

ADULTS DAY OUT | FULL DAY

With 55 acres there is a lot to explore. Once the family home of Mabel and Leslie Cheek, this extraordinary 1930s estate, with its historic mansion, cultivated gardens and expansive vistas, today serves the public as a botanical garden, arboretum, and museum. The options below will take you through eight distinct gardens, inspiring art galleries and give you a sense of the history of the estate.

- ❖ Start with the **Bradford Robertson Color Garden**. This garden reflects the universal love of color as a design element in flowers and foliage, and the displays change seasonally.
- ❖ Enjoy quiet contemplation in the **Blevins Japanese Garden (Shōmu-en)**. *Shōmu-en* translates to “pine-mist forest.” This garden transcends cultures by connecting Eastern garden design with the native Tennessee landscape.
- ❖ Enjoy the sound of cascading water as you walk along a rocky stream examining the fern collection, hellebores, hostas and heucheras in the **Robinson Family Water Garden**.
- ❖ Not to be missed, the iconic **Wisteria Arbor** is celebrated for its breathtaking views of the **Reflecting Pool** and the surrounding Warner Parks. The terraced gardens with extensive plantings of boxwood transport you to another time and place.
- ❖ Construction on the **Cheekwood Mansion** began in 1929 and the family moved in just before Thanksgiving of 1932. Get a glimpse of what their life was like by viewing the **Historic Period Rooms** then explore the art exhibitions in **Art Galleries** upstairs.
- ❖ Time for lunch. **Café 29** is in the former garage space in the Frist Learning Center and offers a casual, made-to-order menu. During your lunch break take a moment to learn about the Cheek family’s connection to Maxwell House Coffee.
- ❖ Experience many native species including azaleas, trilliums, trout-lilies, a variety of ferns, and a small colony of paw-paw trees in the **Howe Garden** and learn about our state-of-the-art rain garden.

- ❖ The **Burr Terrace Garden** has three levels featuring colorful annual plantings, an armillary bed, and fountain. It's reminiscent of a garden in Padua, Italy, dating back to 1542, considered to be the oldest surviving botanical garden in the world.
- ❖ The **Carell Dogwood Trail** is the centerpiece of Cheekwood's Nationally Certified Collection® of Cornus, with many variations in branching patterns, bark, leaf, berry and the showy bracts characteristic of dogwoods.
- ❖ The **Herb Study Garden** is a project of the Herb Society of Nashville. Themed sections include culinary herbs, blue flowered herbs, herbs used by Native Americans of Middle Tennessee, herbs used by early colonists of Tennessee, Mediterranean herbs, and herbs noted for their texture and fragrance.



Thank you for visiting Cheekwood. For more information on programs, special events and membership visit [cheekwood.org](https://www.cheekwood.org).