


Come  
explore  
Mumbai's  
largest green  
open public  
space




# VJB UDYAN ZOO (RANI BAGH)

*Heritage Botanical Garden*



150 years of Mumbai's Beloved Heritage Botanical Garden  
2011-2012



# Discover

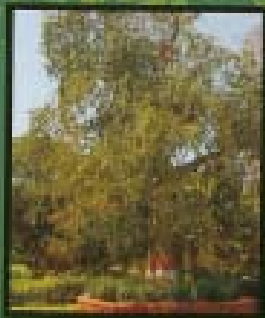
the fascinating world of plants  
at Mumbai's only heritage botanical garden



An imposing Baobab with  
its renowned girth  
*Adansonia digitata*  
Tropical Africa\*



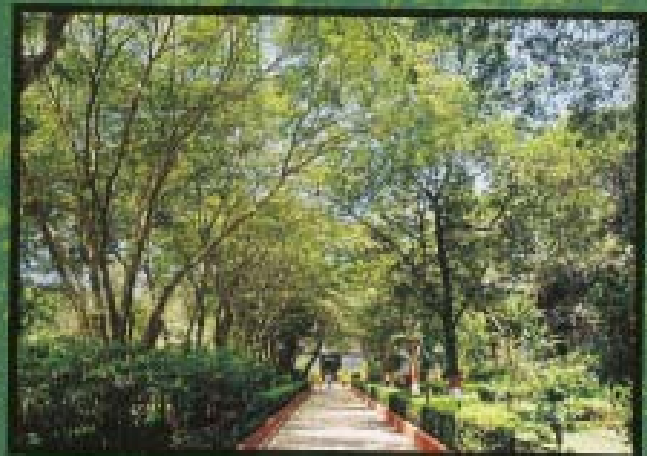
Noble Amherstia  
Reputed to be the most  
beautiful flower in the world  
*Amherstia nobilis*  
Myanmar\*



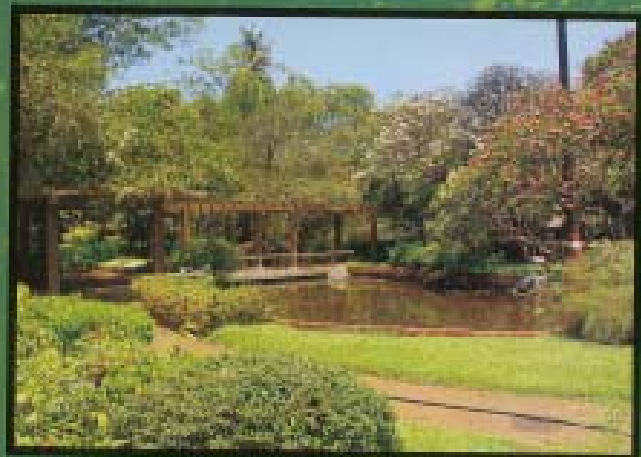
The mighty Cajuput with its  
soft and flaking bark  
*Melaleuca leucodendron*  
Australia\*



Colville's Glory  
Breathtaking monsoon inflorescence  
*Colvillea racemosa*  
Malagasy\*

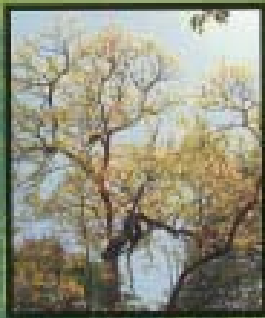


The inviting Lignum Vitae Avenue  
*Gualacum officinale*  
West Indies\*



A Japanese Garden in the heart of Mumbai

\* Country of origin



Gossamer blossoms of the  
Sacred Barba  
*Crataeva tapia*  
India\*



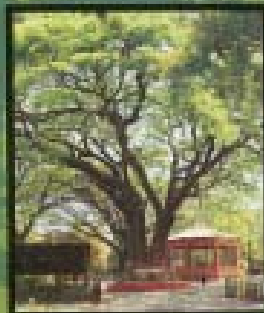
The graceful Jarul -  
Maharashtra's state flower  
*Lagerstroemia speciosa*  
India\*



The new fiery red leaves  
of the Nagkesar  
*Mesua ferrea*  
India\*



Leaf of the Krishna's Buttercup  
Folklore - the mischievous child  
deity used its cup-shaped leaves  
to scoop butter  
*Ficus benghalensis* var. *Krishnae*  
India\*



An award-winning massive  
Rain Tree  
*Samanea Saman*  
Central America\*

## VJB UDYAN (RANI BAGH)

Join us in celebrating 150 years of the heritage botanical garden.

Welcome to the 53 acre heritage V.J.B. Udyan Zoo, popularly known as Rani Bagh. Established in 1861 as a botanical garden it was then called Victoria Gardens. Designed as a city jewel, it was adorned with imposing monuments and in 1873 a small zoo was introduced. Renamed in 1969 as V.J.B. Udyan, it functions as Mumbai's vital green lung.

With 3213 trees of 286 species, Rani Bagh is the singular city location with the largest agglomeration of trees and species diversity. Home to an astonishing 843 plant species it is an invaluable treasure-trove for botanists and nature lovers. Its rich habitat supports an ecosystem of birds, mammals, reptiles and insects. Several trees are majestic centenarians and people throng to see their favourite trees in bloom.

With an average of 8,000 visitors daily and 30,000 on holidays, Rani Bagh is a much loved city destination.

Its antiquity and unique blend of built and natural heritage has earned it a Grade II-B heritage status. Monuments like the Italianate triple-arch gateway, the clock tower and Bhau Daji Lad museum add to its historical charm.

The Save Rani Bagh Botanical Garden Action Committee has planned a host of activities to mark 150 years of the botanical garden - tree trails, audio-visual programmes, workshops, seminars, publishing of brochures and booklets.



### Visitor Information

#### Visiting Hours

Thursday to Tuesday

March - June 9.00 am - 6.15 pm

July - Oct 9.00 am - 5.45 pm

Nov - Feb 9.00 am - 5.30 pm

Wednesday Closed

#### Entry fee

Rs. 5 for adults

Rs. 2 for children under 12.



The Save Rani Bagh Botanical Garden Action Committee, a band of nature loving citizens was formed to protect the heritage botanical garden from Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's 'redevelopment' plan costing Rs. 480 crore to install an "international" zoo that would have rung its death knell. A five-year struggle has resulted in a marked modification of the earlier plan - the botanical garden will be preserved as it exists today and only current animal enclosures will be redesigned and renovated. The project cost too has been trimmed to Rs.150 crore.



Heritage award-winning Woodlath Conservatory. Replica of conservatory at Kew Garden, U.K.

Save Rani Bagh Botanical Garden Action Committee  
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