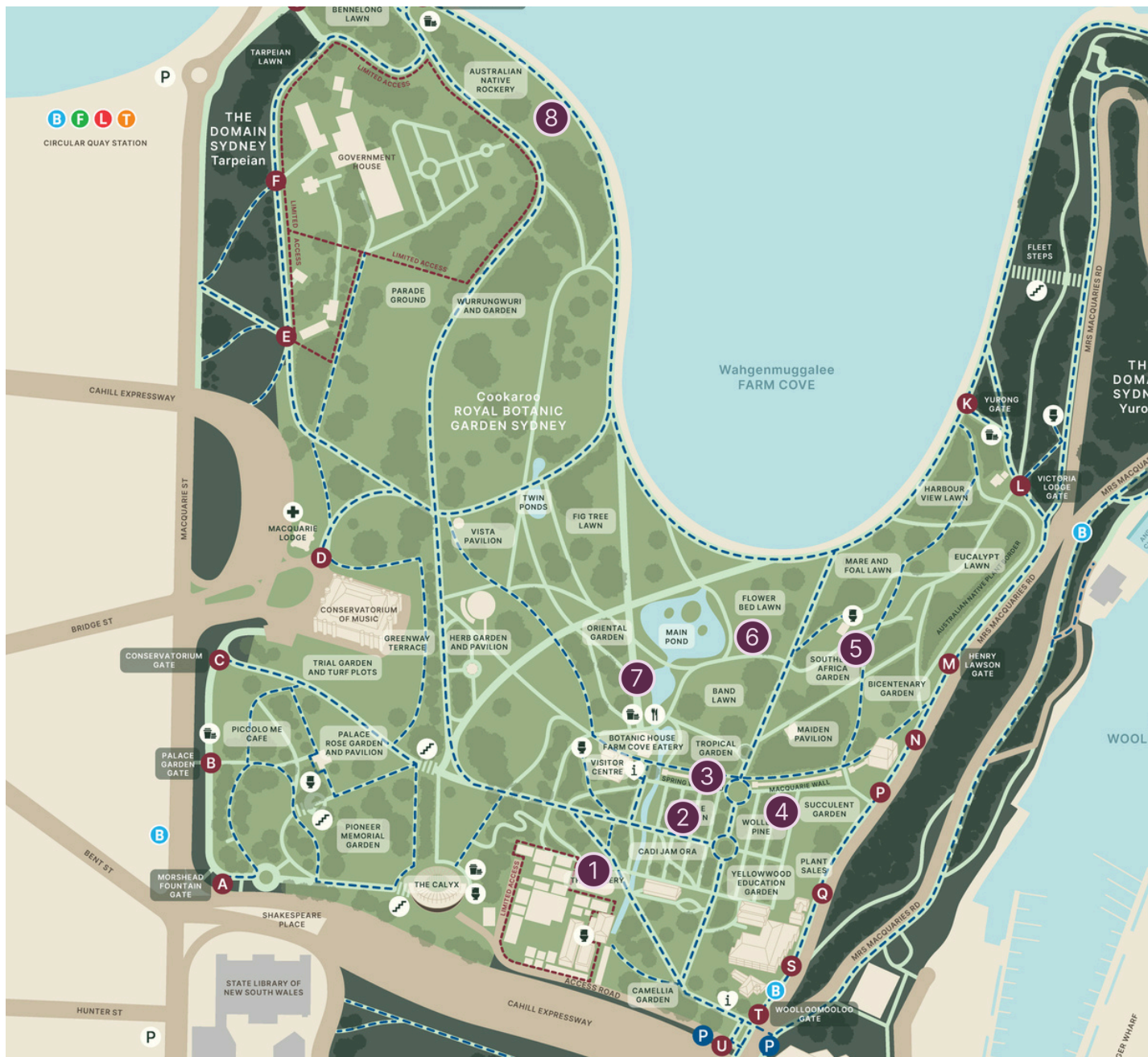




Must See

September 2026



Gulgadya (Gadigal) - *Xanthorrhoea* sp flowering in Cadi Jam Ora

This month's selection of plants celebrates the flowers and fragrance of spring.

To discover more, join a daily guided walk:
Scan the QR code to book.



Available to purchase from
Growing Friends Plant Sales

Find us on social media:



@BotanicSydney

DISCOVER MORE botanicgardens.org.au



**BOTANIC
GARDENS
OF SYDNEY**

1 ***Arisaema ringens***
Cobra Lily



In the shelter of the Sydney Fernery surrounded by over 300 species of ferns lurks the Cobra Lily. It features bold, glossy, dark green trifoliate leaves and a hooded, helmet-like green and purple striped flower spathe that as the name suggests, mimics a cobra's head. Native to wooded regions of Japan, China, South Korea, and Taiwan plants grow to 30 to 45 cm tall in summer and die down in winter. Successful pollination yields clusters of bright red berries.

Family: Araceae

3 **The Spring Walk - displaying spring flowering plants since 1855**



The Spring Walk features a diverse mix of fragrant spring flowering perennials, shrubs and trees that are bursting into flower, producing the heady scents of spring. Look for the standard and shrub-like Wisterias (pictured) from China and Japan with their pendulous purple, mauve and white flowers. Rhododendrons from warmer parts of eastern Asia are in flower and the air is heavy with the sweet fragrance produced by Osmanthus and the salmon pink blooms of Rondeletia.

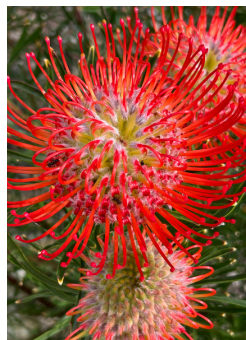
4 ***Dendrobium speciosum***
Sydney Rock Orchid



This spectacular Australian native orchid, occurs along the east coast from Cairns to Victoria. It is highly adaptable, growing in clumps on rocks as a lithophyte or high in tree canopies as an epiphyte. Spreading roots anchor it to these surfaces, while thick leaves emerge from starchy pseudobulbs. Arching stems carry magnificent clusters of fragrant flowers, ranging from white to golden yellow, often marked with purple spots on the central petal, or labellum. Native stingless bees are frequent pollinators.

Family: Orchidaceae

5 ***Leucospermum* varieties**
Pincushion Plant



Leucospermums are endemic to South Africa and famed for their spectacular pincushion flowers in shades of red, orange and yellow. Usually shrub-like, some species grow as low, spreading creepers. Their seeds have a remarkable relationship with ants, which carry them underground to feed on nutrient-rich "ant bread". This process called myrmecochory, disperses the seeds safely beneath the soil, where they can survive bushfires and germinate afterwards.

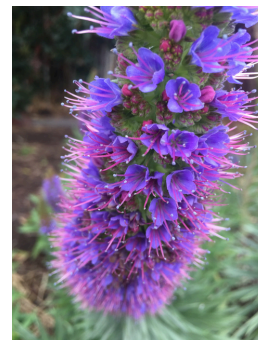
Family: Proteaceae

6 **Flower Bed Lawn and the Choragic Monument of Lysicrates**



Seasonal flower beds of snapdragons, poppies and daisies surround the sandstone replica built in 1870 of the Choragic Monument of Lysicrates Athens (335–334 BC). The original commissioned by wealthy patron Lysicrates, commemorated his victory as a sponsor of music and theatre at the annual Festival of Dionysus. Remarkably, it was the first known building to feature the ornate Corinthian order on its exterior, making it an important milestone in classical architecture.

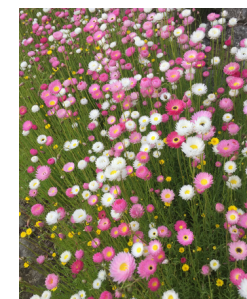
7 ***Echium* 'Heronswood Blue'**
Pride of Madiera



This glorious plant bearing candle-like spires of electric blue flowers is a magnet for bees and butterflies. It is a sun-loving, drought tolerant perennial that originated as a chance seedling of *Echium candicans* at Heronswood Victoria. This species is endemic to rocky cliffs of Madeira. The genus name derives from Greek 'echis' (viper) alluding to how the fruit resembles a viper's head.

Family: Boraginaceae

8 **Australian Native Rockery - celebrating wildflowers of Australia**



Nestled beneath the sandstone boulders is a border of Paper Daisies and Showy Everlasting daisies, native to arid parts of Australia. Along the ridgeline, look for iconic Australian Kangaroo Paw flowers (*Anigozanthos* varieties). Their tubular red flowers are perfectly adapted for bird pollination, transferring pollen as birds feed on nectar. Just eleven species are known, all endemic to Southwest Western Australia.

Plant of the Month

2 ***Macadamia tetraphylla***
Rough-shelled Macadamia nut

The Macadamia genus only has four species, all of which are native to the subtropical rainforests of coastal New South Wales and Queensland, and all are threatened in the wild. Only two species, produce edible nuts (*M. tetraphylla* and *M. integrifolia*). In spring, trees are covered in small pink flowers held in pendant racemes, producing a waterfall of colour and fragrance. The tiny Australian native stingless bee, *Tetragonula carbonaria*, is an important pollinator of Macadamias, essential if the trees are to produce their delicious oil-rich seeds.

Family: Proteaceae

