

Botanic Gardens

Points of interest

The Lord Kelvin Statue was erected in 1912 and commemorates the famous Belfast born physicist who created the absolute zero temperature scale.

The Tropical Ravine was originally constructed between 1887 and 1889 by Charles McKimm, Curator of the gardens, and his staff. It is home to a collection of exotic species growing in a sunken glen.

The herbaceous borders are the longest of their type in the country. They look their most beautiful in the summer months, however the bamboo and grasses provide year round interest.

The Palm House is a striking feature within Botanic Gardens. It was designed by Charles Lanyon and built between 1838 and 1852. It contains collections of tropical plants arranged in a cool wing, a stove wing and the higher central dome. The plants have not changed much from the Victorian era.

0.8 miles, 1.3 km, circular

Starting at the Lord Kelvin statue on the Stranmillis Road entrance, follow the path to the right. Pass the front of the Ulster Museum and continue past the Tropical Ravine. From here, turn left then right and continue straight ahead to the herbaceous borders. Follow the path along the top border and then back along the lower path until you reach a low wall with a set of steps which leads through to the centre of the Rose

Garden. Follow the pathway through the Rose Garden until it reaches the main pathway through the park. Turn right, then left and follow this path past the bowling green and Queen's PEC. Continue to follow this path uphill and continue past the main lawn on your left. At the three-way junction, take the middle path which passes the Palm House. Follow this path straight ahead to arrive at your starting point.

