

## THE BOTANICAL GARDEN OF NAPLES IS OPEN TO VISITORS ON WEEKDAYS

- conservation of ancient or neglected cultivars of fruit trees and horticultural plants;
- Teaching of botany;
- Environmental education.

### Sections

The Naples Botanical Garden hosts the Museum of Paleobotany and Ethnobotany, the Herbarium, a botanical library and a seed bank.

The paleobotanical section of the Museum illustrates the evolution of land plants, with the help of fossils, reconstructions and texts, starting from the earliest vascular plants to the present.

The ethnobotanical section illustrates the various uses of plants, displaying objects, products, pictures and plant specimens; special attention is given to daily activities and interaction with plants of several disappearing ethnical groups.

The Plant Biology building, with classrooms, an Herbarium and a botanical library, was the location of a university department and has been recently acquired by the botanical garden. The Herbarium includes about 175.000 specimens of great scientific value.

The seed bank keeps fruits and seeds collected in the garden and in nature, both to preserve plant biodiversity and to exchange them with other botanical gardens in the world.

The garden offers a variety of instructional activities and provides guided tours for students (we receive approx. 20.000 students from primary and secondary schools per year).

Guided visits may be arranged upon request for Italian and foreign groups.

The Garden also organizes frequent public events with Nature as a theme. Among the regular occurrences, *Planta, il giardino e non solo*, the horticultural fair held in May and the Tree Festival in November. Follow the site for updates.



Mon./Wed./Fri. ore 9:00 – 14:00

Tue./Thu. ore 9:00 – 16:00

Check the website for special opening times



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SCAN ME

### WE ARE HERE:



Via Foria, 223 - Naples



ORTO BOTANICO di NAPOLI

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II

### THE NAPLES BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Naples Botanical Garden is one of the most prominent botanical gardens in Europe for the relevance of its collections and the number of species in culture. It was founded as an autonomous institution (“Real giardino delle piante”- Royal Garden of Plants) with scientific, educational and technical purposes, during the French period of the Kingdom of Naples (1806-1815).

### The origins

The decree of foundation of the Garden had a quite complex history, both for political vicissitudes and for the technical complexity of the project.

After the relocation of the University from the ancient “Palazzo degli Studi” (today, the National Museum) to the “Palazzo del Salvatore”, an official message by Ferdinand IV (October, 1<sup>st</sup>, 1777) on the future use of the former “Palazzo degli Studi” provides for the establishment of a natural history museum and a botanical garden in that area.

Almost 20 years later, in 1796, a first decree is published, ordering the foundation of the Naples Botanical Garden in its present location. This decree, and the next (1802) as well, were fruitless. The decree which indeed caused the works to start was signed by Giuseppe Bonaparte on December, 28<sup>th</sup>, 1807.

Two later decrees (February, 19<sup>th</sup>, 1810, by Joaquin Murat and July, 26<sup>th</sup>, 1812, by the queen consort Carolina Bonaparte) detailed on the required size and magnificence of the layout. In fact, the preparation of the garden lasted several decades, employing large sums of money and the best scientific intellects of the time.

### The collections

At present, the Naples Botanical Garden hosts several thousands of plant, shrub and tree species, kept in the open or in controlled environments; We succeed in cultivating representatives of almost all floras from the different regions of the world, also because of the favorable climate, in which subtropical species often survive well. Various important specimens are listed in international catalogs.

The greenhouses (warm, temperate and cold) cover approx. 5000 sq. meters.

Among the most important collections, we may mention: the cycad collection, which is one the reference collections world-wide; our collection of succulents, from the African, American, Asian and Australian deserts; the tree fern collection, one of the few in Europe; the palms; the Italian orchids and the bulbs; the air plant collection; the Citrus grove. The Naples Botanical Garden also hosts a wide sample of Italian and exotic plants of economic importance.

### Mission

The Naples Botanical Garden, one of the largest and most biodiversity-rich in Italy, carries out a variety of research, educational, technical and, generally speaking, cultural activities, which contribute in making it one of the leading scientific institutions in southern Italy.

Its main functions are:

- conservation and growth of the living collections;
- fundamental research in various areas of plant biology;
- applied research on the plants of economic importance;
- conservation of plant diversity in danger of extinction;

### Area Legend

- |                                              |                                  |                                 |                              |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 – Main entrance                            | 10 – Gymnosperm Area             | 27 – Fern and Orchid Greenhouse | 34 – Garden of the Amadryads |
| 2 – Vehicle access - ♿                       | 11 – Fern garden                 | 28 – Camellia Garden            | 35 – Mountain Hilltop        |
| 3 – Castle                                   | 12 – Arboretum                   | 29 – Bamboo grove               | ♿ ♻️ ♻️ ♻️ – Lavatory        |
| 3a – Museum of Paleobotany and Ethnobotany   | 13 – Mediterranean scrubland     | 30 – Insectivorous Plants       | 💧 – Fountain                 |
| 4 – Plant Biology Building                   | 14 – Desert garden               | 31 – Myrtaceae Area             | Ⓟ – Parking                  |
| 5 – SinAPSi center                           | 15 – Palm collection             | 32 – Moraceae Area              |                              |
| 6 – Experimental Section of Medicinal Plants | 16 – Flowering Plant Families    | 33 – Nursery                    |                              |
| 6a – Useful Plants                           | 17 – Rock Garden                 |                                 |                              |
| 6b – Medicinal Plants                        | 18 – Beach                       |                                 |                              |
| 6c – Poisonous Plants                        | 19 – Epiphyte Plants             |                                 |                              |
| 6d – Chromo-sensory Garden                   | 20 – Bog                         |                                 |                              |
| 6e – Progenitors of Fruit Trees              | 21 – Aquatic Plants              |                                 |                              |
| 6f – Orchard                                 | 22 – Geophytes                   |                                 |                              |
| 6g – Experimental Fields                     | 23 – Califano Greenhouses        |                                 |                              |
| 7 – Tactile-Olfactory Museum                 | 24 – Merola Greenhouse           |                                 |                              |
| 8 – Bible garden                             | 25 – De Luca Tropical Greenhouse |                                 |                              |
| 9 – Citrus Grove                             | 26 – Useful Plant Greenhouse     |                                 |                              |



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Graphic design by Giuseppe Andolfo & Simona Capaldo