

World Rose News

The Newsletter of the
WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

September 2023 / Volume 33 / Number 3



'Flower Girl'
JP Mattia Cover

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As our gardens in the Northern Hemisphere are slowly going dormant, the Spring shows are just picking up south of the Equator.

We continue to gear up for the next Convention to be held in Kalmar, Sweden with pre and post tours visiting gardens in Sweden, Norway and Finland. The pre and post tours have been extended so there is plenty to see. Also included is an article by Christina Högardh-Ihr showing you some of the gardens and sights you will see during the Convention.

Our cover by John Mattia is 'Flower Girl' (FRYyeoman), a light pink shrub from Fryer introduced in 1999. It is a top show winner for it's large clustered sprays and a great landscape rose.

My photograph for this issue is 'Neon Cowboy' (WEKemelcho) a 2002 Miniature from Tom Carruth. It shows well in the single petaled class.

Enjoy!

Steve Jones, Fiddletown, CA, United States



'Neon Cowboy' (2002, Min)

Note: All photos and articles, unless otherwise noted, are by the Editor

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The Editor reserves the right to edit submitted articles for spelling, grammar, or for space considerations.

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Visit our website at www.worldrose.org

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Do you receive our sister publication
by any other name?

This publication is from the WFRS Conservation & Heritage Rose Committee and covers species, old garden, and historical roses and the efforts to collect and save them.

Copies can be downloaded from the WFRS website:

www.worldrose.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2022-2025

September 2023



Photo: Diane vom Berg

Diane vom Berg

Spring has sprung in Adelaide and the blossoms, wisteria and the first rose blooms can be seen in our gardens.

Thanks to Marga Verwer, Chair of the International Rose Trials committee for attending many of the trials and posting the results of recent trials on the WFRS Facebook page. Dates of the International Trials can be found on the WFRS website.

The Friends of the Federation welcomes the generous support of new members, providing further opportunities for promotion of the World Federation of Rose Societies. I also note with interest the posts of United States and United Kingdom rose shows. In Australia the Spring Shows began from late September and will conclude in early November. Our National Annual General Meeting and Australian Rose Championships are being held in Perth, Western Australia over the third weekend in October.

Our global sponsorship agreement with FELCO will greatly assist the WFRS. The company is a worldwide leader in the production of high precision professional secateurs and pruning tools. It is pleasing to see many member countries promoting this association.

Looking ahead, I encourage you to consider attending an upcoming convention. Registration for Sweden (July 2024) is now open and planning is well underway for Japan (May 2025). Follow the links on the World Federation Website to view the latest updates to both programs, including pre and post tours.

Whether it is Autumn or Spring in your country, may your roses be blooming.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Derek Lawrence

September 2023

Let's face it, for a number of years, the horticultural trade has struggled to get youngsters actively connected with the industry. This is surely a grassroots problem? In the United Kingdom matters have gradually improved, with the Royal Horticultural Society encouraging schools to teach their students of the benefits of growing plants. A recent survey reported that 72% of millennials have already assisted in gardening, 79% have grown a plant and 75% are enjoying the pleasures of growing a manner of different plants. Seeking a career in horticulture is not everyone's dream, but inspiring children from an early age to enjoy the benefits of gardening, can sow the seeds for them to actively engage in a lifelong passion for plants, gardens, trees and maybe roses?

One such fine example is Daniel Myhill from Norfolk, England. He began gardening as a child growing up in Whitstable in Kent. When he became a teenager, he gardened for a lady as a Saturday job. The garden had a large number of mature roses, where the owner taught Daniel how to deadhead and prune them. When he was eighteen, he moved to Norwich to study at the University. He acquired this own garden, where Daniel grew hybrid tea and floribunda roses in pots, which eventually amassed to a collection of 50 cultivars.

His unwavering enthusiasm was ignited further after he attended London's RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2015, where he was captivated by the sight of the unusual deep red, characteristic eye of the variety, *Rosa persica* hybrid, 'Alissar, Princess of Phoenicia'. This stunning bloom fired his imagination to such an extent, that Daniel avidly began collecting and planting other *persica* types to furnish his own garden.

In 2018, he joined the Rose Society UK and was appointed as Treasurer within a year. Through his involvement with the organisation, he met many rosarians who graciously opened new doors for him to further his rosy endeavours. As a direct result, Daniel now annually participates in the RHS Red Rose and Award of Garden Merit trials at their respective society gardens. He is a regular judge and panel Member at Rochfords International Rose Trials in Hertfordshire. He is an international judge, having attended the Glasgow and Belfast rose trials respectively. Daniel has also become a fully qualified Show Judge.

His love for *persica* roses has continued to flourish, with him engaging with experienced breeders in order for him to fully grasp the necessary skills to become an accomplished breeder and gain an understanding where these types originated from. His fine *persica* collection of nearly 100 plants has grown to such an extent, that last year, Britain's Plant Heritage charity organisation recognised the horticultural significance of the collection, by granting his garden with National Collection status. It was an extremely proud moment for Daniel. He's an immense advocate of growing roses without harmful chemicals, like pesticides and fungicides, opting for good husbandry and encouraging a natural balance within the garden when it comes to managing pests in particular.



Daniel Myhill on the Plant Heritage 45th anniversary stand at the 2023 RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival, London (Photo courtesy of Daniel Myhill.)

Earlier this year, Daniel was appointed as the Chair of the Rose Society UK's new Breeders' Group. His focus is to enhance the relationship between amateur rose breeders and the UK rose industry, and to motivate others to breed roses. In recent times, he's given lectures on roses, and written several noteworthy articles in the horticultural press. Daniel feels proud to have graciously accepted the invitation to conduct a lecture about his National Collection of *Rosa persica* hybrids for the upcoming 20th WFRS World Rose Convention in Japan during 2025. On reflection, Daniel Myhill has achieved a lot in a very short timeframe. He truly is an inspiration and motivator for younger people.

The reality of the situation is that the world needs more Daniels. We must encourage the younger generation to join our ranks. This green legacy would ensure that the Earth will continue to be laden with a rich tapestry of plant life, and make this remarkable planet an even better place to live.

ROSE NEWS

News from the Executive Director:

FELCO Sponsorship Agreement

Immediate Past President and Chair of Promotions Committee Henrienne de Briey, is very pleased to announce that FELCO have graciously agreed to continue with the sponsorship agreement for the period 1st January – 31st December 2024. Details of the new contract will be published, once the agreement has been officially signed by both parties. In respect of this arrangement, we encourage all our Members to continue to proactively promote the FELCO brand.

Subscription Payments

The Federation is pleased to announce that as from 1st January 2024, subscriptions and other international transfer payments to our organisation will be able to be undertaken by Worldpay. The bankers draft method will remain, but Members' will be given either option to make future payments. Full details will be sent to Members in the new year.

WFRS Instagram

The Executive Committee has approved that the Federation to operate an Instagram account. The Publications Committee are currently working on the layout, and Members will be advised about a launch date once the Committee has completed the site.

Annual Seasonal Greetings

Due to past technical issues, the Executive Committee concluded that the system where the Executive Director circulates annual seasonal digital cards is no longer a viable proposition. From this Christmas, any digital cards received will be posted directly onto the Federation's Facebook and Instagram accounts. It is felt that this new system will further promote the aims and friendliness of the WFRS to a wider audience.

New Associate Member

The Federation is delighted to announce that LARN of Switzerland has joined our ranks.

Congratulations to Lukasz Rojewski

Congratulations are in store for Lukasz Rojewski, a Breeders Club member who won the top prizes at the Kortrijk and Le Roeulx Rose Trials for 2023 with 'Ivona' and 'Pegasus'.



**Golden Rose 2023 Kortrijk, Belgium Trials
'Ivona' by Lukasz Rojewski, Poland**



**Grand Prize 2023 Le Roeulx, Belgium Trials
'Pegasus' by Lukasz Rojewski, Poland**



**Golden Rose 2023 Hradec Kralova, Czechia
'Mauritia' by Tantau, Germany**



Welcome to the
WFRS Regional Convention &
Heritage Roses Conference Sweden
2-6 July, 2024

The Swedish Rose Society is very proud to host a rose experience in the shimmer of the famous Nordic light. In the month of July, the roses are at their most beautiful peak in the Nordic countries and the line between day and night is barely visible.

Pre Tour

June 25 – July 1

Welcome to Finland



The land of 1000 lakes and many unique rose gardens.

Program

Tuesday, June 25

Arrival in Stockholm and board ferry to Finland on a night cruise through the archipelago.

Wednesday, June 26

Visit Ruissalo Botanical Garden in Turku and an archeological exhibition of old Turku.

Thursday, June 27

Sight-seeing in old central Helsinki and visit in private garden Meilahti Rosarium.

Friday, June 28

Visit Hataanpää arboretum and sight-seeing in Tampere. Steamboat cruise on the lakes.

Saturday, June 29

Transfer to Vaasa. Visit Kvarken World Heritage Site. Dinner at Berny's in the archipelago.

Sunday, June 30

Visit Stundars Homestead Museum and a private rose-garden. Board ferry to Stockholm.

Monday, July 1

Arrival in Stockholm and your hotel at Djurgården. City tour and afternoon mingle at Waldemarsudde, the lovely rose garden and art museum of Prince Eugen.



General information

The same bus will be used for the whole trip in Finland.

Weather is usually quite agreeable in the Nordic countries with temperatures around 20 degrees centigrade during the day. Rain showers are possible.



Main Tour

July 2 – July 6

Welcome to Sweden



Friendly and innovative, yet historical, with a beautiful countryside.



We will welcome you to the historic city of Kalmar during the five-day event and make excursions to Skåne and the National Gene Bank, hosting the trials of found roses according to Sweden's Agricultural University in Alnarp.

Also visits at Sofiero in Helsingborg, Solliden Palace and Rosenlund in Jönköping. Take part in lectures with focus on sustainability and how our old roses can tell stories for future generations of rose lovers. In our fascinating Pre tour to Finland with so many lovely and interesting roses and Post tour to Norway you will find amazing rose collections between the lakes, fjords and the mountains.



Program

Tuesday, July 2

Welcome to the medieval city of Kalmar with a Meet & Greet at Kalmar Congress Center.

Wednesday, July 3

Morning lectures in Kalmar Congress Center. Keynote speaker Lars-Åke Gustavsson presents the POM project.

Visit to Öland. The Swedish Royal family celebrates their summer vacation here and we will visit their beautiful castle garden.

Afternoon Tea and opportunity to experience a bright summer evening.

Thursday, July 4

Excursion to Skåne and Agricultural University Alnarp for a visit to the Nordic Gene Bank for Cultural Heritage Roses. Also visit to Fredriksdal Rosarium in Helsingborg.

Alternative program with lectures, guided city & park walks for those who remain in Kalmar.

Friday, July 5

Visit to Sofiero Castle Garden before departure for Rosenlund Rosarium in Jönköping. Evening at Leisure in Kalmar.

Alternative program for those who stay in Kalmar, excursion to Jönköping.

Saturday, July 6

Closing day with lectures, rose festival at the town square and music event at Kalmar Castle including the Gala Dinner.

Registration opens on August 25, 2023 – More info at Nordicroses2024.com

Post Tour

Welcome to Norway



July 7 – July 14

A spectacular tour in the land of the fjords with love for nature & roses.

Program

Sunday, July 7

Departure from Kalmar to Gothenburg for visit at "Trädgårdsföreningen" and guided tours in the Rosarium. Evening at leisure.

Monday, July 8

Departure for Oslo. Lunch and visit to the famous Vigeland Sculpture Park. Check-in at amazing Wood Hotel by Frich's in Brumunddal, the tallest wooden building in the world.

Tuesday, July 9

Departure for Ringebu in Gudbrandsdalen where we will visit an old garden with a great collection of old roses as well as Ringebu's famous stave church from the 13th century. Continuing into Norway's fantastic mountain world.

Wednesday, July 10

Departure to Molde, known as Norway's City of Roses since the beginning of the 20th century. Guided tour of the city, check in at Alexandra Hotel.

Thursday, July 11

Departure along the unique fjord landscape to Aalesund, named Norway's most beautiful city with its fine Jugend architecture. Tour of the city and dinner at the famous fish restaurant, XL Diner. At midnight we will sail on the Hurtigruten to Bergen.

Friday, July 12

Arrival in Bergen, Norway's second largest city and a heritage city. Afternoon at Leisure to enjoy the city with its cozy streets and squares, surrounded by seven mountain peaks.

Saturday, July 13

Excursion with Hardanger fjord cruise to Baroniet Rosendal, a baroque castle that lies between mountains and fjords and has become famous for its rose garden and landscape park. Gondola ride to the skyscraper Ulriken for dinner with a view.

Sunday, July 14

Visit the Arboretum in Milde with Norway's largest collection of roses. With its unique location it is described as one of the world's most beautiful rose gardens. Closing lunch.



Registration opens on August 25, 2023

More info at Nordicroses2024.com



the Green Guide

Photos by:

Alexander Hall, Destination Öland, Destination Kalmar, Micheal Luther, Johnny Bratseth (Visitnorthwest.no), Andrea Giubelli (Visitnorway.com), Fredrik Ahlsen - Maverix (Visitnorway.com)

WELCOME TO WFRS REGIONAL CONVENTION & HERITAGE ROSES CONFERENCE SWEDEN

By Christina Högardh-Ihr

The Green Guide and The Swedish Rose Society are very proud to host a rose experience in the shimmer of the famous Nordic light. The World Federation of Rose Societies conference is taking place in Sweden for the first time, in the month of July, when our roses are at their most beautiful peak and the line between day and night is barely visible. We will welcome rosarians from all over the world. The main conference will be in the adorable city of Kalmar, chosen the most popular town to spend your holiday in Sweden. A rose lover can take numerous walks in the quarter of small wooden buildings in the city center and find roses on every fence.

We will spend some unforgettable days with seminars and discussions on a subject that is very dear to us all, sustainable growing of roses. We will make excursions to The Agricultural University in Alnarp where you find the National Gene Bank for Cultural Heritage Roses and all the treasures that were collected all over Sweden in the unique POM project. We will also visit Sofiero and Fredriksdal and Rosenlund Rosarium in Jönköping, a recently awarded rose garden by WFRS with a special and beautiful design and a collection of very interesting roses for a Nordic climate.

We will enjoy the beautiful surroundings in Kalmar, like Öland Island, and on our closing day of the conference there will be festivities and a music event at Kalmar Castle.



Left: Sofiero Gardens,
Right: Kalmar Castle



Here are some detailed highlights for you!

Sofiero Castle and Gardens: A Historical Treasure

History: Sofiero Castle is a historic site located in Helsingborg, Sweden, known for its great collection of rhododendrons and beautiful roses and rich history. Originally built as a royal summer residence in the 1860s, the castle was used by the Swedish royal family and was a favorite spot of King Gustaf VI Adolf and Crown Princess Margareta. During their time here, the castle underwent significant transformations, with the development of magnificent gardens.

Sofiero is most renowned for its impressive collection of rhododendrons. In 1905, Crown Prince Gustaf VI Adolf and Crown Princess Margareta started to design their garden at Sofiero. It was, and is, a woodland with steep ravines that goes all the way down to the sea. Margareta, who was from England, created an English garden divided into separated rooms. Masses of rhododendrons were planted in the ravines. On the upper plateau there was plenty of space for double borders, a kitchen garden, a rose garden and an orangery. Princess Margareta was the granddaughter of Queen Victoria of England and grew up in the royal castle of Bagshot in London. Margareta showed an interest in gardening already as a little girl. She had a great love for roses, preferably the latest varieties of tea hybrids, climbing wichuranas and polyantha roses which she used when she created her English garden around 1905 at the summer castle Sofiero in Helsingborg. The roses were allowed to embrace seating, cling to pergolas and trellises. She took advantage of their changing growth habits to allow them to behave both disciplined and well-trimmed, or to climb wildly.

In her own garden book, Margareta writes: “Among the roses we like best are 'Prince de Bulgarie', with varying light yellow and cut roses, 'Rayon d'Or' a charming, pure yellow rose, the very richly blooming 'Mme Laurette Messimy', 'Killarney', a simpler, very graceful flower and 'Souvenir du Président Carnot' an almost white rose”. Even today, the rose garden is a delight for rose enthusiasts, and visitors can enjoy a spectacular bloom during the summer season.

Contemporary Attractions: In addition to the rose garden, Sofiero offers a range of other attractions and activities for visitors. The well-maintained gardens, walking trails, and exhibitions that delve into the castle's history and royal connections are worth exploring. Visitors can also indulge in local delicacies at the on-site restaurants and cafes. During the summer season, Sofiero often hosts events, concerts, and garden festivals, making it a vibrant and culturally rich destination.

In summary, Sofiero Castle and Gardens is an idyllic place that combines history, beauty, and culture. Its famous garden is one of the most impressive in Sweden and is a must-visit for all garden enthusiasts. The castle and its surroundings also provide insight into the history of the Swedish royal family and offer a pleasant environment for



Fredriksdal: Left: 'Cornelia' & *Rosa moschata*, Right: Rose pergolas

exploration and enjoyment.

Fredriksdal Gardens: A Horticultural Gem in Helsingborg, Sweden with a Splendid Rose Collection

Fredriksdal is renowned for its beautiful and diverse gardens, including an impressive collection of roses. The rose gardens at

Fredriksdal are a true spectacle, featuring a wide array of rose varieties, colors, and fragrances. Whether you're a dedicated rose enthusiast or simply appreciate the beauty of these flowers, the rose gardens provide a captivating display year-round.

History: Fredriksdal Gardens is a historical and horticultural treasure located in Helsingborg, Sweden. Its history dates to the 18th century when it was originally a country estate. Today, Fredriksdal is a living museum, preserving the charm and heritage of Sweden's past. It offers visitors a unique opportunity to step back in time and experience life as it was in previous centuries.

Gardens and Horticulture: Fredriksdal is renowned for its beautiful and diverse gardens. The site encompasses a wide range of gardens, including formal gardens, herb gardens, vegetable gardens, and more. Each garden is meticulously maintained and showcases a variety of plant species, including both native and exotic plants. The gardens are a true haven for horticulture enthusiasts and provide a visual feast of colors and scents throughout the seasons.

Historical Buildings and Open-Air Museum: Another of the highlights of Fredriksdal is its collection of well-preserved historical buildings. Visitors can explore traditional Swedish farmhouses, workshops, and other structures that have been carefully moved to the site. These buildings provide insight into the daily life of the past and are an integral part of the open-air museum experience at Fredriksdal.

Cultural Events: Fredriksdal is not just a place of natural beauty and history; it is also a vibrant cultural hub. The gardens host a variety of events and activities throughout the year, including concerts, theater performances, art exhibitions, and seasonal festivals. These events add to the lively atmosphere of Fredriksdal and make it a dynamic destination for visitors of all ages.

Visitor Experience: Visitors to Fredriksdal can enjoy leisurely strolls through the gardens, guided tours, educational programs, and hands-on experiences related to traditional crafts and gardening. The on-site café and restaurant offer a taste of Swedish cuisine and provide a relaxing place to unwind.

In summary, Fredriksdal Gardens is a captivating blend of history, horticulture, and culture. Its beautifully landscaped gardens, historic buildings, and lively cultural events make it a must-visit destination in Helsingborg. Whether you're interested in gardens, history, or simply enjoying the outdoors, Fredriksdal offers a delightful and enriching experience for all.



Gothenburg Conservatory

Gothenburg Botanical Garden

Gothenburg Botanical Garden, known as Göteborgs Trädgårdsförening in Swedish, is a horticultural institution situated in the heart of Gothenburg, Sweden. Its history dates back to its founding in 1842, making it one of the oldest botanical gardens in Sweden. Originally established to promote horticulture and provide a space for plant research, it has evolved into a beautiful and educational green space.



Baroniet Rosendal Rose Garden

Botanical Collections: The Gothenburg Botanical Garden boasts an extensive and diverse collection of plants from around the world. It is home to thousands of plant species, including rare and exotic specimens. Visitors can explore various themed gardens, such as rock gardens, alpine gardens, and a captivating herb garden. The garden's greenhouses house tropical and subtropical plants, ensuring there's something to see year-round.

Rose Garden: Among its many attractions, the garden features a splendid rose garden. This carefully cultivated garden showcases 1200 rose varieties, creating a visual and aromatic delight for visitors during the blooming season.

Education and Research: Gothenburg Botanical Garden plays a pivotal role in horticultural education and research. It serves as a hub for botanical studies and research projects. Visitors have the opportunity to learn about plant conservation efforts and gain a deeper understanding of the natural world through educational

exhibits.

Cultural Events: Throughout the year, Gothenburg Botanical Garden hosts a variety of cultural events, including art exhibitions, workshops, guided tours, and lectures. These events enrich the visitor experience by combining art, science, and nature.

Visitor Experience: Visitors to Göteborgs Trädgårdsförening can enjoy leisurely strolls through the garden's well-maintained pathways, gaining knowledge about plant diversity, and finding tranquility in the serene surroundings. The on-site café provides a pleasant spot to relax and enjoy refreshments amid the lush greenery.

In summary, Gothenburg Botanical Garden is a true horticultural oasis in Gothenburg, Sweden. With its rich history, diverse plant collections, and a magnificent rose garden, it offers a captivating experience for garden enthusiasts, nature lovers, and those seeking a peaceful escape within the city. The garden's commitment to education, research, and cultural engagement makes it a dynamic and inviting destination year-round.

Baroniet Rosendal, Bergen, Norway

A Historic Estate with Enchanting Gardens and a Rich Rose Tradition.

History: Baroniet Rosendal is a historic estate located in the Hardanger region of Norway. It holds a special place in Norway's cultural heritage, as it is one of the country's oldest estates. The history of Baroniet Rosendal dates back to the 17th century when it was established by Ludvig Holgersen Rosenkrantz. Today, it is both a living museum and a vibrant cultural center.



Fjord - Hurtigruten

Gardens and Roses: Baroniet Rosendal is renowned for its enchanting gardens, with a particular focus on roses. The rose garden at Rosendal is a centerpiece of the estate, featuring a remarkable collection of rose varieties. The garden's layout and design are inspired by historic traditions, and it offers a stunning display of colors, scents, and blooming roses during the summer months. The estate's commitment to preserving and cultivating roses reflects its deep horticultural heritage.

Historic Buildings: Visitors to Baroniet Rosendal can explore several historic buildings, including Rosendal Manor, which is one of the smallest noble estates in Scandinavia. The manor offers insights into the lifestyle of the Norwegian nobility in past centuries. Additionally, the estate includes a historic kitchen garden, orchards, and other charming structures that transport visitors back in time.

Cultural Events and Activities: Baroniet Rosendal hosts a variety of cultural events and activities throughout the year. These include concerts, art exhibitions, literary events, and guided tours that provide a deeper understanding of the estate's history and natural surroundings. The estate's commitment to cultural enrichment makes it a dynamic destination for visitors.

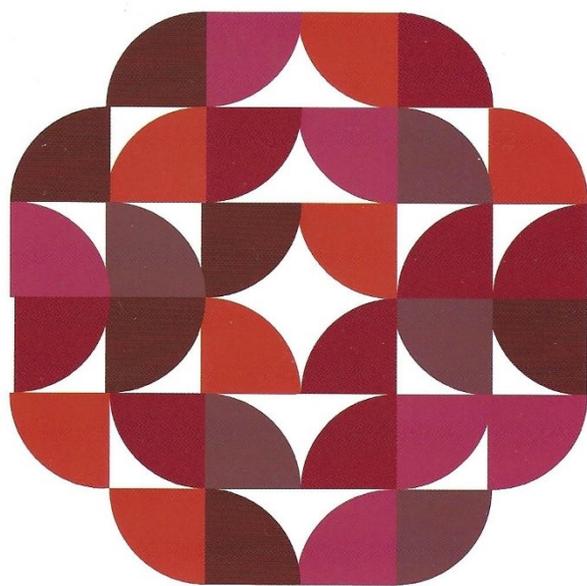
Visitor Experience: Visitors to Baroniet Rosendal can immerse themselves in the serene beauty of the gardens, take guided tours to learn about the estate's history, and enjoy traditional Norwegian cuisine at the on-site café. The tranquil surroundings and rich cultural offerings make it an ideal place for relaxation and exploration.

In summary, Baroniet Rosendal is a historic estate in Norway celebrated for its enchanting gardens, especially its exquisite rose garden. With its deep roots in history, cultural events, and serene atmosphere, Baroniet Rosendal offers a captivating experience for those interested in horticulture, history, and the rich traditions of Norwegian nobility. The estate's commitment to preserving its rose heritage adds a touch of natural beauty and fragrance to the overall charm of this remarkable destination.

Hurtigruten: Discover Norway's Scenic Coastline

History: Hurtigruten, often referred to as the "World's Most Beautiful Sea Voyage," is an iconic passenger ferry that traverses along Norway's dramatic coastline. Its history dates back to 1893 when the first journey took place. Originally designed to improve communication along the coast and deliver goods to remote communities, Hurtigruten has evolved into a renowned tourist attraction, offering spectacular journeys through outstanding scenic areas.

The Journey: Hurtigruten offers several different routes that take travelers from magnificent fjords to remote Arctic regions. The



WFRS 20th
WORLD ROSE
CONVENTION

2025

in FUKUYAMA

Roses for the Future

A New Future Begins in Fukuyama

Create, Excite, and Shine Together!

18_(Sun)–24_(Sat) May 2025

20TH WFRS WORLD ROSE CONVENTION – FUKUYAMA CITY, JAPAN



Dear Rose Friends,

We are delighted to extend a warm and heartfelt invitation to you for the upcoming World Federation of Rose Societies 20th World Rose Convention 2025. This extraordinary event will take place in Fukuyama, the City of Roses, from May 18th to 24th, 2025.

Get ready to embark on a journey unlike any other as we bring you an exceptional selection of pre and post tours designed for you to savor the beauty of every corner of Japan, from its western reaches to its eastern borders. This is an experience that goes beyond the ordinary; it's a chance to immerse yourself deeply in the heart of Japan in a way that will surpass your imagination.

Prepare to encounter the allure of Japan's indigenous roses and to explore the breathtaking landscapes that await you. These exceptional sights will undoubtedly capture your undivided attention from the very moment you arrive.

Our convention program is coming together with an exciting lineup of speakers who are eager to share their expertise and insights with you. As we finalize the details, we are as excited as you are to soon unveil this impressive roster.

We can assure you that the rose gardens and attractions both in and around Fukuyama City, which you will have the opportunity to explore during the convention, will be nothing short of enchanting.

To stay up-to-date with the latest developments, visit our website and join our mailing list at (<https://en.wrc2025fukuyama.jp/newsletter/>). Our timely newsletters will keep you well-informed. Please note that registration is expected to open in May 2024.

Mark your calendars for the remarkable year of 2025 and prepare to join us in Fukuyama, where an unforgettable experience awaits you. We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming you to our beautiful city.

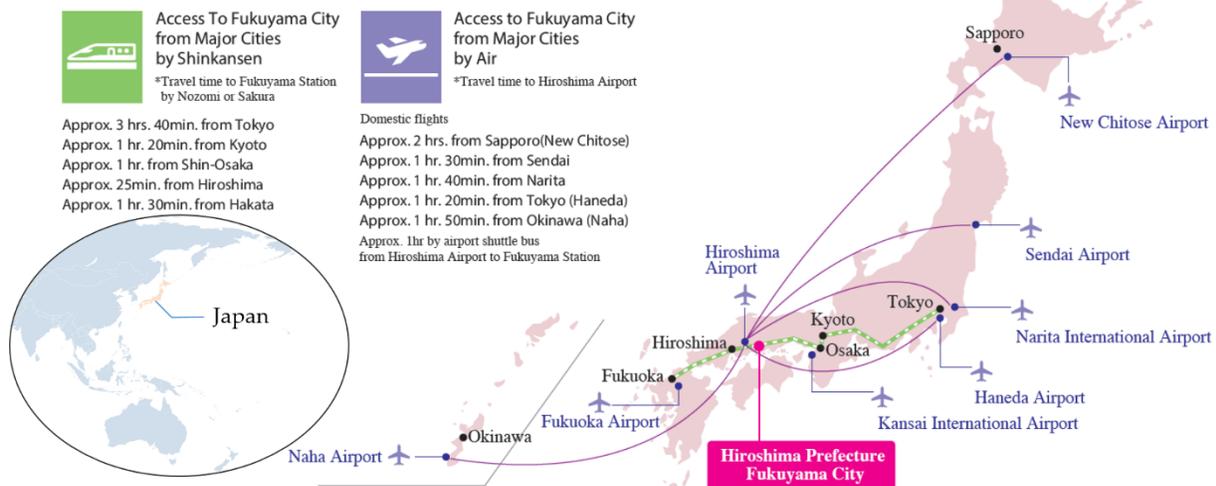
Warmest regards,

Naoki Edahiro

Mayor of Fukuyama

Chairman, Organizing Committee for the 2025 World Rose Convention

Location of Fukuyama City, Hiroshima



Fukuyama – The City of a Million Roses

Fukuyama is passionate about its roses. After World War II, residents planted around 1,000 roses about 70 years ago in the hope of creating a peaceful town. This marked the beginning of planting and caring for roses as part of the city's community building, and in 2016, Fukuyama became the City of a Million Roses. Through this passion for roses, the activities of the people of Fukuyama are what make this city blossom.

(All photos courtesy of Fukuyama City.)



Bara Koen (Recipient of the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence)



Fukuyama Castle (The city's landmark)

20th WFRS WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - FUKUYAMA CITY PROGRAM OF EVENTS

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Saturday, 17th May

Delegates Arrive

09:00 - 18:00	58th Fukuyama Rose Festival in 2025 (Day 1)	Whole City
09:00 - 18:00	Rose Expo FUKUYAMA 2025 (Day 1)	Midorimachi Park
10:00 - 11:00	Grand Opening_58th Fukuyama Rose Festival in 2025 (Day 1)	Whole City
11:00 - 12:00	Grand Opening_Rose Expo FUKUYAMA 2025 (Day 1)	Midorimachi Park
- 16:00	Participants of Pre-Tour Arrive	Midorimachi Park
12:00 - 18:00	Registration Open	Hotel
16:00 - 17:00	WFRS Promotions Committee	Hotel
17:00 - 18:00	Tea Break / Light Meal	Hotel
18:00 - 20:00	WFRS Honours Committee	Hotel

Sunday, 18th May (Day 1)

Delegates Arrive

09:00 - 18:00	58th Fukuyama Rose Festival in 2025 (Day 2)	Whole City
09:00 - 18:00	Rose Expo FUKUYAMA 2025 (Day 2)	Midorimachi Park
08:30 - 18:00	Registration Open	Hotel
08:30 - 11:30	WFRS Executive Meeting No.1	Hotel
13:00 - 15:00	WFRS Publications Committee	Hotel
15:00 - 15:30	Tea Break	Hotel
15:30 - 17:30	WFRS Classification & Registration Committee	Hotel
18:30 - 21:00	Welcome Reception (includes Meal)	Fukuyama Castle

Monday, 19th May (Day 2)

09:00 - 18:00	Rose Expo FUKUYAMA 2025 (Day 3)	Midorimachi Park
08:00 - 08:45	Depart by bus for Opening Ceremony (15 minutes Drive (by Bus))	
09:30 - 11:30	Opening Ceremony (WFRS events, Traditional Fukuyama's Playing Koto)	Fukuyama Hall of Arts & Culture
11:30 - 12:00	Depart by bus for Lunch Party (5 minutes Drive)	
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch Party	Midorimachi Park
13:30 - 18:00	Delegates visit Rose Expo FUKUYAMA 2025	Midorimachi Park
13:30 - 18:00	Buses From Midorimachi Park to Hotel (Fukuyama Station)	
18:00 -	Evening Free / Optional tourist activities	
14:00 - 16:00	WFRS Heritage & Conservation Committee	Hotel
16:00 - 18:00	WFRS Awards Committee (with Coffee / Light Meal)	Hotel
18:00 - 19:00	Tea Break / Light Meal	Hotel
19:00 - 22:00	WFRS Convention Liaison Committee (with Coffee / Light Meal)	Hotel

Tuesday, 20th May (Day 3)

Roses in Asia

08:30 - 09:10	Lecture 1	Hotel
09:15 - 09:55	Lecture 2	Hotel
10:00 - 10:30	Tea Break	Hotel
10:30 - 11:10	Lecture 3	Hotel
11:15 - 11:55	Lecture 4	Hotel
12:00 - 17:30	Tour A or B (Sera English Garden / Rose beds in Fukuyama)	
18:00 -	Evening Free / Optional tourist activities	
17:30 - 18:00	Tea Break / Light Meal	Hotel
18:00 - 20:00	WFRS International Judges Committee (with Coffee / Light Meal)	Hotel
20:00 - 20:15	Tea Break / Light Meal	Hotel
20:15 - 22:15	WFRS International Rose Trials Committee / The Breeders Club (with Coffee / Light Meal)	Hotel

Wednesday, 21st May (Day 4)

Roses for the Future (1) Conservation

08:30 - 09:10	Lecture 5	Hotel
09:15 - 09:55	Lecture 6	Hotel
10:00 - 10:30	Tea Break	Hotel
10:30 - 11:10	Lecture 7	Hotel
11:15 - 11:55	Lecture 8	Hotel
12:00 - 17:30	Tour A or B	
18:00 - 20:00	Fukuyama Street Dining	Shopping Street in the City Centre

Thursday, 22nd May (Day 5)

08:30 - 17:30	Day Tour for Hiroshima-City (Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park / Hiroshima Botanical Garden)	Whole Hiroshima Area
18:00 -	Evening Free / Optional tourist activities	
18:30 - 21:00	WFRS Friends of the Federation Dinner (by invitation only)	

Friday, 23rd May (Day 6)

Roses for the Future (2) Disease Resistance

08:30 - 09:10	Lecture 9	Hotel
09:15 - 09:55	Lecture 10	Hotel
10:00 - 10:30	Tea Break	Hotel
10:30 - 11:10	Lecture 11	Hotel
11:15 - 11:55	Lecture 12	Hotel
12:00 - 12:20	Presentation of the next Regional Convention	Hotel
12:20 - 13:30	Lunch	Hotel
13:30 - 17:30	Tour for Tomonoura	
18:00 -	Evening Free / Optional tourist activities	
19:00 - 22:00	WFRS Council Meeting	Hotel

Saturday, 24th May (Day 7)

Roses for the Future (3) Other new techniques

08:00 - 08:45	Lecture 13	<i>Hotel</i>
08:45 - 09:30	Lecture 14	<i>Hotel</i>
09:30 - 10:00	Tea Break	<i>Hotel</i>
10:00 - 10:45	Lecture 15	<i>Hotel</i>
10:45 - 12:15	BREEDERS PANEL (5 breeders/) The Chair: Kelvin Trimper	<i>Hotel</i>
12:15 - 12:30	Presentation of the Heritage Roses Conference	<i>Hotel</i>
12:30 - 13:00	Presentation of the 21st WFRS World Rose Convention	<i>Hotel</i>
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	<i>Hotel</i>
14:00 - 16:00	Visit a local school and meet with the children	
14:00 - 16:00	WFRS Executive Meeting No.2	<i>Hotel</i>
18:00 - 22:00	WFRS Gala Convention Dinner and Awards Presentation	<i>Hotel</i>

MEET YOUR PRESIDENT

Diane's love affair with roses goes global **By Celia Painter, South Australia**

When the 2022–2025 President of World Federation of Rose Societies, Diane vom Berg, puts up the blinds of her home in Australia each morning, she cannot help but think “WOW”. A “picture” of colour and form from roses fills her view. And if new buds are opening, it's even better.

It's a scene, a garden, that Diane said she could never have imagined before she became captivated by roses about 20 years ago at a garden show held at Veale Gardens, an oasis of beautiful roses in the centre of her “hometown”, Adelaide, Australia. It was the grace, subtle hues and intricacies of the “Austins” that won her over.

Fast forward a couple of decades, and Diane is into the first year of her Presidency of the World Federation of Rose Societies and has just pulled the blinds down on the last of three consecutive years as President of The Rose Society of South Australia.

And that was South Australia's cue to say WOW.



Diane in her garden



During her time as President of that State Society—the biggest rose society Downunder— Diane shared celebrations with members from the regions and across the seas, undertook innumerable meetings with partners of the Society, represented members and hosted dignitaries, and had countless conversations, with a countless number of people, about all things roses. As President, she also led the Society through COVID—instituting Zoom meetings with the Society's voluntary management council that helped keep the organisation operating—while many community organisations floundered. At the same time she forged forward to garner the support of many and organise logistics for the staging of the World Rose Convention held in Adelaide in October and November 2022. Meanwhile, she also managed responsibilities associated with her involvement in the National Rose Society of Australia and the World Federation of Rose Societies.

With a cheery disposition and quiet resolve, Diane also juggled the many competing priorities and diverse opinions of the many hundreds of members of her local Society. Her dedication to sharing and promoting the rose, and simply her love of the rose, have been the driving forces of this balancing act.

It's quite a digression from the path she had been on. Diane grew up in the suburbs, in a typically Aussie 1960s home, with a patch of lawn and a strip of roses. Hers was a sporting family: her dad a tennis coach, and Diane was encouraged to play tennis and join the club committee as soon as she was old enough to contribute to operations. Volunteering was part of the family's way of life.

Upon marrying and having a family, Diane had a garden with about 20 roses, before visiting that fateful garden show at Veale Gardens. A friend suggested she join the Rose Society of South Australia in 2001 and after attending one of the Society's rose shows, she was really bitten by “the rose bug”, growing more and more roses and exhibiting.

In 2005, Diane was elected to the Council of the Rose Society of South Australia, and as part of her involvement supported the Planning Committee of the very successful 2008 Adelaide Regional Convention. During that time, she commenced as an Assessor for the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia and continues in that role today.

In 2009, Diane also took up the reins as Council Vice-President, serving in the position until her election as President in 2020.

Her involvement in the many different aspects of the Society, from helping to organise meeting suppers to representing her State

Society nationally, saw her honoured with Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia in 2019. Yet there was still even more to do. Among her many rose activities, she completed the Judges Training School and was endorsed as an Accredited Rose Judge in 2021.



Diane, President of the Jury, Baden-Baden, Germany

Diane's love of roses has also extended beyond the local Society activities. She has attended many National Rose Society of Australia Annual General Meetings as a State Delegate or as an Observer. In 2012, she was elected as Treasurer of the World Federation of Rose Societies and held that position until October 2022 when she became President of the World Federation of Rose Societies; a position that, just like that of her garden today, she could never had imagined holding when she was a young mum.

Says Diane of her Presidency: "It's exciting. The rose is the world's favourite flower. Its beauty and its fragrance give people pleasure and brings them together. As President I'm looking forward to working with the Executive and Standing Committees, attending Conventions and events, participating in international rose trials, engaging with member countries and seeking mutually beneficial sponsorships. I'm particularly interested in the areas of education and promotion and exploring how we can develop these to meet the needs of a changing world."

In her capacity as President, Diane has already visited Nanyang, in the Henan Province in Central China, as well as Belgium, attending the 15th International Heritage Rose Conference. At the time of writing, she is about to jet off to Japan to discuss the 2025 World Rose Convention, visiting Fukuyama, Tokyo, gardens and other sites that will be featured. Then, at the end of October, she is heading to Perth, Australia, for the National Rose Society's Annual General Meeting. This builds upon a record of rose related travel which "took flight" once Diane's children had left school.

"I always said I would never attend a convention until the children had left school, but then I was off and out the door," she chuckles. "I haven't stopped since. Conventions are wonderful. You meet and get to know people from all over the world, share experiences and get to see so many places, including special gardens that are often not open to the public."

Diane can never envisage her love of roses and the rose community waning: "It's just so important that we continue our work globally, nationally and locally" she says. "In a world fighting climate change, disasters, social upheaval and more, roses bring beauty and balance into our lives. All rose societies share similar or the same challenges, but that beauty is worth working for."

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WFRS VICE-PRESIDENT REPORTS

By Gavin Woods, WFRS VP Australasia



After the enormous success of the 19th World Rose Convention, hosted by the National Rose Society of Australia in Adelaide, Australian Rosarians have taken a welcome collective breath and gone into recovery mode.

There is little doubt that all of our state societies contributed both financially and with volunteer support towards this event. The organising committee of South Australian members contributed much emotionally also; with a period of sheer exhaustion and in many cases, illness following the last of the celebrations. Most have said that whilst they were thrilled to be involved they would never again repeat the exercise. Of course, the reward for us was being able to welcome all our international Rosarian friends. Such relationships and international connections is what the World Federation is all about.

We are currently gearing up for our Spring season of Rose Shows and Trials. With the very recent declaration of an El Nino event, Australia is preparing for another severe Summer of extreme temperatures and bushfires. We have watched with horror the multiple tragedies that have befallen Europe during their summer and can only hope the same is not coming our way.

With many buds showing on my roses, I have begun irrigation in earnest; to create blooms that are “show worthy” our plants require copious amounts of water. I often reflect on the fertiliser and nutrient supplement that some gardeners promote. I look at the frequency of sprays used, both fungicides and pesticides and wonder if this approach will be supported into the future? Sustainability, of our plants, our hobby and ourselves will surely become the issue of the future.

Speaking sustainability, I am pleased to have convened a group of Presidents of our State Rose Society’s (of which there are five) to look at sustainability of our organisations and to examine the issue of succession planning. It appears (in Australia at least) that we have traditionally undertaken little planning for our own replacements to the detriment of our societies. The well known “She’ll be right mate!” attitude is alive and well in Rose societies. Our group of Presidents has brought to the table other key players to discuss the problem and try to come up with some solutions. Invaluable to us was the article for “American Rose”, March/April edition p83 by Linda Kimmel and Trudy Struck. I encourage you to read it, you are sure to learn something!

Along with others, I will be travelling to Perth, Western Australia (WA) in October for our National Rose Society (NRSA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Show. Quarantine restrictions make it difficult to take rose blooms to the show; I am, however going to give it a go. Our AGM rotates between our 5-member states with the Presidency of the NRSA shifting with it. Tragically our President for 2022-23 died suddenly in his garden in November 2022. Robert (Bob) Melville was a celebrated and awarded Rosarian who had contributed much to the rose scene in WA and beyond. Bob was a popular nurseryman and had passed his business “Melville Roses” on to his family. Bob also held the Presidency of the Rose Society of Western Australia at the time of his death, creating a huge void for that group to fill. Luckily for our members in WA, Jillian Plester stepped up and has taken on the role of President. This is even more remarkable, given that Jillian had recently taken on the role of Secretary, NRSA. Another of example of already busy people taking on a challenge when faced with it! Jillian has had little time to coordinate the NRSA AGM, but with a team around her, I am sure it will be an enjoyable weekend.



Bob Melville (decd) ARA, SMA

Our own South Australian State Show will follow the next weekend which will soon be followed by the Victorian State Show. I intend to visit all three shows, involving some 6,500kms travel in under 3 weeks. The things we do simply for our love of the rose!

Australia has vast and varied climatic conditions. Spring in Queensland comes early with that state Rose Society holding their show in September. The further south one travels the later Roses exit their Winter dormancy, with peak Spring flush reaching Tasmania in November. Sadly, our Tasmanian rose group closed its doors some time ago. We still have enthusiastic Rosarians in our "Apple Isle"; some have retained membership with other State societies and others are members of heritage rose groups. Tasmania is a wonderful place to grow roses even if flushes of bloom are limited to 3 per year.

South Australia's own "International Rose Garden" was awarded the WFRS "Garden of Excellence" Award at the 2022 Convention. A ceremony to unveil the plaque is being planned for Autumn 2024. The Adelaide Botanic Garden (which houses the rose garden) have developed an advisory committee from within The Rose Society of South Australia's ranks to provide ongoing advice and supervision of the garden going forward. Diane Vom Berg, Kelvin Trimper and I are those representatives. We understand the huge honour that has been bestowed upon our garden and realise that much ongoing work must be done to justify the title "Garden of Excellence".



Rose Test Garden at the Adelaide Botanical Gardens

After a 5-year review period, Australia is about to launch a revised set of Standards for judging Roses. Our Standards are traditionally based on British ideals with blooms assessed out of 10 points. This will change to a 100-point system which in my view at least, will encourage judges to assess across a broader spectrum. It is for example easier to consider an exhibit to be worthy of 72.5 points, than 7.25 points. Our Standard reviews are infrequent and comprehensive and of course need to evolve as the types so evolve. We shall see how the next edition is received by judges and exhibitors when it is released early in 2024.

Australians who attended the Regional Convention in Belgium were full of praise for the event. Congratulations to Past-President Henrienne and the organisers. I am sure that many Australians will travel to both Sweden and Japan to enjoy all those countries have to offer. I hope to renew acquaintances then.

(All photos courtesy of the author.)

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MEMBER COUNTRIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) is comprised of 40 national rose societies from all around the world. The list below also annotates their year of joining the WFRS.

Argentina (1977) - Rose Society of Argentina
Australia (1968) - National Rose Society of Australia
Austria (2001) - Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Gartenbau-Gesellschaft
Belgium (1968) - Société Royale Nationale 'Les Amis de la Rose'
Bermuda (1981) - Bermuda Rose Society
Canada (1968) - Canadian Rose Society
Chile (2000) - Asociación Chilena de la Rosa
China (1997) - Chinese Rose Society
Czechia (1994) - Czechia Rosa Club
Denmark (1994) - The Danish Rose Society
Finland (1997) - Finnish Rose Society
France (1979) - Société Française des Roses
Germany (1968) - Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde
Great Britain (2018) - The Rose Society UK
Greece (1997) - The Hellenic Rose Society
Hungary (2008) - Hungarian Rose Friends Society
Iceland (2007) - Icelandic Rose Society
India (1968, 1982) - Indian Rose Federation
Israel (1975) - The Jerusalem Foundation
Italy (1968) - Italian Rose Society
Japan (1968) - Japan Rose Society
Luxembourg (1983) - Luxembourg Rose Society
Monaco (2012) - Société des Roses de Monaco
Netherlands (1976) - Nederlandse Rozenvereniging
New Zealand (1968) - New Zealand Rose Society
Northern Ireland (1982) - Rose Society of Northern Ireland
Norway (1988) - Norwegian Rose Society
Pakistan (1992) - Pakistan National Rose Society
Poland (1981, 2017) - Polish Rose Society
Romania (1992) - Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania
Russia (2007) - Russian Association of Rosarians
Slovakia (2023) - Rose Society Maria Henrieta Chotek
Slovenia (2000) - Slovenian Rose Society
South Africa (1968) - Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa
South Korea (2018) - South Korea Rose Society
Spain (1992) - Asociación Española de la Rosa
Sweden (1994) - The Swedish Rose Society
Switzerland (1976) - Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde SA
United States (1968) - American Rose Society
Uruguay (1985) - Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa

Note: for website information on the above Member Countries, go to the [WFRS website](#)

WFRS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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Association de la Rosa de Coyhaique, Chile

Associazione 'La Compagnia Delle Rose', Italy

Fondazione Roseto Botanico "Carla Fineschi" di Cavriglia, Italy

Geografisk Have, Denmark

Hana no Miyako Gifu Flower Festival Commemorative Park, Japan

Heritage Roses Australia, Inc.

Heritage Roses New Zealand, Inc.

Historic Roses Group of Great Britain

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Piccolo Roseto Giovanni Chilanti, Italy

Polish Association of Rose Breeders

Rosenlunds Rosarium, Sweden

Roses Anciennes en France

Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France

The Botanic Garden, Meise, Belgium

The Rose Culture Institute, Japan

Vrijbroek Park, Belgium

Note: for website information on the above Associate Members, please go to the [WFRS website](#).



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WFRS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2 - 6 July 2024

WFRS Regional Convention & 16th Heritage Rose Conference - Kalmar, Sweden, Email: srs@svenskarosensallskapet.se, website: nordicroses2024.com

18 - 24 May 2025

WFRS 20th World Rose Convention - Fukuyama City, Japan, Email: info@wrc2025fukuyama.jp, website: en.wrc2025fukuyama.jp

FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

Since its introduction in 2010, over 100 individuals from around the globe have donated funds toward the work of the World Federation of Rose Societies. These donors have received invitations to exclusive "Friends Only" functions at WFRS events.

***Become a Friend of the
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***Exclusive invitations to "Friends Only" activities;
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Opportunity to correspond with Friends to exchange
rose growing knowledge, information on rose gardens,
accommodation and other points of interest relative to their region.
Donations, with the exception of Friends for Life, cover the period
until the conclusion of the 2025 World Rose Convention in Japan.***

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