



## The Nepal Peace Pagoda and South Bank Parklands

Brisbane's World Expo '88 was the celebration and development chance of a lifetime - to take a riverside CBD light/heavy industry, residential and office space, transform it into a world class exposition site, and then, at the exposition's conclusion, into a designer-planned integrated parkland, food and retail, medium-rise apartment and high-rise office and hotel space - giving the Brisbane CBD a new green heart - replete with tropical rainforest, salt water sandy beaches, rocky water pools - and more. And the site is still being developed!

And this over-arching dream site and development given to us by the wonderful legacy of World Expo '88 - has a further hidden secret - Brisbane's most significant international heritage item from the Expo at the former Expo site - the beautiful and serene awe-inspiring Nepal Peace Pagoda - created by 160 Nepalese family villagers in the Kathmandu Valley, of indigenous Nepalese timbers from the southern Terai jungle forests of Nepal, the result of over two years, some one million hours of work - commencing in 1986 - the United Nations International Year of Peace - and concluding in 1988 - commissioned by His Majesty's Government of Nepal to represent the Kingdom of Nepal at World Expo '88 - one of the 52 Governments represented at World Expo '88.

And, at the end of the Expo, the Pagoda had to find a new home - and a 'Save the Pagoda Committee Fund' was established by friends of the Pagoda and Brisbane City Council to keep the Pagoda in Brisbane - which - thanks to the generous contributions of the Australian Federal Government, the Brisbane City Council, the Expo Authority, private donations - and the successful concluding donation by Brisbane philanthropists Mr & Mrs Frank & Myra Pitt - the Pagoda found a new home at the transformed expo site - South Bank Parklands - where it sits guarding the Parklands' northern riverside entrance - a silent sentinel of goodwill, Nepal Australia friendship, and world peace.

## WE SAVED YOU



Brisbane set to keep Expo landmark

[A snippet from the Feb 22, 1989 Edition of The Courier-Mail that described the Pitt's role in Saving the Pagoda for Brisbane.]

Called Peace Pagodas for a reason, celebrating the peaceful co-existence of two of the region's oldest religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, the Pagoda is rich with iconography from both religions, in the doors, arches, and support beams of the Pagoda - whose three-level top is crowned with a gold finial and sacred banner overhanging the Pagoda's Second Level, representing the descent of the deity at the Pagoda's earthly intersection. The two side Pavilions, with their sanskrit prayers; the Peace Bell with its reference to the eight auspicious symbols of Buddhism, and the Buddhist memorial stone at the Pagoda's exterior right, with its square base representing the earth, domed top representing the heavens (in its entirety representing the universe) speaking of the Noble Eight Fold Path of Buddhism; and the sacred statue of the Lokewesaar Goddess (Chenrezig in Tibetan, Avalokiteshvara in Nepali) - representing the Bodhisattva intercessory being of Compassion, with the fine meticulous engraving on the statue's goat-skin shawl, also of the eight auspicious symbols of Buddhism - complete the Pagoda experience, where we hope to host at the Pagoda's Second and Third Level, a permanent World Expo '88 Museum, created, staffed, and maintained by volunteers of The Friends of the Pagoda Association as legacy of World Expo '88's successful hosting. Impressive by day or by night, the Pagoda is open daily 10am to 4.30pm.

**How to Get There...By Bus...**Catch any Brisbane City Council Bus to the Cultural Centre Busway Stop, and you will find the Pagoda a few minutes walk from the riverside Clem Jones Promenade northern entrance to South Bank, just near the Wheel of Brisbane. **By Foot...**simply walk across the Victoria Bridge from the top of the Queen Street Mall - you will see the Pagoda from the left side of the Bridge, amidst its leafy tropical rainforest surroundings. **By Train...**catch any QR Citytrain to South Brisbane Railway Station, walk right to the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, and straight ahead to the riverside Clem Jones Promenade. **Things to Do after Visiting the Pagoda...**Have a drink and a bite to eat at the popular 1800s and Expo Pubs & Bars - 'The Ship Inn' and 'The Plough Inn' - and the Expo's 'Boardwalk' collection of eateries....Walk through the colourful bouganvillea Southbank Arbour Boulevard, and the riverside Clem Jones Promenade... Have a swim at the popular salt water and sand 'Streets Beach'....See the latest blockbuster movies at the South Bank Cinemas IMAX Complex....Visit the monumental Queensland Cultural Centre, including the State Library, Gallery of Modern Art, Queensland Art Gallery, Museum, Lyric Theatre, and Concert Hall....and walk to Brisbane's bohemian West End, from Melbourne and Boundary Street, and view the next item of Expo heritage, the Stefan Sky Needle. [Top: The Pagoda at sunrise, image courtesy Celebrate 88].



## CELEBRATE 88!

Progressing the World Expo '88 Vision

- A non-government not-for-profit entity celebrating Brisbane's World Expo '88 -  
<http://www.celebrate88.com/>

Foundation Expo '88 was established by World Expositions veteran and Brisbane John McGregor in 2002 as a non-government not-for-profit entity celebrating Brisbane's World Expo '88, with a three-fold mission:

- (i) a comprehensive website for World Expo '88 (now at <http://www.celebrate88.com/>);
- (ii) an association (entitled, 'The Friends of the Pagoda Association', named and based after/ at the famous Nepal Peace Pagoda from Expo '88, now at the transformed post-Expo site, South Bank Parklands);
- (iii) a museum for the Expo (at the Pagoda's under-utilized Second Level)

Foundation Expo '88, now coined "Celebrate 88" works as the voice for World Expo '88, an advocate, and supporter of World Expo '88 heritage. It communicates its activities prominently through its website and Twitter page at <http://celebrate88.com/> and <http://twitter.com/celebrate88> respectively, and through it's information board and display at the World Expo '88 Nepal Peace Pagoda, South Bank Parklands. It was a key instigator and promoter of a 20th Anniversary Celebration for World Expo '88 in 2008 - and Celebrate 88 also works towards the greater goal of becoming an Australian World Expositions Centre - for past, present, and future Australian World Expositions - both as host of World Expositions, and representative at World Expositions - identifying, furthering, and maximizing Australia's World Expositions legacy and experience.

You, too, can become a valuable member of Celebrate 88's activities, by:

- (i) Volunteering at any of Celebrate 88's many activities, including the Annual April 30 and October 30 General Meetings, held on the Anniversary dates of the Official Opening Ceremony and Closing Ceremony of the Expo, as well as in the administration and operation of Celebrate 88;
- (ii) Donating, or writing about, your favourite World Expo '88 memorabilia or moment, for the Celebrate 88 archives, and for display at the website and Museum;
- (iii) Becoming a Member for the Management Committee or General Membership base of 'The Friends of the Pagoda Association', which works specifically to celebrating and commemorating World Expo '88 at the Nepal Peace Pagoda, South Bank Parklands (the former Expo site), through our Guided Tours program at the Pagoda, and promotion, establishment, and operation of the World Expo '88 Museum at the Pagoda's Second Level.

We also seek to further Nepal-Australia friendship and the goodwill of World Expo '88 at the Pagoda through re-engaging with the Pagoda Forecourt, side forecourts, and side Pavilions, as venues for:

- (i) A traditional Nepalese Tea House experience at the Forecourt on Sundays;
- (ii) the performing arts for Australia and Asia in Brisbane, including traditional court music, modern, and fusion works.

For any further information, please contact Founder of Foundation Expo '88 and Celebrate 88, John McGregor, email [celebrate@celebrate88.com](mailto:celebrate@celebrate88.com).



The Friends of the Pagoda Association  
 Southbank Parklands, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
<http://www.foundationexpo88.org/friendsofthepagoda/>



THE NEPAL PEACE PAGODA  
 SOUTH BANK PARKLANDS  
 BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

- An Initiative of Celebrate '88 -

Your Australian World Expositions Connection

This work is subject to the Celebrate 88 Terms and Conditions, at  
<http://www.celebrate88.com/termsandconditions.html>

South Bank Parklands  
 The Nepal Peace Pagoda  
 The Japan Pond & Garden  
 The Stefan Sky Needle  
 The World Expo '88 Heritage Trail

# Welcome!

Your Brisbane World Expo '88 Network  
 Guide

- FREE -



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## CELEBRATE 88!

Progressing the World Expo '88 Vision

- A non-government not-for-profit entity celebrating Brisbane's World Expo '88 -

<http://www.celebrate88.com/>

Edition 5.1

1988-2023 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Welcome!



Welcome to Brisbane - host of the 1988 World Exposition - World Expo '88 - the largest event of the Bicentennial of European Settlement to Australia Celebrations 1788-1988.

Brisbane's successful hosting of World Expo '88 is celebrated throughout the City - from the wonderful South Bank Parklands - created from the post-Expo site; to the Nepal Peace Pagoda and Japan Pond & Garden, two of our most significant international Pavilion items (at South Bank, and the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens); and the Expo's 88-metre high symbol tower 'Night Companion', now known as the Stefan Sky Needle, just a few hundred metres from South Bank Parklands, in Brisbane's bohemian Coffee Shop and Book Shop Quarter - West End.

Take an hour to view Brisbane's significant World Expositions heritage - or more! Use this pamphlet as your Guide! And have a wonderful day!

*John McGregor*

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P.S. And don't forget - contact the Brisbane Greeters to book a special Expo 88-themed Heritage Trail walk - which also features the CBD's wonderful collection of Australian and International Art work from the Expo. Find out more information through visiting [brisanegreeters.com.au](http://brisanegreeters.com.au) or phoning 07 3403 8888.

The World Expo '88 Official Globe Logo and Official Mascot Expo Oz  
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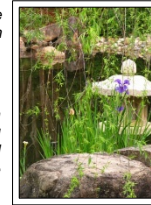
### The Japan Pond and Garden, Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens

The Japan Pond and Garden, at the Entrance/Exit of the Japanese Government Pavilion at World Expo '88, was one of the Expo site's most cherished places of respite and quiet, where one could spend a few minutes of relaxation by the crescent pond's beautiful reflection, in the midst of a unique traditional design Japanese Garden, with traditional performance Pavilion sited above the pond's background centre, in the midst of the shade of a careful selection of Australian trees, shrubs, and flowers, by one of Brisbane's leading garden experts, Kenzō Ogata.

At the pine wood benches at the pond's perimeter, one could sit and enjoy live performances of the traditional Japanese arts, including Koto (Japanese Harp), taiko (Japanese drum), traditional dancing by kimono-clad Japanese hostesses, and also view (and take part in classes in) the way of the Japanese Tea Ceremony, Ikebana (traditional flower arrangement), Japanese calligraphy, and Japanese craftwork such as origami (paper folding) and traditional Japanese games.

At the Expo's conclusion, and with assistance from the Commemorative Association for the 1970 Osaka Universal Exposition, the Japan Pond and Garden was gifted to the City of Brisbane, as a permanent symbol of Japan-Australia friendship and the goodwill of World Expo '88 - and was opened at its new and larger location at the Brisbane City Council Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens in February 1989.

Dedicated by Japanese Prime Minister Mr Noboru Takeshita MP, one enters the garden through a traditional Garden Entrance Door, whose arch is graced with a tablet dedicated and signed by him, naming the Garden 「園翠遊」 (read right to left) ('Yū-Sui-En'), or, 'Place of Green and Quiet'.



One then views the circular stone-path of the garden, its performance Pavilion and display Pavilion at the Garden's left and right, and, its beautiful meandering pond in the centre, gently accented by oriental stone lanterns, Australian iris and lotus, and bordered by Australian shrubs and flowers, where one can follow the Garden's path to its mystical waterfall and stone and bamboo water grove.

The Japan Pond and Garden is free to enter, and is open every day of the year, from 8:00am to 5pm.

#### How to Get There

Catch a 471 Mt Coot-tha Bus from Adelaide Street to the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens and Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium. The journey takes approximately 30 minutes and takes in some of Brisbane's prettiest suburbs. Buses depart for Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens every hour from 9.30am to 3.30pm, every day of the week, continuing to Mt Coot-tha Lookout, before returning to the City via the Gardens, with the last return service to the City leaving the Lookout 4pm on weekdays, and 5pm on weekends (a few minutes later at the Gardens). Telephone Brisbane City Council Transinfo Public Transport Information 131230 for further information. A taxi fare from the Lookout/Gardens to the City will cost approximately \$25.00.

#### Things to Do after Visiting the Gardens

...Visit the Bonsai House - also free. Featuring 100 plants including figs, conifers, camellias, azaleas and maples. Open daily from 8am to 4pm.

...View the world-class Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium. View the NASA and Moon landing displays, as well as a mini-theatre on space travel - (free) - view one of the Planetarium's changing programs - and make a booking for the Observatory. Open Tuesday to Sunday and Saturday evenings. Phone the Planetarium on 3403 2578 for further information.

...Continue on the 471 Bus ascending along Sir Samuel Griffith Drive to the Mt Coot-tha Lookout, on Brisbane's highest mountain, for breathtaking 360° views of the City and surrounds. Purchase some souvenirs, enjoy a cappuccino, lunch, or gourmet meal at the Kuta Café and The Summit Licenced Restaurant. Return via Milton and Brisbane's posh Savoir Faire Coffee precinct, on Park Road, known by its signature 1889 Paris Exposition-inspired Eiffel Tower. Take a riverside walk 10 minutes south and have a meal at the famous Regatta Hotel. Conclude your trip via City Cat from the Regatta Terminus to North Quay, South Bank Parklands, and the Riverside Centre. And ask the driver for further information!

**Did you know? The Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium** is named after Brisbane City's namesake, Major-General Sir Thomas Brisbane, renowned astronomer of the Southern Skies, and Governor of the Colony of New South Wales, 1821- 1825. **Sir Samuel Griffith Drive** is named after former Chief Justice of Queensland, first Chief Justice of the Commonwealth of Australia, twice Premier of Queensland and one of the founding fathers of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, Sir Samuel Walker Griffith. **Mount Coot-tha's** namesake - Coot-tha, or spelt **Kuta** - is an indigenous Australian word - meaning 'wild honey'. [Top: The Japan Pond and Garden. Right: Close-up of Stone Lantern.]

### The Stefan Sky Needle, West End

The 88-metre high symbol tower of the Expo 'Night Companion' was Bicentennial Australia's largest art commission - at approximately 20 storeys height - and topped with a beautiful gold and copper dome and black spire (now also featuring the rainbow colour rings of its new owner) and a 60-km radius xenon-beam laser-eye that surveilled the Expo and Brisbane horizon night skies, was purchased at the Expo's conclusion by popular Brisbane business magnate, Stefan Ackerie, of Stefan Hairdressing fame. The tower's dome and spire are also popular references to Brisbane's oldest European edifice, the Old Windmill (made in 1828), atop of the CBD's highest peak - Spring Hill.



During the six months of the Expo, the \$AUD 4.5 million tower was located just beyond the Expo's principal Melbourne Street Gate, and in the Expo's most prominent power axis - flanked by the flagship Australia (with its popular colourful Ken Done-inspired AUSTRALIA alphabet letters) and Queensland Pavilions on the left and the New South Wales, Victoria, and United Nations Pavilions on the right.

The colourful China Gate arch of the People's Republic of China Pavilion completed the picture at the axis' end. The Tower base, with its raised dais and copper corrugated frill-neck roof was one of the Expo's most popular meeting places, and was also a popular vantage point for the daily Daytime and QANTAS Light Fantastic Night Parades, which snaked their way through the Expo site.

The Tower is now a prominent part of Brisbane's southern CBD and is visible from most of the inner city. Designed by award-winning Melbourne based sculptor Robert Owen, and interpreted by Charles Sutherland, the tower joins with Brisbane City Council's prestigious outdoor art collection from the Expo as one of our most cherished Expo icons.



#### How to Get There

**By Bus...** [To/From the City] Catch any Brisbane City Council Bus to the Cultural Centre Busway Stop (you will see the Tower in the distance) and walk down Melbourne Street for several minutes, until you arrive at the Tower base near the corner of Manning and Melbourne Street, at the left side of Melbourne Street.

**By Foot...** simply walk across the Victoria Bridge from the top of the Queen Street Mall - pass by the Cultural Centre Busway Stop, and continue walking down Melbourne Street, as above.

**By Train...** catch any QR Citytrain to South Brisbane Railway Station, and turn left into Melbourne Street. Continue walking down Melbourne Street, as above.

#### Things to Do after Visiting the Tower

...Have a crepe and a coffee at the Parisienne-inspired café at the base of the tower - Miss Claudes Crepes! Explore the many coffee shops and book shops of Brisbane's bohemian West End, from the corner of Melbourne Street and Boundary Street, and extending along Boundary Street, and reach the literary heights with the 'Avid Bookstore and Café', and 'Bent Books' (Second Hand) nearby.

...Fresh Queensland fruit and produce are also a West End-speciality - grab a handful of grapes, and nectarines, and mangoes to keep you going!

...Visit the Brisbane City Council West End Library at the end of your visit, just across the road from the popular West End Coffee Club. A popular community Library, with free wi-fi and multi-language books and magazines.

**Did you know?** You can also visit the Old Windmill, at Spring Hill, by climbing the famous Jacob's Ladder, at the top of Edward Street, in the City. Look out for the famous Expo artwork 'Forms of Myth' at the base of the stairwell. Continue along Wickham Street, Leichhardt Street, Gregory Terrace - do a day walk through the suburb to view some of Brisbane's oldest residences. Take a swim at the heritage-listed Spring Hill Baths - a wonderful trip through time. And return through the award-winning Roma Street Parklands and Albert Street to City Hall - Brisbane's other famous tower (1930) - with its classical greco-roman lines, epic work 'Civilisation in the State of Queensland' tympanum, and Venice St Mark's-inspired clock tower. Ask for a Guided Tour. And rise through to the Clock Tower podium for the City sights, getting your ticket from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor recently re-opened (2013) Museum of Brisbane. Peruse the wonderful Queen Street Mall, with its wonderful yesteryear facades, escape to the art deco Brisbane Arcade (featuring Expo work 'Mirage') and have a coffee at the enchanting Room with Roses on the Gallery level, or 'people watch' at Jimmy's on the Mall or Milano's - for contemporary cuisine. Visit Brisbane City's Visitor Information Centre in the stunningly restored Regent Theatre foyer and also pay a visit to the City's administrative centre, the hi-tech Brisbane Square, and City Library (Second and Third Levels), with its futuristic site-scaped plaza. Just opposite find the heritage-listed 'Treasury' Casino, Queens' Park, the award-winning Commissariat Store Museum on the early settlement, (\$7.00 adults, \$5.00 concession), and take a tour at the French renaissance-inspired Queensland State Parliament (1868) and Annexe, all along William Street. Finish the day at the Garden's Club Café, City Gardens, adjacent to Parliament, entering via the Parliament Gate. View Expo work 'Morning Star II' along the way. Return to South Bank via the Goodwill Bridge. [Top: The Tower's dome spire top. Left: The Tower from Highgate Hill.]