Fukuoka’s Wallace Fountain is a Gift From Bordeaux

Fukuoka, Japan and Bordeaux, France are sister or twin cities. In 2005, the city of Bordeaux was invited to participate in the Fukuoka International Garden Festival at Island City Grin Grin Central Park, Hakata Bay, Fukuoka Japan. Elisabeth Vigné, Deputy Mayor in charge of urban ecology, environment and green spaces at the time, lead the Bordeaux delegation that inaugurated the “Garden of Bordeaux,” located in the larger “Garden of the Twin Cities.” This 19th-century style Bordeaux garden, situated on a man-made island city, is testament to the friendly ties between Bordeaux and Fukuoka.

A Wallace Fountain is a centerpiece of this Bordeaux garden, which has two entrances, a pond, walkways, benches and lampposts that give it the charm of a small 19th-century French public park. The garden provides Japanese residents with a place to walk in a public space displaying French design and the neo-classic influence reflected in the artistry of the fountain. It also hosts activities organized by the Franco-Japanese Institute of Kyushu, a partner in cultural and educational exchanges between Bordeaux and Fukuoka.

In the spirit of Sir Richard Wallace, the kindness and generosity of the citizens of Bordeaux are demonstrated in this symbolic and very French lasting gift to the people of Fukuoka.

Source: bordeaux-qeqqccp.com/themes/fontaines-de-bordeaux/fontaines-wallace