

# Lake Parramatta Reserve

## Tracks and Trails

-  She Oak Track
-  Banksia Track
-  Lake Circuit
-  Creeks
-  Carpark
-  Toilets
-  Playground
-  BBQ
-  Arrunga Bardo Bush Food Garden
-  Picnic Shelters
-  Heritage Road

### Warning:

Stepping Stones will be impassable during and immediately after rain.



### She-Oak Track (1550m)

Easy walk along the lake edge that loops back along the bitumen road through She-Oaks, majestic Sydney Red Gum and Blackbutt.

### Banksia Track (2450m)

Moderate walk (uneven surfaces). This trail wanders along the eastern edge taking in views of the lake. Highlights include Old Man and Hairpin Banksias under a canopy of Red Bloodwood and Grey Gum.

### Lake Circuit (4200m)

Moderate walk (uneven surfaces). Displays of wildflowers abound from Autumn to Spring. A small rainforest remnant can be enjoyed at the rear of the lake, and, encounters with native birds and animals are assured.

Bikes are NOT permitted on the walking tracks (Except the Eastern Firetrail).



*One of the most significant and beautiful bushland remnants in Western Sydney.*



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PARRAMATTA  
CITY COUNCIL

Lake Parramatta Reserve is a 75 hectare bushland reserve located approximately two kilometres north of the Parramatta CBD. The native vegetation was retained to protect the water quality in the lake which provided Parramatta's water supply until 1909. The reserve is now recognised as one of the most significant and beautiful bushland remnants in western Sydney.

### Location and Access

Lake Parramatta Reserve is open every day of the year and features picnic and BBQ facilities, playground, kiosk and bushwalking tracks. The main entrance is from Lackey Street off Bourke Street in North Parramatta, with entry gates opening at 6.30am and closed at 5.30pm (7.30pm during daylight saving). Public transport is available via Hills Bus Route #609 (nearest stop on Bourke Street).

*An ideal place to visit with family and friends.*

### History of the Reserve

The reserve and surrounds were originally home to the Burramattagal clan of the Darug Aboriginal people prior to British settlement in 1788. Evidence still remains of their former occupation through the presence of shelter caves, hand-stencils, campsites, tree scars and midden deposits.

The State Heritage listed dam wall was completed in 1856 and utilises a single arch design, being only the second constructed in modern times and twelfth since Roman times 100BC. Parramatta was connected to the main Sydney water supply in 1909, with the lake and surrounding bushland retained for public recreation.

Lake Parramatta remained a very popular swimming venue from this time until the 1970s, when pollution from increased surrounding suburban development reduced water quality to a level that made it no longer suitable for swimming. Council has undertaken significant works in recent years to improve overall water quality and has developed a Water Safety Plan to manage aquatic based recreational activities. Swimming is not permitted except during organised events approved by Council.

### Flora & Fauna

Lake Parramatta Reserve is the largest surviving bushland remnant and has the highest diversity of native flora and fauna in the Parramatta Local Government Area. The remnant vegetation is representative of the shale / sandstone environment which covered the area prior to urban development.

Fauna surveys in 2011-12 identified approximately 70 native species, including 44 birds, 12 frogs / reptiles and 12 mammals in the reserve. A number of these species are listed as endangered or vulnerable under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

To protect these unique native animals and their habitats, Lake Parramatta Reserve has been proclaimed as a Wildlife Refuge under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and declared a Wildlife Protection Area under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*. Cats are prohibited from entering the reserve and dogs must be on a lead and remain on established tracks.

*Help us protect this important and fragile environment!*



Photo: Sugar Glider  
Courtesy of Mark Fuller

### Bush Foods

The local Aboriginal community and Parramatta City Council have established the *Arrunga Bardo* Bushfood Garden and walk to educate visitors about the use of local species for traditional sources of food, medicine and tools. Brochures are available at the reserve kiosk or from Councils website at [www.parracity.nsw.gov.au](http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au).

### Things to Do & See

- Bushwalking Tracks
- Free BBQs & Picnic Facilities
- Playground
- Canoeing & Kayaking
- Native Wildlife
- Kiosk

### How You Can Help Look After the Reserve

- Join the Conservation Committee / Bushcare group by contacting Council on 9806 5050 or [bushcare@parracity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bushcare@parracity.nsw.gov.au) for more information.
- Report illegal dumping and vandalism. Any person/s dumping grass clippings, garden and building waste or vandalising facilities in the Reserve are breaking the law and should be reported immediately to Council on 9806 5050.
- Keep cats out of the reserve and ensure dogs are on a leash at all times.
- Remain on the established tracks when walking in the reserve as the bushland is fragile and does not tolerate disturbance and the creation of additional tracks.
- No cycling or mountain biking on the narrow walking tracks (except the eastern fire-trail) to minimise disturbance to native fauna and damage to sensitive vegetation.

**National Relay Service (NRS) ph: 133 677** • Hearing impaired and deaf people may call Parramatta City Council through the NRS, using modem or textphone by dialling **133 677** and quoting customer service number **9806 5050** • **Telephone Interpreter Service** is available • Call **131 450** and ask for Parramatta City Council's Customer Service Number **(02) 9806 5050**