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.
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.
Modern greenhouses

Solar panels on the roof of greenhouses

View of the rotund and monkeydendrons

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.
Rhododendrons and azaleas

Succulent collection

Chamaedorea oblongata

Decorative perennials

Magnolia
The Botanical Garden of the University of Latvia is situated in two locations. The main territory in Riga holds the biggest Palm House in the Baltic countries, which contains 48 palms and other large plants like metasequoia, 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 «Babite» (10 km from the main territory in Riga).
Conifers by the main entrance

Excellent arboretum

Heather garden

Liriodendron tulipifera

Maze of Kochia scoparia

Lonicera involucrata

Myricaria 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.
Artistic, eventful, and spacious garden
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.
Great collection of medicinal plants
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 Aukstoji 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 ‘C’. 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
Lilies, tulips, dahlias, irises, daylilies
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.
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.