

Amazing facts about Lotus and Waterlilies



December 1, 2018

The Garden

- Garden size - **14 acres** or **5.6 hectares** or **50,000 square metres**
- Blue Lotus Water Garden has the **largest display of water flowers – Lotus and Waterlilies – in Australia**, and possibly the Southern Hemisphere.
- The property has been owned by the Cochrane family for over 50 years.
- **4 main types of lake Lotus** – Cream Lutea, Mrs Perry Slocum, Hindu and Carolina Queen and has over **50 varieties** of medium, small and miniature lotus.
- **Thousands** of waterlilies on display including over **100 varieties** of temperate (hardy) waterlilies and **50+ tropical waterlilies**.
- **40 man-made waterways** including lakes, ponds, lagoons, bogs and a waterfall containing hundreds of varieties of flowering water plants.
- **3km** of walking paths that weave through the gardens connecting by **20 ornamental bridges**
- Terrestrial gardens extensively landscaped with hundreds of trees, palms, shrubs, grasses and perennial flowers creating a tropical feel

Lotus Flowers

- There are two types of Lotus in the world – temperate and tropical.
- Blue Lotus Water Garden grows mainly **temperate Lotus** which are summer active (December – April) and completely dormant in winter. In the northern hemisphere, temperate Lotus grow to about 48 degrees north e.g. north of Beijing and can withstand temperatures below -30.
- Lotus flowers have a **coating** on them that makes them **impervious to water**. They lay dormant in winter under lakes, dams, ponds etc. When it gets warmer in spring, they grow and rise out of the water as a new fresh shoot / bud.
- The **Lotus root and seed** is widely **eaten** throughout Asia.
- The **Lotus plant** is considered **sacred to the Buddhist and Hindu community** with the flowers used as offerings in temples and at festivals around the world.
- The Lotus flower is the **national flower of India and Vietnam**.

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Waterlily

- Temperate waterlilies range from old varieties found in Claude Monet's garden at Giverny, France to modern bred waterlilies sourced from around the world.
- Tropical waterlilies on display include a unique collection of Charles Winch (Sydney) bred lilies, Australian tropical lilies and others from around the world.
- Blue Lotus Water Garden houses some of the **largest waterlilies** in the world in their **Giants of the Amazon** exhibit, with the largest species being the *Victoria Longwood (hybrid) Waterlily*. This species can be distinguished by its massive leaves (lily pads) which can reach well over **2 metres in diameter** and flowers the **size of a dinner plate**.

Native Lotus and Waterlilies

- The Garden has a small display of native Lotus and Waterlilies that originate from northern Australia.
- These flowers are unique to Australian and Papua New Guinea and are quite different to other tropical waterlilies.
- Blue Lotus Water Garden has experimental ponds in Far North Queensland which hold many native Lotus and Waterlilies collected from northern Australia.

Open: December 27, 2018 – April 22, 2019
7 days a week

Time: 10am – 5pm

Address: 2628 Warburton Hwy, Yarra Junction
www.bluelotus.com.au

[Click here](#) for images of Blue Lotus Water Garden.

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