

12. Also on your left is **Gossypium sturtianum**, or Sturt's Desert Rose, the floral emblem of the Northern Territory (photo below left). This woody shrub with grey-green water-shedding leaves has purple flowers with maroon centres.



13. Scattered on your left and right is **Brachyscome iberidifolia**, or Swan River Daisy, a small plant with ferny foliage and almost iridescent flowers in varying shades of white, purple and mauve, native to the southern half of Western Australia (photo above right).



14. Further on your left is **Petalostylis labicheoides**, or Butterfly Bush, an erect shrub with blue-grey foliage and yellow flowers with a red mark, native to dry areas of Australia (photo above).



15. On your right is **Acacia minyura**, or Desert Mulga, with grey-blue foliage and yellow rod flowers on a small mounded bush (photo above). This plant is native to arid parts of central and western Australia.

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

Today we will walk from the Visitor Centre up to the Red Centre Garden (RCG)



1. As you leave the Visitor Centre look to your left to see, in a pot, **Pilidistigma rhytispermum**, or Small-leaved Plum Myrtle, a woody shrub with small leaves and cream cup flowers with prominent stamens (photo above). This plant is native to the coast of southeastern Queensland and the black fruits are attractive to many fruit eating birds.

2. On your right, in a pot, is **Backhousia citriodora**, or Lemon Ironwood, a small tree with shiny green leaves and white, fluffy heads of flowers with prominent bracts (photo next page top left). This plant is endemic to the tropical rainforest areas of Queensland between Brisbane and Mackay. The leaves of this plant are strongly lemon scented.



3. Bear left up the hill behind the café to see on your left ***Hibiscus heterophyllus subsp. heterophyllus*** with many white flowers with deep red centres (photo above right). This plant can be a tall shrub or small tree and is native to coastal New South Wales and Queensland.



4. Further on your left is ***Hibiscus divaricatus*** with pure yellow flowers contrasting with maroon stamens on a straggly bush (photo above). This hibiscus is native to Queensland, the Northern Territory, and northern parts of Western Australia. Usually a shrub, this plant can reach the size of a small tree, up to about 5 m tall.



5. Turn right along the road above the Rock Garden to see, on your right, ***Anigozanthos flavidus*** or Tall Kangaroo Paw in rusty-red shades (photo above). All Kangaroo Paws are native to Western Australia and the flowers are bird pollinated.

6. Also on your right is ***Scaevola albida***, a prostrate shrub native to a range of habitats in Queensland, NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia (photo below). This plant has mauve fan flowers on light green groundcover foliage.



7. Further on your right is ***Calostemma purpureum***, or Garland Lily, with clusters of pink bells on thin stems (photo below). This plant is well-known in the Riverina district, and is native more widely in western New South Wales, northwestern Victoria and South Australia.



8. Again on your right is ***Calothamnus tuberosus***, a stiff upright bush with spiky grey-green linear foliage and bright red fluffy flowers (photo below). This plant is endemic to southwestern Western Australia.



9. Turn left up the hill towards the RCG to see, on your right, ***Acacia parvipinnula***, or Silver Stemmed Wattle, a tree with dark green, ferny foliage and pale yellow, scented ball flowers (photo below). This wattle is native to central eastern New South Wales



10. Turn right towards the RCG to see, on your right, ***Swainsona galegifolia*** or Darling Pea, a small shrub with divided grey-green foliage and pink 'pea' flowers and prominent seed pods, native to inland NSW and Queensland (photo below).



11. Turn into the RCG and bear right to see, on your left, ***Triodia scariosa***, or Porcupine Grass which is native to southern inland mainland Australia (photo below). This plant forms very prickly hummocks of dark-green, grass-like foliage and has attractive seed heads.

