

Countryside on your doorstep



## This page helps you find out more about Roath Park.

Useful information is set out under the following headings:

- Summary
- Features of interest
- Facilities
- Access
- Nearby
- What You Said
- Information and Contacts

# Roath Park

### Summary

Cardiff's most popular park still retains a classic Victorian atmosphere and boasts a wide variety of facilities. The park has recently been awarded the prestigious Green Flag award.

This recognises the high quality of Roath Park and its importance to Cardiff. Roath Park is full of historic and horticultural interest, with widely diverse environments across the park.

A 30 acre lake is formed in the park by the damming of the Nant Fawr stream. It is a popular facility for fishing and rowing. Other elements of the park include superb floral displays, the famous conservatory and high quality recreational areas.

### Features of Interest

#### History

The land for Roath Park was donated by the Marquis of Bute to the city in 1887. Work initially focused on creating the lake from an area of marshland.

A lighthouse was constructed in the lake containing a scale model of the 'Terra Nova' ship as a memorial to Captain Scott who sailed to the Antarctic from Cardiff in 1910.

The parks' atmosphere today still retains the Victorian elegance and its status as a Conservation Area ensures these qualities will be conserved.





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### Nature

There is a wide range of habitats in the park, which attracts a diverse variety of wildlife. The lake acts as an important habitat for over wintering and breeding birds, including mallard, cormorants and herons. Islands within the lake also act as safe nesting sites. There is a wildflower garden included in the park where the area is managed to encourage wildlife and native species.

### Recreation

The southern end of the park contains sports pitches available for many different activities such as football, baseball and rugby. High quality bowling greens and tennis courts are provided in the central section of the park.

There are also boats which can be hired out and used upon the lake. The lake is also home to a local radio controlled boat society and is used for fishing throughout the year. Children are not forgotten - there are two very well equipped playgrounds which are always well used.

### Special Events

There are regular events within the park including guided walks, concerts, exhibitions etc. See the [Parks Website](#) for information about current events.

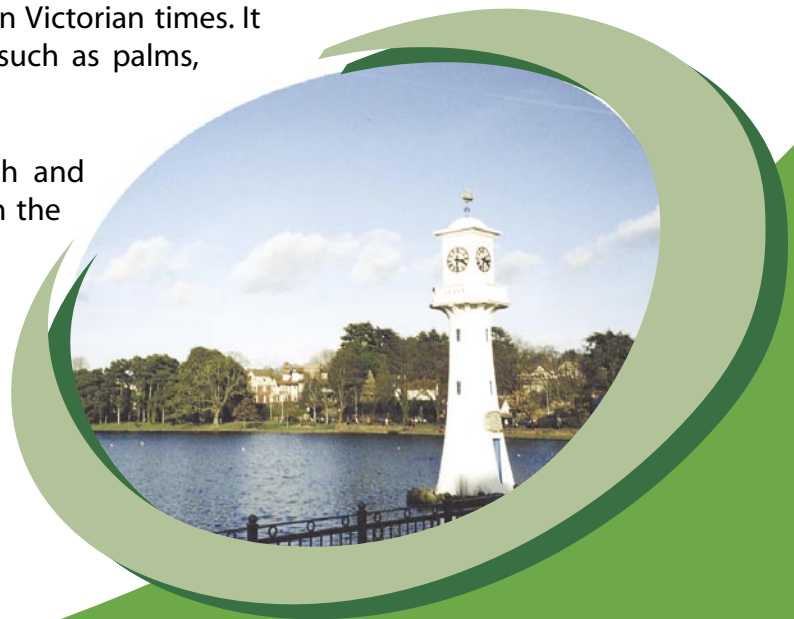
### Conservatory

There is a glasshouse in Roath Park which was built in Victorian times. It contains many unusual species of plants and trees such as palms, banana trees and orchids.

A pond forms an interesting feature, containing fish and whistling ducks. There is also the chance to talk with the botanical assistants about your own garden.

### Ornamental Gardens

The park boasts exceptional floral displays. These include the flowerbeds along the promenade and the famous rose garden which include trial beds for the National Rose Society. Further information on plants in the park can be obtained from the Parks Website on the Illustrated Plant Guide.





## Roath Park cont...

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### Views

The promenade along the dam at the bottom of the lake offers great views to the hills on the edge of Cardiff. A walk around the lake is a very popular pastime and is full of interest.

### Facilities

A cafe adjacent to the lake is open most of the year and provides refreshments and light meals. A kiosk also serves refreshments

Toilets are provided within the park

The Boat House is the centre for hiring rowing boats and other craft that use the lake.

Fishing is also allowed on the lake although a permit must be obtained first.

A pavilion is provided for those using the bowling green and tennis courts.

Changing Rooms are provided for the sports pitches.

### Access Within

A comprehensive network of generally flat, hard surfaced paths. Some gentle gradients are encountered below the dam at the bottom of the lake.

In addition, a number of informal paths run through the Wild Gardens that may not be accessible to all.

### Getting There

**By foot-** There are entrances to the park from the surrounding streets. Most paths within the site link up well with the surrounding area.

**By bus-** There are numerous bus routes along the roads surrounding the park along with plenty of bus stops including Ninian Road, Tydfil Place, Wild Gardens, Roath Park and Promenade. Details of bus routes and services can be found at [www.cardiffbus.co.uk](http://www.cardiffbus.co.uk)





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**By train-** the nearest train station is Heath High Level Station which is approximately 450m away. Details of train services can be found at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

**By car-** There are no designated car parks, although alongside the site there is on-street parking. Some of this parking is residents only whilst others is for use by the general public.

### **Nearby**

Roath Park is a long, fairly narrow park stretching from Roath into Cyncoed. The nearest district centre is at the southern end of the park on Wellfield Road and Albany Road.

Access is also good to other open spaces:

#### **Nant Fawr Corridor**

Lying to the North of the park and forming a 'green' corridor out to the open countryside.

#### **Cathays Cemetery**

Very old cemetery with a wealth of listed buildings and tombs.

#### **Heath Park**

Another large park, Heath provides numerous sports pitches for different types of sports and is home to several sporting teams.

### **What You Said**

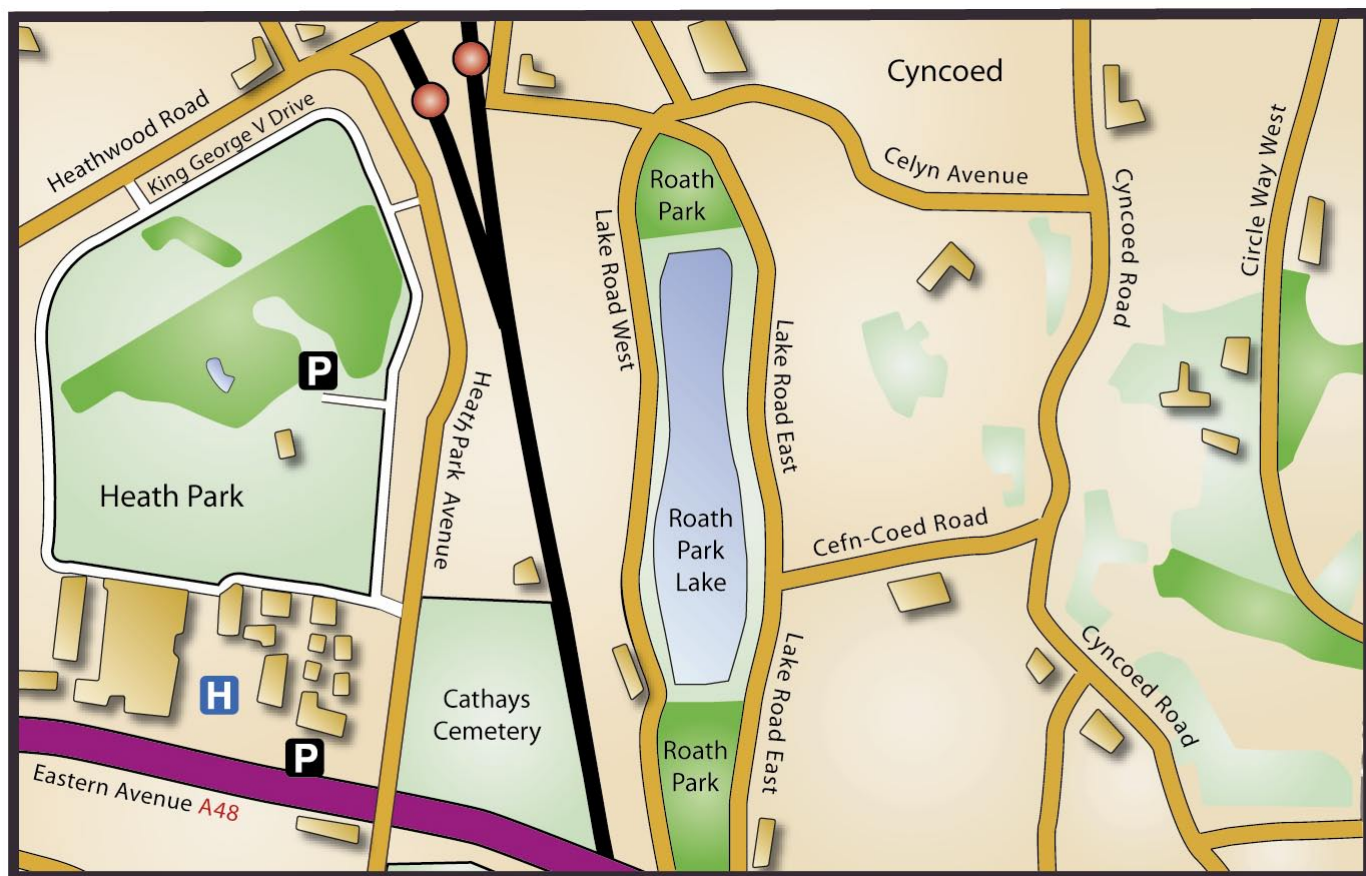
"The Conservatory - one of those quirky places in the middle of a splendid park. Cardiff's own Kew Gardens in miniature."

"I love Roath Park as it's somewhere you can enjoy in all seasons. The park is kept beautiful, and the floral displays are amazing. The lake is so calming, and the greenhouse is a hidden treasure. The fact that it's in the middle of urban student-land Roath makes it easily accessible, and old and young alike can enjoy it. It's everything a park should be."





## Roath Park cont...



### Information and Contacts

The park is owned by Cardiff County Council and managed by the Parks Section.

Further information about the park and any current events can be obtained from the [Parks Website](#).

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