

Welcome to Baltic Botanic Gardens!



The botanic garden is one of the most exciting places where to see the world's plant diversity, to become acquainted with threatened plants, the geography and application of plants, gardening, and to relax in nature's lap. It is a fabulous destination for educational tourism or relaxing travels.

The three Baltic countries – Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania – have 8 «treasure houses» of plants. As most of botanical gardens have deep historical roots – several of them are located in the territories of old estates – the visit is a great cultural activity.

All botanic gardens are open to visitors: they provide guided tours, cultural events – exhibitions, concerts – markets, and plant sells. Some of them offer riding, place for a picnic, or organization of social and cultural entertainment by individual agreement.



Never-
ending
beauty



Baltic Botanic Gardens

Tourist
Guide



Tallinn Botanic Garden

Area: 60 ha

Outdoor species and cultivars: 5500

Glasshouse species and cultivars: 2200

Year of foundation: 1961

Tallinn Botanic Garden is located in the picturesque landscape reserve of the Pirita River Valley, about 8 km from the centre of Tallinn. The nature trail passes through natural and semi-natural plant communities. Most of woody plants originate from Eastern Asia and Northern America. There are about 660 cultivars of roses in the Rose Garden, oldest of which date back to the 15th century. Colourful places are the Rock Garden and the exposition of bulbs. Collections of irises, peonies, astilbes, lilies, and daylilies contain numerous historical cultivars. The reconstruction of the new exclusive subtropical greenhouse enables to display Chinese, Japanese, Australian, and Mediterranean plants. Different exhibitions are held monthly, and the more common Estonian lichens, mosses, and tree fungi are exposed all-year-round.



The main square and Palm House



Modern greenhouses



Solar panels on the roof of greenhouses



View of the rotund and rhododendrons



Salvia patens



Rock Garden



Spring in the Arboretum



Sculpture «Girl with a bird»



Lilium

Botanical Garden of University of Tartu

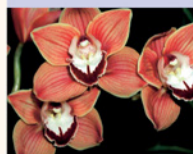
Area: 4 ha

Outdoor species and cultivars: 5300

Glasshouse species and cultivars: 1200

Year of foundation: 1803

The Botanical Garden of the University of Tartu is the oldest permanently working botanical garden in the Baltic countries and, nowadays, one of the easternmost BG of the EU. Reconstructed tropical and succulent greenhouses equipped with solar energy and computerized climate management systems are an excellent example of the modern greenhouse world. The Tropical House represents tropic America, but succulents are collected from Africa and America. The outdoor arboretum contains trees from all over the world; perennials are mainly from the Caucasus, Eastern Asia, and Southern Europe. 900 different alpine plants are landscaped in an amphitheatre. The Garden is a tranquil green oasis located in 4 ha in the historical downtown of the city of Tartu.



Eremurus x isabellianus



The entrance view



Azalea in greenhouse

Rhododendrons and azaleas



Succulent collection



Rhododendron 'Catawbiense Grandiflorum'



Chamaedorea oblongata



Decorative perennials



Magnolia



Botanical Garden of University of Latvia

Area: 15 ha in Rīga,
12 ha in the Rhododendron
breeding station in Babīte

Outdoor species and cultivars: 4900

Glasshouse species and cultivars: 1600

Year of foundation: 1922

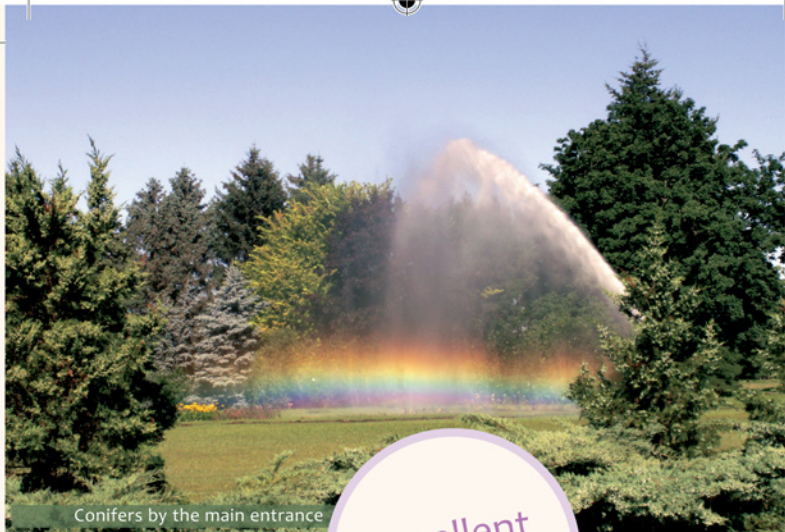
The Botanical Garden of the University of Latvia is situated in two locations. The main territory in Rīga holds the biggest Palm House in the Baltic countries, which contains 48 palms and other large plants like meta-sequoia, ficus, araucaria, and greenhouses for tropic and succulent plants. The Garden also boasts the largest greenhouse azalea collection in Latvia with 124 varieties. The cultivation and study of perennial plants for the last 40 years have had an impact on the landscape since the main outdoor expositions are arranged as seven landscape gardens: the Rock Garden, the Phlox Garden, the Dahlia Garden, a.o. One of the most brilliant collections of the Arboretum is rhododendrons and magnolias. In May and June, the abundant blooming of 256 rhododendron sorts and species invites us to the Botanical Garden's Rhododendron breeding station «Babīte» (10 km from the main territory in Rīga).



Rose Garden



Palm House



Conifers by the main entrance

Excellent
arboretum



Heather garden



Maze of *Kochia scoparia*



Liriodendron tulipifera



Lonicera involucrata



Myrica germanica

National Botanic Garden of Latvia

Area: 129 ha

Outdoor species and cultivars: 13300

Glasshouse species and cultivars: 1700

Year of foundation: 1956

The National Botanic Garden holds the richest living plant collections in Northeast Europe – 15 000 taxa are grown, including more than 5000 taxa of arboreal plants. The Garden is an important breeding and research centre: many cultivars of ornamental plants are bred here, for example roses, gerberas, chrysanthemums, decorative bulbous plants, and berry plants (cranberries, blueberries, lingonberries, red bilberries, a.o.). The collections and expositions are an excellent information source for scientists and students, as well as for professional gardeners, hobby gardeners, and the general public. The Garden houses a great collection of threatened plants – 130 species from the Red Data Book of Latvia. Traditional gardening markets, organized in the Garden four times a year in spring and autumn, are an important event for all gardeners, a place to see and buy the latest nurseries' novelties.



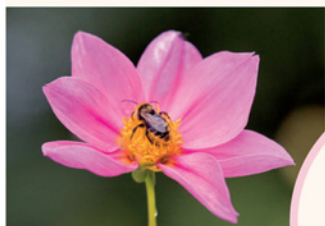
Daylily exposition



Old manor stables



Sorbus kochneana



Winter rest

Artistic,
eventful,
and spacious
garden



Information centre



Rhododendrons at the beginning of summer



Restored old fountain



Exposition of lianas



Spring with tulips



Ride in a carriage

Botanical Garden of Vilnius University

Area: 199 ha

Outdoor species and cultivars: 9300

Greenhouses species and cultivars: 700

Year of foundation: 1781

Historical circumstances led to the Botanic Garden being moved four times from one place to another. Nowadays the Garden is located in two places: in Vingis Park and Kairėnai (the main part since 1974).

Among the Baltic countries, Vilnius University Botanic Garden owns the largest territory: 199 ha host the arboretum, «The Great Flower Valley», fruit plants collections, old manor park, etc. The most impressive collections are rhododendrons, lilacs, lianas, peonies, dahlias, and bulb flowers.

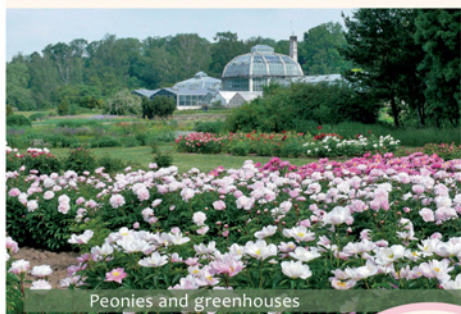
About 400 species of vascular plants native to Lithuania grows at the Garden. More than 120 species of vertebrate animals inhabit the Botanic Garden, too. Visitors are offered a great variety of attractions: they may spend time in the haven of thousands of plants, enjoy leisurely walks, see art and photo exhibitions, listen to music, or participate in events; they may also get a horse ride or a ride in a carriage.



The central part of the old manor



Inside the greenhouses



Peonies and greenhouses



Echinacea



Collection of medicinal plants

Great
collection
of medicinal
plants



Bridge in the park

Kaunas Botanical Garden of Vytautas Magnus University

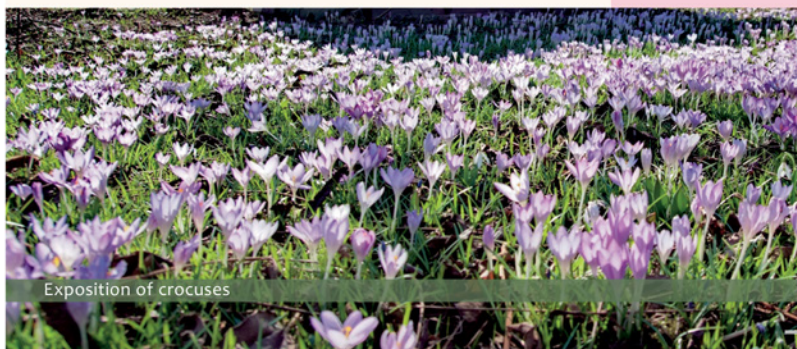
Area: 30 ha

Outdoor species and cultivars: 7000

Glasshouse species and cultivars: 1560

Year of foundation: 1923

Kaunas Botanical Garden houses a unique exposition among the Baltic countries – an exposition for blind and visually impaired people. Visitors can touch and smell medicinal, soft fruit, potherb plants; they can also read the names of the plants written in Braille and in enlarged print. The Garden boasts a great collection of medicinal plants that contains 419 species. In the largest (880 m²) greenhouse in Lithuania, plants are grown according to the geographical and climatic principle. The Botanical Garden was founded in a former estate with a large old park in Aukštoji Freda. The Garden's pond system still keeps the memory of the owner of the estate, the nobleman Juozapas Godlevskis: two ponds are landscaped to adjust the form of letters 'J' and 'G'. Recently with the help of volunteers, Kaunas Botanical Garden has started building a set of various thematic labyrinths and preparing green classes.



Exposition of crocuses



Iris sp.



Fragment of collection

Lilies, tulips,
dahlias, irises,
daylilies



Arboretum



Dahlia sp.



Abies koreana



Conifers



Guided tour

Botanical Garden of Klaipėda University

Area: 9.3 ha

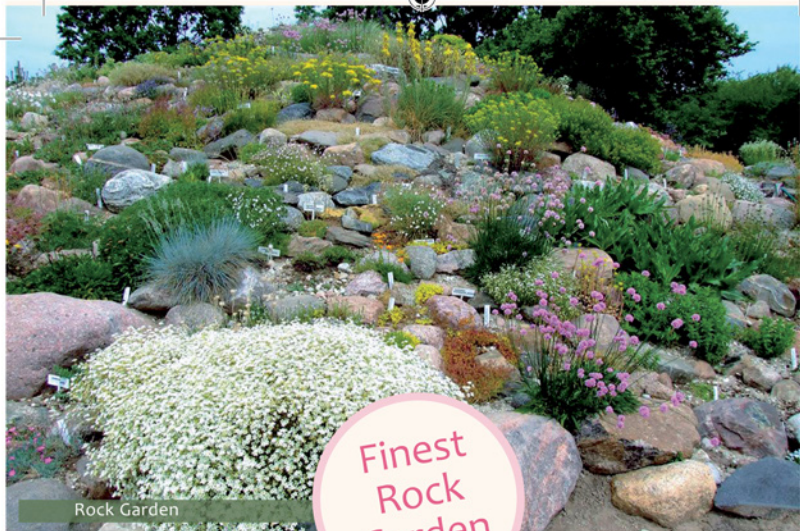
Outdoor species and cultivars: 3000

Year of foundation: 1993

The Botanical Garden of Klaipėda University is located in the northern part of the city of Klaipėda, in the valley of the Dane River. The terrain is very varied and creates a beautiful landscape. Ornamental and other valuable plants are collected and exhibited in three collections: dendrological, medicinal and spice plants, and herbaceous ornamental plants. The dendrological collection contains an abundance of plants. There also are rich expositions of flowers: lilies, tulips, dahlias, daylilies, and irises. The territory is important for its history. In June 1802, at an estate near this territory, the Prussian king, Frederic Wilhelm III, and his wife Louise had a meeting with the Russian emperor, Alexander I. As a tribute to this long friendship, born right here, between the two monarchs, a remembrance park was established; today the territory is used by the Botanical Garden.



Bird's-eye view



Rock Garden

Finest
Rock
Garden



Recreation space in the
dendrology section



Plant taxonomy and geography exposition
in spring



Waterlily



Daylily collection



Iris collection



Rhododendron 'Laura'

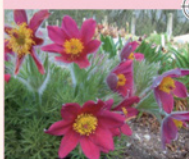
Šiauliai University Botanical Garden

Area: 2.5 ha

Outdoor species and cultivars: 3000

Year of foundation: 1997

The Garden is the newest Botanical Garden in the Baltic countries. The collections are formed according to plant decorativeness, geographical aspects, and the rarity of species. The Rock Garden presents one of the richest collections – more than 900 taxa, the majority of which are alpine plants. Field floriculture collection contains about 900 taxa. The genera of decorative perennial flowers, such as irises, lilies, and day-lilies, attract the most attention. About 700 taxa of vanishing species of Lithuania are included in the section of plant taxonomy and geography. The woody plant collection hosts about 220 taxa of coniferous as well as many deciduous trees, shrubs, and subshrubs, among them the pride of the Garden – *Ericaceae* family plants, especially rhododendrons. In the Phenological Garden, everyone can observe the seasonal timing of plant life.



Floriculture exposition and the garden of spice and medicinal herbs



Creativity,
knowledge,
recreation





Orchids



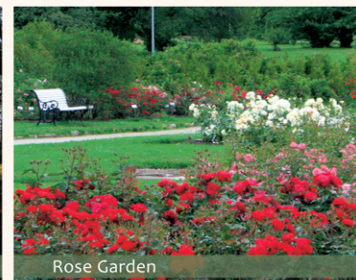
Finest collection of orchids



In the Palm House



Arboretum



Rose Garden



Rock Garden

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