

## 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.

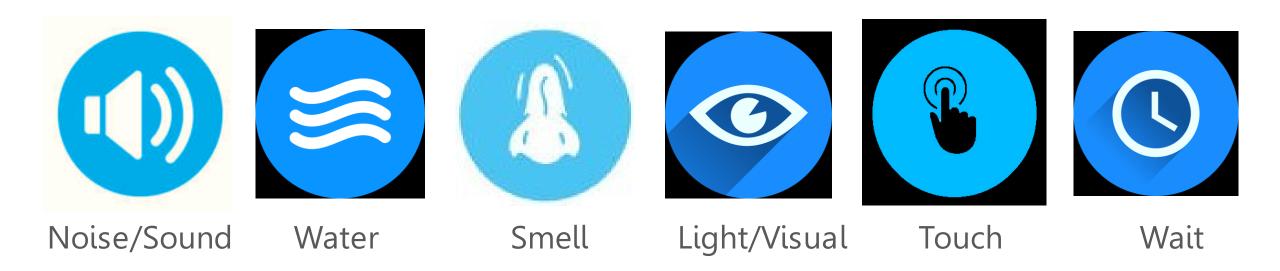
• Mobility carts are available for rent from The Shop at Bok for \$10 hr/\$30 half day/\$60 full day. A limited number of wheelchairs are also available upon request. To reserve a mobility cart or wheelchair, inquire at The Shop at Bok upon arrival.

# FOR CAREGIVERS

# **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 proper 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.

# **Sensory Notifications Key**





# **Bok Tower Gardens Entrance Gate**



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.



# Welcome to Bok Tower Gardens

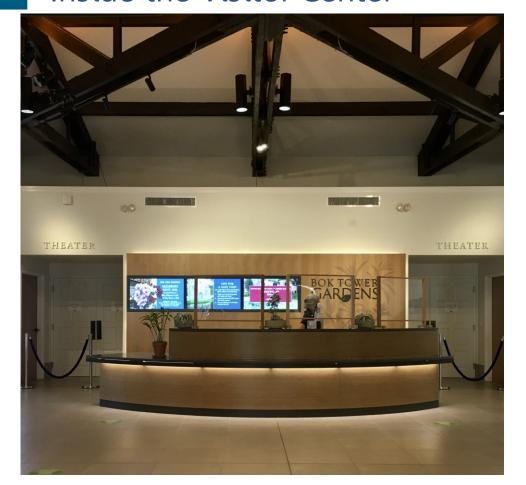


After parking, we can walk through this entry where we will see a pool of water and many different plants.

To the left, is the Visitor Center where we can get a map of the gardens.



# Inside the Visitor Center

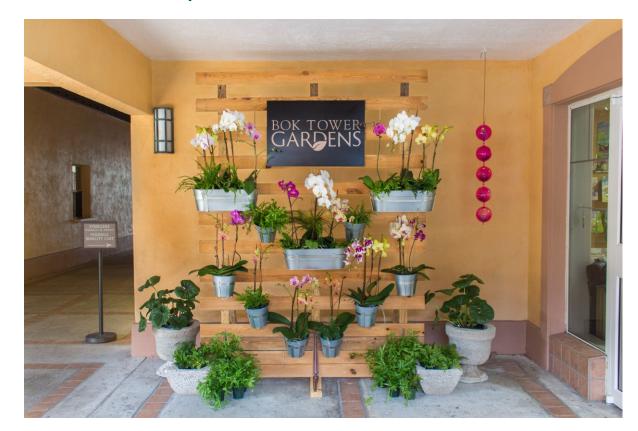




Inside the Visitor Center is a museum for learning more about the history of Bok Tower Gardens and its ongoing conservation efforts. At the desk we can ask any questions we may have about our visit. Bathrooms are also available inside the Visitor Center.



# The Shop at Bok





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.

# Blue Palmetto Cafe





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.



# The Oval Lawn



After the Visitor's Center we will walk out to the Oval Lawn. From here, we can use different paths to find:

- The Tower
- El Retiro
- 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



Window by the Pond



Pollinator Garden



Wetlands Boardwalk and Wild Garden



Endangered Plant 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.









# El Retiro Estate & Gardens



When it is open, we can tour El Retiro. 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.

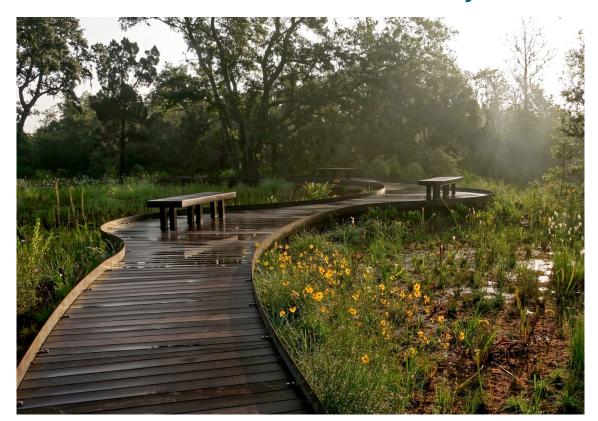
We can use the restroom located on the right side of the house.







# Wild Garden and Window by the Pond





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 Children's Garden





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!



# River Walk



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.



# Hammock Hollow Children's Garden







There are many places to explore in Hammock Hollow. While playing, we should do what feels comfortable and safe.















# Hammock Hollow Children's Garden



# 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



# **Bok Tower Gardens Map**

### WELCOME TO BOK TOWER GARDENS!

Bok Tower Gardens is a dynamic, engaging, and enjoyable experience for people of all ages. Focal points and activities throughout the Gardens provide for leisurely strolls, enlightening moments, and relaxing activities.

Established in 1929 by Edward W. Bok as a gift to the American people, the 80-acre garden was designed by noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. to be a contemplative and informal woodland setting.

Acres of ferns, palms, oaks, and pines fashion a lush backdrop for flowering foliage and the spectacular seasonal color of azaleas, camellias, and magnolias showcasing an ever-changing work of art. The 205-foot marble and coquina Singing Tower is the pinnade of the gardens with tile mosaics, animal carvings, custom ironwork, and daily carillon concerts.

Dedicated by President Calvin Coolidge on Feb. 1, 1929, Bok Tower Gardens is a National Historic Landmark.

### VISITOR GUIDELINES

Edward W. Bok created this sanctuary and placed it under the protection of the American people. Visitors have always honored this trust. A garden is unique with natural pathways and environments, therefore it is important to the plant collections and our visitors to observe the following safety guidelines.

- · Mants and animals are protected; the plant life. No climbing trees.
- · Be respectful of others. Parents or guardians are responsible for supervising young visitors
- Well-behaved dogs are welcome and must be on a maximum 6-foot leash at all times. Owners are responsible for their pets. Unruly dogs will be asked to leave. Dogs are not permitted inside Hammack Hollow, El Retiro, or the Blue Palmetto Café.
- photography is permitted. Photographers and subjects must remain on the designated
- Natural pathways are part of experiencing the Garden. Mease be mindful of uneven ground and pathways. Please enter these areas with caution and at your own risk. See map for ADA
- Bok Tower Gardens is a tobacco free organization. The use of tobacco products (e.g. smoking. vaping, dip, chew, etc.) is not permitted anywhere on property

### PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Bicycles, skateboards, skate shoes, hover boards, remote control vehicles, Segways, razorstyle scooters, and golf carts
- Drones, photo props, confetti, glitter and balloons.
- · All firearms and other lethal force weapons must remain in a locked
- Amplified or recorded music respect the peace and quiet of the Gardens
- Sports equipment including any type of ball or Frisbee
- PLEASE NOTE: · All admission and ticket sales are final. Prices and hours are subject to change.
- Your admission ticket your photo or image.

### 1. VISITOR CENTER & CHAO EXHIBIT HALL

Learn more about the history of the Gardens and our conservation efforts.

Advent Health

OFFICIAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

2. POLLINATOR GARDEN Stop along the meandering path and focus on the buzz and flurrer, you may see 20-30 different types of pollinaturs.

### 3. KITCHEN GARDEN. **OUTDOOR KITCHEN &** ALEXANDER DISCOVERY CENTER

These spess offer fun and educational activities. See website for details.

### 4. HAMMOCK HOLLOW CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Step through our pine-sized keyston gate and into a world of adventure where young visitoes discover places to climb, build, dig and creare.

### 5. PINE RIDGE PRESERVE TRAIL

Explore a vast trail network with over 2+ miles of hiking paths through one of Florida's most endangered ecosystems. Interpretive signs along portions of the trail give details about

### 6. WILD GARDEN

The Wild Garden showcases Florida nurive plants and wildlife in a series of ecosystem plantings.

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#### 7. WETLAND BOARDWALK Explore a 170-foot boardwalk through a recreated werland prairie and bog.

8. WINDOW BY THE POND Look out from this small observatory into a Florida pond ecosystem. Watch as birds, repeiles, butterflies and other animals coexist in their natural habitar.

### 9. ENDANGERED PLANT GARDEN

This display of approximately 30 sare plants from around Florida showcases the species we are working to protect.

### 10. 1929 DEDICATION MONUMENT

This marker dedicates the creation. of the Garden and wildlife sanctuary by Edward Bolc and is located at the original entrance that begins the historic garden creased by Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.

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The marble Exedra was given as a gift to Edward Bok from his friends in the nearby community of Mountain Lake. The sunser view from here inspired Mr. Bolc's dream of the Gasdens.

### 12. REFLECTION POOL VISTA

This iconic view of the Singing Tower is the perfect place for a photo with friends or family while visiting the

#### 13. THE PENINSULA Off the bearen track, enjoy a

spectacular view of the Singing Tower.

### 14. CONCERT VIEWING AREA 16. SINGING TOWER

View the carillonneur's performances at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. during our live performance season. See carillon program for availability.

### 15. PEACE LANTERN

This Toro, or Japanese mone lantent is adorned with peace doves and was ommissioned as a gift from Usaburo Taujita as a tribute to Mr. Bolds efforts toward world peace. Mr. Titajira was an amendant of Mr. Bok in the 1920s. In 1955, it unived with only the request to be placed within sight of Mr. Bulc's grave.

100 ft

100 yd

Made of pink murble and coquina, the 205-foot rall neo-Gothic and Art Deco Singing Tower houses the 60-bell carillon. Brass Door level members and shove are eligible to sour the Founder's Room on pre-scheduled dates.

### 17. EL RETIRO & GARDENS

Step back in time to a lumnious 1930s lifestyle as you rour this 20-room. Mediterranean-style winter home and mordens. Purchase your richers to your inside the home at the Visitor Center the gardens are open to all visitors. The home is partially accentible by





# 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.

