

## 'An arboretum is a plot of land where different plants are grown for study or popular interest'



## The Jawbone Arboretum is a collection of native flora designed to educate all visitors

Jawbone Arboretum specialises in local native flora, planted and labelled to enable visitors to gain an understanding of growth habits, colour of flower and leaf and size of mature plants.

## What does the Arboretum offer visitors?

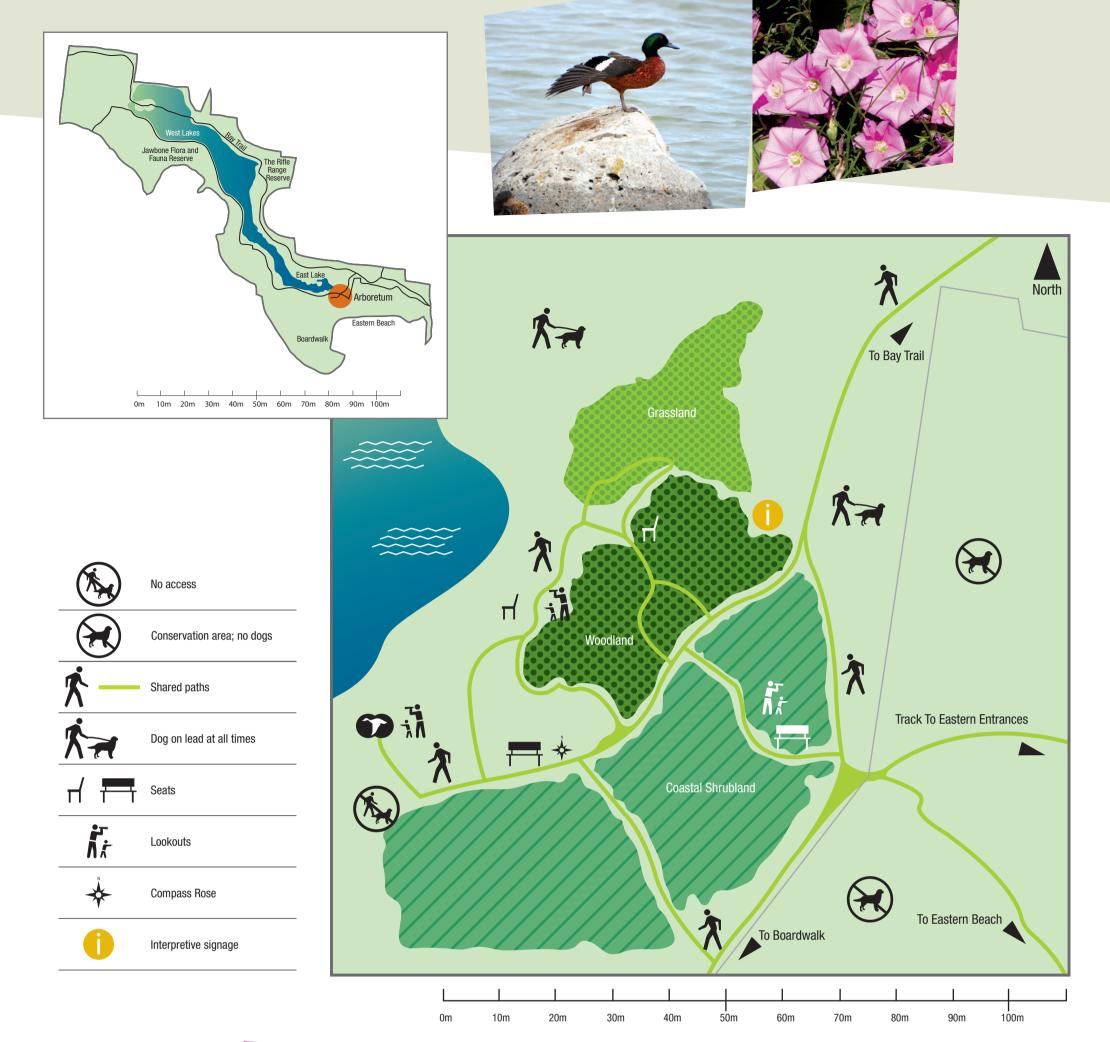
You will find it a tranquil place in which to:

- Become familiar with our indigenous plants and discover what will grow in local gardens;
- Enjoy views of the lake, Jawbone Point and the Bay;

Ranger on:

- Watch and listen for some of the bird species that can been seen here; and
- Enjoy a picnic.

- Until 1990 the area was part of Williamstown Rifle Range which first opened in 1877. The 111 hectare site had been used as a firing range for over 100 years and had remained largely undeveloped.
- The site was sold to the Urban Land Authority in 1987 for residential development.
- The development plan that was implemented on the site incorporated a large number of features to protect the conservation values. This included the formalisation of the Jawbone Flora and Fauna Reserve and The Rifle Range Reserve.
- A dedicated group of local residents, the Friends of Williamstown Wetlands have contributed extensively to the nurturing and protection of the flora and fauna in the reserve.
- Jawbone Arboretum came into being in April 2007 as part of Friends of Williamstown Wetlands 20th anniversary celebrations
- The Friends have been developing this showcase of local flora since 2007 in partnership with Hobsons Bay City Council and Parks Victoria
- It is a very special environment, with highly alkaline basalt soils, exposed to cold salt laden winds. The plants vou see here are tough survivors!





Several plant communities have been broadly replicated within the Arboretum including:

- Woodland containing widely spaced trees with a low understory;
- **Grassland** that are dominated by indigenous grass species;
- Coastal shrubland and Coastal saltmarsh containing large numbers of succulent plants; and
- Freshwater wetland with numerous sedges and rushes associated with them.

These diverse plant communities provide habitat for a number of animals found at the Arboretum including:

- Superb Blue Fairy-wren;
- Blue Tongued lizard;
- Spotted Marsh frog; and
- Praying Mantis.

This is just a glimpse of what can be found so keep your eyes peeled and ears open for new and exciting visitors to the Jawbone Arboretum.

Planted in your garden, indigenous plants can do the same. Incorporating local native plants into your home garden can attract a wide variety of birds and animals. Look and listen:

- What plants do birds use?
- What plants do butterflies feed on?
- Where do lizards and frogs hide?