Native plants of the Cataract Gorge Reserve

A guide to gorgeous flora you can grow at home.
A guide

This brochure intends to show you the many plants of Launceston's Cataract Gorge so you may grow the same species in your own backyard.

Why use local native plants in your garden?

- They are beautiful and represent Australia's diverse natural heritage
- They grow well because they are adapted to the local soils and climate
- Once established, many are low maintenance, reducing the need for fertilisers and water
- Native marsupials, birds and insects need them to survive

Garden design tips

- Determine your garden's conditions: sun, shade, soil types, soil moisture, aspect and topography and choose plants that suit your garden – this saves you time and money
- Think about the eventual size of the plant to ensure it will fit the position
- Choose plants of varying heights to create a multi layered effect, such as ground covers, small shrubs, large shrubs and small trees planted together
- Think about what colours and foliage types you like. With a bit of planning you can have your garden in flower all year round
- When planting near powerlines, choose shrubs that will NOT grow to a height greater than four metres

Notes on using this brochure...

The following photographs are grouped into the three forest layers you will find in most bushland areas:

Tree layer – sometimes referred to as the canopy
Shrub layer – taller part of the understorey
Ground layer – includes climbers, grasses, lilies, orchids, herbs and small shrubs in the understorey.

Use the symbols next to each photo to identify the plants that suit your needs.
Legend

Form

- **Shrub**: up to 2.5m
- **Large shrub**: 2.5m or more
- **Small tree**: 5-10m
- **Tree**: 10m or more
- **Ground cover**: trailing or suckering
- **Grasses/tufts**: clumping or tuft forming
- **Climbers**: climbing or scrambling

Sunlight

- **Full sun**
- **Partial or dappled shade**
- **Full shade for most of the day**

Water

- **Dry**: will withstand dry conditions
- **Moist/well drained**: tolerates moist conditions but needs good drainage
- **Wet**: will tolerate wet conditions

Other

- **Bird**: habitat or supply of nectar, seeds or berries

Please be aware that:

- Common names may vary from those listed here. Be aware that some plants have one or more sub-species so check with your local nursery.
- This brochure is not a comprehensive list of local native plants.
- The plant descriptions are general and may vary in different conditions.
Ground Layer

**Apple-Berry**  
*Billardiera mutabilis*  
Flowering: Spring, Summer

**Bulbine Lily**  
*Bulbine bulbosa*  
Suitable for rockeries, borders and general understorey  
Flowering: Spring, Summer

**Common Everlasting**  
*Chrysocephalum apiculatum*  
Commonly found in dry woodlands and coastal heaths  
Flowering: Spring, Summer

**Pleasant Clematis**  
*Clematis clitorioides*  
Flowering: Summer
Pink Bindweed
*Convolvulus angustissimus*
Suitable ground cover or container plant
*Flowering:* Spring, Summer

Blue Flax Lily
*Dianella revoluta*
*Flowering:* Summer

Kidney Weed
*Dichondra repens*
Suitable lawn substitute or between stepping stones
*Flowering:* Spring, Summer

White Flag Iris
*Diplarrenia moraea*
*Flowering:* Spring
Common Heath
*Epacris impressa*
Suitable container plant but needs to be tip-pruned regularly
Flowering: Autumn, Winter

Creeping Baeckea
*Euryomyrtus ramosissima*
Suitable rockery or container plant
Flowering: Spring, Summer

Erect Guinea Flower
*Hibbertia riparia*
Flowering: Spring

Running Postman
*Kennedia prostrata*
Suitable for rock gardens, retaining walls and containers
Flowering: Spring, Summer
Scaly Buttons
*Leptorrhynchos squamatus*
Suitable rockery plant
*Flowering:* Summer

Sagg
*Lomandra longifolia*
Common in dry open forest and useful for erosion control
*Flowering:* Spring, Summer

Native Geranium
*Pelargonium australe*
Suitable border or rockery plant
*Flowering:* Summer

Candles
*Stackhousia monogyna*
Found in open forests
*Flowering:* Spring, Summer
Trigger Plant
*Stylidium graminifolium*
Suitable for rockeries, borders and general understorey
*Flowering:* Spring, Summer

Black Eyed Susan
*Tetratheca pilosa*
*Flowering:* Spring

Other ground layer native plants of the Gorge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Botanical name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Rytidosperma caespitosum</em></td>
<td>Common wallaby grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Brunonia australis</em></td>
<td>Blue pincushion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carex appressa; inversa; longebrachiata</em></td>
<td>Tall sedge, Knob sedge, Drooping sedge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Clematis gentianoides</em></td>
<td>Ground Clematis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dianella tasmanica</em></td>
<td>Tasman flax lily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dichelachne crinita</em></td>
<td>Long hair flax lily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ehrharta stipoides</em></td>
<td>Weeping grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Juncus pallidus; pauciflorus</em></td>
<td>Pale rush, Loose flower rush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Linum marginale</em></td>
<td>Wild flax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Poa labillardieri; mollis; rodwayi</em></td>
<td>Tussock grass, Soft tussock grass, Rodway’s poa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lobelia pedunculata</em></td>
<td>Purple matted lobelia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Stellaria pungens</em></td>
<td>Prickly starwort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Themeda triandra</em></td>
<td>Kangaroo grass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Shrub Layer

Prickly Box
*Bursaria spinosa*
Flowering: Summer

Fringe Myrtle
*Calytrix tetragona*
Flowering: Spring

Dolly Bush
*Cassinia aculeata*
Flowering: Summer

Native Currant
*Coprosma quadrifida*
Flowering: Summer
Native Indigo
*Indigofera australis*
Flowering: Spring

Green Correa
*Correa reflexa*
Flowering: Spring

Bitter Leaf
*Daviesia latifolia*
Attracts butterflies
Flowering: Spring

Native Hop
*Dodonaea viscosa*
Suitable screen and shelter shrub
Flowering: Summer
Woolly Tea-tree
Leptospermum lanigerum
Suitable screen and shelter shrub
Flowering: Summer

Guitar Plant
Lomatia tinctoria
Endemic to Tasmania
Flowering: Spring

Yellow Bottlebrush
Melaleuca pallida
Suitable screen and shelter shrub
Flowering: Spring, Summer

Variable Daisy Bush
Olearia phlogopappa
Flowering: Spring
### Yellow Dogwood
*Pomaderris pilifera*
Flowering: Spring

### Round-leaved Mint Bush
*Prostanthera rotundifolia*
Suitable screen and shelter shrub
Flowering: Spring

### Kangaroo Apple
*Solanum laciniatum*
Egg shaped orange fruits.
Flowering: Spring, Summer

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### Other shrub layer native plants of the Gorge

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bedfordia salicina</em></td>
<td>Bedfordia or Blanketleaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Beyeria viscosa</em></td>
<td>Pinkwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Gahnia grandis</em></td>
<td>Cutting grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Grevillea australis</em></td>
<td>Honey grevillea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Hakea microcarpa</em></td>
<td>Tiny devil hakea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Melicytus dentatus</em></td>
<td>Tree violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Micranthemum hexandrum</em></td>
<td>Drum micranthem or River trident bush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Olearia argophylla</em></td>
<td>Musk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Oleria ramulosa</em></td>
<td>Daisy bush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pomaderris apetala</em></td>
<td>Dogwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rubus parvifolius</em></td>
<td>Tasmanian raspberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Veronica formosa</em></td>
<td>Handsome beauty or Speedwell bush</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tree Layer

**Blackwood**  
*Acacia melanoxylon*  
Flowering: Spring

**Black Sheoak**  
*Allocasuarina littoralis*  
Suitable ornamental and shelter tree  
Flowering: Spring

**Silver Banksia**  
*Banksia marginata*  
Flowering: Spring

**Swamp Paperbark**  
*Melaleuca ericifolia*  
Suitable screen plant  
Flowering: Spring, Summer
**Satinwood**  
*Nematolepis squamea*  
Suitable hedge and screening plant  
*Flowering:* Spring

**Native Olive**  
*Notelaea ligustrina*  
*Flowering:* Spring

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<tr>
<td><em>Acacia dealbata</em></td>
<td>Silver wattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Acacia mearnsii</em></td>
<td>Black wattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Allocasuarina verticilata</em></td>
<td>Sheoak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eucalyptus amygdalina</em></td>
<td>Black peppermint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eucalyptus viminalis</em></td>
<td>White gum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More information

Further reading

*Guide to Flowers and Plants of Tasmania*
Launceston Field Naturalists Club

*Woodland Wildflowers of Tasmania & Coastal Plants of Tasmania*
Australian Plant Society Tasmania

*Native trees of Tasmania*
Kirkpatrick, JB & Backhouse, S

*The Nature of the Midlands*
Midlands Bushweb

Websites

The Understorey Network:
www.understorey-network.org.au

Australian Plants Society Northern Group:
www.apstasnorth.org

Greening Australia Tasmania:
www.greeningaustralia.org.au/GA/TAS/

Special thanks

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A huge thank you to Herbert and Sally of Habitat Plants nursery for sharing their immense knowledge, most of the content for this brochure and for growing these plants for the community.

These plants can be found at Habitat Nursery in Liffey, Tasmania or at the many nurseries they supply in the area.

We are also grateful to the Shire of Yarra Ranges for allowing us to use the concept and symbols from the poster Local Australian Plants of the Yarra Ranges produced by Owen Gooding, Anja Steiner and Marilyn Gray, and designed by Greg Dunnett.

Also thank you to Melanie Kelly of Glamorgan Spring Bay Municipality for your advice and for sharing content from the poster ‘Native Plants in the Glamorgan Spring Bay Municipality’.