

GREAT GARDEN

When the Great Garden (Großer Garten) was built in the second half of the 17th century, it was located out of city bounds. Today it is in the heart of it, a green paradise for skaters, joggers, walkers and plain pedestrians.

The only purpose of the Palais in the Great Garden was to house the festive entertainments of the Dresden Court. It was built after Italian ideas without glass windows or any kind of heating – which made the place only amusing during the summer in the not so mediterranean weather of Dresden.

That didn't stop the Saxonian court from having parties there: Known are the "farmers place" from 1709 where the Saxon Earl Friedrich August II. played a French farmer and the Danish king Friedrich IV. played a Norwegian farmer. Another event was the marriage of Friedrich August II. and Maria Josepha of Austria in 1719. The festivities lasted four weeks, including the Venus-Festival on September 23 in the Great Garden.

