



## Aloe

Aloes are all about structure and incredible blooms. They will grow under most garden conditions in the southwestern United States provided that they have at least good drainage.

The rewards for growing these wonderful plants are the blooms. Most of the Aloe plants bloom in mid-winter. Our earliest bloom begins in November and we'll have bright color through March. Some, like Aloe vera bloom indiscriminately throughout the year.

There are some fantastic displays of Aloes throughout the southwest. Beginning with the Huntington Library, San Diego Zoo, and many more. For plant lovers of all kinds, the mid winter displays in the gardens featuring Aloes are not to be missed.

There are more than 450 Aloe species recognized worldwide. They all originate from the African continent, Madagascar, Arabian Peninsula and possibly from other Mediterranean countries.

The most famous is Aloe vera, which has wonderful medicinal qualities. The origins of the Aloe vera are so ancient, and the plant has been naturalized throughout the Africa, Mediterranean areas to the point that no one is certain as to its actual origin. Records indicate that Aloe vera was among the plants that Marco Polo took with him to China in the 1200's.





The bloom on Aloe arborescens is one of the most beautiful of all the aloes. Look for this spectacular show from mid December to late January every year.



THE CRICKLY PALACE

Aloe spectabilis is a tree form aloe that grows to 20 feet or more in height with branching at the top. The blooms are spectacular with each pod changing color from pink to green as it blooms.

