

Council House, 27 St George Tce, Perth Icons of Influence **Public Art**

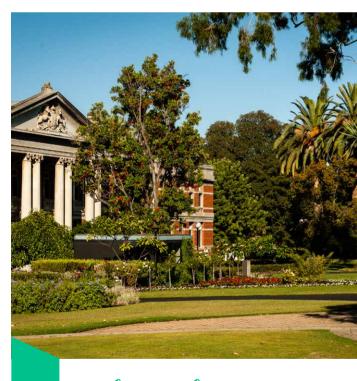


Boasting 26 parkland areas and reserves, the City of Perth is described by many as a parkland oasis. The beautifully crafted green open spaces that cover one tenth of the city area combine heritage, public art and water features to offer a break from the bustle of city life. Take some time out to experience the tranquillity of Perth's open spaces.

GETTING AROUND

Getting around Perth's parklands need not cost a cent. The modern CAT buses running on four routes are a great way to travel around the city. All CAT stops have distinctive stands and are easily recognisable, with real-time passenger information that tells you when the next bus is due. You can also take advantage of the Free Transit Zone (FTZ) which operates on regular bus services within the city boundaries. The FTZ bus boundaries are detailed on a map available from Transperth and signposts are displayed at the route stops.

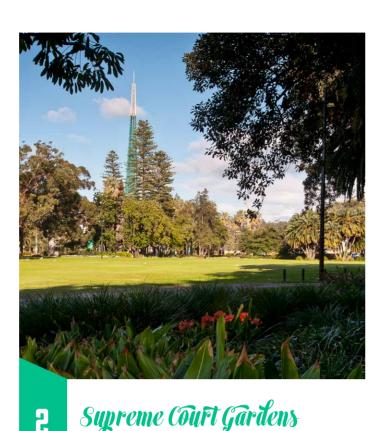
For further information on public transport, visit the Transperth InfoCentres at Perth Underground, Esplanade Busport, Roe Street Bus Station and Perth Station, call 13 62 13 or check the website www.transperth.wa.gov.au



Stirling Gardens
CORNER BARRACK STREET & ST GEORGES TERRACE

Stirling Gardens is the oldest gardens in the city. First used by colonial botanist James Drummond as an acclimatisation garden in the 1830s, the reserve opened as a botanical garden in 1845. Botanical gardens were used to promote botanical learning, horticultural skill and civic pride and also provided a green space for those who could not afford to establish their own gardens. Stirling Gardens acted as Perth's botanic gardens until 1960, when the Kings Park Botanic Gardens were officially established.

Stirling Gardens are named after Captain James Stirling, who founded Perth and established the Swan River Colony in 1829. Kangaroo sculptures, a water feature and the fabled May Gibbs' creations, Snugglepot and Cuddlepie, are some of the interesting aspects of this parkland. At the corner of Stirling Gardens, near St Georges Terrace and Barrack Street, the statue of Alexander Forrest, who was both an explorer and an early Mayor of the city, stands guard over the gardens' entrance.



Merging with the Stirling Gardens are the Supreme Court Gardens, which contain both the Supreme Court (1903) and the oldest building in the City of Perth. Now known as the Francis Burt Law Education Centre, this was the only building suitable for public meetings when it was built in 1836. It performed various functions in those early days—as a church, a law court and as the Perth Boys' School until 1850. The building now houses a small museum, which is open from 10am to 2.30pm Wednesday to Friday.

CORNER BARRACK STREET & RIVERSIDE DRIVE

The Supreme Court Gardens are semi-enclosed by mature trees and gardens. Events such as Opera in the Park and Carols by Candlelight, plus some high profile ticketed concerts, are held here in the summer months.



Langley Park CORNER PLAIN STREET & RIVERSIDE DRIVE

Langley Park was created by land reclamation between 1921 and 1935 and was used as an airstrip when Major Norman Brearly pioneered civil aviation in Western Australia in the 1920s. The airstrip was re-named Langley Park after the Acting Lord Mayor, TW Langley, in 1937.

Today, Langley Park is a popular vantage point for the annual Australia Day Skyworks, as well as the venue for many sporting events, exhibitions and marches.



Ozone Reserve 1 Adelaide terrace

Ozone Reserve continues the sweep of green riverside land towards the eastern end of the city. Recent works on the reserve have introduced an environmentally friendly irrigation lake, Lake Vasto, named in recognition of Perth's Italian sister city.



Point Fraser **CORNER RIVERSIDE DRIVE & THE CAUSEWAY**

This artificial wetland, accessed by a series of interconnecting boardwalks, serves a number of purposes. Stormwater is filtered through the wetland before flowing into the Swan River, helping to preserve the delicate balance of the river. Native reeds have been planted to attract birds and wildlife to the area. Interpretive works allow visitors to gain an insight into the significance of the site from an environmental, historical and indigenous perspective.

Future developments will include restaurant, café, beach and picnic areas, a children's playground, short-term boat moorings and a jetty for ferries providing river cruises.



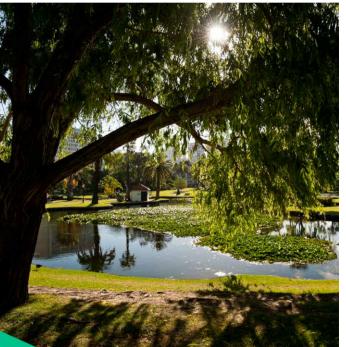
Heirisson Island JUST OFF THE CAUSEWAY

The island over which the Causeway runs is thought to have been named after a crew member sailing with the French navigator-explorer, Captain Hamelin, in 1801. Francois-Antoine Heirisson explored and mapped parts of the Swan River including the mudflats that formed Heirisson Island. The chart that Heirisson drew of the river is now located at the State Library of Western Australia.

The early settlers of the Swan River Colony decided to bridge the Swan River, using Heirisson Island as a causeway. Although the first bridge was washed away soon after completion, a new causeway was built by convicts in 1863. Although work commenced in the 1930s to fill in swampy areas between the mudflats, Heirisson Island did not take on the shape we see today until the 1950s. At this stage the river banks were realigned, reed beds filled and silt brought up from the river bed to create a single island.

Today, Heirisson Island is home to a colony of Western Grey kangaroos, which can be seen in the enclosed southern part of the island. The statue of Nyoongar leader Yagan is also located on the island, which was a significant hunting ground for indigenous people.





Queens Gardens CORNER HAY STREET & PLAIN STREET

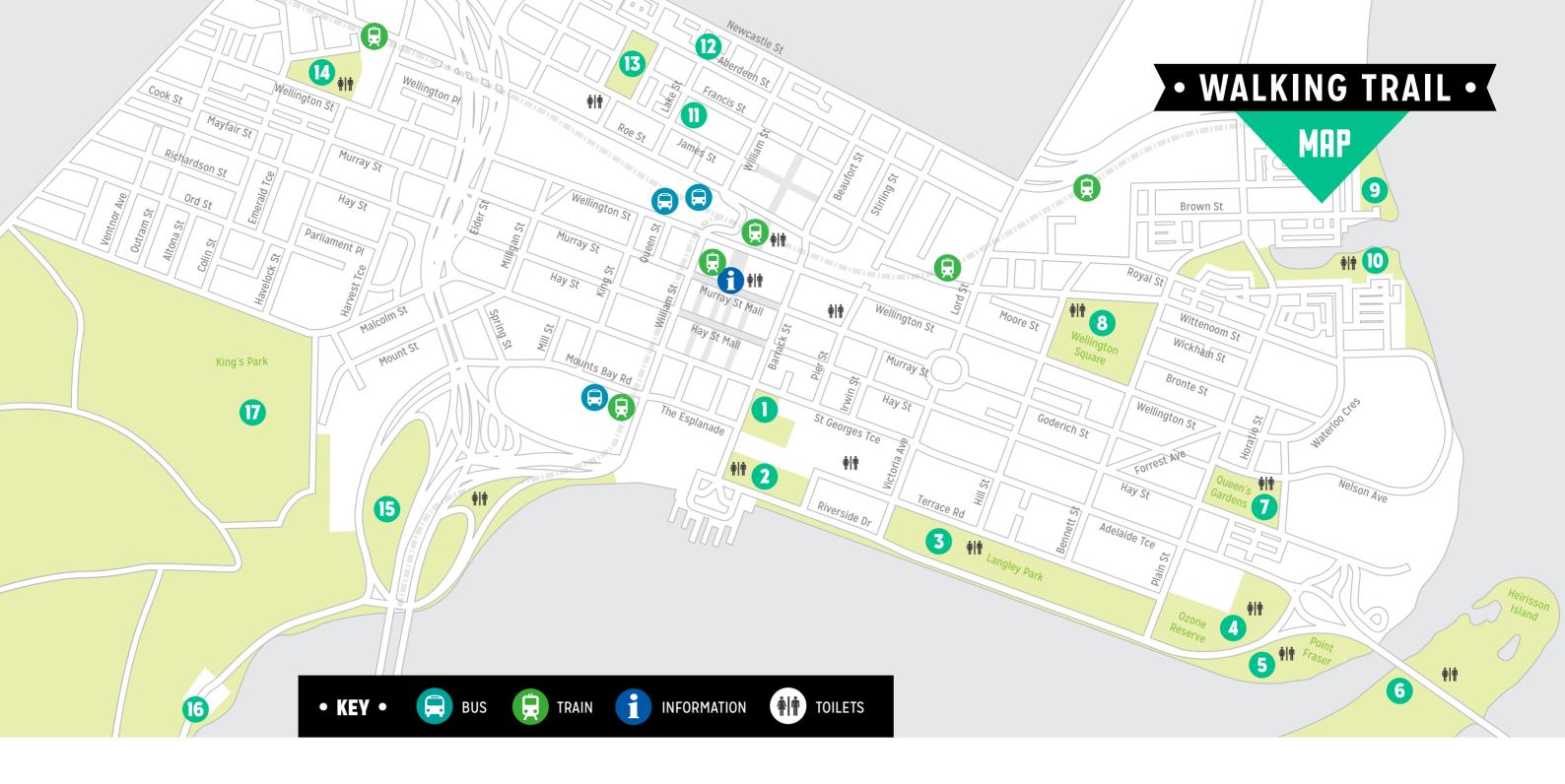
The site of Queens Gardens has been closely associated with the physical and social development of Perth. Initially it was used for recreation purposes including horse racing and later as a clay mine and brickworks. The bricks produced between 1860 and 1890 went into several of Perth's most prominent buildings. The main features of the gardens include lakes filled with water lilies (the old clay pits), mass displays of flowers and a replica of the Peter Pan statue in Kensington Gardens, London. The classic English style of the enclosed Queens Gardens, make this a popular venue for weddings.

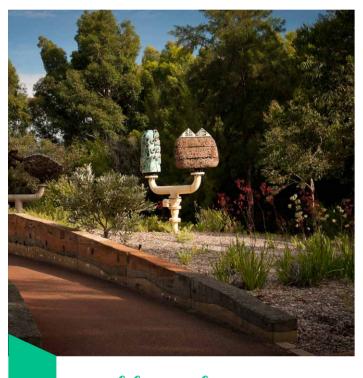


Wellington Square CORNER WELLINGTON STREET & BENNETT STREET

Wellington Square was originally a swamp, like much of the land north of Wellington Street, but was drained and established as a public reserve in the 1830s to provide a space for training and exercising horses stabled in the area. In 1898 the ground was cleared to make a cricket field and two pitches were installed. It was formally named in honour of the Duke of Wellington, the British Prime Minister at the time of the Swan River Colony's foundation. Among locals though, it became popularly known as 'The Rec'.

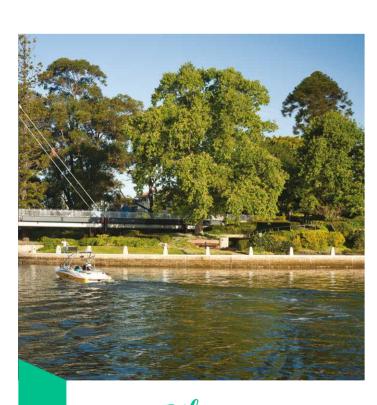
Wellington Square continues its function as a recreation ground today, with cricket clubs and inner city schools making use of the facility all year round. The park also has fitness equipment, which is accompanied by an exercise instruction board.





Mardalyp Park BROWN STREET

Adjacent to Claisebrook Cove in East Perth, Mardalup Park provides a wonderful backdrop for recreational activities. Cyclists, rollerbladers and pedestrians favour the wide paths that skirt the river's edge while family groups that flock to the area make good use of the children's play area and basketball courts.



Victoria Gardens A Arden Street Park **ROYAL STREET & ARDEN STREET**

On the southern side of Claisebrook Cove, the landscaped

Victoria Gardens are a popular site for social gatherings with public barbeques and shaded benches. A selection of cafés and restaurants can be found within a few minutes walk of the park. Arden Street Park sweeps down the hillside from Victoria Gardens to continue the swath of open space by the riverside. A tribute to peace in many languages is a feature of this area.

A collection of significant public artworks, many referring to the significance of this riverside area to the Nyoongar people, is installed throughout these parks.



Northbridge Piazza CORNER JAMES & LAKE STREETS

The Northbridge Piazza is home to Perth's very first free outdoor movie theatre. Located in the heart of Northbridge, the Piazza grounds consist of the LED Superscreen, a multi-purpose community building, a versatile stage and a grassed area. The Superscreen showcases a variety of features from the latest films to cult classics, creative presentations, sports and music. The grass and staged areas play host to a variety of events including festivals, performances, exhibitions, sporting events, live music, talks and other cultural activities. The Northbridge Piazza is a major attraction operating 24 hours a day.

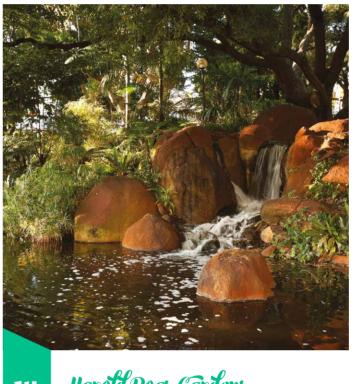
Lake Street Plateia LAKE STREET

The Plateia (public square) on Lake Street celebrates the contribution of the Greek community to the Northbridge area. An eye-catching artwork, Nexus, incorporates columns symbolising classical Greek architecture. Public squares are a central feature of many Greek villages, offering an important meeting place for community members. The Lake Street Plateia will form the focal point for Greek businesses, including restaurants, in years to come.

Russell Square CORNER SHENTON & JAMES STREETS

In the hub of bustling Northbridge, this parkland was officially named 'Russell Square' in memory of Lord John Russell, the Prime Minister from 1846 to 1852. However, from an early stage it became known as 'Parco dei Sospiri' - The Park of Sighs. It gained this title as the favoured meeting place of the Italian community of 'Little Italy' whose preferred pub, the Victoria Hotel, was located opposite Russell Square. Originally, the design of the park was modelled on the square fenced gardens of mid-19th Century London. In 1994, Russell Square was upgraded and became home to around 30 original sculptures, designed and constructed by local artists.

Russell Square is the site for many city celebrations and community festivals.



14 Harold Boas Gardens **CORNER COLIN & WELLINGTON STREETS**

Named after architect and former City of Perth Councillor, Harold Boas, these gardens feature several lakes and a waterfall. Dense shrubberies, large grassed areas and ample shade trees, many over 100 years old, give this park its character.

Harold Boas Gardens is popular for wedding ceremonies and there are separate areas set aside for wedding photography.



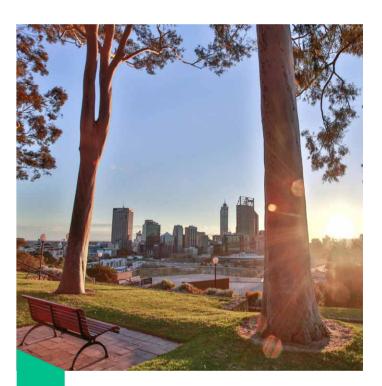
John Oldham Park Mounts bay road

Tucked away next to Mitchell Freeway is a peaceful lakeside retreat that defies its busy city position. John Oldham Park features lakes, fountains, footbridges and shade trees and is a popular venue for wedding photos and picnics.

Riverside & Crawley MOUNTS BAY ROAD

The former Swan Brewery site and the classical grounds of the University of Western Australia are two major landmarks on the city side of the Swan River. The foreshore path is frequented by early morning walkers and cycling commuters, while the river is dotted with watercraft of all shapes and sizes, taking advantage of Perth's breezy conditions. Dolphins can sometimes be seen playing in the early hours of the day.

The Old Swan Brewery site at the foot of Kings Park now contains luxury apartments and a number of restaurants and is a great site for a relaxed breakfast or delicious dinners. Further around the river, Matilda Bay has been a much loved picnic and paddling spot for generations of West Australians, with shady trees to take the bite out of the midsummer sun.



Kings Park
FRASER AVENUE

Located on Mt Eliza at the western end of the city, Kings Park offers a wide range of experiences over its 400 hectares. The reserve, managed by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, supports 250 species of plants and about 100 native animals. A series of bush trails, picnic spots, a fine dining restaurant, cafés and children's playgrounds are found throughout the park, which offers panoramic views back over the city and the Swan River.

In September and October the wildflower season is a popular drawcard with the park becoming ablaze with colour. On special occasions the trees on Fraser Avenue are illuminated with coloured lights. A number of significant memorials are located within the parklands and it is a perennially popular spot for family barbeques, photos and sightseeing. One feature of the park is the elevated Federation Walkway, which rises through the trees and incorporates distinctive artworks in its structure.

Kings Park offers a calendar of events throughout the year including movies, plays and concerts during summer. The Kings Park Guides offer guided tours of the park daily. The Kings Park Visitor Information Centre on Fraser Avenue can provide further information on all events and activities within the park. Telephone: 08 9480 3634.

