Your Visit to Bok Tower Gardens
FOR CAREGIVERS

BOK TOWER GARDENS
1151 Tower Boulevard, Lake Wales, FL 33853
863-676-1408 | info@boktowergardens.org

HOURS
Monday-Sunday 9am-6pm
The Visitor Center, Blue Palmetto Cafe and The Shop at Bok close at 5 p.m.

ACCESSIBILITY

Bok Tower Gardens is recognized as an ‘Autism Friendly’ business by CARD-USF. To learn more about CARD-USF visit usf.to/autism.

BTG’s Visitor Services desk has a Sensory Kit which includes noise cancelling headphones, crayons, paper, and fidgets. See host for check out on a first come, first served basis.

- Mobility carts are available for rent from The Shop at Bok for $10 hr/$30 half day/$60 full day. A limited number of wheelchairs are also available upon request. To reserve a mobility cart or wheelchair, inquire at The Shop at Bok upon arrival.
Visitor Guidelines:

• You may feel and smell, but do not pick flowers, plants or fruit.
• Do not climb trees or walk through plantings.
• Smoking or Vaping is not allowed.
• Do not feed or handle wildlife, except feeding koi fish.
• Shoes and shirts are required.
• Children must always be supervised by a parent or guardian.
• Dispose of your waste in trash containers.
• Bicycles, skateboards, skate shoes, scooters and personal golf carts are not permitted in the Gardens.
• Use caution on the mulched and gravel paths as they are naturally uneven. Please enter these areas with caution and at your own risk.
We enter Bok Tower Gardens through the entrance gate where we remain in our vehicle as we purchase tickets or present our membership card. There may be a few cars in line before us, but it won’t take too long. Once we enter, we will drive for 1.5 miles to the parking area.
After parking, we can walk through this entry where we will see a pool of water and many different plants. To the left, is the Visitor Center where we can get a map of the gardens.
Inside the Visitor Center is a museum for learning more about the history of Bok Tower Gardens and its ongoing conservation efforts. At the desk we can ask any questions we may have about our visit. Bathrooms are also available inside the Visitor Center.
We may visit The Shop at Bok. The shop is full of beautiful plants and gifts. We should ask before touching them. We can also buy drinks in here. The shop is sometimes crowded with guests. There may be a line for purchasing items, but it is not usually too long.
We can buy food or a drink at the Blue Palmetto Café. Inside can get very busy and noisy. We can take our food outside if we want to eat where it is less noisy. We can also order our food online for delivery outside.
After the Visitor’s Center we will walk out to the Oval Lawn. From here, we can use different paths to find:

- The Tower
- Pinewood Estate & Garden
- Wild Garden
- Main Walk-connects to Pine Ridge Preserve Trail
- Outdoor Kitchen and Kitchen Garden
- Hammock Hollow Children’s Garden
The Gardens

Here are some of the many gardens we can enjoy:

- Historic Olmsted Gardens lead to the Tower
- Pollinator Garden
- Endangered Plant Garden
- Window by the Pond
- Wetlands Boardwalk and Wild Garden
- Kitchen Garden
The Tower

We will see a large reflection pond in front of the Tower and a moat surrounding the Tower. We need to be careful when we walk near the water. We will hear the Tower bells strike every hour and a recorded song on the hour and half hour. Bell concerts are played every day at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

If we want to feed the fish at the Tower, we will need a quarter for the feeders.
When it is open, we can tour Pinewood Estate. We might have to wait in line to see inside the house. There are lots of things to see inside, but we cannot touch them.

Outside, we can play and explore in the gardens anytime. We must be careful while playing around the pond at the bottom of the hill. There is also a small pond and additional fountains around the house.

We can use the restroom located on the right side of the house.
We can explore the Wild Garden Boardwalk and the Window by the Pond where it is peaceful. This is a quiet place to sit and observe nature for a while.
Hammock Hollow Children’s Garden

We can enter Hammock Hollow through the arch or the large entrance gate. This is the only entrance and exit to Hammock Hollow. We should be sure we are with our grown up before leaving this area.
Hammock Hollow features the gopher tortoise and some of the animals that depend on its burrow for survival. These tortoises and their burrows are protected so we should never disturb them. A gopher tortoise burrow is the home for around 360 different kinds of animals!
At the River Walk, we can cool off in the water. There is a button on either end to start the fountains. To be safe, we should not run through the water. We might want to bring some dry clothes to wear after we play here.
There are many places to explore in Hammock Hollow. While playing, we should do what feels comfortable and safe.
Hammock Hollow Children’s Garden

We can climb like a spider...

explore the make-believe gopher tortoise burrow...

play music...

and climb like a bobcat!
Some things we might want to know

• Bring a change of dry clothes.
• The bell tower is loud.
• We may hear lawnmowers or leaf blowers.
• Leashed dogs are allowed everywhere in the garden, except Hammock Hollow.
• We might see wildlife like birds, rabbits and black racer snakes.
Some tips to keep us safe

Safe Climbing

Safe places to climb:
• Spider Climb
• Bobcat Scramble
• River Walk
• Fox Den

Unsafe areas:
• On the Cave Walk
• Trees
• Any surface taller than me

Hammock Safety

• 1 or 2 people at a time
• Slow and gentle play
• Enjoy a time to relax, take a nap or read a book
THE GROUNDS OF BOK TOWER GARDENS

1. RIVER OF STONE
A picturesque pathway in the Visitor Center features a simple, flowing feature.

2. VISITOR CENTER
A well-equipped facility within the Visitor Center provides an introduction to the Gardens.

3. KITCHEN GARDEN, OUTDOOR OR KITCHEN, AND ALEXANDER DISCOVERY CENTER
A popular area of the Gardens, the Kitchen Garden offers educational activities and programs for guests.

4. HAMMOCK HOLLOW CHILDREN’S GARDEN
A delightful area for children, offering interactive and engaging educational experiences.

5. PINES HILLS PRESERVE TRAIL
An adventurous trail through the Pines Hills nature reserve, offering breathtaking views and opportunities for exploration.

6. WILD GARDEN
The Wild Garden features native Florida species and Alabama, offering a variety of colorful and unique plants.

7. WETLAND BOARDWALK
A beautiful and educational walking path through the wetland area, providing visitors with a unique perspective on the local ecosystem.

8. WINDOW BY THE POND
A serene pond area that offers a tranquil setting for visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of the Gardens.

9. ENCORE FOREST
A nature reserve that offers a safe and secluded environment for wildlife to thrive, providing visitors with an opportunity to observe local flora and fauna.

10. REFLECTION POOL VISITA
The reflection pool offers visitors a peaceful and tranquil environment, perfect for relaxation and contemplation.

11. ORCHID GARDEN
Location:

12. CONCERT VIEWING AREA
Located at the back of the Gardens, the Concert Viewing Area provides visitors with a unique and immersive experience, offering a stunning outdoor venue for concerts and performances.

13. PERGOLA GARDEN
A beautiful area featuring a pergola structure, offering shade and a pleasant spot to relax and enjoy the Gardens.

14. SINGING TOWER
The Singing Tower is a stunning representation of Florida's natural beauty, offering visitors a unique and memorable experience.

15. EDWARD W. BOK'S BURIAL SITE
Located at the back of the Gardens, the Burial Site is a peaceful and serene location, offering visitors a chance to reflect and pay their respects.

16. WILD GARDEN
A popular area of the Gardens, the Wild Garden features native Florida species and Alabama, offering a variety of colorful and unique plants.
Thank you for visiting

Have a wonderful day playing in the beauty of nature and enjoying the music of the Singing Tower!

If you want to come again or become a member you can ask in the Visitor Center.

Membership includes:
• Unlimited admission
• Special prices for events
• Invitations to exclusive members-only events
• Discounts in the Blue Palmetto Café and The Shop at Bok
• Reciprocal privileges at more than 300 gardens, museums, and attractions.