Interpretative Apps for Gardens

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“Interpretive experiences for visitors to the contemporary Islamic garden will enhance their sense of curiosity, insight, imagination, appreciation and reflection about nature and the Islamic world's diverse cultures through compelling, imaginative, participatory and community building events, programs and media.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE CATEGORY</th>
<th>MODULE TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Botany</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn</td>
<td>Botanical science and the Islamic world past and present</td>
<td>Designing and Building the Contemporary IG Famous Gardens of the Islamic world</td>
<td>Test your Islamic World IQ</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Biodiversity hotspots in the Islamic world</td>
<td>Nature and Gardens in paintings of the Islamic world</td>
<td>Islamic world communities of Edmonton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflect</td>
<td></td>
<td>Take a poetry walk. Take a sound walk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create/Play</td>
<td>Find and identify the plants of the CIG</td>
<td>Design your own Mughal garden</td>
<td>Favourite things about the CIG Roulette</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Make and share your own CIG soundwalk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debate</td>
<td>Should Botanic gardens have cultural gardens?</td>
<td>Was the right balance struck between tradition and modernity in the CIG?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change</td>
<td>Take the carbon pledge</td>
<td>Email your local politician</td>
<td>Contact environmental NGO</td>
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1. Modular
2. Customizable
3. Accessible
4. Exploratory/Dialogical
5. Educational/Contextual
6. Intuitive
7. Emotive
8. Compelling
9. Commemorative
• 22% visitors, system-wide, receive interpretation through personal services . . . such as lectures, demonstrations, and informal visitor contacts
• 78% visitors receive interpretation through various media forms, such as brochures, wayside exhibits, and multimedia displays
If signs were used, 6 minutes; if a brochure, 9 minutes; if the app was used, 23 minutes.
1. Philosophical Considerations

Create the app so that it does not detract from the garden experience
Ensure everyone can use it by complying to ADA standards

2. Practical Considerations

Produce content as location-based and offsite experience
Create the app so that some information is already downloaded
Provide only needed information
Use 3\textsuperscript{rd} party platforms (Facebook, Twitter) carefully
Make the app easy to update

3. Aesthetic Considerations

Use sound oriented interpretation
Incorporate visual media sparingly
Rely on signage already used in the garden

4. Usability Considerations

Break up text with images and limit the amount of text a visitor has to read
Utilize the camera feature for taking and uploading photos of garden
Provide maps of tours along with suggested time commitment
water flowing over the surface of the cherry and a fine mist rising from its stem.

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