

17th Australasian Botanic Guides Conference



Day Excursion – City Gardens Tour

MELBOURNE city was originally laid out on the Hoddle grid, surrounded by parks. It was proclaimed a city in 1847. You will be introduced to Melbourne's historical gardens by volunteer guided visits to Bishops court (East Melbourne) and to two campuses of Melbourne University - Burnley Gardens and Parkville.

Constructed in 1848 Bishops Court (the home of the Anglican Archbishops of Melbourne) is the last urban estate within Melbourne. The house and garden plus 18 trees are on the Victorian heritage register. Originally designed by Charles Swyer, now maintained by volunteers, the garden was laid out in the Gardenesque style with extensive plantings, sweeping lawns, fruit trees and vegetables.

In the original University of Melbourne grounds at Parkville is the System Garden, established in 1856 and recently renovated. It is a scientific, teaching garden which contains cultivated beds representing the evolution of plants from non-flowering Gymnosperms, mosses, cycads through to Angiosperms. A final ramble along Professor's Walk takes us to the architecturally, historical and socially significant carpark and Ellis Stones' garden. ([The System Garden \(unimelb.edu.au\)](http://The System Garden (unimelb.edu.au))).

Burnley Gardens, (home of the original Burnley Horticultural College) provides 9 hectares of gardens which include nearly 1000 different species of plants and National Trust proclaimed trees. The gardens have evolved since the 1860s as a location for research and teaching. One of the first roof gardens was constructed here as a student research project. ([Visit Burnley Gardens \(unimelb.edu.au\)](http://Visit Burnley Gardens (unimelb.edu.au))).

