

Living Plant Collections

Labelled collections of plants for the purposes of conservation, research, education or ornamental display, are an essential feature of a botanic garden. It is what distinguishes them from other public gardens and parks.

The Gardens currently holds several important plant collections and there are plans to expand the number of collections as the Gardens are further developed.

Canna Collection

Cannas have been part of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens since 1921 when John Cronin, then Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, donated 19 varieties to Bendigo. The current collection which holds 52 cultivars, located

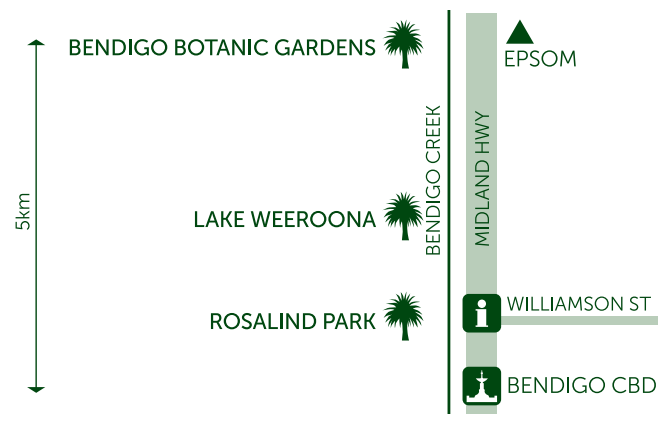
near the Samuel Gadd centre, represents Cannas that were grown in Victorian gardens around the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Lavender Collection

The Gardens hold the National Lavender Collection which was previously held by the Yuulong Lavender Estate near Mt Egerton, in Victoria. The collection consists of 80 different cultivars from all over the world.

Whipstick – Kamarooka Collection

This collection features a selection of herbaceous plants from the Whipstick – Kamarooka section of the Greater Bendigo National Park. During summer and autumn these plants shrivel back and many appear to die but, in the cooler months of winter and spring, they recover, grow vigorously and flower.



Friends of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens

Become involved in the Bendigo Botanic Gardens by joining the Friends.

For more information:
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Friends of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens

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History of the Gardens

The Bendigo Botanic Gardens is one of regional Victoria's earliest (1857) botanic gardens and was the first public garden in Bendigo. The Gardens were included on the Victorian Heritage Register in 2001 due to its historical, architectural, scientific (botanical), aesthetic and social significance.

The first curator, Samuel Gadd, designed a network of connecting pathways through beds of herbaceous plants and shrubs. Around the perimeter of the Gardens he planted avenues of pines, elms and oaks. Some of these trees still survive. The gardens near the Scott St carpark are only the start of the restoration work that will transform these gardens back to Gadd's design.

Future Gardens Development

In 2010 the City Council adopted a Master Plan for the Gardens. Included in this plan is an extension that will enlarge the present Botanic Garden from 6.4 hectares to 25 hectares.

In addition to the traditional botanic aspects of the Gardens, there will be improved picnic and BBQ facilities. There will be an events lawn for activities such as weddings and family reunions and other community celebrations. The plan includes a childrens garden and play space for youngsters to experience plants and nature in a safe and engaging manner.

The Master Plan was honoured with awards by both the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, and Parks and Leisure Australia.

Garden Highlights

Samuel Gadd Centre

Named in recognition of former Garden Curator Samuel Gadd, the Centre serves as an administration and education centre and a base for the Friends of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens.

Significant Trees

The Botanic Gardens has a number of significant trees. There are 6 trees listed individually in the Heritage Council of Victoria's registration of the gardens. These trees are denoted by an H (Tree No. 2, 5, 8, 10, 13, 17,) on the Specimen tree key.

Two of those trees the *Dovyalis caffra* (tree 2) and the *Pinus torreyana* (tree 10) are listed on the National Trust's *Register of Significant Trees* for their horticultural value. These trees are denoted by an S on the Specimen tree key.

Picnic Pavilion

Built in the early 1900s, the pavilion is of heritage significance and has seen much use over the years, especially for family picnics, school break-ups and reunions. It was originally isolated on an island in the lagoon and accessed by a wooden bridge, prior to changes to the lagoon between 1957-59.

Arch of Triumph

The Arch of Triumph was erected in 1925 as a memorial to local servicemen who served in World War 1. Italianate in style it is decorated with wreaths and two metal plates bear the names of 65 servicemen.

Lagoon

The lagoon is a natural wetland that was once part of the Bendigo Creek. In the 1870s the creek was straightened and a sweeping bend was incorporated into the Botanic Gardens. It is the only original section of the creek that has survived in Bendigo and is therefore very significant.

The island and banks of the lagoon have been planted with a variety of Australian indigenous streamside plants.

Walk Through Aviary

Historically, the Gardens have always kept animals on display. The walk through aviary was constructed in 1987 and replaced earlier small bird cages. It houses seed and fruit eating Australian parrots.

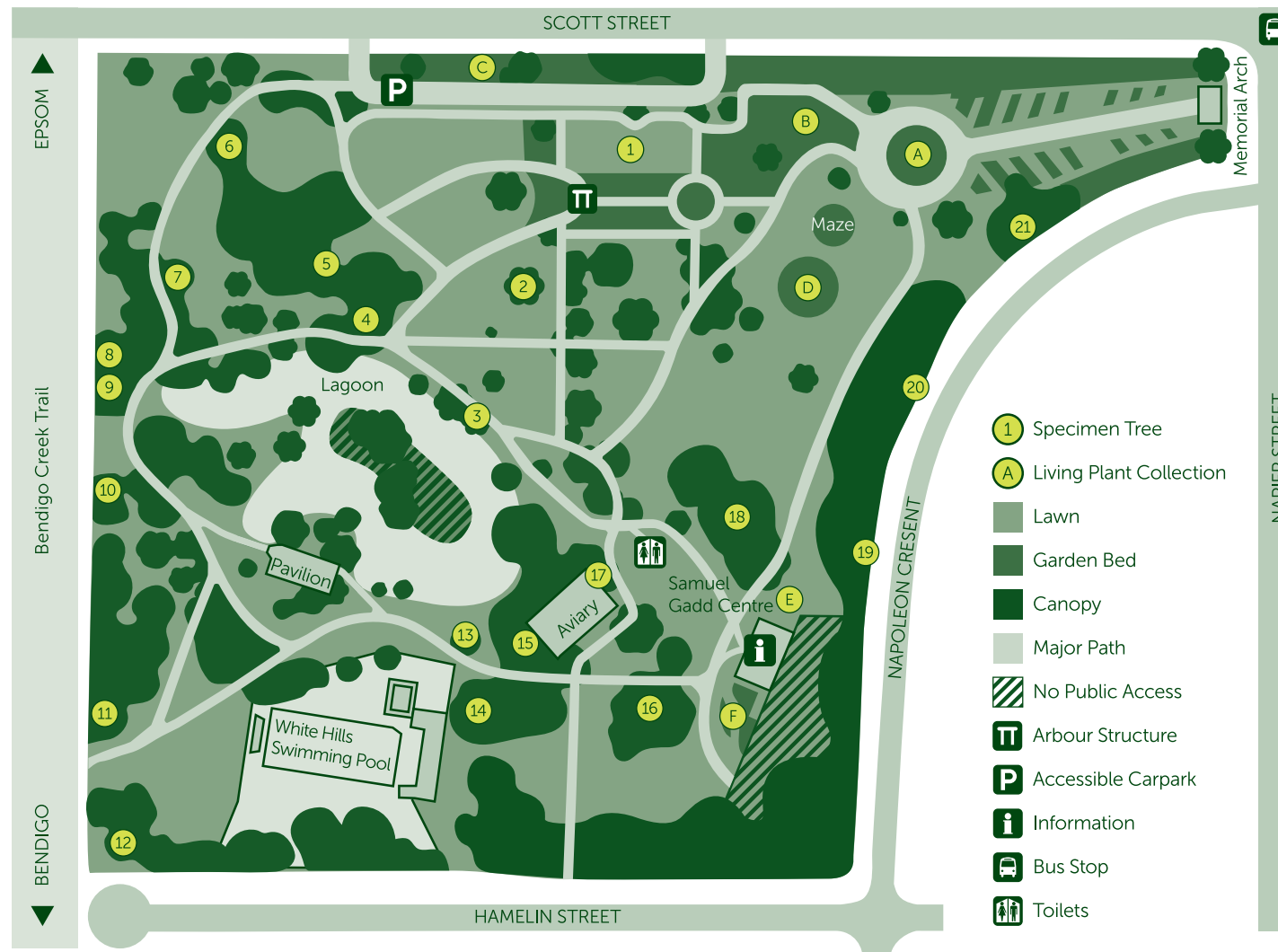
Of particular interest are three 'long-tailed' parrot species, (the Regent, Superb and Princess Parrots), as they all have restricted home ranges and are now threatened in the wild.

Specimen Tree Locations

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ① <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Tulip Tree | ⑧ <i>Pinus roxburghii</i>
Chir Pine / Long Leaved Indian Pine (H) | ⑮ <i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>
Mugga Ironbark |
| ② <i>Dovyalis caffra</i>
Kei Apple (H) (S) | ⑨ <i>Pinus pinea</i>
Stone Pine | ⑯ <i>Quercus robur</i>
English Oak |
| ③ <i>Pinus halepensis</i>
Aleppo Pine | ⑩ <i>Pinus torreyana</i>
Torrey Pine (H) (S) | ⑰ <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Pencil Cedar (H) |
| ④ <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>
Monterey Cypress | ⑪ <i>Ulmus procera</i>
English Elm | ⑱ <i>Ulmus glabra</i> 'Lutescens'
Golden Wych Elm |
| ⑤ <i>Livistona australis</i>
Australian Cabbage Palm (H) | ⑫ <i>Ulmus x hollandica</i>
Dutch Elm | ⑲ <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> ssp. <i>globulus</i>
Tasmanian Blue Gum |
| ⑥ <i>Pinus radiata</i>
Monterey Pine | ⑬ <i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>
Brazilian Peppertree (H) | ⑳ <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>
River Red Gum |
| ⑦ <i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>
Sydney Blue Gum | ⑭ <i>Schinus ariera</i>
California Peppertree | ㉑ <i>Ficus macrophylla</i>
Moreton Bay Fig |

Living Plant Collection

- | |
|---|
| A Lavender |
| B Cottage Garden Plants of the Victorian Goldfields |
| C Whipstick-Kamarooka |
| D Rose |
| E Bearded Iris |
| F Canna |



Operating Hours

Gardens
7.30am – 8.00pm
every day of the year

Walk Through Aviary
7.30am – 4.00pm
Weekdays only

Enjoy your visit

The continuous preservation of our gardens is a priority so please refrain from climbing, trampling on or sampling our precious trees and plants.

We also request that you observe the following:

- Please keep your dog on lead at all times
- Bicycles, scooters and skateboards are not to be ridden
- Please leave the footy or cricket bat at home
- Beware of falling tree limbs
- Please do not swim in the lagoon or drink from water features
- Please ensure your children are under your supervision at all times

Planning an event in the Gardens?

If you are planning a large event or gathering at the Gardens it is advisable to book a suitable space to ensure your event is an enjoyable one, however a fee may apply.

Bookings or enquiries can be made by contacting the City of Greater Bendigo.
Telephone: 03 5434 6000

Bendigo Creek Trail

A walking and bicycle trail along Bendigo Creek connects Rosalind Park in central Bendigo, Lake Weeroona and the Bendigo Botanic Gardens.

Catch a bus to the gardens

Get your free Travel Smart Guide from the Bendigo Visitor Centre. It's a great guide to walking, cycling and public transport in Bendigo.

Bus route 8
Huntly – Bendigo,
or Bus route 10
Epsom – Bendigo