

Arthurs Seat State Park



Seawinds Gardens

Seawinds Gardens is located just a short stroll from the Arthurs Seat Summit region. Located within the Arthurs Seat State Park the combination of indigenous and exotic formal gardens typifies the area. The addition of Williams Ricketts sculptures makes these gardens a very popular destination.

Things to see and do

Seawinds Gardens encompasses a 34 hectare area at the Summit of Arthurs Seat, 305 metres above sea level. The gardens offer spectacular views of Port Phillip Bay and the Mornington and Bellarine Peninsula's from the Bay and Northern Lookouts.

A network of walking tracks guide visitors through a diverse range of exotic and indigenous gardens. The presence of several William Ricketts sculptures also generates interest amongst visitors.

The gardens are popular for picnics with tables, electric BBQ's and toilets available adjacent to the car park. Disabled access is available to facilities and walking tracks.

Arthurs Seat Circuit Walk - 1.8km

This walk guides visitors through both Seawinds Gardens and the Arthurs Seat Summit region. Major points of interest include the Matthew Flinders Cairn, William Ricketts sculptures, major lookouts and the Seawinds Nursery volunteer's indigenous garden.

This garden was developed in 1993 and boasts more than 150 of the peninsulas native flora. Many have identification labels and serve as an educational tool for those wishing to develop their knowledge in plant identification.

Location and access

Seawinds Gardens are located 60km south of Melbourne on the Mornington Peninsula (Melway 159 D12). Entrance to the Gardens is via Purves Road a short distance off Arthurs Seat Scenic Road.

Seawinds Gardens are open to walkers at all times. The car park is open at the following times;

November to March: 8:00am - 8:00pm
April to October: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Christmas Day: CLOSED

History

The first owner of Seawinds was Mr Chapman, a gardener at a homestead near Dromana. Mr Chapman lived in a small shack near the north lookout and walked to work each day.

The actual Seawinds gardens were later developed by Sir Thomas and Lady Travers from 1946. The Travers' transported deciduous trees from their property in Parkville near Melbourne and also purchased the William Ricketts sculptures from Ricketts himself.

The Seawinds Gardens were officially proclaimed when State Government purchased the land in 1975.

Just a short stroll from the gardens lies the location where Matthew Flinders first climbed Arthurs Seat on the 27th April 1802. A plaque is located on the Matthew Flinders Cairn to commemorate his climb.

The Gardens

Seawinds Gardens have something to offer all year round.

Spring brings colour as the trees and shrubs of the gardens begin to flower.

Summer offers an environment which is cooler than the surrounding coast.

Autumn showcases the gardens deciduous trees.

Winter highlights the contrast between the bare birch and willow branches against the pine and cypress. Daffodils also flower in late August.



For more information call the **Parks Victoria Information Centre** on **13 1963** or visit our website at **www.parkweb.vic.gov.au**

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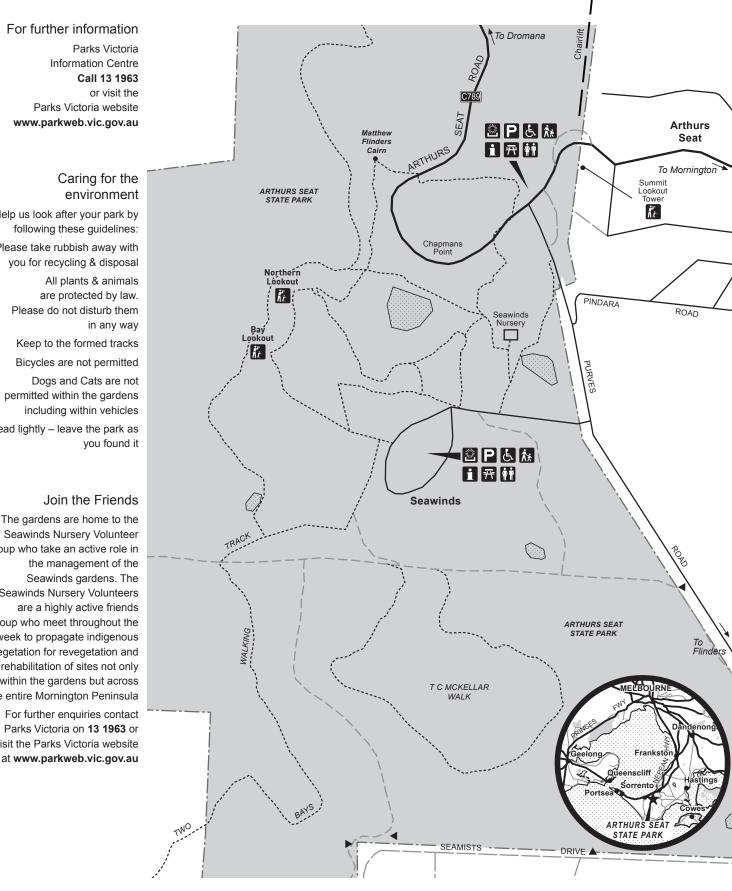
For further information Parks Victoria Information Centre Call 13 1963 or visit the Parks Victoria website www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines: Please take rubbish away with you for recycling & disposal All plants & animals are protected by law. Please do not disturb them in any way Keep to the formed tracks Bicycles are not permitted Dogs and Cats are not permitted within the gardens including within vehicles Tread lightly - leave the park as you found it

Join the Friends

The gardens are home to the Seawinds Nursery Volunteer group who take an active role in the management of the Seawinds gardens. The Seawinds Nursery Volunteers are a highly active friends group who meet throughout the week to propagate indigenous vegetation for revegetation and rehabilitation of sites not only within the gardens but across the entire Mornington Peninsula For further enquiries contact Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or visit the Parks Victoria website



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