



Botany 2025 – Botany without Barriers

July 26 - 30th

Palm Springs, California

Your Colleagues – Your Collaborators – Your Conference!



Botany 2025 – *Botany without Barriers* is right around the corner! The city of Palm Springs is excited to welcome our conference to California. You will be joining about 1000 colleagues representing 26 countries. This email is to make sure you have everything you need before you get to Botany 2025.

This welcome email will give you the following information:

- Conference Website and App Instructions
- Local Climate, Forecasted Weather, and What to Pack
- Conference and Hotel/Convention Center Location and Parking
- Registration/Check-In Desk
- Field Trips
- Food at the Conference
- Ticketed Events
- How to Upload your PowerPoint Presentations
- Poster and Poster Session Information
- Exhibit Hall
- Accessibility at Botany 2025
- Fun Things to do in Palm Springs
- Code of Conduct

As a reminder, any link sent directly to you giving you access to the platform is your personal link and should not be shared with anyone else.

Conference Website and App Instructions:

There are two ways for you to access conference information: by **website** and by **app**. The app has more robust tools, such as connecting with other attendees, receiving announcements, and access to the social wall, so it is highly recommended that you use the app. However, both options contain much of the same information and both can be used to create your itinerary, which will update on both platforms simultaneously. Please note that **there will be no printed versions of the program available**. A link to a printable PDF of the program is available on the conference website and printing services will not be available onsite.

Conference Website (best for computers):

Bookmark www.botanyconference.org and sign in at the top right of the page, or you will be prompted to

login if you try to create an itinerary.

Pros: This version has a link to a printable PDF of the program.

Cons: You cannot reach out to other attendees on this platform, see the social wall, nor receive app announcements. You are lugging around your laptop.

Botany 2025 Mobile App:

The Botany 2025 app is a great way to access up-to-date information on your phone or tablet. The only thing the app does not have is a downloadable PDF of the program. **Please download the app before the conference to become familiar with the functionality.**

To download the mobile app:

Open this email on the device you plan to use before clicking the buttons or following the instructions below.

Step 1: Download the mobile app using this [LINK](#) on your mobile device or by scanning this QR Code.



Step 2: After downloading the mobile app, you can login by using your email address and password you use to login to your profile on the conference platform.

If you have any issues downloading the app, you can email mwood@burkinc.com or stop by the registration desk during the conference.

Local Climate, Forecasted Weather, and What to Pack

Palm Springs is known for its hot, dry desert climate, with forecasted highs around 105°F (40°C) and lows near 80°F (27°C) during the week of the conference this year. Light, breathable clothing is best for outdoors, but be sure to pack layers—indoor venues are well air-conditioned and can feel quite cool. If you plan to explore the area, whether that's a stroll through downtown, a trip to Joshua Tree, or a ride up the Aerial Tramway, bring sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses, comfortable walking shoes, and a reusable water bottle. The sun is strong, even in the morning, so drink water often and take breaks as needed.

Don't forget to pack your Botany 2025 swag!

If you pre-ordered a t-shirt, hat, or other swag, be sure to bring them along. A limited number of shirts will be available for purchase on-site, and additional designs can be found in our **limited-time Bonfire** [online store](#).

Conference and Hotel/Convention Center Location and Parking

Conference Location

Botany 2025 will take place at the Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel and the connecting Convention Center
888 Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Parking

Hotel parking is available for \$25 per day plus tax.

Free street parking can also be found in the areas surrounding the convention center—just be sure to check signage before leaving your car.

Registration and Check-In

Registration check-in will be located in the Convention Center Lobby

You will receive an email before the conference with a **QR code**—have it ready on your phone or printed to make check-in quick and easy. There will be volunteers to help you with registration and questions.

Registration opens Friday at 6:00 pm.

If you're attending a Saturday field trip, we strongly encourage you to check in on **Friday evening** if possible.

Registration Hours:

- **Friday:** 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
 - **Saturday:** 7:00 am – 11:00 am and 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm
 - **Sunday:** 7:00 am – 7:30 pm
 - **Monday:** 7:00 am – 5:00 pm
 - **Tuesday:** 7:30 am – 2:00 pm
 - **Wednesday:** 7:30 am – 12:00 pm
-

Field Trips

All field trips will leave from the **Convention Center Lobby**. Please **arrive at least 15 minutes before your field trip** is scheduled so we can load the buses on time. Continental Breakfast will be available in the Convention Center Lobby for **field trip participants only** from 7:15 am on Saturday.

Please review your field trip description so that you are prepared and ready for a successful excursion. Prepare for a sunny and hot environment, even in the mountains. **Essential items** include a broad-brimmed hat, close-toed shoes for uneven terrain, and a large, pre-filled water bottle. We also recommend long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and sunscreen. Trails are rocky and you are encouraged to bring a walking stick if you feel like you will need one. While lunch is provided for full-day trips, bring additional snacks if you anticipate needing them. Please be aware of rattlesnakes both on and off trails.

Food at the Conference

While past Botany conferences have often featured more extensive food offerings, this year we're focusing on delivering an exceptional scientific program while being mindful of ever-rising costs (which are picked up by our scientific societies). Although we won't be able to provide the usual continental breakfasts or snacks, **we want to ensure you have plenty of convenient, delicious options right nearby**. Here's a quick guide to help you plan your Botany 2025 experience.

What is provided at the conference:

- **Saturday:** A coffee/tea break and continental breakfast will be provided for attendees heading out on field trips that morning.
- **Sunday:** Early morning field trips include coffee/tea and continental breakfast. Workshop participants can expect coffee and tea at 7:30am and coffee/tea breaks at 10am and 3pm.
- **Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday:** We'll have coffee and tea available to kick off each day, plus morning and afternoon coffee breaks with coffee and tea (no breakfast or snacks, so plan accordingly).

At the Renaissance Hotel to purchase:

- **Cash & Carry Station** (Daily)
Muffins, whole fruit (bananas, apples), fruit cups, yogurt parfaits, and juices.
- **Rocks Lounge** (near the front desk – serves Starbucks Coffee)
Open 11:00 am – 10:00 pm.
- **Date Restaurant**
Opens at 6:30 am to 11:00 am for breakfast right in the hotel.

At the Palm Springs Convention Center to purchase:

- **Cash & Carry Cart** (Mon/Tues/Wed, 7:30 am – 1:30 pm)
Offering assorted “to go” breakfast and lunch items that you can grab in between sessions.

Quick Grocery Stops

- **On The Mark Fine Foods & Provisions**
111 N. Palm Canyon Drive, #155 | 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

- **Ralph's**
425 S Sunrise Way, Ste A | 6:00 am – 1:00 am
- **Grocery Outlet**
350 S Palm Canyon Dr | 7:00 am – 9:00 pm

To see a list of local restaurants, [click here](#) (PDF).

Ticketed Events

No physical tickets are needed for ticketed events (banquets, lunches, receptions, breakfasts, mixers). Instead, your **badge QR code will be scanned** for entry. Please make sure you've **pre-registered** for any ticketed events you plan to attend, and **bring your badge each day** of the conference.

If you have questions about your ticketed events or need assistance, stop by the **registration desk**.

How to Upload your PowerPoint Presentations

Please upload your presentation at least **12 hours before your scheduled talk**. By using the platform, there will be less time spent and fewer complications when getting the presentations loaded on the in-room computers at the beginning of your session. All instructions, including upload directions, guidelines, and presenter expectations, [can be found here](#). Guidelines for creating accessible presentations [can be found here](#).

To keep the program running smoothly, **do not wait until your session begins to upload your file**. If uploading during your scheduled time causes delays, your presentation time will be shortened to stay on schedule for the next speakers. If you have any questions about uploading your presentation, email chris@duluthtech.co.

Poster and Poster Session Information

Posters will be displayed in the **Exhibit Hall**, which will be open for setup on **Sunday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**. A table inside the hall will have push pins, details on where to hang your poster, and volunteers available to assist if needed. **All posters must be up by Noon on Monday.**

The **Poster Session** will take place on **Monday evening from 5:30–7:00 pm**, but we ask that posters remain up for the entire duration of the conference. All posters must be removed by **4:00 pm on Wednesday**, and each should fit within a **42" x 42" (106.7 cm x 106.7 cm) space**. For more information on poster presentation instructions, or local printing options, [click here](#). **Please note that most fabric poster printing has a week turnaround so plan accordingly.**

As a reminder to poster presenters, posters need to be removed by 4:00 pm on Wednesday.

Exhibit Hall

The Exhibit Hall and poster displays will be located in **Oasis 2** of the Convention Center and Hotel. For more information about our exhibitors, please [click here](#), or visit the **Exhibit Floor Plan** or **Exhibitor Listing** in the main menu of the **Mobile App**. Exhibitors play a vital role in supporting Botany Conferences. We encourage you to visit their booths and explore the valuable resources and opportunities they offer.

Official Exhibit Hall Hours:

- **Sunday:** 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm (during the All-Society Mixer)
- **Monday:** 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- **Tuesday:** 9:30 am – 4:00 pm
- **Wednesday:** 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Are you an exhibitor? The Exhibit Hall will be open for **booth setup on Sunday from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm**. **Booth take-down** will take place on **Wednesday between 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm**.

Accessibility at Botany 2025

At Botany 2025, we continue our unwavering commitment to accessibility and inclusion, embracing the theme “Botany without Barriers” as a celebration of ensuring every participant can fully engage and thrive throughout the conference. In line with our dedication to inclusion, we’ve ensured the conference facilities offer accessibility and convenience to help everyone navigate and enjoy the event.

- The Renaissance Palm Springs venue is **fully wheelchair accessible**, with centrally located elevators and a convenient layout directly connected indoors to the convention center.
- **Accessible guest rooms** are available upon request during reservation.

On-site amenities include:

- A **quiet room** with low lighting for reduced sensory stimulation
- A **family and lactation respite room**
- **Secure medication refrigerators**
- **Gender-neutral bathrooms**
- Automatic **closed-captioning** will be used during PowerPoint presentations

Sensory aids such as **fidget spinners**, **eye masks**, and **ear plugs** can be requested at the registration desk. If you need specific accommodations not listed here—such as **wheelchair rental** or **sign language interpretation**—please notify us using the [Accommodation Request Form](#).

Additional highlights:

- If staying at the **Courtyard Palm Springs hotel** (not the main hotel) it is about a 10-minute walk from the main venue; please plan accordingly for the heat.

- Palm Springs offers many accessible local attractions, restaurants, and transportation services (details [here](#) and [here](#)).
- Accessibility information for Palm Springs International Airport is available [here](#).

Presenters are encouraged to follow accessibility best practices, including clear slide titles, colorblind-friendly palettes, descriptive narration of visuals, large fonts, and simple language. For full details on venue accessibility, accommodations, and presentation guidelines, please visit our [Accessibility Page](#), which also includes a helpful map of resources.

Fun Things to do in Palm Springs

If you find yourself with some downtime, get out and explore! We have included a list of things to do and restaurants to try under “Things to do on your own” listed on the [conference website](#) and the Botany 2025 app.

Code of Conduct

The Botany conference is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and productive meeting environment that fosters open dialogue and the exchange of scientific ideas, promotes equal opportunities and treatment for all participants, and is free of harassment and discrimination.

The Code of Conduct is posted on our website and on the mobile app. **Please review it [HERE](#) before the conference.**

If you are being subjected to, or notice that someone else is being subjected to, behavior that violates this Code of Conduct, please contact our independent Ombudsman:

Marcus Stergio - (msterg5285@gmail.com) cell (617-800-6245)

We are looking forward to a wonderful gathering of colleagues and friends, sharing the latest research, making connections and collaborations, and gaining inspiration and recharging for the year ahead.

Welcome to Botany 2025 – *Botany without Barriers!*