THE BEST

Ideas to Try & What to Buy



Even ancient Romans made topiaries, a symbol of man's attempt to harness the wild. Here, five inspiring places to see them in some delightfully unnatural habitats.





Longwood Gardens

Industrialist Pierre S. du Pont's 1936 topiary garden just outside Philadelphia is open to the public, with many of his original yewslike the tiered "wedding cake"—still standing. longwoodgardens.org



Montecito, California's answer to buttoned-up British topiaries? Footloose versions—including a camel, a chess set, and a 25-foot clock made with succulents in 1955—at the former home of Polish opera star Ganna Walska and her sixth husband. lotusland.org



Ladew Topiary Gardens
Release the hounds! This iconic 22-acre Maryland garden is an Edward Scissorhands-esque vision sprung to life, with a butterfly, a lyrebird, and Churchill's top hat rendered in evergreen. ladewgardens.com



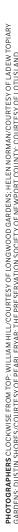
Green Animals Topiary Garden California privet, yew, and English boxwood are transformed into

elephants, ostriches, and—yes!—teddies at this Portsmouth, Rhode Island, estate overlooking Narragansett Bay. newportmansions.org



Pearl Fryar

After purchasing a house with a blank slate of a yard in Bishopville, South Carolina, army retiree Pearl Fryar got to work, turning castoffs from local nurseries into intricate shapes that he trims himself every four weeks. pearlfryar.com





framing enhances a

- 1. In the Orangerie Watercolor Note Cards. 6" × 81/4". \$4.75 each, with envelope. architectural watercolors.com
- 2. Toparie Silkscreen Print. \$75 for 18" × 24". waynepate.com. Shown in frame from jpocker.com
- 3. Topiary Napkins. \$65 for four. oka.com
- 4. Custom Crest Creator. Rubberand-wood stamp. \$62. stephanie fishwick.com
- **5.** Topiary Ceramic Plates. \$175 for four. scullyandscully.com
- 6. Topiary Tea Towel by Pomegranate. \$25 each. biscuithome.com
- 7. Orange Grove by Radish Moon. Belgian linen. Available through a designer. supply showroom.com





LOW MAINTENANCE

Silk plants demand only the occasional dusting. Mixed Cedar artificial topiaries. \$45 for three; the tallest is 61/2" H. atgstores.com



MAINTENANCE

Culinary herbs in the kitchen are easy to trim. Rosemary Topiary. \$20 for 31/4" H pot.



HIGH MAINTENANCE

Type A's, get out your shears: This requires regular pruning. Boxwood Topiary. monrovia.com. Iron Cross Frame Planter. \$198 for 191/2" H box. shopterrain.com