

MEDIA RELEASE

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Australian National Botanic Gardens celebrate NAIDOC week

Delicious bush tucker is on the menu this NAIDOC Week at the Australian National Botanic Gardens.

Ranger Will Borowski said visitors to the Gardens will have the opportunity to taste bush foods and learn where they come from as part of the celebrations.

"NAIDOC week provides an opportunity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians to come together to celebrate the history, cultures and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," Mr Borowski said.

"Bush foods are relatively unknown to most Australians. Our NAIDOC Week tours and tastings will open visitors' eyes to a range of ingredients that have been used in Australia for thousands of years"

Visitors can book to discover bush foods and tempt their taste buds or drop in for a bush tucker barbeque on weekends during NAIDOC Week.

"One of Australia's greatest treasures is its diverse and spectacular flora. Exploring Indigenous plants reveals fascinating stories of discovery and their unique uses," Mr Borowski said.

Discovery walk: Unearth traditional bush foods on this discovery journey throughout the world's largest collection of Australian native plants with Warren Saunders (4 and 5 July) and Warwick Wright (11 and 12 July).

Tempt your tastebuds: Try native pepperberries from Australia's cool mountain forest, rainforest plum jam from steamy sub tropical rainforest or bush tomato from the red sandhills of the Simpson Desert.

Bush Tucker BBQ: Tuck into a bush tucker barbeque. Barbeque items are also available for purchase.

Contact the Visitor Centre on 6250 9540 for bookings and further information. Numbers are limited and bookings are essential.

NAIDOC Week is from 5 to 12 July and this year's theme is "Honouring Our Elders, Nurturing Our Youth".

What: Discover the delicacies of bush tucker Where: Australian National Botanic Gardens

When: Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 July & Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 July 2009

Discovery walk and tastings: 11 am - 12 noon

Bush Tucker BBQ: 11 am - 2 pm

Media contact: Yvette Pratt

02 6250 9538 or 0439 666 441 yvette.pratt@environment.gov.au