Our Garden areas

DAVID C. LAM ASIAN GARDEN is a 10.5-hectare Asian Garden containing collections of woody and herbaceous plants from areas such as China, Korea, Japan and the Himalayas. The canopy of native fir, cedar and hemlock creates favourable microclimates for rhododendrons, shade-loving perennials, rare trees, shrubs and lush ferns below, and climbing roses, hydrangeas and dematis high above.

GREENHEART TREEWALK is located at the eastern end of the David C. Asian Garden. The TreeWalk is not only an exhilarating adventure, but a valuable research and educational showcase for forest biodiversity. Rising to a height of 175 m and extending 308 m in length, the TreeWalk provides visitors with unprecedented views through the forest canopy.

GARRY OAK MEADOW & WOOLAND GARDEN represents the rain-shadow climate of British Columbia’s south coast. Under development, this garden is already rich in spectacular flowering bulbs and herbs.

FOOD GARDEN is a living demonstration of varieties and techniques for home gardening. Carefully trained fruit trees line the outer paths. Fruits and vegetables harvested by the Friends of the Garden are donated to local charities that feed the hungry and homeless. FOODB стол is a massive 60-m-long wooden structure, located behind the Food Garden that displays a variety of climbing plants such as wisteria, trumpet vine and bittersweet. HAROLD & FRANCES HOLY PHYSIC GARDEN is enclosed by a traditional yew hedge. The design of this small garden based on a 16th century Dutch engraving. The 12 concentric beds encircling a sundial showcase traditional medicinal plants from medieval Europe. E.H. LOHRBRUNNER ALPINE GARDEN is organized by continental regions and landscaped with rock outcrops that simulate montane microclimates for rhododendrons, shade-loving perennials, rare trees, shrubs and lush ferns below, and climbing roses, hydrangeas and dematis high above.

Our Mission

The mission of UBC Botanical Garden is to assemble, curate, and maintain a documented living collection of temperate plants for the purposes of education, research, conservation, community outreach, and public display.

How we do it

As Canada’s oldest university botanic garden, we steward a living and growing repository of plants representing the biodiversity of selected native and exotic temperate ecosystems. The total collection of approximately 120,000 accessioned plants represent some 6,000 taxa and includes significant collections of and includes significant collections of magnolias, maples, mountain ashes, rhododendrons, storaxes, and climbing plants.

A key part of the University’s biodiversity collections, the Botanical Garden provides resources to researchers, students and the public that reach far beyond its collections to provide a window into the species ecosystems and genetic diversity of the natural world.

Explore our plant collections online at: botanicalgarden.ubc.ca/explorer

A Deeper Look at our Garden

A MUSEUM OF PLANTS: Botanical gardens devote their resources to the study and conservation of plants, as well as making the world’s plant species diversity known to the public. There are many sensitive areas and plants within the collection, so please stay on the pathways and lawn areas, and don’t step into the garden beds.

Did you know that our plants are grown for research, conservation, teaching and scientific identification purposes? Information about each plant is entered in a large database and is tracked from its collection as a seed in the wild to when it is strong enough to be planted out, for as long as it lives in the garden and even after its demise. Our plant records are linked to a network of botanical garden databases around the world and are a legacy for the study of plants and their importance to our lives.

Our Horticultural Approach of working with natural processes in the garden, such as leaving prunings to decay naturally, may sometimes look “untidy”; however, because of these techniques, visitors are likely to see more mushrooms, insects, birds, and wildlife. This approach also reduces energy and irrigation needs, and contributes to a healthier ecosystem.

Finding Plant Labels: labels are generally found on the side of the plant facing the closest path. They are either on stakes or attached directly to trees/shrubs, but may become obscured by leaves as the plants grow. Can’t find a label? Ask one of our staff or take a picture and email us at garden.hortline@ubc.ca. We’ll do our best to let you know the name and a bit about the plant.

Look up! While there is so much to look at close to the ground, there are also many interesting things happening in the canopy - magnificent vines, tall trees, eagles and other wildlife - all thriving and growing just above your head!

Following the Garden. WALKING TIPS. USE OF PHOTOCAMERAS. PROTECT LOCAL BIODIVERSITY. VISITORS WITH PETS ARE ENCOURAGED TO KEEP THEIR DOGS ON A LEASH.
UBC Vancouver is located on the unceded Coast Salish Territory of the Musqueam Peoples, whose ancestors have occupied lands in this area for thousands of years.