

Additional Information on the Permacultura in these grounds

Shantivanam means "Forest of peace". Located at just over 300m above sea level it is home to many temperate and subtropical plants including almost 70 varieties of fruit and nut trees and over 25 varieties of palms with a rich variety of herbs, vines, medicinal plants, flowers, edible and native wild plants growing in the mix creating a permaculture food forest . It is set up to provide for a varied organic diet and lifestyle in a stunning setting. Using permaculture principles, soil health and fertility has seen gradual improvement for over two decades now.

Food Forests are a self-regulating and low maintenance sustainable form of plant-based agriculture. More practically termed 'agroforestry' it is a system based on woodland ecosystems, incorporating fruit and nut trees, shrubs, herbs, vines and perennial vegetables which have yields directly useful to humans, whilst working in harmony with nature.

The beautiful surrounding cork oak forest also freely provides a variety of edible mushrooms in season. It is also abundant in wood for heating, heather for rustic frame building and fencing, etc. and stones for terrace building, dry stone walling and stone paving, etc.

Fruit and nut varieties (v) include:

Almond(2v), apple (5v), avocado (2v) , apricot (2v), banana (2v),
carob, custard apple, chinese date, feijoa, fig (3v),
grapevine (5v), guava (3v), grapefruit, hazelnut, kiwi (2v),
jelly palm, kumquat, lemon (2v), lime, loquat, macadamia,
mango (2v), natal plum, olive (2v), orange (4v), pear(2v),
pecan, pistachio, tangerine, mandarin, nectarine,
passion fruit, peach (2v), persimmon (2v), plum (3v),
pomegranate, quince, sapote, strawberry tree, walnut