

What to look out for

Avenues of trees

The majestic avenues of old English elm trees are an outstanding feature of Fitzroy Gardens. Mature elms like these are now rarely seen in most parts of the world, due to the effects of Dutch Elm Disease that decimated tree populations in Europe and America in the 1970s.

The main pathway in Treasury Gardens is shaded by the spreading branches of Moreton Bay fig trees, an evergreen Australian species.

Floral displays

Colourful ribbon borders line Hotham Walk while vibrant massed displays are a feature of the Conservatory.

Wildlife

Small black and white birds, Magpie Larks (also known as Pee Wees), are usually seen busily feeding on insects in the lawns during the day. The gardens are also a haven for nocturnal animals, especially possums which emerge as night falls. Some trees have metal guards on the trunks to protect them from over-feeding by possums.

Water features

With the current water restrictions expected to become permanent, many of the ponds and fountains in Melbourne's parks can no longer function. Those that still operate in a limited capacity have been supplied with recycled water.

The **Pavilion Café** is a great place to relax in the centre of Fitzroy Gardens

For a free **guided tour** of Fitzroy Gardens, call 9419 4118

The gardens offer a stunning backdrop for weddings and special events. Lawn areas, the pavilions and the Conservatory can be booked for **private functions**, call 9658 9658

For more information:

- visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au
- visit the Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square, located on the corner of Swanston and Flinders Streets
- visit the Melbourne Visitor Booth in the Bourke Street Mall
- call the City of Melbourne on 9658 9658



This self-guided walk explores the rich history of the Fitzroy and Treasury gardens.

These beautiful gardens have provided a place for relaxation, recreation and entertainment for generations of Melburnians. Both gardens are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

The walk takes about one hour.

The Fitzroy Gardens are situated on land set aside "for the public advantage and recreation" by Governor La Trobe in the 1840s.

The Treasury Gardens were developed in the 1860s to complement the Victorian Parliamentary buildings to the north.

Fitzroy Gardens

Your walk starts at:

- 1

Cooks' Cottage, originally built in Yorkshire in 1755. The cottage was the family home of Captain James Cook's parents and was transported to Melbourne by ship, re-assembled on its present site and officially opened in 1934. A life-size bronze statue of Captain Cook stands in a productive herb and vegetable garden.
- 2

Sinclair's Cottage is named after James Sinclair, head gardener at Fitzroy Gardens in the 1860s and 1870s. Some of Sinclair's original plantings survive today.
- 3

The **Scarred Tree** is one of few remnants of the vegetation that existed prior to European settlement and highlights the indigenous heritage of this area. The river red gums, wattles and billabongs are long gone, but the oval scar reveals where bark was removed to make a shield or canoe.
- 4

A favourite with children, the **Fairies' Tree** links the elves, fairies and goblins of traditional folklore with Australian animals. Sculptor Ola Cohn gave each of these carvings an identity. Look for the Fairy-with-the-Smiling-Lips and the Energetic Emu.
- 5

The picturesque model **Tudor Village** was a gift to Melbourne from the citizens of Lambeth, England, as a token of appreciation for the Australian food parcels they received during World War II. The village was officially opened in 1948.
- 6

The neo-classical **Rotunda** (also known as the Temple of the Winds), with its bluestone platform and ten supporting pillars, was built in 1873. Bluestone is a common feature of Melbourne's older buildings, and its use here is a reminder of the bluestone quarries in this area before it was reserved for parkland.
- 7

Constructed in 1864 and probably the first built structure in this park, the **Bandstand** was used for musical performances, including regular recitals by a military band. Today it is a popular spot for weddings.



- Female Toilets
- Male Toilets
- Accessible Toilet
- Playground
- Trees & Shrubs
- Accessible Parking
- Tram Lines
- Water Feature
- Cafe

- 8

The **Grey Street Fountain** sits at the top of the Grey Street Walk. Halfway down the walk the remains of two pedestal vases are the only surviving fragments of statues and sculptures placed in the gardens during the 1800s.
- 9

A commanding figure, the **River God** dominates the first fountain introduced into the Fitzroy Gardens in 1862. Fountains were an option for the park only after the introduction of piped water to Melbourne in 1857.
- 10

The **People's Path** is made from thousands of tiles decorated by members of the public, part of the 1978 Arts Victoria Craft Festival.
- 11

The **Dolphin Fountain** was introduced into the gardens in 1982. As well as bronze dolphins, many other sea creatures are placed amongst the rocks.
- 12

Built in 1929 in the Spanish Mission style, the **Conservatory** is home to a series of floral exhibitions. The vibrant displays make the conservatory a popular tourist attraction. Free entry.

Walk down to the traffic lights at Wellington Parade and cross Lansdowne Street to

Treasury Gardens

- 13

An old horse trough donated by the Bills family is a tangible reminder of Melbourne's transport history and a time when horses were a common sight on city streets.
- 14

The John F Kennedy Memorial was constructed in 1965. The surrounding lake dates back to 1867.
- 15

The bronze statue of Scottish poet Robert Burns is a replica of one in his birthplace, the town of Ayr in Scotland.
- 16

Alongside the impressive Old Treasury Building is the William Clarke Memorial. Sir William and his wife, Janet Lady Clarke, were highly regarded public figures in Victorian Melbourne. This marble bust was unveiled by the Governor of Victoria in 1902.