

FACT SHEET



PresidioTunnelTops.org

PLANTING



Fast Facts

- About half of the 200,000 plants that populate Presidio Tunnel Tops' gardens are species native to the Presidio and were grown in the Presidio Nursery by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy from seeds collected in the park.
- There are 200 varieties of plants, creating ecological diversity and visual interest.
- The landscaping is designed for low-water use, using drought-tolerant plants and state-of-the-art irrigation practices that maximize water conservation.
- The plant varieties selected have proved to thrive in the Presidio's climate.
- The plants have eco-value and will create habitat for native butterflies, insects, and other pollinators, and improve biodiversity in the Presidio.
- A total of 90,000 cubic yards of soil was used in several phases: 53K cubic yards of early soil to prepare the site for construction, and 43K of high-quality horticultural soil.
- The horticultural soil used at Presidio Tunnel Tops has been tested and sourced for its horticultural suitability and the absence of harmful pathogens and chemicals.

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Design

- The planting transitions from the native character of Crissy Marsh along the northern edge (dune scrub and coastal scrub) to the more ornamental landscape of the historic Main Post at the southern edge.
- The colors of the plants were carefully considered: Reds and oranges echo the backdrop of the Golden Gate Bridge, shifting to purples and blues which reflect the backdrop of San Francisco Bay.
- The height of the plants is important. Taller trees and shrubs are strategically located to maintain views yet provide shade and wind protection where most needed.
- In addition to their drought tolerance, species were selected for their habitat value in order to support pollinators and other wildlife.
- The entire project will be ReScape CA certified, a standard of excellence in landscape practices.

Examples of Plants

Presidio Indigenous Species

Trees: *Quercus agrifolia* (Coast Live Oak), *Aesculus californica* (California Buckeye), *Salix lasiolepis* (Arroyo Willow)

Shrubs: *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus* (California Lilac), *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (Toyon), *Ribes sanguineum* (Pink Flowering Currant)

Perennials: *Mimulus aurantiacus* (Sticky Monkey Flower), *Fragaria chiloensis* (Beach Strawberry), *Iris douglasiana* (Douglas Iris)

Other Drought Tolerant Species

Trees: *Pinus torreyana* (Torrey Pine), *Quercus tomentella* (Island Oak), *Arbutus 'Marina'* (Strawberry Tree)

Shrubs: *Leucospermum cordifolium* (Pincushion), *Correa 'Ray's Tangerine'* (Orange Australian Fuchsia), *Adenanthos sericeus* (Woollybush)

Perennials: *Salvia spathacea* (Hummingbird Sage), *Anigozanthos x 'Big Red'* (Big Red Kangaroo Paw), *Verbena lilacina 'De La Mina'* (Lilac Verbena)

Grasses: *Carex pansa* (Sanddune Sedge), *Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze'* (Dwarf Mat Rush), *Muhlenbergia lindheimeri* (Lindheimer's Muhly)

Bulbs: *Allium 'Ozawa'* (Japanese Flowering Onion), *Scilla peruviana* (Portuguese Squill)

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