

One&Only

ROYAL MIRAGE

Dubai

YOUR GUIDE TO THE
FLORA & FAUNA
IN OUR GARDENS



HERBS

Grown in our herb garden



MINT

Mint is a perennial with very fragrant, toothed leaves and tiny purple, pink, or white flowers. It has a fruity, aromatic taste. Although native to more temperate areas of the world mint has naturalized and can be grown in many places.



CORIANDER

Coriander, also known as Cilantro, is an annual herb in the family Apiaceae. All parts of the plant are edible, but the fresh leaves and the dried seeds (as a spice) are the parts most traditionally used in cooking.



BASIL

Basil, is a culinary herb native to tropical regions from central Africa to Southeast Asia. It is a tender plant and is used in cuisines worldwide.



ROSEMARY

“*Salvia Rosmarinus*”, commonly known as rosemary, is a shrub with fragrant, evergreen, needle-like leaves and white, pink, purple, or blue flowers, native to the Mediterranean region. It is used as a condiment, perfumes, and for its potential health benefits.



PARSLEY

Garden parsley is a bright green, biennial plant in temperate climates, or an annual herb in subtropical and tropical areas.

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THYME

Thyme is a low-growing hardy perennial, herb with small, fragrant leaves and thin, woody stems. The culinary varieties are evergreen. Thyme comes in over fifty varieties with different fragrances and flavors. Fresh or English thyme are used most often in cooking. Thyme is also pollinator-friendly and attracts the bees.



SAGE

Sage "*Salvia officinalis*" is a perennial, evergreen subshrub, with woody stems, grayish leaves, and blue to purplish flowers. Originally from the Mediterranean area, this herb is drought-friendly so it doesn't have high watering needs.



WATERCRESS

Watercress is a species of aquatic flowering plant in the cabbage family. Watercress is a rapidly growing, perennial plant, and is one of the oldest known leaf vegetables consumed by humans.



RUCOLA

Also known as Arugula or Rocket, is known for its pungent and peppery flavours. Since Roman times in Italy, raw rocket has been added to salads. It is often added to a pizza at the end of or just after baking.



POURPIER

Pourpier, is most commonly eaten as a leaf vegetable, raw. Also known as Purslane, it is best eaten young, when it is very tasty, with a spongy consistency and a slightly acidulated and tangy taste.

FLOWERS

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FLEUR DE TAGETES

Tagetes is a genus of annual or perennial, mostly herbaceous plants. They are among several groups of plants known in English as marigolds. The flowers are edible, and also one of the most well-known plant for repelling insects naturally.



MECONOPSIS

Meconopsis is a genus of nearly 80 species of often short-lived, flowering just once. They are best known as 'blue poppies' with large saucer-shaped flowers but many have attractive leaf rosettes



BORAGE

Borage, also known as a starflower, is an annual herb, native to the Mediterranean. Its leaves, flowers and stalks are edible and taste a little like cucumber. It is often grown as a flower in vegetable gardens where it attracts pollinating bees.



CALENDULA

Calendula is a genus of annual and perennial herbaceous plants in the daisy family historically used for medicinal and culinary the petals are edible and can be used fresh in salads or dried and used to color cheese or as a substitute for saffron.



SUNFLOWER

Sunflowers are most commonly cultivated as ornamentals for their spectacular size and flower heads and for their edible seeds. The movement of sunflowers through heliotropism happens as the sunflower follows the sun.



FLEUR DE COSMOS

Cosmos are annual flowers with colorful daisy-like flowers that sit atop long slender stems. The petals are edible and can be used fresh in salads, attract pollinating bees. Cosmos flowers can tolerate warm, dry weather and are even drought-tolerant.

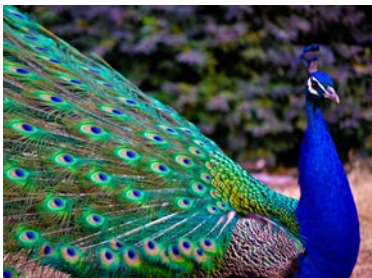
BIRDS



COMMON MYNA

Acridotheres tristis

The Common or Indian Myna (also Mynah) is an Asian native. An omnivorous open woodland bird with a strong territorial instinct, the myna has adapted extremely well to urban environments. Readily identified by a mid-brown body, black hooded head and bare yellow patch behind the eye, with bright yellow bill and legs.



PEAFOWL

Pavo cristatus

These large, ground-living birds are from the same family as turkeys and can reach up to 6kg (13.2lb) in weight. The mature male (peacock) bird is renowned for its brilliant blue plumage, and particularly its magnificent fan-like tail. Females (peahen) and round males show a more muted, mottled brown and green plumage.



BLUETHROAT

Luscinia svecica

A small passerine bird, similar in size to the European robin. Plain brown above, except for a distinctive black tail with red side patches, the male has an iridescent blue bib edged with black, white and rust-coloured borders. Females have a black crescent on an otherwise cream throat and breast.



PURPLE SUNBIRD

Cinnyris asiaticus

Small and nimble, sunbirds can often be seen taking nectar from ground flowers by hovering like a hummingbird. Males may appear all black until a change of light reveals a vivid purple iridescence. Females are olive above and yellowish below. Usually seen in pairs or small groups, although flocks of up to 40 or 50 individuals have been recorded.

BIRDS



EURASIAN HOOPOE

Upupa epops

A medium-sized bird with a distinctive head crest, the hoopoe can often be seen grubbing for insects on lawns and in shrubbery. Its distinctive oop-oop-oop call may give rise to both its English and scientific names, although some believe it was derived from the French name for the bird – huppée, or “crested”.



INDIAN ROLLER

Coracias benghalensis

A stocky, delicately coloured bird with a brownish breast, pale blue crest and sky blue tail, and green to purplish primary feathers. Often seen perched in trees and on roadside communication wires, or in open grassland, the roller is well known for its impressive aerobatic displays during the breeding season.



PIED MYNA

Gracupica contra

Strikingly marked in black and white with a yellowish bill, reddish bill base and has reddish skin around the eye. Usually spotted in small groups, foraging mainly on the ground, or perching on trees and buildings. A member of the starling family, both males and females sing, with a wide repertoire that includes whistles, trills, buzzes, clicks and warbles.



ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

The rose-ringed parakeet, is a medium-sized parrot native to Africa and South Asia, although they can also be found in certain parts of Europe. Both sexes have a distinctive green colour in the wild, and have multiple colour mutations including blue, violet and yellow. However, only the male sports the distinctive black neck ring with rose-pink collar. These parakeets measure on average 40 cm (16 in) in length, including the tail feathers, a large portion of their total length.

BIRDS



GREY PARTRIDGE

The grey partridge, also known as the English partridge, Hungarian partridge, or hun, is a gamebird in the pheasant family Phasianidae of the order Galliformes, gallinaceous birds. The scientific name is the Latin for “partridge”, and is itself derived from Ancient Greek perdx.



BAY-BACKED SHRIKE

The bay-backed shrike is a member of the bird family Laniidae, the shrikes, resident in South Asia.



INDIAN CROW

Corvus splendens

Corvus splendens originated in Asia but is now commonly found across the world thanks to the global shipping trade. With its rich glossy black head, throat and grey-brown neck and breast, along with its slim profile, it is easily differentiated from the bulkier, single-coloured carrion crow (*C. corone*).



SOCOTRA CORMORANT

The Socotra cormorant is a threatened species of cormorant that is endemic to the Persian Gulf and the south-east coast of the Arabian Peninsula. It is also sometimes known as the Socotran cormorant or, more rarely, as the Socotran shag. Individuals occasionally migrate as far west as the Red Sea coast.



SAKER FALCON

Falco cherrug

One of the larger members of the falcon family, the Saker reaches 45-57cm (18-22in) in length with a wingspan of 97-126cm (38-50in). Males and females are similarly coloured, with grey-streaked brown plumage, with young birds appearing darker. Their call is a sharp kiy-ee or a repeated kyak-kyak-kyak.

FLOWERS



PLUMERIA

Plumeria is a genus of flowering plants in the dogbane family, Apocynaceae. Most species are deciduous shrubs or small trees. The species variously are indigenous to Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, and as far south as Brazil and north as Florida, but are grown as cosmopolitan ornamentals in warm regions.



COPPERLEAF

Acalypha wilkesiana

A popular outdoor plant that provides colour throughout the year. The leaves are coppery green with red splashes, giving them a mottled appearance. Separate male and female flowers appear on the same plant.



HIBISCUS

Hibiscus describes a range of flowering plants of the mallow family which are widely cultivated for their colourful petals. Its flowers are large and trumpet-shaped, with five or more petals, and are coloured from white to pink, red, orange, peach, yellow or purple.



ALTERNANTHERA

Alternanthera is a genus of flowering plants in the amaranth family, Amaranthaceae. Plants of the genus may be known generally as joyweeds, or Joseph's coat. These are annual or perennial herbs or subshrubs.



BOUGAINVILLEA

A common genus of thorny ornamental vines, bushes, and trees, bougainvillea can be identified by its small, brightly coloured flowers.



COCCOLOBA

Coccoloba is a genus of about 120 – 150 species of flowering plants in the family Polygonaceae. The genus is native to tropical and subtropical regions of the Americas, in South America, the Caribbean and Central America, with two species extending into Florida.

PLANTS AND TREES



CARISSA

Carissa macrocarpa is a shrub native to South Africa. It is commonly known as the Natal plum and, in South Africa, the large num-num. In Zulu, as well as in the Bantu tribes of Uganda, it is called Amathungulu or umThungulu oBomvu.



DESERT ROSE

The desert rose (*Adenium obesum*) is a species of flowering plant in the dogbane family, Apocynaceae, that is native to the Sahel regions, south of the Sahara (from Mauritania and Senegal to Sudan), and tropical and subtropical eastern and southern Africa and Arabia.



FICUS AMSTEL

This ficus variety has long, banana-shaped leaves. The large, leathery, fast-growing foliage has a lush tropical appeal. This plant has similar growth habits to *Ficus ali*, but has many wider, thicker and somewhat larger leaves.



FICUS ELASTICA

Ficus elastica, the rubber fig, rubber bush, rubber tree, rubber plant, or Indian rubber bush, Indian rubber tree, is a species of plant in the fig genus, native to eastern parts of South Asia and southeast Asia. It has become naturalized in Sri Lanka, the West Indies, and the US State of Florida.



WASHINGTONIA

Washingtonia is a genus of palms, native to the southwestern United States. Both *Washingtonia* species are commonly cultivated across the Southern United States, the Middle East, southern Europe, and north Africa, where they have greatly hybridized.



DATE PALM TREES

Phoenix dactylifera, commonly known as date or date palm, is a flowering plant species in the palm family, Arecaceae, cultivated for its edible sweet fruit.

PLANTS AND TREES



PANDANUS

Pandanus is a genus of monocots with some 750 accepted species. They are palm-like, dioecious trees and shrubs native to the Old World tropics and subtropics. Common names include pandan, screw palm, and screw pine. They are classified in the order Pandanales, family Pandanaceae.



CONOCARPUS ERECTUS

Conocarpus erectus, commonly called buttonwood or button mangrove, is a mangrove shrub in the family Combretaceae. This species grows on shorelines in tropical and subtropical regions around the world.



TERMINALIA CATAPPA

Terminalia catappa is a large tropical tree in the leadwood tree family, Combretaceae, that grows mainly in the tropical regions of Asia, Africa, and Australia. Common names in English include country almond, Indian almond, Malabar almond, sea almond, tropical almond and beach almond.



MANILA PALM

Adonidia is a monotypic genus of flowering plants in the Arecaceae family. It consists of one species, the Manila Palm (*Adonidia merrillii*, synonyms, *Normanbya merrillii* Becc. and *Veitchia merrillii* (Becc.) H.E.Moore).



COCONUT PALM TREE

The coconut tree is a member of the palm tree family and the only known living species of the genus *Cocos*. The term "coconut" can refer to the whole coconut palm, the seed, or the fruit, which botanically is a drupe, not a nut.



SANSEVIERIA

Sansevieria is a genus of about 70 species of flowering plants, native to Africa, Madagascar and southern Asia. Common names include mother-in-law's tongue, devil's tongue, jinn's tongue, bow string hemp, snake plant and snake tongue.

GREEN ZONE

ONE&ONLY ROYAL MIRAGE IS HOME TO PERHAPS THE MOST EXTENSIVE GARDEN LANDSCAPE OF ANY RESORT IN DUBAI. WE ARE PROUD THAT THESE LUSH GARDENS ARE FULLY IRRIGATED USING 100% RECYCLED WATER FROM THE RESORT, WHICH IS PROCESSED THROUGH OUR OWN TREATMENT PLANT.

As part of our commitment to sustainability, we continue to reduce our reliance on single-use plastics, and ensure that all plastics are recycled, where possible. We have recently partnered with Tadweer Centre of Dubai Waste Management, an industry leader in sustainability, to recycle our waste plastic, glass and paper.

HERB GARDEN

VISIT OUR HERB GARDEN AND MEET OUR VERY OWN HONEY BEES, LOCATED BY THE TENNIS COURTS.



PICTURE THIS - BOTANIST IN YOUR POCKET

An online plant encyclopedia and plant identifier,
available on the Apple Store and Google Play