



# A WALK THROUGH TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN

Our award-winning gardens are used as outdoor classrooms for hands-on learning. Come for the beauty, and leave knowing more about plants, gardens, nature and healthy ecosystems. Handheld audio tours of the gardens can be rented from the Garden Shop (\$5 each).



## 1. TEACHING GARDEN

Located a five-minute walk across the ravine through Edwards Gardens, the Teaching Garden is a magical place for kids to learn about the natural world. Its large vegetable garden is planted by children who attend our programs and harvest the produce to be donated to a local food bank.

## 2. NATURE'S GARDEN

This garden replicates two distinct habitats that form part of Ontario's native plant heritage. The western portion rests on part of the Wilket Creek ravine and exhibits the attributes of the Toronto ravine system while the eastern part recreates conditions found on the Canadian Shield about 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of Toronto.

## 3. CARPET BEDS

Created in the tradition of Victorian carpet bedding, these intricate beds are planted and maintained by the City of Toronto Parks staff. It takes five gardeners seven days to recreate them each year.



## 4. PERENNIAL BORDERS

This garden features an ever-changing seasonal display of plants, including hundreds of flower bulbs that bloom in the spring.

## 5. PRESIDENT'S CHOICE SHOW GARDEN

The front (south) section of this garden displays small-scale, city-suitable plants with year-round interest. These include miniature, dwarf and slow-growing evergreens, trees and shrubs. Divided by a hornbeam hedge, the north beds are dedicated to plant trials to showcase new plant introductions.



## 6. KITCHEN GARDEN

Reflecting Toronto's cultural diversity, each year this garden is planted with the vegetables of a particular culture, country or continent. All produce is donated to a local food bank.

## 7. HERB GARDEN

The first section of this garden is replanted annually to be compatible with the plants featured in the Kitchen Garden. The second is representative of the native medicinal plants used by the people of China and our First Nations.

## 8. SPIRAL MOUND

A curving pathway gently winds its way up to the viewing platform at the top of the Spiral Mound, which is planted with four types of fescue and willow. The plants are fragile, so please stay on the path and be careful as it is narrow and uneven.

## 9. BERYL IVEY KNOT GARDEN

An abstract, contemporary version of a traditional design, this knot garden combines



deciduous, broadleaf and evergreen hedges, punctuated by pyramidal forms. White flowering and silver-leaved perennials are planted within the knots.



## 10. TERRACE GARDEN

Bottles, bricks and other construction rubble were recycled to help form this garden. The east-facing bank showcases Hens and Chicks, sedum and other tough perennials that can withstand sun-baked conditions, wind, extremes of temperature,



## 11. ARRIVAL COURTYARD

Sculptural beech and Cornelian cherry hedges are pruned to follow the bold, geometric lines of the metal cages that define them. These form a living sculpture that changes with the seasons and provides a visual counterpoint to the perennials and grasses in the Entry Garden.

## 12. GARDEN HALL COURTYARD

A natural amphitheatre for outdoor gatherings, this courtyard comprises three main planting areas: by the waterfall, north of the Water Channel and the bank. The bank is planted with a variety of plants such as Japanese maples designed to provide year-round interest.



## 13. WESTVIEW TERRACE

Spring-flowering bulbs, followed by fragrant sun- and shade-loving perennials and shrubs, encourage visitors to linger.

The Water Channel helps soften and cool the edges of the paved courtyard, while a collection of Redbuds grows above the waterfall. The alkaline soil of the garden bed along the south wall makes a perfect home for a collection of hellebores.



## 14. GREEN ROOF

More than 223 square metres (2,400 square feet) in area, the green roof on the George and Kathy Dembroski Centre for Horticulture absorbs rainwater and pollutants while insulating the building. Divided into a sloping and a flat section, the roof is alive with plants such as sedums and native wildflowers.

## 15. FLORAL HALL COURTYARD

The privacy of this elegant courtyard is reinforced by a wall of etched glass, natural stone and cordoned, espaliered fruit trees, while a water curtain softens ambient noise. Trees include a Manchurian cherry, Japanese

stewartia bordered on three sides by Horsetail. In the large bed, romantic roses and hydrangeas are underplanted with Hellebores and Springbulbs.



## 16. ENTRY GARDEN WALK

Created by renowned Dutch designer Piet Oudolf, with landscape architect Martin Wade, this garden demonstrates the "New Wave" style. The perennials, grasses, shrubs and trees in this

garden were chosen for their form, texture, fall colour and winter silhouette, then planted in naturalistic waves to create the look of a "sophisticated meadow." The stainless-steel sculpture is by Canadian artist Ron Baird.



## 17. DEMONSTRATION COURTYARD

This multifunctional workspace is home to Annie's green-roof-topped straw bale shed, a trio of alpine troughs, a clematis collection and sunny and shady demonstration perennial borders.

## 18. WOODLAND WALK AND BIRD HABITAT

A natural wood chip path leads the visitor from the busy intersection through the dappled shade of the open woodland to the masses of perennials, ornamental grasses and other seasonal plants in the Entry Garden. The design combines a native woodland and prairie garden, providing a year-round habitat for birds and other wildlife. Many of the plants are native to the Canadian Carolinian Forest.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

For complete, up-to-the-minute information visit [www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca), email us at [info@torontobotanicalgarden.ca](mailto:info@torontobotanicalgarden.ca) or call 416-397-1341.

## LOCATION

Toronto Botanical Garden  
777 Lawrence Avenue East  
Toronto, Ontario M3C 1P2  
Easy Access. Free parking. Bike racks.

## BY TTC

Take the Yonge Subway line to Eglinton station, then a 51, 54 or 162 bus up Leslie Street. We're located a 15-minute ride away on the southwest corner of Leslie Street and Lawrence Avenue East in Edwards Gardens.

## HOURS AND ADMISSION

The gardens are open daily from dawn until dusk. Admission is free, but a donation toward garden maintenance and operating costs is encouraged. The George and Kathy Dembroski Centre for Horticulture is open daily. Call for opening hours.

## AMENITIES

Public washrooms, a public telephone, water fountain, vending machine and garden shop are located in the George and Kathy Dembroski Centre for Horticulture. The café is open seasonally.

## SPECIAL NEEDS

The gardens and public areas in the building are wheelchair accessible. Wheelchairs may be borrowed from the Information Desk on a first-come, first-served basis.

## LOST AND FOUND

Turn in or check for lost items at the Information Desk.

Photo credits: Janet Davis, Sarah Durnan, Paul Zammit, Kristina Matveena, Maddie Maillet

Find us on...



# Welcome to TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN

## Visitors Guide and Map



[www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca)

## 17 THEMED GARDENS JUST FOR YOU



Discover the Toronto Botanical Garden, an oasis in the city. TBG's 17 contemporary, themed, urban-sized gardens span nearly four acres and offer four seasons of inspiration. Each is filled with great ideas you can adapt to your own backyard.

TBG is conveniently located in Edwards Gardens at the southwest corner of Lawrence Avenue East and Leslie Street.

### GUIDED GROUP TOURS

At any time of year and with two weeks' notice, groups may book a 60-minute flat terrain or a 90-minute all-terrain guided tour of the gardens for a nominal fee. These tours can be custom-tailored to your group's interests.

### GARDEN ETIQUETTE Please!

- Respect our gardens. Keep on designated paths and off planting beds.
- Admire the flowers, fruits, seeds and leaves, but do not pick or eat them, take cuttings or dig up plants. Leave them for others to enjoy.
- Stay safe. Do not climb trees, boulders, water features, walls or up the sides of the Spiral Mound.
- Carefully supervise children.
- Keep our gardens clean. Use recycling and garbage containers and properly dispose of cigarettes.
- Remember that dogs, picnics, bicycle riding and sport activities are not permitted in the gardens.



## YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

### ADULT LEARNING

TBG's wide array of indoor and outdoor activities includes more than 150 adult courses, lectures, demonstrations, workshops, and special events each year. Subjects range from gardening to art, design, flower arranging, yoga, the environment and more. A number of programs are co-partnered with George Brown College. Some courses offer credits leading to certification.



### CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS

TBGKids love to get their hands dirty! Imaginative, fun-filled, nature-oriented programs, devised and supervised by our fully accredited teaching staff, are offered year-round in The James Boyd Children's Centre or outdoors in the Teaching Garden. These include curriculum-based courses and special camps for schools, community groups and individuals as well as family-centred activities. Gentle programs for little ones from six months to three years include Sprout Club and Story Time. And TBG is the perfect place for a truly memorable Birthday Party!

## SERVICES

### WESTON FAMILY LIBRARY

The library's extensive collection comprises nearly 10,000 plant- and garden-related books as well as a wide array of horticultural periodicals, videos, CDs and more. Gifts of garden-related books or periodicals are always welcome. While only members enjoy borrowing privileges, everyone is free to browse.



### MASTER GARDENER INFOLINE

Get answers to your plant-related and gardening questions from the Toronto Master Gardeners.

Call the Info Line at 416-397-1345 or visit Ask A Master Gardener online at [www.torontomastergardeners.ca](http://www.torontomastergardeners.ca)

### EAT

Enjoy light lunchtime fare and beverages at our café. Open May through October, it's located in the historic barn at Edwards Gardens. Visit the Organic Farmers' Market every Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Open year-round.



### GARDEN SHOP

Visit our shop for a selection of nature-inspired gifts and souvenirs, quality garden and floral supplies and seasonal specialty items. Call for opening hours. Open 7 days a week.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### SPACES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Toronto Botanical Garden may be rented for weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, bar/bat mitzvahs, business meetings, symposia or conventions. Our flexible event spaces include two large halls, each with an adjacent open-air courtyard surrounded by gardens. For more intimate occasions, smaller studios and conference rooms are also available. Our beautiful grounds provide an unbeatably romantic and tranquil setting for any occasion, with easy access and plenty of free parking.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Commercial or wedding photography requires prior consent and/or a permit. 416-397-1324. Fees may apply.



## ABOUT TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN



Toronto Botanical Garden is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit organization that brings together plants, people and the natural world to inspire, educate and give pleasure. TBG raises most of its operating costs through membership dues, facility rentals, retail enterprises, user fees and donations.

### BECOME A MEMBER

A TBG membership brings you valuable discounts in the garden shop and café and on programs, courses and other special events. All members enjoy free admission to the acclaimed TBG Lecture series, borrowing privileges in the extensive horticultural library and a subscription to *Trellis*, the full-colour, information-packed members' magazine and its accompanying program guide. Additionally, TBG members are entitled to free reciprocal admission or other privileges to more than 250 botanical gardens and arboreta worldwide.

### MAKE A DONATION

TBG depends on the generosity of individuals, foundations and corporations to help maintain the gardens and support the horticultural, educational and environmental services we provide to the community. There are many ways to give, such as the purchase of a plant, tree,

book or bench, or a tax-deductible charitable contribution. For more information, please contact [annualgiving@torontobotanicalgarden.ca](mailto:annualgiving@torontobotanicalgarden.ca) or call 416-397-1483.

### BE A TBG VOLUNTEER

Hundreds of dedicated individuals give generously of their time and talents to the Toronto Botanical Garden. Want to help? Call 416-397-4145 or visit our website.

### WE THINK GREEN

The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver-Certified George and Kathy Dembroski Centre for Horticulture includes a 465 square metre (5,000 square foot) glass pavilion, with a green roof that helps reduce heating and cooling costs and manages rainwater runoff. We are committed to environmentally-friendly practices in everything we do.