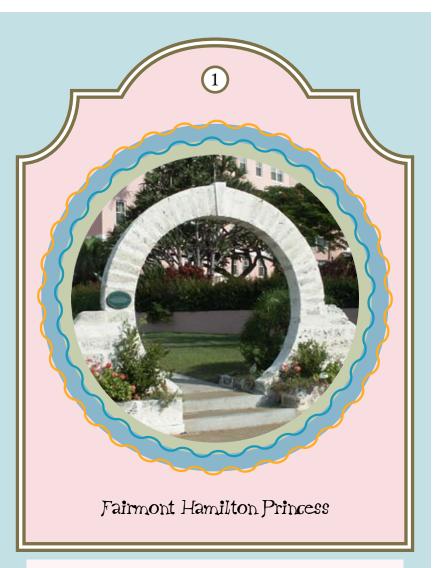


Bermuda Moongates

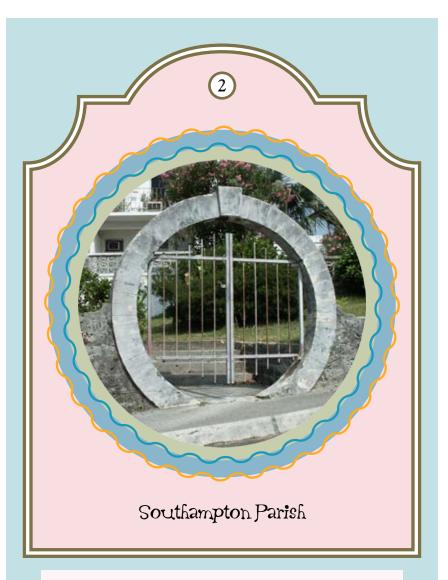


Bermuda Moongates

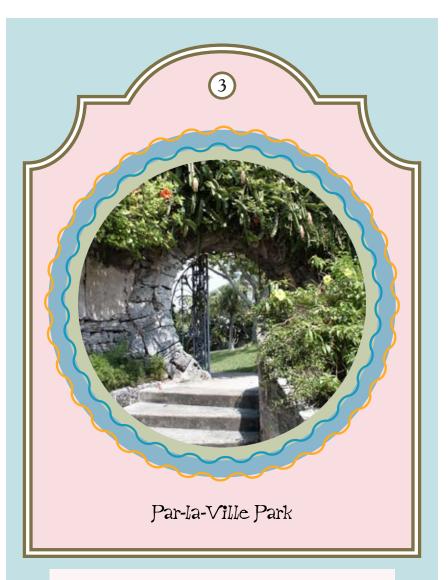
- 1) Fairmont Hamilton Princess
- 2 Southampton Parish
- 3 Par-la-Ville Park
- 4 Pitts Bay Road
- 5 Hamilton Harbour
- 6 Par-la-Ville Park
- 7 Christmas Stamp
- 8 Waterville
- 9 Bermuda Airport



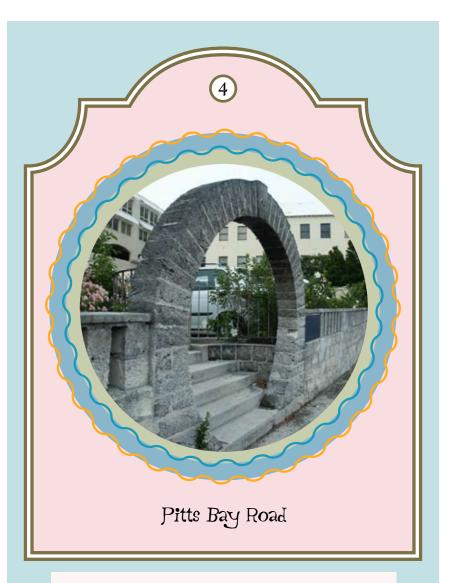
The first Moongate plan in Bermuda was brought from a Chinese garden in 1860 by a local sea captain. He copied the design of a circular wooden gateway to a garden or place of inner repose.



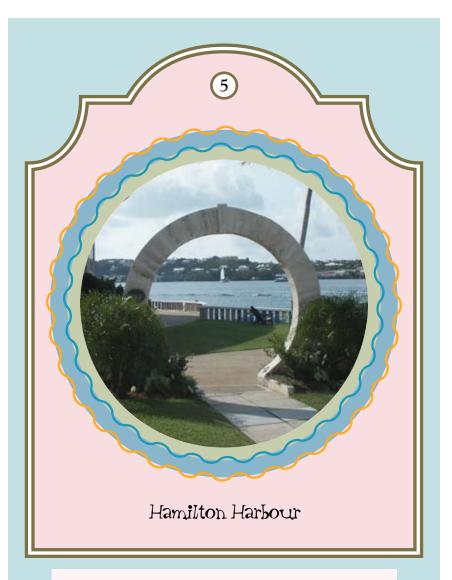
A rounded span of coral blocks arranged in a circular arch above a wooden gate, the Moongate was introduced to Bermuda around 1920 by the Duke of Westminster's landscape architect.



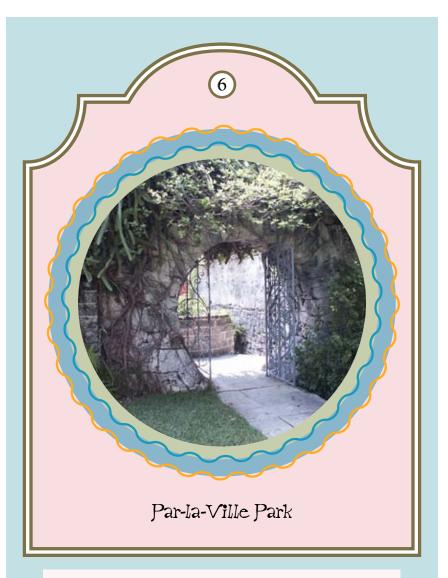
Bermuda's oldest Moongate. A walk under this gracious stone arch, which spans the less-frequented southwestern entry, guarantees a long spell of good luck.



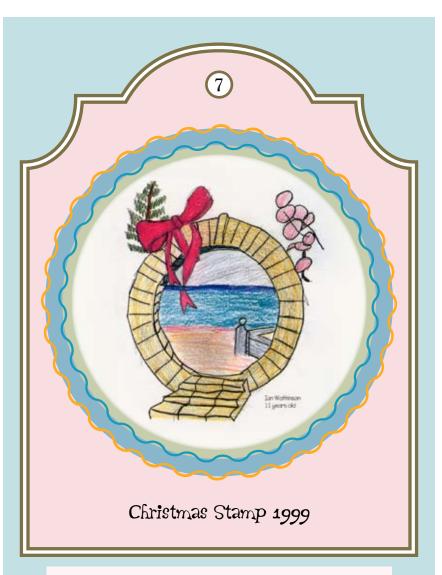
The Moongate's complete circle symbolizes unity, peace and happiness and can be found throughout Bermuda in gardens and at picturesque spots around the island.



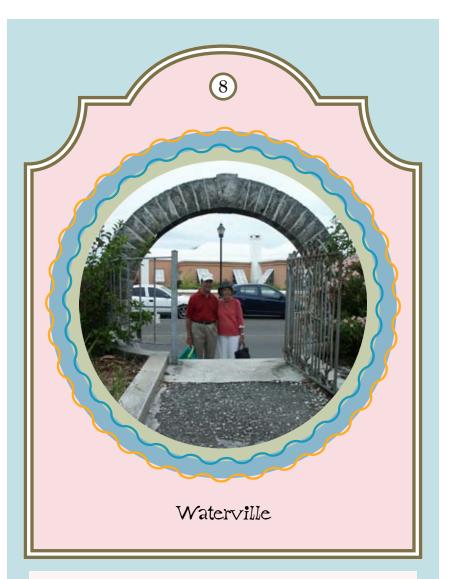
Legend has it that couples who kiss under the wedding-band shaped archways of coral and stone called Moongates will be assured of good fortune and happiness.



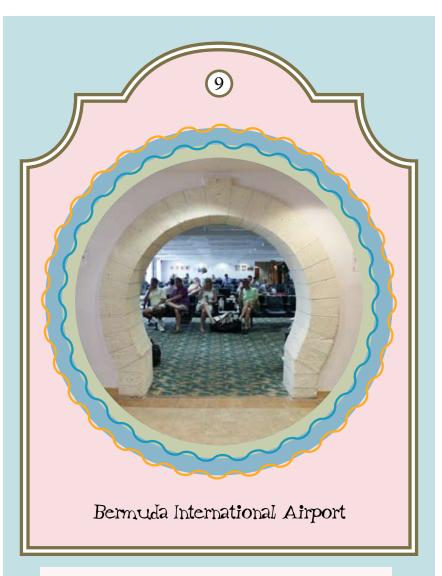
Moongates at popular beauty spots and attractions make perfect backdrops for wedding photographs. They are national symbols and features of parks, hotels and many private properties.



This stamp issue is the result of a competition in which the Post Office invited students from all educational levels to submit artwork based on Christmas in Bermuda.



Islanders believe that when a couple makes a wish as they pass hand-in-hand through a Moongate, they are guaranteed everlasting happiness and good fortune throughout their marriage.



The Chinese Moongate has been adopted by Bermuda as a national symbol. The Bermuda version is built of Bermuda stone and often but not always used as an entrance to a garden.

