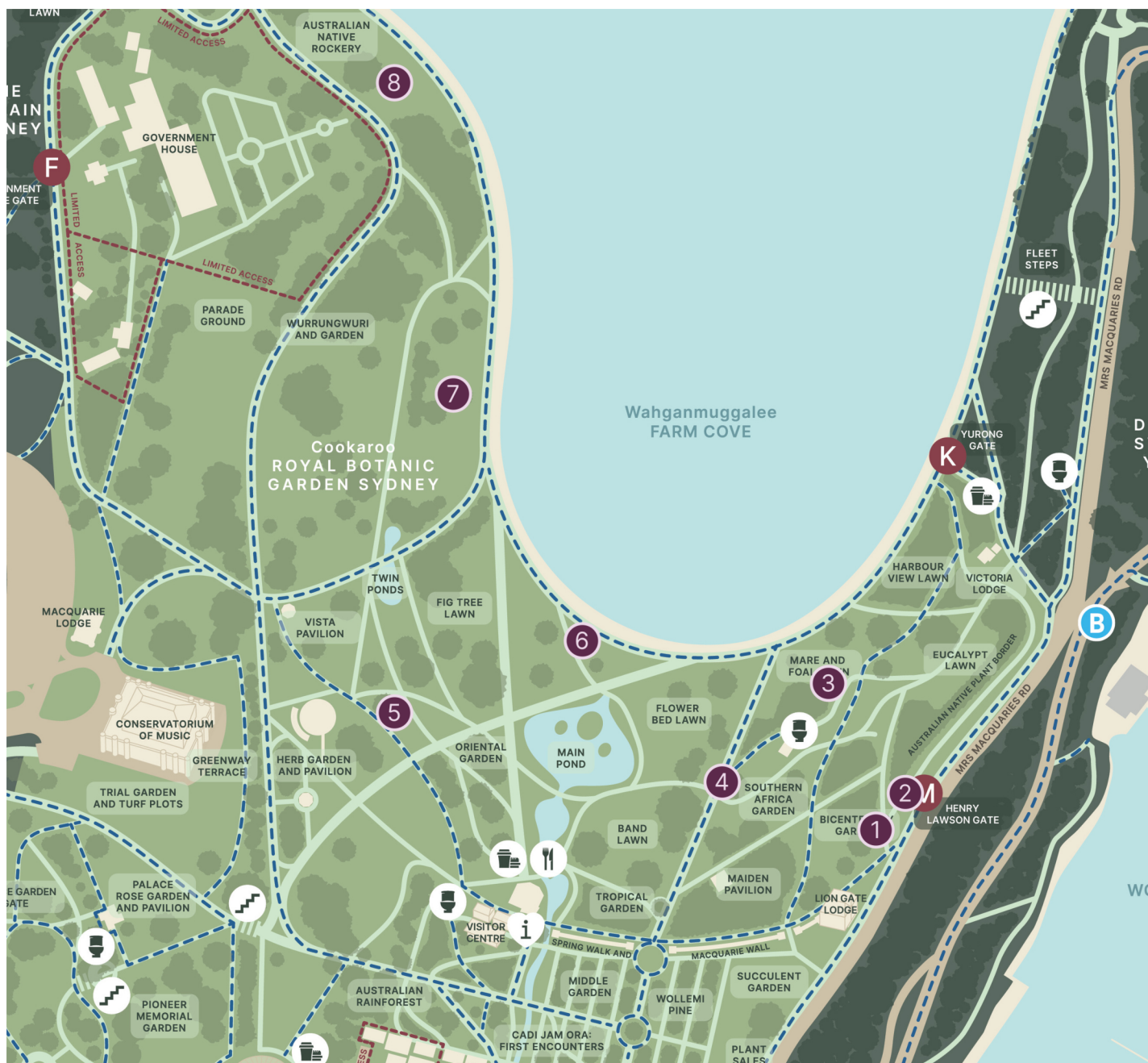




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Must See

November 2025



Rosa 'Meiceazar' – Palace Rose Garden

This month flowers can be found in every corner of the Garden. Enjoy a leisurely stroll to discover some of our favourites.

Join a guided walk

Scan the QR code to join a daily guided walk.



**BOTANIC
GARDENS
OF SYDNEY**

1 *Kigelia africana*
Sausage Tree



Native to sub-Saharan Africa this unusual tree has dark red, tubular flowers – veined with yellow and blooming at night. They emit a musky scent to attract bat pollinators. If flowers are pollinated, trees produce large, sausage-shaped fruits that can weigh up to 12 kg – hence its common name Sausage Tree. Though toxic when fresh, cooked fruit is used to speed up the fermentation of African beer, while the seeds can be roasted and eaten.

Family: Bignoniaceae

2 *Millettia grandis*
Tree Wisteria, Umzimbeet



This striking South African tree bears lilac to purple pea-shaped flowers in upright racemes at branch tips, opening from golden buds each spring. Its powdered root was used as a fish poison, although caught fish must be boiled before eating. Ground seeds, soaked in milk, served as a risky remedy for roundworm (they're poisonous in large doses) and were also used to make arrow poison.

Family: Fabaceae

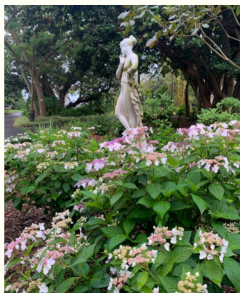
3 *Jacaranda mimosifolia* 'Alba'
White Jacaranda



The Jacaranda has become a Sydney icon, drawing visitors to photograph the more common Blue Jacaranda which can be seen nearby. 'Alba' was imported to Australia in 1960 from Florida by doctor, George Hewitt and our specimen was planted in 1991. Its funnel-shaped white blooms appear in mid to late spring, followed by leathery black seed pods. Propagate by cuttings to ensure white flowers.

Family: Bignoniaceae

4 *Hydrangea* varieties
Hydrangea



Hydrangeas are loved for their dramatic blooms and colour-changing sepals – blue in acidic soil, pink in alkaline. Sepals are leaf-like structures that protect the flower bud. They begin green and mature into pinks, purples, and blues. Their symbolism varies: in Japan, they represent gratitude, given by emperors to their maidens as a sign of thanks, while Victorians saw them as symbols of vanity for producing abundant flowers but few seeds.

Family: Hydrangeaceae

5 Spring Meadow
Cosmos bipinnatus



The Spring Meadow is planted each year to celebrate the vibrancy of Spring and visitors take delight in this joyful display of Cosmos with its range of brightly coloured blooms that can extend to 2m in height. The flat shaped flowers are produced with a ring of broad ray florets and a centre of disc florets that are rich in pollen and attractive to pollinators. Cosmos is native to the Americas.

Family: Asteraceae

6 *Erythrina crista-galli* 'Hendersonii'
Cocks Comb Coral Tree



This deciduous tree native to subtropical southeastern America often grows along riverbanks, floodplains, swamps and wetlands – and is well-suited to this low-lying wet area in the garden. The scarlet red pea-shaped flower has the largest petal bent backwards when the flower is fully open. These stunning flowers grow in clusters up to 30cm long and attract birds such as Rainbow Lorikeets searching for nectar.

Family: Fabaceae

8 *Anigozanthos* varieties
Kangaroo Paw



The colour, shape and texture of Kangaroo Paws make them one of the most rewarding Australian native plants for the home garden. The colour of the flowers is influenced by fine coloured hairs which cover the flowers and part of the stalk. They are drought tolerant and prefer full sun. Kangaroo Paws are for sale at our Growing Friends Plant Sales, open daily from 10am – 2pm.

Family: Haemodorraceae



Plant of the Month

7 *Lagunaria patersonia*
Norfolk Island Hibiscus

This species is endemic to Norfolk Island and Lord Howe Island and tolerates salt laden coastal winds. The hibiscus shaped flowers are usually pink or mauve and are followed by brown capsules containing black seeds. The seed capsules contain white fibres which can be irritating to the skin, hence one of the trees common names – Itch Tree. In summer trees often host the brightly coloured Cotton Harlequin bugs that come to feed on the young shoots.

Family: Malvaceae