



Directions to the Kids' Tour Stops at the U.S. National Arboretum

Stop #1 Koi

The koi are in the pool that surrounds the Administration Building. They live here all year long. In the winter, though, they're in the deepest part of the pool resting, so you won't see them. Please feed them only the special food that you can buy at the Arboretum for 25 cents.

Stop #2 Chrysanthemum Stone

Find the International Pavilion in the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum. There are glass cases inside that display many different kinds of viewing stones. The display changes, so you may or may not see this one.

Stop #3 Japanese White Pine Bonsai

You will see it as you enter the Japanese Pavilion in the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum.

Stop #4 Goshin Forest Planting Bonsai

Sometimes Goshin is moved to the pedestal in the fountain in the courtyard of the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum, but usually it's the first bonsai you see when you enter the North American Pavilion. In the winter, it's in the Chinese Pavilion, where all of the bonsai go because it has a roof that protects the trees from ice and snow.

Stop #5 Lamb's Ear

Walk in the entrance of the National Herb Garden. You'll find lots of lamb's ears on both sides of the path.

Stop #6 Rosemary

Walk in the entrance of the National Herb Garden. You'll see a large rosemary plant on your left (look for a label stuck in the ground in front of it).

Stop #7 Hawthorn Tree

Enter the National Herb Garden and turn right. Stay on the brick path until you enter the area with the large oval grass center. Turn right and look for the hawthorn trees on your left, growing in front of the Dye and Colonial Gardens.

Stop #8 Herb Garden Arbor

There are two long arbors in the National Herb Garden. Enter the garden, walk towards the fountain, then pick whether you walk to the arbor on your left or the one on your right.

Stop #9 Knot Garden

Come in the entrance to the National Herb Garden and walk around the fountain to the low wall. Look over the wall and down. This is your best view of the knot garden.

Stop #10 National Capitol Columns

You can see them from the National Herb Garden. Walk out through the knot garden and follow the mowed path through the grass, or take the paved Flowering Tree Walk that begins to the left of the garden.

Stop #11 Arbor House Gift Shop

Walk out the front door of the Administration Building, follow the pedestrian crossing through the main parking lot, and look for the gray building behind the sign "Friendship Garden."

Stop #12 Statue of Demeter

Find her in the Friendship Garden, which surrounds Arbor House, a small grayish building located to the south of the R Street Gate.

Stop #13 Boxwood Collection

There's a whole collection dedicated to this shrub. It's called the National Boxwood Collection, and is the largest collection of different types of boxwood in the world. Walk through it to see how many different shapes and sizes you can count.

Stop #14 Morrison Azalea Garden

Enter the Azalea Collections from the south side off of Azalea Road. Look at the map of the grounds and find the north arrow (an arrow with the letter "N" above it.) The south side of the Azalea Collections would be the direction that's on the opposite end of the arrow, and is near the intersection of Eagle Nest Road and Azalea Road near the Grove of State Trees. Once you enter the collection from this side, you'll see the brick garden straight ahead of you.

Stop #15 Lacebark Pine

Enter the Azalea Collections from the south off Azalea Road. The pine is in a box planter at the entrance to the Morrison Garden.

Stop #16 Youth Garden

Follow the Flowering Tree Walk past the Capitol Columns to the road. turn right, and you'll see the Youth Garden at the edge of the woods.

Stop #17 Poison Ivy

You will not see poison ivy in the gardens, but keep an eye out for it in the wooded areas and forest edges.

Stop #18 Musclewood

Enter Fern Valley near the collection sign. Follow the path as it bends right along the stream. Take the first stone bridge that crosses the stream. Turn right on the path and follow it until you reach the pond. Musclewood is the small tree on your left almost to the end of the pond. It has a label with its name on it hanging on one of its limbs.

Stop # 19 Fallen Oak Trunk

Enter the Fern Valley collection on the path across from the Youth garden. Follow the path down the hill and to the right. Cross the stream where you first see stones going over it. Turn right down the path on the other side of the stream. Keep walking until you see the fallen tree.

Stop #20 Fallen Oak Roots

Enter the Fern Valley collection and follow the path down the hill and to the right. Don't cross the stream. Just keep walking and you'll come to the fallen tree.

Stop #21 Giant Magnolias

Go to the parking lot at the Holly and Magnolia Collections. Turn around so you're facing away from the parking lot and across the road (look at the map—you'll be facing east, or on the right

side of the north arrow). You'll see three huge magnolias on the hill in front of you. This picture is of the one on the far right.

Stop #22 Needle Palm

Facing the Asian Collections sign near the parking lot, turn right and walk down the road (look out for cars). Look for the yellow concrete path and turn left onto it. Where the path makes its first right turn, look to the left on the hillside and you'll see the palm.

Stop #23 Ginkgo

We have several ginkgos at the Arboretum. You can find this one in the Asian Collections. Stand in front of the Asian Collections sign, turn to your right and walk down the path. It's on your right.

Stop #24 Dawn Redwood Tree

Go to the parking lot near the Gotelli Dwarf and Slow Growing Conifer Collection. Walk towards the Gotelli collection on the road (be careful of cars). Just before you arrive at the entrance, you'll see a road branching off to your right. Turn right on it, and you'll be standing in the middle of a forest of dawn redwood trees.

Stop #25 Hinoki False Cypress

This tree—a type of Hinoki false cypress—is in the Gotelli Dwarf and Slow Growing Conifer Collection. Enter the collection and take the path to the left. The tree will be on your right.

Stop #26 Weeping Blue Atlas Cedar

Enter the Gotelli Dwarf and Slow Growing Conifer Collection at the sign for the collection. Take the left path at the fork. Continue straight across when you come to another path that crosses yours. Walk up the slight hill and look to your left—you can't miss it!

Stop #27 Bald Cypress

Looking at the Gotelli Dwarf and Slow Growing Conifer Collection sign, turn right on the road and follow it until it bends to the left. You'll see the bald cypress next to the small pond on the left.

Stop #28 Willow Oak

Find the research field along Meadow Road (it's marked with a microscope symbol). Just about where the microscope is on the map, you'll see a HUGE tree standing alone in the middle a lot of small trees planted in rows.