

Australia's Iconic Plants Walk

How to use this documentation

There are three parts to this documentation:

- 1) The theme, introduction and conclusion i.e. what needs to be said at the start of the walks and what the guide expects to achieve. The theme, introduction and conclusion can be found at the end of this document.
- 2) Route descriptions for two one hour walks:
 - a) A route that includes steps and stairs
 - b) A route that is suitable for wheelchairs, the electric vehicles and visitors with limited mobility
- 3) Notes about 32 species (including more general notes about some of the most common families and genera).

The route descriptions can be used to develop several different walks, with different themes. For example, the route can be used to lead a walk with a theme of Useful Australian Plants, by including a selection of the plants that have the theme 'Uses' marked.

The route descriptions should be read in conjunction with the documentation that has been developed, covering a number of different species, genera and families. Some of the plants mentioned in the walk routes do not have documentation. Plants that have documentation are in **bold** type. Some recommended stops have been highlighted. All the other stops are optional and guides are free to stop elsewhere along the route.

The plants that are included in the walk descriptions are those that are considered to be good examples of the species, genera and families that are included in the documentation. Guides are free to choose any other examples that they may consider to be more suitable at the time of the walk.

Some plants, which are described in the documentation, have not been included in the walk description because they are very numerous and can be easily found along the route. Guides are free to select the examples that are at their best at the time of the walk.

Australia's Iconic Plants

Theme, Introduction and Conclusion

Theme:

Australia has many plants whose names are familiar to most Australians and to many overseas visitors. The ANBG, which has a third of all the Australian species, is probably the best place in the world to see most of these Iconic plants in just one hour.

Introduction:

The ANBG was the first botanic garden to specialise in Australian Plants. There are about 7000 species of plants i.e. 1/3 of all the Australian species.

Most of the Iconic Australian plants can be found at the ANBG, except for those from areas of climatic extremes e.g. the northern coastal areas, the high alpine areas, the most arid regions.

The guide could ask the visitors what they would nominate as an Iconic Australian plant – provided that he/she is confident of finding most of the suggestions along the defined route!

Conclusion:

At the end of the walk, the visitors will have seen most of Australia's Iconic plants. They will also have learnt other intriguing information about these unique plants. They should then be able to recognise some of them when they are travelling around Australia.