

# Important park features for adults 19-64 years



A study with adults 19-64 years to identify the park features they consider to be most important for their park visitation, park-based physical activity and social interaction (2017-2021)



**27** adults completed a walk-along interview in a park to discuss park features



**232** adults rated photos of 43 different park features



**260** adults completed a survey to identify the relative importance of park features

**TOP 10**

## FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE ADULTS TO VISIT PARKS

- 1 Sense of safety from strangers and undesirable people<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Good park maintenance and cleanliness
- 3 Peaceful and relaxed setting
- 4 Lots of shady trees
- 5 Manicured gardens
- 6 Lots of birdlife
- 7 Quiet, secluded seating areas
- 8 Water feature like a pond, lake or creek
- 9 Large grassy open space
- 10 Large park size

**TOP 10**

## FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE ADULTS TO BE ACTIVE IN PARKS

- 1 Sense of safety from strangers and undesirable people<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Concrete, smooth, sealed path
- 3 Clean toilets
- 4 Good park maintenance and cleanliness
- 5 Lots of shady trees
- 6 Large grassy open space
- 7 Large park size
- 8 Native bush/vegetation
- 9 Lots of birdlife<sup>2</sup>
- 10 Water feature like a pond, lake or creek

**TOP 10**

## FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INTERACTION IN PARKS

- 1 Sense of safety from strangers and undesirable people<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Good park maintenance and cleanliness
- 3 BBQ with picnic tables
- 4 Lots of shady trees
- 5 Peaceful and relaxed setting
- 6 Cafe<sup>1</sup>
- 7 Good variety of activities/amenities/things to do
- 8 Manicured gardens
- 9 Lots of birdlife<sup>2</sup>
- 10 Water feature like a pond, lake or creek

<sup>1</sup>Particularly for females <sup>2</sup>Particularly for males

*'For me, the perfect park would have lots of trees, lots of open space, safe for people, particularly if they're on their own, and opportunities to play group sport. A community garden would be nice actually. That kind of vibe is good'*  
– female, 32 years

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