

Signaling columns



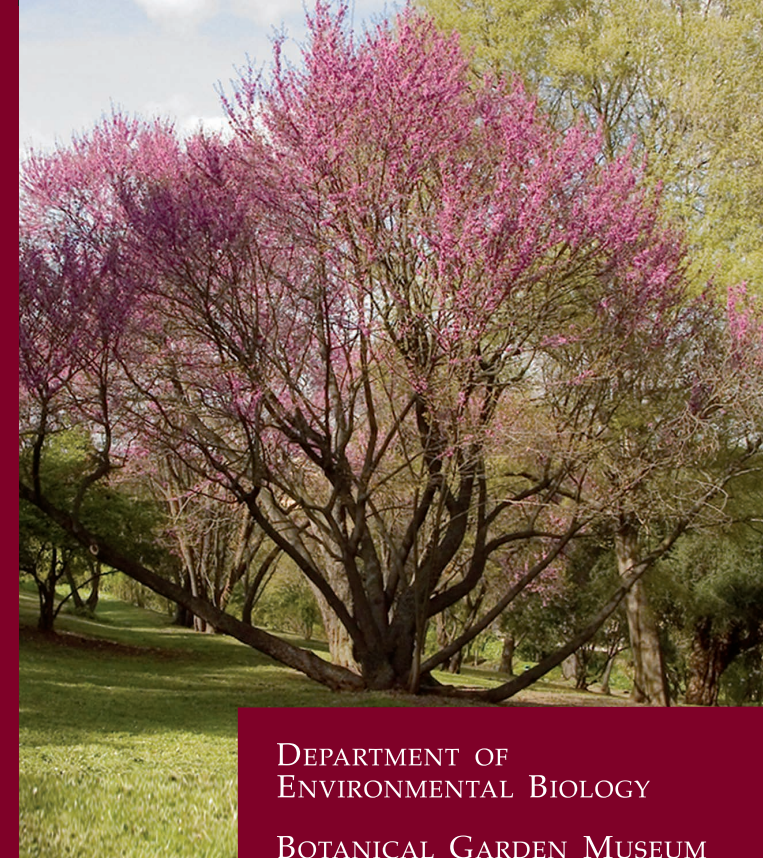
ACTIVITIES

The Botanical Garden of Rome organizes guided tours for individuals, groups and schools of all types and levels. You can book guided tours through the Online Booking Service at the following web address: <http://orto.gestyweb.it/Main.php>

OPENING TIMES

The Botanical Garden Museum of Rome open Monday to Saturday: from 9.00am to 5.30pm (March to October); from 9.00am to 6.30pm (April to September). Closed on Sunday and national holidays.

For booking information please contact:
phone 06 49912436-561; email: info-ortobotanico@uniroma1.it



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

BOTANICAL GARDEN MUSEUM

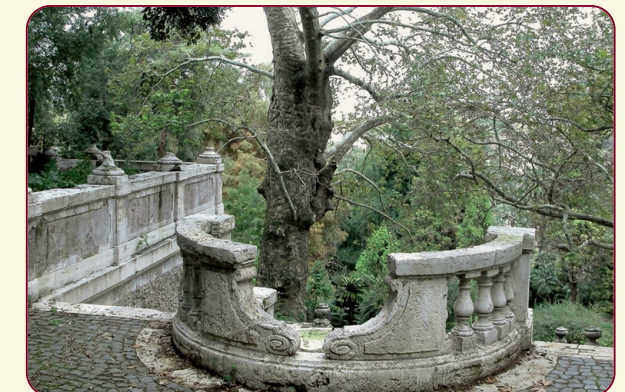


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The Botanical Garden of Rome is one of the Museums of the Department of Environmental Biology of the Sapienza University of Rome. It covers an area of about 30 acres in the very heart of the city, between Via della Lungara and Colle del Gianicolo, occupying part of the archaeological area called Horti Getae, which in ancient times contained the thermal baths of Septimius Severus. Since 1883, the Botanical Garden of Rome has been situated next to Palazzo Riario-Corsini, with whom it shares a historic garden layout. The area contains numerous specimens of palm trees in the main path. The same area contains samples of *Cedrus deodara* (Roxb. ex D. Don) G. Don, which is native to the Himalayas, of the *Dasyllirion* group (including *Dasyllirion glaucophyllum* Hook., *Dasyllirion acrotrichum* (Schied) Zucc., both native to Mexico), of *Erythrina crista-galli* L., which is native to Brazil, and a specimen of *Liquidambar orientalis* Mill. from China.



Scalone Monumentale

COLLECTIONS

Palms ▲ 1 ▲ 3 ▲ 4

The palm collection is very important on account of the large number of plants that are grown outdoors. The most representative genera include *Phoenix*, *Trachycarpus* and *Sabal*, while among the rare species we find *Brahea edulis* H. Wendl. ex S. Watson and *Nannorrhops ritchiana* (Griff.) Aitch. The specimen also contain *Chamaerops humilis* L., *Washingtonia robusta* H.Wendl., *Phoenix canariensis* Hort. ex Chabaud and *Phoenix*



Inflorescence of *Brahea edulis* H. Wendl. ex S. Watson

dactylifera L. The endangered species included on the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources include: *Jubaea chilensis* (Molina) Baill. (VU, vulnerable), *Phoenix theophrasti* Greuter (NT, nearly threatened), *Washingtonia filifera* (Linden ex André) H. Wendl. (NT, nearly threatened).

Garden for blind people ²

It is set in a series of brick flower beds containing species that can be identified on the basis of their tactile (e.g. pubescence) or olfactory (smell) features and are accompanied by labels in Braille.

Rose Garden ⁵

The rose garden, was designed according to the layout of the currently cultivated roses derived from the wild roses (all simple flowers with 5 petals). The most important old cultivated garden roses are derived from *Rosa gallica* L., *Rosa phoenicia* Boiss., *Rosa canina* L., and other taxa commonly grouped under the name of *Rosa moschata* s.l. The rose garden also contains a considerable collection of wild roses that are native to Italy.

Ferns ⁶

It contains a collection of herbaceous ferns that include: *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum* L., *Athyrium filix-femina* (L.) Roth, *Pteridium aquilinum* (L.) Kuhn, *Polystichum setiferum* (Forssk.) T. Moore ex Woyn., *Phyllitis scolopendrium* (L.) Newman and *Woodwardia radicans* (L.) Sm.

Bamboos ⁷

This collection is one of the richest in Europe. There are many species belonging to the genera *Phyllostachys*, *Sasa*, *Bambusa* and *Pleioblastus*. The species most worthy of mention include *Phyllostachys nigra* (Loddiges ex Lindley) Munro (Black Bamboo), *Phyllostachys edulis* (Carrière) J. Houzeau, *Phyllostachys viridiglaucescens* (Carrière) Rivière & C. Rivière and *Fargesia nitida* (Mittford) P. C. Keng ex T. P. Yi.



Phyllostachys edulis (Carrière) J. Houzeau

Japanese Garden ⁸

It was designed according to the layout of an oriental garden, with fountains, small waterfalls and two lakes. It contains species such as *Acer buergerianum* Miq., *Acer palmatum* Thunb., *Amelanchier canadensis* (L.) Medik., *Berberis thunbergii* DC., *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze, *Magnolia stellata* Maxim., *Myrtus communis* L., *Pinus thunbergii* Parl., *Pittosporum tobira* (Thunb.) W.T. Aiton and *Prunus subhirtella* Miq.

Mediterranean wood ¹⁰

The Mediterranean forest lies on the slope and is a testimony to the vegetation that once covered the Gianicolo Hill. It consists mainly of oaks, including *Quercus ilex* L., *Quercus pubescens* Willd., *Quercus robur* L. and *Quercus petraea* (Matt.) Liebl. There are also samples of *Acer campestre* L., *Viburnum tinus* L., *Laurus nobilis* L., *Carpinus betulus* L. and *Rhamnus alaternus* L.

Gymnosperms ^{11 12 13}

The collection lies in the hilly area and includes species of the genera *Podocarpus*, *Pinus*, *Cupressus* and *Torreya*. There are, among others, *Taxodium distichum* (L.) Rich., *Abies nebrodensis* (Lojac.) Mattei, which is endemic to the Madonie Mountains (Sicily) and is listed as CR (critically endangered) on the Red List of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, *Agathis robusta* (C. Moore ex F. Muelle.) F.M. Bailey, a broad-leaved conifer, *Pinus canariensis* C. Sm. ex DC., *Pinus excelsa* Wall. ex Lamb., *Sequoia sempervirens* (Lamb.) Endl. (VU, vulnerable), *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (Lindl.) J. Buchholz. (VU, vulnerable), *Ginkgo biloba* L. (EN, endangered) and *Cycas revoluta* Thunb. (NT, nearly threatened) L. There is also a specimen of *Wollemia nobilis* W.G. Jones, K.D. Hill & J.M. Allen, a species regarded as extinct until 1994, when it was discovered in the Wollemi National Park (Australia).

Medicinal plants ¹⁴

The term “semplici” refers to medicinal plants, also known as “officinali” from the Latin word “officina”, which means pharmaceutical laboratory. The medicinal species in the Hortus Semplicium are arranged in raised flower beds, made of masonry. Other medicinal species are grown in the surrounding area, while yet others are present in the adjacent tropical greenhouse.



Echium strictum L.f.

Tropical Greenhouse ¹⁵

Recently built, it hosts species of tropical and subtropical areas. The level of humidity inside the greenhouse is a constant 80% RH, while the temperature ranges from 18 °C to 20 °C in winter and is approximately 30 °C in summer. The house is divided into different areas, each dedicated to a particular theme: species of tropical undergrowth, *Pandanus* genus, marsh plants, plants useful to humans, tropical forest, palm trees. The collection represents a small example of the extraordinary plant diversity in rain forests. The species in the greenhouse include *Phytelephas macrocarpa* Ruiz & Pav., *Cycas circinalis* L., *Aristolochia gigantea* Mart. & Zucc. and *Hibiscus schizopetalus* (Dyer) Hook. F., as well as a collection of epiphytes that contains some *Nepenthes*.

Wetland plants ¹⁶

Aquatic environments are found in the stream, pond and some tanks. They contain, among other species, *Nelumbo nucifera* Gaertn., *Typha latifolia* L. and *Cyperus alternifolius* L.

Corsini Greenhouse ¹⁷

It was built in nineteenth century and is the first greenhouse erected in the garden. It hosts a collection of succulents, whose main families are *Cactaceae*, *Agavaceae*, *Euphorbiaceae* and *Crassulaceae* resence of caudiciforms, particularly of the *Fockea* and *Pachypodium* genera. There are also two basins that had belonged to Queen Christina of Sweden during her stay (1659-1689) at Villa Riario, now Palazzo Corsini.



Corsini Greenhouse

Monumental Greenhouse ¹⁸

It was built by the Mathian company of Lyon in 1877 and contains a collection of euphorbias, with some specimens of *Euphorbia abyssinica* J.F. Gmel., *Euphorbia grandicornis* Goebel ex

N.E. Br., *Euphorbia tirucalli* L., *Euphorbia mauritanica* L., and two creepers (*Quisqualis indica* L. and *Petrea volubilis* L.). There is a single pitch greenhouse on either side.

Mediterranean plants ¹⁹

The Mediterranean garden is placed in flower beds that contain typical species of the Mediterranean climatic zones (*Quercus ilex* L., *Arbutus unedo* L., *Phillyrea latifolia* L., *Pistacia lentiscus* L., *Myrtus communis* L.), Australian species (*Callistemon citrinus* (Curtis) Skeels), South African species (*Polygala myrtifolia* L.) and species belonging to *Cistus*, *Salvia*, *Teucrium* and *Lavandula* genera. There are also *Euphorbia characias* L., *Matthiola sinuata* (L.) R. Br., *Pancreatium illyricum* L., *Helichrysum litoreum* Guss. and *Limonium narbonense* Mill.

Monumental trees

The botanical garden contains centuries-old samples of *Agathis robusta* (C. Moore ex F. Muelle.) F.M. Bailey, *Acer palmatum* Thunb., *Ehretia acuminata* R.Br., *Erythrina crista-galli* L., *Nolina longifolia* (Karw. ex Schult. & Schult.f.) Hemsl., *Sequoia sempervirens* (Lamb. ex D. Don) Endl., *Torreya grandis* Fortune ex Lindl., *Nannorrhops ritchieana* (Griff.) Aitch., *Cladrastis kentukea* (Dum. Cours.) Rudd, *Parrotia persica* C.A. Mey., *Apollonias barbusana* A. Brown, *Fagus sylvatica* L., two plurisecular trees of *Platanus orientalis* L. placed on either side of the “Scalinata delle Undici Fontane”, and a specimen of *Quercus suber* L.

Seed Bank

The Botanical Garden of Rome is one of the centres of the Italian Network Germplasm Bank for the *Ex Situ* (RIBES) Conservation of Italian wild flora. The Bank has over 1300 accessions divided into the following taxa: 133 families, 580 genera and 936 species. The seeds are stored in vacuum-packed conditions. Some of the accessions are kept at 4 °C for short-term use, while others are kept at -20 °C, for long-term preservation. The Seed Bank exchanges seeds with the other botanical gardens in Italy and throughout the world. The Index seminum of preserved material is available at the following website:

<http://sweb01.dbv.uniroma1.it/orto/index.html>

April 2014

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Graphic designer: Giorgio Moretti, Department of Environmental Biology