



TUMBETIN LODGE >>

Built predominantly of Australian silky oak in 1934 in Railway Estate for the Roman Catholic Church. It was the St. Francis Xavier School until 1975. Relocated in 1993 to its current site at the entrance to The Palmetum.



CACTI AND SUCCULENT GARDEN >>

The Xerophytic Zone features a dramatic display of arid land plants from the Americas, Africa and Madagascar surrounded by local granite boulders and rock planted in association with drought-tolerant palms.



RAINFOREST BRIDGE >>

Constructed in 2005, the stone bridge has created a visually pleasing yet practical pedestrian/light vehicle crossing that allows for photo opportunities for the numerous weddings and special events within the Palmetum's tropical rainforest settings.



Palmetum

A TROPICAL EXPERIENCE



The Townsville Botanic Gardens, as developed by Townsville City Council, includes Anderson Gardens, Queens Gardens and the Palmetum.

Each garden is unique in character but all contain fine examples of tropical vegetation that will be of interest to plant enthusiasts and casual visitors alike.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TOWNSVILLE BOTANIC GARDENS CONTACT >>

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LOCATION >> Townsville, North Queensland. Entrance is off University Road, on the south side of Ross River in the suburb of Annandale.

AREA >> 17 Ha (13.5 Ha developed); undulating topography, intersected by a meandering semi-permanent watercourse and minor tributaries.

CLIMATE >> Dry Tropics. Townsville's average annual rainfall is 1125mm, with marked seasonality and high variability. Approximately 70% falls January to March, with useful falls of 20mm or more rare from May to October. Summers are hot and humid.

PLANT COLLECTION >> The Palmetum is a botanic garden featuring plants of the palm family Areaceae. Approximately 60 species are native to Australia; most are represented. The entire collection contains in excess of 360 species, covering a wide range of genera from different habitats. Pandanaceae, cacti and succulents are also well represented.

ESTABLISHMENT DATE >> First plantings undertaken in 1982. Officially opened 18 September 1988.

FACILITIES >> Public conveniences, botanical displays, tourist information, selected art exhibitions and café are all located in historic Tumbetin Lodge.

GENERAL INFORMATION >> The Palmetum is open to the public between sunrise and sunset.



BLACKHAWK MEMORIAL

Palmetum

A TROPICAL EXPERIENCE

The Palmetum is a 17 hectare Botanic Garden displaying one of the largest and most diverse public collections of palms in the world.

It has a range of habitats to suit flora originating from the dry tropics through to the wet tropical lowlands. In addition to the recreated habitat zones, there are expansive lawns and water features frequented by numerous bird species. A 'Birds of the Palmetum' brochure is available in the foyer of Tumbetin Lodge.

PLANTS OF INTEREST >>

A	<i>Wodyetia bifurcata</i>	Foxtail Palm
B	<i>Pritchardia pacifica</i>	Fijian Fan Palm
C	<i>Mauritia flexuosa</i>	Moriche Palm
D	<i>Attalea cohune</i>	Cohune Palm
E	<i>Livistona drudei</i>	Drudes Palm
F	<i>Pelagodoxa henryana</i>	Marquesas Palm
G	<i>Borassodendron machadonis</i>	Malaysian Fan Palm
H	<i>Lodoicea maldivica</i>	Coco-de-Mer, Double Coconut
I	<i>Roystonea oleracea</i>	Caribbean Royal Palm
J	<i>Copernicia baileyana</i>	Cuban Paddle Palm
K	<i>Corypha umbraculifera</i>	Talipot Palm
L	<i>Dypsis decaryi</i>	Triangle Palm
M	<i>Nypa fruticans</i>	Mangrove Palm
N	<i>Borassus flaberlifer</i>	Palmyra Palm, Toddy Palm
O	<i>Metroxylon sagu</i>	Sago Palm
P	<i>Hyphaene coriacea</i>	Ilala Palm
Q	<i>Drymophloeus litigiousus</i>	Beguine Palm
R	<i>Licuala ramsayi</i>	Australian Fan Palm
S	<i>Verchaffeltia splendida</i>	Seychelles Stilt Palm
T	<i>Socratea exorrhiza</i>	Amazonian Stilt Palm
U	<i>Veitchia arecina</i>	Montgomery Palm
V	<i>Phoenicophorium borsigianum</i>	Borsig Palm
W	<i>Elaeis oleifera</i>	American Oil Palm
X	<i>Salacca zalacca</i>	Salak
Y	<i>Johannesteijsmannia altifrons</i>	Joey Palm
Z	<i>Kerriodoxa elegans</i>	King Thai Palm

PALM AVENUES >>

AA	<i>Livistona decora</i>	Weeping Cabbage Palm
BB	<i>Cyrtostachys renda</i>	Lipstick Palm
CC	<i>Bismarkia nobilis</i>	Bismarck Palm
DD	<i>Carpoxyton macrospermum</i>	Carpoxyton Palm



ACCESS >> Travelling South along Nathan Street cross the Ross River, the entrance is located 300m on the left. Travelling North along University Road turn right 300m past the large roundabout with the flagpole. Car park is shared with Good Shepherd Hospice.

HABITAT ZONES AND SOME PALMS OF NOTE >>

MOIST SAVANNAH >>

Open aspect with full sun exposure, regularly watered.

Lodoicea maldivica 'Double Coconut', planted 1988. Rare. Native to Seychelles. Dioecious. Takes about 30 years to fruit. Each nut can weigh up to 20kg and take up to 7 years to mature. Very slow growing to a height of 25m. (J)

LAGOON >>

Permanent lagoon with constantly saturated soil surrounding it. Inundated for short periods after heavy rain.

Corypha umbraculifera Planted 1987. Native to India and Sri Lanka. 30m. One of the largest biomass of all palms. Monocarpic. Needs abundant water. Numerous household and edible uses. (K)

XEROPHYTIC >>

Receives irrigation only while plants are being established or during extremely long dry periods.

Phoenix dactylifera Planted 1986. Native to North Africa and the Middle East. 30m. Produces edible dates. In cultivation for at least 5000 years in Middle East.

RAINFOREST >>

Frequently watered with overhead sprinklers to maintain humidity.

Kerriodoxa elegans Planted in 1986. Indigenous to southern Thailand. 5m. A monotypic genus with magnificent leaves, the petiole extends in length after leaf emerges. The epithet is Latin for "elegant." (Z)

