Guide Map

Botanical Garden
El Arboreto of El Carambolo

EMASESA Metropolitana

Come and Enjoy

Metropolitan Water Works Company of Seville
El Arboreto Botanical Garden, was built in 1986 by EMASESA (the water company of Seville and its surrounding cities), and it covers an area of 40,000 square meters on the hill of El Carambolo, municipality of Camas. In it you can find more than 500 botanical species from the five continents. It also has two viewpoints with a height of 62.5 meters above Seville, with a fairly unknown and unique panoramic view of the city and the Guadalquivir River Valley.
El Arboreto Botanical Garden serves three purposes:

• To stabilise the hillside of Carambolo Hill, where it is located the drinking water tank which supplies Seville and its metropolitan area.

• To minimise the visual impact of El Carambolo Drinking Water Treatment Plant, which is located behind the garden.

• To carry out an important educational work, developing Environmental Education activities for groups coming from different levels and backgrounds.
SEVILLE is one of the Spanish cities with the greatest variety of ornamental plants. Nowadays there are about 210,000 trees planted in the streets, and many of them can be found in El Arboreto.

It is a landscape-style Garden, and it is divided in seven areas: the pergolas and flowerbeds area, the ponds and their canal, collections of culinary, aromatic and medicinal species, fruit trees and intensive farming plants, ornamental species, Mediterranean forest and Quercus and, finally, the conifers.

There are two artificial ponds connected via a stream where riparian vegetation and aquatic plants can be observed, integrating water as an essential element of the landscape. Collections of medicinal, aromatic and culinary species are located along the path that runs parallel to the road, while, on the upper level, we can find the collection of crops and the organic garden with many seasonal species of fruits and vegetables. Finally, on the lower tier, a system of pergolas has been installed to support a collection of climbing species, as well as a small rock garden.

THE CURRENT LAYOUT OF THE GARDEN IS DESIGNED BY LANDSCAPING CRITERIA, AND NOT TO GEOGRAPHIC OR BOTANICAL CRITERIA.
DURING YOUR VISIT, YOU WILL FIND SIGNS THAT IDENTIFY THE SPECIMENS OF THE DIFFERENT PLANT COLLECTIONS OF EL ARBORETO

**SCIENTIFIC NAME.** Composed by two Latin words, it is used to identify plants all over the world.

**COMMON NAME.** There are many common names for a same plant depending on its location.

**BOTANICAL FAMILY.** It is a cluster of many genus with similar attributes.

**DISTRIBUTION AREA.** Native habitat of the plant.
Photography, drawing, detailed observation... there are different ways to enjoy the garden all year long. Please, follow these rules during your visit.

- **USE PATHWAYS**
- **DON'T TOUCH SPRINKLERS, VALVES, PLUGS, ETC.**
- **AVOID MAKING UNNECESSARY NOISE**
- **RESPECT THE PLANTS**
- **CERAMIC SIGNALS ARE FRAGILE**
- **DON'T THROW STONES OR RUBBISH INTO THE WATER**
- **RESPECT THE ANIMALS**
- **KEEP THE GARDEN CLEAN**
- **ASK THE GARDEN STAFF IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS**
- **USE THE FACILITIES PROPERLY**

GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES FOR VISITORS
The species of El Arboreto

**CULINARY, AROMATIC AND MEDICINAL PLANTS**: Aromatic plants possess essential oils that provide a pleasant smell. In this group you can find plants widely used in perfumery, such as several species of lavender, rosemary, etc. Many species of culinary plants are frequently used as condiments in our kitchens, such as oregano, thyme, garlic or mint, among others. Medicinal plants have traditionally been used as natural remedies to treat diseases. Usually, a single plant can be used to provide solutions for different diseases. As an example of the species we can find in the garden, there are: *aloë*, used in cosmetics and medicine for wounds and burn treatment; *chamomile*, which is used primarily as a sedative and digestive; or *chicory*, from whose root we obtain a substitute for coffee and whose leaves are beneficial for good digestion.

**CROPS AND FRUIT PLANTS**: Crops are species used as raw materials for the production of oils (sunflower, olive) or fibers (hemp, esparto, linen). Among the fruit trees we can mention loquat, pear, plum, persimmon.

**PARTERRES AND PERGOLAS**: Parterres area is one of the most colourful places in the garden. These plants are used both in public and private gardens for the great visibility of their flowers: *Cape marigold*, *treasure flower*, *hyacinth orchid*, *fleur-de-lis*, *gladiolus*, etc. The pergolas are covered with climbing plants: *Moorish jasmine*, *common jasmine*, *Chinese jasmine*, *liquidambar*, etc.

**AQUATIC AND RIVERSIDE PLANTS**: In the water and on the edges of the two ponds and the small stream that joins them, aquatic and riparian species can be found. Some of them are water lilies, *rushes* and *umbrellas* or *papyrus*. In the ponds or in the stream you can see fauna related to that habitat: amphibians (small frogs and tadpoles), fishes and reptiles (water snakes).

**QUERCUS (OAKS) AND MEDITERRANEAN FOREST**: This area is made up of different tree and shrub species, with quite striking characteristics which are the result of adaptations to their natural environment. Here we find: *silk floss tree*, *African coral tree*, *bird of paradise*, *illawarra flame tree*, *avocado*, etc.

**CONIFERS**: Conifers are characterized by the development of their seeds in structures called cones (pine cones), so we can never see flowers themselves in these plants. In the garden they can be found, among others: *juniper tree*, *lawson cypress*, *Chinese thuja* and *sequoia*. In this area we also find a great variety of pines, such as: *Canary Island pine*, *Alepino pine or stone pine*. The *stone pine* is native to the Mediterranean region, and its wood, very resinous and resistant, is as much appreciated as its seeds, pine nuts, which are widely used in Mediterranean cuisine. It is worth mentioning *Ginkgo biloba* tree as a living fossil, which is considered sacred in countries like China or Japan.

**RECOMMENDED VIEWPOINTS**: A panoramic view of the city of Seville and the town of Camas can be observed from here. On clear days, the Sierra Norte can be observed.
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GUIDED TOURS: Guided Tours: Prior reservation. For booking your tour:

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