



School Group & Field Trip Policies

We welcome organized School Groups and Field Trips

October 15 - April 15 only

(no school field trips accepted after April 16)

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and based on availability

For Reservations: Group Services 250-652-4422 or groupres@butchartgardens.com

Visits restricted to **maximum 2 hours**

Maximum group size **60 students**

Chaperone requirement **1 adult per 10 students**

Based on the 1:10 ratio we will provide complimentary chaperone admission

This policy must be distributed to all accompanying teachers and chaperones prior to visit.

The Butchart Gardens welcomes visitors from around the world who come to enjoy the splendor and tranquility of The Gardens. Please remember we are a Private Display Garden and **not a playground or park**. It is important for all students and chaperones to understand our expectations; appropriate behavior is expected otherwise your group may be asked to leave.

- ✓ The chaperone's role is to manage & supervise their group while on property.
- ✓ Administrators, teachers, and chaperones will be provided with identification badges which are to be displayed at all times while in The Gardens. Please return badges prior to departure.
- ✓ Groups must break up into smaller units of 10 or less prior to entering through the turnstiles. Each smaller group must be accompanied by an adult chaperone.
- ✓ Stagger each group through the entrance and maintain adequate spacing between each group throughout The Gardens.
- ✓ Chaperones must remain with their group at all times during the visit (*this includes the gift shop, restaurants & carousel areas*).
- ✓ The Gardens' Etiquette (*attached*):
 - » Groups must be courteous and respectful of all visitors.
 - » Talk quietly to maintain the tranquility of The Gardens.
 - » NO backpacks permitted in The Gardens except for medical reasons.
 - » NO outside meals to be consumed in The Gardens. (Small snacks are permitted in designated areas only, coordinated in advance). Water fountains are located throughout for your convenience.
 - » No blocking of pathways or congregating in public squares is permitted. Walk and remain on the paths at all times. Do not climb on statues or other garden fixtures or in flower beds. No running, no catching or throwing games.
 - » Music, musical instruments, and performances of any kind are not permitted.
 - » Groups are not permitted to participate in scavenger hunts as they are too disruptive to other visitors.

Thank you for cooperation to ensure all visitors enjoy their time at The Butchart Gardens.

Visit our [website](http://www.butchartgardens.com) for more information



Garden Etiquette

Our Garden Etiquette ensures the enjoyment and safety of visitors and provides a tranquil atmosphere for all while visiting The Butchart Gardens. We reserve the right to deny entry or remove any person(s) acting in contravention of these rules. Thank you for your cooperation.

- All persons on Butchart Gardens' property must follow the direction of staff.
- **SELFIE STICKS ARE NOT PERMITTED.** Photography is welcome, but should not interfere with the enjoyment of other visitors; do not block pathways with tripods.
- Smoking and Vaping are not permitted anywhere on the premises.
- Visitors must conduct themselves in a respectful manner; obscene language or clothing, abusive behaviour or violence will not be tolerated and may result in removal from The Gardens.
- Youths must be supervised, and children must remain directly at your side and under control at all times.
- By pre-arrangement through our Group Services Department, chaperones responsible for the care and control of child and youth groups may be provided with complimentary admission.
- Wheelchairs and children's strollers are available for a small refundable deposit at the Information Centre; do not mistreat or use these items for any other purpose.
- Visitors with wider than average wheelchairs, mobility scooters, or strollers must be patient and use extra caution as certain areas may not be easily accessible.
- Costumes/Cosplay of any type, including historic or period dress, masks or attire that may create a distraction are not permitted as they could be mistaken for entertainers or interpreters hired by The Gardens and could detract from the experience of other visitors. Insurance and security considerations require strict adherence to this policy.
- Wedding parties, wedding photos, ceremonies or clothing resembling wedding attire are not permitted in The Gardens, except as authorized during our Wedding Season, January 16 - March 15.
- Quiet voices are expected in all areas of The Gardens.
- Please stay on paths and be respectful of our plants; do not pick flowers or fruit, or step in flower beds.
- No alcohol is allowed on the premises; our restaurants will be pleased to serve you.
- Only B.C. Certified Guide & Service dogs are permitted in restaurants and Seed & Gift Store.
- Pets are not permitted inside The Gardens during our Christmas season between the hours of 3:00pm and 8:00pm; please check website for dates. At all other times of the year pets are welcome to visit provided they are kept on a short leash, directly at your side and under control at all times. You are expected to clean up after your pet.

The following are prohibited while visiting The Gardens,

- Throwing, catching or kicking games, running or jogging.
- Wheeled-shoes, rollerblades, bicycles, scooters, skateboards or other wheeled recreational devices.
- Segways.
- Use of drones or kites.
- Music or unauthorized musical performances.
- Use of flashes for photographing or filming our Firework Shows.
- Distribution of any outside literature.
- Dispersal of ashes.
- Use of BBQ's of any kind.

The Butchart Gardens