Conservatory

Plants appeal to the senses - visitors of all ages are captivated by the sights, smells, sounds and textures that surround them in our Conservatory.

The U.S. Botanic Garden is a museum with a difference. Our artifacts are the living treasures of the plant world. The towering leaves, graceful flowers, delicate seeds and exotic fruits of plants at their peak are displayed artfully throughout the historic Conservatory.

You will find a world of plants and environments in our permanent exhibits and gardens:

- **Garden Court:** The colorful foliage and flowers create a beautiful setting to feature economic and ethno-botanical plants used in products that provide our fibers, food, beverages, cosmetics, wood, species and more.
- **The Tropics:** A tropical rainforest overtakes an abandoned plantation. The dome rises to 93 feet and has a mezzanine level from which to view the jungle canopy.
- **Plant Adaptations:** Shows some of the fascinating adaptations that have evolved in the plant world.
- **Garden Primeval:** A reconstructed Jurassic landscape of ferns and other ancient plant groups that have survived for 150 million years.
- **Hawaii:** A collection plants native to Hawaii, where species have adapted to live in the specialized conditions of the remote volcanic islands.
- **World Deserts:** Filled with succulents, grasses, shrubs and other flowering plants.
- **Medicinal Plants:** Explores the origins of plant medicine and displays a collection of medicinal plants from all over the world.
- **Orchids:** An ever-blooming, ever-changing display of these mythic plants. Our orchid collection numbers about 5,000 specimens, with hundreds on display at any given time.
- **Mediterranean:** Explore the plants, culture, and food of the world's Mediterranean climatic regions.
- **Rare and Endangered Species:** A changing display of rare, threatened or endangered plants and habitats.
- **Southern Exposure:** A micro-climate outdoor garden featuring North American plants native to the Southeast, the Southwest, and Mexico. **Children’s Garden:** an outdoor area where children can play in a garden and learn informally about plants. **The Children’s Garden is open.
- **West Gallery and East Gallery:** Host seasonal exhibits designed to delight, educate and inspire visitors to become more active stewards of the plants that support life on earth.