



Seasoned Fredericksburg shoppers will recognize at once the name of this very popular clothing boutique. The Secret Garden, 102 E. Main St., has been a favorite shop for locals and visitors since 1988,

and is now owned by the very talented Kathy Cox-Gutierrez. Owning her own store had been Kathy's dream since she was very young, when she and her family moved to Fredericksburg in 1974. She moved away to go to college, married and had children, and then found that all at once she was a breast cancer survivor and a single mom. Kathy moved back to Fredericksburg and bought the store from mother and daughter owners Meg and Jan Peterson, whose family had grown up with hers. Kathy says, "All of a sudden Meg and I had a 'change of career' weekend. I bought the store, and she is now a successful real estate agent."

Kathy continues the store's tradition, with the finest selection of quality women's apparel and unique gifts. She says that The Secret Garden is "real clothing for real women." She features unique American and European lines that will compliment all women, and says, "I want every woman to walk out of my store loving what she bought!" She prides herself in carrying "women-owned lines," many from cottage businesses from Michigan to Italy to Africa. We loved the jewelry line called Julio Pagliana—beautifully crocheted beads in turquoise, pearls, semi-precious stones and sterling, and the clothing by Tasha Polizi, a designer who previously worked with Calvin Klein and Ralph Lauren. Her designs include beautiful serape shirts and gorgeous suede shawls.

You will love your visit to The Secret Garden. It is a remarkable store filled with wonderful clothing and accessories at affordable prices. For more information, call 830-997-5507 or visit [www.thesecretgardentexas.com](http://www.thesecretgardentexas.com).

