





Kholo Gardens

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Kholo Gardens

Kholo Gardens is one of the best kept secrets in Ipswich.

Established in 1988 on an historically significant site, it is today one of the most welcoming and beautiful parks in Ipswich. Featuring almost 40 hectares of stunning grounds, a picturesque church and charming Queenslander style function centre, it is easy to see why Kholo has become such a popular wedding and function venue.

Walking tracks and boardwalks meander along creek lines, through sub-tropical rainforest and even down to the banks of the Brisbane River.

Extensive lawn areas provide plenty of room to throw a Frisbee or kick a ball, while a nearby soothing waterfall cascades into the still coolness of the lily pond. Giant Kauri and Hoop Pine trees planted by early settlers tower over the gardens. Although only 7km by road from the centre of Ipswich it is a real escape from city life.

History

In 1878 this site was chosen as the location of a water pumping station to supply clean water to Ipswich. The pumping station ceased operations in 1922.

The area is also listed as a heritage coal mining site. One of the earliest recordings of coal in Ipswich was made here by a Mr Lockyer in 1825.



Nature

Some rarely seen species of local flora and fauna can be found at Kholo. It is a haven for plant-lovers and bird watchers alike. Those with a love of Nature will enjoy the chance of seeing a Grease Nut Tree (*Hernandia bivalvis*), or the possibility of spotting a Tusked Frog, Great Crested Grebe, or maybe even a large Powerful Owl.

Remnant vine thicket merges into rehabilitated dry rainforest, a palm grove, Eucalypt forest and expansive open areas to provide an assortment of habitats for our local fauna.

> Magic of Nature by L Jarvis Ipswich Enviroplan Photo Comp



Weddings and other events

Kholo Gardens is a great location for weddings and other events. This includes a historical church and function centre which have been relocated to Kholo Gardens.

The Kholo Gardens Church was relocated from Redbank in 1988 and is permitted to hold up to 50 people at any one time. A more recent addition is the function centre, which is a beautifully restored old Queenslander and is also suitable for events up to 50 people. It features disabled access, a kitchenette and toilet facilities.

Another area by the pond in Kholo Gardens can be reserved for weddings and events which holds up to 120 people.





History and Culture

This park remains sacred to the Traditional Owners of Ipswich. Sacred sites are very important to the Traditional Owners, as they provide a link between Country and personal identity and allow the passing on of cultural knowledge. Some of the sacred sites within Ipswich include quarry sites, traditional food resources, story places, pre-contact and historical camp sites, fighting grounds, ceremonial sites, bora rings and women's business sites.

