



Sarasota Jungle Gardens  
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SARASOTA JUNGLE GARDENS

## Sarasota Jungle Gardens Debuts First In The Area's Interactive Butterfly House and Gardens

When the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic was at its peak in the spring of 2020, residents sought outdoor spaces for relaxation and refuge. An exhibit featuring exotic butterflies and the gardens that support them was and continues to be the antidote provided by Sarasota Jungle Gardens.

This area's first interactive Butterfly House opened in January 2020 just before the pandemic hit this country full force and is open daily. It is home to many beautiful species including Monarchs, Malachites, Giant Swallowtails, Palamedes Swallowtails, Spicebush Swallowtails, Julia, Zebra Longwings, White Peacocks, and Giant Fritillaries. The free-flying, gentle butterflies often land on guests, providing a thrilling and up-close view of these beautiful creatures. Some butterflies are born at the Jungle Gardens Butterfly House, demonstrating the process from egg to chrysalis to birth. The exhibit is restocked regularly by butterfly specialists in our area. A zoo attendant inside the exhibit is available to answer any questions and make Butterfly food available for sale, enriching guests' interactive experience.

Originally established in 2006, the large walkthrough garden is explicitly planted to attract and feed passing wild butterflies. Butterflies are not new to Sarasota Jungle Gardens; the world's most extensive and largest collection of butterflies and moths, assembled in Sarasota by a previous owner of the Gardens, Arthur Allyn, our current owner's grandfather, was donated to and is on display at the University of Florida.

### About Sarasota Jungle Gardens

Sarasota Jungle Gardens features acres of lush tropical vegetation, winding jungle trails, and entertaining, educational, bird and reptile shows throughout the day. Established in 1939, Sarasota Jungle Gardens is home to native and exotic animals, including birds of prey, many different species of parrots and macaws, free-roaming flamingos, primates, small mammals, dozens of snakes, lizards, iguanas, crocodiles, and other reptiles. Visitors have a unique opportunity to interact with and experience the animals, many of whom found their home at Sarasota Jungle Gardens through approved private donations or through state and federal agencies that wanted to ensure these animals would live in a safe environment and permanent, caring home. Sarasota Jungle Gardens is located at 3701 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota, 34234, and is open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Park admission costs \$21.99/adult and \$14.99/children with the option to purchase ahead of time online for a \$2 discount. For more information, visit [www.sarasotajunglegardens.com](http://www.sarasotajunglegardens.com) or call (941) 355-5305.