California Trip #125

The San Diego Botanic Garden is located in Encinitas. It has the largest display of bamboo in the U.S. The garden was donated to San Diego County in 1957.





The garden covers 37 acres and includes 3,000 species.

There are 1,450 species of bamboo. Bamboo is a grass. There are two types – clumping and running. They can be terribly invasive.







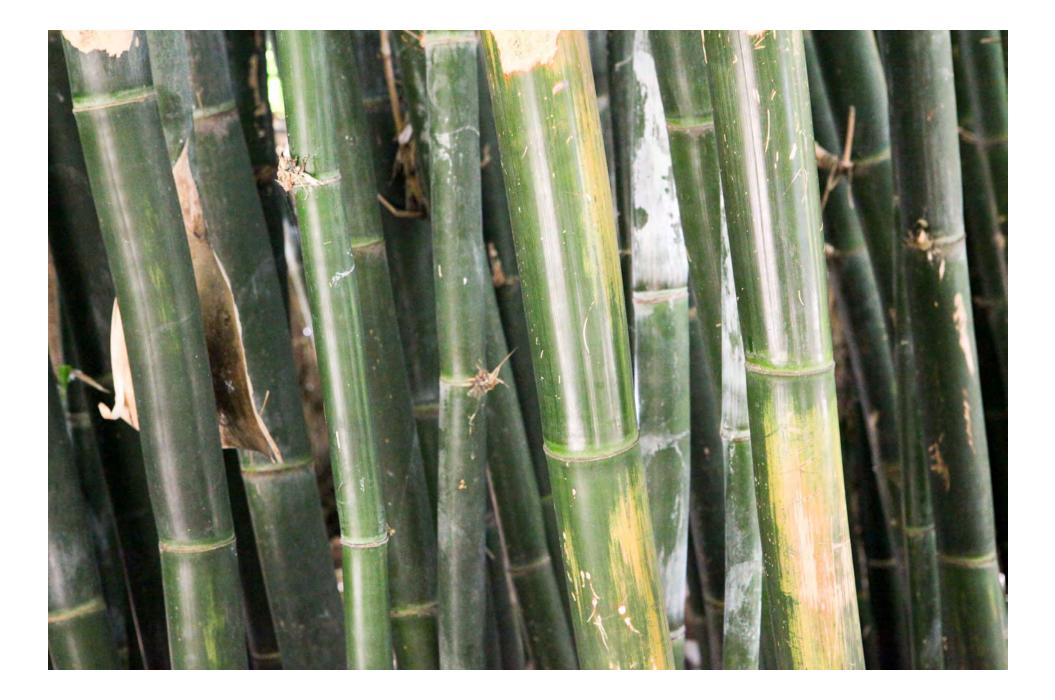






Painted bamboo. The stripes are different on each segment of a pole. The poles will grow to about 50 feet in height.







A cycad. These plants date back 65 milion years. They look like a palm but they are not.













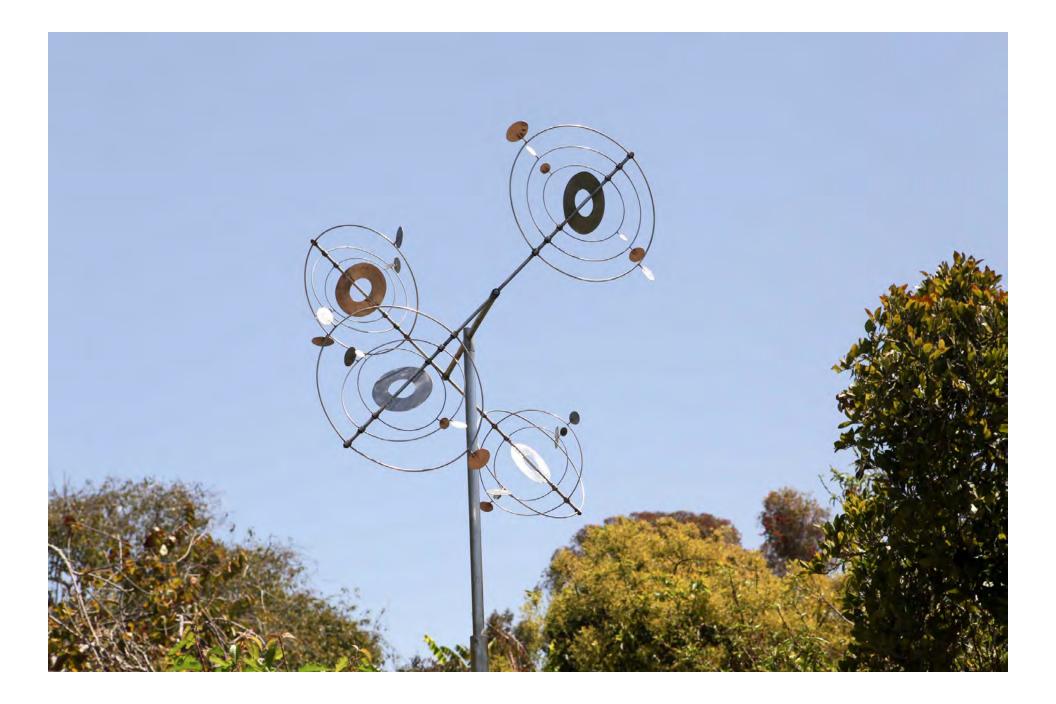


The entrance to the food garden, which features citrus plants from around the world.









globe Trotting CITRUS

The ancestors of citrus came from Southeast Asia, Eastern China and Indo-Malaysia probably more than a thousand years ago. Christopher Columbus brought citrus plants to the Americas in 1493.

Citrus is in the same family - Rutaceae - as such seemingly different plants as the poisonous herb rue, the ornamental shrub Mexican orange and the delicious fruiting white sapote.

BLOOD ORANGE

is named for its red colored fruit.

LEMONS

'Eureka' is grown commercially.

LIMES 'Mexican' is seedy;

"Bearss" is seedless.

ORANGE

Valencias are used for juice. Navels are best for eating. GRAPEFRUIT needs warm weather to be sweet.

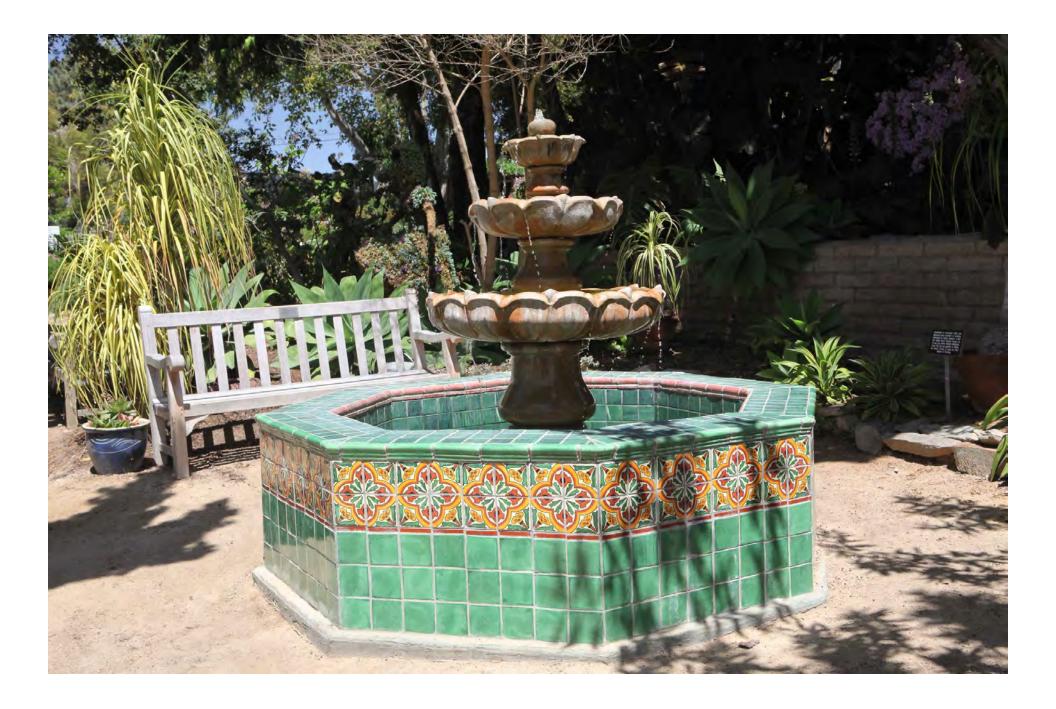
TANGERINES The Subtropical Fruit Garden has several varieties that ripen at different times of the year.



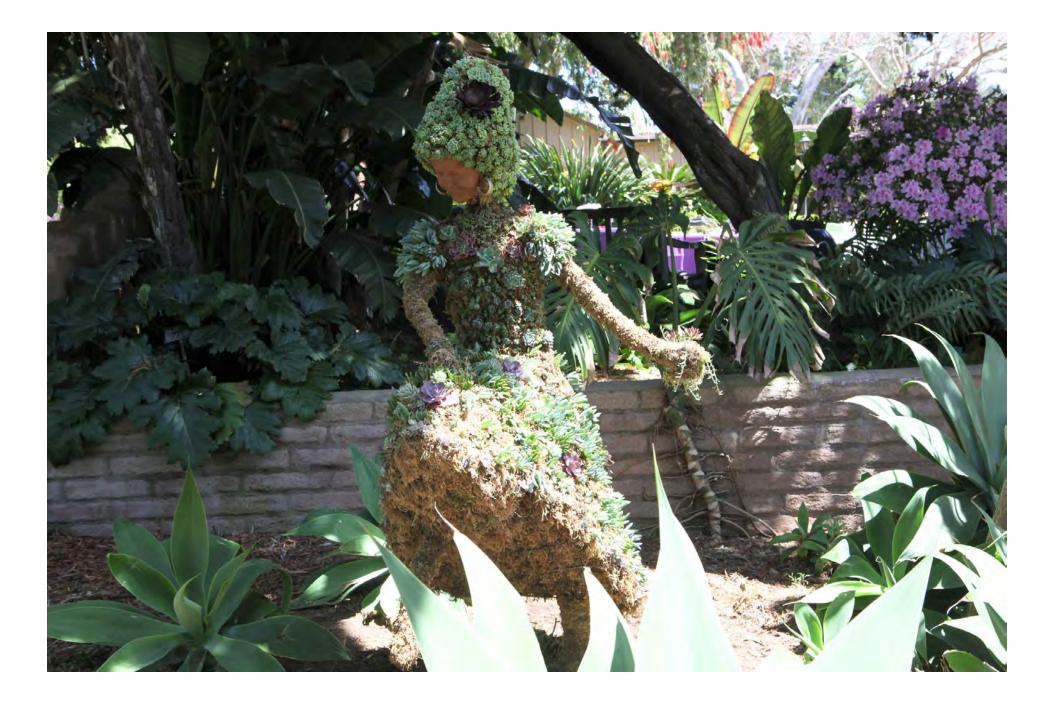






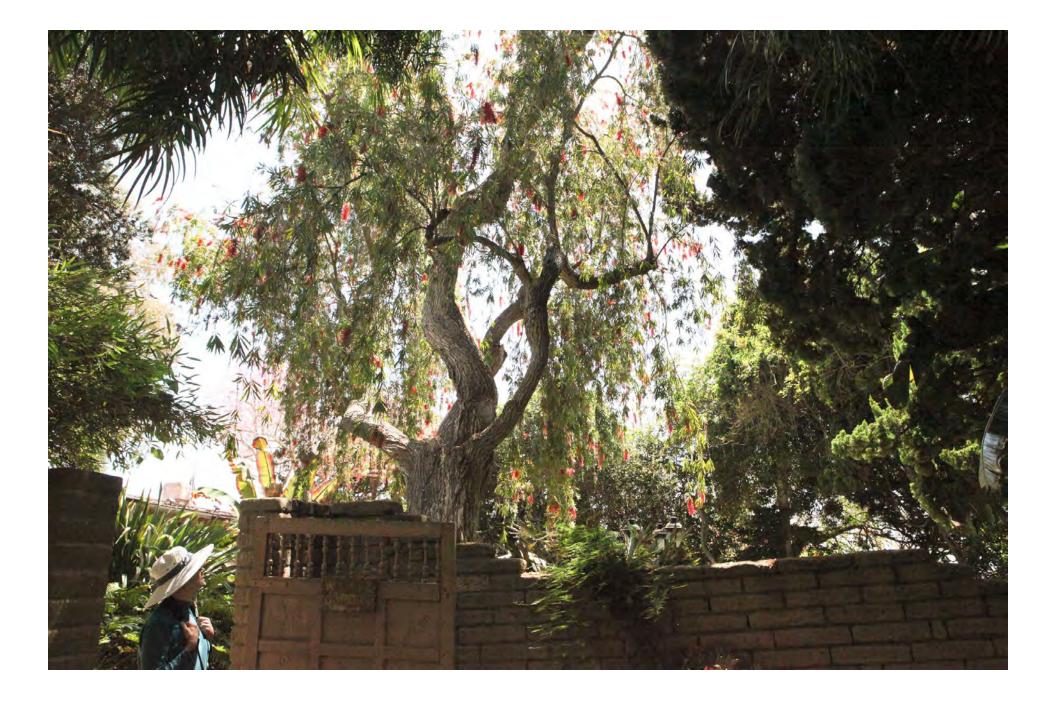


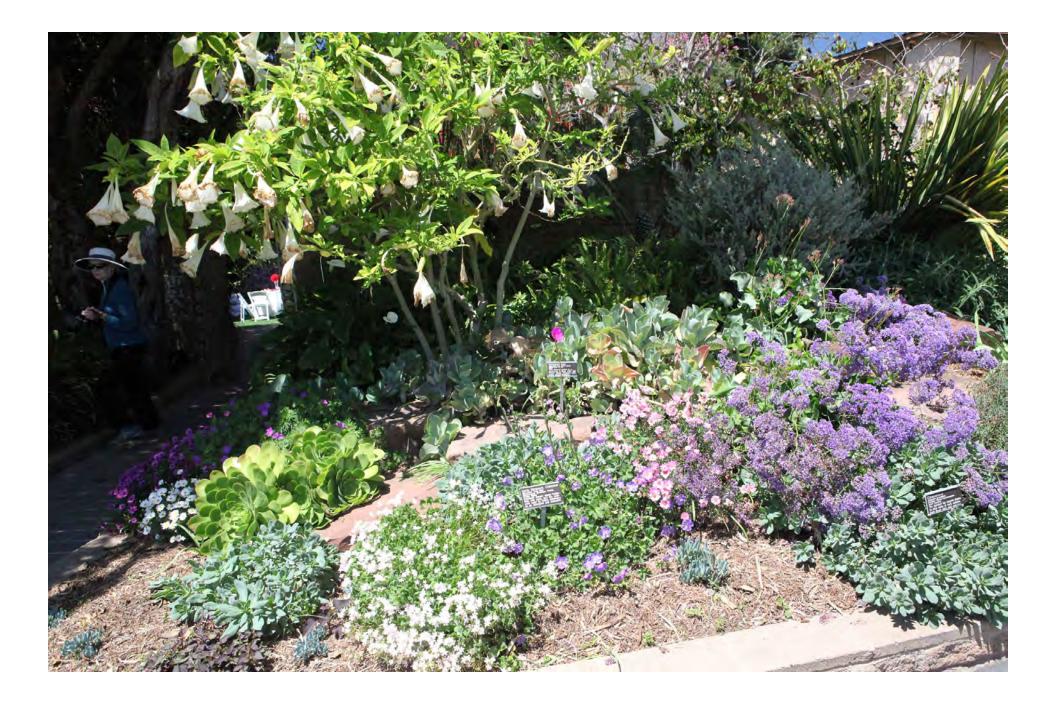
In this area are some intricate examples of topiary with different kinds of succulents, rather than the usual shrubs.



There were several of these living plant statues in the garden.







Madagascar's Unique Plantscape

his entire island nationess a modiversity orspot, with unique plants found nowhare size. Many of its plants are related to African plants and are endangered.

Most of the plants found in this garden come from habitats in Madagascar called

arid spiny lorests. Aloes, pachypodiums, and suphorbias store water in succulent leaves or stems. Althaudias resemble the cottilds of our Southwest with their long spiny tranks and tiny leaves that fall off in the dry season.

Plants in our gardens from Madagascar also include rosy pertwinkle, kalanchoe, crown of thorns, majesty palm, areca palm, and triangle palm. Note the trunks and limbs covered with spikes for protection from animals.









