



THE GARDENS OF CENTRAL PARK

Oasis of the Seas and Allure of the Seas go green with their tranquil and tropical landscaped park

MIAMI – The most verdant of the seven neighborhoods aboard *Oasis of the Seas* and *Allure of the Seas*, Central Park is a gardener's dream and a breath of fresh air for anyone who appreciates natural beauty. From towering Cuban laurel and Black Olive to clusters of calla lilies and rabbit foot ferns, the park's collection of plants is a mix of coastal and highland sub-tropical species from around the world that is well suited to thrive on *Oasis of the Seas* and *Allure of the Seas'* Caribbean itineraries.

A series of columns interlaced with vines is just one of the welcoming entry points into Central Park, and is elegantly landscaped with tropical foliage and seasonal flowers, shrubs and trees. Drifts of calla lilies among giant elephant ears, red ginger, rabbit foot ferns, banana croton, gold dust dracaena, and butterfly lily are some of the plant life guests discover. Impressive 'green walls' spanning 25 feet and five decks high hosts fern and a variety of flowering vines such as red and white Mandevilla, Clerodendron thomsaoniae, and Thumbergia grandiflora. The park also has changing displays of accent plants, such as birds of paradise and Spathoglottis ground orchids. Trees, some eventually reaching more than two-and-a-half decks high, include cherry of the rio grande, podocarpus nagi, and amstel king ficus.

The Park's horticulturalists also offers great educational opportunities for kids and parents alike, sharing general gardening techniques and providing lessons on the distinctive and unusual ecology of Caribbean plants. Identification labels offer interesting facts such as the plant's origin and its medicinal or agricultural use.

Drawing on the concept of surprise, garden spaces throughout Central Park emerge from charming pathways. The Pergola Garden is a unique plant garden, featuring tendrils of flowering bleeding heart entwined through the overhead trellis. The Sculpture Garden integrates artwork from international artists and unique plantings, while sweet olive trees frame a cozy area to sit and enjoy a view of the Park. The middle pathway transports guests over a bridge spanning a 'river of plants' and past a series of special gardens, restaurants and cafés, as well as boutique shops, and on to the central square, lined with lacey black olive trees.

Guests can savor the tranquility of the custom-designed green space, but behind the scenes, Mother Nature had a little help. The horticulturists, architects, designers and engineers, all teamed up to design Central Park, including creating a custom-designed irrigation and drainage systems and micro-climate control techniques. Atkins Global of Surrey, England served as the lead design architects of Central Park, and the landscape architects were The Waterfield Design Group of Winchester, Mass. and Wilson Butler Associates of Boston. And the results are a beautiful thing.

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[Allure of the Seas](#) shares the title of the world's largest and most revolutionary cruise ship with sister-ship *Oasis of the Seas*. With a cache of distinct new onboard activities and amenities, *Allure of the Seas* offers one-of-a-kind entertainment performances, culinary concepts, retail venues and technology innovations. An architectural marvel at sea, *Allure's* neighborhoods are divided into seven distinct themed areas, which include Central Park, Boardwalk, the Royal Promenade, the Pool and Sports Zone, Vitality at Sea Spa and Fitness Center, Entertainment Place and Youth Zone. She spans 16 decks, encompasses 225,282 gross registered tons, carries 5,400 guests at double occupancy, and features 2,700 staterooms. *Allure of the Seas* alternates a Western Caribbean with an Eastern Caribbean seven-night itinerary from her home port of Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Additional information is available at www.AllureoftheSeas.com.

Royal Caribbean International is a global cruise brand with 22 ships currently in service. The line also offers unique cruisetour land packages in Alaska, Dubai, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and South America. For additional information or to make reservations, call your travel agent, visit www.royalcaribbean.com or call (800) ROYALCARIBBEAN. Travel professionals should visit www.cruisingpower.com or call (800) 327-2056.

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