The slow-growing, evergreen Holly Oak, native to southern Europe and northwestern Africa, can grow 65-100 ft tall and has a dense rounded form. The gray bark is nearly smooth or finely scaly. The leaves are ovate to lanceolate in shape with an acute tip, and have a leathery texture. They are glossy dark-green above and yellowish-whitish below.

The Tulip Tree is named for its tulip-like flowers that bloom in spring. They are yellow in color with an orange base at each petal and are 2” in length. The bark is brown and furrowed and the branches have leaf scars. The leaves are bright green, 4-lobed and up to 8” across, turning yellow in fall. This deciduous tree is native to eastern North America.

The rapidly growing, deciduous ‘Morning Cloud’ can reach 20-35 ft in height with equal spread. The 6” long leaves are lanceolate and taper at both ends, with a dull green color above and fuzzy texture underneath. The bell-shaped pale-pink to white flowers bloom in summer. This tree is a hybrid cross between the Desert Willow and Southern Catalpa.

The Arizona Ash is native to the southwestern US and Mexico. In desert areas their presence indicates permanent underground water supply. The fast-growing, short-lived, tree has a round crown and a medium gray trunk with fissured bark. Its glossy green, ¾-2 ¼” leaves are pinnately compound, lanceolate and have 3-5 leaflets per leaf.

The Indian Laurel Fig, native to India and Malaysia, has a rounded shape and can grow 25-80 ft tall and equally wide. Its smooth, dark green, oval leaves taper to acuminate tips. If not watered sufficiently, the extensive roots will grow near the surface and can tear up sidewalks and foundations. It has inconspicuous flowers in winter and small, round, green fruit in spring.

The Sweet Orange is native to Vietnam, northwest India and southern China, but is cultivated in tropical and sub-tropical areas around the world. The fragrant white flowers bloom in spring and are arranged in clusters of 1-6. The cultivar ‘Valencia’ is a thin-skinned juice orange that was created by a citrus farmer in California.

The Deodar Cedar has 1-2” fine-textured, needles that are dark green with silvery bottoms, giving the tree an overall blue-green appearance. The gray-brown bark starts out smooth, but develops short furrows with scaly ridge tops when it matures. Some specimens are said to be up to 900 years old.

The Senegal Date Palm grows in clumps composed of multiple stems that curve away from the center. They can grow to 50 ft tall and are topped with green pinnate fronds that are up to 15 ft long and 3 ft wide. The showy flowers are followed by small bright orange dates, which are edible.

The Punktree, or Paperbark tree, is native to Australia, New Guinea, and New Caledonia. It has multiple trunks and grows up to 40 ft tall. The narrow, blade-like, dull-green leaves are 3” long. It has a very distinct, thick papery bark of tan to white color. Off-white flowers grow on a spike in summer to fall.

The Australian Willow has strong, wind-resistant, inner branches directed upwards, whereas the outer branches hang loosely. The 2-4” long, pale green, lanceolate, fine-textured leaves hang from the branches in alternate arrangements. Its deep root system enables it to withstand drought.

This walk starts and ends by Chaparral Hall and leads you through the Botanic Garden, which you can explore at your own leisure. It then strolls through the Orange Grove, and by the duck pond and Observatory. The walk is 0.55 miles long. For more information on the trees in this brochure and a glossary of terms, scan the QR code below.
Native to riparian areas of the Southwest US and Mexico, the Fremont Cottonwood grows 60 ft tall, 30 ft wide, and is found at elevations up to 6500 ft. The bark is smooth when young and deeply furrowed with whitish cracked bark as it ages. The bark and leaves can be used to treat bruises, insect stings, muscle strain and sore throats. Female plants produce a cotton-like substance.

The Blue Palo Verde is native to deserts in the Southwestern US and Mexico and therefore is naturally adapted to have very low water requirements. It is a multi-stemmed tree with a rounded crown, and grows 15-30 ft tall with equal spread. The trunks are normally green, growing darker with age, and the tree has an overall bluish cast.

Parry’s Beargrass, a perennial shrub to tree, is native to the Southwestern US and Baja California. Its coarse-bladed leaves are 18-30” long, gray-green in color, and grow in dense rosettes. From April to June a 3-5 ft flowering stem grows in the middle. It is one of the largest species in its genus. The plant in the Botanic Garden is 40-50 years old.

The Desert Willow is a fast-growing, small deciduous shrub or small tree reaching 15-40 ft. The tree, native to the southwestern United States, is drought and heat tolerant. Its light-green, long narrow leaves are about 4-12” long and 1/3” wide. Fragrant 1½” flowers appear from May to September.

The Rainbow Eucalyptus gets its name from its beautiful, colorful, peeling bark. Its leaves have a slightly fragrant aroma, but less intense than other Eucalyptus trees. Native to the rainforests of the Philippines, it is the only Eucalyptus species found naturally in the Northern Hemisphere.

Plumeria, native to Central and South America, are related to the Oleander, and also possess a poisonous, milky sap. They are multi-branched with thick foliage and can reach up to 20 ft tall. In spring to summer, they produce flowers (about 2” long) in a variety of colors ranging from white to yellow and pink. They are well known as the Hawaiian lei flower.