

Queens Botanical Garden



Visitor Guide and Map

Queens Botanical Garden History

Queens Botanical Garden evolved from the 5-acre "Gardens on Parade" exhibit showcased at the 1939–1940 World's Fair. Officially opening as "The Queens Botanical Garden Society" in 1946 after local residents saved and expanded the original exhibit, the Garden remained at the original World's Fair site until 1961, when it was moved to its current location on Main Street in Flushing. Among the original plantings taken from the 1939 site are two blue atlas cedars that frame the iconic tree gate sculpture at the Garden's Main Street entrance today (#1 on the map). QBG has become a 39-acre oasis in one of New York City's most bustling and diverse neighborhoods and is unlike any other botanical garden in the world.

Our Mission

Queens Botanical Garden is an urban oasis where people, plants and cultures are celebrated through inspiring gardens, innovative educational programs and demonstrations of environmental stewardship.



Coneflowers in the Herb Garden / QBG staff



Common yellowthroat warbler in the Wetland Garden / © Shari Romar



Marigolds in the Herb Garden / QBG staff



Queens Botanical Garden

43-50 Main Street, Flushing, NY 11355
718.886.3800 www.queensbotanical.org

Queens Botanical Garden is located on property owned by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Queens Borough President, the New York City Council, State elected officials, the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, along with corporate, foundation, and individual supporters.

www.queensbotanical.org

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What Makes Us Unique?

Growing on a former ash landfill and taking root from the 1939 World's Fair, Queens Botanical Garden takes sustainability to new levels, both in our facilities and in our practices!

Our **Visitor & Administration Building (#14 on the map)** is New York City's first public green building to be LEED® Platinum certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. Throughout our grounds, you'll see signs of a careful approach to designing a healthy environment that reimagines lost ecosystems and habitats thriving in harmony with fast-paced urban development.

Located in the most diverse county in the United States, we use our plant collections to create **meaningful connections between people and cultures**. In the Herb Garden (#20) you'll find plants that are important in your cuisine, in your cultural traditions, and in your medicine cabinet.

The Garden uses age-old practices of **composting and farming** in innovative ways to provide the local community with healthy food grown on our own farm (#30), while reducing the organic waste generated in our neighborhood.

QBG is a critical part of a green corridor, providing **home and shelter for many species of native wildlife**. Look closely and you'll catch sight of our resident birds and a world of butterflies, bees, beetles, and other insects that pollinate our Garden and help it to thrive.



Visitor & Administration Building / © Jeff Goldberg/Esto



Borage in the Herb Garden / © H. David Stein



Carliner bee on a thistle in the Perennial Garden / © Gennady Gurman



Eastern rabbit in the Woodland Garden / QBG staff

Explore and Discover!

There's much more to experience at Queens Botanical Garden than pretty flowers and trees! And there's something for you to discover year-round.

Be on the lookout for pollinators!

Roaming among our flowers are **butterflies, hoverflies, bees, beetles, and other insects** that partner with the plants and help them to make seeds.

See all those colors? Flowers come in different colors to attract different pollinators. As you explore our gardens in the spring and summer, try to find flowers that are **red, yellow, orange, purple, white, and blue**.

Go hunting for shapes.

Sometimes we can tell what a plant is just by looking at the shape and size of its leaves. Look for plants with leaves shaped like **a heart, a feather, a triangle, even a hand**.

Sniff around! Smell not just the flowers, but also the leaves. Gently rub the herb leaves in our Herb Garden (#20 on the map), Fragrance Walk (#2), or Green Roof (#13). Try to find herbs that make your fingers smell like **soap, pizza, or gum!**

Meet some trees. Each tree has a unique covering on its trunk, called **bark**, that helps protect the tree. **How many different colors and textures of bark can you find?** In fall, trees are getting ready for winter. Many of our trees have leaves that change color and then drop from the branches. Other trees, called **evergreens**, stay green all year. Stroll through our Pinetum (#11) and explore the **different sizes and colors of their needle-shaped leaves**.

Watch for birds! Many birds make Queens Botanical Garden their home. Look for **ducks** in our Biotope (#19). Throughout our gardens you might also spot **blue jays, robins, cardinals, mourning doves, woodpeckers, pheasants, hawks, and more!**



Mallards in the Cleansing Biotope / © Shari Romar



Lilacs and cherry blossoms in the Fragrance Walk / QBG staff



Snowy egret in the Cleansing Biotope / © Shari Romar



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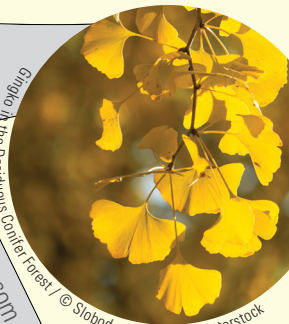
Where people, plants, and cultures meet



Slipper butterfly in the Annual Garden / © H. David Stein



Produce from QBG Farm / QBG staff



Ginkgo in the Deciduous Conifer Forest / © Slobodan Kunevski/Shutterstock



Cardinal in the Main Street Plaza / © Shari Romer

**Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos!
환영합니다!**

Queens Botanical Garden is a living museum, a place of peace and beauty for the quiet enjoyment of our visitors. Please respect all living things within our gates—plants, birds, insects, wildlife, and people.



Crabapple blossoms in the Crabapple Grove / QBG staff



"South Africa" rose in the Rose Garden / © H. David Stein



Dyer's chamomile in the Herb Garden / © H. David Stein



Milkweed on the Green Roof / QBG staff



Crocus in the Fragrance Walk / © H. David Stein



Winter hazel in the Fragrance Walk / © H. David Stein



Cherry blossoms in the Cherry Circle / QBG staff

- 1 Main Street Gate**
- 2** Helen and Martin Kaltman Fragrance Walk
- 3** Cherry Circle & Four Season Border
- 4** Circle Garden
- 5** Backyard Garden
- 6** Wetland & Woodland Garden
- 7** Magnolia Walk
- 8** Mombello-Russo Memorial Ornamental Grass Garden
- 9** Perennial Garden
- 10** Rose Garden
- 11** Pinetum
- 12** Oak Allée
- 13** Green Roof / Helen M. Marshall Auditorium
- 14** Visitor & Administration Building, Garden Gift Shop and Gallery
- 15** Floral Border
- 16** Annual Garden
- 17** Bee Garden
- 18** Wedding Garden (by appointment only)
- 19** Cleansing Biotope
- 20** Herb Garden
- 21** Education Building (by registration only)
- 22** Children's Garden sponsored by HSBC (by registration only)
- 23** Arboretum/Crabapple Grove
- 24** Classroom Annex
- 25** NYC Compost Project Demonstration Site*
- 26** Meadow
- 27** **Parking Garden Entrance**
- 28** Parking Garden
- 29** Deciduous Conifer Forest
- 30** QBG Farm*

*NYC Compost Project Hosted by Queens Botanical Garden

Exhibits and buildings with public access No public access

Please observe Garden guidelines:



Share your #queensbotanicalgarden photos with the world!

