

This post was originally published on www.okinawahai.com on 03/29/2007

Editor's Note: Below is the original Okinawa Hai post on Southeast Botanical Gardens. We published a newer post on this establishment in 2013. We've moved all of your original comments in place on the newer post, but we thought after five years you might want a fresher take on the place. That newer post can be seen [HERE](#).

Southeast Botanical Gardens - UPDATE!



Photo by [jeremyarthur75](#)

CONTRIBUTED BY JULIE

Have you been to the Botanical Gardens? They're a beautiful place to go for playgroup or just when you have some extra time. They have a great playground for the kids [here](#) and several ponds to feed Koi. Also the grounds are beautiful and they do have a small collection of butterflies, beetles and other animals.

In the summer they also have special events which include a water slide. In the winter they have a really awesome light show. There is the Restaurant Botanika on the grounds which offers a nice buffet. They also have a soba shop or you can picnic on their grounds. Go, enjoy, for free!

This post was originally published on www.okinawahai.com on 10/10/2008

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Southeast Botanical Gardens, Part 2

CONTRIBUTED BY KATRINA

My husband and I went this past weekend. It was beautiful! Their official name is Southeast Botanical Gardens. [Admissions information from this post has been removed, as it is out of date and no longer relevant to our readers.]

Here are some tips:

- Bring a camera and extra batteries, you'll want to take a ton of pictures.
- If you are warmed-natured, bring a towel, it gets a little warm.
- Bring extra yen for purchases, but they do have an exchange place in the forest adventure part.
- Keep your head up. Look out for giant spiders, they are all over.
- You can ride a train around the park for 300 yen. It was a good idea, until we realized they only speak Japanese during the tour, so everyone else was "oooohhing" and "awwwwing" and we were completely lost. The only words we understood were "shopping" and "pineapple," incidentally they must be the same in English. But it was helpful to sit down and get a feel for the park first. Plus they take your picture on the train and you can purchase the photograph for 1,000 yen as a souvenir.
- Wear comfy shoes, it gets a little hilly and you do not realize it.

It was a great trip! Its very close to those near Kadena/Camp Sheilds. Perfect if you have a few hours and want something to pass the time and get out. It would be a great spot for photographers. They have a little shop you can buy their fruit and herbs also.

This post was originally published on www.okinawahai.com on 12/20/2009

Editor's Note: Below is the original Okinawa Hai post on Southeast Botanical Gardens' Christmas Lights Display. We published a newer post on this establishment in 2013. We've moved all of your original comments in place on the newer post, but we thought after five years you might want a fresher take on the place. That newer post can be seen [HERE](#).

Christmas Lights Display at the Southeast Botanical Gardens

CONTRIBUTED BY MARY RICHARDSON

A perfect evening excursion for just about everyone (families with children, young singles, couples), the Christmas lights display will run from Dec 23- Dec 27 at the Southeast Botanical Gardens.

At this annual event, thousands of lights illuminate the gardens, greenery, flowers, and tropical trees. A gorgeous sight to be sure!

In addition, the Botanical Gardens is also hosting a special nighttime market, where you can enjoy food booths selling local savories like yakitori, fries, and yakisoba as well as a restaurant and dinner buffet. If you need to do any very very very last minute or even post Christmas shopping, there will also be booths selling handicrafts and household goods.