



















SINGAPORE BOTANIC GARDENS LEGEND

	Tanglin Gate		National Orchid Garden		Evolution Garden		Bandstand
	Swan Lake		Palm Valley / Shaw Foundation Stage / Symphony Lake		Bonsai		Green Pavilion
	Ginger Garden		Visitor Centre		Sundial		Suggested Route
	Halia Restaurant		Au Jardin Les Amis		Passing of Knowledge		
	Orchid Plaza		Cascade Garden		Sun Garden		

Adapted with approval, based on original map courtesy of National Parks Board.

SINGAPORE BOTANIC GARDENS



1. Tanglin Gate

Enter the Singapore Botanic Gardens via the Tanglin gate, located opposite the British High Commission. The grey wrought iron gate with its meandering floral design is an unmistakable marker of the Gardens which was established on this very spot in 1859. The Gardens is opened from 5am to 12 midnight daily. Admission is free.

2. Swan Lake

Spare a minute at the gazebo, a classic Victorian garden shelter, which overlooks the beautiful Swan Lake, one of three lakes in the Gardens. Walk around this huge belly of water (15ha) and give your child a quick ecology lesson. Spot sunbathing turtles, shoals of fishes, monitor lizards lurking at the waterbed, and a pair of mute swans frolicking in the waters.

3. Ginger Garden

The first thing you should look out for while at the Ginger Garden is not the ginger but Sealing-Wax Palm. The Gardens' emblem has a distinctive red crownshaft, making it a prominent feature around the park. At the pavilion, you can take a leisurely read on the various ginger species while enjoying the cooling air and sound of gushing water from the waterfall a stone's throw away. Caution: the waterfall tunnel path tends to be slippery.

4. Halia Restaurant

Enjoy a meal at the Halia Restaurant – Malay for 'ginger'. For lunch, tuck in to a delectable fare of Western-Asian cuisine. We like the shrimp satay salad with pomelo and ginger flower dressing; for tea, there's the Old English-style buttery scone with ginger-perfumed fresh cream and home-style apricot and ginger jam; and for dinner, try

the signature Crisp Black Pepper Soft Shell Crab. Lunch starts at 12 noon on weekdays, and 9am on weekend and public holiday for brunch.

5. Orchid Plaza

Next to the Halia Restaurant is The Garden, a refreshment kiosk that serves piping hot snacks like nuggets, fries, and hot dogs to satisfy your hunger, and icy cold drinks and ice-creams to beat the heat with.

6. National Orchid Garden

(New text pending)

7. Palm Valley / Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage / Symphony Lake

The Palm Valley is a cosy lawn that cocoons its lustrous green lawn around families and friends who enjoy a picnic or a lazy Sunday afternoon out in the sun with the dog.

8. Au Jardin Les Amis

This colonial bungalow was named after one of the many Assistant Directors of the Gardens, E.J.H. Corner, who lived here between 1929 and 1945. The old quarters has been refurbished and is now the popular Au Jardin Les Amis restaurant whose name means 'in the garden'. The award-winning restaurant serves scrumptious French cuisine. Enjoy a glass of wine, the best cut meat, the freshest seafood, and the most sinful of deserts.

9. Cascade Garden

Listen to the sound of gushing waters orchestrated by a mini fall in the Cascade Garden. Frangipani trees overhanging the waters give it a nice green frame to snap a pretty family photo.

10. Evolution Garden

Step into the 1.5ha Evolution Garden which winds through the prehistoric timeline of flora and fauna and be awed by fossilised tree trunks, dinosaur footprints, volcanoes, and others like stromatolites and lepidodendrons. The Garden operates from 5am to 7pm daily, and is a great place for morning exercise or a quiet meditation. No pets are allowed though.

11. Visitor Centre

Catch your breath at the Visitor Centre where you can lean back and crowd-watch or surf the net over an ice cold drink at the Café Les Amis. Opposite the café is the Botanic Garden Shop where you can purchase intricate jewellery shaped in floral motifs. You can also chill out under a four-faced clock, or browse through the exhibits found here.

12. Bandstand

Did you know that the iconic bandstand was once a military band performance stage? Built in 1930, its predecessor was erected as early as 1860 as the main attraction in the Gardens. The white structure and the many Yellow Flame trees set the perfect backdrop for potential photo opportunities.

13. Passing of Knowledge

From father to son, water – which symbolises knowledge in this sculpture, is passed on from

generation to generation. Sculptor Victor Tan uses the metamorphosis to promote interpersonal relationships for our future generations. While you are here, try the 4-Way Test and reflect upon your relationship with your family.

14. Sun Garden

Something prickly, something green; sometimes big, and sometimes small; but always resilient to the scorching heat and unforgiving terrain. Amble around the Sun Garden, which is the cacti haven, and that is what you will learn about these hardy plants.

15. Bonsai

Welcome to the world of mini trees and shrubs, and their amazing capacity to twist and turn their way into miniature works of art in their own right. Here's where you can also top up your tumbler at the water cooler.

16. Sundial Garden

Even if your most expensive watch may wink on you, the sundial never will. Practice trying to tell the time off the old, simple mechanism. Here, you can also spot beautiful purple lotus basking in the jade green ponds.

17. Green Pavilion

For a dollar, your child can spin for a capsule of fishy food to bring to the many ponds around the Green Pavilion. Remember to return the empty shell to the counter staff for recycling. You can also surf the net here while enjoying a yummy fare of crab bee hoon, curry fish head and more delectable food at the Taman Serasi food garden.