

walk number 2 secret gardens

Walking time 2.5 hours
Distance 6 Kilometres
Arts Centre, sculptures,
monuments and beautiful
Royal Botanic Gardens.



To begin, walk south along St Kilda Road until you're opposite the Victorian Arts Centre, then step down to the left into the peaceful **Queen Victoria Gardens** ①. Pause for a royal moment to inspect the **Queen Victoria Monument** ②. Wander along the many pathways in the garden, under the shade of tall trees, past glorious flower displays and across sunny lawns.



Victorian Arts Centre

Discover the **sculptures** ③ dotted through the park, including The Phoenix, The Pathfinder, The Water Children, Water Nymph and The Genii.

Walk back towards St Kilda Road and you'll find the much loved **Floral Clock** ④ opposite the National Gallery of Victoria. Look up to the equestrian statue of Queen Victoria's son **Edward VII** ⑤.



Floral Clock

Just over Linlithgow Avenue near Walker Fountain, cross to the **'Tan'** ⑥, where Melbourne's fit and fabulous come to jog. The 4km track was named after its original bark surface and used by horse riders until the 1940s. If you don't have a horse, how about a quick run instead?

As you follow the track towards the Shrine of Remembrance, look up and around to enjoy the beauty of hundreds of trees, which were first planted in this parkland when piped water arrived in the late 1860s.

You are now in the 'Domain' of Government House, built in the 1870s as Victoria's Governor's residence. Nearby is La Trobe's Cottage, home of the settlement's first governor Charles La Trobe. Open-air concerts draw thousands to the **Sidney Myer Music Bowl** ⑦ throughout the year.

Follow the avenue of poplars to an imposing statue of **King George V** ⑧, who allowed **King's Domain** ⑨ as a title for the park when the grounds were enlarged and upgraded in the mid-1930s. Moving south, pause for a minute or two opposite the massive **Shrine of Remembrance** ⑩ which honours Australia's war dead. Don't miss the spectacular views of the city from the Shrine.



The Shrine of Remembrance

Turn left at **Observatory Gate** ⑪ and join the crowds for a quick snack or a latte at Observatory Café beside the old **Observatory Buildings** ⑫ and the Gardens Shop.

Enter the lush green world of the **Royal Botanic Gardens** ⑬, one of Victoria's

most popular tourist destinations.

Established in 1846 and covering 38 hectares, the gardens are home to an astounding 52,000 plants and 12,000 species from around the globe. The Gardens' first director Ferdinand von Mueller introduced many in the 1850s and 1860s. Between 1873 and 1909, director William Guilfoyle created the landscape. Today, the Gardens are a haven for strolling garden lovers and families enjoying a relaxed picnic.

Follow the peaceful winding paths, past the

National Herbarium ⑭, **Guilfoyle Memorial** ⑮, **Western Lawn** ⑯, **Oak Lawn** ⑰ and the gardens' stunning **Camellia Collection** ⑱. Rest for a moment in the **Herb Garden** ⑲ to enjoy the calming scents of traditional herbs. Look carefully, and you may spot one of thousands



'Neutrino' Observatory Gate

of Flying Foxes that roost in **Fern Gully** ⑳.

Above **Central Lawn** ㉑, over the treetops, you can see the majestic white tower of Government House. Opposite a rest house is **The Separation Tree** ㉒, where Victorians in 1850 celebrated their coming independence from New South Wales (which occurred in 1851).

Relax at the elegant **Terrace Tea Rooms** ㉓ and enjoy sweeping views over the Ornamental Lake, then stroll on past the **William Tell Rest**



House 24 and the old river bend near **Long Island 25**.

Beside the Southern Chinese Collection at **'H Gate' 26**, look for the **Garden Directors' Names 27** on a rock face, and the **Aboriginal Heritage Plaque 28**. Then, walk up the bluestone steps, past **Plant Craft Cottage 29** and the **Grey Garden 30** below the **Temple of the Winds 31**.

Designed by Guilfoyle and built in 1901, the Temple is dedicated to Lt Governor Charles La Trobe who selected the gardens' site and nurtured their early growth.

The high path across **Huntingfield Lawn 32** leads to picturesque **Lych Gate 33**. Literally meaning 'body gate', roofed lychgates were originally built in churchyards to shelter coffins awaiting burial. Through here, we return to King's Domain and turn right, taking the steps down to **The Grotto 34**. Originally a quarry, nowadays it's an enchanting hidden fern gully.

On the other side, walk briefly uphill to another 'secret' garden. The **Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden 35** was created during



Queen Victoria monument

Victoria's centenary in 1934-35 to commemorate the courage and contribution of women pioneers. It was designed as a sanctuary to represent the 'old world' that women pioneers sacrificed when they migrated to Australia. Surrounding the Garden, you'll find other memorials to women including a eucalypt dedicated to Victoria's aboriginal women.

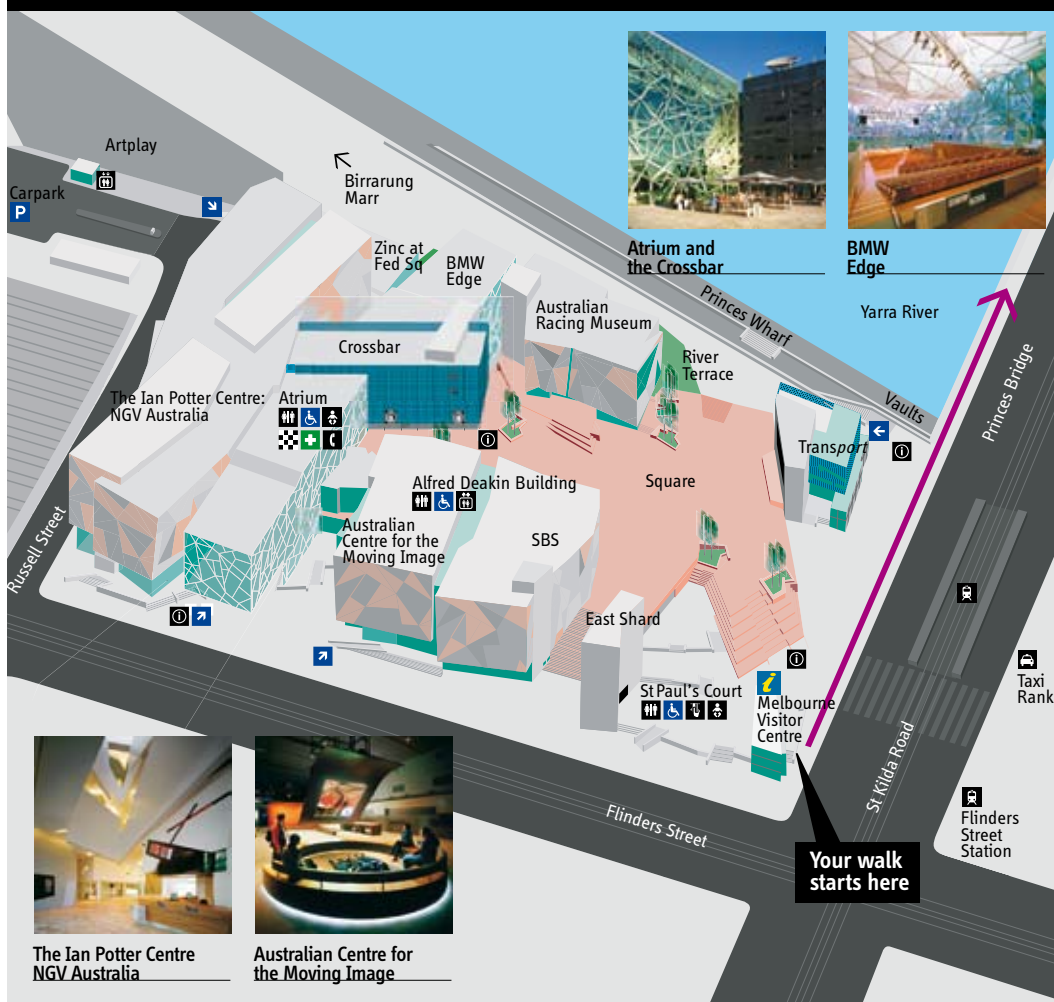
As you walk down to the banks of the **Yarra River 36**, cross busy Alexandra Avenue and then walk under **Swan Street Bridge 37** to follow the riverside back towards the city. Here, you'll see walkers, joggers, cyclists and maybe a boat or two. Towards the end of **Henley Landing 38**, veer uphill to the **Rowers War Memorial 39**.

On the final leg of your garden promenade, stroll through the stately **Alexandra Gardens 40**, named in 1904 after Queen Alexandra, the wife of King Edward VII. In Melbourne's early years, floods, timber cutting and brick makers' quarries ravaged the low ground here.

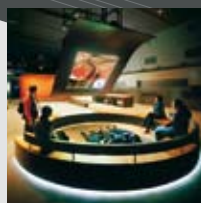
Along the **Avenue of Elms 41**, pass **Riverslide Skate Park 42** to discover the beautiful **Star Bed of flowers 43** - a feature of Alexandra Gardens.

Relaxed and refreshed, return to **Federation Square 1** along Princes Bridge at St Kilda Road.

Federation Square



The Ian Potter Centre NGV Australia



Australian Centre for the Moving Image

Arts and Culture

The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia
Mon-Thu 10am-5pm
Fri 10am-9pm
Sat-Sun 10am-6pm
Free Entry

Australian Centre for the Moving Image
Mon-Sun 10am-6pm
Free Entry

Australian Racing Museum
Mon-Sun 10am-6pm
Free Entry

Restaurants, Cafes and Bars

Arintji
Mon-Thu 10am-late
Fri 7am-late
Sat-Sun 8am-late
Bokchoy Tang
Mon-Sun 11.30am-late
Café Chinotto
Mon-Sun 8am-late
Charmaine's
Mon-Sun 10am-late
Chocolate Buddha
Mon-Sun Noon-late
Feddish
Mon-Sun Noon-late
Funk Fish
Mon-Sun 11.30am-late

Reserve Restaurant
Mon-Fri Lunch & Dinner
Sat Dinner
The Wine Bar
Mon-Sun Noon-late
Youme
Mon-Sun 9am-5pm
Time Out Café
Mon-Fri 7am-late
Sat-Sun 8am-late
Transport
Mon-Sun Noon-late
Taxi Restaurant
Mon-Sun Noon-late
Zargatt
Mon-Fri 10am to late
Sat-Sun 10am-late

Shops and Retail

Best of Souvenirs
Open same hours as Melbourne Visitor Centre
Kirra Gallery
Mon-Thu 10am-6pm
Fri 10am-9pm
Sat-Sun 10am-6pm
The Cellar
Mon-Sun 10am-late
Urban Attitude
Sun-Thu 10am-6pm
Fri-Sat 10am-9pm
7-Eleven
Mon-Sun Early-late

Melbourne Walks

There are a number of self-guided walks in this series. These walks have been developed by Federation Square and the City of Melbourne.

For more information

Call City of Melbourne Hotline 9658 9658

Visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au

Or visit the Melbourne Visitor Centre, Federation Square
Cnr Swanston and Flinders Streets, Melbourne

Federation Square Management

Telephone 03 9655 1900

www.fedsq.com

Tourism Information

Melbourne Visitor Centre
Located at Federation Square
Cnr Flinders and Swanston Street
Open 7 days 9am-6pm

Melbourne Visitor Booth
Located at Bourke Street Mall
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Sat-Sun 10am-5pm
Public Holidays 10am-4pm

For assistance with any queries regarding Melbourne and 'What's on in the City', keep an eye out for our roving City Ambassadors in their distinct red outfits roaming the City.
Mon-Fri 10am-4pm
Sat 11am-2pm

Useful Numbers

Victorian Tourist Information	132 842
Best of Victoria Booking Service	9650 3663
The Met - train, buses and trams	131 638
V/Line - country and interstate transport	136 196
Travellers' Aid	9654 2600
CityLink etag information	132 629
Airport Bus - Skybus	9335 3066
National Trust of Australia	9656 9800
Ticketmaster 7	136 100
Ticketek	132 849
RACV Ticketing	131 329
Directory Assistance	1223
Emergency - police, fire and ambulance	000
Weather	9669 4916