

## FITZROY GARDENS

Fitzroy Gardens is on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country. It is one of Melbourne's most historic and beautiful gardens. The open, 64-acre space was laid out in 1859, following traditional Victorian era design, and named after Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy, Governor of NSW.

### 1 Fitzroy Gardens Visitor Centre

Start your walk at the Visitor Centre, where you can access visitor information and purchase from a locally sourced retail range. Pop into KereKere Green café to grab a coffee. Close by you will find information about the underground

### 2 Stormwater Harvesting System.

3 Scarred Tree - Next stop you'll spot the Scarred Tree, one of six identified across the city. Scars were created when Aboriginal people removed bark to make canoes, containers, shields and temporary shelters.

4 Sinclair's Cottage - Nearby you will find Sinclair's Cottage. This Italian Romanesque-style home was built in 1866 for head gardener James Sinclair.

5 The Boy on the Turtle - On your left, follow the hidden path across the wooden bridge, down a few small steps. Here you'll find the 1850s statue by an unknown artist.

6 Model Tudor Village and the Fairies' Tree - At the next stop channel your inner child by visiting the Model Tudor Village and the Fairies' Tree. The tiny, rambling village was gifted in 1947 from the people of Lambeth in England, in appreciation for food parcels from Australia, sent during WWII. Nearby is the Fairies' Tree, sculpted in 1934 by Ola Cohn, and featuring a range of Australian animals and petite fairies.

7 Boy and Pelican, and Mermaid and Fish - Heading towards Clarendon Street, follow the path uphill to the sandstone sculptures,

both by artist William Leslie Bowles, which guard this entrance to the garden and won first prize in the Fitzroy Gardens Sculpture Competition, held in 1935.

8 Rotunda - Retracing your steps you'll see the historic Rotunda, built in 1873, and also known by the name 'Temple of Winds'.

9 The Bandstand - Heading towards Clarendon Street, you will find another 19th century structure graces the garden. The Bandstand, was constructed in 1864 to host musicians playing for the crowds who flocked to the gardens.

10 Children's Playground - Take a hard left and loop back downhill to visit the giraffe swing and dragon slide. You'll find the hidden path to it on your left.

11 River God Fountain - After the playground, visit Melbourne's oldest surviving public artwork. River God Fountain was created in 1862 by Charles Summers, one of the most important Victorian sculptors of the period, to celebrate the development of a permanent water supply for Melbourne.

12 People's Path - Next head towards Lansdowne Street to wander along the People's Path. It features 10,000 terracotta bricks decorated for the 1978 Craft Festival.

13 Dolphin Fountain - Take a hard left back towards the middle of the garden, where you will see the Dolphin Fountain, created in 1982 by June Arnold.

14 Conservatory - Visit the Spanish mission-style Conservatory, built in 1930. The striking peach coloured building hosts a beautiful rotating display of plants inside. It's free to visit from 9am-5pm daily.

15 Cooks' Cottage - Close by you'll spot Cooks' Cottage. The cottage was a gift from philanthropist Russell Grimwade, brought from Yorkshire, England to commemorate Melbourne's centenary in 1934. You can visit daily from 10am-4pm.



\* Stops 5 & 13 may not be accessible to all





# FITZROY GARDENS



Elm lined paths, heritage listed buildings and an abundance of lush plantings.

**1.5**  
HOURS

**2.0**  
KILOMETERS

[f /WhatsOnMelb](#)  
[@WhatsOnMelb](#)  
[CityofMelb](#)  
[#MelbMoment](#)

## OTHER CHARMING AND HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS.

### BONUS Treasury Gardens

A quick walk from Fitzroy Gardens, this heritage-listed garden was set aside as a public reserve in 1851. Wander the tree-shaded paths, featuring contrasting evergreen foliage of conifers, palms, and Moreton Bay figs against a background of deciduous elms, oaks, and poplars. A pretty pond hosts a population of native ducks, and nearby you'll spot the Victorian Emergency Services Memorial and a monument to John F Kennedy. You can also visit the Family Violence memorial, facing Lansdowne Street, adjacent to the northern edge of Treasury Gardens. It's a lovely contemplative space.

### BONUS Birrarung Marr

Birrarung Marr was a modern addition to the city's green spaces, replacing railway yards with a public park in 2002.

The name comes from the Woi Wurrung language - 'birrarung' means 'river of mists' and 'marr' relates to 'the edge'. The park features Aboriginal art installations, celebrating the diversity of Victoria's indigenous culture, as well as ArtPlay, a children's arts centre and gallery.

### BONUS Parliament Gardens

This small triangular park near Parliament train station has excellent views of Parliament House, Eastern Hill and St Patrick's Cathedral. Here you will find the bronze statues that commemorate Aboriginal activists Pastor Sir Douglas Nicholls and Lady Gladys Nicholls, as well as a vibrant row of flowering jacaranda trees. Don't miss the striking Coles Fountain, built in 1981 from stainless steel and bluestone.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For opening hours contact City of Melbourne on 03 9658 9658 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

For more information head to [whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

- [Fitzy Gardens Visitor Centre](#)
- [Melbourne Visitor Hub at Town Hall](#)
- [Melbourne Visitor Booth in Bourke Street Mall](#)
- [City Ambassadors](#)

[Q What's On Melbourne](#)

Cover: Grey Street Walk, Fitzroy Gardens Information correct at time of printing September 2023

Opening hours for all venues and attractions may vary. Please check with the venue before arriving.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.



Birrarung Marr

Parliament Gardens

Fairies' Tree