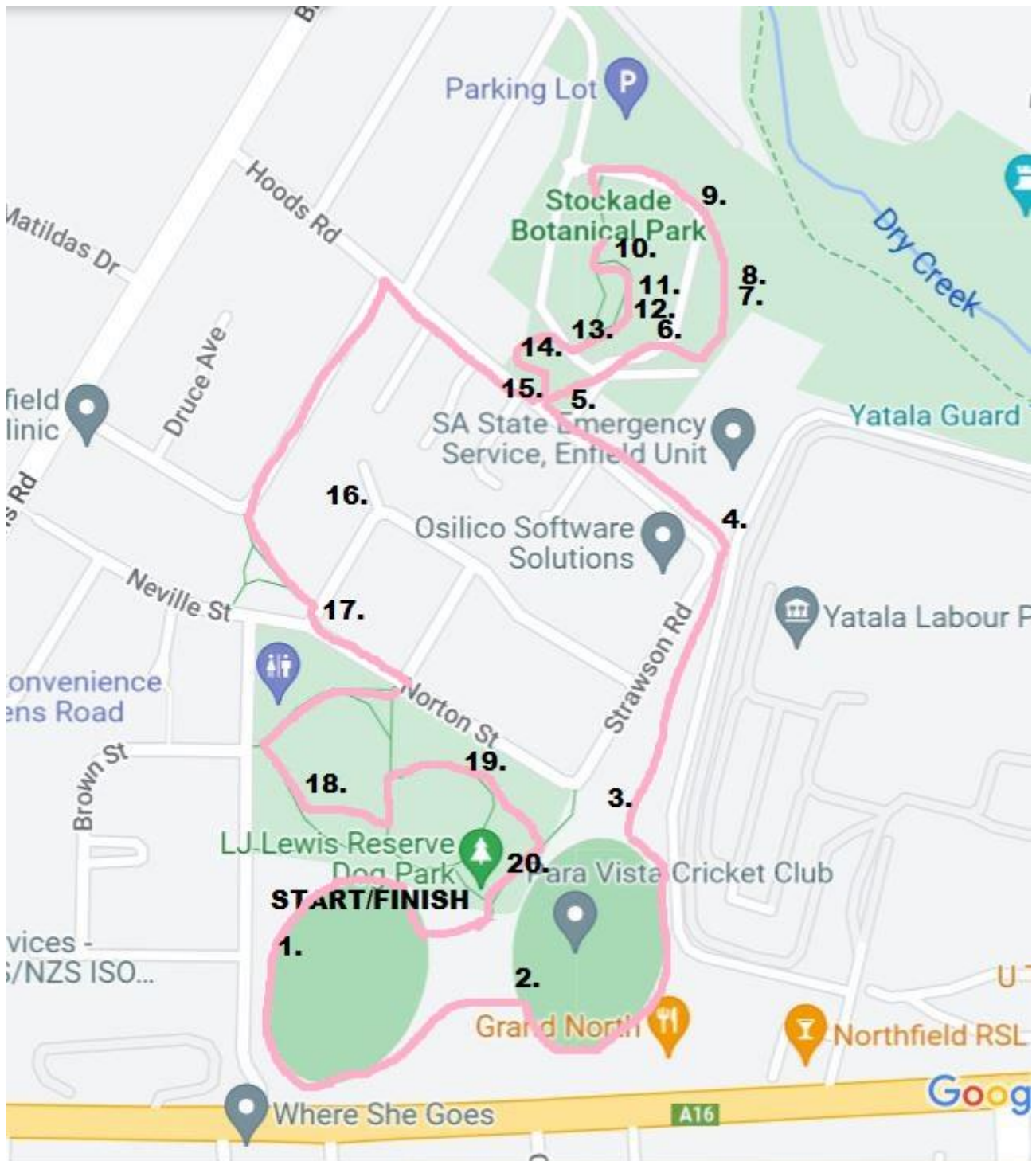


U3A Lewis Reserve & Stockade Botanic Garden Monday Stroll
Directions and information
(3.7km)



Park at the LJ Lewis Reserve carpark, Grand Junction Rd., Northfield (50m east of Stirling Street intersection)

Meet on the steps of the new club rooms facing LJ Lewis Oval (south facing side)

START

1. Go around the LJ Lewis oval anticlockwise to warm up before the walk. (Pick up the footpath leading to Grand Junction Rd and turn left to walk briefly on the footpath along this road and return to the carpark).
2. Go east towards Yatala Prison from the middle of the carpark on an earthen track; there will be a small old water fountain on your right. Aim for the Greenacres Football Club sign above the spectators' stand. Stop at the small spectators' area to read part 1 of the **Yatala Prison *1** story
3. Follow the edge of the Para Vista Cricket Club oval to the next corner (there is a very tall fence) and enter a narrow grass path on your right. Continue amongst a large variety of trees with the Yatala Prison fence on your right
4. Before turning left into Hoods Rd read part 2 of the **Yatala Prison *1** story then turn into Hoods Rd and cross to walk on the right hand side of it.
5. Enter the **Stockade Botanical Garden *2** through a small gate off Hoods Rd on your right
6. At the T-intersection in the Garden take a right turn and walk to the Sundial and the fenced pool at the top of the waterfall. Take the right path away from the fenced pool on your left
7. On your right you will pass the fenced off **SES training yard *3**
8. Stop by the red and white pedestrian barrier to look across the valley at the graffitied **Powder Magazine *4**. Then turn back and keep right on a wide gravel path
9. When you enter the asphalt path keep right and take a right turn to include a small loop (spot a broken sign commemorating East Timor) The loop concludes at the modern toilets
10. Pass the toilets and enter the garden on a brick paved path on your left. Stop by **The Footprints Public Art Project *5** on your right to see footprints of people from different countries.
11. Turn left towards the Gazebo and look at a commemorative plaque for "a tree that never made it". Take note of the unusual embankment stabilisation mesh wall and the Garden foundation stone
12. Go back to the path and keep left to arrive at the bottom of the artificial waterfall. On the way there take a note of the Domestic Violence "**The Place of Courage**" ***6** monument
13. Take the wooden staircase up and turn right on the asphalt path to look at the garden from the top
14. Cross the asphalt path and enter a small gravel path, follow it on a small loop that ends up back on the asphalt path, look for tree stumps sculptured by beetles and worms. Turn right and immediately right again onto an earthen path leading you back to the little gate where you entered the garden earlier.
15. Leave the botanic garden and turn right into Hoods Rd, take a stop at a characterful **silver gum with wooden grapes *7**.
16. Cross Hoods Rd and take a left turn into Thompson Ave. Spot a house with bathroom floors on its walls.

17. On the bend of Thomson Ave enter the little garden on your left and at the fork of the paths keep left. Take note of a colony of birds of paradise in the garden. Cross Jolly Ave and walk on the footpath along Norton St. There will be a park on your right
18. Cross Norton St to enter the park (opposite the intersection with Harrington Grove) and take a right at the fork of the paths and then walk around the playground. A little garden with an overgrown loop path will appear on your left. After the garden turn left across grass to the pond and the “cascades”.
19. Walk clockwise around the **Lewis Reserve Dog Park *8**.
20. About a quarter of the way around the Dog Park take a left turn into a path which returns you to Norton St, when it ends follow the bollards on your left until you see another path on your right. Take it back to the new Clubrooms.

FINISH

Annotations

***1** Yatala Labour Prison



Part 1

It is a high-security men's prison. It was built in 1854 to enable prisoners to work at Dry Creek, quarrying rock for roads and construction. Originally known as The Stockade of Dry Creek or just The Stockade, it acquired its current name from a local Kaurna word relating to inundation by water.

For the first five years of South Australian settlement there was no permanent prison. Prisoners were kept locked in irons on board HMS Buffalo until its sailing in 1837, and in temporary jails subsequently. 1841 saw the first permanent prison built in Adelaide, with the Adelaide Gaol on the banks of the River Torrens.

The first batch of 24 convicts was sent to the Yatala prison from Adelaide Gaol on 9 February 1855 wearing the characteristic broad arrow pattern prison clothes of the time. The first escape from the prison took place just a few months later (in October) with 8

escapees. The prisoners were captured, chained in solitary confinement within the prison, and then subsequently punished with 50 lashes for the escape and other disciplinary issues.

The Yatala prison has been expanded many times but still has functioning buildings that date to the 1850s. Prisoners moved from rock breaking to goods production with trades including boot making, tailoring, tin smithing, blacksmithing, carpentry and masonry. There was public opposition as the free labour of prisoners was seen as unfair competition against private industry; consequently Government departments used most products. During the 1960s small industries were established north of the prison walls with facilities for spray painting, sheet metalwork and brick making. A decision was made in 1968 to build a new industries complex. Construction was from 1977 to 1982, with the complex opening in November 1984.

Extra information - C Division was created in 1957, as a minimum-security building, outside the main prison walls with a dining room added in 1967. B Division was redesigned and reequipped in 1958. The special education section of the education department opened a school at the prison in 1976 and Technical and Further Education began participating in prisoner education at Yatala from 1979.

Although it is a **high security** prison, there have been some significant prisoner escapes. Four prisoners escaped in 1930, and led the police on a car chase and ended up in a shootout. After escaping into school grounds they were recaptured, with two of the police injured. Six prisoners escaped from the jail in 1979 after an attempted mass break-out by thirty. A wall that was under repair and covered in scaffolding was used as part of the escape, but all six escapees were soon recaptured. There was poor morale amongst inmates in the 1980s leading to a major prison riot. Sixty prisoners went on a rampage on 22 March 1983, and lit fires, destroying the roof of A division. Extra information - The government saw this as an opportunity to restructure Yatala, rather than simply repairing the damage, and on 21 December announced that A division would be demolished. The former Enfield Council strongly objected due to the building's historic value but demolition began on 6 February 1984.

Part 2

Yatala remains Adelaide's main male prison and although it was scheduled to be closed by 2011, it has remained open due to a lack of funding for a replacement prison and in fact is currently undergoing **\$180 million** redevelopment project:

- staff car parking and a ring road,
- an administration building and business centre,
- a staff well-being centre,
- upgraded visitors and admissions facilities,
- a cutting-edge kitchen,
- two double-storey high-security accommodation buildings,
- a specialised accommodation and support building,
- and comprehensive site security fencing and infrastructure upgrades.



Yatala is reported as having 603 prisoners in a facility designed for 341.

Some of the more famous inmates who stayed here:

- Alan Bond – businessman, spent a brief time in Yatala during his fraud trial in the early 1990s.
- John Bunting – serial killer, ringleader in the Snowtown murders, and his accomplices Robert Wagner, James Vlassakis, and Mark Haydon.
- Jean Eric Gassy – deregistered Sydney psychiatrist who shot dead South Australia's head of mental health in October 2002.
- David Hicks – the Australian Guantánamo Bay detainee convicted by US military tribunal of providing material support for terrorism.
- James William Miller – served six consecutive life sentences for murder in relation to the Truro Murders. Died of cancer in 2008.

***2 Stockade Botanical Garden**

Set in a former prison quarry at Northfield this botanical park features a sensory garden for the enjoyment of visually impaired people as well as a lake, a 12 metre high waterfall that cascades down the rock face, and an amphitheatre. The area originally was the end of the Northfield railway line, first opened in 1857 to service the colony's prisoner camp (then known as The Stockade) and especially to convey bluestone quarried from the banks of Dry Creek.

***3 SES training yard**

SA State Emergency Service Enfield Unit has 45 members who attend regular training in a number of skills each week on Wednesdays at 7pm. Operational tasks include: general rescue, land search, storm damage and lightning



Some may remember this bus used by SES for training

***4 Powder Magazine**

The Yatala Powder Magazine was constructed in 1879 and used to store explosives for the nearby quarry operations. The Magazine had thick stone walls, internal timber lining, perimeter guard walls and a special lightning conductor to protect the sensitive explosives from the risks of sparks and fire. Thick rubber floor mats were used as a precaution and those in charge of handling explosives wore rubber soled shoes.



***5 The Footprints Public Art Project**

The project was created by school children. It has a multitude of footprints, depicting how people have come to live in Adelaide from all parts of the world. People may look different but their footprints look the same



***6 The Place of Courage**



New waterfall

***7 Silver gum with “wooden grapes”**



***8 Lewis Reserve Dog Park**

It features three separate areas - Small Dogs, All Dogs and Individual Use!

The park has a great view of Torrens Island Power Station on the western horizon and is right next to LJ Lewis Oval and Edward Smith Oval.