

Town of Vincent Trees

Swamp Banksia (*Banksia littoralis*)

This tree grows in fresh-water swamps and sandy hollows. The bark is grey and the leaves are very slender and serrated, with few small teeth. The branches and under the leaves are covered with soft pale hairs (tomentose) and curved upwards (recurved). The pale yellow flower spikes are 15cm and cylindrical. They are very popular with honey-eaters. Swamp Banksia often grows near stout paperbark (*Melaleuca preissiana*).



Bottlebrush spp. Bottlebrush (*Callistemon*)

The callistemons are called 'true bottlebrushes'.

'Toobada' is its Aboriginal name (*Callistemon phoeniceus*). Common name 'lesser bottlebrush' which is strange as it is up to 4m high compared to the smaller Albany bottlebrush. It was named after the Phoenicians who discovered a purple-red dye and refers to the colour of the flowers. It has bright red flowers with blue-green foliage. Leaves are 4-12 cm long. Its flowers attract honey-eating birds, native bees and honeybees. It has clusters of fruit. Bottlebrush often have thick, gnarled trunks. They grow naturally along riverbeds and watercourses. They cope with floods by growing strongly from the base.

Eucalypts

Eucalyptus trees are often called 'Gum Trees'. The leaves always hang down, feel leathery and have a eucalyptus smell when crushed. The buds are made up of a cap and a cup. The flowers open when the cap is pushed off by the masses of stamens. They produce lots of nectar in the base of the cup.



Flooded Gum (*Eucalyptus rudis*)

This tall native tree is common near lakes and swamps. Its bark and lower branches are flaky and rough while its upper branches are smooth. The blue-green leaves are long and slender and the flowers are cream. The small fruit is hemispherical with conspicuous valves that project upwards. This tree is used by the water birds for roosting, nesting and feeding. Sometimes a moth (*Tinea* sp) attacks the leaves and makes them look scorched.

'Balga' Grass Tree (*Xanthorrhoea preissii*)

This common grass tree has a thick trunk and long slender leaves. It can only produce one flowering stem as it grows from the tip of the shoot. This spear at the top grows up to 4m long and 6cm thick.



Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*)

This is a native stringy-bark tree with deep, fibrous grooves all along its bark. It has leathery leaves with a 'margin' at its edges. The fruit is distinctive, round and with a narrow flat disc. When burnt the wood forms long-lasting coals and was used by the Aboriginal people for cooking and heating. In early settlement it was used for fences, telegraph posts and jetties and is famed throughout the world for its toughness, durability and resistance to termites. The plant disease "dieback", caused by the root fungus, *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, attacks root systems and has killed many of our Jarrah trees. There are some trees 200-300 years old.

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Kingia (Kingia australis)

At first glance this looks very similar to a Balga (grass tree) as it has long, slender leaves and a trunk that is built from the leaf-bases. However, the Kingia and the Balga are not closely related. The Kingia produces many flowers on stout stems (that look like drumsticks) that grow from the sides of the plant making it look 'like a king'. They can grow up to 7m. Kingia is only found in Western Australia.

Paperbarks (Melaleuca spp)

Freshwater Paperbark (Melaleuca raphiophylla)

This common paper bark can cope with its roots being flooded during the winter so it is found at the water's edge. It produces dense clusters of cream flowers 1-4 cm long near the end of the stem. They are very popular with water birds as they are often standing in water. The outer bark peels off like paper and was used extensively by the Aboriginal people.



Paperbarks (Melaleuca spp)

'Modong' Stout Paperbark (Melaleuca preissiana) (thick trunk)

The leaves of this tree are pointed and flattened about 1-1½cm long. It flowers in summer in loose clusters of 1 to 3, which produce quantities of nectar that encourages beetles, wasps, bees, wood-boring insects and jewel beetles. White-faced herons, black ducks and hardheads use this tree for breeding. It has thick wavering branches and rounded 'puffs' rather than a dense canopy. It grows in winter-wet depressions, near rivers and lakes but cannot cope with flooding so is not located at the water's edge.

Peppermint (Agonis spp) Wonnil

Peppermint (Agonis flexuosa)

The leaves smell of peppermint when crushed. The name means 'full of bends' as it changes direction at each leaf node (the point where leaves originate). It has a thick, often gnarled bark that is rough and grey, up to 10m, with weeping branches. Leaves 8-13cm long. The numerous flowers (with 5 petals) are 1cm across. This tree is very common on the trail.



Swamp Sheoak (Casuarina obesa) plump cones

The foliage resembles the drooping tail of the cassowary. The popular name, "sheoak", was given by the English settlers because the timber reminded them of their native oak. It was used extensively for roofing shingles. It has flexible, jointed branchlets that take the place of leaves. If you take a branchlet and pull gently you will see the minute true leaves that are triangular-shaped scales that encircle the branchlets. Most species have the male and female flowers on separate trees and are wind pollinated. The male flowers colour the branchlets rusty. The female flower matures into a woody cone that has winged seeds. This is more weeping than the *C. fraseriana* and is a graceful tree with drooping branches. It usually divides repeatedly into roughly equal branches. It often overhangs the water. The cones are smaller and more regular than *C. fraseriana*. It can grow with feet in brackish water. Mistletoe often grows on its branches.

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Teatrees (*Leptospermum sp*)

The early settlers used the leaves of these trees for tea. The bark is rough and brownish grey. Leaves are dull green ½-1cm and 3-4mm thick. It has white or pinkish flowers with 5 petals. Fruits are about ½cm long.

Tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*)

This is a large tree, 12-30m, that the Aboriginal people used for their weapons. The bark is grey and rough. The leaves are long and curved. It has a flat stalk that holds its fruit. Its fruit look like ice-cream cones, 'clubheaded'. When the cap falls off its mature 'gum nut' is bell-shaped. Fire and insects have destroyed many of these trees.



Wattles

Coojong Golden Wreath Wattle (*Acacia saligna*)

formally cyanophylla 'blue leaved'

This is a native species that grows well near water. The tree droops like a willow. It has hard-coated, long-lived seeds that were called Wuanga and were ground and baked by the Aboriginal people. Ants disperse their seeds by storing their seed stalks in their nests. It does not have true leaves but phyllodes, which are flattened leaf stalks up to 25cm long. The phyllodes have nectary glands at their base where a sugary fluid is produced which the ants love. It has masses of yellow flowers in late winter and early spring. Branches are often attacked by a rust fungus resulting in large globular swellings, fungal galls. It lives about 30 years.



Albizia/Woman's Tongue tree (*Albizia sp*)

Albizia is in the same family as wattles. It bears long pods, hence its name. It is a native of tropical regions in Asia and Africa.



Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphore*)

This tree was brought to Australia in 1822. It has become extensively naturalised and is common along stream banks. It is a large shady tree that is very popular in parks. Its bark has distinctive furrows. The leaves are bright green in colour with wavy edges and have an aromatic camphor oil smell when crushed. It produces tiny white flowers. The fruit is black and shiny and can be seen all through the year. It is a native of China, Japan and Taiwan.



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Australian Coral Tree (Erythrina sykesii) H

A semi-deciduous tree with bright red flowers that is spectacular in winter when it has lost its leaves and is a mass of scarlet. It is a hybrid. Its origin is unclear.

Family Fabaceae Pea Family

Named after William Sykes, a New Zealand botanist who realised they were not *Erythrina variegata*, a naturally occurring *Erythrina* in Australia.



Moreton Bay Fig (Ficus macrophylla)

This popular tree is easy to recognise by its flanged and broadly buttressed trunk to 2.5m. It has widely-spreading roots that show above the ground. Its large leaves are dark green above and brown below with yellow-green veins. The fruits are orange, brown to purple with white spots and are round and fleshy. They have thick, long stalks 8-25 mm long, much longer than the Port Jackson fig. They are edible when ripe at any time of the year.

Family Moraceae

Originally from Queensland, New South Wales and Lord Howe Island

Port Jackson Fig (Ficus rubignosa)

At first glance this tree can be confused with the Moreton Bay Fig. It is a much more compact tree and the leaves are smaller. It has a buttressed trunk to 1.5 m. The fruits are yellow turning red, dotted with warts. Fruit stalks are 2-5 mm long, much shorter than the Moreton Bay, that are ripe in summer and autumn. Originally from Southern Queensland and New South Wales.

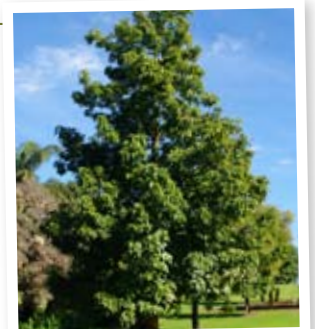


Jacaranda (Jacaranda mimosaeifolia)

This tree is often seen lining streets and in gardens and parks. During spring and early summer it is spectacular with an abundance of beautiful blue flowers. Later woody seed pods, about 5 cm in diameter, appear which make the tree easy to identify, even if the flowers have finished. It is a sub-tropical tree native to South America.

Illawarra Flame Tree (Brachychiton acerifolius)

This tree is commonly called the Kurrajong. Kurrajong is an Aboriginal word meaning fibre-yielding as its bark was used for making nets, ropes and baskets. It is a spectacular tree when it is leafless and covered with red bell-shaped flowers. At other times the Kurrajong is easily recognised by its large, hand-sized, variable leaves and very distinctive dark brown seed pods, about 10cm long. The Aboriginal people toasted its yellow seeds. This tree is native to tropical regions of eastern Australia.



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Canary Island Date Palm (Phoenix canariensis)

This palm tree is widely cultivated as an ornamental in all Mediterranean climates. It can be seen often along the trail. The colourful fruit is edible but too thin to be worth eating. It has a dense spherical canopy of up to 200 dark green, arching fronds and has a straight stout trunk that never produces suckers.

Petticoat palms (Washingtonia filifera) bearing filaments

The common name of this fan palm is due to the mass of dead fronds that build up under the live, grey green ones. The dead fronds, when cut, drop off leaving a clean trunk.

It has white threads that form along the edges of the segments of the frond. It is very widely planted around Perth. Originally from California, West Arizona and North West Mexico.



Bunya Pine (Araucaria bidwillii)

Originally from Queensland, this tall pine 30-45 m has a symmetrical dome-shaped crown. The glossy leaves form in clusters along the branches giving the tree a unique shape. The male cones are small but the female cones are very large and contain 50 to 100 seeds. They used to be a rich food source for the Aboriginal people. It is dangerous to walk under these pines.

Norfolk Island Pine (Araucaria heterophylla)

This is an introduced, much-loved species from Norfolk Island. It is very tall and grows to 50-65m. It has a straight trunk with widely spaced, symmetrical branches. Its name, 'different leaves', comes from the difference seen in young and more mature plants.



Plane Tree - The London Plane Tree (Platanus acerifolia)

This is one of the most widely planted trees in Australia and is seen regularly along the trail. It copes with pollution and poor soils. It gives plenty of shade in summer and loses its leaves in winter to keep the area sunny. Pollen and hairs from the seed capsules can cause allergic reactions.

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Bulrush (Typha orientalis)

Large swamp plant with creeping underground stems (rhizomes) forming clumps of erect, robust shoots up to 3m. Strappy leaves. Flowers have cylindrical spikes, the upper part male, the lower part female. At maturity the lower part of the spike releases large fluffy masses of pale hairs with seeds. These are dispersed by the wind.

Jointed Rush (Baumea articulata)

Flowering stems up to 2m high from a clumped base. Stems and leaves are dark green, round and hollow in cross section with pithy cross plates seen as ridges. The flowering stalks are up to 50cm long. Flowers are dark brown.



River Clubrush (Scirpus validus)

Stems 1m tall and round in cross section. Leaves reduced to the sheathing bases. The flowers, in stalked cylindrical clusters in a group near the tip of the stem, are brown in colour. Found growing on the edge of the water.

Bare Twigrush (Baumea vaginalis)

A rhizomatous tufted sedge with dull green aerial stems which are round in cross section and may grow up to 1m. Leaves inconspicuous, reduced to sheaths. Flowers dull grey-brown at the end of aerial stems. Not smooth stems.



Sedges and Rushes

Many species of sedges and rushes grow around the lakes and along the river edges.



(Baumea juncea)

Smoother stems.

Lepidosperma costale Nees

Rhizomatous tufted perennial sedge. Flowers brown-grey.