



Bangsbo Botanical Garden, Frederikshavn, Denmark.



Open 365 days every year this garden is free to enter and is well worth a visit if you are in Denmark. It is a young garden that has been developing over the past 26 years. Their latest addition is the crevice bed which they started in 2009.

The construction of the world's largest man made crevice garden.



The 500m² area has been set aside from the garden's conception in 1989, but many suggestions of a layout that would survive Denmark's harsh weather and temperature were considered. It must have shade, to protect plants from 30°C dry summers and -25°C winter temperatures, it must be free draining but retain moisture. So it was decided to build a crevice, this would be built on an east/west orientation to provide light and shady conditions the plants need.



They consulted the world's leading expert in this field Zdenek Zvolanek (aka ZZ) who agreed to help in its construction, and through his connections with the Botanical Garden in Hof, Germany, 30km from the Czech border, Christopher Ruby their botanist recommended a local limestone quarry to supply the rock.



Subsequently the quarry supplied nearly 250ton of limestone to the garden and placed around the mounds of Foundry sand ready to start work. On 11th May 2009 ZZ and his partner Joyce Carruthers with the employees of the garden and many volunteers started work. The beds were divided into continents, which can be identified from the planting designs. ZZ and Joyce worked tirelessly for two weeks, after which the staff and volunteers finished the primary physical work in preparation for planting. An area of peat crevice was made using Swedish peat and also 10 ton of 60 million year old Tufa was acquired from Pollinger near Munich to make a tufa bed, laid on a plastic membrane and in filled with sand for the Saxifrage collection.

Over the past five years over ten thousands of alpines have been planted, many donated by other botanical gardens and members of Den Alpine Have (AGS Denmark).



Few of the 10000 plants

Ian & Roma Smith