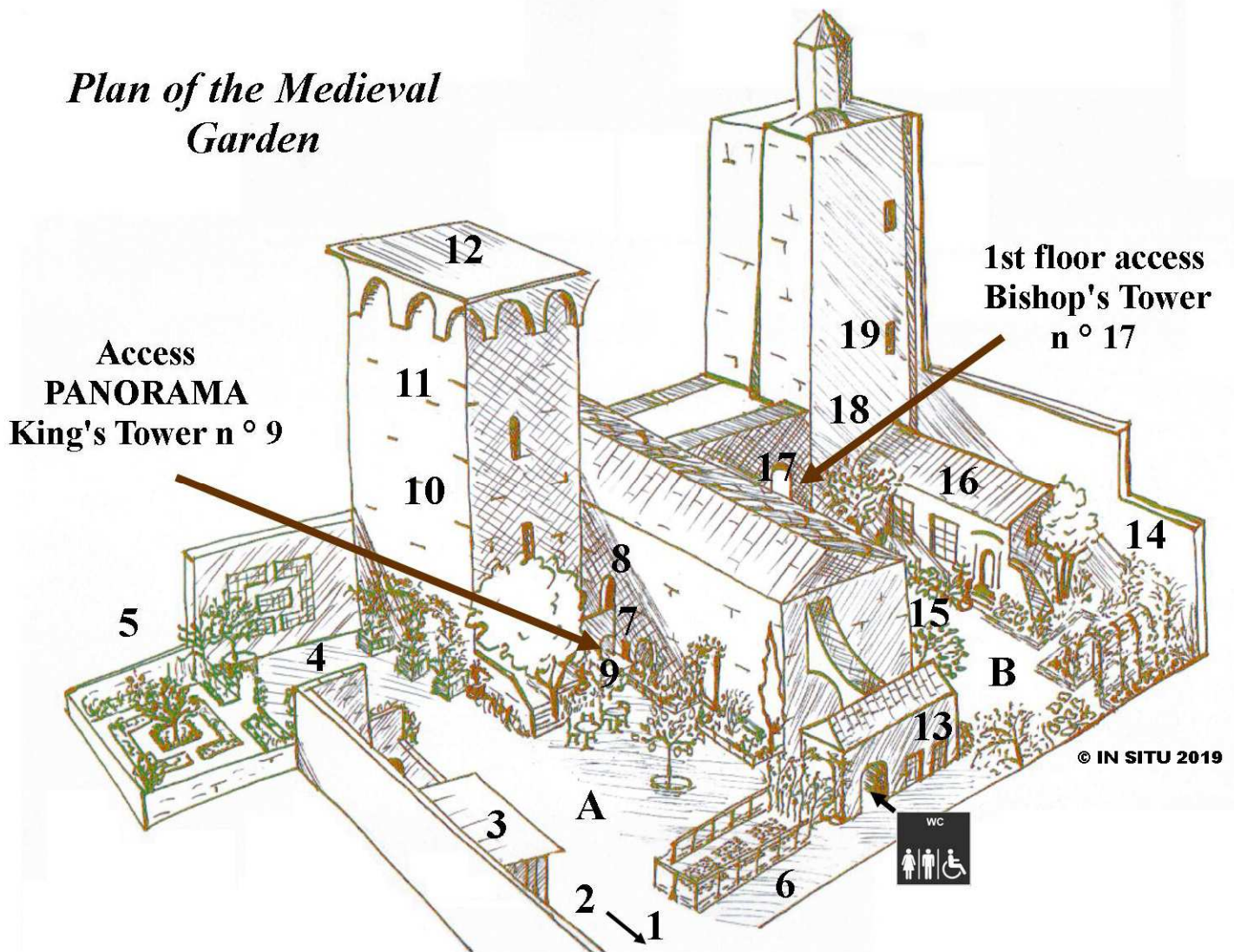


The Médiéval Garden

A historical and botanical site to discover
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The IN SITU association runs and looks after this place, so as to enhance the interest of this historical heritage. During the opening season the Garden harbours permanent and temporary exhibitions. We invite you to discover this haven of peace; remember to taste our special herb drink that you will be offered at the end of your visit...

Plan of the Medieval Garden



Légend

- 1 Impasse Port Royal
- A Entrace court**
- 2 Patches for plants needing shade
- 3 Reception
- 4 Terrace
- 5 Herbarium
- 6 Cereal patches)

- 7 Guards's room (aula)
- 8 King's room (aula 1st exhibition)
- 9 Charles VIII's room + exhibition + access panorama
- 10 Elzéar III's room (King's tower 1st floor exhibition)
- 11 De Laudun's room (King's tower)
- 12 Panorama
- 13 Prison cells

B Bishop's court

- 14 Hortus
- 15 Patches for utilitarian plants
- 16 Temporalité's room (exhibition)
- 17 Chapel
- 18 Rainon's room (exhibition Bishop's tower)
- 19 Bishop's room (Bishop's tower)



A brief Historical account

In the 11th century, there were two castles in Uzès : Bermond castle and Raynon Castle named after the two lords of Uzès.

Bermond castle became what is now called the “Duchy”. The Medieval Garden has been laid out within the precincts of Raynon castle.

The Bishops between 1242 and 1280, then King Charles VIII in 1493, respectively bought parts of Raynon domain... From then on the three co-lords of Uzès were : the Lord (descendant of Bermond), the Bishop and the King.

The three towers of Uzès : Bermond tower (duchy), the Bishop’s tower and the King’s tower (in the precincts of the present Medieval Garden) symbolize those three rival powers until the revolution.

The Bishops very soon used their castle as a seat of justice (tribunal and prison). The King’s castle was certainly used as a residence. Louis XIII stayed there from 10 to 14 July 1629, at the time of the “Peace” of Alès (submission of protestant towns). It was used as quarters for passing troops or as a prison.

At the time of the revolution, these two estates became state property. The two castles, reunited, were used as a district prison until the beginning of the 20th century.

Forgotten for some time, these history laden places have gained a new life thanks to the creation of a Medieval Garden open to the public.



The Garden

Created in 1995, this special place was inspired by the walled gardens of the end of the Middle Age. The abundant illustrations and coloured manuscripts provided an important source of information for the development of this botanical garden.

Many of the plants grown here have accompanied man from his origins to the present day. They were used during the Middle Age for feeding, healing and for many uses in domestic life: clothing, dyeing and decoration... We have also discovered many varieties of local, wild flora which, in the past, played an important role in the health of the population.

The aim of this garden is to allow you to discover, to recognise, to inform and maybe to renew a bond with our plant life which can sometimes be forgotten. The garden also serves a purpose by contributing towards the conservation of certain plant types.

*During your visit you will see information panels, please note that **the red dot signifies a toxic plant**. As a measure of security we ask you to be vigilant and to respect “The Natural World” by not picking the plants*