



GATHERINGS IN THE GARDEN

Facility Rentals



The garden maintains an extensive and exquisite collection of the flora native to California, and is an incomparable venue for private events of all kinds. With numerous versatile venues, find the perfect setting for your event. Get to know this hidden gem in SoCal!



About the garden



What we're about

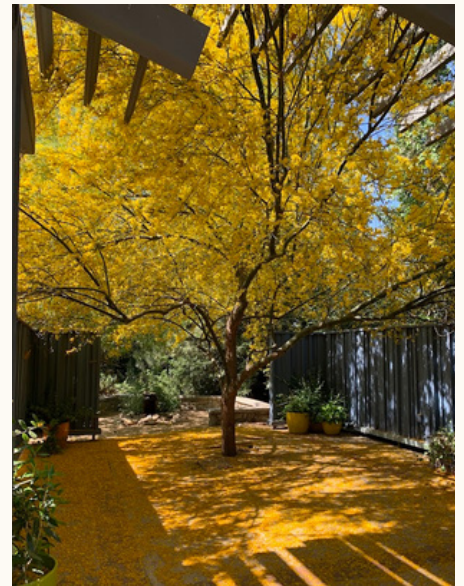
CalBG is the largest botanic garden dedicated exclusively to California's native plants. Founded in 1927, the garden encompasses 86 acres nestled in the San Gabriel Mountain foothills in the city of Claremont.

A private, non-profit organization, the garden is dedicated to the appreciation, enjoyment, understanding and thoughtful utilization of our natural heritage.

What you'll find

The garden is an oasis a world away from our SoCal bustle. Birds and other wildlife call the garden home year-round. You'll find natural vistas, and a delightful intersection of structures and permanent and temporary artworks.

All of this is set against masterfully designed nature-scapes designed to display California's wild and wonderful array of plant communities.



Our mission

Advancing knowledge, conservation, and appreciation of California native plants

Our vision

A world where California's native plant diversity is conserved, thriving, and celebrated

The venues |

With more than 80 inspiring acres to explore, this magical place features shaded, intimate settings to expansive venues on a grand scale. Deciding which venue to use will depend on which one has the best “feel” for you, and your meets your event requirements.

If you are not familiar with the garden, we recommend that you plan a visit on your own to explore and experience the garden. If you are interested in scheduling a tour, please contact our Special Events Team to make arrangements in advance of your visit.



The Lewis Family Forest Pavilion

The newest star in the garden's array of venues, the Forest Pavilion features organic, flowing lines, lush plantings, and natural colors and textures. Built-in lighting, one changing room and new restrooms add up to a comfortable and convenient event.

Ceremony: up to 350
Reception: up to 250
Cocktail reception: up to 250

Cultivar Garden Large Gazebo

Our most popular ceremony venue, this space features a serene reflecting pool and flowing fountain. With a mountain view and surrounded by mature oaks and nearby redwood grove, you will feel immersed in nature.

Ceremony: up to 120
Reception: up to 75
Cocktail reception: up to 75





Sage Gallery

This open-air venue is surrounded by fragrant sage plants, and features a soaring shade structure. Wooden partitions provide a private, sheltered feeling, and create outdoor “rooms” to separate different areas of your event. A favorite spot for cocktail receptions, ceremonies, and dinner receptions.

Ceremony: up to 150
Reception: up to 100
Cocktail reception: up to 120

California Courtyard

This spacious open-air location offers exceptional views of the surrounding garden landscapes. The space is easily accessible, with restrooms located in the adjacent administration building. This venue can accommodate a large canopy.

Ceremony: up to 300
Reception: up to 250
Cocktail reception: up to 250



Lantz Outdoor Classroom

This versatile covered structure offers incomparable views of the newly completed Bird & Butterfly Garden. This space is easily transformed for any occasion, whether a formal or casual. The open-sided ramada includes built-in lighting and roll-down canvas walls for added guest comfort or privacy.

Ceremony: up to 125
Reception: up to 50
Cocktail reception: 75

Intimate venues

One of the many intimate venues at the garden may be perfect for your event. If you are planning a small gathering, intimate wedding, or brief cocktail reception, be sure to ask about these intimate settings.

Cultivar Garden Small Gazebo

Covered by native California grape vines, the small gazebo is an ideal location for an intimate event, vow renewal, or small wedding ceremony.

Ceremony: up to 20 (standing)

Johnson's Memorial Oval

Intimate Craftsman- style shade structure, flagstone pathways, and a naturalistic dry streambed setting, accented by California Buckeye tree. Size is approximately 10'x20'.

Ceremony: up to 60

Reception: up to 40

Cocktail reception: up to 50

Thorne Council Ring

Located at the north end of **Indian Hill Mesa**, this forested area is ideal for intimate ceremonies or gatherings. Trailside seating for 10 plus additional standing space.

Ceremony: up to 10

Percy Everett Garden

Located in the **Southern California Gardens**, this beautiful and shady hillside site is ideal for intimate ceremonies or gatherings.

Ceremony: up to 50

Reception: up to 30

Cocktail reception: up to 30

Reflecting Pond

This peaceful setting is located in the heart of **Indian Hill Mesa**, featuring a small, vegetated pond, sculpture, and elevated platform surrounded by tall trees.

Ceremony: up to 30

Benjamin Pond

A beautiful hillside pond setting that faces the evening sunset. Platform at water's edge provides space for limited seating plus additional standing space.

Ceremony: up to 10

Important Details

The garden is primarily a walking venue. If you are using more than one venue, please allow enough time in your event itinerary to allow guests to walk from one venue to another. ADA compliant trails are available; kindly let us know in advance if possible about guests that may need additional assistance.

One or two courtesy trams will be made available for use during your event to assist guests with mobility issues move from one venue to another, to transport the bridal party as needed, and to assist vendors with setting up and removing their equipment.

Generally, the garden is open to the public until 5 PM daily, except for Mondays and certain holidays. During the warmer and longer days of Summer, the garden will typically stay open to the public later in the evening.

Rice, bird seed, any kind of confetti, balloons, and sparklers may not be used anywhere in the garden. Smoking and open flames are likewise prohibited. Candles must be in an enclosed holder (hurricane style or floating) with the flame at least 2" below the top of the holder.

Rental of venue space at the garden is "as is." Please keep in mind that the plants, trees and flowers at the garden change throughout the year, depending on weather, rainfall, and their natural cycles. The garden's exhibits and artworks on display may change without notice. Necessary repairs and upgrades to the facilities, paths, buildings and other structures may also take place without notice.

The garden does not provide facilities for inclement weather. Tenting may be arranged through our approved rental company.

Essential rental equipment (lighting, tables, chairs, linen, dance floor, umbrellas, heaters etc.) and bar service will be arranged through our Private Events Team. Please inquire for current pricing and available packages.

Security is required, and the cost will be added for private events at the garden: 1 Security Guard for up to 100 guests, 2 Security Guards for over 100 guests.

Rates - Receptions

The following rates are for events taking place in 2024 - 2025 that will have food and beverages. Rates are subject to change without notice. Rates are based on a five-hour event, with two hours allowed for setting up and vendor access, and one hour for clean-up. Rates are for use of one venue, and do not include catering, beverages, rentals or other event services.

You may use more than one Garden venue during your event time. The rental cost to add either one of our premier venues - the California Courtyard or Lewis Family Forest Pavilion - as a second venue is \$1000. To add a different venue, such as the Cultivar Garden Gazebo, the rate is \$800.

You may add an hour to your event, if arranged in advance, at the rate listed below.

Weekday events (Monday-Friday) typically take place after 5 PM. For events taking place before 5 PM, a \$500 surcharge will be added to your rental fees.

Number of guests	Rental	Additional hour
Up to 50	\$3300	\$500
51-100	\$3800	\$600
101-150	\$5100	\$700
151-200	\$5600	\$800
201+	\$6100	\$900

Rates - Ceremony Only

The following rates are for events taking place in 2024 - 2025 that will NOT have food or beverages. Rates are subject to change without notice. Rates are based on a two-hour event, with one hour allowed for setting up and vendor access, and one hour for clean-up. Rates are for use of one venue, and do not include rentals or other event services.

Additional time may be added in advance at the rate of \$500 per hour. Overtime (unplanned addition of time) will be billed at the rate of \$650 per half hour.

Weekday events (Monday-Friday) typically take place after 5 PM. For events taking place before 5 PM, a \$300 surcharge will be added to your rental fees.

Number of guests	Rental
Up to 50	\$1900
51-100	\$2100
101-150	\$2300
151-200	\$2500
201-250	\$2700
250+	\$2900

Venue services

Selecting your event venue will check many items off your planning to-do list. Here are some of the things that the garden will assist with once you book your event date with us.

Included in facility rental: Time and space at your chosen venue or venues. Events with catering service (such as weddings, birthdays, or galas), have up to five hours of event time, with two additional hours for set up and one additional hour for clean up. Non-catered events, such as ceremony-only, or brief meetings have up to two hours of event time, with one additional hour for set up and one additional hour for clean up.

Catering: California Botanic Garden has a short list of caterers permitted to provide catering service. Catering service includes provision of food and non-alcoholic beverages, and event staffing. The total catering cost will be based on your total guest count, menu, service style and selected catering package. Approved caterers:

As You Like It Events & Catering, www.asyoulikeitevents.net, 951-737-8025

Gourmet Gourmet Catering, Inc., www.ggcaters.com, 909-920-6400

Mantra Indian Cuisine, www.mantrarestaurants.com, 909-496-6824

Summit Events Catering, www.summiteventcatering.com, 714-7734775

We encourage you to contact our caterers directly to discuss menu and service options.

Coordinating with your vendors: The garden maintains a “tried and true” list of experienced event professionals that are approved to work here. You may be able to hire some wedding or event vendors that are not on the approved list, with prior permission. We will be in touch with all your vendors well in advance of your event date to make sure they know all the ins-and-outs of working here at the garden. We will coordinate with your vendors to schedule their timed access for your event.

Wedding planning: A planner - either “day-of” or a full service personal planner - is required for your wedding reception at the garden. You may hire one of our approved planners, or you may hire your own planner with advance permission. If you are having only your ceremony at the garden, a planner is not required.

Signage: the garden has permanent directional signage; however, we suggest sending your guests a digital map of the garden prior to your event. You are welcome to display temporary signs for your event as well, with prior notice.

Complimentary guest access & parking: Your guests will not be charged an entrance fee to come to your event. We also know your guests may want to explore a bit as they make their way to your venue within the garden. We encourage you to let guests know they can come into the garden up to half an hour prior to your event start time.

Weddings: Weddings typically will need a bit more support. We provide the following for you: complimentary hour for ceremony rehearsal, changing room prior to ceremony, and final venue walk-through (1 month ahead).

Next steps

Availability: Your first step in firming up your event plans is checking your date at the garden! When you get in touch, we can check available dates for you.

Venue tour: Set a time to meet at the garden to tour the venues you are interested in. We will want to hear about your plans, answer questions, and can make suggestions about what would work best for your event. A typical venue tour takes about an hour, and involves a bit of walking, so wear comfortable shoes. If a member of your group might have difficulty walking, please let us know in advance so that we can have a tram available for you.

Caterer packages: Catering can be a large part of your event budget, especially for weddings or other important social gatherings. We suggest getting in touch with one of the garden's caterers to get a good idea of the total cost for your event.

Reserve your date: Once you are ready to move forward with your event here, we will prepare a contract for you. Once we send this to you, we will put a soft hold on your date. As soon as we receive your approval and reservation fee, we will officially reserve your date at the garden.



[Get in touch](#)