



Enjoying the Garden

Visitor facilities

Expansive lawns, picnic tables and shaded rotundas are available throughout the Garden.

Toilets, including baby change tables, are located at G3 and A12 on the map, close to the entrances.

Wittunga is close to Blackwood, with cafes and shops about 700 metres away, or around a 10-minute walk.

Nature playspace

Children love this adventurous nature-themed playspace, which celebrates the botanical world and honours First Nations' culture.

Accessibility

Paths: The Garden features mostly flat bitumen paths, with some compacted gravel in certain areas.

Entrances:

- **Sherbourne Road entrance:** Flat, step-free entry.
- **Shepherds Hill Road footpath entrance:** Flat, step-free access via an airlock child safety gate. Some visitors may need help to unlatch the gate.

Car Park: The driveway is steep, but once you're parked, the entrance into the Garden is flat and step-free from the car park.

Toilets: Accessible toilets are available at both toilet blocks.

Playspace: The playspace includes a wheelchair accessible in-ground trampoline.

Guided Walks

Discover more about this fascinating Garden on a free guided walk. Led by experienced guides from the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, these depart every Tuesday at 10.30am from the car park.

Self-guided Trails

Wittunga Naming Walk

Learn how 24 plants got their scientific names—whether inspired by people or by their unique features.

Gondwana Trail

Discover plants that have grown here since Australia split from the ancient supercontinent of Gondwana. While these lands are now divided by ocean, many of these species share features and history with plants on the other side of the globe. Start at G7.

Ashby Trail

Winding through the Terrace Beds (C5), this trail shares fascinating stories about the Ashby family, their former property, and its evolution over time. It also celebrates the family's lasting legacy in inspiring visitors to appreciate diverse, water-wise plants. Start at G6.

Seasonal self-guided walks

The Friends of the Botanic Gardens provide a free regular self-guided walk resource, which can be collected at the Garden entrance, or found online at friendsbgadelaide.com

History

Wittunga—meaning 'beside water' in the Kaurna language—became Edwin Ashby's family home and garden in 1902. Once an apple and pear orchard, it soon became a showcase for Australian plants, driven by Ashby's passion for native flora and his pioneering deep soak watering method, now central to sustainable horticulture in the Garden.

Wittunga was gifted to the Botanic Gardens in 1965 and opened to the public in 1975. The Ashby presence is still visible today, including historic Wittunga House (not open to the public), and the Bird and Butterfly Gardens both inspired by the Ashby family's deep love of nature.

Conservation

More than a place to unwind, this Garden actively safeguards plant life from around the world. Many species here are endangered in their homelands as forests vanish, habitats shrink and climate change takes hold. This Garden serves as a living sanctuary—a botanical ark preserving plants for the future.

Help the Garden thrive

Your donation helps protect threatened plants and care for the Garden's collections. Every contribution, big or small, makes a real difference.



Nestled in suburban Blackwood, Wittunga Botanic Garden is a natural oasis.

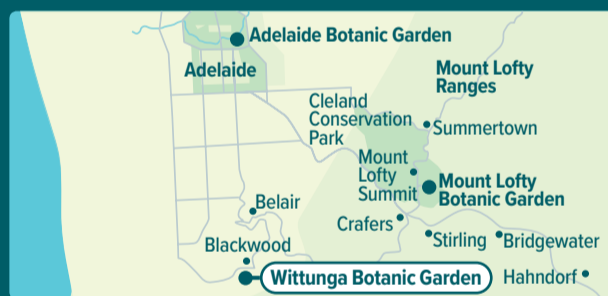
Explore stunning water-wise plants from Australia and South Africa, enjoy vibrant spring blooms, and relax by the tranquil lake. Wander the Garden's trails and keep an eye out for wildlife drawn to its rich habitats.



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this Country.

We pay our respects to Kaurna and Peramangk Elders, past and present, and recognise their deep and ongoing connection to this place.

We desire to walk together into a better future—one with healing, reconciliation and environmental restoration at its core.



Plan your visit

Free entry

Open every day*

Opening times

Every day: 8.30am

Closing times*

April to September: 4pm

October to March: 6pm

*The Garden will be closed on days when the fire danger rating is forecast to be catastrophic, as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology: bom.gov.au

Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

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Connect with us

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Government of South Australia



Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

Wittunga Botanic Garden



Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium



Map guide

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | Information | | Bus stop |
| | Guided walks meeting point | | Wedding site |
| | Toilets | | Picnic table |
| | Parking | | Fire evacuation assembly site |
| | Wheelchair access | | No public access |
| | Drinking fountain | | |

Regulations

The Garden is a living museum of botanical collections with important conservation value. Please respect the Garden and help us to protect plants, people and wildlife.

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|--|--|--|--|
| | Leave plants, fungi and garden beds undamaged. | | No feeding of wildlife |
| | Leave pets or animals at home | | No ball or throwing games |
| | No alcohol | | No swimming or fishing |
| | No smoking or vaping | | No drones |
| | No BBQs (picnics allowed) | | No bikes, scooters, skateboards or rollerskates/blades |
| | | | No vehicles |

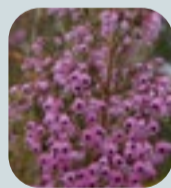
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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| E3 Administration (no public access) | G6 Duck Landing | C7 Kangaroo Island Flora | C5 Leucospermum | H8 Red Hot Poker |
| C11 Banksias | B10 Fleurieu Peninsula Flora | C10 Kangaroo Paws | B5 Maluka Beds | C5 Terrace Beds |
| E13 Billabong | H9 Fynbos (South African Heathland) | E7 Lake | C12 Myrtaceae (Australian Myrtles) | C11 Western Australian Heath Garden |
| D10 Bird Garden | H10 Grey Box Woodland | G7 Lake viewing platform | I8 Nature playspace | B4 Wittunga House (no public access) |
| H6 Butterfly Garden | C12 Hakeas | D5 Leucadendron | D4 Protea | |



Botanical collections

Fynbos (H9)

Discover a vibrant display of 50 species and cultivars of South African *Ericas*—plants also known as heaths, or fynbos ('fine bush' in Afrikaans). Visit in October for their peak bloom.



Hakeas and Banksias

These iconic Australian plants appear throughout Wittunga. The collection, which flowers in winter, includes over 140 species of hakeas from across Australia—and an impressive variety of banksias.



Kangaroo Island Flora (C7)

Explore hardy and unique plants from rugged Kangaroo Island, including several endangered species cultivated here for future generations.



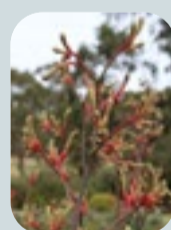
Fleurieu Peninsula Flora (B10)

This collection highlights local species from the southern Mount Lofty Ranges to Cape Jervis. Look for the South Australian blue gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxydon*) and Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*)—some of which are remnant vegetation.



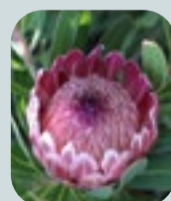
Western Australian Heath Beds (C11)

Inspired by Western Australia's spectacular 'Kwongan' heathlands, these beds feature colourful wildflowers and striking plants such as kangaroo paws, banksias, hakeas and verticordias.



South African Proteaceae (D4)

A showcase of nearly 400 South African Proteaceae species, including the sculptural pincushion (*Leucospermum cordifolium*) and the iconic king protea (*Protea cynaroides*).



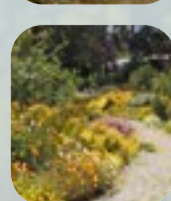
Maluka Beds (B5)

Created in the 1920s by Edwin Ashby, these raised sandy beds were designed to mimic Western Australian growing conditions. Originally home to Australian natives, they were later expanded to include succulents, cacti and other species that thrive in well drained soils. The beds remain a significant historical feature of the Garden.



Terrace Beds (C5)

A riot of colour in spring, this collection showcases hardy South African species, including the Garden's stunning Proteaceae display.



A haven for wildlife

Birdsong everywhere

Hear a symphony of birdsong at Wittunga. Head to the Bird Garden (D10) for a glimpse of our feathered friends and listen out for eastern spinebills, New Holland honeyeaters, wattlebirds and more.

Butterfly Garden (H6)

Watch butterflies flutter among nectar-rich plants that fuel their flight, while caterpillar food plants support the next generation. Together, they play an essential role in pollination.

Lakeside views

Meander level pathways around the lake's perimeter to enjoy a variety of plants and spot local wildlife—including turtles basking in the sun. A gentle slope leads down to the water's edge, and the viewing platform offers picturesque views across the lake.

Down by the Billabong (E13)

Surrounded by wetland plants like Forest Oak, the Billabong is a favourite family spot with lawns, shade and plenty of wildlife. Keep an eye out for purple swamphens, ducks, honeyeaters and colourful parrots in the nearby eucalyptus.

Grey Box Woodland (H10)

This rare Adelaide Hills ecosystem once covered the region, but only around 3% remains today due to urban development. The Grey Box Woodland provides vital habitat for native wildlife—and if you're lucky, you may even spot a koala relaxing among the trees.