

12. Go across the bridge and down the steps to see on your left *Livistona mariae subsp. rigida*, or Red Cabbage Palm, with beautiful drooping fronds (photo below left). This palm grows in central Australia, mostly in Finke Gorge National Park, and recent genetic research shows that it arrived there only 15,000 years ago.



13. Further on your right is *Crotalaria eremaea subsp. eremaea*, or Bluebush Pea, a shrub with grey leaves and yellow pea flowers (photo above right). This plant is widely distributed in central Australia.

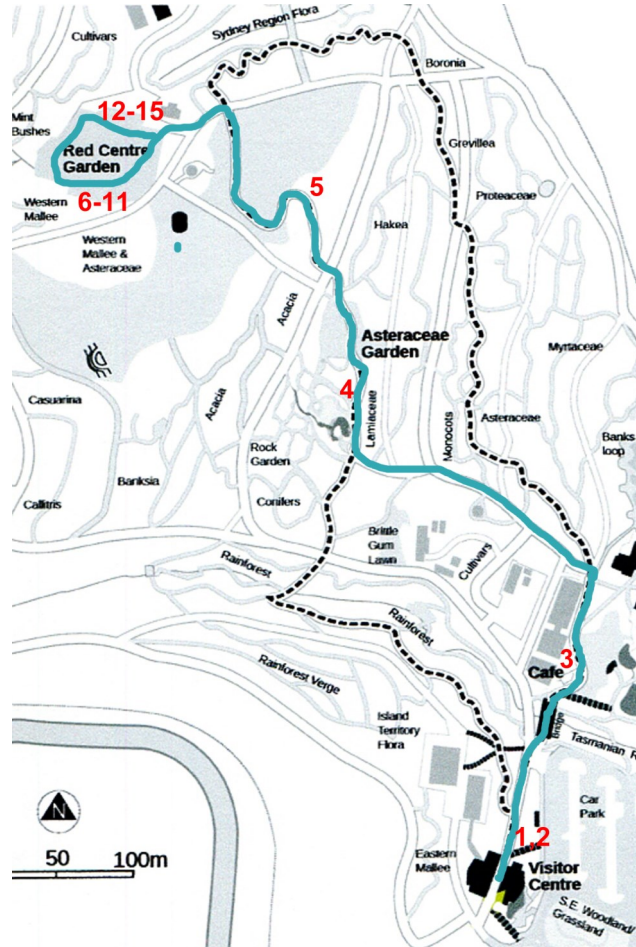
14. Further on your left is *Acacia minyura*, or Desert Mulga, with grey-blue foliage and yellow rod flowers on a small mounded bush (photo below left). This plant occurs naturally in arid parts of central and western Australia.



15. On your right is *Solanum sturtianum*, or Sturt's Nightshade, with purple flowers with yellow anthers on an open bush of grey green foliage (photo above right). The ripe fruit of this plant is reported to be toxic to stressed sheep and cattle. This plant is found in central Australia.



A publication of the
Friends of the Australian
National Botanic Gardens



4 - 17 March 2020

Featuring the plants of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT. Written and illustrated by Friends Rosalind and Benjamin Walcott

Today we will walk across the bridge, past the café, then up the hill to the Red Centre



1. After leaving the Visitor Centre on your right is *Brachyscome 'Magenta Bliss'*, a groundcover with dark green rosettes of foliage and small, bright magenta flowers (photo above).

2. Also on your right is *Corymbia 'Summer Red'*, a grafted eucalypt with dark green leathery foliage and attractive new red foliage, red fluffy flowers and beautiful bud formations (photo next page top left).



3. Cross the bridge, go past the café to see on your left ***Syzygium australe***, a tall shrub with very shiny green leaves and white powderpuff flowers (photo above right). The edible fruit matures from December to February, and is a drooping pear shaped red or purple berry, known as a Riberry.



4. Turn left up the hill towards the Rock Garden, then bear right in front of the waterfall to see on your left ***Callistemon comboyensis***, or Cliff Bottlebrush, with bright red brushes (photo above). This plant is native to coastal southern Queensland and northern New South Wales.



5. Continue up the Main Path, cross the road and follow the path to the Red Centre Garden to see on your right ***Podolobium aciculiferum***, with gold 3-part flowers with sharply pointed dark green foliage (photo above). This plant grows naturally in coastal New South Wales and Queensland.

6. As you enter the Red Centre Garden on your right, in a pot, is ***Frankenia uncinata*** with prostrate, spreading foliage and attractive five part mauve-pink flowers (photo below). This plant grows in dry parts of central Australia.



7. Bear left to see on your right ***Triodia scariosa***, or Porcupine Grass which is found across southern inland mainland Australia (photo below). This plant forms very prickly hummocks of dark-green, grass-like foliage and has attractive seed heads.



8. On your left is ***Atriplex vesicaria subsp. macrocystidia***, or Bladder Saltbush, a rounded shrub with silver-grey oblong leaves (photo below). This plant grows in dry inland Australia.



9. On your right is ***Acacia kempeana***, or Wichetty Bush, with grey-green leaves and yellow rods of flower (photo below). This plant is found in arid areas of Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia.



10. On your left is ***Eremophila longifolia*** or Berrigan, a large bush or small tree with long, narrow grey-green leaves, light green fruits and dusty pink tubular flowers (photo below). This plant is found in all the drier areas of mainland Australia.



11. Also on your left is ***Gossypium sturtianum*** or Sturt's Desert Rose, the floral emblem of the Northern Territory (photo below). This woody shrub with grey green water-shedding leaves grows in dry inland Australia.

