

12 Beautiful Botanical Gardens You Need To Add To Your Bucket List



Exploring botanical gardens offers a serene escape into the world of flora, combining art, history, and nature in a harmonious ensemble. Whether you are an avid gardener, a nature enthusiast, or simply looking for a peaceful retreat, visiting botanical gardens can provide a unique blend of beauty and tranquility. This guide showcases twelve must-visit botanical gardens around the world, each offering its own unique allure and reasons to be included in your travel plans.

1. Chenshan Botanical Gardens, Shanghai, China

Chenshan Botanical Gardens in Shanghai is one of the newer botanical gardens on this list, opening in 2010. It spans 207 hectares and is designed to blend scientific research with

educational and recreational activities. The gardens feature a wide range of plant species native to East Asia, and their Plant Evolution Zone displays a fascinating arrangement of plant life through the geological ages.

2. Singapore Botanic Gardens, Singapore

Singapore Botanic Gardens, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a 161-year-old tropical garden sitting along the edge of the Orchard Road shopping district. This expansive garden is famous for its sprawling lawns, serene lakes, and National Orchid Garden, which hosts the world's largest orchid display of over 60,000 plants and orchids. The gardens also play a vital role in conservation, with a library of dried and preserved specimens that are over 100 years old.

3. Kew Gardens, London, UK



As one of the most famous botanical gardens in the world, Kew Gardens in London is a pioneer in plant science and conservation. Spread over 300 acres, it houses the largest and most diverse botanical collections globally, including over [50,000](#) plants. Additionally, the iconic Palm House, a Victorian glasshouse filled with tropical rainforest plants, is a highlight. Kew's treetop walkway, offering views above the trees, makes it a place to immerse yourself in nature's wonders.

4. Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens is a picturesque haven for relaxation and recreation with a rich history extending over 175 years. Spread over 38 hectares, it features over 8,500 plant species, tranquil lakes, and lush lawns. Highlights include the Aboriginal Heritage Walk, which offers a rich insight into the history of indigenous Australians and their relationship with the natural environment.

5. Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, Cape Town, South Africa

Located on the slopes of Table Mountain, Kirstenbosch is part of a UNESCO World Heritage site and considered one of the world's great botanic gardens. Dedicated to preserving the region's unique flora, Kirstenbosch is home to over 7,000 cultivated species, including many rare and threatened species. The Centenary Tree Canopy Walkway offers an elevated view of the surrounding landscape and gardens.

6. The New York Botanical Garden,

USA



Located in the Bronx, the New York Botanical Garden is an iconic living museum that's a must-see for visitors to New York City. It spans 250 acres with over one million plants. The extensive rock garden is considered one of the most comprehensive in the U.S., and the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden is famous for its array of over 650 varieties of roses. The NYBG is a leader in plant research and conservation, providing a beautiful backdrop and a center for learning and discovery.

7. Montreal Botanical Garden, Canada

This garden is one of the most important botanical gardens in the world due to its extensive collection and facilities. Spread over 75 hectares, the Montreal Botanical Garden features ten exhibition greenhouses, over 20 thematic gardens, and more than 22,000 different plant species. Its Chinese Garden is stocked with plants that are traditional to the art

of penjing. Additionally, its Japanese Garden features a serene landscape influenced by Zen aesthetics.

8. Jardín Botánico de Bogotá, Colombia

Jose Celestino Mutis Botanical Garden is the largest botanical garden in Colombia, dedicated to research, conservation, and education. It is known for its collection of native flora, particularly its orchid house, which houses many species of Colombian orchids. The garden is a green oasis in the heart of Bogotá and offers a variety of environmental education programs.

9. Butchart Gardens, British Columbia, Canada



Butchart Gardens are privately owned floral display gardens famous for their impressive floral displays. Located in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia, the garden offers 55 acres of wonderful floral display that changes with the seasons. The Sunken Garden, originally a limestone quarry, is especially spectacular.

10. Denver Botanic Gardens, USA

Located in Colorado, the Denver Botanic Gardens are known for their collection of plants from cold temperate climates around the world. Plus, their pioneering work in alpine flora research is a highlight of this destination. The garden's Japanese Garden, Shofu-en, are also noteworthy. Similarly, the innovative water conservation practices and xeriscape demonstrations make it a leader in ecological gardening.

11. Claude Monet's Garden at Giverny, France

No list of gardens would be complete without mentioning Claude Monet's Garden at Giverny. Famous for inspiring many of his paintings, this garden is a testament to Monet's passion for gardening and the arts. The close link between the garden and his work offers a unique insight into the history of one of the world's most famous painters.

12. Villa d'Este, Tivoli, Italy



The Renaissance gardens of Villa d'Este are famous for their elaborate Italian Renaissance gardens and extensive use of fountains. The garden's iconic design and hundreds of fountains create a stunning visual experience. Also, the design reflects the grandeur of its period, making it a masterpiece of Italian garden landscaping.

Make Plans to Visit These Beautiful Botanical Gardens Today!

Overall, visiting these botanical gardens not only provides a feast for the eyes but also enriches the soul. They offer tranquility and a deeper appreciation for the complexity and beauty of plant life. Plus, each garden, with its unique characteristics and collections, promises a memorable experience unlike any other that is sure to ignite a passion for nature and travel.

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[Sometimes It's Nice to Visit Someone Else's Garden](#)

[5 Best Houseplants for Frequent Travelers](#)

13 Essential Trips to Planning a Dream Vacation



Planning a vacation can be overwhelming as you wade through endless options and decisions. However, curious travelers, you're in good hands! These 13 essential tips will improve your skills in organizing, packing, and discovering unique destinations that remain untouched by the masses.

1. Embrace the Early Bird Spirit



Early birds don't just catch worms, but they also snag the best travel deals! Booking your flights and accommodation months in advance can save you a small fortune. Sometimes, hotels will also give you a better choice of room because you've booked so early! It's always fun to boast about your amazing deals with friends and family, right?

2. Be a Packing Prodigy



Imagine opening your suitcase to find everything you need, perfectly organized and wrinkle-free. Achieving this level of packing nirvana requires practice and the right folding techniques. To reach pro level, try rolling your clothes instead of folding them, which saves space and also minimizes wrinkles.

3. Weather or Not, Be Prepared



Nothing dampens spirits faster than being caught in a downpour without an umbrella or shivering in shorts during a cold snap. A quick check of the local weather before you pack can save you from weather-induced misery. Always pack a versatile layer, like a lightweight, waterproof jacket that can face the elements while still looking good.

4. Cultivate Your Inner Foodie



Explore the local cuisine where you're traveling. Whether it's a street food tour or a reservation at a restaurant with a months-long waitlist, tasting the local flavors is a journey for your taste buds. Don't shy away from asking locals for their recommendations because sometimes the best dishes are things you can't find on any tourist map.

5. Get Lost (On Purpose)



While having a plan is great, you might want to turn off your GPS and just wander. You could stumble upon a charming café or the most breathtaking view not listed in your guidebook. Allow yourself the freedom to explore without a destination in mind. It's these unplanned moments that'll help you truly discover what a city is like.

6. Speak Their Language (At Least a Little)



Yes, photos are priceless, but experiencing a moment through a screen isn't quite the same as soaking it all in with your own eyes. Balance is key. For every snapshot you take, allow yourself a moment to just be present, to absorb the sounds, smells, and feel of the place. Memories come from the emotions and sensations of those captured moments.

8. Unplug to Recharge



Vacations are for relaxing, so mute those work emails and social media notifications. The digital world can wait, but your peace of mind can't! Consider setting an auto-reply for your email, letting people know you're recharging your batteries and will get back to them once you're back. This time is about reconnecting with yourself, your loved ones, and the world around you.

9. Embrace Local Traditions



Whether it's a dance or festival, taking part in local traditions can improve your travel experience in unforgettable ways. It's an opportunity to step into the shoes of the locals, to live their culture rather than just observe it. You might find yourself dancing in a village square or creating art that speaks of your journey.

10. Safety First, But Don't Be Paranoid



Being cautious is wise, but don't let fear stop you from enjoying yourself. Keep your belongings secure, be aware of your surroundings, and educate yourself about local scams. At the same time, don't close yourself off to interactions and experiences based on fear alone. Often, it's the kindness of strangers that becomes the highlight of your travels.

11. Budget Wisely



Track your spending to avoid post-vacation financial stress. There's a fine line between splurging on experiences and buying every souvenir in sight. A budget doesn't mean skimping on fun – it means prioritizing your spending. Maybe that means choosing a few special meals out instead of dining at top-tier restaurants every night or finding a balance between paid attractions and enjoying the free beauty of nature.

12. Be an Eco-Friendly Traveler



Travel responsibly by respecting local environments. Simple actions like using a reusable water bottle and supporting local businesses can make a big difference. Think about the impact of your travel choices, from the mode of transportation to the type of accommodations you choose. Going for eco-friendly tours and activities reduces your carbon footprint and supports the conservation efforts of the places you visit.

13. Health is Wealth



Don't let a vacation derail your health routines. Stay hydrated, protect yourself from the sun, and maybe try out those local yoga classes on the beach. It's tempting to throw caution to the wind and indulge in every delicious dessert that comes your way. And while enjoying local cuisine is a must, balancing it with healthy choices and physical activity will keep your energy levels up for the rest of your vacation.

Making Memories



These 13 essential tips will put you well on your way to creating unforgettable memories without the stress that often comes with travel preparation. You want to enjoy the journey as much as the destination. Take a deep breath, pack your bags, and get ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

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[10 Tips for Taking Your EV On a Road Trip Successfully](#)

10 Tips for Taking Your EV on a Road Trip Successfully



With the rising popularity of electric vehicles (EVs) as a sustainable and innovative mode of transportation, many EV owners are now considering them for long-distance travel. Road trips in an EV can be a rewarding experience, offering not only a quieter, smoother ride but also the satisfaction of eco-friendly travel. However, planning an EV road trip requires a bit more preparation than traditional vehicles due to considerations like charging infrastructure and range.

Here are 10 essential tips for taking your EV on a road trip successfully.

1. Plan Your Route Carefully



When it comes to EV road trips, planning is paramount. Use apps and websites dedicated to EV travel to map out your route, ensuring that it includes reliable charging stations along the way. Look for routes that offer Level 2 chargers for regular stops and DC fast chargers for quick top-ups. Planning your stops around charging stations not only ensures you won't run out of power but also allows you to explore new areas during charging breaks.

2. Know Your EV's Range



Understanding the real-world range of your EV is crucial for a stress-free road trip. Factors like speed, terrain, weather, and the use of heating or air conditioning can significantly impact your vehicle's range. Familiarize yourself with how these factors affect your EV and plan your trip accordingly. It's always a good idea to have a buffer in your range calculations to account for unexpected detours or delays.

3. Use EV-Specific Navigation Tools



Leverage the power of EV-specific navigation tools that can help optimize your route for efficiency and charging station availability. These tools often provide real-time data on charger availability and can suggest the most efficient routes based on your vehicle's range and charging speed, making them invaluable for planning long-distance EV travel.

4. Pre-Book Charging Stations if Possible



In areas where EVs are becoming more common, charging stations can get busy. Whenever possible, pre-book your charging slots, especially at fast-charging stations. This not only secures your spot but also helps you plan your stops more efficiently, ensuring you spend less time waiting and more time enjoying your road trip.

5. Check Charging Station Networks



Before embarking on your journey, familiarize yourself with the charging station networks available along your route. Ensure your EV's charging network memberships are up to date, and consider signing up for additional networks if your route requires. Having multiple network options can provide more flexibility and reduce range anxiety.

6. Pack a Portable Charger



While planning your route around established charging stations is ideal, carrying a portable charger provides an extra layer of security. Portable chargers can be plugged into standard outlets, offering a convenient backup in case you find yourself in an area with limited public charging options.

7. Optimize Your EV for Efficiency



Maximize your EV's range by optimizing it for efficiency before you set off. This can include reducing excess weight, ensuring your tires are properly inflated, and using eco-driving modes if available. These minor adjustments can make a significant difference in your EV's energy consumption over long distances.

8. Keep an Eye on the Weather



Weather conditions can significantly affect your EV's performance and range. Plan your trip around favorable weather conditions as much as possible. In extreme temperatures, precondition your EV while it's still plugged in to reach a comfortable cabin temperature without draining the battery.

9. Be Flexible with Your Plans



Flexibility is key when traveling with an EV. Be prepared to adapt your plans based on charging station availability, traffic conditions, and your vehicle's performance. Having a flexible mindset can turn unexpected stops or detours into opportunities to explore new places and experiences.

10. Stay Informed About EV Developments



The EV landscape is rapidly evolving, with new charging stations being added regularly. Stay informed about the latest developments in EV infrastructure along your planned route. Updates in charging station availability or new high-speed charging options can significantly enhance your road trip experience.

Make Taking Your EV on a Road Trip a Breeze



Taking your EV on a road trip can be an exciting and environmentally friendly way to explore new destinations. By following these tips, you can ensure that your journey is not only successful but also contributes to the growing trend of sustainable travel. With careful planning and a bit of flexibility, the road less traveled can become a rewarding adventure in your electric vehicle.

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