

20th Birthday Celebration

The Ian Potter Foundation Children's
Garden

Visual Story



Contact Details



Visitor Information:

(03) 9252 2300

Email:

events@rbg.vic.gov.au

Other Resources:

[Website](#)

Getting to The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden

Getting There

The entrance to the Children's Garden is close to Observatory Gate, Melbourne Gardens. This is near the Visitor Centre, Birdwood Avenue, opposite the Shrine of Remembrance. If you follow the path from the Visitor Centre, you will see the Children's Garden on your right.

Car

Limited street parking is available on Birdwood Avenue. Designated accessible parking spots are also available on Birdwood Avenue, about 100m from the entrance of the Children's Garden.

Getting to the Ian Potter Foundations Children's Garden

Public Transport

Tram



Shrine of Remembrance, Tram Stop number 19
500m, 7min walk

Train



Flinders Street Train Station 1.7km, 17min walk

Bike or Scooter

There is limited bike parking available on site, however vehicles (whether foot propelled or motorised) are not permitted in the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. This includes but is not limited to bikes, scooters, skateboards, hoverboards, balance bikes and roller skates. Wheelchairs and recognised mobility aids are allowed.

Introduction

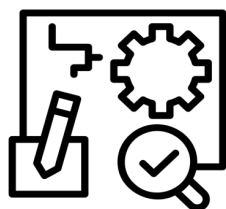
This access guide is designed for people attending The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden 20th Birthday Celebration.

In this visual story, you will find information about what to expect when you attend this event at Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. Please look out for the icons below in this visual story, so you know what to expect on your journey through the Children's Garden.

We hope you enjoy this special event.



Things that you can **see**.



Things that you can **do**.

The Venue

The Birthday Celebration will be held in The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden, at Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. You may have been to the Botanic Gardens before.

The Royal Botanic Gardens is a beautiful, large garden near the city of Melbourne.



Event Description

The Children's Garden is turning 20! And you're invited to help us celebrate at a jam-packed weekend of activities.

Follow human-sized *Bees* in an immersive and interactive performance by Polyglot Theatre, as they busy themselves creating a bee community amongst the spring blossoms.

You might also encounter the giant Praying Mantis or her friend the Ladybird, popping in to roam the garden, by ensemble Born in a Taxi.

Climb, jump, crouch, crawl and revel in a garden specifically designed for nature-based play. We're also refreshing our storytelling – we'd love you to come and see! You'll find beautiful plant labels with illustrations by young designers that reveal wonderful stories about our plants and the animals who visit them. You can also collect Seek and Find circles and head off in search of shapes and colours and hidden animals.

Event Duration

The celebration will begin at 10am and conclude at 4pm, but you are free to drop-in at any time. The nature-based activities will run all day between 10am and 4pm.

Bees by Polyglot Theatre performances will be at 10.30am, 12.30pm & 2.30pm

There will be appearances by the Giant Praying Mantis and Ladybird throughout the day



What to Wear

The whole event is outside, so make sure you wear clothes that are suitable for the weather. Bring a hat and water bottle. You may also want to bring a rain jacket or umbrella depending on the weather forecast, and make sure to be sun smart.

What happens if I need a break?

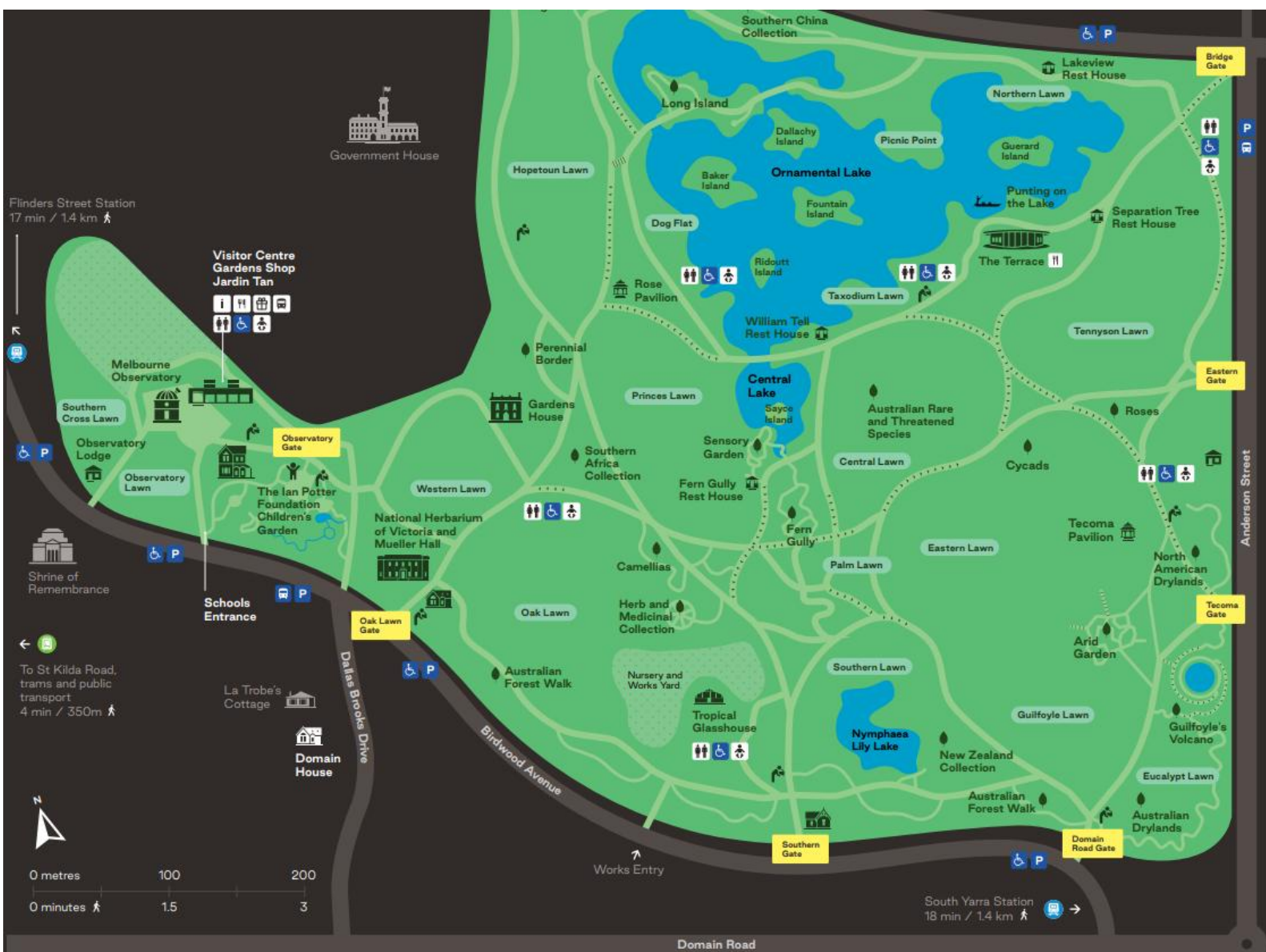
You and your family can leave whenever you are ready or want to have a break from the activities or performances.

Feel free to explore the many beautiful and quiet spots the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne has to offer.

Getting There

You can refer to the below map through your journey to the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. A hard copy can be found on our map boards throughout the Gardens, or at the Visitor Centre.

You can also scan the QR codes on these map boards for our interactive map, or follow the link [here](#).



Entry Gate

You will enter the event via the main gate to The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden. You may see a large Praying Mantis, Ladybird, or Garden staff member outside the gate. Other families may be coming in or coming out at the same time.



Accessibility

There are accessible paths throughout the Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden. Wheelchairs also available for free hire from the Visitor Centre or online [here](#).



Finding your way

Once you're in the Children's Garden you can use the below map to explore.



Bathrooms

The nearest public access bathroom is a short walk, on the opposite side of the path from the Children's Garden, towards the Visitor Centre.



Changing Places

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne has a registered Changing Places bathroom if you require it. It is located close to our Visitor Centre next to the public toilets, just opposite the Observatory cafe.

This is available 24/7 for users with their own MLAK. Alternatively, a key can be borrowed from the Visitor Centre.



Need help?

You will see several members of staff around the Children's Garden. They will be wearing uniforms like the one in this picture. If you need help or have a question, please ask one of our lovely staff members for assistance.



What you will see



Other families enjoying the Children's Garden and having fun.



What you will see

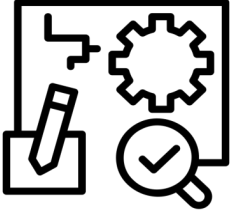


A giant praying mantis, and her friend the Ladybird by company Born in a Taxi. You may also see a giant caterpillar puppet.

You can go up close and talk to the insects or stay back and watch them.



Bees by Polyglot Theatre



There will be paper and tape that you can use to turn yourself into a bee before the performance starts.



Bees by Polyglot Theatre



You will see a big blue and yellow hive, and round colourful mats that you can sit and play on.

Human-sized bees will appear.

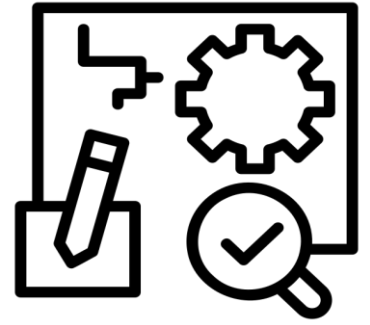
Sounds will come from speakers.

You can stay back and look at them or go up close and join them.

You can find more information about Bees [here](#)



Things you can do

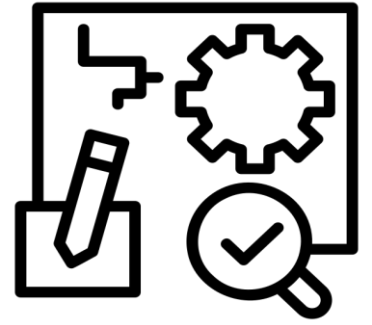


You will be able to play with sand and other natural materials.

You might get a bit dirty, but it will be a lot of fun!



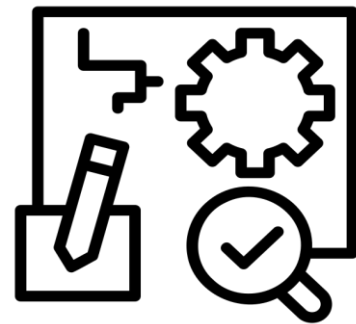
Things you can do



You can enjoy some water painting on the Rocky Gorge.



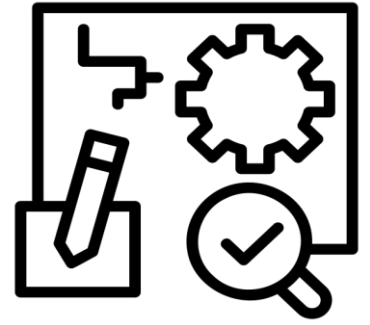
Things you can do



Make a seed ball to take home.



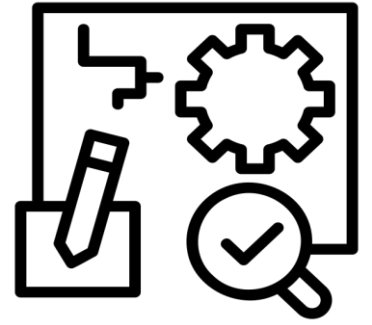
Things you can do



Create some beautiful smelling potions using natural materials.



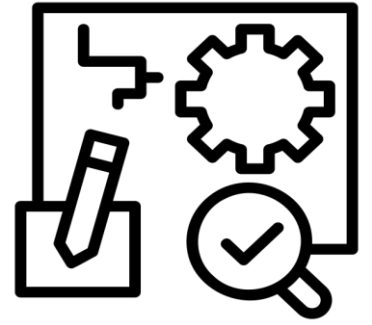
Things you can do



Explore the bamboo forest.



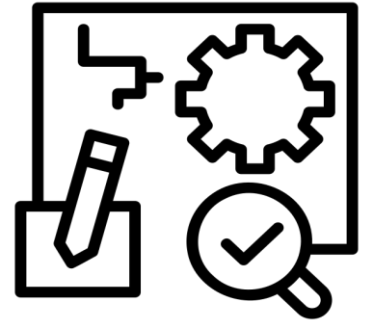
Things you can do



It might get noisy in the Children's Garden. You can rest in the Chill Out zone if you feel like you need a break. You can read a book or play with some toys.



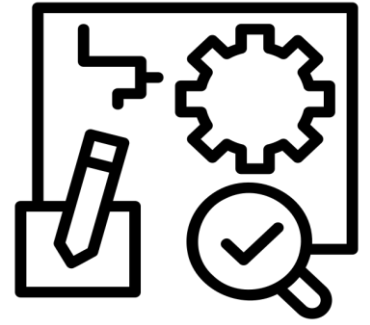
Things you can do



You can paddle in the rill and cool your fingers and toes in the nice water.



Things you can do



And plenty of other fun nature-based activities you can enjoy on the day!



Once you're done...

Explore the rest of Melbourne Gardens with the brand-new episode of our audio series *Sonica Botanica*, created by kids in collaboration with artist Patrick Cronin. You'll experience the Gardens as kids do, and be reminded that every garden is a children's garden.



There is so much to do and see at this special event and we hope you join us for the 20th Birthday celebration.

