During the 1915 Panama-California Exhibition, this garden was originally named Los Jardines de Montezuma (Montezuma Garden). In 1935, architect Richard Requa modified the garden by adding two delightful water fountains and eight tile benches. The garden was renamed Alcázar because its design is patterned after the courtyard gardens of Alcázar Palace in Seville, Spain. It is known for its ornate fountains, exquisite turquoise blue, yellow, and green Moorish tiles and shady pergola. The two water fountains were made with distinctive green, yellow, and turquoise tiles. This formal garden, bordered by boxwood hedges, is planted with 7,000 annuals for a vibrant display of color throughout the year. You will find flowers of different varieties and colors: chrysanthemums, delphiniums, pansies, begonias, calendula, dahlias and poppies.

Seventy years later, the Moorish tiles were beginning to show their age. Tiles were cracked, chipped, and had chunks missing. In 2008, the garden was reconstructed to replicate the 1935 design by San Diego architect Richard Requa. During the restoration they found that moisture had seeped through, as tiles are porous and grout isn’t perfect. With $50,000 in donations, the Committee of One Hundred, a nonprofit group dedicated to the park's Spanish Colonial architecture, replaced the damaged tiles and renovated the water fountains to their original grace and glory. The group commissioned 1,800 tiles that replicate the originals. They expect this renovation will last 20 years or so, but bought extra tiles for future patch work.

The giant Indian Laurel Fig, Ficus microcarpa, just outside the Alcázar garden, provides considerable shade. It was likely planted for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition.