



1 LIBRARY & SOUTH TERRACES

The terraces provided the Vanderbilts and their guests a convenient setting near the house for relaxation and fresh air. Originally designed with a bowling green, the South Terrace provides spectacular views while the Library Terrace is shaded by an arbor of wisteria and trumpet creeper vines.

2 ITALIAN GARDEN

The Italian Garden features classical statuary and three formal water gardens. Designed for quiet moments of reflection, this area also hosted tennis and croquet matches on the lawn near the house. In warm weather, koi and goldfish swim in the pools among giant water lilies, lotus, and papyrus.

3 SHRUB GARDEN

A path leads you through the Shrub Garden, notable for two N.C. State Champion Trees: the golden rain tree and river birch. Olmsted's design included more than 500 different varieties of ornamental shrubs, trees, and other plants that were popular

in the 1890s. Other prominent trees include notable specimens of Japanese cutleaf maples and a purple leaf European beech. *Shrub Garden Path:* 1/3 mile loop; easy walking

4 SPRING GARDEN

This sheltered valley is surrounded by a grove of white pines and hemlocks. It is filled with an array of spring blooming shrubs including forsythia, spirea, deutzia, and mock orange. Spring Garden Trail:

1/4 mile loop; moderate walking

5 WALLED GARDEN

This four-acre formal garden features flowerbeds planted in the "bedding out" style popular in the late 1800s. Two arbors totaling 236 feet serve as its spine. The central beds feature thousands of tulips in the spring, vivid summer annuals, and a kaleidoscope of mums in the fall. Themed areas include a Victorian border, winter border, scented border, butterfly garden, and white border.

6 ROSE GARDEN

This garden features heirloom roses and historically inspired rose displays, plus a selection of varieties that are undergoing trial. Each two-year trial includes up to 40 varieties which are judged on length of bloom, fragrance, disease resistance, and landscape versatility.

7 CONSERVATORY

Designed by architect Richard Morris Hunt, this glass-roofed building nurtures exotic orchids, ferns, and palms. During the Vanderbilts' time, it provided flowers and plants for Biltmore House.

8 AZALEA GARDEN

This 15-acre garden is the estate's largest and contains one of the country's finest selections of native azaleas. It represents 60 years of work by Chauncey Beadle, an avid azalea collector and horticulturist hired at Biltmore in 1890 who later became the estate's superintendent.

Also notable are the evergreen firs: spruces, pines, cedars, and Katsura

trees that display brilliant foliage and a distinctive "cotton candy" fragrance in autumn.

Azalea Garden Path:

1/3 mile from Conservatory to

Bass Pond; moderate walking

Woodland Trail:

1/2 mile loop; moderate walking

9 BASS POND & BOAT HOUSE

Frederick Law Olmsted created this water feature by greatly enlarging an old creek-fed millpond. A rustic boat house provided rest for the Vanderbilts' guests enjoying the gardens, and housed rowboats for fishing or exploring the pond. Be sure to notice the many species of birds that abound on nearby trails. Bass Pond Path:

1/2 mile loop; easy walking

Meadow Trail:

1/4 mile loop; moderate walking

Creekside Trail:

Your visit continues at Antler Hill Village & Winery

1/4 mile loop; easy walking