From 5th May to 31st August

Parque de Monserrate hosts the winning pictures from the “International Garden Photographer of the Year” (IGPOTY) exhibition

- 9th edition of the largest garden, plant, flower and botany photography competition
- 39 award winning pictures on display in the Park of Monserrate exhibition
- Submissions to the “Parks of Sintra” category now open

Sintra, 19 April 2016 – Between May 5th and August 31st, for the sixth consecutive year, the Park of Monserrate is hosting the winning pictures from the “International Garden Photographer of the Year” (IGPOTY) competition, the world's leading competition and exhibition of specialist photography of gardens, plants, flowers and botany.

This exhibition is once again integrated into the surrounding nature and counts on 39 award winning pictures from across the categories Beautiful Gardens, Bountiful Earth, The Beauty of Plants, Trees, Woods and Forests, Macro Art, Wildflower Landscapes and Wildlife in the Garden. The photographs are all presented in a format featuring 1x1 metre panels in acacia wood frames made from trees that have fallen in the Sintra Hills and that Parques de Sintra sourced for this specific purpose.

The competition is open not only to professionals but also to their amateur counterparts and with the display of the annual competition winners again inaugurated in Kew Gardens (the United Kingdom) before subsequently touring various destinations worldwide.

The IGPOTY competition was founded in 2007 by five members of the “Garden Photographers’ Association” in the United Kingdom before going international in 2008, the year when the first exhibition took place in the Royal Botanic Gardens, in Kew.

This year, Parques de Sintra resumes its partnership with the IGPOTY competition organisation and plans to recognise the best photographs of the natural heritage of the Sintra Hills (gardens, plants, wildlife and people in natural habitats). Submissions are open through to November 30th at www.igpoty.com and entrants need to
demonstrate that their respective work was shot at one of the sites under the company’s management.

In addition to the monetary prize, the winner of the Parques de Sintra category also receives an annual ”Friend of Parques de Sintra” ticket with their work included in the IGPOTY 2016 catalogue. The winning photograph will also join the touring exhibition that will appear in countries including the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany and, of course, Portugal, at the now regular display in the Park of Monserrate. Enrol now at http://www.igpoty.com/register.asp.

Prizes:

1st place - €350; an annual “Friend of Parques de Sintra” ticket (valid for twelve months at all sites under PSML management without any cap on entrances); photograph put on display in Monserrate, in London and reproduced in the IGPOTY 2016 catalogue.

2nd place - €100

3rd place - €50

The www.igpoty.com site contains the information necessary to submitting entries for the next award competition.

Entrance charge: free entry following the acquisition of a ticket for the Park of Monserrate.

Further information and reservations: info@parquesdesintra.pt; +351 21 923 73 00

- end –

About Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua

Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A. (PSML) is a state-owned limited company with exclusively public capital that was created in 2000 following the recognition by UNESCO of the Cultural Landscape of Sintra as a World Heritage Site. The company was created to assemble the public institutions responsible for preserving and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage in Sintra. PSML has been entrusted with the management of the State’s main properties in the area. Because it does not resort to the State Budget, PSML depends entirely on proceeds from the tickets sale, shops, cafeterias and hiring of venues for events, in order to restore, maintain and promote the heritage it manages.

In 2013, the natural and cultural heritage managed by PSML (the Park and Palace of Pena, the National Palaces of Sintra and Queluz, the Chalet of the Countess of Edla, the Moorish Castle, the Palace and Gardens of Monserrate, the Convent of the Capuchos and the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art) welcomed approximately 1,700,000 visitors, over 90% of whom were from outside of Portugal.
The shareholders of PSML are the Directorate General of Treasury and Finance (Direção Geral do Tesouro e Finanças - representing the State), the Institute for the Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity (Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e Biodiversidade - ICNB), the Portuguese Tourism Board (Turismo de Portugal) and the Municipality of Sintra (Câmara Municipal de Sintra - CMS).

www.parquesdesintra.pt or www.facebook.com/parquesdesintra

Press contact details:

Communication office Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua
comunicacao@parquesdesintra.pt
+351 219 237 300