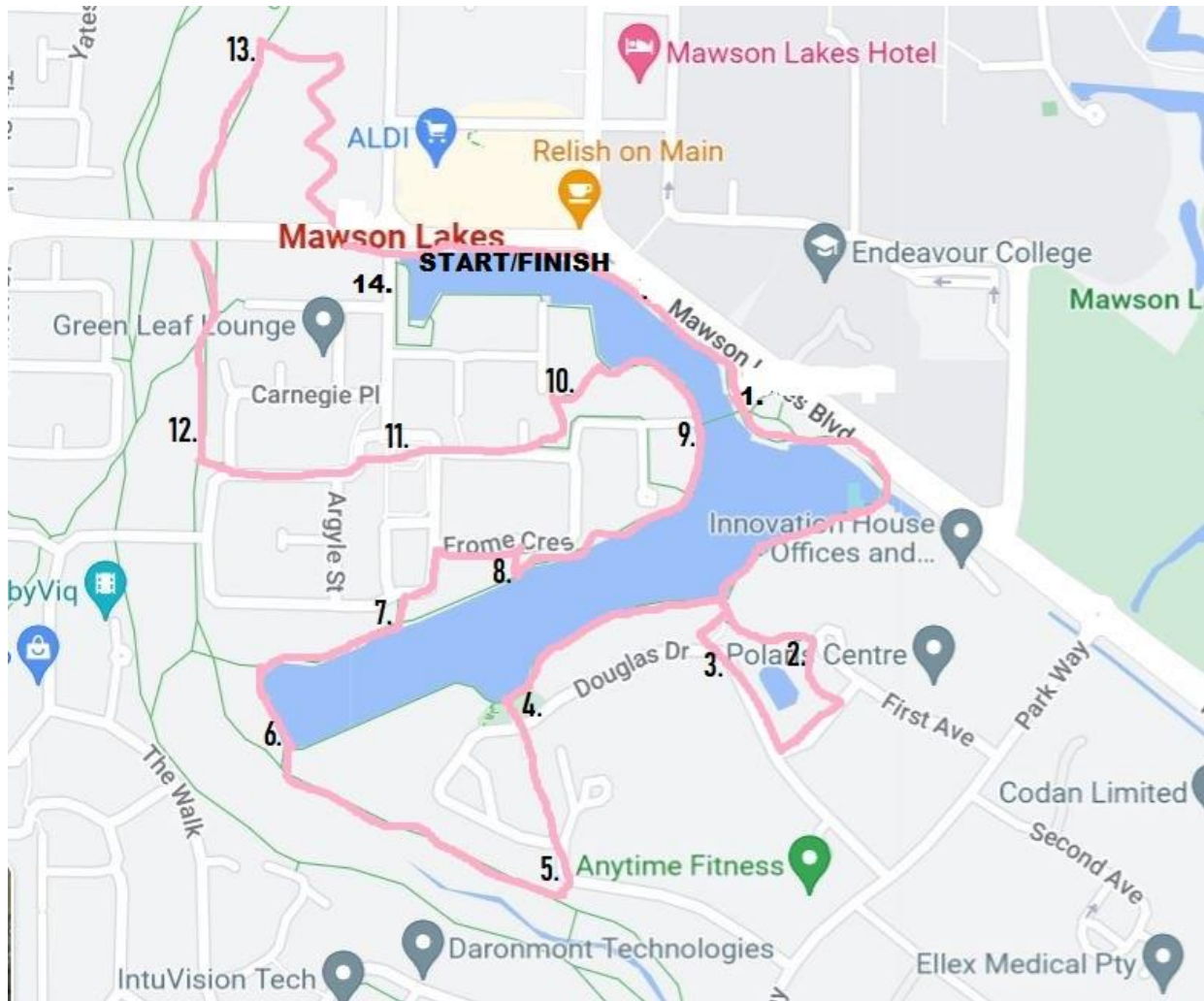


U3A Mawson Lakes Monday Stroll - directions and information (3.7km)



Park in the carpark behind the Boatdeck Café (7A Mawson Lakes Boulevard)

Meet on the edge of the lake across the road from the Boatdeck Café

Start

1. Walk along the lake shore clockwise. Ignore the footbridge on your right and continue around the lake.
2. When you see The Boatshed building turn left to walk past it but don't take the little wooden bridge, take the left asphalt path at the corner of The Boatshed. In the distance you will see a little lake, go around it clockwise. Note the public art piece located on grass to your left and called **"Collecting Thoughts" *1**
3. Walk on the grass along Douglass Drive on your way back to the Boatshed. Note a green sign talking about **Paquita Mawson *2**. Re-join the path around the main lake by turning left
4. When you get to the reeds (there will be a wooden platform and a small ramp on the edge of the lake) take a left turn away from the main lake and go up the stairs, cross the cobblestone street and go along the landscaped alley to Douglass Drive

5. Cross Douglas Drive, turn left to walk on the footpath and then immediately right to go around the corner to end up in the Dry Creek Park. There is a foundation stone by the picnic table. The park opened in 2010. From the picnic shelter take the stone steps down
6. Turn right to go along the path keeping the creek on your left. Notice an old house on your right, “**The Levels” Homestead *3** and spot the “octopus tree” nearby. Stop by the peppercorn trees to learn about the **history of Mawson Lakes *4**
7. Take the path down to re-join the path around the main lake and continue circling it clockwise. There is a water refill station by the BBQ and picnic table. There are good views of the hills ahead.
8. Soon on your left you will see a small grassy slope with unusual cement steps and above this is a palatial house with an old style balcony and a castle-like wooden door.
9. Turn right onto Lomond Circuit and right again into Frome Crescent which will bring you back to another grassy slope with unusual cement steps and patterned retaining walls. Go down to the water’s edge (there is a ramp for people who prefer to use it) and turn left to continue clockwise around the main lake
10. Pass the pedestrian bridge on your right (do not cross the bridge) and continue along the lake
11. Turn left at the round water fountain and walk along the cascades to the **Tranquillity Park *5**. Go right around the first pool, take the little bridge between the pools and walk clockwise around the second pool. Note the bubble ingress in the second pool.
12. Leave the lakes and take Frome Cres on your right. It will lead you to **Lomond Circuit Square *6**, a park with giant palms. Go through the middle of the park and continue on Lomond Circuit until you get to the Dry Creek Park.
13. Turn right into the Dry Creek Park path and follow it under the Mawson Lakes Boulevard bridge. Turn right onto the grass after the playground and walk along the wall of the large colourfully painted building. After passing the building turn right into a cement path and then turn left to go to the round pool. This is **Mobara Park *7**. Walk through the park taking in the different themed sections of it. At the tall red sticks take the boardwalk. Walk through the circles to the white balls, the **Balancing Act *8**
14. Cross Mawson Lakes Boulevard and Peninsula Drive to end up on the main lake. Note the metal steps on the lake, it is a public art piece called “**Ascension**”*9

Finish

Annotations

*1 “Collecting Thoughts”

The artwork provides an object that symbolizes the concept of Technology Park, i.e. the clustering of ideas and innovative practices towards the generation of health and wealth in society. The style and shapes relate to surrounding architectural textures, consolidating a local visual language. The size relates to human scale in the outdoor environment.

The interplay of light and sound reflects aspects of environmental and human interaction that are central to the idea of Technology Park.

***2 Paquita Mawson**

Paquita Park, on Sir Douglas Mawson Lake, is named in memory of Mawson's wife Paquita. It is a peaceful place lined with smooth eucalyptus gums.

Paquita married Douglas Mawson in 1914. Mawson went to Antarctica on three expeditions while the couple were engaged. On the second expedition he narrowly escaped death. Paquita's love was one of the driving forces in his struggle to reach safety after an epic journey of exploration.

The separation pushed Paquita's love and patience almost to the limit. She wrote to Douglas: "It will be a glorious day when you return. I shall not be a bit jealous of the expedition but when everything is over - will you be happy to live quietly and not dash off again?"

While she supported Douglas in his many activities during their married life, Paquita had achievements of her own, including a commitment to infant welfare and devotion to the Red Cross. She was a traveller, a prolific writer and a keen gardener. She was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1951. Her achievements are described on the green sign.



Douglas died in 1958 at the age of 76 and Paquita in 1974 at 84. She is buried beside her husband in Brighton, SA.

***3 "The Levels" Homestead**

Built in 1876 "The Levels" homestead is significant for its association with South Australia's premier merino sheep breeding enterprises. Sheep from "The Levels" were exhibited around the world. Originally owned by Charles B Fisher, founder of one of the largest pastoral empires in Australia, and later sold to William Pitts, "The Levels" was also noted for horse breeding activities which were of great importance to the racing and trotting industries in South Australia.



The homestead is confirmed as a State Heritage Place in the SA Heritage Register and architecturally is mid-Victorian. It is a rare example of an intact homestead close to Adelaide. The integrity of the buildings is outstanding. Although a toilet has been added to the house, it is at the rear and in no way compromises the building's excellent condition and detailing. The stables have accommodation added to the portion of west block at the rear. The house had a laundry and a new bathroom added at the rear of the building.

***3 History of Mawson Lakes**



Mawson Lakes is named after Douglas Mawson, the Antarctic scientist and polar explorer. Mawson Lakes started as a large-scale, mixed-use development established in the 1990s called "The Levels", housing a campus of the University of South Australia and Technology Park Adelaide. It took over 15 years to complete. Mawson Lakes is now a residential suburb in the City of Salisbury with a population of 10,872 people.

Mawson Lakes features a dual water supply system, supplying drinking water and recycled water to homes via completely separate mains. When first installed the facilities at Mawson Lakes were the largest self-contained water recycling scheme in Australia. Purple pipes and fittings are used to distinguish recycled water sources. The recycling scheme results in

Mawson Lakes using 50% less potable water than comparable suburbs and means that residents using recycled water are exempt from state water restrictions

The recycled water is sourced from the Bolivar Sewage Treatment plant approximately 8 km away and then has stormwater added to it from the Salisbury wetlands before it is treated to Class A standard recycled water for use on gardens, reserves and connected to the toilet of each residence in Mawson Lakes.

The suburb has a meandering 26 kilometre network of hike and bike trails.

***5 Tranquillity Park**

This is a small gentle park whose waters flow into the main lake. It is a quiet park for reflection with only one bench. The waters cascade down nine low concrete platforms into a pond with a fountain. The gurgling sound is restful and the white water induces contemplation. This open-air passage filters water flowing into the main lake and aerates it.

***6 Lomond Circuit Square**

Four huge bird-filled palm trees line the path, while other trees and hedges add beauty to the surrounding manicured green space. The park has a formal sunken garden defined with low terraced steps that is ideal for relaxation, group activities and wedding photography.

***7 Mobara Park**

A park with three themed gardens celebrates the bond between the City of Salisbury and its Japanese sister city, Mobara.

1. The Garden of Shifting Skies accentuates the broad horizontal skies and flat topography of Salisbury. This space is composed of a plane of indigenous and mown grasses, their changing colour and growth marking the different seasons. Reclining lounge seats and low concrete walls invite visitors to pause and contemplate the heavens as well as viewing the channel of water as it falls into a circular sunken space. Stepping stones, a treatment often used in Japan, allows the body of water to be crossed.
2. The Garden of Fields emphasises the city of Mobara's agricultural heritage. A diagonal field of plants, mown grass and gravel refers to the human patterning of the landscape. A timber deck traverses the field, entered through a cluster of bright red poles, a colour often associated with Japan. A bronze sculpture titled Nakayoshi, meaning close friend, donated by the City of Mobara, used to be located in this garden. Someone cut it off the plinth and stole it
3. The Garden of Blossoms with rows of ornamental pears. The trees create a semi-transparent veil. The blossom and leaf colour accentuate seasonal change. Large gently mounded circles of grass randomly punctuate the lines of trees, their whimsical forms inviting play. Circular paving of fractured and cut stone provides a gathering space. Circular seats refer to the wholeness of the circle and its use in

Japanese temple landscapes, while also relating to the wheel or cog and its role in the more recently industrialised Mobarra.

***8 Balancing act**

The sculpture, Balancing Act (pictured below), by South Australian artist Marijana Tadic heralds the entrance to the park.



This sculpture symbolises a balance between our inner needs such as tranquillity and comfort versus material abundance and economic progress.

The work makes references to North and South as two different hemispheres, and East and West as two cultures that have evolved from different traditions but share similar values, aspirations and design principles.

The work is inspired by geometric simplicity which reveals a subtlety and richness in spatial articulation. It derives from circular forms that share the serenity and clarity characteristic to traditional Japanese architecture.

The sculptures are placed over a gentle curved mound, designed to evoke a sense of movement or a rolling effect.

***9 "Ascension"**

The art work is located in the Main Lake at Mawson Lakes. The concept of the curvilinear lines was picked up from the initial landscape design and taken further to engage the water's edge. Placing the sculptures in the water opens up the space and makes connections between land and water. While the two elements of steps and spirals may complement each other they can also be seen as opposites. The steps may be seen as logic, order and man-made while the spiral has reference to intuition, the organic and the natural.