



Malmsbury Botanic Gardens

Situated along the Calder Highway, at the northern end of the Macedon Ranges Shire, Malmsbury, is an ideal central resting spot between the cities of Melbourne and Bendigo. The Botanic Gardens offers an ideal location to take a break and stretch those weary legs. Open all day, every day of the year the garden offers a wide variety of amenities including toilets, playground, seating, barbeque facilities and this short self-guided walk.



Kyneton Botanic Gardens

The historical Kyneton Botanic Gardens, originating in 1858 boasts a wonderful collection of significant trees. The gardens also contains an array of various bed plantings and provides an excellent starting point to enjoy the Campaspe River walk. The gardens are open daily, amenities include barbeque, toilet and seating with the gardens located alongside the Kyneton Caravan Park.



Gisborne Botanic Gardens

The Gisborne Botanic Gardens was officially opened in 1998 and its development is continually progressing, including a collection of New Zealand plant species. A walking track heading north from the Lions Park in the centre of town along Jackson's Creek leads to the Gardens. The gardens are open daily, with barbeque, toilet facilities and Adventure Playground all close by.

Acknowledgements

This brochure has been put together by the Parks & Gardens unit of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, with the kind assistance of the Malmsbury Historical Society.

Drawings by Lyn McMurdie
Photography Macedon Ranges Shire - Front photo Howard Maylor
Printing: Elliotprint Kyneton

We would also like to acknowledge the late Bertie Morgan, long time Malmsbury resident for his assistance and knowledge in providing us with some of the historical facts found within this brochure.

Revised Printing 2008

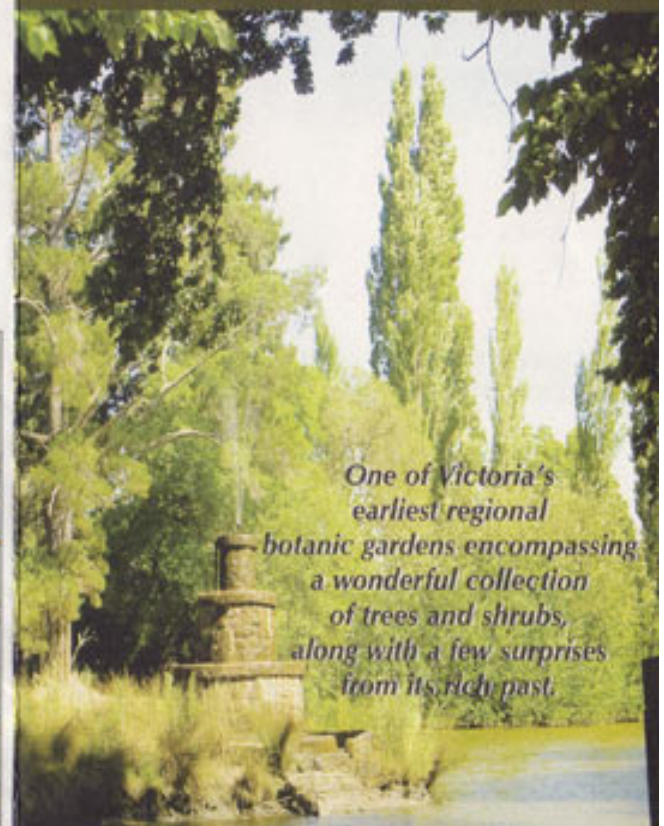


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The Malmsbury

Botanic Gardens c. 1861



One of Victoria's earliest regional botanic gardens encompassing a wonderful collection of trees and shrubs, along with a few surprises from its rich past.

Enjoy this self-guided walk

that tells a little of the garden's history and highlights some of the significant plants, places and structures.

7 The Viaduct

This historical landmark is the largest stone bridge span in the southern hemisphere. Classified 'A' by the National Trust it was one of Victoria's most substantial engineering structures built in the 1800's. Construction began in 1859 with the railway line officially opened in 1862.

6 Araucaria bidwillii

Commonly known as the Bunya Pine or Bunya Bunya, these huge specimens are listed on the National Trust Register, and are believed to be part of the garden's early plantings.

5 Eucalyptus cladocalyx

A survivor of remnant vegetation pre-dating the gardens? NO! This huge sugar gum hails from South Australia and is one of the garden's early plantings. All the native trees were cleared prior to the garden being set aside and established in the 1850's. Some Native understory and stream side vegetation can be found along the river banks.

4 The Arbutus Lawn

Several species of *Arbutus* can be found in this area. In recent years some new species have been added and we are planning to expand the collection even further. This collection will be the only Victorian listing of the *Arbutus* genus.

8 The Bowling Green

As the town's recreational centre, several sports were played in the gardens. This is the site of the old bowling green.

9 Sequoia giganteum Californian Redwood

Part of the garden's early plantings, this stand of magnificent trees originate from California and can grow to a height of 350 feet in their native habitat. Ongoing dry conditions has seen them struggling in recent years.

10 Olea europaea Olive Tree

Although only a short distance from Malmesbury's sister garden at Kyneton, the change in climate is evident in the more arid, dry climate plantings such as this olive tree.

11 The poplar Avenue

Most of the original plantings in the avenue have now been replaced. This avenue once served as a running track for children's races with start and finish lines at either end.



3 The Fish Hatchery

This concrete pit served as a fish hatchery in the 1950's and 60's where trout were brought and bred and then released to stock the nearby Malmesbury reservoir.

2 Lake & Fountain

The central focal point of the gardens is the ornamental lake, with the formed island at its centre where ducks have settled. The fountain was built in the 1930's from bluestone salvaged from a nearby demolished mill. Both the fountain and lake edges have been restored in recent years. The Dutch elms at the front of the lake were planted as a memorial to soldiers of the first world war, 1914-1918.

1 The Town Hall

Built in 1868, the only Town Hall between Melbourne and Sandhurst was once an integral part of the town and gardens. Its uses over the years include court house, picture theatre and dance venue. Original facade has been replaced in brick and hall refurbished in 2007. Victorian Heritage listed.

THE ARBORETUM

Originally planted in 2003 comprising endemic vegetation of the Malmesbury area. The Arboretum links the Botanic gardens to the local sporting oval via a path travelling beneath the bridge which crosses the Coliban river.

There are many picnic spots, and other interesting plants and places to be enjoyed not covered in this walk.

You are invited to look further and we hope that you enjoy your stay and return again.

Following the numbers in numerical order, in a clockwise direction, will lead you on this circular garden walk.