

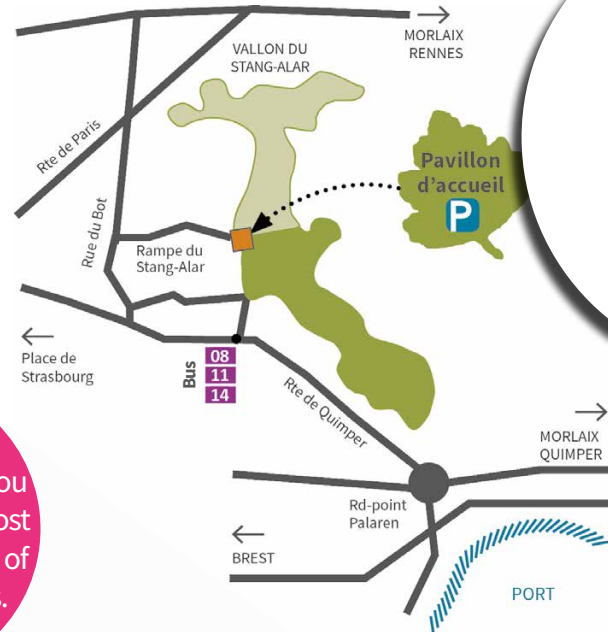
# Walk in the garden



The 'Jardin du Conservatoire botanique national de Brest' invite you on a journey among some of the world's rarest plants...

A little detour through the ponds, walkways, undergrowth and exhibitions will ensure that when you leave your head will be filled with images of biodiversity.

The tropical greenhouses take you in the heart of the most important collection of endangered plants.



**Jardin  
DU CONSERVATOIRE  
BOTANIQUE NATIONAL  
DE BREST**

Rampe du Stang-Alar  
29200 Brest  
www.cbnbrest.fr  
09 72 55 01 66



Bus arrêt  
Jardin botanique  
**08**  
**11**  
**14**

Administration

### Opening hours for the general public

Garden : from 9 am to 6 pm all year, until 8 pm in summer  
Tropical greenhouses and Pavillon d'accueil : spring and summer holidays from 2 pm to 6 pm  
> Guided tours and educational workshops for groups all year round by reservation at 09 72 55 01 66

learn more



On the back, small plant portraits corresponding to n° on the map ...



#### BEFORE THE ENTRANCE OF THE GARDEN

### Giant Sequoia

*Sequoiadendron giganteum* • Taxodiaceae family

Giant Sequoia, 90 m high, cannot compete with Sequoia sempervirens' height records (120m in its original habitat). We may observe that 100 sequoia seeds weigh less than 1g. Giant Sequoias are trees that only grow in the wild on the Sierra Nevada foothills in California, USA, where they are relatively rare. The name Sequoia is a tribute to Indian chief See-Quayah (1770-1843) from the Cherokee tribe.



#### PROTECTED PLANTS OF THE ARMORICAN MASSIF

### Lax-Flowered Sea-Lavender

*Limonium humile* • Plumbaginaceae family

This small perennial plant produces modest flowering and is mainly found in Northern Europe. In France, this plant is considered extremely worrying by botanists. The only populations recorded in France are in the unique location of Brest's harbour. They are highly threatened by a Gramineae plant introduced in the early 20th century (*Spartina alterniflora*), which unrelentingly invades the salt marshes where this Limonium grows.



#### AQUATIC AND POND-SIDE PLANTS

### Bald Cypress

*Taxodium distichum* • Taxodiaceae family

In the wild, Bald Cypress grows in marshes in south-eastern USA. In order to survive with the base of its trunk permanently underwater, it develops aerial roots called pneumatophores, which allow it to breathe. In the autumn, its leaves turn a beautiful copper brown colour prior to falling. Its timber is much appreciated in joinery work as it is renowned for being rot-resistant.



#### PLANTS FROM ASIA

### Metasequoia glyptostroboides

Taxodiaceae family

Metasequoia can be considered a living fossil. Botanists were indeed familiar with this tree, yet in the form of a fossil, and it was thought the plant had disappeared from the Earth's surface for millions of years. However, a few living specimens were discovered in a remote province of China in 1941. Its ornamental and botanical qualities make it a very interesting species for gardens.



#### GUNNERAS AND TREE FERNS

### Tree ferns

There are over 1,000 different tree fern species worldwide. They are mostly found in tropical areas; however certain species from Australia and New Zealand can be hardy in temperate areas. The growth rate of *Cyathea cooperi* is quicker than that of *Dicksonia antarctica*, yet it is more sensitive to cold and requires full protection in the winter. Ferns are plants that have existed on Earth for over 400 million years. Those that grew in the Carboniferous period, then fossilised, generated coal.



#### GUNNERAS AND TREE FERNS

### Gunnera manicata

Gunneraceae family

Gunnera manicata is a plant indigenous to southern Brazil. When cultivated next to water, its leaf development can become spectacular. Towards the end of autumn, Gunnera leaves are cut then placed on the rhizome in order to protect buds from winter harshness. As nice weather returns, the plant will produce new leaves that so beautifully adorn the banks of our ponds.



#### BAMBOOS

### Bamboos

Poaceae family

Bamboos are Gramineae plants (like wheat) ranging from a few dozen centimetres to over 25 m high in the case of *Phyllostachys pubescens*. There are 70 bamboo genera, i.e. one thousand species. Some bamboos can become acclimatised in our region, provided they are grown on cool rich land. Bamboos are plants that are widely used in horticulture, as building material, to manufacture utensils, clothing, and in the food industry.



#### PALM TREES AND PLANTS FROM SOUTH AMERICA

### Palm Trees

Arecaceae family

Among the palm trees you may contemplate in the garden of the Conservatoire botanique, you will find *Phoenix*, *Washingtonia*, *Trachycarpus*, *Butia* and *Jubea* specimens. *Jubea chilensis* is an outstanding palm tree, up to 30m in height and 5m in diameter in its natural habitat in Chile. Specimens grown at the Conservatoire botanique were planted in 1976, from seeds collected from individuals cultivated in Lorient.



#### PLANTS FROM NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

### Eucalyptus kartzoffiana

Myrtaceae family

Eucalyptuses are indigenous to Australia and Tasmania where over 600 different species are recorded, including approximately 170 endangered in the wild. This is unfortunately the case of this species indigenous to New South Wales, Australia, whose wild populations are limited. The leaves of this Eucalyptus are rich in aromatic products that fill the surroundings with scents on warm summer days.



#### PLANTS FROM ASIA

### Kashmir Cypress

*Cupressus cashmeriana* • Cupressaceae family

This very beautiful tree is indigenous to Bhutan, a country located east of the Himalayan chain. Owing to its weeping branches and bluish leaves, this species is of high ornamental interest. Unfortunately, it is rare in the wild and very scarcely cultivated, as it is fairly delicate: it is easily damaged by the wind and does not withstand long periods of heat. The genus Cupressus includes some twenty species, most of which are rare in the wild.