

## Fact Sheet

# Modern Memorial Parks

Metropolitan Memorial Parks wants to share its vision for how memorial spaces can serve the needs of today's communities. A Modern Memorial Park goes beyond traditional cemetery design by blending respectful remembrance with accessible, beautifully designed open space for all.

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#### Green Space for the Living and the Departed

At the heart of a modern memorial park is the idea of shared space - a peaceful, green environment that supports both quiet reflection and everyday community use.

These parks aim to unlock new public green spaces, particularly in growing urban areas where land is limited and communities are seeking places to pause, reflect, and connect with nature.

### **Integrated Burial** and Memorial Design

Burial plots and monuments are thoughtfully integrated into the landscape, rather than traditionally arranged in rigid rows or large stone sections.

This design ensures privacy and dignity for mourners while maintaining a natural park-like feel.

#### **Spaces for Reflection and Wellness**

The park is designed to encourage quiet reflection and emotional well-being, whether someone is mourning a loss or simply seeking tranquillity. Features include:

- Reflective gardens and secluded seating areas.
- Walking paths through landscaped areas.
- Water features such as lakes or ponds to promote calm and connection to nature.

#### **Community Amenities**

A modern memorial park is a multi-use public space, not just a place for the deceased, but a space the living can actively use and enjoy. Amenities are developed in consultation with the community and may include:

- Cafés and visitor centres.
- Sheltered pavilions and gathering areas for small services or remembrance events.
- Educational spaces, interpretive signage, and artwork to connect people with heritage and culture.

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#### Design Principles of a Modern Memorial Park

Blends natural beauty and respectful remembrance:

- Retaining and enhancing existing mature vegetation.
- Prioritising sustainability, native plantings, and an integrated waterway design.
- Welcoming to people of all faiths and cultural backgrounds.

- Accessible and inclusive for people of all ages and abilities.
- Designed to coexist with the needs of growing communities, offering lasting value as open space while meeting burial needs.

