

# CORPSE FLOWER

Adelaide Botanic Garden  
January 2026

## Frequently Asked Questions

### WHAT IS THE TITAN ARUM?

Commonly known as the corpse flower for its distinctive foul odour when in bloom, Titan Arum (*Amorphophallus titanum*) is a rare and remarkable plant **native to the Indonesian island of Sumatra**, where **fewer than 1,000** remain in the wild.

Titan Arum is one of the world's largest flowering structures and can take ten years to produce its first bloom, with the spectacular event **lasting for just 24-48** hours before it eventually starts to wilt.

### WHY DO THE BOTANIC GARDENS HAVE IT ON DISPLAY?

**The Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium of SA is a leader in the conservation of this species in Australia**, with an active program to protect the plant from extinction, **collaborating with other botanic gardens across Australia and the globe** to share information, technical support and plant material.

Due to its **large size, beauty, rarity and fascinating smell**, it is a popular botanical event that thousands of people come to see when it is put on display. It is a great opportunity for people to connect with nature and be inspired by the botanical world.



## WHERE CAN I SEE IT?

The Titan Arum is on display in the **Bicentennial Conservatory** in Adelaide Botanic Garden (map reference B5). When it is in bloom:

- **from 8am –5pm**, join the queue, near the Friends' Gate off Plane Tree Drive. This queue will be inside the Garden.
- **from 5pm - 10pm**, join the queue near the Conservatory Gate off Plane Tree Drive. This queue will be outside of the Garden.

Entry to the Conservatory itself will be via the **northern entrance, closest to Plane Tree Drive**. Look out for staff and volunteers in uniform who will guide you and answer our questions.

## WHY IS IT IN THE BICENTENNIAL CONSERVATORY?

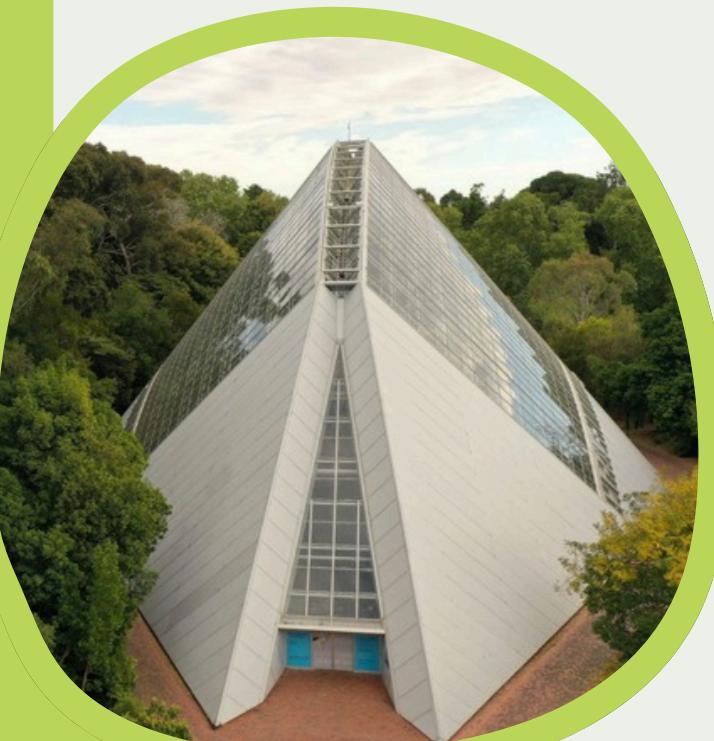
The plant has been **transferred from the nursery at Mount Lofty Botanic Garden** to Adelaide Botanic Garden where it is more suitable for public viewing.

The **conservatory is a good climate for the plant to thrive in**, similar to its native Sumatra.

We moved the plant when its flower was only just emerging to avoid damage in transit.

## WHAT ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION IN THE CONSERVATORY?

*Wildlife Photographer of the Year* is an incredible exhibition featuring stunning photos from around the world. It is a ticketed event but, **for the first two days that the corpse flower is in bloom, entry to the Conservatory will be free**. This means people seeing the corpse flower will also get to see the photography exhibition for free too.



**After the two bloom days, visitors will need to pay to enter the Conservatory to see the photography exhibition.** The bloom will be wilting by day three, have no smell remaining, and will be shortly removed.

**Prior to the bloom**, visitors will be asked to pay to enter the Wildlife Photography exhibition. If you just want to see the corpse flower at these times, donations will be welcome.

## WHEN WILL IT BLOOM?

The Titan Arum in Adelaide Botanic Garden looks likely to bloom **around mid-January 2026**. However, this is a natural process that can vary from plant to plant and be affected by things like the temperature, so **we can never be certain of the exact bloom date**, much like the birth of a baby!

There are telltale signs around lunchtime that a flower will be in full bloom by that evening, and **as soon as we know, we will share this information publicly**.

The bloom only lasts for **24-48 hours**, with the smell the strongest on the first night. The flower will start to wilt and **lose all smell by 48 hours**.

Follow our social media channels for the latest news, or visit our website:

[botanicgardens.sa.gov.au](http://botanicgardens.sa.gov.au)

[facebook.com/AdelaideBotanicGarden](http://facebook.com/AdelaideBotanicGarden)

[instagram.com/botanicgardenssa/](http://instagram.com/botanicgardenssa/)

Livestream <https://www.youtube.com/live/Jh8BPg5NkL4>



## WHAT TIME CAN I SEE IT?

### Day 1

**Approx 4pm – midnight.** This is the evening when it will smell strongest and open fully. Please note that the **rest of the garden will close at 6.30pm**, with only the Conservatory open for the corpse flower viewing after this time.

**From 5pm, entry and exit to the corpse flower will be via the Conservatory Gate.**

### Day 2

**8am – midnight.** By the end of the evening, the flower will have mostly lost its smell. Please note that the **rest of the garden will close at 6.30pm**, with only the conservatory open for the corpse flower viewing after this time.

**From 5.00pm, entry and exit to the corpse flower will be via the Conservatory Gate.**

### Day 3 onwards

**10am – 4pm.** The flower will start to wilt and have no smell left. Paid entry to the Bicentennial Conservatory for the Wildlife Photography exhibition will resume.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO SEE THE CORPSE FLOWER?

Entry to Adelaide Botanic Garden is **free**, and there is **no charge** to see the Corpse Flower.

To help support the care of this remarkable plant and the ongoing conservation work of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, **we invite visitors to make a voluntary donation upon entry.**

**A suggested donation of \$5 or \$10 is greatly appreciated**, with the option to give more if you wish. Every contribution helps us continue to conserve the Titan Arum, as well as many other plants, including native Australian plants through our work at the SA Seed Conservation Centre, and the State Herbarium.

**Tap and go machines** will be available in the Conservatory, and are dotted throughout the Garden. **Cash donations** will also be welcomed.

If you would like to donate online, you can do so here:

[www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/science/conservation/horticulture-conservation/titan-arum-aka-corpse-flower](http://www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/science/conservation/horticulture-conservation/titan-arum-aka-corpse-flower)

## HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE PLANT?

Visit our website to find out more about Titan Arum - [botanicgardens.sa.gov.au](http://botanicgardens.sa.gov.au)

## HOW DO I GET TO ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN?

There are six entrances to the Garden and **all entrances are open daily from 7.15am - 6.30pm daily.**

The queue for the corpse flower viewing will be via the **Friends' Gate (before 5pm)** or **Conservatory Gate (after 5pm)**, both of which are on Plane Tree Drive. Please note that the only exit after 6.30pm will be from the Conservatory Gate.

Tram and bus stops are 150m from the Main Gate on North Terrace, noting these are the opposite side of the Garden to the corpse flower.

There is **ticketed parking** available along Plane Tree Drive, **but this will get very busy.** Tickets are required up to 10pm.

Alternative parking is available along Hackney Road and in Adelaide's East End.

Find out more about parking and view our map on our website.

## **WILL TOILETS BE AVAILABLE?**

Yes, there are toilets located throughout the garden.

**After 6.30pm, the only toilets open will be in the Classsgrounds (A4 on the map).**

These have accessible toilets and a Changing Places facility.

## **CAN I BRING OR PURCHASE FOOD OR DRINK IN THE GARDEN?**

Yes, you can bring food and drink into the Garden, but it **cannot be consumed inside the Bicentennial Conservatory** where the corpse flower is. BYO alcohol is not permitted.

During regular opening hours food and drink will be available to purchase from Evergreen Café on the Schomburgk Pavilion, Botanic Lodge and Evergreen To Go.

There are water fountains in the Garden, including outside the toilet block alongside the queue.

## **WHAT SHOULD I BRING?**

We recommend you wear and bring **sunscreen** and a **hat**.

Bring plenty of **water to drink**, especially if it is hot.

Dress for the weather, noting the Garden can be quite cool in the evening.

## **QUEUES**

In previous years, **queues have formed quickly** to view the plant. If you enter the queue, you may need to **wait for up to 3 hours** during the busiest period before you can view the corpse flower.

Up to 5pm, we will invite people to join the queue along the pathway through the Classsgrounds area, adjacent to Plane Tree Drive (B3-B4 on the [map](#)). Entry will be via the Friends' Gate. This pathway is shaded by trees and there should only be limited times when people queue in the sun.

Between 5pm – 10pm, we will ask people to queue outside the Garden along Plane Tree Drive, to enter via Conservatory Gate.

**We will close the queues 10pm** to ensure everyone in the queue can see it before the corpse flower viewing ends at midnight.

Please note that the rest of **Adelaide Botanic Garden will close at 6.30pm** to the public, unless the bloom falls on a Gather in the Garden night: those ticket-holders will exit Main Gate at 9pm.

## I HAVE ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

We have developed an Accessibility Guide which can be viewed via our website in the [Plan Your Visit page](#).

**While queuing, if you require special assistance, please alert a member of staff.**

Here is some additional information about this event specifically:

### SEATING

There will be **limited seating** available along the queue. You are welcome to bring a fold up stool or camping chair to rest on in the queue if you need to.

### INSIDE THE CONSERVATORY

The Bicentennial Conservatory contains a **paved pathway** at ground level and includes a **low gradient sloped board walk** to the upper level and low gradient sloped paved path on the ground level. These walkways will take you on a trail that is about **200m in length**, and **both walkways have full wheelchair access**.

The queue to experience the Corpse Flower will take you on both of these pathways. **As this is a Rainforest environment, please be aware that there may be light 'rain' or moisture in the air from the misters. This can cause the pathways to be wet, and sometimes slippery.**

If you have another inquiry about accessibility needs, please email us at [botanic.exhibitions@sa.gov.au](mailto:botanic.exhibitions@sa.gov.au)



## WHAT WILL THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE BE LIKE?

Please be prepared that **you will likely need to queue for an hour or more**. In the past, people have queued for up to 3 hours. The queues are in the shade.

### **Along the queue, there are toilets and a water fountain.**

There will be children's activities as families queue from 10am - 3.30pm.

You will enter the lush rainforest filled conservatory in a group of around 30 at a time, when you will hear from one of our staff about the Corpse Flower and our conservation work in a short session.

You will queue along the top boardwalk, where you will have a view of the corpse flower from above, and are surrounded by rainforest trees.

You will then walk onto the lower pathway where you will be able to view the corpse flower up close, have a sniff and have your photo taken with it.

Throughout the Conservatory, we have the wonderful Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition on, which you will be able to view for free on the two bloom days.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Want to get a snap of you with the corpse flower? Of course! To help keep the queue moving, **our friendly and experienced volunteer will take a snap of you on your phone or camera with the plant.**

Please be mindful of the queue and other visitors, and spend only a short time admiring and smelling the plant.

**Please note that a live stream is operating through the event**, and photography and videography may be taken by the Garden's team for use on their social media pages or website. **There may also be media outlets taking photos and videos too.**

## I'VE GOT A TICKET FOR THE WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR TICKET ON A BLOOM DAY. CAN I STILL SEE THE EXHIBITION?

We will contact any ticket holders on bloom days to **offer a refund** of your Wildlife Photographer of the Year ticket, **or to reschedule your booking for a different day**. You are still welcome to experience the forspike flower and photography exhibition for free on the two bloom days, but will need to join the queue for the corpse flower.

## I'VE GOT A GATHER IN THE GARDEN TICKET. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

There is a chance that a corpse flower will bloom on the weekend of Saturday 17 January. If this happens, it will draw large crowds to view the infamously smelly plant which is in the Bicentennial Conservatory, where the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition is.

Due to the expected high volume of visitors to see the corpse flower on the nights that it blooms, **we are unfortunately not able to offer Gather in the Garden ticket holders the standard entry to view the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition.**

If you purchase a ticket for Gather in the Garden for Saturday 17 January, we offer you a **complimentary ticket to view the photography exhibition during the day at another time**. Alternatively, we can offer a **ticket swap** to Friday 23 or Saturday 24 January. Please email us at [botanicexhibitions@sa.gov.au](mailto:botanicexhibitions@sa.gov.au) no later than Wednesday 21 January if you wish to arrange this.

Gather in the Garden ticket holders will be able to join the queue to view the corpse flower after their event. **The queues will be open until 10pm**, with the corpse flower viewing finishing at midnight. Queues will be via Plane Tree Drive.

People entering the garden to view the corpse flower will not be permitted in to Gather in the Garden unless they have a ticket. Tickets can be purchased on the night, providing we haven't sold out.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF I COME OUT OF VIEWING THE CORPSE FLOWER AFTER 6.30PM AND HAVE A GATHER IN THE GARDEN TICKET?

Please speak to one of our friendly staff who will scan your ticket and direct you where to go to enter Gather in the Garden.

If you would like to purchase a Gather in the Garden ticket on the evening, you will be able to do so, providing we haven't sold out. You can also book a ticket online by visiting our website.



Government of  
South Australia



Botanic Gardens  
and State Herbarium