AAFBG CONFERENCE 2024 - Information Sheet

The Conference is now **this month** and this email is intended to help with some extra information and helpful bits and pieces to make your time at the Conference worry free, **so please take the time to read this.**

Firstly though,

if any of your friends or colleagues have been thinking about coming please let them know that we still have a few places available. They can contact us directly on this email, but please encourage them to do so as soon as possible.

If you are driving to the Conference please check your GPS does not end up taking you to the wrong end of the Gardens off Wilson Road, Tanawha - the address is the Arts and Ecology Building, Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Garden, 33 Palm Creek Road, Tanawha 4556.

Just a few other practical matters:

- Name Badges: please bring your own with you, and also for your partner. This is to save the amount of waste otherwise generated, and most importantly it will show your Friends group/ Garden etc. to other delegates.
- Please bring your own refillable water bottle, sunhat and sturdy walking shoes.

Phone reception at the Garden can be variable both in the Garden and inside the A&E/Conference building, in this case due to the UV film on the glazing. Stepping outside the building often makes a vast difference to phone reception.

Follow the Conference signs once inside the Garden gates to the best carpark location adjacent to the Conference venue; the middle or upper carparks around the A&E building. Coloured banners herald the entry to the Building for registration and the Friday Twilight Welcome Drinks.

A Garden map is attached for your information.

Weather at the end of the month is predicted to be warm during the day (mid 20s), sunny with some clouds and just a slight chance of a shower. Evenings hover around the mid teens with a chance of winds from the south.

For those delegates taking the opportunity to travel on the Bus Tour on Friday here are a few notes about times, what you are going to see and do, and where to meet.

- Ø Arrive at 08:30am for 09:00am departure from the Gardens;
- Ø Meet at the top car park, parking is available, (uphill past the A & E Building entry) Friends of MRBBG volunteers will be on site to register you near the bus parking area;
- Ø Bring water, hat and a camera;
- ➤ 9:30 am Morning Tea at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve overlooking the spectacular Glasshouse Mountains, with time for a chat with the Friends group before taking a guided walk into the sub-tropical rainforest environment.

Then the bus will drive north along the Blackall Range through the picturesque rural villages of Maleny, Montville and Nambour before arriving at Noosa Botanic Gardens, which is slightly inland from Noosa near Cooroy, and on the shores of Lake McDonald. Unfortunately there will be

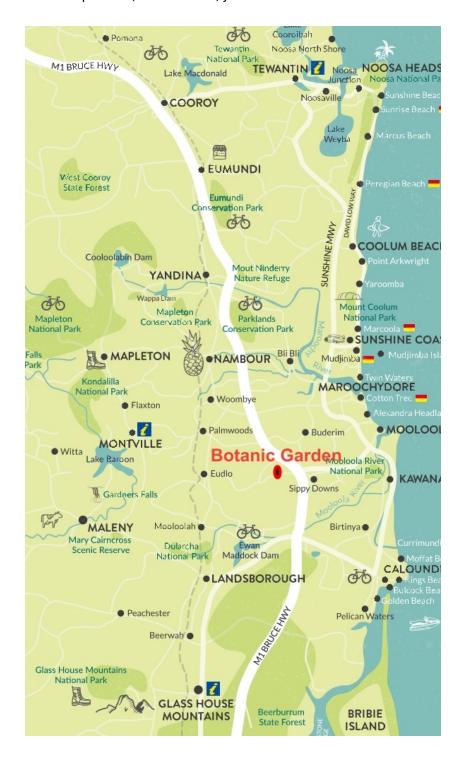
insufficient time to visit the beaches of Noosa on this trip as it would require at least a full day to appreciate the river areas, National Park and wonderful restaurants and cafes; and the shopping. **A Sunshine Coast Map** is also attached to give you all an idea of where you are travelling.

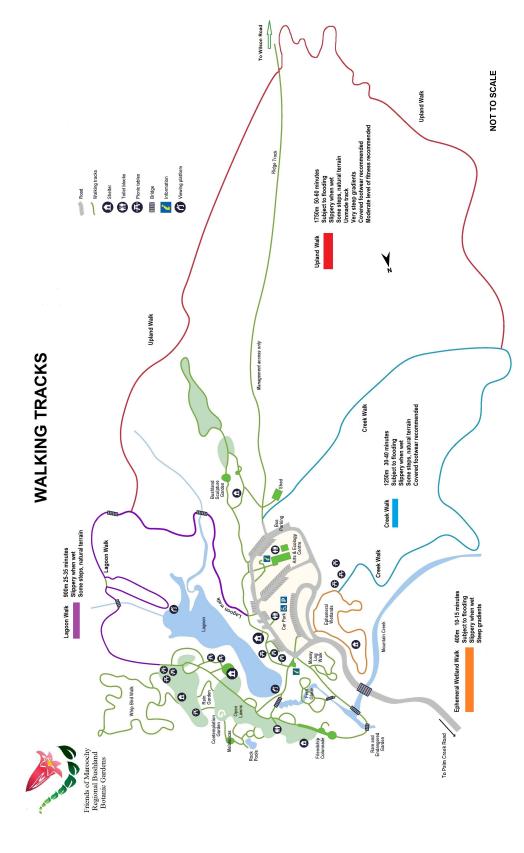
- ➤ 12:00pm Lunch at Noosa Botanic Gardens with a guided walk and talk.
- ➤ ETA back at MRBBG estimated to be 3:45pm in time for registration and welcome drinks.

At the end of the Conference we would like to provide each of you with a list of all delegates to enable you to stay in contact; - with their names, contact email and Friends group.

Please let us know at Registration if you do not wish to be on this list.

Saturday night conference dinner - <u>courtesy bus</u> - serves Mooloolaba, Buderim, Katana - bookings essential - 0407624667. You lucky people staying in Mooloolaba may not need a bus. Surf Club address - The Esplanade, Mooloolaba, just across from the Landmark Resort.





These natural terrain walking tracks are not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers