

# Green Your Laneway Case Study: Guildford Lane

## Guildford Lane is a rare example of the city’s industrial heritage where red-brick factories and warehouses provide a unique location for urban greening.

Today, the laneway flourishes with a colourful variety of plant species where you can find over 70 pot plants, planter boxes and a compact green roof above a small garage.

Eight drain gardens have been installed to intercept down pipe water to filter out pollution that has settled on the roof and reduce stormwater volumes to prevent flooding. Water captured by these drain gardens is then used to nourish climbing vines such as Star Jasmine and Boston Ivy which grow up stainless steel wires. The lane is also host to several cafés which make this an exciting pocket of space for locals to escape to and enjoy its atmosphere.

**Location:** Access Guildford Lane from Queen Street or Sutherland Street.

**Completion date:** 2017.

**What to see:** A large diversity of plant species, drain gardens, a compact green roof and art mural by Mike Makatron.

**What to do:** Relax amongst the greenery at one of the local laneway cafés.

## Greening typologies

Guildford Lane contains a diversity of greening typologies including the CBD’s first drain gardens, a small green roof, planter boxes and pot plants.

## Species

**Creeper vines:** Trachelospermum jasminoidies (Star Jasmine), Parthinocissus sikkimensis (Sikkim Creeper) and Parthonocissus tricuspidata (Boston Ivy)

**Green roof species:** Bulbine bulbosa (Bulbine Lily), Carpobrotus glaucescens (Pig Face), Dianella (Flax Lilli), Festuca glauca (Blue Festcue), Ficinia nodosa (Nobby Club Rush), Goodenia hederacae (Ivy Goodenia), Leucophyta brownii, (Cushion Brush), Myoporum parvifolium (Creeping Boobialla)

**Planter box species:** Aspidistra elatior (Cast Iron Plant), Clivia miniata (Clivia Orange), Geranium spp. (Geranium Red), Howea fosteriana (Kentia Palm), Japanese aralia (Paper Plant), Monstera deliciosa (Fruit Salad Plant),

Mentha suaveolens (Mint), Nepeta racemose (Catmint), Olea europaea (Tollys Upright), Ophiopogon japonicas (Mondo Grass), Phyllostachys aurea (Golden Bamboo), Philodendron spp. (Heart Leaf Philodendron), Persicaria odorata (Vietnamese Mint), Parthenocissus sikkimensis (Sikkim Creeper), Raphis excelsa (Lady’s Finger), Sanseviera trifasciata (Snake Plant), Trachelosperum jasminodes (Chinese Star Jasmine)

Pot plant species provided by local residents and business’ owners.

## Maintenance and irrigation requirements

Irrigation is only required in the drain gardens during extended periods without rain. The planter boxes require 7 minutes per day over Spring and Autumn, 7 minutes every second day in Winter and 7 minutes twice a day in Summer.

A slow release fertiliser is applied to the Star Jasmine and Sikkum Creeper every 3 months.

Pruning is required to keep climbing plants on the wires/cables, to prevent plants from growing over windows or doorways and to neaten trees and hanging plants when required.

**For more information, visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/greencity**