

FITZROY GARDENS IS ONE OF MELBOURNE'S MOST HISTORIC AND BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

Set aside as a reserve in 1848, the gardens follow a classic Victorian-era design. Magnificent elms line the pathways, and the variety of flowers, ornamental shrubs, and trees together with extensive lawns create a diverse and layered landscape. The gardens were listed on the Victorian Heritage Register in 1998.



How to contact us

Online: melbourne.vic.gov.au

In person:

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7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
(Public Holidays excluded)

Telephone: 03 9658 9658

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Translation services:

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03 9280 0717	廣東話
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03 9280 0725	Việt Ngữ
03 9280 0726	All other languages

National Relay Service: If you are deaf, hearing impaired or speech-impaired, call us via the National Relay Service: Teletypewriter (TTY) users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 03 9658 9658 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (Public holidays excluded)

For more information

Visit the Fitzroy Gardens Visitor Centre or go to melbourne.vic.gov.au or call 9658 9658

melbourne.vic.gov.au

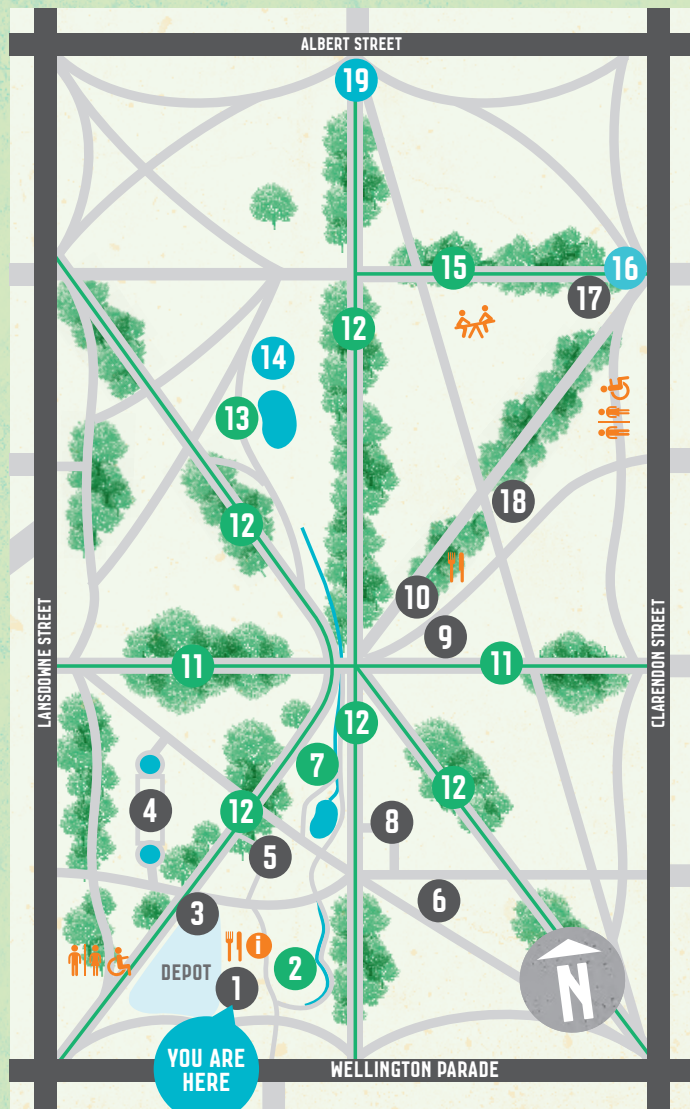


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DISCOVER FITZROY GARDENS



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POINTS OF INTEREST

1 VISITOR CENTRE

The visitor centre provides information on Melbourne and the Fitzroy Gardens and is the place to buy your tickets to Cooks' Cottage.

2 STORMWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM AND GARDEN

Built in 2014, this stormwater harvesting and re-use system now provides most of the Fitzroy Gardens' water needs. Discover how the system works by reading the interpretive sign on the east side of visitor centre.

3 GLASSHOUSES AND PROPAGATOR'S COTTAGE

Two 1920s glasshouses, still used to grow plants for the conservatory, are visible from the entrance to the visitor centre. The lime whitewash on the glass is to reduce light and heat levels in the summer. The Propagator's cottage, a private residence, can be viewed from the path near the conservatory. There is no public entry to these facilities.

4 THE CONSERVATORY

The conservatory hosts five ornamental horticultural displays throughout the year. It is free to enter and is open 9am to 5pm every day.

5 COOKS' COTTAGE

Cooks' Cottage, a gift from philanthropist Russell Grimwade, was brought from Yorkshire, England to Melbourne to commemorate Victoria's centenary in 1934. Tickets to visit Cooks' Cottage may be purchased from the visitor centre.

6 SCARRED TREE

Now a preserved tree stump, bark from this river red gum tree was removed by Aboriginal people to make something such as a canoe, shield or container.

7 STREAM AND FERN GULLY

Starting outside the visitor centre, an informal walking path adjacent to the central stream heads north through the gardens, passing ornamental ponds, ferns and rainforest planting.

8 SINCLAIR'S COTTAGE

This cottage was built in 1866 for Fitzroy Gardens' head gardener, James Sinclair. It is now used as an administrative centre and is not open to the public.

9 FAIRIES' TREE

Sculpted by Ola Cohn between 1931 and 1934, the Fairies' Tree is beloved by generations of children. The carving features Australian animals, birds and bush spirits.

10 MODEL TUDOR VILLAGE

The model village was a gift to the people of Melbourne in 1947 from the citizens of Lambeth, England, in appreciation of food parcels sent during WWII. Please don't enter the enclosure as the models are very fragile.

11 HOTHAM WALK

This east-west path is at the heart of the gardens. The path is lined by colourful flowering borders and framed by deodar cedars – a much loved feature of the gardens.

12 ELM TREE AVENUES

Avenues of mature English elms line the major paths throughout the gardens, providing a cathedral-like lighting effect.

13 THE MOUND AND POND

The Mound, a high point in the gardens, and the adjacent pond were created in 1891 under the leadership of garden curator John Guilfoyle. The palms, ferns and water create a cool oasis on a hot day.

14 THE DOLPHIN FOUNTAIN

The fountain was created by sculptor June Arnold in 1982. Featuring a variety of marine creatures, the design was influenced by theories of childhood development and education. Bridal parties and photographers are commonly seen in this part of the gardens.

15 GREY STREET WALK

This lush walk features Cordylines, palms and perennial exotic plants which require little water. Two vases on pillars are reminders of the 19th century fashion for classical statuary.

16 GREY STREET FOUNTAIN

This is one of the original five fountains installed in the gardens in the 1860s. The three tiers of vases on a rock pedestal is a classic garden ornament of the 19th century.

17 BANDSTAND

Constructed in the 1860s, the bandstand was originally used for military recitals and sacred music performances. Today it is a popular venue for weddings and family gatherings.



18 THE ROTUNDA

Created in 1873, the Rotunda is another example of the sculptural elements popular in 19th century gardens.

19 RIVER GOD FOUNTAIN

At the northern end of the gardens is Melbourne's oldest surviving public artwork. This fountain was created in 1862 by leading sculptor Charles Summers, who also created the famous Burke and Wills statue on the corner of Swanston and Collins streets.

KEY ● STRUCTURE ● PLANTING ● WATER FEATURE

TREASURY GARDENS 5 MINUTES

Across Lansdowne St is Treasury Gardens, a popular lunch spot for people who work in the central city. The gardens also feature a lake and a memorial to former US President, John F Kennedy. This is a great route to take to get to the centre of Melbourne.

