

**New gardens with rustic *kampung* shrubs and flowers, locally used herbs and spices**

Visitors can take a trip down memory lane at the two new gardens – Kampung Garden, and Herb and Spice Garden – at the reopened Bukit Timah Railway Station. The Kampung Garden features ornamental shrubs and flowers iconic to Singapore’s 1960s landscape, while the Herb and Spice Garden showcases plants that were commonly used for homecooked dishes.

Plants found in the new gardens include:

Kampung Garden

<p>Bunga Raya (<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>)</p>  <p>Photo Credit: NParks Flora &amp; Fauna Web</p> <p>Growing up to 3m tall, this perennial shrub has flowers ranging from single-petals to multipetalous in different colours, and its leaves have a toothed margin.</p>	<p>Cat’s Whiskers (<i>Orthosiphon aristatus</i>)</p>  <p>Photo Credit: Jennie Tang Yurue, NParks Flora &amp; Fauna Web</p> <p>Growing up to 1m tall, this perennial herb features distinctive flowers which are white, two-lipped and hairy with 5cm-long, whisker-like stamens. The flowers are arranged in a conical-shaped inflorescence.</p>
<p>Arabian Jasmine (<i>Jasminum sambac</i> ‘Arabian Nights’)</p>  <p>Photo Credit: Pauline Tay, NParks Flora &amp; Fauna Web</p> <p>A shrub with a climbing habit, it can grow up to 1.5m tall. Its flowers are double-petaled, fragrant and white, while its fruits are small black berries. The plant has many uses – its flowers are used to make jasmine tea, flower buds can be sewn and used in garlands or lei, and oil extracted from the flowers is used in perfumes.</p>	<p>Peacock Flower (<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>)</p>  <p>Photo Credit: Arthur Ng, NParks Flora &amp; Fauna Web</p> <p>While it is a shrub, it may appear as a small tree with a height of 3m to 6m tall. Its flowers have an orange, yellow and red combination, attracting butterflies and bees.</p>

Dixie Rosemallow (*Hibiscus mutabilis*)



Photo Credit: Jane Li, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A large, multi-stemmed shrub that grows up to 2.4m tall, its double flowers are 10cm to 15cm wide. The flowers are white or pink when they bloom in the morning, but gradually darken to red and drop off in the evening.

Tuberose (*Agave amica*)



Photo Credit: Vicky Lim Yen Ngoh, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

This grass-like perennial has an underground storage bulb and a rosette foliage of around 40cm. Its fragrant, waxy white flowers are funnel-shaped. The pure extraction of Tuberose is one of the most expensive natural flower oils used in perfumes.

White Mussaenda (*Mussaenda philippica* 'Aurorae')



Photo Credit: Vicky Lim Yen Ngoh, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A large shrub that grows up to 3m tall, it has small, orange, tubular, and star-shaped flowers. Its flowers produce large, white sepals.

*Mussaenda* 'Dona Eva'



Photo Credit: NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A shrub with scrambling growth form, its yellow, tubular flowers are borne in clusters. Each flower is accompanied with a five-lobed calyx, of which one is conspicuously enlarged and bright red.

Pinwheel Flower (*Tabernaemontana divaricata*)



Photo Credit: Pauline Tay, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

Growing up to 1.8m tall, the evergreen round shrub has large, glossy dark green leaves and waxy, white flowers. Its flowers are five-petaled, shaped like pinwheels, and fragrant, which attract butterflies.

Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*)



Photo Credit: NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A shrub that grows up to 4m tall, its leaves can be three to five-lobed, with smooth stems and leaves.

### Herb and Spice Garden

Siamese Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*)



Photo Credit: Boo Chih Min, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

Growing up to 1.8m tall, this erect, slender and herbaceous plant has shoots that extend above ground, arising from buds on underground rhizomes. Its rhizome is often used as a spice in Indian and Chinese cuisine, while ginger oil is used to flavour ginger beer and ginger ale.

Laksa Leaf (*Persicaria odorata*)



Photo Credit: NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A perennial herb that can grow up to 35cm tall, its leaves are lance-shaped and green with red markings. Its leaves are used to add flavour to the local laksa dish.

Chilli Padi (*Capsicum frutescens*)



Photo Credit: NParks Flora & Fauna Web

Growing up to 1.5m tall, this shrubby plant has greenish-white flowers with blue or yellow anthers. Its fruits are commonly used in many local dishes and can be used in a variety of ways – fresh or dried, ripe or unripe, cooked or raw.

Lengkuas (*Alpinia galanga*)



Photo Credit: NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A large herbaceous plant that can grow up to 3.5m tall, it has lance-shaped leaves that measure up to 50cm long. Its rhizome has a sharp, spicy flavour popular in Southeast Asian cuisine, and is used in dishes including laksa and rendang.

Curry Leaf (*Murraya koenigii*)



Photo Credit: Boo Chih Min, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

Growing up to 2.5m tall, this shrub has 30cm-long leaves composed of 11 to 21 shiny, dark green, lance-shaped leaflets that are slightly toothed. Its leaves are highly aromatic when rubbed or crushed, and are used to flavour and enhance aroma in Indian curries.

Ulam Raja (*Cosmos caudatus*)



Photo Credit: Jane Li, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

An annual or short-lived perennial herb, it grows up to 3m tall. Its compound flowers are composed of 8 purple or red, petal-like ray florets and many yellowish-green disk florets in the centre. Consumed as a vegetable in Malay cuisine, the leaves may be consumed raw in salads while young shoots taste like mangoes.

Common Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*)



Photo Credit: Boo Chih Min, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

A herbaceous plant with erect growth habit and branching stems, its small, white flowers are composed of an upper and lower lip. Its fresh or dried leaves are used in cooking for their fragrance and flavour.

Limau Kesturi (*Citrus x microcarpa*)



Photo Credit: Pauline Tay, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

Growing up to 4m tall, this medium-sized shrub has white to whitish-pink flowers and sparsely spiny stems. Its fruits can be squeezed into juice or used as a seasoning in meat and seafood dishes.

Gotu Kola (*Centella asiatica*)



Photo Credit: Jane Li, NParks Flora & Fauna Web

An aquatic perennial herb with a creeping growth habit, it grows up to 20cm tall and has a maximum plant spread of 1m wide. Its leaves are bean-shaped and the leaf edge has rounded teeth. The entire plant may be used as a herb or spice, and its leaves are used in cosmetic products.

Photos of the plants can be downloaded from this link: <https://go.gov.sg/rc-btrs-plants>