

BOTANIC BY NIGHT

BRISBANE BOTANIC GARDENS MT COOT-THA

NIGHTGLOW

FACT SHEET

Botanic by Night: NightGlow is a temporary nighttime event to be held at Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha from Friday 25 September to Saturday 10 October 2026.

The event is designed to provide visitors with a unique opportunity to thoughtfully experience the Gardens after dark, while respecting and protecting the site's natural environment. Botanic by Night: NightGlow is delivered by City Parklands and supported by Brisbane City Council.

The event features eleven large-scale illuminated lantern artworks inspired by native Australian wildlife. A temporary food truck precinct will operate within the event footprint during opening hours, encouraging visitors to dwell and enjoy the Botanic Gardens.

Discounted locals pricing is available for Brisbane LGA residents. Sessions are allocated capped and ticketed to carefully manage the event's impact.

Event Route

Botanic by Night: NightGlow is located along sections of the Queensland Conservation Trail and Gardens Explorer Trail, using existing DDA-compliant paths and permanent lighting in a parkland setting. The route and lighting approach has been carefully designed to reduce exposure to sensitive habitat, protect the botanical collection, and minimise skyglow through restrained, tightly controlled lighting.

Event Details

Event Dates

Friday 25 September to Saturday 10 October 2026

Opening Hours

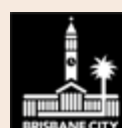
6.30pm to 10.00pm nightly, with final session entry at 9.00pm

Ticketing

The event is ticketed, with sessions capped to support visitor safety, crowd management, site monitoring and environmental stewardship. Ticket prices and session information can be found at botanicbynight.com.au



botanicbynight.com.au



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Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha the setting for Botanic by Night: NightGlow?

Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha provides a meaningful setting for an experience centred on fostering understanding of the interconnected relationships between animal, plant, and the environment. The event brings this theme to life while offering visitors a new way to experience the Botanic Gardens after dark. Across nine encounters with eleven large-scale lantern artworks, visitors meet luminous representations of Australian fauna and discover the habitats and relationships that sustain them, and connect with the Botanic Gardens as a living library of ecological knowledge.

How is Botanic by Night: NightGlow minimising its environmental impact?

Environmental stewardship has been considered throughout the planning, design and delivery of the event, with practical measures in place to support responsible event delivery. These include:

- **Independent ecological advice.** Site-specific ecological advice has informed the event's planning, design and operations, including consideration of habitat sensitivity, indirect light spill, noise and canopy screening. While Botanic by Night: NightGlow is delivered under the Events Local Law 2022 and is not subject to ecological approval requirements, City Parklands has voluntarily incorporated the advice into the event's design and delivery as part of a responsible, best-practice place management approach.

- **Lighting design.** Botanic by Night: NightGlow is an art installation rather than a traditional light show, using a constrained, low-intensity lighting approach designed specifically for the Gardens' setting. The lighting is used to enhance the lantern sculptures, which feature low-intensity, contained lighting, rather than create large-scale spectacle or projections. There are no laser or strobe lighting effects, or uplighting into canopies. LEDs are contained and diffused within each sculpture's fabric skin to minimise light spill and skyglow. The experience is designed to encourage

slow movement, reflection and learning as visitors move along the existing pathway network. Lighting has been thoughtfully placed to avoid identified feed areas, wildlife corridors, waterways, and known habitat areas, and will be carefully installed to avoid damage to plants and root zones.

- **Event route.** The event route uses the existing Queensland Conservation Trail and Gardens Explorer Trail within a high-use area of Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha. The route was carefully selected to balance visitor safety, capacity and ecological protection, while intentionally avoiding living botanic collections and sensitive planted areas.

- **Temporary footprint.** The event is a temporary activation designed to integrate carefully within the existing Gardens environment. The event footprint, operating hours and visitor flow have been deliberately designed to support responsible site management and protect the Gardens' flora and fauna.

How will visitor numbers and impacts on local residents be managed?

Botanic by Night: NightGlow is a ticketed, session-based event with visitor numbers capped for each session to support safe and orderly access to the Gardens. Parking is available at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha Car Park, Ada Street Car Park and Legacy Way Car Park. Visitors using the Legacy Way Car Park can access a complimentary shuttle to and from the event entrance, operating approximately every 15 minutes between 6.00pm and 10.30pm. Traffic management measures will also be implemented to support the safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians during event bump-in, bump-out and operating hours. Together, these measures are designed to support efficient visitor movement and minimise traffic and parking pressures in surrounding areas.

Is this event connected to previous Mt Coot-tha nighttime event proposals?

No, Botanic by Night: NightGlow has been developed independently of any previous proposals, under a different regulatory pathway,

in a different location, with a different scope, footprint, lighting approach, and operational model.

Which cultural perspectives are reflected in the artworks?

First Nations perspectives and cultural guidance have informed the development of the event's artworks and storytelling, with themes including Country, wildlife, ecological relationships and cultural connection. This storyline is detailed on the event website, botanicbynight.com.au

Which accessibility provisions are in place?

The event has been designed to provide an inclusive visitor experience – the route follows existing pathways and is suitable for visitors using wheelchairs. Accessible parking and amenities are also available.

How will noise be managed during the event?

Noise management is a key priority for Botanic by Night: NightGlow and was considered as part of the independent ecological advice that informed the event's planning and design. Noise levels will be regularly monitored throughout the event to ensure compliance with relevant requirements and minimise impacts on neighbouring residents and the surrounding environment. The soundscape has been thoughtfully composed to take in ecological considerations and audio placement has been designed to minimise impact to wildlife.

Who do I contact for more information?

If you have any questions about the event, please contact the City Parklands team via email at info@cityparklands.com.au, or by calling the dedicated event hotline on 07 3029 1990.

