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Spring turns New South Wales Purple for Jacaranda Season

NSW is bursting with Spring colour as wildflowers bloom and Sydney counts down to the start of its famous annual Jacaranda Season which sees the city bathed in a sea of purple blossoms.

NSW Minister for Tourism and Major Events Adam Marshall said, “Right now NSW is experiencing an abundance of colour, with wildflowers, orchards and gardens blooming. Visitors can see cherry trees blossoming in their thousands in Young, paddocks of golden canola in the Riverina, and stunning displays of tulips in the Southern Highlands.”

“Each year more and more visitors travel to NSW for its famous Jacaranda Season that creates a natural spectacle when the trees bloom purple in late October to November. Grafton alone has 2,000 trees and the annual Grafton Jacaranda Festival is the longest running flower festival in Australia,” he said.

Here are some tips of where to see NSW’s stunning jacarandas:

- **Grafton**: The historic town of Grafton located alongside the Clarence River on NSW’s North Coast, is home to the Grafton Jacaranda Festival, taking place from 28 October to 5 November 2017. Highlights include the coronation of a jacaranda queen, a street parade with themed floats, markets, live performances and fireworks.
- **North Shore**: Pack a picnic and head to Kirribilli, Lavender Bay, Greenwich, Waverton, Hunters Hill, Woolwich, Longueville and Wollstonecraft for a long, lazy lunch under the trees.
- **Eastern Suburbs**: Head to Oxford Street, Glenmore Road and Five Ways in Paddington which always have a great selection to view. Nearby Woollahra and Double Bay also boast stunning lilac hues.
- **Sydney City**: Take a do-it-yourself jacaranda walking tour through the city starting at the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, passing through Circular Quay and The Rocks. View the stunning trees set against the backdrop of the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge, Sydney Opera House, Sydney Harbour and historic cobblestone streets of The Rocks.
- **Inner Sydney**: An absolute must is a visit to the giant jacaranda tree at the University of Sydney. This tree is one of Sydney’s most famous jacarandas and well worth a visit during the season. Neighbouring suburbs of Glebe, Camperdown and Erskineville are also worth exploring.

Beyond famous jacarandas, NSW is filled with stunning displays of wild flowers, orchards and gardens in bloom. Here are just some ideas for a spring road trip in NSW:

- **Young and the Hilltops**: Young is the Cherry Capital of Australia and what better way to celebrate the blossoming cherry trees than at the Cherry Blossom Long Lunch on the 27 September. Dine in a cherry orchard, surrounded by hundreds of blossoming cherry trees.
- **Oberon**: Mayfield Garden is inspired by grand English country garden estates and is one of the world’s largest, privately-owned, cool-climate gardens. The café and produce...
store serves a delicious paddock to plate menu, with much of the produce from Mayfield’s own chicken shed, orchards and veggie patches. During the annual Spring Festival, 19-29 October, visitors get to see the normally private grounds, beyond section of Mayfield Garden which is open year round.

- **Blue Mountains**: The [Blue Mountains Botanic Garden Mount Tomah](#) the garden will celebrate its 30th birthday party and will be transformed into ‘The Garden of Earthly Delights’ on the 11-12 November, with musicians, singers, dancers and poets, plus plant-based installations, floral art display, floating artworks and sculpture.

- **Cowra**: The [Cowra Japanese Gardens](#) showcases traditional elements of Japanese culture and beautiful cherry blossom displays throughout spring.

- **Central Coast**: Lovers of the delicate flannel flower, named for its soft wool-like texture, should head for the [Flannel Flower walking track](#) on the NSW Central Coast near Wagstaffe. This 3km walk connects Tallow and Lobster beaches along a track full of flannel flowers with their distinctive white petals. The track also meanders through an angophora forest, before depositing walkers at the Lobster Point lookout with commanding views along the coast.

- **Riverina**: The [Canola Trail](#) in the Riverina in Spring takes visitors through idyllic country towns and villages, bursting with life, great food and wine, and history, all while surrounded by the breathtaking, bright yellow pastures and hillsides of canola flowers. Just north of Wagga Wagga, the trail takes in the idyllic towns and shires of Junee, Temora and Coolamon. Highlights include the Temora Aviation Museum, Junee Licorice and Chocolate Factory and Coolamon Cheese.

- **Hunter**: [Werakata National Park](#) is a great place to see exceptional Spring wildflowers, including purple happy wanderers, yellow hairpin banksia and red mountain devil. Also look out for ground orchids and thyme honey myrtle.

- **Port Macquarie**: At the coastal [Kattang Nature Reserve](#) there are magnificent wildflower displays including boronia, flannel flower, everlasting daisy and wedding bush.

- **Snowy Mountains**: Once the snow melts at the end of Winter, high-altitude [Kosciuszko National Park](#) comes to life with purple eyebrights, yellow billy buttons and everlasting daisies.

Share your jacaranda and spring flower sightings with us on social media by using the hashtag #ILoveSydney or #NewSouthWales.

For more information visit [www.sydney.com](http://www.sydney.com) and [www.visitsnw.com](http://www.visitsnw.com).

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