



Rose Gardens and Gazebo

The Rose Gardens are popular with brides who use the arch as a backdrop to their special day. Roses love the heat and are at their best in the warmer months. The first flower buds form in September with flowering peaks in December and again in February.

The gazebo is a very popular wedding area in the warmer months. Lush tree ferns and plants next to the paved area, and the grassed area edged with trees, shrubs and seasonal flowers all year, give a perfect backdrop to weddings and photographs.



Teahouse and Playgrounds

Two playgrounds are located within the grounds. One is situated near the Teahouse at the top of the Gardens while the other is located at the lower section near the BBQ area.

The Teahouse is an independently operated café, located near the top gates, off President Avenue and serves breakfast, lunch and Devonshire and High Teas.

Feeding the ducks

Many visitors to the Gardens enjoy the experience of feeding our wild ducks and birds around the Gardens.

Duck food is available for purchase from the teahouse. Please do not feed bread to the ducks and other birds as it is not healthy for our wildlife.



About the Gardens

Located in Caringbah and overlooking the beautiful Yowie Bay, the Camellia Gardens are a favourite with Shire residents and visitors alike.

The Gardens began as a project under the 1970 Captain Cook Bicentenary program, and the first plantings were made in 1969. They are named after the late Professor E.G. Waterhouse, a leading world authority on camellias, who lived in Sydney. The Gardens have grown over the years into their present beauty, in part due to the generous donations by numerous groups and individuals.

The site's rich history dates back further than 1970. From the 1900s through to the 1970s they were known as the Matson Pleasure Grounds. During this time they were a popular picnic and boating area for locals and even hosted the Crown Prince of Japan and officers of the visiting Japanese fleet in 1905.

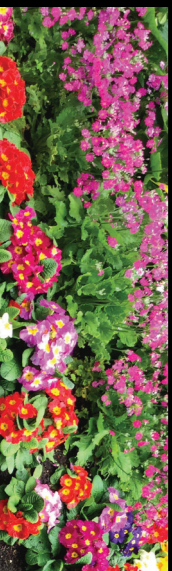


Camellia Garden of Excellence

The Gardens are a member of the International Camellia Society and the camellia collection is of unique value to Australian horticulture.

Guided tours

Guided tours are conducted by volunteers between June and August each year. For information contact Stephen Utick: sutick@grapevine.com.au



Scan QR code for a guide on exploring the collection from Camellias Australia.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE



OPENING HOURS

Gardens
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm

Weekends and public holidays:

Non-daylight saving: 9.30am - 5.00pm
During daylight saving: 9.30am - 6.00pm

Teahouse
Monday to Friday 7.00am - 4.00pm
Saturday to Sunday 8.00am - 5.00pm

The Teahouse is closed all public holidays and the Gardens are closed on Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Limited off-street parking on President Avenue. Main carpark is off the southern end of Kareena Road.

ENQUIRIES

General enquiries about the Gardens
Sutherland Shire Council: 02 9710 0333
Note: there is no public contact phone number for the Gardens.

Ceremonies or wedding photography
Phone: 02 9710 0333
Email: parkbookings@ssc.nsw.gov.au



Teahouse
Phone: 02 9540 2018
thejadeteapot.com

The Teahouse is independently managed; staff service and manage the cafe area only.



PRESIDENT AVENUE



LANDMARKS

- A** Elizabeth Cook Memorial Fountain
- B** Foundation Stone
- C** Janet Waterhouse Sandstone Seat
- D** RSL Memorial Foundation Plaque
- E** Senses Garden

FACILITY FEATURES

- P** Parking
- Playground
- Flight handrails
- Route Access
- BBQs
- Cafe
- 1-2 Steps
- Assistance

Accessibility

The Gardens are on a steeply sloping site. Both the top part and bottom part of the Gardens are accessible, however winding paths and stairs in the middle separate the two areas. Access is available from the main entry to the top garden. From Kareena Road, access is available to the Teahouse and upper playground. From the lower entry, access is available to the Senses Garden (Landmark 'E') and some of the paths in the duck pond area. Accessible toilet facilities are located near the Senses Garden from the lower entry and in the Teahouse building near the upper playground. With assistance, another pathway, uneven at times, leads over the bridge and up to the picnic area, where there are picnic facilities, BBQs and accessible toilets.

The Camellia Collection

Over 400 cultivars and species of camellia have been donated and acquired since first plantings began in 1969. The Gardens are also a member of the International Camellia Society and the camellia collection is of unique value to Australian horticulture.

Camellias are in season during autumn and winter. *Camellia sasanqua* blooms from autumn to early winter early spring. *Camellia japonica* blooms from late autumn right through winter. *Camellia reticulata* is in bloom from mid-winter to September/October. Annuals bloom in spring, followed by roses in the summer months.

Visit any day that the sun shines for the floral display and a coffee at the Teahouse.

