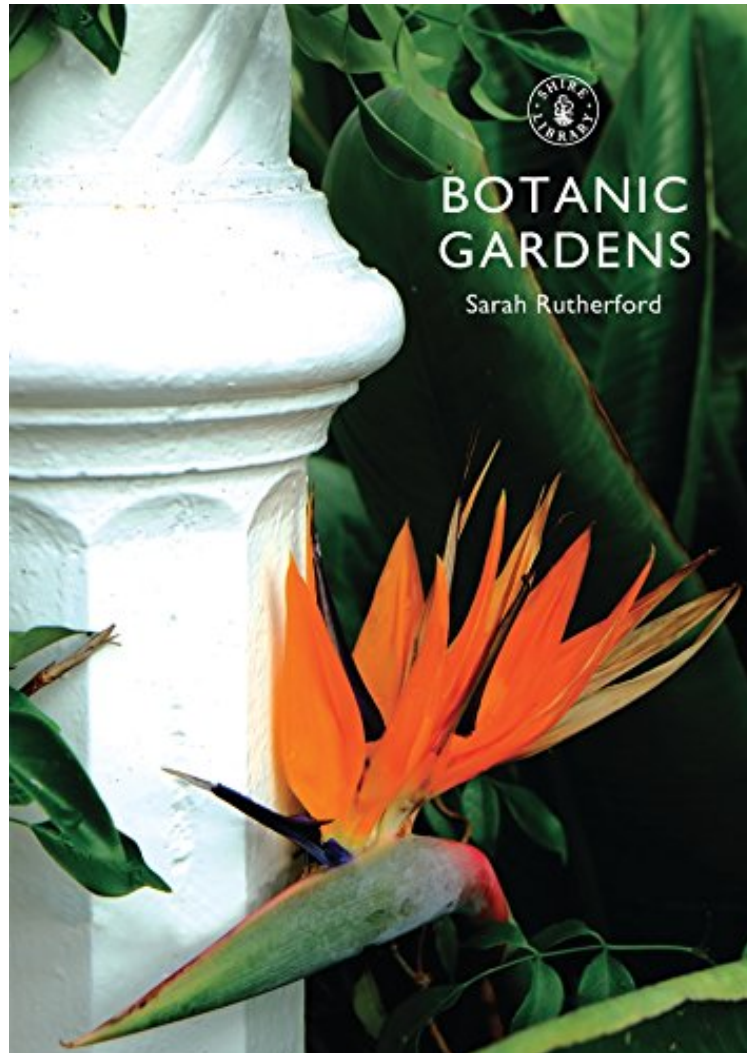


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## Botanic Gardens (Shire Library)

*Sarah Rutherford*

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**Sarah Rutherford : Botanic Gardens (Shire Library)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Botanic Gardens (Shire Library):

Across the world there are more than a thousand botanical gardens, which combine scientific research, conservation and beauty with public access - Kew Gardens alone attracts around one million visitors a year. Their uses have varied through history - they might focus on cultivating exotic plants and produce; be honed to commercial ends (introducing lucrative plant crops such as tea and rubber to new countries); center on preserving collections of international plants; focus on scientific classification and research - or combine of all these things. Sarah Rutherford here tells the story of

these diverse gardens in Britain and around the world, from their beginnings in the sixteenth century to their long heyday in the last three hundred years. She explains the design of the gardens, the architecture employed, the personalities and institutions that established and contributed to them, their important role in research and conservation, and what makes them so appealing to the millions of visitors they attract.

About the Author Sarah Rutherford is a Kew-trained gardener who began her career at Oxford Botanic Garden. She was head of the English Heritage Historic Parks and Garden Register and is now a freelance consultant and writer.