

The following are permitted under the Regulations in the Gardens:

Dogs

Dogs are permitted in Melbourne Gardens provided they are kept on a short lead and supervised at all times to ensure the safety of delicate plants, other dogs and visitors.

Visitors with dogs must also ensure they pick up and remove from the Gardens any faeces deposited by the dog.

Dogs are not permitted in The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden, Jardin Tan, The Terrace, Visitor Centre, shops or any other building unless they are required to assist a person with a disability.



Bringing plants for the purposes of plant identification

Plants or plant material may only be brought into Melbourne Gardens for the purpose of formal plant identification.

The Plant Identification service is available Monday to Friday between 10am and 1pm. For more information regarding this service, or to leave a sample outside these hours, please contact the identifications team on 03 9252 2315.

Persons may be exempt from a number of the Regulations if they have a permit. Permits are required for:

- wedding ceremonies
- wedding or commercial photography and filming
- commercial filming
- commercial functions and activities.

Permits for all commercial functions and activities are subject to approval based on the Royal Botanic Garden Victoria's mission and values.

Commercial functions and events

With its rolling hills, landscaped gardens, lake views and historic function rooms, the Melbourne Gardens is the ideal location for holding events.

There are a number of venues, including lawns and pavilions, in the Gardens, which can be hired for your function or event. Please refer to the Gardens' website rbg.vic.gov.au for further details on booking a venue.

Commercial activities

All commercial activities within the Gardens require a permit.

For further details please contact the Visitor Centre 03 9252 2300.

Wedding ceremonies

Melbourne Gardens provides a perfect backdrop for a wedding ceremony. A permit must be obtained prior to the ceremony regardless of where it is held in Melbourne Gardens. Please contact Blakes Feast for further details 03 9821 0669.

Photography

Photographs and videos are a wonderful way to remember a visit to Melbourne Gardens. If your photographs or films are for commercial purposes (including wedding photography/video) a permit is required. For more information go to rbg.vic.gov.au.

Permits must be obtained at least 2 weeks prior to your visit.

Media permits can be obtained through Marketing and Communications Branch. Please contact 03 9252 2300 for further details.

Further Information

The Regulations apply to both Melbourne Gardens and Cranbourne Gardens, although some are specific to either site.

Infringement notices may also be issued to persons who commit offences under the *Royal Botanic Gardens Act 1991* including taking, destroying or removing any plants or flowers from the Gardens or taking, destroying or injuring any animals in the Gardens.

For more information please ask at the Visitor Centre or call 03 9252 2300.

This brochure is provided as a general guide only.

Further information on the Regulations and the Royal Botanic Gardens Act, including copies, are available from the Royal Botanic Gardens website at rbg.vic.gov.au or from the Visitor Centre.

Current as per September 2016.



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS VICTORIA

REGULATIONS

Welcome to the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Melbourne Gardens.

Please help us protect Melbourne Gardens by observing the Royal Botanic Gardens Regulations 2014 (the Regulations). The Regulations are designed to protect the plants, animals and other features of this garden while allowing you and other visitors to enjoy and experience Melbourne Gardens.

Melbourne Gardens is world-renowned for its 38 hectares of impressive heritage landscapes and horticultural beauty. As part of Melbourne's landscape for over 170 years, the natural and cultural values of Melbourne Gardens should be preserved for the benefit of people now and in the future. To protect Melbourne Gardens, Regulations governing the use of the Gardens have been drawn up and Authorised Officers

have been appointed to enforce these. The Regulations have legal force, and a breach of the Regulations can result in a fine (infringement notice), similar to a traffic infringement notice.

Most visitors to the Gardens do the right thing, not just to avoid an infringement notice, but because they have a sense of pride in the Gardens and a desire to protect them for future generations. The Regulations are designed to ensure that visitors can enjoy their experience of the Gardens without undue disturbance from other people.

If you are unsure of what you can and cannot do in the Gardens please check with staff at the Visitor Centre or ask a Customer Service Ranger. The following useful guide to the Regulations will help you enjoy your visit to Melbourne Gardens.

The Regulations, among other things, specify what visitors cannot do in the Gardens including:

- Taking, injuring or destroying any plant or animal, or part(s) thereof
- Climbing on plants or trees either alive or dead
- Feeding any wildlife (including birds, reptiles and fish)
- Damaging, defacing or removing any sign, structure, facility, equipment or natural feature (including soil)
- Occupying a structure, building or vehicle or using a sleeping bag or swag for purposes of accommodation
- Walking on garden beds, borders and rockeries
- Climbing over fences, or entering non-public zones, e.g. areas protected by gates, fences, hedges, barriers or signage
- Allowing dogs to be off a leash
- Failing to remove any faeces deposited by a dog under visitor care or supervision
- Playing of games causing danger and/or damage to people, plants and animals
- Running of commercial activities or formal functions without a permit. These include wedding ceremonies and commercial photography or filming
- Conducting a demonstration, public meeting, festival, tour, training class, rally or competition
- Driving of vehicles, motor bikes and scooters
- Jogging and physical training
- Flying of kites, model planes, helicopters and drones
- Riding of bicycles, scooters or skateboards, or using rollerblades
- Playing or operating devices that make, reproduce or amplify sound
- Soliciting or collecting money, distributing handbills, pamphlets, books or other advertising placards or notices
- Lighting of fires and the operation of gas, electric and solid fuel barbeques
- Erecting any structures including tents, awnings, shelters or umbrellas

The following are prohibited in the Gardens under the Regulations:



Feeding and disturbing the Wildlife

Feeding or disturbing the birds or any other animal (including fish or reptiles) is not allowed. Melbourne Gardens is a well-known haven for a variety of birds and other animals and provides plenty of natural foods and habitat for these wild animals. We ask visitors to respect this wildlife and help us to keep them healthy by not feeding or handling them.

Giving birds inappropriate foods, such as bread, is unnecessary and potentially harmful. These foods can cause dietary problems, leading to sickness or malnutrition.



Climbing on trees or plants

Do not climb on any of the plants or trees or walk on any of the garden beds.



Barbeques

Barbeques are not permitted within Melbourne Gardens. The closest barbeque facilities are located on the banks of the Yarra River, on the south side of the river at Alexandra Gardens and off Alexandra Avenue, and on the north side of the Yarra at Birrarung Marr.

For further details on these facilities please contact the City of Melbourne on 03 9658 9658.



Recreational activities

Melbourne Gardens is spread over a wide area with undulating sealed and unsealed pathways. In the interests of visitor safety, Melbourne Gardens does not allow bicycles, rollerblades, scooters or skateboards in the Gardens.



The City of Melbourne website provides information on local bicycle paths and skating options in the surrounding area. Please visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au for further details.

Group or individual sporting activities of any kind (including personal training, running sessions or boxing sessions) intrude into the quiet atmosphere of the Gardens and interfere with the general public's enjoyment of the Gardens.



Ball games

Ball games (including football, soccer, tennis, badminton, cricket and bocce) are not allowed in Melbourne Gardens. The use of Frisbees is also not permitted. These types of activities pose a significant risk to plants, animals and other visitors. The area surrounding Melbourne Gardens, the Domain Parklands, can be used for such activities.



Pets

No pets, other than dogs on leads are permitted in Melbourne Gardens.

Jogging

The pathways and lawns within Melbourne Gardens are designed for visitors to enjoy walking around, having picnics or relaxing.



Surrounding Melbourne Gardens is the Tan track, a 3.8km jogging track and we ask that joggers restrict their jogging to this track.