

2 Secret Gardens

Arts Centre, sculptures, monuments and beautiful Royal Botanic Gardens.

Walking time 2.5 hours
Distance 6 Kilometres

that's melbourne city

Let your imagination guide you



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. 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.

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? Open-air concerts draw thousands to the **Sidney Myer Music Bowl** ⑦ throughout the year. The Victorian Police Memorial is a tribute to the 150 police who have been killed in the line of duty.

The Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop Statue on St Kilda Road is made from bronze, granite and metal from the Burma-Thailand railway. Weary Dunlop was a doctor known for his leadership and humanitarian acts while a prisoner of war in Changi prison.

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.

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. King's Domain is a significant site for many Indigenous people as it includes a burial site of 38 Aboriginal people, marked by the **Aboriginal Burial Stone** ⑩. Moving south, pause



Victorian Arts Centre

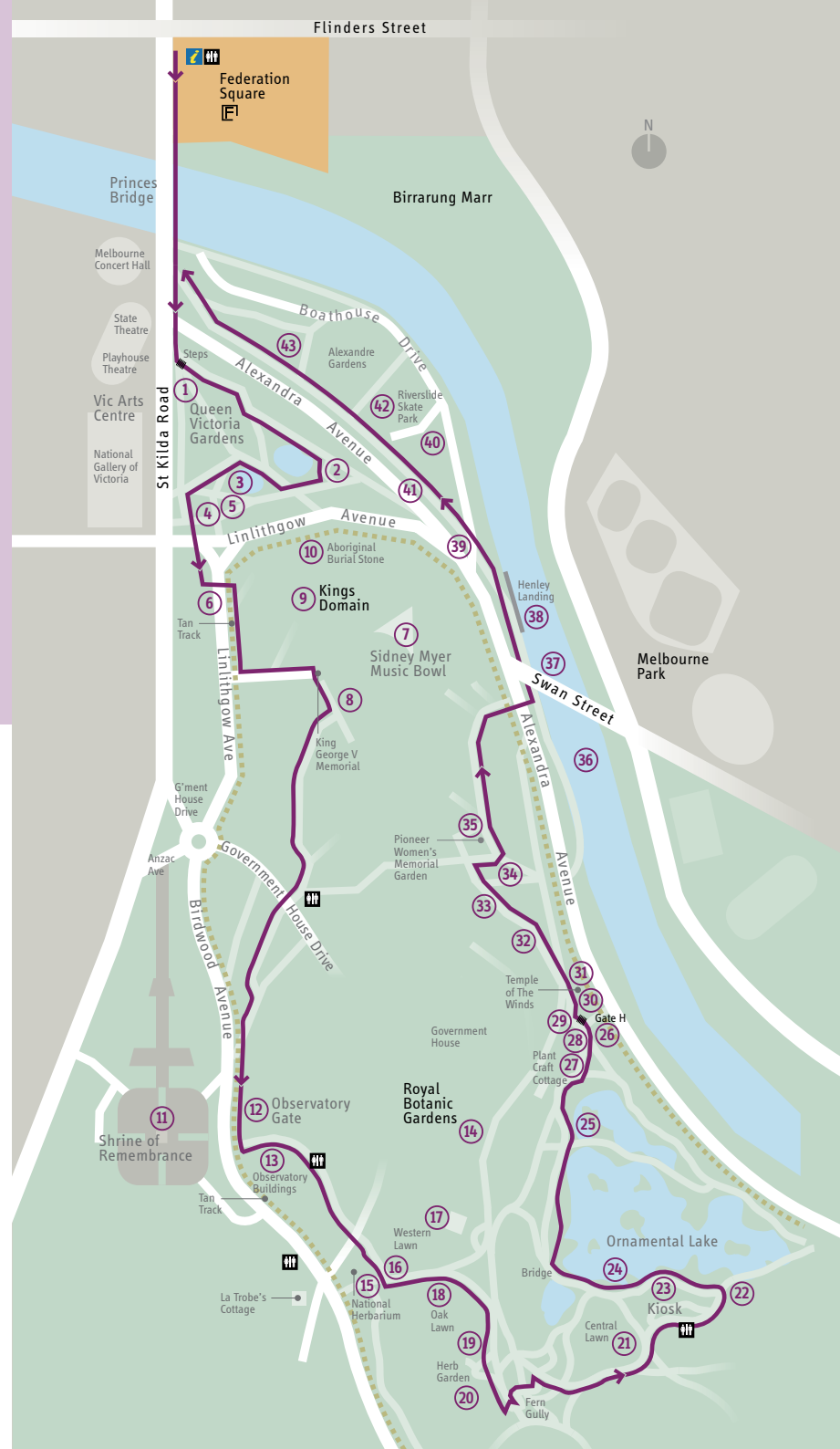


The Shrine of Remembrance

for a moment's reflection at the **Shrine of Remembrance** ⑪ which honours Australia's war dead. Don't miss the spectacular views of the city from the Shrine. The Visitor Centre features two galleries which host a variety of free exhibitions. Nearby is La Trobe's Cottage, home of the settlement's first governor Charles La Trobe.

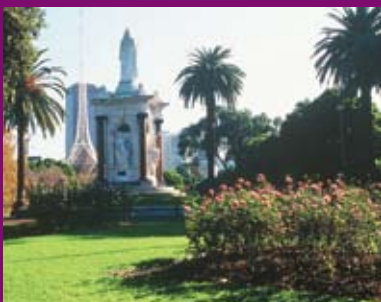
Turn left at **Observatory Gate** ⑫ and join the crowds for a quick snack or a latte at Observatory Café beside the old **Observatory Buildings** ⑬ and the Gardens Shop.

Enter the lush green world of the **Royal Botanic Gardens** ⑭, one of Victoria's most popular tourist destinations. Originally an Aboriginal mission, the gardens were established in 1846 and cover 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.





'Neutrino' Observatory Gate



Queen Victoria Monument

Follow the peaceful winding paths, past the **National Herbarium** (15), **Guilfoyle Memorial** (16), **Western Lawn** (17), **Oak Lawn** (18) and the gardens' stunning **Camellia Collection** (19). Rest for a moment in the **Herb Garden** (20) to enjoy the calming scents of traditional herbs.

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), an original River Red gum – the species that once covered this entire region. It was at this place that in 1850, Victorians 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 recreated Billabong 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 the **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). Once 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 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). Once river wetlands, the gardens were named in 1904 after Queen Alexandra, the wife of King Edward VII. In Melbourne's early years floods ravaged the low ground here, which was home to timber cutting and brick makers' quarries.

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



Arts and Culture

ArtPlay
Bookings essential,
www.artplay.com.au
Tel: 9664 7900

Champions: Australian
Racing Museum and
Hall of Fame
Mon-Sun 10am-6pm

The Ian Potter Centre:
NGV Australia
Tue-Sun 10am-5pm
Thu until 9pm

Restaurants, Cafes and Bars

ACMI Lounge Café
& Bar
Mon-Fri 8.30am-late
Sat & Sun 9.30am
to late

Arintji
Mon-Thu 10am-late
Fri 7am-late
Sat-Sun 8am-late
Beer Deluxe
Mon-Wed 7.30am-
10.30pm
Thurs 7.30am-midnight
Fri-Sun 7.30am-1am

Bokchoy Tang
Mon-Sun 11.30am-late

Café Chinotto
Mon-Sun 8am-late

Chocolate Buddha
Mon-Sun Noon-late

Feddish
Mon-Sun Noon-late

Il Pomodoro
Mon-Sun 8.30am-late

Jolimont Espresso
Mon-Fri
7.30am-5.30pm
Sat & Sun
9am-5.30pm

Riverland Bar
and Café
Mon-Sun 7am-late

Time Out Café
Mon-Fri 7am-late
Sat-Sun 8am-late

Transport
Mon-Sun noon-late

Taxi Restaurant
Mon-Sun noon-late

Tjanabi
Mon-Sun 9am-late

Transit Lounge
Wed-Fri 5pm-late
Sat & Sun 4pm-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

7-Eleven
Mon-Sun Early-late

Tourist Information

Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square
Open 7 days 9am-6pm
(excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day)

Melbourne Visitor Booth in the
Bourke Street Mall
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm
(excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day)

City Ambassadors

Keep an eye out for our roving City Ambassadors
in their distinctive red outfits roaming the City.
Mon-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 11.30am-3pm

Melbourne Greeter Service

Discover from a local what locals love about
Melbourne. English orientations available 7 days
per week. Other languages on request.

Melbourne City Tourist Shuttle

Hop on and off at any of the 13 stops along the
route at key city destinations, guided by an
informative on-board commentary. The complete
trip takes approximately an hour and a half.
The bus runs every 30 minutes between 9.30am
and 4.30pm daily excluding Good Friday and
Christmas Day.

For further information, visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/touristinformation

Useful Numbers

Victorian Tourist Information	132 842
Best of Victoria Booking Service	9928 0000
Metlink – train, buses and trams	131 638
V/Line – country and interstate transport	136 196
Travellers' Aid – City Village Bourke St	9654 2600
Travellers' Aid – Flinders St Station	9610 2030
Travellers' Aid – Southern Cross Station	9670 2072
Airport Bus – Skybus	9335 2811
Ticketmaster 7	136 100
Ticketek	132 849
Melbourne Mobility Centre	1800 735 266
Directory Assistance	1223
Emergency – police, fire and ambulance	000

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

For more information, call the City of Melbourne
Hotline 9658 9658, visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/melbournebrochures or go to the
Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square

