A Trip to the Holiday Train Show® at The New York Botanical Garden

A Know Before You Go Social Guide
Introduction

We are going to the *Holiday Train Show* at The New York Botanical Garden. This story will tell us all about what to expect. We will see lots of trains and more than 175 model buildings and famous New York City landmarks made from plant parts like bark and acorns in the exhibition.

Some other things we will learn about in this story are:
- Who we can ask for help during our visit
- Places we might see and things we might do during our visit
Enid A. Haupt Conservatory

The *Holiday Train Show* is located inside and outside the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. We can also see a lot of plants in the Conservatory. A conservatory is a glasshouse. Each gallery of the Conservatory features a different environment perfectly designed for plants that grow there. We can discover plants from lush tropical rain forests, cactus-filled deserts, palms from across the globe, aquatic and carnivorous plants, and much more. You will hear clicking and clacking as glass windows open and close to control the temperatures and humidity in each of the galleries. You might also see NYBG staff watering plants.
Possible Lines

There may be many people visiting the *Holiday Train Show*. We might have to wait in a line before we get to see all the trains, buildings, and landmarks. Waiting is not easy, but we are good at it!
Helpful People and Garden Staff

There are many friendly people working at the Garden. Some of their jobs are to help us if we need it. When we have questions or need help, we can ask a Visitor Attendant, a Security Guard, or a Garden Volunteer. They will be happy to meet us and help find answers to our Garden questions.

If we cannot find family members or friends we came with, we should tell the first Security Guard we see. They will help us locate people we know.
In the Holiday Train Show

Once it is our turn to enter the *Holiday Train Show*, we will have the option of entering a dimly lit room to watch a 3.5-minute introduction video. We can ask the NYBG staff member to skip it and they will show us another way to enter the *Holiday Train Show*. 
Trains

Next, we will begin exploring the show, looking closely at the details of the trains, buildings, and landmarks! We will use our senses to make observations about what we see and hear. We will see trains moving on tracks all around us! There might be some low-volume train noises such as clicking from the train wheels moving on the tracks, or a train whistle. Some landmarks like Yankee Stadium have recorded voices, just like you would hear an announcer at the stadium.
Building and Landmark Materials

Look at the materials used to build the buildings and landmarks: bark, leaves, seed pods, and other plant parts. Can you name all the plant parts you see? We will see many miniature New York City landmarks like famous bridges and Rockefeller Center. Can you name all the bridges? How many landmarks do you recognize?
Break Time

We can purchase and enjoy a meal or snack at the Pine Tree Café in the Leon Levy Visitor Center. The menu ranges from artisanal panini, pizza, and salads to sweet treats and other snacks. We can also sit down to eat at the Hudson Garden Grill restaurant. We may need reservations if we eat there.

Restrooms are located throughout the Garden. We can check the map in the “WHAT’S ON” handout to find out where the closest restroom is to us.
Quiet Spaces

There are many quiet spaces in the Garden that we can visit to refresh. The Home Gardening Center next to the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, the Native Plant Garden, and Thain Family Forest are good places to visit that are usually less crowded with other visitors. If we need a quiet space, we can ask a Visitor Services Attendant to direct us.
Leaving the Garden

When we are ready to leave, we will go back to the same entrance we used to enter the Garden. We hope we can visit The New York Botanical Garden again to have fun and learn about plants!
More Information

For more information about accessibility at NYBG, visit nybg.org/visit/access.

Find more information about children’s programming and family visits at nybg.org/visit/families.

Grounds-Only Pass is available to NYC residents only and includes access to outdoor gardens and collections. All-Garden Pass includes Special Exhibitions, Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Rock Garden, and Tram Tour. For more information about admission, please visit nybg.org/visit/admission.