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# Tripadvisor names Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria as the fourth top attraction in Australia

Tripadvisor has named Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria as the fourth top attraction in Australia as part of its *Travellers Choice' Awards*. The Awards are based on the number of positive reviews by travellers to each attraction.

Chris Russell, Director and Chief Executive said, "We are thrilled to have received this award, and to have created memorable experiences for travellers from around the world," he said.

The awards celebrate the attractions that received a high volume of above-and-beyond reviews over the past 12 months. From 8 million listings, less than 1% were recognised. Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria has two a 4.7 out of 5 rating on the TripAdvisor site.

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria encompasses both Melbourne and Cranbourne Gardens and offers a strong program of guided walks – including the Aboriginal Heritage Walk – mini-bus tours, picnic packages, retail, food and beverage and arts and cultural experiences. Both Gardens attract interstate and overseas visitors, with over 1.7 million people visiting both Gardens combined over the past year.

"We will continue deliver new and exciting experiences for our visitors at two of the world's most beautiful gardens," he said.

At Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne and Cranbourne, plans are underway to build new signage, pathways, viewing platforms, learning hubs and accessibility features as well as an over 30-hectare habitat restoration in the bushland at Cranbourne Gardens.

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria adds this achievement to a number of recent successes:

- In 2021, the Gardens were awarded top spot in the Major Tourist Attraction category at the 2021 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards;
- In 2022, the Gardens were inducted into the Victorian Tourism Industry Council's Hall of Fame, having won the Major Tourist Attraction award for the third year in a row;
- This year Cranbourne Gardens was named the sixth top 'mustsee' garden globally by the New York Times.

The top ten attractions named by Tripadvisor this year were:

- Hobart Penitentiary, TAS
- Kings Park and Botanic Garden, WA
- Sydney Opera House, NSW
- Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, VIC
- Fremantle Prison, WA
- Sydney Harbour Bridge, NSW
- Australian War Memorial, ACT
- Uluru, NT
- Sydney Harbour, NSW
  - Qantas Founders Museum, QLD

For further information about the Gardens, go to:

www.rbg.vic.gov.au

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

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Royal Botanic Gardens

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#### MEDIA RELEASE

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### **About Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria**

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria plays a leading role in the conservation of plants through biodiversity research, programs to protect rare and threatened plants, and the study of habitats. This work is supported by education and visitor programs about the importance of plants to life.

The organisation encompasses two diverse sites at Melbourne and Cranbourne and the State Botanical Collection housed at the National Herbarium of Victoria. Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria is managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens Board Victoria, which is responsible to the Minister for Environment.

#### **Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne**

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne has been a treasured part of Melbourne's cultural life for more than 170 years — much loved by generations of Victorians, as well as by many visitors from interstate and overseas. It is a picturesque haven for recreation and an important resource for education, conservation, science and horticulture.

Melbourne Gardens extends over 38 hectares and houses a collection of more than 8,500 species of plants from around the world, including amazing and diverse plant collections such as camellias, rainforest flora, cacti and succulents, roses, Californian species, herbs, perennials, cycads, plants from Southern China and, in the Rare and Threatened Species Collection, plants from south-eastern Australia.

Melbourne Gardens is open every day of the year.

7:30am - 5:30pm (autumn/winter)

7:30am - 7:30pm (spring/summer)

Admission: Free

#### **Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne**

Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne offers a natural bushland experience alongside the Australian Garden, an award-winning, contemporary botanic garden celebrating the beauty and diversity of Australian landscapes and flora and featuring over 100,000 plants from 1,900 plant varieties.

The bushland has over 450 indigenous plant species and includes over 10km of walking tracks, six kilometres of cycling tracks, a lookout tower, picturesque shelters, barbecues and playgrounds. It is a precious remnant of the vegetation that once covered the broader region and is actively managed to control the number of non-indigenous plants and exotic weeds.

There is a range of visitor programs, as well as self-guided walks available throughout the year.

Open every day of the year except Christmas Day.

Last entry is 4.30pm with the Gardens closing at 5.00pm daily.

Admission: Free

