

Botany Gallery

The Industrial Botanical Gallery in the Indian Museum exhibits the colonial accumulation and organization of “economic botany” encased in Victorian-era glass vitrines. Plant-based economic products are displayed in this gallery along with dried seeds, flakes, barks and fibres. Medicinal products including indigenous drugs and Indian timbers and oil seeds are the highlight of this gallery.



Here is a detailed overview of the Botany Gallery, including its location, exhibits, historical significance, and more:

Location:

- The Botany Gallery is part of the Indian Museum located in Kolkata, West Bengal. The Indian Museum, established in 1814, is one of the oldest museums in India and houses extensive collections in various fields, including botany.

Exhibits and Collection: The Botany Gallery features a wide range of plant specimens and botanical artifacts. Key highlights include:

- **Plant Specimens:** Displays include preserved plant specimens, including rare and endemic species from various regions of India.
- **Botanical Illustrations:** The gallery features detailed botanical illustrations that showcase the diverse flora of India.
- **Historical Botanical Collections:** The gallery houses collections that provide insights into the history of botanical study and plant exploration in India.

Historical Significance:

- **Founding:** The Indian Museum's Botany Gallery has been a significant part of its collection since the museum's early years, contributing to the study and understanding of plant life in India.
- **Scientific Contributions:** The gallery has played a crucial role in documenting and preserving India's botanical heritage and supporting research in plant sciences.

Research and Conservation:

- **Research:** The Botany Gallery supports research in plant taxonomy, ethnobotany, and conservation. It is involved in the study of plant species and their ecological roles.
- **Conservation Efforts:** The museum engages in conservation initiatives aimed at preserving endangered plant species and promoting sustainable practices.

Visitor Information:

- **Opening Hours:** The Indian Museum, including the Botany Gallery, is open from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Tuesday through Sunday. The museum is closed on Mondays.
- **Admission Fees:** The general entry fee is ₹50 for Indian adults, ₹20 for Indian students, and ₹500 for foreign tourists. There may be additional charges for special exhibitions or photography.
- **Guided Tours:** The Indian Museum offers guided tours for groups and individuals. Advance booking is recommended for guided tours, which provide detailed insights into the Botany Gallery and its collections. Contact the museum's visitor services for more information on scheduling and fees.

Additional Features:

- **Educational Programs:** The Botany Gallery conducts educational programs, workshops, and lectures aimed at increasing public awareness about plant diversity and conservation.
- **Interactive Displays:** Some exhibits may include interactive components to engage visitors in learning about botany and plant science.

The Botany Gallery at the Indian Museum is a vital resource for understanding India's rich plant biodiversity and the history of botanical research. It provides visitors with valuable insights into the country's flora and supports ongoing research and conservation efforts, making it an important part of the Indian Museum's comprehensive collection.
