

10 things to do at the Highbury Aqueduct Reserve



1. Catch yabbies in the creek

Yes, there are loads of yabbies in the creeks, and plenty of frogs and tadpoles too. See how many you can find, but please put them back where you found them.

2. Take a photo

Capture a Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo mid-flight or some close-ups of the fascinating plants and insects that call this place home.

3. Visit Pioneer Court Community Garden

Check out this thriving community initiative just off Historic Drive. You'll see masses of fruit, nuts and vegetables grown by garden members (please don't pick anything unless you're invited to). For membership enquiries phone Mario Minuzzo on 0411 604 326.

4. Take a walk along the new trail

We're mighty proud of our new walking trails. Try them for yourself, you can even create your own loop walk by incorporating sections of the reserve and Linear Park.

5. Find a koala or an echidna

We've got koalas and echidnas aplenty. Our koalas are a bit special, sometimes you'll see them sleeping in a pine tree! Echidnas are much harder to spot – try looking for diggings around ant nests. Please remember to keep your dog on a lead to keep these critters safe!

6. Help us revegetate and pull out pesky weeds

It may not sound like fun, but by golly it's satisfying! There are a lot of weeds in the reserve – Olives, Blackberry, small Allepo Pines, thistles and broom – we're working hard to get rid of them. If you're keen, phone Dave Fraser Senior Ranger on 0407 610 359 and become a regular volunteer.

7. Ride your bike on dirt trails

There are plenty of informal trails in the reserve – make sure you've got your protective gear on, then get rolling. Pack some snacks and head off for some fun family exploration. Ready, set, go for a spin!

8. Spot a Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

Cockies have been visiting the reserve for decades - they snack on the Allepo Pines which are actually a weed, plus they're not very nutritious for cockatoos. A much better food source is the native Hakea which we've planted in the reserve. Can you find a Hakea bush? Hint: Look in the revegetation!

9. Find some native grass

Unfortunately native grasses aren't as common as weedy grasses like Kikuyu, Couch and Rye grass, so spotting them is a bit harder but super rewarding. The two main types in Highbury are Wallaby Grass and Spear Grass. Sadly they don't come complete with wallabies, or spears.

10. Make a cubby or a tepee

There are plenty of dead branches on the ground in the reserve, and lots of other materials you can use to make a cubby. A great base for a game of 'I spy nature'. Just make sure you don't break off live branches or disturb wild animals – they need shelter too.