



PLANT GUIDE

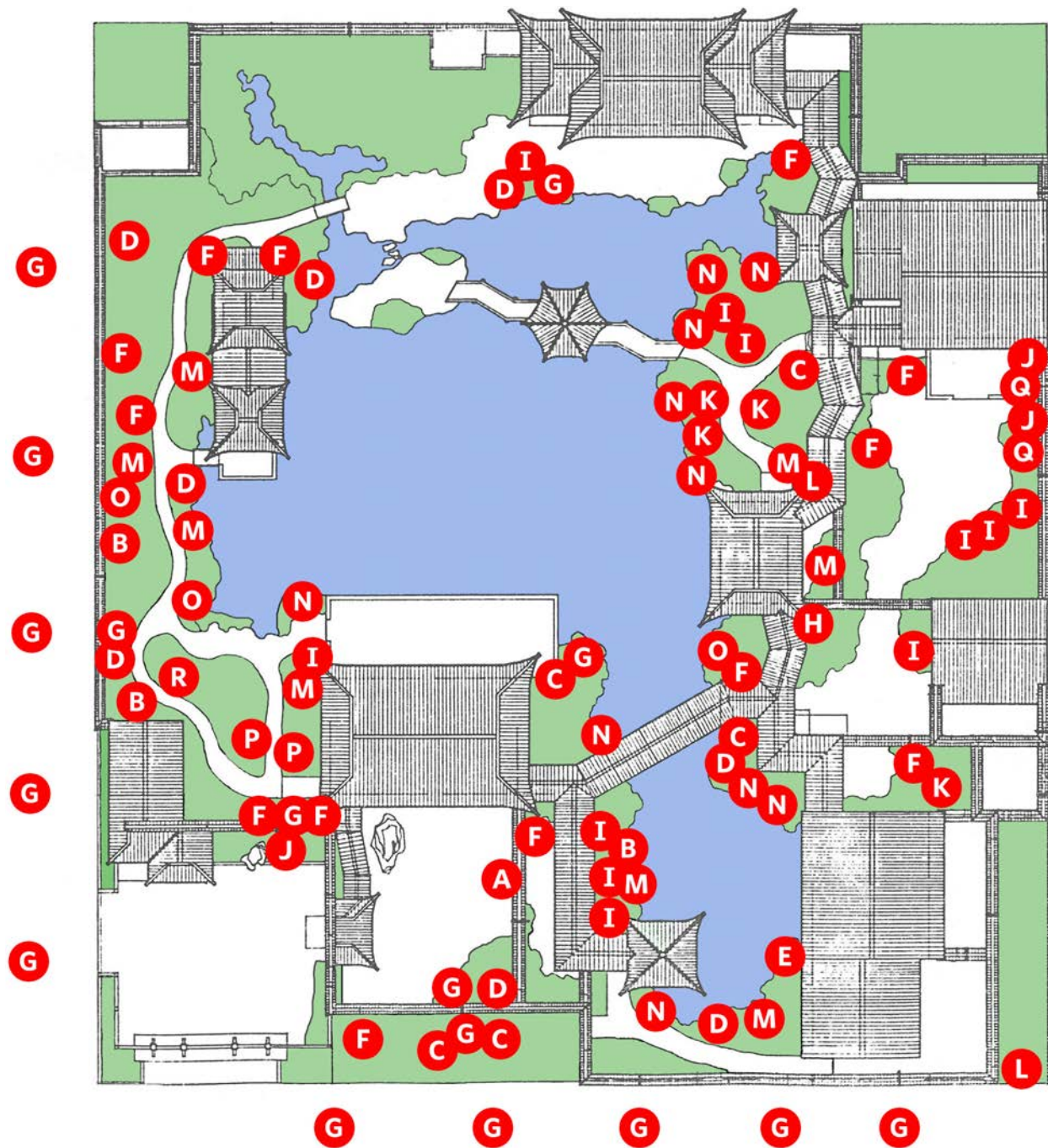
Spring



China is home to more than 30,000 plant species – one-eighth of the world’s total. At Lan Su, visitors can enjoy hundreds of these plants, many of which have a rich symbolic and cultural history in China. This guide is a selected look at some of Lan Su’s current favorites.



Please return this guide to the Garden Host at the entrance when your visit is over.



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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| A Clematis | G Magnolia* | M Rhododendron* |
| B Chinese Paper Bush | H Lushan Honeysuckle | N Winter Jasmine |
| C Winter Daphne | I Peony* | O Kerria |
| D Chinese Fringe Flower | J Chinese Plum | P Bergenia |
| E Forsythia | K Quince | Q Iris |
| F Camellia* | L Crabapple | R Corydalis |

* For a complete list of these species, please request a master species list at the entrance. It is also available online at WWW.LANSUGARDEN.ORG/PLANTS

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Spring



CLEMATIS

A

(*Clematis armandii* 'Appleblossom',
C. fasciculiflora)

C. armandii is native to China. Look for the soft-pink, lightly fragrant 'Apple Blossom' cultivar above the moon gate. *C. fasciculiflora* is a rare Chinese species with small, fragrant white flowers. Its young foliage has distinctive, silver center stripes.



FORSYTHIA

E

(*Forsythia x intermedia* 'Lynwood Gold')

Long cultivated in Chinese gardens, forsythia has become popular in gardens throughout the world. Cut branches can be forced to bloom early, when brought indoors.



CHINESE PAPER BUSH

B

(*Edgeworthia* 'Red Dragon', *E. chrysantha*)

Native to China, this deciduous shrub is a relative of sweet Daphne. In winter, frosty silver buds open to clusters of intoxicatingly fragrant, golden-yellow or orange flowers. The Chinese made paper from this plant by pounding flat the stems and bark.



CAMELLIA

F

(*Camellia japonica* 'Drama Girl') For additional camellia varieties, see the Master Species List

The camellia has long been a favorite garden plant in China. The ornamental species frequently used in traditional Chinese gardens were *C. japonica*, *C. reticulata* and *C. sasanqua*. The Chinese were cultivating camellias at least as early as the 11th century.



WINTER DAPHNE

C

(*Daphne* 'Aureomarginata', *D. odora*)

This evergreen shrub explodes with clusters of pink flowers in winter that have a rich, orange blossom-like scent. The original Chinese name for this plant is "sleeping scent". Legend has it that a monk fell asleep beneath the cliffs of the ancient Lu Mountain. There he dreamt of an impossibly sweet fragrance, only to awake and find himself next to this sweetly fragrant plant.



MAGNOLIA

G

(*Magnolia x soulangiana*) For additional magnolia varieties, see the Master Species List

China is home to more magnolia species than any other country. Certain species have been cultivated for well over a thousand years. Look for their white and pink blooms on bare branches throughout the garden.



CHINESE FRINGE FLOWER

D

(*Loropetalum chinensis*, *Loropetalum* 'Snow Dance')

This evergreen shrub is in the witch hazel family. Lan Su has several purple-leaved specimens whose magenta flowers provide bright color in spring and summer. An additional green-leaved specimen with white flowers sits along the pond edge in front of the teahouse.



LUSHAN HONEYSUCKLE

H

(*Lonicera modesta* var. *lushanensis*)

This deciduous to semi-evergreen shrub produces tubular white flowers that run the length of vigorous, vine-like branches during winter. Its sweet and fresh fragrance can be detected even on cold, rainy spring days.



PEONY

I

(*Peony* 'Gauguin') For additional peony varieties, see the Master Species List

The peony has been cultivated in China for millennia. Early uses were purely medicinal yet by the seventh century, its large, colorful fragrant blooms were highly sought after. Different from herbaceous peonies, Lan Su has several "tree peonies" or shrubs with woody tissue.



WINTER JASMINE

N

(*Jasminum nudiflorum*)

Look for this plant along the water's edge where its yellow flowers cascade down over the rocks. Blooming during the coldest time of year, this hardy jasmine is also a valuable food source for the hummingbirds that visit the garden year round.



CHINESE PLUM

J

(*Prunus mume*, *P. mume* 'Kobai', *P. mume* 'Alba')

One of the most culturally significant plants in China, *P. mume* is one of the "Three Friends of Winter" (along with pine and bamboo) given its ability to flower in the coldest months. The flower's five petals can also represent the five blessings of longevity, health, wealth, love of virtue and a natural death.



KERRIA

O

(*Kerria* 'Pleniflora' & *Kerria* 'Golden Guinea')

Native to China, this reliable spring bloomer has brilliant golden yellow flowers running the length of arching, bright green, cane-like branches.



QUINCE

K

(*Chaenomeles japonica* 'Atsuya Hamada')

Quince have long been grown in Chinese gardens and are also used in *penjing*, Chinese miniature potted landscapes. Collected in the wild by Northwest plantsman, Roy Davidson, 'Atsuya Hamada' has deep red flowers that are translucent when backlit by the setting sun.



BERGENIA

P

(*Bergenia emeiensis* 'Snow Chimes')

A relatively new introduction from China, this perennial is native to the cliffs of Sichuan province. It's shade-loving and evergreen with bell-like white flowers.



CRABAPPLE

L

(*Malus* 'Prairie Fire', *M. floribunda*)

Crabapples have been used in Chinese gardens for over 1,000 years. Our ornamental species produce red berries but are most admired for their five-petaled blossoms and zig-zag branches. Poets and painters since the seventh century have admired this plant as a symbol of feminine beauty.



IRIS

Q

(*Iris confusa* 'Martyn Rix')

Native to China, this unusual iris has foliage borne on bamboo-like stems and small orchid-like, purple blooms. Not reliably hardy, these iris survive our winters thanks to the walled, protective environment of the garden.

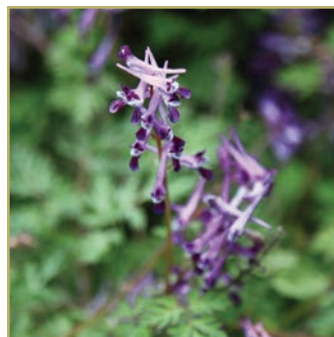


RHODODENDRON

M

(*Rhododendron oreotrephes*) For additional Rhododendron varieties, see the Master Species List

Its common name in Chinese is associated with the 'rooster'. An ancient poem links the bird's seasonal singing with the rhododendron's springtime bloom. Find stunning examples of colorful hybrids and species rhododendrons flowering throughout April and May.



CORYDALIS

R

(*Corydalis* 'Blackberry Wine')

A recent introduction from China, this herbaceous perennial makes an attractive groundcover with delicate, fernlike foliage. Purple, fragrant flowers appear in late spring and continue until mid-summer. After a short period of dormancy it can re-bloom in autumn.

Do you have a question about a specific plant? Email Lan Su's Horticulture department at info@lansugarden.org for more information.