

Bulbs

for the Valley of the Sun

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun Exposure	Water Needs	Planting Months	Showy Months*	Comments
African Corn Lily	<i>Ixia</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Feb.-Mar.	Perennial if kept dry in summer.
Allium, Giant	<i>Allium giganteum</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Apr.-May	Huge flower heads!
Amaryllis, forced	<i>Hippeastrum</i> hybrids, forced	hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Nov.-Dec.	Pre-treated bulbs for forcing for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
Amaryllis, natural	<i>Hippeastrum</i> hybrids, natural	hs	moderate	Feb.-Apr.	Apr.-May	Natural bulbs for bloom at their normal season.
Anemone	<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Apr.	Perennial if kept dry in summer.
Artichoke	<i>Cynara scolymus</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Mar.-May	Perennial with good drainage.
Asparagus	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	2-3 years until harvest.
Aztec Lily	<i>Sprekelia formosissima</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Feb.-Mar.	
Baboon Flower	<i>Babiana</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Feb.-Mar.	Perennial if kept dry in summer.
Belladonna Lily	<i>Amaryllis belladonna</i>	fs-hs	moderate	Aug.-Sep.	Sep.-Oct.	Keep on dry side in summer.
Caladium	<i>Caladium bicolor</i>	sh	moderate	Mar.-June	Mar.-Oct.	Best with excellent drainage.
Calla Lily, White	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	hs-sh	moderate-high	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-May	Colored Callas are more difficult to grow here.
Canna	<i>Canna</i> hybrids	hs-sh	high	Mar.-June	Mar.-Oct.	Some can grow in ponds. Easy.
Chinese Ground Orchid	<i>Bletilla striata</i>	hs	moderate	January	Mar.-Apr.	Surprisingly easy!
Crinum Lily	<i>Crinum</i> species & hybrids	hs	moderate	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-Oct.	Easy.
Crocus, Saffron	<i>Crocus sativus</i>	fs-hs	moderate	Aug.-Sep.	Sep.-Oct.	The saffron of cooking. Fairly easy.
Daffodils	<i>Narcissus</i> hybrids	hs	moderate	Nov.-Dec.	Mar.-Apr.	
Elephant's Ear	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	hs-sh	high	Feb.-Apr.	Sep.-Oct.	Can grow in ponds.
Fairy Wand	<i>Dierama</i> species	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Mar.-May	
Flame Lily	<i>Tritonia</i> species	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Feb.-May	
Freesia	<i>Freesia</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Jan.	Jan.-May	Easy. Fragrant.
Garlic	<i>Allium sativum</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Mar.-Apr.	Easy.
Gladiolus	<i>Gladiolus</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Jan.	Nov.-May	
Grape Hyacinth	<i>Muscari armeniacum</i>	hs-sh	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Mar.-Apr.	Easy.
Harlequin Flower	<i>Sparaxis tricolor</i>	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Mar.-May	Easy.

The "Sun Exposure" category can be decoded this way: fs = full sun; hs = morning sun and afternoon shade; sh = bright shade.
 *Flowers, colored leaves, or--in the case of vegetables--harvest.

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Homeria	<i>Homeria (Tritonia) collina</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Feb.-May	
Hyacinth, Dutch	<i>Hyacinthus orientalis</i>	hs	moderate	Nov.-Dec.	Feb.-Mar.	Needs chilling in refrigerator for 6-8 weeks. Fragrant.
Iris, Arilbred	<i>Iris</i> hybrids	fs-hs	low	Sep.-Oct.	Mar.-Apr.	Need perfect drainage and dry summers.
Iris, Bearded	<i>Iris</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Sep.-Oct.	Mar.-May	Easy. Some are fragrant.
Iris, Dutch	<i>Iris</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Mar.-Apr.	Divide every 3 years.
Iris, Louisiana	<i>Iris</i> hybrids	hs	high	Sep.-Oct.	Mar.-May	Can grow in ponds.
Iris, Spuria	<i>Iris</i> hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Sep.-Oct.	Feb.-Mar.	
Lily, Asiatic	<i>Lilium</i> hybrids	hs	moderate	Dec.-Jan.	Mar.-May	Easy.
Lily, Oriental	<i>Lilium</i> hybrids	sh	moderate	Dec.-Jan.	May-July	Fragrant.
Montbretia & Crocosmia	<i>Crocsmia</i> species & hybrids	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Feb.-May	
Narcissus	<i>Narcissus tazetta</i> , & its hybrids	hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Easy. Fragrant.
Onion sets	<i>Allium cepa</i>	fs-hs	high	Oct.-Mar.	Oct.-May	Best used for green onions: Don't bulb up until summer.
Peruvian Daffodil	<i>Hymenocallis</i> species	hs-sh	moderate	Oct.-Mar.	Mar.-Oct.	Heavy bloom in spring, scattered in fall. Easy.
Rain Lily	<i>Zephyranthes</i> species	fs-hs	low	Mar.-June	July-Oct.	Blooms after thunderstorms in the monsoons. Easy
Ranunculus	<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Jan.	Jan.-Apr.	Perennial if kept dry in summer.
Shallot	<i>Allium cepa</i>	fs-hs	high	Oct.-Nov.	Mar.-Apr.	Fairly easy.
Spider Lily	<i>Lycoris radiata</i>	fs-hs	moderate	Aug.-Sep.	Sep.-Oct.	Easy.
Spring Starflower	<i>Ipeion uniflorum</i>	hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Mar.-Apr.	
Star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum</i> species	fs-hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-May	Easy.
Summer Hyacinth	<i>Galtonia candicans</i>	hs-sh	moderate	Oct.-Nov.	Apr.-June	Easy. Fragrant.
Summer Snowflake	<i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	hs-sh	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Dec.-Jan.	Easy.
Tuberose	<i>Polianthes tuberosa</i>	hs	moderate	March	Sep.-Oct.	Very fragrant.
Tulip	<i>Tulipa</i> hybrids	hs	moderate	Nov.-Dec.	Mar.-Apr.	Needs chilling in refrigerator for 6-8 weeks.
Watsonia	<i>Watsonia</i> hybrids	hs	moderate	Oct.-Dec.	Nov.-May	

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