## Hanging Gardens of Babylon





The "Hanging Gardens of Babylon" are known as one of the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World."

No one really knows where the Hanging Gardens were located.

Dr. Stephanie Dalley, however, believes that she may have found the location ... near the ancient city of <u>Ninevah</u> (which is near the <u>modern city</u> of <u>Mosul, in Iraq</u>). See Dalley's book, <u>The Mystery of the Hanging Garden of Babylon: An Elusive World Wonder Traced</u> and/or watch this video where she explains the gardens and her research.

If Dr. Dalley is correct, it wasn't the Babylonians who created the gardens (inspired by their King Nebuchadnezzar), it was the Assyrians (inspired by their King Sennacherib).

A BBC documentary, aired on Channel 4 (on 24 November 2013) and entitled "Finding Babylon's Hanging Garden," takes us behind the scenes to better understand <u>Dr. Dalley's research</u>.

One of the few people in the world who can read texts written in cuneiform, Dalley discovered an item at the British Museum which led her to follow a non-traditional path regarding the Hanging Gardens (and their location).

The ancient text discusses Sennacherib and a palace he built, with a garden alongside, describing them both as a "Wonder for all people."

Another clue, which Dr. Dalley uncovered, is that the Assyrians conquered Babylon around a century before Nebuchadnezzar. They called their capital "New Babylon."

In today's Iraq, it would take around eight to ten hours to drive between the two ancient cities of Nineveh and Babylon.

The image at the top of this page, by Mario Larrinaga (circa 1955), depicts the artist's impression of how those hanging gardens may have appeared. Another artistic interpretation of the gardens comes to us by way of Lumion 3D's stunning animation. It even has the soothing sound of waterfalls.

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