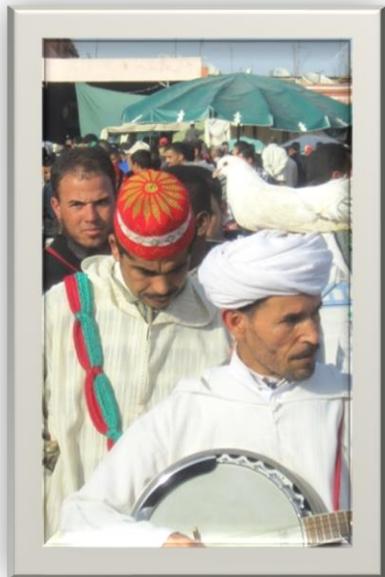


NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

The Gardens at Park Creek Dubai



Park creek is near downtown. Surely the thing to see is the Burj Khalifa. This is currently the world's tallest building and an extraordinary structure. We also enjoy the old Dubai area on the east side of town. The Dubai Museum is there and worth a visit. You can also take a water taxi to the Gold Soq across the river. A long day trip into Oman and the Strait of Hormuz is also possible. Its well worth the price and time.



Majorelle Gardens Marrakech Morocco

The world-famous Soq Jemaa el-Fnaa is about a twenty-five-minute walk from the garden. Be very cautious crossing the hazardous, teeming streets. This is one of the greatest old-world markets on earth and should not be missed. A local guide is good idea if you intend to venture beyond the margins of the square. The snow-capped Atlas Mountains are about two hours away and visible from town. There are several nice parks in town too.

Brookgreen Gardens, South Carolina USA



Brookgreen is across the street from the beautiful Huntington Beach State Park. You can also visit Myrtle Beach just about 25 minutes north on Route 17. While the area is heavily commercialized, the beach is beautiful and meticulously clean. Francis Marion

National Forest is further south on Route 17. A good site for native plants. Birding is excellent throughout the area.

Ohme Gardens, Wenatchee Washington USA



Ohme is just west of the dramatic Cascade Range with numerous national Forests and North Cascades National Park. This is a hot spot for alpine activities and particularly rich in wildflowers. The area around Ohme is a major center for apple farming, many

interesting varieties are available. The town of Leavenworth is at the foot of the mountains. Its built to resemble a Swiss village.

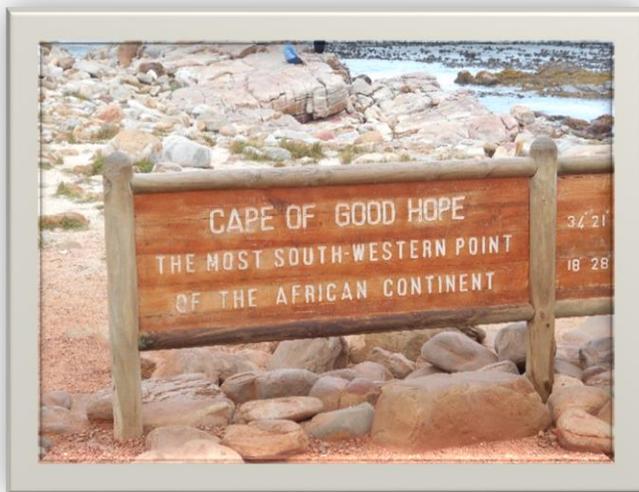
Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Virginia USA



Meadowlark is located 20 miles west of Washington DC. The city is one of the great Capitals in the world. Make sure to visit the Smithsonian and National Mall Downtown. The museums are free and among the absolute best in the world. The United States

Botanical Garden is located next to the Capitol. Just four miles from Meadowlark is Great Falls National Park. This 1400-acre park sits along the majestic Mather Gorge with the raging Great Falls of the Potomac just upstream.

Kirstenbosh National Botanic Garden, Cape Town



There's a great deal to see in the Cape Region. Surely the short trip to the Cape of Good Hope is a top priority. Local tour operators abound. Most tours stop at Haupt Bay, a remarkably beautiful area. The regions flora is among the most unique in the world. You can take single or multi-day safaris

to see Africa's stunning

megafauna. Robin Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned can be reached easily from town.

Gardens by the Bay Singapore



Singapore is an amazing city state with many world class attractions. The UNESCO World Heritage site Singapore Botanical Garden is highly recommended. Not too far away is the amazing Jerong Bird Park with the world's largest aviary. The Singapore museum houses many excellent exhibits. The history of WWII in the city is a fascinating and tragic tale. Make time to wonder India Town or other ethnic enclaves. Some of the world's best food is found in these areas. A stop

at the historic Raffles Hotel is a perfect way to experience the older character of the city.

Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis USA



Plan on a whole day at the garden. A visit to St. Louis is not complete without seeing the Arch. This is one of the world's most remarkable man-made structures. We do recommend going up in the Arch, the wait and cost are worth it. The odd, spherical elevators are totally unique. The city also has a unique relationship with the Lewis and Clark expedition, being the official

starting point. Excellent history and art museums are both in the city.

Los Angeles County Botanical Garden and Arboretum



The city of Angels has it all, beautiful beaches, amazing restaurants and of course Hollywood. One of our favorite places in town is the Huntington Library, museum and botanical gardens (look for a future article). The collective magnificence of

The Huntington is largely without equal in the city. Within a few hours drive you can visit numerous remarkable natural areas including Joshua Tree National Park and several outstanding National Forest areas. Excellent birding and botanizing await.

Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, Vienna Austria



Vienna is surely one of Europe's most beautiful and accommodating cities. The number of must-see attractions can be a bit overwhelming. We love the Kunsthistorisches Art Museum and Hofberg Palace. The city center is largely walkable, but excellent public transportation is available. Vienna is a

city for excellent food and even better beer. Take time to stroll many of the cities lesser-known parks where meticulously cared for specimen trees abound.

The Palm Garten Frankfurt, Germany



We highly recommend the Städe, officially the Städelsches Kunstinstitut und Städtische Galerie, with one of the largest art collections in Germany. Just across the street from the Palm Garten, Grundeburgpark encompasses a huge area replete with expansive lawns and beautiful, often labeled trees. A trip to the Römerberg is also

recommended. Its located in front of the historic Römer buildings, seat of the Frankfurt municipal government since the 15th century. It's the site of much history with Imperial coronations and a fabulous Christmas market.

Cheekwood Museum and Gardens, Nashville Tennessee USA



We are musicians and music fans, so Nashville has some predictable attractions. The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum is downtown. It's a fascinating place dedicated to the preservation of this uniquely American music. Dating to 1964, the museum has amassed one of the world's most extensive musical collections. Any musician knows those country folks are some serious guitar slingers. We also love the Lane Motor museum. Ryman

Auditorium is a 2,362-seat live-performance venue, it is best known as the home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943 to 1974.

Cranberry Glades Botanical Area West Virginia



The “Glades” are in a remote area of West Virginia. Back county hiking abounds, but one needs to be prepared, trails can be rugged and poorly marked. The “new” New River Gorge National Park is not too far away. Its an ancient and spectacular gorge with excellent rafting and rock climbing. The

legendary Plantsman Barry

Glick operates Sunshine Farm and Garden Nursery near the Glades. Sunshine offers some of the most unusual native plants in the east.