



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

4344 Shaw Boulevard • St. Louis, MO • 63110 • (314) 577-5100 • www.mobot.org

VISITOR INFORMATION

Location

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in St. Louis, easily accessible from Interstate 44 at the Vandeventer-Kingshighway exit. The Garden is 5 miles southwest of downtown St. Louis and 17 miles from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. Note: A section of the I-64/U.S. 40 highway is under construction through 2009. Before traveling, check www.thenewi64.org or www.GetAroundStL.com for helpful information.

Listen to recorded driving directions at (314) 577-9400 or 1-800-642-8842, option 2; or log on to <http://www.mobot.org/visit/hours.asp>

Parking and Public Transportation

Free off-street parking is available at the Garden and lots two blocks west at the Shaw-Vandeventer intersection. The Garden is accessible by taking the MetroLink commuter rail line to the Central West End station and picking up a Metro bus on weekdays. <http://www.metrostlouis.org/>

Hours

April 27 through October 31, 2008, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; and on “Niki Nights,” Thursday evenings from 5 to 9 p.m. Open rain or shine.

Admission

The *Niki* exhibition is included with general Garden admission:

Adult	\$8
St. Louis City/County resident	\$4 adult, \$2 senior (65+)
Child (age 12 and under)	Free
Member	Free
Group rates	see Groups section

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niki

April 27 through October 31



Tips for Visitors

- Monday, Tuesday or Thursday is typically least crowded.
- Dress for the weather.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes.
- Smoking is not allowed at the Garden.

“Niki Nights”

Every Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m., May 1 through Sept.25

Face painting, sno-cones, music, outdoor dining at the Sassafras café, Children’s Garden open until dusk. \$7 adults; \$3 children age 3-12; \$5 Garden members; free children under age 3.

Mosaic Magic Walk

June 2, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Take a guided tour of the exhibition and learn about the significance of the art and the artist.

\$25 (\$20 members). Pre-registration required; call (314) 577-9441.

Tours

Guided Garden walking tours depart from the ticket counter daily at 10 a.m. (Memorial Day through Labor Day) and 1 p.m. (the rest of the year). No extra charge.

Free self-guided tour maps are available at the ticket counter.

Cell phone audio commentary; call (408) 794-0870 toll free. Individual cell plan rates and minutes apply.

Tram Tours

Sit back, relax, and enjoy an informative, 30-minute narrated tour of the 79-acre Garden for \$3 per person. Children age 2 and under ride free when seated on a lap. Seating is first come, first served. Tram tickets may not be purchased in advance. Trams are wheelchair accessible.

Trams run April through October as follows (times subject to change):

Monday through Friday	10 a.m. to 4 p.m., every hour
Saturday and Sunday	9 a.m. to 4 p.m., every 40 minutes
Private tram tours	Call (314) 577-0275 or 1-800-332-1286 toll free

Group Tours

School groups and field trips: Call the Education Division, (314) 577-5140.

For group rates and private tour information, call the Tourism Department at (314) 577-0275, (314) 577-9588 or 1-800-332-1286 toll free; or e-mail tourism@mobot.org. Groups of 15 or more receive an admission discount when one member of the group pays for all in one transaction. Reservations and full payment are required at least 21 days in advance. Box lunches may be pre-ordered for groups of 10 or more. Call the Tourism Department at least 3 weeks in advance.

Bus Parking: School buses and motor coaches must drop off and pick up passengers at the upper east parking lot for entry via Linnean Plaza. Buses and motor coaches may park off site on DeTonty Street, which runs parallel between Shaw Blvd. and Interstate 44, northeast of the Garden. Drivers are welcome to return to the Garden for a complimentary beverage in the Sassafras café on the second floor of the Ridgway Center.

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Accessibility

The Garden is accessible to visitors of all abilities. A limited number of wheelchairs and strollers are available first-come, first-served. Wheelchair rental is free. Stroller rental is \$1. Questions: call (314) 577-0254 during weekday business hours.

Photography

No tripods or monopods may be used inside the conservatories or buildings. Use a hand-held camera. Professional photographers should contact the Public Relations Department at (314) 577-0254 before working at the Garden.

Dining and Refreshments

The Sassafras café serves soup, salad and sandwiches from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Light refreshments are available throughout the day between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Dine indoors or outside on the terrace. Seating is first come, first served. From April through October, informal dining is also available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily at the Terrace Café inside the Kemper Center for Home Gardening. Picnicking is not allowed in the Garden (exception: Whitaker Music Festival on Wednesday evenings in June, July and first two Wednesdays in August).

Corporate and Private Events

Host an exclusive evening event, private party, dinner, wedding or reception at the Garden. Call the Catering St. Louis sales office at (314) 961-7588, ext. 221 or log onto www.cateringstlouis.com. If your event does not require catering services, call the Garden's Meeting Specialist at (314) 577-9560.

Shopping

The Garden Gate Shop sells a *Niki* exhibition guide and other *Niki* merchandise. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the first floor of the Ridgway Center, the shop offers an outstanding selection of gifts, decorative items, gardening accessories, plants, books, jewelry, toys and much more. Proceeds benefit the Garden. (314) 577-5137.

Missouri Botanical Garden Member Benefits

Join the Garden to take advantage of special members-only perks and conveniences. Call (314) 577-5118 or log on to www.mobot.org.

- Members receive free Garden admission for themselves and one or more guests, depending on their level of membership.
- Discounted admission to "Niki Nights" on Thursdays.
- 10 percent discount in the Garden gift shops.

For More Information

www.nikidesaintphalle.com or www.nikidesaintphalle.org

Garden events, hours, directions: www.mobot.org or call the 24-hour Garden Line recording at (314) 577-9400 or 1-800-642-8842 toll free. Members, call (314) 577-5152 during weekday business hours. St. Louis visitor information: www.explorestlouis.com

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Frequently Asked Questions:

Is the artist here? Can I meet her? No, Niki De Saint Phalle passed away in 2002.

Where are the sculptures? Mostly outdoors from the Ridgway Center to the Kemper Center and along the paths leading to Tower Grove House. A few are located inside the Climatron, Shoenberg Temperate House and Linnean House.

How many sculptures are there? 40 works in this exhibition.

What materials are used? Fiberglass, polyester, glass, mirrored and ceramic tile, pebbles, gold leaf and semi-precious stones.

How large are the sculptures? How much do they weigh? They range in height from four to 18 feet tall. Some weigh a ton or more. *La Cabeza* (The Head) weighs six tons!

May I touch the sculpture? Look for signs that tell you which sculptures you may touch, climb or sit on.

Are the sculptures lit at night? Several works are lit during “Niki Nights,” held on Thursday evenings from May through September from 5 to 9 p.m.

Media Assistance

The Missouri Botanical Garden’s Public Relations staff is happy to answer media inquiries or photo requests regarding *Niki*. Digital color images and news releases may be downloaded at www.mobot.org/press. Media may call the Public Relations Department at (314) 577-0254 or (314) 577-5141 during weekday business hours; or e-mail karen.hagenow@mobot.org or lisa.brandon@mobot.org.

Working media are admitted at no charge. Please show your press credentials at the ticket counter or contact the Public Relations office in advance if you need to make special arrangements.

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