

WALKING: TREE TREATS OF THE FOREST

The suburbs of Black Forest, Goodwood, Millswood and Forestville are so named as this area was once covered by a diverse forest of trees, shrubs, creepers, groundcovers and grasses. The dominant tall trees included the Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) and River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). Sadly, only a few remnant trees remain, however, there are other beautiful and interesting trees in this area which today offer shade, food and habitat for wildlife. Enjoy a walk along this trail and appreciate the Tree Treats of the Forest!

Distance: 4.1km

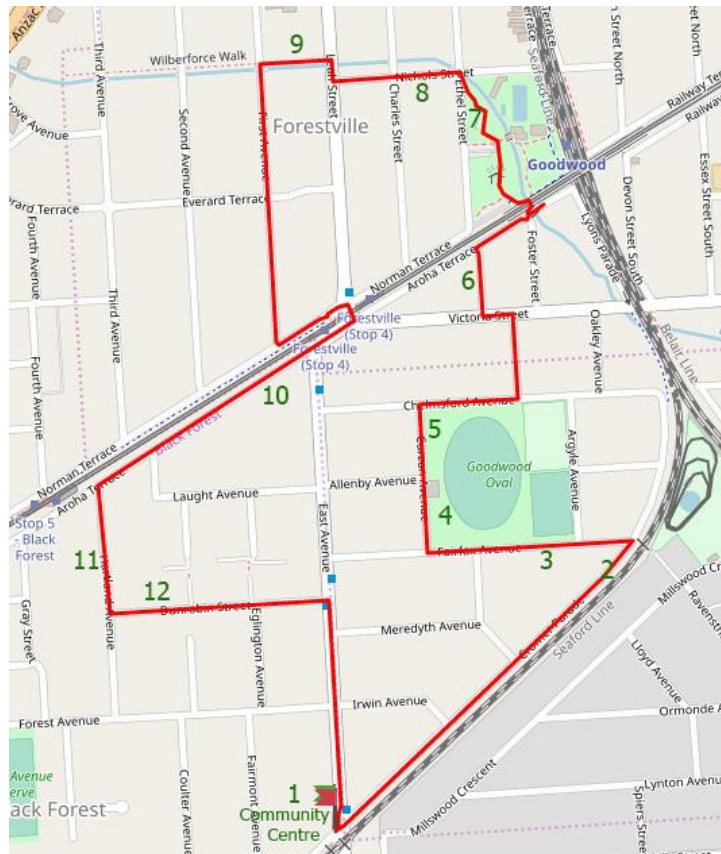
Walking time: ~1¼ hours



2. Warty Yate caps



3. English Oak



6. Crepe Myrtle



7. Sheoak pod



12. Ginkgo

1. Start at the Clarence Park Community Centre, 72-74 East Ave, Black Forest. Wander through the Biodiversity Garden to see a variety of indigenous 'Black Forest' species of plants which were once common. Some of these plants provided food, medicine, tools and shelter for the Kurna people.
2. Cross East Avenue and walk NE along Cromer Pde, following the train line. Just before the intersection with Fairfax Ave, notice the **Warty Yate Gum Tree** (*Eucalyptus megacornuta*) next to the train line. Native to Western Australia, this tree sheds curly bark and produces yellow flowers with peculiar large warty caps which are fun for children and crafting.
3. Turn west and walk down Fairfax Ave. The street trees are **English Oaks** (*Quercus robur*), planted in memory of members of the local Druids Lodge who died during World War II. Throughout history, oaks have been a symbol of honour, wisdom, endurance and remembrance. Their distinctive seeds, acorns, have symbolized the potential for growth, strength and longevity. Some species can live for 1000 years.
4. Between the playground and grandstand on Goodwood Oval are 3 old **Cork Oaks** (*Quercus suber*). Cork from Cork oaks has been used since ancient times for bottle stoppers, footwear, flooring and insulation. Cork is a very sustainable resource as it can be stripped from mature trunks periodically without killing the trees.
5. Walk northwards, past the grandstand to the spectacular **Port Jackson Fig** tree (*Ficus rubiginosa*). Closely related to the Moreton Bay Fig, it is native to eastern Australia with widely spreading branches and small fruit. Much loved by locals, this tree is now fenced for its protection.

6. Proceed east along Chelmsford Ave, turn left at Northbrooke Avenue, then left onto Victoria St. Turn right and walk northwards along Newman St, admiring the avenue of **Crepe Myrtles** (*Lagerstroemia* sp.) with their stunning summer flowers, autumn colour and beautiful smooth trunks.
7. Turn right at Aroha Tce and walk eastwards. Go left under the tramline to Forestville Reserve and Brownhill Creek. Council bought this land in 1939 for £1,000. The creekline and surrounding areas are being rehabilitated and local native plants are flourishing. Notice the groups of **Sheoaks** (*Allocasuarina* sp.) with their needle-like branchlets and woody seedpods.
8. Walk northwards along Ethel St and turn left at Nichols St. Stately **Red Iron Barks** (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), which produce pretty pink blossom in spring, line the street. Ironbark is a very hard timber which is useful for construction, flooring and furniture.
9. Cross Leah St and proceed west along Wilberforce Walk which runs alongs Brownhill Creek. The magnificent remnant **River Redgum** (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), known as 'Karra' in Kaurna language, is the 'treasure of the trek'! Many hundreds of years old, this tree was respected by the local Kaurna people and by early settler Dr Charles C. Everard who took ownership of the land in 1836. The timber of Red Gum was used by Aboriginals for making tools and carrying bowls, and its leaves were used for medicinal purposes. The hollows in this ancient tree are homes to birds, bats, possums and other living creatures.
10. Turn left onto First Avenue and walk south, cross Norman Tce onto the bike track and walk east towards the tram crossing. Cross at the Leah St tram stop then walk west along Aroha Tce. The towering **Lemon-scented Gums** (*Corymbia citriodora*) with their smooth pale trunks and scented leaves provide habitat and food for wildlife. Its flowers are important for honey production and its oil is used in insect repellants, cosmetics and medicines.
11. Turn left into Hartland Avenue which is planted with **Manchurian Pear** (*Pyrus calleryana*), a popular deciduous tree which features bright red autumn colour and white spring blossom.
12. Turn left into Dunrobin St, and notice the elegant **Ginkgo** or Maidenhair Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*) outside house number 4. A hardy, slow-growing but long-lived tree, the species dates back to Jurassic times and is a much cherished tree in China, Japan and Korea.
13. At the end of Dunrobin St, turn right onto East Avenue, and return to the Community Centre.



4. Cork Oak



5. Port Jackson Fig



9. Remnant River Redgum