



## Tulip Library



### Introduction

The Tulip Library is a display garden showcasing nearly 100 varieties of tulips. A popular site for photographers and picnickers, the Library offers a splash of vibrant color amidst the hustle and bustle of downtown Washington, DC.

### Origins

Centuries ago, the tulip graced the royal courts of Turkey, and it is from this part of the world that the tulip originally came to Europe. The origin of the word tulip is unknown, but may have derived from “dulband” which meant turban in Turkish and somewhat described the shape of the flower. Its introduction into Europe dates back to 1554 and is attributed to a Flemish diplomat who, after visiting the court of Sultan Soliman, The Magnificent, dispatched bulbs to Vienna. Over a period of years, the tulip moved in successive stages throughout Europe where it captured the fancy of gardeners, naturalists and apothecaries.

By the year 1600, tulip bulbs had been experimented with as a source of food and medicine, but were found to be failures for such purposes. They quickly became the favorites of garden hobbyists and most of

the modern garden tulips are the result of extensive horticultural breeding and selection begun by European gardeners during the latter half of the sixteenth century. Nowhere did the tulip find a permanent home as it did in the Netherlands, a land below sea level. The Dutch found ways to drain their fields for tulip culture, adapting their wet environment to the needs of tulips, whose native habitat is rocky mountainsides. Tulips probably came to America with the earliest settlers.

The Dutch made the tulip the cornerstone of an industry that has lasted over 350 years and today ranks first and foremost in the production of tulips. Today there are over 3,000 registered cultivars, but only some 400 are popular amongst gardeners and available commercially.

### Care

The Tulip Library, created in 1969, is located near the Tidal Basin at Independence Avenue and Maine Avenue. Each fall gardeners from the National Park Service prepare the floral beds for hand-planting over 10,000 tulip bulbs flown in from Holland. After blooming the bulbs are removed, and the beds are prepared for planting a display of annuals. In order to achieve uniform results in flower size, height and blooming period, new tulip bulbs are imported from the Netherlands and planted each year. Please refrain from picking the tulips so others may enjoy them.

The National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, maintains the Tulip Library. Address all inquiries to: Superintendent, National Mall & Memorial Parks, 900 Ohio Drive SW, Washington, DC 20024-2000. To learn more about National Mall & Memorial Parks, visit [www.nps.gov/nama](http://www.nps.gov/nama).

# Map for the 2007 Tulip Library Class and Cultivar in each Bed

- |                                    |                                     |                                    |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Triumph - Prominence             | 32 Lilyflowered - Lilac Time        | 63 Triumph - Peerless Pink         |
| 2 Triumph - Purissima              | 33 Greigii - Oriental Splendor      | 64 Single Late - Maureen           |
| 3 Kaufmanniana - Show Winner       | 34 Triumph - Violet Beauty          | 65 Single Late - Avignon           |
| 4 Greigii - Color Parade           | 35 Double Early - Monte Carlo       | 66 Lilyflowered - Ballade          |
| 5 Kaufmanniana - Fritz Kreisler    | 36 Gregii - Elise                   | 67 Double Peony - Crème Upstar     |
| 6 Fosteriana - Yellow Purissima    | 37 Triumph - Attila                 | 68 Triumph - Rosalie               |
| 7 Lilyflowered - Maytime           | 38 Botanical - Tulipa Saxatilis     | 69 Double Peony - Lilac Perfection |
| 8 Triumph - Madame Lefeber         | 39 Greigii - Plaisir                | 70 Darwin Hybrid - Apeldoorn       |
| 9 Triumph - Early Glory            | 40 Fosteriana - Oxford Red          | 71 Single Late - Sorbet            |
| 10 Single Late - Pandion           | 41 Parrot - Black Parrot            | 72 Darwin Hybrid - Parade          |
| 11 Lilyflowered - Queen of Sheba   | 42 Lilyflowered - Mariette          | 73 Single Late - Judith Leyster    |
| 12 Lilyflowered - Moonshine        | 43 Greigii - Toronto                | 74 Gregii - Red Riding Hood        |
| 13 Triumph - New Design            | 44 Single Early - Yokohama          | 75 Parrot - Texas Gold             |
| 14 Fosteriana - Juan               | 45 Darwin Hybrid - Golden Parade    | 76 Darwin Hybrid - Banja Luka      |
| 15 Kaufmanniana - Ancilla          | 46 Triumph - Inzell                 | 77 Darwin Hybrid - Jewel of Spring |
| 16 Gregii - Pinocchio              | 47 Kaufmanniana - Hearts Delight    | 78 Fringed - Fringed Elegance      |
| 17 Fosteriana - Orange Emperor     | 48 Kaufmanniana - Stresa            | 79 Triumph - Washington            |
| 18 Darwin Hybrid - Juliette        | 49 Triumph - Apricot Beauty         | 80 Triumph - Sunray                |
| 19 Darwin Hybrid - Pink Impression | 50 Gregii - Golden Day              | 81 Parrot - Apricot Parrot         |
| 20 Triumph - Maxassar              | 51 Fringed - Fancy Frills           | 82 Triumph - Don Quichotte         |
| 21 Double Early - Angelique        | 52 Single Late - Dreamland          | 83 Darwin Hybrid - Orange Sun      |
| 22 Lilyflowered - China Pink       | 53 Darwin Hybrid - Gordon Cooper    | 84 Darwin Hybrid - Burning Heart   |
| 23 Darwin Hybrid - Gudoshnick      | 54 Double Early - Montreux          | 85 Parrot - Blue Parrot            |
| 24 Greigii - Royal Splendor        | 55 Fosteriana - Golden Melody       | 86 Parrot - White Parrot           |
| 25 Kaufmanniana - Waterlily        | 56 Parrot - Flaming Parrot          | 87 Single Early - Flair            |
| 26 Gregii - Oratorio               | 57 Lilyflowered - White Triumphator | 88 Single Early - Princess Irene   |
| 27 Single Late - Renown            | 58 Lilyflowered - West Point        | 89 Triumph - Dreaming Maid         |
| 28 Triumph - Yellow Present        | 59 Single Late - Queen of Night     | 90 Triumph - White Dream           |
| 29 Single Early - Christmas Marvel | 60 Lilyflowered - Elegant Lady      | 91 Single Late - Cashmir           |
| 30 Fosteriana - Sweetheart         | 61 Gregii - Pink Emperor            | 92 Parrot - Texas Flame            |
| 31 Triumph - Page Polka            | 62 Triumph - Ted Turner             | 93 Viridiflora - Golden Artist     |

