

Did you know that there are more orchid species in Kings Park than in the whole of Europe?

## ORCHIDS

### Donkey Orchids *Duris* spp.

A widespread and common plant with yellow and brown donkey-faced flowers, the two lateral petals are elongated like ears. Donkey orchids often grow in large clumps.



Aug - Oct

### Banded Greenhood *Pterostylis vittata*

This is one of the earliest orchids to flower. The striped green hood is comprised of two petals and the back sepal. The bloated seed capsules appear in late winter or early spring.



May - Sep

### Jug Orchid *Pterostylis recurva*

This plant produces several rather squat green and white banded flowers on each stalk. As in all *Pterostylis* species, the lip or labellum is sensitive to touch and traps pollinating gnats and mosquitoes.



Aug - Oct

### Spider Orchid *Caladenia arenicola*

This orchid has red-green spider-like flowers on 25–40cm tall stalks. The lip of the flower is decoratively fringed by long rigid hairs. Some spider orchids are sweetly scented. The stalk arises from a single hairy leaf. Several similar species occur in Kings Park.



Aug - Oct

### Cowslip Orchid *Caladenia flava*

This is a very widespread orchid in the south-west of Western Australia. Yellow flowers vary in the amount of red spotting.



Jul - Dec

### Pink Fairy Orchid *Caladenia latifolia*

Another common orchid of the south-west although it does not penetrate so far inland as the Cowslip. The dainty pink flowers grow in small clumps. The leaves bear fine silky hairs.

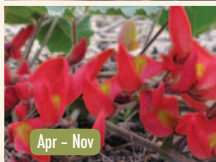


Aug - Oct

## CREEPERS & CLIMBERS

### Running Postman *Kennedia prostrata*

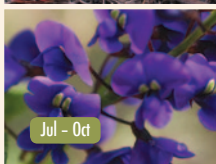
Also known as Red Runner. The scarlet flowers are produced at the ends of long, trailing, prostrate stems. As with many other plants in the Pea Family, the hard seeds need special treatment in order to germinate; in nature this is done by fire.



Apr - Nov

### Native Wisteria *Hardenbergia comptoniana*

One of the climbers native to Kings Park. It has attractive Wisteria-like clusters of deep purple pea flowers in spring. Look for its two green eyes!



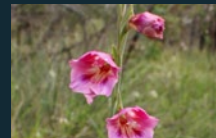
Jul - Oct

## WEEDS

Many plants of Mediterranean and South African origin have become naturalised throughout much of the Park, representing a serious threat to biodiversity. One of the most invasive is **Veldt Grass *Ehrharta calycina***, its pink to rusty red flower spikes arising from a thick clump form a conspicuous part of the understorey during late spring.

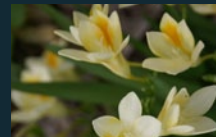
### Pink Gladiolus *Gladiolus caryophyllaceus*

Described as nice but naughty, this aggressive introduced weed from South Africa displays strongly scented bright pink flowers.



### Freesia *Freesia leichtlinii*

This herb is another attractive introduced plant and is popular in gardens for its fragrant creamy white flowers with a bright yellow throat. It has poisonous tubers. Its vigorous growth takes over from the more delicate native species.



### Capeweed *Arctotheca calendula*

Another introduction from South Africa, this member of the daisy family is a very troublesome weed in the wheatbelt as well as in parks. The yellow flower has a deep black centre.



Recommended reading: *Perth Plants* by Russell Barrett and Eng Pin Tay (available at Aspects of Kings Park Gallery Shop).



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# KINGS PARK BUSHLAND NATURE TRAIL

A Botanical Guide to the Kings Park Bushland



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# THE BANKSIA WOODLAND

As you wander and explore the Bushland Nature Trail, you will see unique Western Australia trees including Tuart, Jarrah and Marri scattered throughout the bushland. Banksias, sheoaks and other small trees and tall shrubs make up a middle storey with a diversity of low, beautifully flowering plants forming the understorey. There are plants in flower all year round, with the peak between July and October.

Key: Flowering months

## TREES

### Marri *Corymbia calophylla*

The nectar-rich white blossom occurs from summer to autumn, and is a haven for bird and insect life. The bark is fibrous and 'tessellated'. The large gum-nuts (honkey nuts) are often scarred by the beaks of parrots.

### Jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*

This tree provides Western Australia's most famous structural and cabinet hard-wood. It flowers in summer. The reddish brown bark is in long stringy sections.

### Tuart *Eucalyptus gomphocephala*

This tall tree has distinctive buds and fruit. The bark is grey in small rough sections. Tuarts provide shelter and homes for many birds and insects. Tuarts are sometimes attracted by several wood rotting fungi and boring insects.

### Sheoak *Allocasuarina fraseriana*

Male and female flowers are produced on separate trees. The male trees' rust-coloured foliage is evident in winter and spring. The cones can be seen on the female trees all the year round. The fine branches look like pine needles but are segmented branchlets with tiny leaf scales.

### Banksia *Banksia menziesii*

This tree has silky-red two-toned flower heads and coarsely toothed leaves. The flower and fruit of this banksia are featured on the entry mosaic of the Nature Trail. Three other banksias can be found along the trail: *B. grandis*, *B. attenuata* and *B. sessilis*.



Dec - May



Jun - Jan



Jan - Apr



May - Oct



Feb - Oct

## SHRUBS

### Stinkwood *Jacksonia sternbergiana*

Long angular branches bear red and orange pea flowers. When cut or burnt the wood gives off an unpleasant odour. *Jacksonia sericea* is a silky grey leafless plant growing as a tangle of prostrate branches and with yellow pea flowers.

### Parrot Bush *Banksia sessilis*

This tall shrub has prickly grey-green leaves. The attractive creamy-yellow blossoms are a favourite with bees and honeyeaters.

### Pixie Mops *Petrophile linearis*

This low shrub with grey-green foliage has mop-like pale pink, hairy flowers. Stems arise from a woody rootstock or lignotuber; the taproots sink deep into the soil.

### Native Buttercup *Hibbertia hypericoides*

A common low shrub with bright yellow flowers. Woody rootstock enables this species to resprout quickly after fire.

### Prickly Moses *Acacia pulchella*

A small prickly wattle with many small yellow flowers in spherical heads. It grows from seed after hot bushfires forming dense thickets which provide cover for small nesting birds.

### Swan River Myrtle *Hypocalymma robustum*

This low shrub bears many lightly scented pink/mauve flowers along its branches in spring. Each flower has five petals and more than sixty stamens.

### Three Flowered Pea *Daviesia triflora*

A many-stemmed, rush-like shrub bearing orange, yellow and reddish brown pea flowers in groups of three along the leafless stems. The bushland has three other Daviesias, each with similar coloured flowers.

### Pearl Flower *Conostephium pendulum*

A low plant with long white and reddish-purple scented flowers. These hang down on long, curved stalks.

### Wild Violet *Hybanthus calycinus*

The charming blue-violet flowers are easily recognised by one broadly prominent petal. It is a member of the violet family.



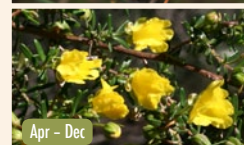
Jan - Dec



Jul - Oct



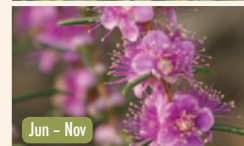
Aug - Dec



Apr - Dec



May - Oct



Jun - Nov



May - Sep



Mar - Oct



Jul - Oct

### Blueboy *Stirling latifolia*

This strange shrub has buff blue leaves and erect brown to orange flower heads. The common name reflects the fact that plaster made from sand where this grew developed a blue stain.

### Balga or Grasstree *Xanthorrhoea preissii*

The outside of the trunk consists of tightly packed leafbases often blackened by fire. The spear-like flowering spikes bear hundreds of small white flowers. Plants can live for over 200 years. Aboriginal people had numerous uses for the various plant parts.

### Sandplain Zamia *Macrozamia fraseri*

This palm-like plant belongs to an ancient group called Cycads. The male and female plants are separate. Distinctive male and female cones are produced and a weevil carries pollen between them.

## HERBS

### Milkmaids *Burchardia congesta*

Attractive white flowers are borne in heads on tall slender stems. During summer the leaves die down to tubers.

### Purple Tassels *Sowerbaea laxiflora*

The pendulous purple flowers retain their colour for long periods. Its habit is very similar to that of Milkmaids, dying back during the hot dry summer months.

### Mangles Kangaroo Paw *Anigozanthos manglesii*

The State Floral Emblem is one of the most spectacular plants with its vivid red and green coloured flowers. Honeyeaters are often seen collecting nectar and so pollinating the flowers.

### Yellow Autumn Lily *Tricoryne elatior*

A small perennial herb common in the bushland. The vibrant yellow flowers can be spotted throughout the year.

### Cow Kick Triggerplant *Stylidium schoenoides*

The large white flowers of this trigger plant need only the slightest touch by an insect to release the trigger which is used in pollination, helping to ensure cross-fertilisation.



Aug - Oct



Jan - Nov



Sep - Oct



Aug - Oct



Aug - Nov



Aug - Nov



Jan - Dec



Aug - Nov