

Welcome to the Botanic Garden

Year opened: 1940 **Acres:** 10
Highlights: Presents California's native plants in geographic sections that represent the state's varied flora. Hosts a native plant sale each spring and fall. *Did you know?* In the 1920s the site of the Botanic Garden was the ranch of Pascuale Bruno.

Fees: there are no fees at the Botanic Garden.

Imagine 160,000 square miles of California set in a 10-acre garden that can be walked in a day. That is the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, devoted to the collection, growth, display, and preservation of the native plants of California. The state is a vast region of many clearly defined floral areas, such as seacoast bluffs and coastal mountains, interior valleys, arid foothills, alpine zones, and two kinds of desert.

The garden is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (5:30 in summer) every day except New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. All specimens are landscaped into a delightful setting, offering opportunities for exploration, relaxation, and contemplation. Lectures and slide shows are scheduled in the Visitor Center on Saturdays from November through February, and an exhibit pertaining to the native flora is usually to be found in the auditorium. A plant sale is conducted each spring and fall by the Garden's volunteers.

Notable among the many specimens are conifers and oaks, shrubs, grasses, and bulbs. There are representatives of about 300 taxa that are classified in the California Native Plant Society's landmark study, *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California*.

THE STATE IN 10 SECTIONS To represent the distinctive natural areas of California, the Garden is divided into 10 sections and three subsections. See reverse for the sections and their locations in the Garden.

POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY 9-1-1
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EBRPD HEADQUARTERS 1-888-EBPARKS
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THE BEST TIMES FOR BLOOMS Each year in the Botanic Garden the first plants to bloom do so around mid-December and early January, initiating a flowering succession that makes a continuous show throughout the year. The monthly schedule below showcases the more prominent plants at their best.

January: silktassels, manzanitas, manzanitas and more manzanitas, osoberry, currants.

February: barberries, Dutchman's pipe, fuchsia-flowered gooseberry, milkmaids, western leatherwood, bluff wallflower, scoliopus.

March: redbud, pink-flowering currant, California poppy, trilliums, shooting stars, wallflowers, fritillaries, fawn lillies, rock cress, pussy willows; trees begin to leaf out.

April: California rose-bay or rhododendron, woolly blue curls, ninebark, summer holly, main ceanothus groups, Chinese houses, irises, blazing star.

May: monkeyflowers, fremontias, carpenteria, tidy tips, bush poppies, brodiaeas, mariposa tulips, cacti, clarkias, mock orange, styrax, spiraea.

June: western azalea, matilija poppy, fireweed, ocean spray, sweetshrub, mariposas, Donner buckwheat, clarkias, columbines, lilies, sages, Antioch primrose.

July: red and yellow bush penstemons and other perennial penstemons, scarlet mimulus, lilies, Antioch primrose, clarkias.

August: wild buckwheats, late penstemons, gum plants, scarlet larkspur, Milo Baker's lupine.

September: California fuschias, tarweeds, buckwheats, hibiscus, helianthus, late penstemons, evening primrose.

October-November: snowberries; berries of the madrone; fall color: leaves of cottonwoods, deciduous oaks, dogwoods, hawthorn, willows; the vine maple; chaparral currant blooms.

December: first manzanita blooms, colorful twigs of deciduous shrubs.



The Botanic Garden is located in Tilden Regional Park on Wildcat Canyon Road at its intersection with South Park Drive. From Hwy. 24 coming from Oakland or Walnut Creek, exit at Fish Ranch Road and proceed uphill to Grizzly Peak Blvd. Turn right and follow Grizzly Peak to South Park Drive. Turn right into Tilden on South Park and drive to Wildcat Canyon Road. The Garden is ahead of you on Wildcat Canyon; parking is on the left.

From November through March, South Park Drive is closed. To reach the Garden during this closure, continue north on Grizzly Peak, turn right onto Shasta Road, and right onto Wildcat Canyon Road. The Garden will be on your left on Wildcat Canyon Road.

AC TRANSIT INFORMATION: On weekends take #67, which stops at the Brazil Building (.18 mi. walk to the Garden). On weekdays the closest stop is the #65 at Grizzly Peak Blvd. and Shasta Road (.65 mi. walk). Call to confirm: AC TRANSIT : 817-1717 (TDD/TTY: 1-800-448-9790), or see www.511.org.



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Regional Parks Botanic Garden

Berkeley, Oakland, Orinda

East Bay 
Regional Park District



REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN

NUMBERED SECTIONS ON MAPS

- 0 Southern California Section**
Beds 1-37 (SAND LABELS)
- 1 Valley-Foothill Section**
Beds 101-123 (YELLOW LABELS)
- 2 Santa Lucia Section**
Beds 201-288 (ORANGE LABELS)
- 3 Channel Island Section**
Beds 301-320 (BLACK LABELS)
- 4 Franciscan Section**
Beds 401-413 (YELLOW LABELS)
- 5 Pacific Rain Forest**
Beds 501-523 (GREEN LABELS)
- 6 Sierran Section**
Beds 601-662 (BLUE LABELS)
- 7 Redwood Section**
Beds 701-735 (RED LABELS)
- 8 Sea Bluff Section**
Beds 801-818 (DARK BROWN LABELS)
- 9 Shasta-Klamath Section**
Beds 901-928 (GREEN LABELS)

Colors on garden map correspond to those on the state map. Plant labels within each section reflect these colors.



GARDEN TOURS FOR GROUPS are available by appointment. In addition, free tours start at the Visitor Center on most Saturdays at 2 p.m.; Sundays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please call 1-888-327-2757, option 3, ext. 4507, to confirm weekend tours and for group tour appointments.

Basin Desert and the mountain ranges to the east. We can assure those to whom "rain forest" evokes only a steaming jungle, that in the case of that stretch of our coast where there is as much as 10 feet of rain per year – what we call the Pacific Rain Forest – we have not stretched the meaning. Botanists and ecologists recognize temperate region rain forests as well as tropical ones.

To learn more, refer to *The Four Seasons, Journal of the Regional*



WELCOME!

Please enjoy our Regional Parks safely, and help us protect and preserve your parklands by complying with park rules and regulations.

SAFETY and ETIQUETTE

- Stay on trails. Taking shortcuts can be dangerous and causes erosion, and damages plants.
- Wading and/or swimming in undesignated areas may be dangerous and may harm the watershed.
- Carry and drink plenty of water. Dehydration is a leading cause of injuries on the trail.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
- Trails and paths can be slippery, rocky and steep. Proceed carefully at your own risk.
- Wildlife may be present on the trails at any time. Feeding or approaching wildlife is dangerous and illegal.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. Horses have the right-of-way on trails.
- Keep the parks beautiful. Pack out what you pack in.

RULES

- Dogs are not allowed in the Botanic Garden. Elsewhere in the Regional Parks, pets must be leashed 200 feet from any trail or park entrance. Pets must be leashed in parking lots, picnic areas, developed areas such as lawns and play fields, and on some trails. They must be under voice control at all times.
- Bicycles may be walked, but not ridden, through the Botanic Garden.
- Drones are prohibited.
- Smoking and fires are prohibited.
- No running
- Stay on paths and lawns.
- Keep out of all planting beds
- Do not sit on or walk on rock outcrops and boulders.
- No collecting of any kind.

Visitors are responsible for knowing and complying with park rules (Ordinance 38). See www.ebparks.org/rules.

The color-coded maps above show the area of the state from which the plants in each section of the Botanic Garden have originated. It should be noted, though, that some of the words used to name the sections are intended to represent more than their accepted meanings. Thus, the Sierran Section includes not only plants from the Sierra Nevada itself, but also from the foothills to the west and the strip of Great

Parks Botanic Garden, available for purchase at the Botanic Garden Visitor Center.

For more information on the Botanic Garden, see www.nativeplants.org.