

Japanese Friendship Garden Social Story

A guide to help prepare individuals with autism for a museum visit



About the Japanese Friendship Garden

Things to Do Before You Go

Take care of your personal needs:

- Make sure to bring water, snack, sunglasses, phone, wallet with your ID, your Explorer Pass if you have one and any fidgets, headphones, or other comfort tools
- Communicate about your visit with your family
- Prepare for social engagement, create a social script for engaging with people who sell tickets to the museum or work in the galleries
- Call ahead to ask about peak hours/Free Tuesday
- Information on the website can inform you before you go about any potential sensory issues
- If you have a service dog, create a social script to answer questions about your dog

Plan your transportation to and from the museum

- Plan on where to park
- Find a map of Balboa Park so that you can find the museum from where you park. Maps are available online or at the Balboa Park Visitors Center

The exhibitions are always changing, so check on the website before you visit to find out what is on display.

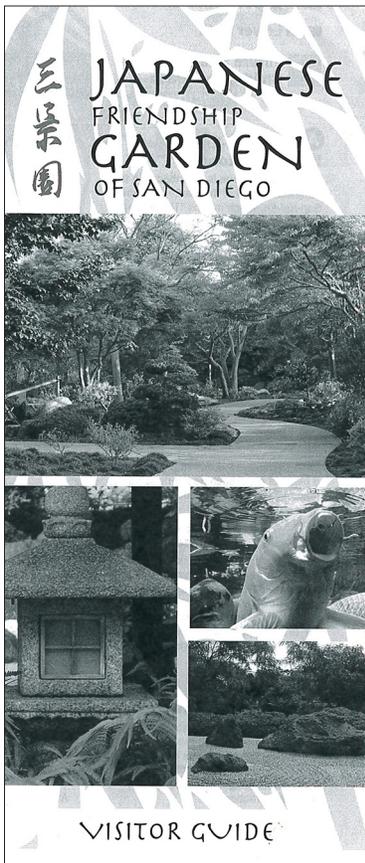
Japanese Friendship Garden
2215 Pan American Rd E.
Balboa Park
San Diego, California 92101
(619) 232-2721
niwa.org



The entrance is to the right of the Tea Pavilion, a small restaurant with outdoor seating. You will see tables with umbrellas set up outside.

There is a sign over the entrance that says "Japanese Friendship Garden."





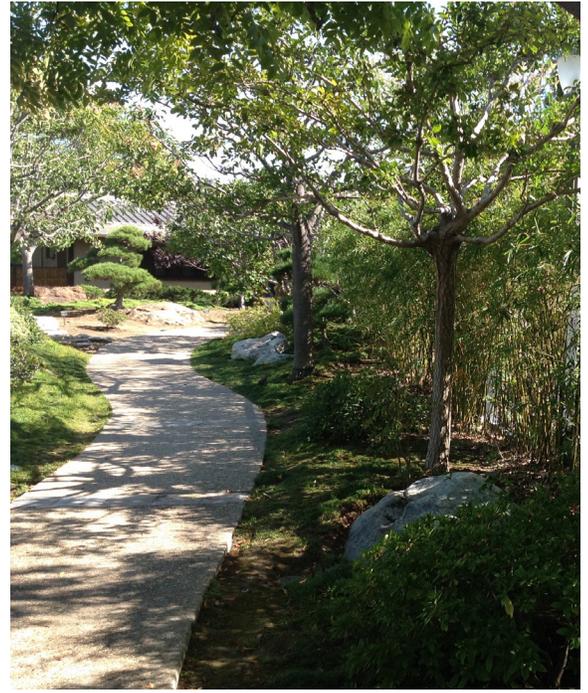
Inside the entrance is a ticket booth where you pay admission to enter. If you have a Balboa Park Explorer Pass, staff will scan it for you.

Staff at the ticket booth will give you a brochure that has a map of the garden. It also has lots of information about events, classes, and other activities happening at the garden.

Staff at the ticket booth can also answer any questions you may have.

After you pay admission, you are free to explore the garden. There are just a few rules to keep in mind:

- Stay on the pathways.
- Do not climb or stand on any rocks.
- Do not touch or pick any plants.
- Stay out of the water and do not touch or feed the fish.
- No pets are allowed. (Service animals are OK.)
- Food is not allowed. Drinks are OK in the outdoor areas, but not indoors in the exhibition galleries.





As you explore the Japanese Friendship Garden, you will see plants, trees, streams, ponds with koi fish, a waterfall, and some indoor spaces with Japanese art on display. You can go in any direction that you like.



There are pathways for you to walk on.
Some are paved and some are dirt.



There are benches throughout the garden where you can sit, relax, and meditate.





Handicap accessible pathways and ramps are marked with signage.



Do not go into any areas marked "Employees Only."

The garden is designed to be peaceful and quiet, but it could be crowded, especially in the summertime and during special events. You might also hear the sounds of the park outside and of planes coming in for a landing at the airport.





The exhibitions in the galleries change, so you may see something different on display if you come back again.



The garden will also change during the year as the seasons change and different plants bloom.



There are restrooms next to the Event Plaza and the Inamori Pavilion. You can also find a drinking fountain at the Inamori Pavilion.



When you are ready to leave, find your group and make sure you have all your belongings.

You exit the Japanese Friendship Garden at the same place you came in. The path to the exit is uphill.

There is a small gift shop near the admissions booth, if you'd like to buy a souvenir of your visit.





After you exit, you can get something to eat at the Tea Pavilion if you are hungry.



Funded by:



Supported by:



This social story was created by a team of young adults with autism.
Thank you to Joel A., Zoe B., David B., Davis H., Austin J., Naomi J.,
Bella L., Terrence P., Nate P., and Charlie Q. for your hard work.

2018