



## Paris Botanic Gardens (Parc Floral and Arboretum) and Paris Zoological Park



*The tour in the area of Bois de Vincennes, south east of Paris, gives an opportunity to discover the Zoological Park of Paris and two of the four sites constituting the Botanic Garden of the City of Paris.*



The **Parc Zoologique de Paris**, <http://www.parczoologiqueparis.fr>, formerly known as «Zoo de Vincennes» is part of the Department of Botanical and Zoological Gardens of the MNHN.

The park created in 1934 required an almost complete reconstruction due to the deterioration of its structure, consisting essentially of artificial rocks. After two and a half years of work, the new park was opened in April 2014. Of the old zoo, remain only some of the most impressive and iconic rocks (as the «Grand Rocher» 65 m high) and half of the trees.

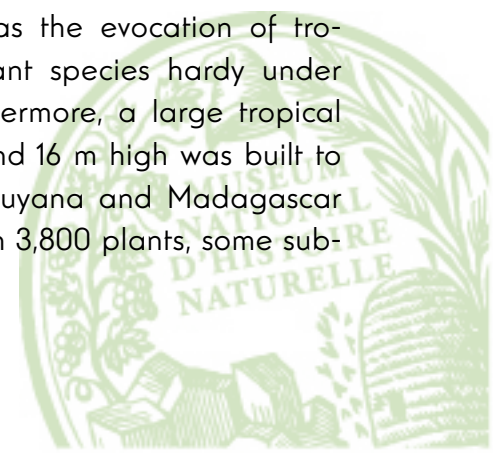


The 14-hectare park is now organized into five sectors or «Biozones» - Patagonia, Sahel / Sudan, Europe, Guyana, Madagascar - each presenting different plant landscapes in which evolve 180 animal species.

The new architectural and landscaping principles aim at immersing the visitors and animals in environments evoking the original ecosystems and give much importance to the flora. More than 170,000 plants and 2,200 trees representing 870 species were planted, an increase of 40% of the vegetated surface.



Among the challenges was the evocation of tropical landscapes with plant species hardy under the Parisian climate. Furthermore, a large tropical greenhouse of 4000 m<sup>2</sup> and 16 m high was built to house a portion of the Guyana and Madagascar sectors. It was planted with 3,800 plants, some sub-mature trees.





JARDIN  
BOTANIQUE  
DE PARIS

ARBORETUM  
PARC FLORAL  
PARC DE BAGATELLE  
SERRES D'AUTEUIL

**The Botanic Garden of the City of Paris**, [http://www.paris.fr/pratique/Portal.lut?page\\_id=8354](http://www.paris.fr/pratique/Portal.lut?page_id=8354), is managed by the municipality of Paris. It is divided into four sites (Jardin des Serres d'Auteuil, Jardins de Bagatelle, Parc Floral and Ecole du Breuil) two of which are located in the Bois de Vincennes..

### **Le Parc floral**

This park of 31 ha was established in 1969 in a contemporary style. It is home to many plant collections with mainly horticultural thematics, representing over 7,000 taxa: National collections of Iris (650 varieties), *Geranium* and *Astilbe*, bulbous plants, perennials, ericaceous shrubs, ferns, *Paeonia*... It also comprises a garden dedicated to a systematic presentation of the flora of the Ile de France region, the «Chemin de l'Evolution» and some greenhouses with various themes (bonsai, Mediterranean plants, plant evolution...).

### **Arboretum of the Ecole du Breuil**

The Arboretum of Paris covers 13 hectares. In a natural setting, it presents a collection of 1,200 trees. Open to the public, it is used as a place for training the students of the School of Horticulture Du Breuil and the staff of the city of Paris.

The collection includes 648 taxa grouped according to Redher's classification which was in force at the time of the first plantings in 1939. Other points of interest include the genus *Fraxinus* (25 taxa) and a number of remarkable tree specimens : *Castanea dentata*, *Ulmus americana*, *Fraxinus quadrangulata*, *Zelkova sinica*...

A program to recreate plant communities from the Paris region was established. A wetland with helophytes and hydrophytes typical of alkaline environments and a riparian forest have so far been planted. A planting of different types of hedges has been partially realized. It will present their respective roles and morphologies with 74 species native to Ile-de-France.

