

Indigenous and Native Plants suitable for Nature Strips in Port Phillip

 Provide food and habitat for wildlife, including native birds, bees, butterflies, lizards and mammals.

Grow to a suitable size for nature strips, and are easily maintained to be 50cm-1m in height 

 Are easy to care for, typically low maintenance as well as drought tolerant

Indigenous: Plants originating from within 20km of Port Phillip

Native: Plants originating from somewhere within Australia

Plant Image	Species summary	Size	Light	Soil Type	Flowering times
	Australian Bugle, <i>Ajuga australis</i> Native (Victoria), Perennial herb Tolerates shade, frost and drought. Suited to a range of well- drained soils. Erosion control in sandy soil Butterfly and bee-attracting	Height: 0.1-0.6m Width: 0.1-0.5m	Full sun / Part shade	Adaptable, well drained	December to February
	Common Aotus, <i>Aotus ericoides</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates coastal conditions. Suited to part shade. Prune after flowering. Attracts insects and birds, dense foliage offering nesting sites. It enriches soil through nitrogen fixation	Height: 0.5-1.0 Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	Full sun / Part shade	September to December



Pale Vanilla-lily, <i>Arthropodium milleflorum</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Drought tolerant. Dies back to tuber in summer, then resprouts. Attracts pollinators, including native bees and butterflies	Height: 0.3-1m Width: 0.4m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	September to December
Chocolate lily, <i>Arthropodium strictum</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Drought tolerant. dies back to tuber in summer, then resprouts. Attracts pollinators, including native bees and butterflies	Height: 0.2-1m Width: 0.2-0.8m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	September to December
Tall feather- grass, <i>Austrostipa elegantissima</i> Indigenous, Grass Drought and frost tolerant. Food, habitat and nesting material for a diversity of wildlife including invertebrates, birds, reptiles and mammals	Height: 1-2m Width: 1m	Full sun	Adaptable	September to February
Coast Spear- grass, <i>Austrostipa flavescens</i> Indigenous, Grass Hardy, drought tolerant. Very important Food, habitat and nesting material for a diversity of wildlife including invertebrates, birds, reptiles and mammals	Height: 1m Width: 0.5m	Full sun	Well drained	September to February



Soft Spear- grass, <i>Austrostipa mollis</i> Indigenous, Grass Intolerant of salt winds, very important food, habitat and nesting material for a diversity of wildlife including invertebrates, birds, reptiles and mammals	Height: 1m Width: 0.6-1m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	September to December
Tall Spear- grass, <i>Austrostipa nodosa</i> Indigenous, grass Well- drained soil, very important food, habitat and nesting material for a diversity of wildlife including invertebrates, birds, reptiles and mammals	Height: 0.5-1.0m Width: 0.5m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	September to December
Prickly Spear- grass, <i>Austrostipa stipoides</i> Indigenous, grass Hardy, coast tolerant. Very important food, habitat and nesting material for a diversity of wildlife including invertebrates, birds, reptiles and mammals	Height: 1-1.5m Width: 1-1.5m	Full sun	Adaptable	September to November
Common Apple- berry, <i>Billardiera scandens</i> Indigenous, Scrambler/ Climber Not suited to coastal conditions. Provides shelter and foodsource to a variety of birds, as well as insect pollinators	Height: 0.5+m Width: 2m	Full sun / Part shade	Adaptable	June to January



Showy bossiaea, <i>Bossiaea cinerea</i> Indigenous, small shrub Tolerates dry conditions, and moderate salt winds. Dense foliage provides shelter for small birds and mammals. Food source for pollinating insects	Height: 1-2m Width: 1-2m	Part shade	Well drained	August to December
Creeping bossiaea, <i>Bossiaea prostrata</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Intolerable of coastal conditions. Important food source for insects including butterfly larvae. Refuge for small animals such as skinks	Height: spreading Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	October to November
Cut- leaf daisy, <i>Brachyscome multifida</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Hardy plant, flowering most of the year. Dense groundcover creates excellent microhabitats. Food source for insect pollinators	Height: 0.3 Width: 0.3m	Full Sun	Moist	September to January
Bulbine lily, <i>Bulbine bulbosa</i> Indigenous, ground cover Tolerates light frost. Nectar provides food source for insect pollinators. Tubers provide food for native mammals	Height: 0.3-0.5 m Width: 0.3m- 0.5m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	September to January



Leek lily, <i>Bulbine semibarbata</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates moist- rocky soils. Small, benefits from group planting. Early flowering provides nectar source for insect pollinators early in the season	Height: 0.5m Width: 0.3m	Shade	Moist	September to December
Lemon Beauty- heads, <i>Calocephalus citreus</i> Indigenous, ground cover Dense growth useful for weed supression. Suited to moist areas. Supports a variety of insects and small animals through nectar and refuge	Height: 0.2-0.6m Width: 0.2m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	October to March
Milky Beauty- heads, <i>Calocephalus lacteus</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Dense growth useful for weed supression. Suited to moist areas. Supports a variety of insects and small animals through nectar and refuge	Height: 0.2m Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	Moist to Wet	September to February
Karkalla, <i>Carpobrotus rossii</i> Indigenous, ground cover Tolerant of salt winds, drought, and exposed positions. Food source for insects, birds and mammals. Obtain from indigenous nursery only due to visually similar weed species	Height: spreading Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	August to January



Windmill grass, <i>Chloris truncata</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Drought tolerant. Food for seed eating birds. Shelter for small reptiles, mammals and insects	Height: 0.2-0.4m Width: 0.15m	Full sun	Well drained	November to January
Common Everlasting, <i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates moderate salt wind, hard prune post flowering. Supports a wide range of pollinators, important for butterflies	Height: prostrate Width: 1-2m	Full sun	Well drained	All year
Clustered Everlasting, <i>Chrysocephalum semipapposum</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Hard prune after flowering. Provides late season food source for insect pollinators, and is an important plant for butterflies	Height: 0.3-1m Width: 1-3m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	October to May
Button everlasting, <i>Coronidium scorpioides</i>, Indigenous, Ground cover Important butterfly food plant. Nectar supports a variety of insects, and seeds for birds	Height: 0.3m Width: 0.3m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	September to December



Rock Correa, <i>Correa glabra</i> Native (Melbourne region), Small shrub Large nectar source for insects and birds. Can provide nesting sites and refuge for small birds	Height: 1.5m Width: 1.5m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	June to November
White Correa, <i>Correa alba</i> Indigenous, small shrub Suited to dry, coastal conditions. Insect attracting plant, providing food and shelter. Insect eating birds also attracted	Height: 1-2m Width: 1-3m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	All year
Common correa, <i>Correa reflexa</i> Indigenous, small shrub Frost tolerant. Responds well to pruning. Winter nectar source for birds and insects. Also attracts insectivorous birds	Height: 0.5-1m Width: 1-2m	Full sun / Part shade	Adaptable	March to September
Black- anther lily, <i>Dianella revoluta</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Hardy sedge plant. Attracts pollinators, important food source for butterflies as well as fruit eating lizards and birds	Height: 0.3-0.8 Width: 0.5-1.5m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	August to May



Pale Flax- lily, <i>Dianella longifolia</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Will grow well in harsh conditions. Larger flax lily species. Attracts pollinators, important food source for butterflies as well as fruit eating lizards and birds	Height: 1m Height: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	Dec to Jan
Coast flax- lily, <i>Dianella brevicaulis</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Smaller flax lily, more coastal and salt tolerant. Attracts pollinators, important food source for butterflies as well as fruit eating lizards and birds. Refuge for frogs	Height: 0.5m Width: 0.5m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	October to December
Long- hair Plume- grass, <i>Dichelachne crinita</i> Indigenous, Grass Tough native grass. Provides foraging sites, refuge and food to birds, small mammals and lizards	Height: 0.4-1.0m Width: 0.3m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	September to December
Kidney weed, <i>Dichondra repens</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Good for shaded areas, tolerates light foot traffic. Can assist with erosion. Refuge for small insects, reptiles and frogs	Height: spreading Width: 1-2m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	September to December



Rounded Noon- Flower, <i>Disphyma crassifolium</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Useful for soil erosion and coastal sites. Attracts nectar eating insects, fruit eating birds. Refuge for small mammals, reptiles and insects	Height: spreading Width: 2m	Full Sun	adaptable	October to February
Nodding saltbush, <i>Einadia nutans</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates dry conditions. Shelter for small mammals and reptiles. Larval host plant for Saltbush Blue Butterfly	Height: 0.5-1m Width: 0.5-2m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable, coastal	December to March
Ruby Saltbush, <i>Enchylaena tomentosa</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates drought and coastal positions. Shelter for small reptiles and mammals Attracts fruit-eating birds	Height: spreading Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	September to February
Common Eutaxia, <i>Eutaxia microphylla</i> Indigenous, ground cover Tolerates drought and coastal positions. Attracts native bees, butterflies, and birds such as thornbills and wrens	Height: 0.5-1.5m Width: 0.5m-1m	Full Sun	adaptable	September to November



Knobby Club Rush, <i>Ficinia nodosa</i> Indigenous, Gound cover Useful for soil erosion. Shelter and nesting for ground-dwelling birds and mammals. Attracts seed-eating birds, reguge for amphibians and reptiles	Height: 0.5-1.5m Width: 0.6-2m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained, coastal	All year
Hop Goodenia, <i>Goodenia ovata</i> Indigenous, small shrub Hardy shrub. Attracts a range of pollinators. Larval food plant. Shelter and nesting for small birds, such as wrens and thornbills	Height: 1-2m Width: 1-3m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained, coastal	August to February
Hop Goodenia, <i>Goodenia ovata</i> (spreading form) Native (Melbourne region), Ground cover Hardy shrub. Attracts a range of pollinators. Larval food plant. Shelter and nesting for small birds, such as wrens and thornbills.	E	Full sun / Part shade	well drained, coastal	August to February
Rosemary Grevillea, <i>Grevillea rosmarinifolia</i> Indigenous, Small shrub Drought tolerant. Nectar source for a variety of birds, butterflies and bees. Shelter and nesting sites for small birds	Height: 0.5-2m Width: 1-2m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	July to November



Purple Coral- pea, <i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> Indigenous, Scrambler Hardy plant. Attracts insect pollinators, birds, and offers refuge to small mammals and reptiles	Height: Scrambling Width: 6m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	September to December
Bundled Guinea- flower, <i>Hibbertia fasciculata</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Prune after flowering. Food source for a variety of insects, including teddy bear bees. Attracts birds	Height: 0.4m Width: 0.3m	Full sun / Part shade	Moist, well drained	September to November
Climbing Gunea flower, <i>Hibbertia scandens</i> Native (QLD, NSW, East VIC), Scrambler Low maintenance, drought tolerant, erosion control. Food source for native insects and birds. Refuge for mammals, reptiles, and small bird nesting site	Height: 0.5m Width: 1-5m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	September to December
Austral Indigo, <i>Indigofera australis</i> Indigenous, Small shrub Can plant under trees. Responds well to pruning. Source of food for insects, and important butterfly larval host plant	Height: 1-2 m Width: 1-2m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	September to December



Running Postman, <i>Kennedia prostrata</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Drough tolerant. Provides food for butterflies and birds. Important larval host plant. Refuge for small reptiles and insects	Height: Spreading Width: 2-4m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	April to December
Slender Velvet- bush, <i>Lasiopetalum baueri</i> Indigenous, Small shrub Fast growing, responds well to pruning. Attracts native bees, and other insects, as well as native birds	Height: 1-1.5m Width: 0.5-1m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	October to February
Cushion bush, <i>Leucophyta brownii</i> Indigenous, small shrub Tolerates coastal positions, wind and high pH. Shelter for small birds, mammals and reptiles. Food for native bees and birds	Height: 0.4-1.0m Width: 0.5-2m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	September to December
Native flax, <i>Linum marginale</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Does well in urban gardens. Prefers heavier soils such as clay. Attracts a range of insects including bees and butterflies	Height: 0.3-0.8m Width: 0.3m	Full sun / Part shade	Moist, well drained	all year



Angled Lobelia, <i>Lobelia anceps</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates wet soil. Nectar source for native bees, butterflies, and hoverflies. Refuge and foraging sites for frogs and insects	Height: spreading Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	moist	all year
Matted Pratia, <i>Lobelia pedunculata</i> Indigenous, Grond cover Best in moist soil and shade. Dense foliage provides shelter and food for small reptiles and insects	Height: spreading Width: 2m	Full sun / Part shade	moist	Nov to Feb
Wattle Mat- rush, <i>Lomandra filiformis</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Reponds well to pruning. Reguge for small reptiles, mammals and insects. Food source for native and bees, birds. Provides nesting material	Height: 0.5m Width: 0.2m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	Sept to Dec
Spiny- headed Mat-rush, <i>Lomandra longifolia</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Tolerates coastal positions. Atracts insect pollinators and birds. Larval host plant. Refuge for small reptiles and frogs	Height: 0.9-1.2m Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	Sept to Dec



Murnong Yam Daisy, <i>Microseris lanceolata</i> Indigenous, Perennial herb Drought and frost tolerant. Source of food for native bees, birds and lizards	Height: 0.3m Width: 0.3m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	September to March
Creeping myoporum, <i>Myoporum parvifolium</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Hard, suited to low foot traffic. Flowers provide food pollinators. Berries provide food for birds and small reptiles	Height: Spreading Width: 3m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	September to February
Coast Daisy Bush, <i>Olearia axillaris</i> Indigenous, small shrub Tolerates salt wind. Prune after flowering. Flowers pollen source for insects. Insects and dense foliage attract bush birds	Height: 1-2m Width: 1-2m	full sun	well drained	February to April
Sticky Daisy- bush, <i>Olearia glutinosa</i> Indigenous, small shrub Likes well- draining soil and tolerated drought. Flowers attract a range of pollinators, and insect-eating bush birds	Height: 1-2m Width: 2-5m	Full sun / Part shade	Well drained	December to February



Twiggy Daisy- bush, <i>Olearia ramulosa</i> Indigenous, small shrub Suited to planting under trees. Well draining soil. Prune after flowering. Flowers attract insects, larval food source and attracts insect eating bush birds	Height: 0.5-2.0m Width: 1m	full sun	well drained	September to May
Coast everlasting, <i>Ozothamnus turbinatus</i> Indigenous, Small shrub Tolerates salt winds and drought. Flowers attract insects including native bees, as well as insectivorous birds	Height: 1-2m Width: 1-3m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	February to May
Long purple- flag, <i>Patersonia occidentalis</i> Indigenous, ground cover Suitable moist- well draining soil. Flowers are a source of nectar and pollen for insects, larval host plant. Can attract insect eating bush birds	Height: 0.3 Width: 0.6m	Full sun / Part shade	moist to wet	September to January
Austral Stork's- bill, <i>Pelargonium australe</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Well draining soils, frost and drought tolerant. Flowers attract nectar and pollen foraging insects, as well as insectivorous birds	Height: 0.5 Width: 1.0m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	October to February



Common Tussock- grass, <i>Poa labillardierei</i> Indigenous, grass Suited to sandy soils and coastal conditions. Shelter and nesting for small birds and reptiles. A key food source for seed-eating birds, larval host plant	Height: 0.5m Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	October to February
Velvet Tussock- grass, <i>Poa morrisii</i> Indigenous, grass Suited to dry conditions, shade, and planting under trees. Shelter for small birds and reptiles. Food for seed-eating birds, larval host plant for variety of butterflies	Height: 0.5m Width: 0.5m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	October to December
Blue tussock- grass, <i>Poa poiformis</i> Indigenous, grass Suits coastal conditions, controls erosion. Refuge for small reptiles, food source for seed-eating birds, larval host plant	Height: 0.6 - 1.2m Width: 0.5-1.5m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	October to December
Grey tussock grass, <i>Poa sieberiana</i> Indigenous, grass Frost tolerant, moist- well draining soil. Refuge for small lizards and frogs, food for birds and larvae food plant	Height: 0.5-1.0m Width: 0.6m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	October to December



Seaberry saltbush, <i>Rhagodia candolleana</i> Indigenous, Small shrub Good weed supression, habitat plant. Suits coastal conditions. Refuge and nesting for small birds. Attracts seed and fruit eating birds, and reptiles	Height: 2m Width: 1-2m	full sun	well drained	January to April
Common Wallaby- grass, <i>Rytidosperma caespitosum</i> Indigenous, Grass Tolerates salt wind and foot traffic. Food for seed-eating birds, larval host plant for several butterfly species. Shelter for small reptiles	Height: 0.2-0.4m Width: 0.1m	Full sun / Part shade	moist, well drained	October to January
Knead Wallaby- grass, <i>Rytidosperma geniculatum</i> Indigenous, grass Prefers heavier soils. Food source for seed-eating birds. Shelter and habitat for small mammals and reptiles Larval food plant	Height: 0.2m Width: 0.2m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable	September to December
Clustered Wallaby- grass, <i>Rytidosperma racemosum</i> Indigenous, Grass Tolerates light frosts and light foot traffic. Food source for seed-eating birds. Habitat for small mammals and reptiles, and larval food plant	Height: 0.2m Width: 0.5-0.8m	Full sun / Part shade	moist, well drained	September to January



Bristly Wallaby- grass, <i>Rytidosperma setaceum</i> Indigenous, Grass Tolerates sand, clay and infertile soils. Food source for seed-eating birds. Habitat for small mammals and reptiles. Larval food plant	Height: 0.3m Width: 0.6m	Part shade / Full shade	moist, well drained	October to January
Kangaroo grass, <i>Themeda triandra</i> Indigenous, Grass Green in summer, pruning ideal in late summer- autumn. Shelter for small mammals and birds. Food source for seed-eating birds. Larval food plant for butterflies	Height: 0.4m Width: 0.7m	Full sun / Part shade	adaptable, well drained	September to February
Slender speedwell, <i>Veronica gracilis</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Likes moist soil. Attracts a variety of pollinators and provides a food source for insectivorous birds	Height: 0.2 Width: 1m	Full sun / Part shade	Adaptable	September to December
Ivy- leaved violet, <i>Viola hederacea</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Thrives in moist, shaded areas. Provides nectar for native pollinators. Shelter for small invertebrates, lizards and frogs	Height: Spreading WidthL 1-2m	Full sun / Part shade	moist to wet	all year



Tufted Bluebell, <i>Wahlenbergia capillaris</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Prefers well-drained soils. Grows best when planted with native grasses. Flowers attract pollinators. Creates microhabitats for soil-dwelling organisms and reptiles	Height: 0.2-0.5m Width: 0.3m	Full sun / Part shade	Moist, well drained	November to May
Tall Bluebell, <i>Wahlenbergia stricta</i> Tall Bluebell, Ground cover Prune after flowering to prolong life. Taller growth habitat shelter for small birds, insects, and invertebrates. Attracts pollinators	Height: 0.2-0.3m Width: 0.2m	full sun	well drained	September to January
Sticky Everlasting, <i>Xerochrysum viscosum</i> Indigenous, Ground cover Prune after flowering to promote denser growth with more flowers. Likes dry environments, drought tolerant. Food plant for larvae and butterflies	Height: 0.5-0.8m Width: 0.3-1m	Full sun / Part shade	well drained	September to March