

New Farm Park, Brisbane

New Farm Park, a 15 hectare space of manicured lawns, rose gardens and flowering shade trees, was created in 1914 and is popular with both tourists and local Brisbane residents. Situated on the New Farm reach of the Brisbane River, it is the perfect place to escape the hustle and bustle of the city and relax beneath the trees by the river, take in some exercise with friends, or just stop and smell the roses.

Henry Moore, the first Brisbane City Parks Superintendent, horticulturist and landscape gardener, originally designed the park. Moore displayed a high degree of creativity in his initial Edwardian design, which included the jacaranda drive that continues to impress visitors. Landscape architect Harry Oakman re-designed the park in post-1948 to include the famous rose beds. Both men are considered innovators in the field of tropical garden design.

Besides the mature jacarandas and fig trees around the loop drive, other mature tree plantings of note include the various lines of palms, the weeping figs near the river and the banyan figs incorporated in the playground. An understorey of tropical plants grow in the shade near the kiosk site, a character of park planting that is a distinct aspect of Brisbane's historic parks and large gardens.



The Queensland bottle trees shading the Brunswick Street barbecue area, poincianas along Brunswick Street and remnants of Oakman's massed plantings of frangipanis and baubins are other distinctive plantings in the park.

The park's vistas demonstrate an established subtropical garden character that is well appreciated by all who venture into this much loved city asset.

