

Hortus botanicus

LEIDEN

You can find times, prices
and activities on our website

www.hortusleiden.nl



#hortusleiden

Rapenburg 73, 2311 GJ Leiden
T 071 5 27 51 44

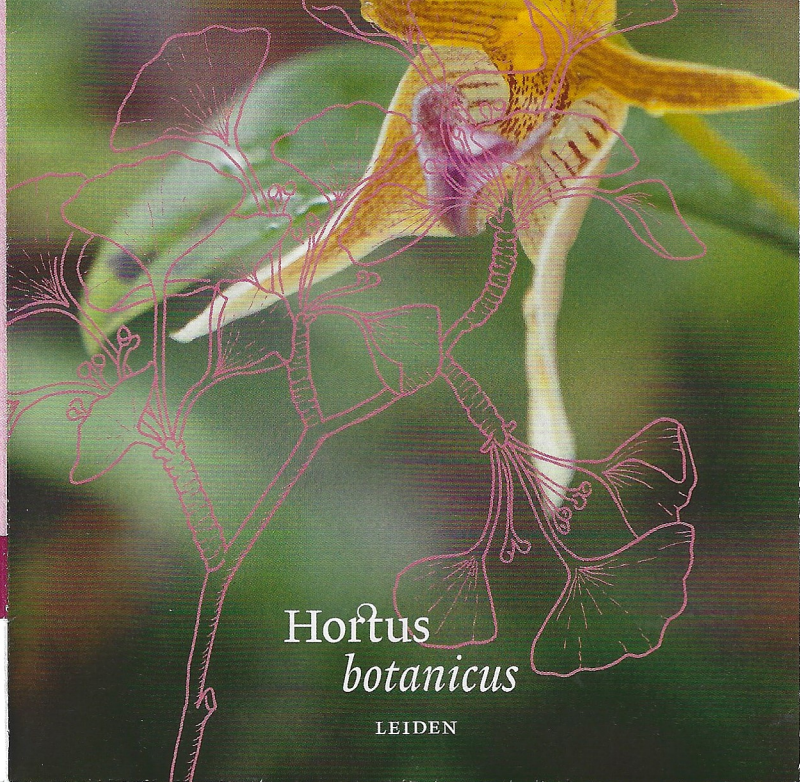


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Highlights of the Hortus



Hortus
botanicus

LEIDEN



Scan the QR code
and discover all the
plants of the Hortus
on our website.

Welcome to the Hortus! Naturally, our
collection of thousands of plants cannot
be admired in just one visit. That is why
we have selected fourteen special plants
and areas for the purposes of this walking
guide – highlights not to be missed. You can
go on your own journey of discovery and
seek out your own favourites on the way!

Highlights of the Hortus



1 Tulip tree

It looks like the tips of the leaves on this tree have been snipped off. At the end of May, light-green tulip-shaped blooms with an orange centre appear between the leaves. In the autumn, winged seeds form on cones and the leaves turn a brilliant golden yellow colour.



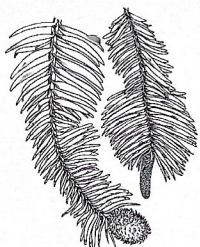
2 Laburnum

Our laburnum blooms relatively late, between mid-May and mid-June. The golden yellow, butterfly-shaped flowers have a sweet fragrance. In the wild, the species occurs in central and southern Europe. The fruits contain seeds that are very poisonous. They persist long into winter.



3 Wollemi pine

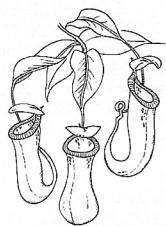
A 'living fossil': the fossils of closely related plants are known to be about a hundred million years old, but the line was believed to have become extinct. In 1994, specimens were discovered two hundred kilometres from Sydney, Australia.



4 Carnivorous plants

These plants usually grow in places where the soil is low in nutrients, and where there is consequently little competition for space and light. The technique

of catching insects has evolved separately on several occasions, in various plant families.



5 Mysore trumpet vine

In the wild, this species is pollinated by the sunbirds, which are drawn to the drop of nectar in the flower. The genus is named after the Swedish botanist Carl Peter Thunberg (1743-1828). Mysore refers to the site in India where it was originally discovered.



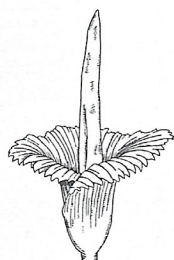
6 Jade vine

Our former greenhouse manager, Art Vogel, first saw the jade vine in 1995 on Mount Makiling in the Philippines. A friend later gave Art a fruit containing the seeds. Everything that flowers here has been taken as a cutting from the same specimen, and is therefore genetically identical.



7 Titan arum

This plant flowers once every five to fifteen years. In between these times, a single leaf appears from the underground tuber, reaching up to four metres in height. About every eighteen months, the leaf dies back and the next one – or a malodorous inflorescence – forms.



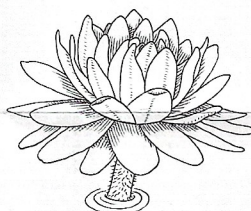
8 Orchids

The South East Asian orchids collected by our scientists in places such as New Guinea represent the heart of our orchid collection, which is unique in the world with more than 5000 individual specimens.



9 Giant waterlily

The leaves of this plant can reach up to 3 metres in diameter and are so buoyant that a baby could rest on top of them. The Hortus sows the plant each year anew, and a flower appears dozens of times each season. It blooms white the first night, pink the second.



10 Ginkgo

This maidenhair tree was planted in 1785. It blooms in abundance in April with male catkins. A female branch has been grafted onto it, and in autumn, it bears many yellow "fruits": seeds surrounded by a fleshy layer that smell of rancid butter.



11 Bulb garden

Here you can find plants that can withstand dry or cold weather underground, laying down reserves in their tubers, bulbs or rhizomes. In the bulb house, heat is provided by the sun in winter, while in summer the ingenious

ventilation system keeps it relatively cool.



12 Lotus

The lotus in this unheated pond has fragrant pink blooms about thirty centimetres across. Its leaves are shaped like a shield. This species originally comes from Asia, but was introduced to Egypt more than 2500 years ago.



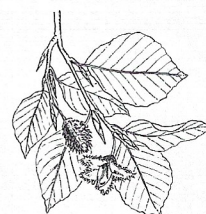
13 Japanese zelkova

The German doctor and researcher Philipp Franz Balthasar von Siebold made his first trip to Japan as part of the Dutch military from 1823 to 1829. From there he took specimens of the Japanese zelkova, two of which stand in our garden today. Here you are standing by a multi-stemmed specimen.

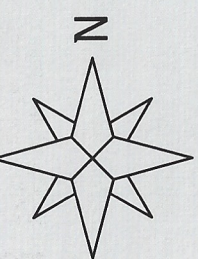


14 Weeping beech

This weeping beech was planted around 1840, so it is a little younger than the fern-leaved beech that you can see further on. A weeping beech is grafted onto the trunk of a common beech. The beechnuts almost never produce a weeping specimen.

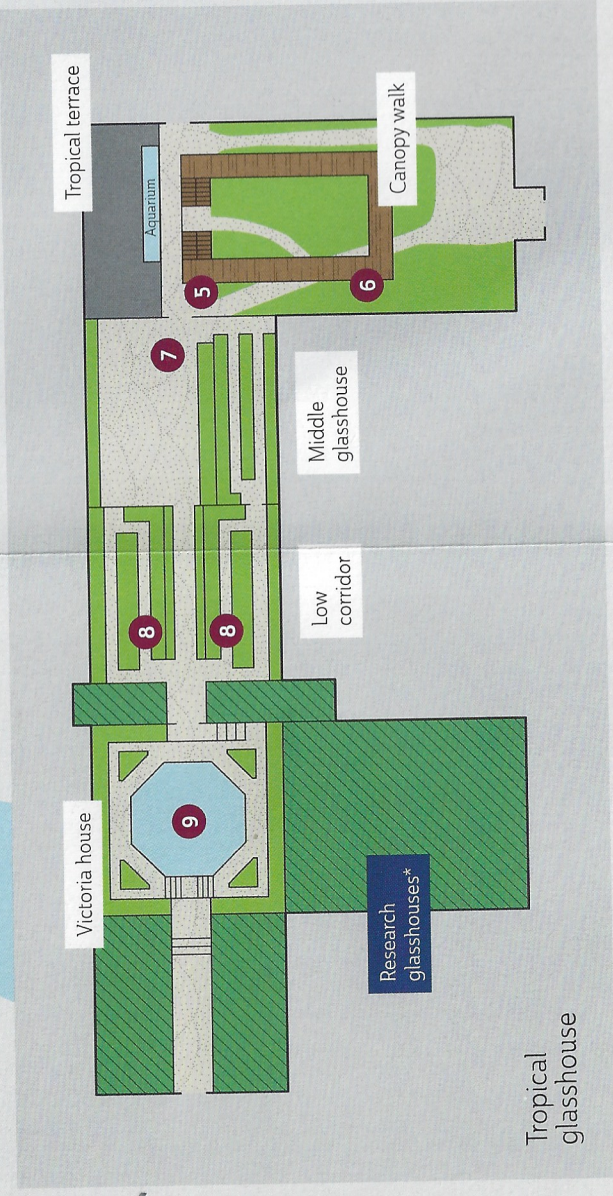


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| 6 Jade vine | 13 Japanese zelkova |
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Scale: 1 to 1000 (1 cm = 10 m)

* not accessible