






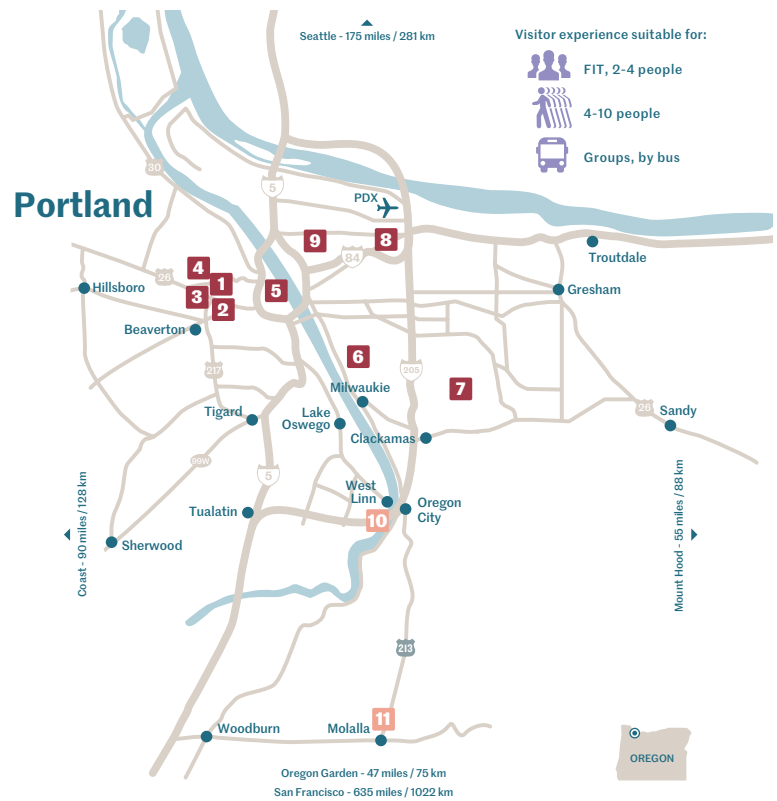
Essential Gardens


The city of Portland and its region is home to an unrivaled number of gardens and green spaces. Even in the heart of downtown, you're sure to see more green than gray as you invariably stumble across grassy oases.

Start your day at the **1 HOYT ARBORETUM**. This 187-acre (74.9-hectare) living museum of trees and plants from around the world — the largest collection of distinct plant species in the United States — is located just west of downtown Portland. A place of beauty and serenity in all seasons. 

Portland's **2 INTERNATIONAL ROSE TEST GARDEN** is the oldest official continuously operated public rose test garden in the United States. Also known as the Portland Rose Garden, the space features more than 10,000 roses from 650 varieties. Started in 1917, it was a safe haven for hybrid roses grown in Europe during World War I. The garden also offers spectacular views of downtown and Mount Hood, and there is no entry fee. 

Adjacent, find the **3 PORTLAND JAPANESE GARDEN**, a 12.4-acre (5-hectare) haven of tranquil beauty nestled in the scenic West Hills of Portland, which has been proclaimed the most authentic Japanese garden outside of Japan. This year-round garden is composed of five distinct garden styles: the flat garden, the strolling garden pond, the tea garden, the natural garden, and the sand and stone garden. In 2017, working with world-renowned architect, Kengo Kuma, the Cultural Crossing expansion added three new LEED certified buildings and three new garden spaces. 









In Northwest Portland, **4 PITTOCK MANSION** is a historic turn-of-the-century home offering picture-perfect views of the city and its surroundings, as well as a revealing glimpse of Portland's past. The mansion is characterized by its impressive architecture and 23 art- and antique-filled rooms all surrounded by beautiful landscaping. 

A year-round wonder, the **5 LAN SU CHINESE GARDEN** is an authentic Ming Dynasty style garden, built by Suzhou artisans, that takes up an entire city block of downtown's historic Chinatown district. Since the garden's opening in 2000, its covered walkways, bridges, open colonnades, pavilions and richly planted landscape framing the man-made Zither Lake have created an urban oasis of harmony and relaxation. The two-story 50-seat Teahouse pairs the beauty and symbolism of the garden with Chinese tea culture, giving visitors the ability to sit, relax, and enjoy tea while gazing into the garden. 



Essential Gardens, CONT.

Venturing just southeast of downtown Portland, you'll find **6 CRYSTAL SPRINGS RHODODENDRON GARDEN**. This gem boasts an outstanding 7-acre (2.8 hectare) collection of rare species and hybrid rhododendrons, azaleas, deciduous and coniferous trees. Best of all, admission is free in the fall and winter.   

Located in a woodland hollow in southeast Portland, **7 LEACH BOTANICAL GARDEN** is a collection of more than 2,000 different species and cultivars. It can be enjoyed on a self-guided tour that winds around the Manor House and along Johnson Creek, past stately trees, native and exotic shrubs, extensive displays of ferns, woodland lilies, and alpine plants.   

OUTDOOR SPACES TO EXPLORE



FOREST PARK One of the largest urban forests in the U.S.

TRYON CREEK STATE NATURAL AREA

A lush forest oasis right in the city




FERNHILL WETLANDS

Abundant water, plants and wildlife in Forest Grove

JENKINS ESTATE

Master Gardeners frequently have demos and workshops

ROOD BRIDGE PARK In Hillsboro along the Tualatin River

Perched atop a Northeast Portland cliff, **8 THE GROTTO** comprises over 62 acres (25 hectares) of lush, treed gardens. Constructed in 1924 as an outdoor Roman Catholic sanctuary, the nonprofit center now hosts 300,000 visitors of all faiths year-round. The Grotto's unique aesthetic, which features peaceful paths dotted with intricately carved Catholic shrines, combines a traditional forested park with profound meditative bliss. The Grotto's Christmas Festival of Lights is the largest Christmas choral festival in the world. From the day after Thanksgiving until December 30, enjoy the more than 170 indoor holiday concerts.   

TOURS






GARDEN TOURS (*gardens.tours*) Let a local garden expert help put together a custom tour for your group of garden enthusiasts.

MEDITATIVE BIKE TOUR (*cordillerantours.com/tours*) Experience Portland's gardens in a deeper way on a bike tour that will delve into garden design.




ROSE FESTIVAL



Every year, the City of Roses throws itself a big party, in the form of the **PORTLAND ROSE FESTIVAL** (*rosefestival.org*). The city's official festival includes more than 60 events, starting in late May and ending with dragon boat races the second weekend of June. In between, there are parades, carnival rides and fun galore.

Historic Piedmont neighborhood is home to a unique horticultural gem – **9 PENINSULA PARK ROSE GARDEN**. A formal French garden, this tranquil treasure is Portland's first public rose garden and original site of the Rose Festival activities. More than a century old, the Garden's iconic fountain and bandstand are perfect complements to the splendor of more than 5,000 roses. The Garden's wide, brick walkways and ramps, along with level grassy paths, provide free easy access to all.   

MORE TIME TO EXPLORE?

10 OUT IN THE GARDEN NURSERY Knowledgeable staff invite you to stroll the display gardens for inspiration or simply come to enjoy the peace and beauty of the Heritage Oak Trees. Picnics welcome.   

11 ROGERSON CLEMATIS GARDEN A wonderful place for avid horticulturalists and plant nerds to find inspiration and ideas for their own gardens. Open every day with tours throughout the year. 