

## CREETING LODGE

Welcome to Creeting Lodge, a timeless architectural marvel, born from the exceptional mind of Marcus Martin, a new talent fresh off his architectural studies in 1926. His signature imprints adorn the house in the form of meticulously designed windows, doors, eaves, and door hardware, each whispering the story of a time when architecture met art.

Following the historic footprints, we have breathed a new life into the house, rekindling the Martin charm while weaving in a modern narrative. The introduction of contemporary elements, like steel doors, creates an intriguing dance between the past and the present.

Named after a quaint town in Suffolk, UK, the lodge is a homage to its original owners. As the gates of Creeting Lodge open, you are greeted by the regal guard of towering golden Cyprus pines, standing tall and proud for over 150 years. Here, heritage meets botany in the most divine ways. Original inhabitants of the gardens, red flowering gums, lilly pilli, and a splendid English strawberry tree, are living memoirs of a bygone era.

Our view is enriched by the neighbouring canvas, graciously painted with the enchanting bull bay magnolia, enhancing the garden's charm manifold.

In an exquisite collaboration with Miles Baldwin Design, the garden has been redesigned as a symphony of European and Mediterranean flora. With an aim to create an open space where grandeur trees stand as nature's sculptures amidst a sprawling lawn, we've introduced an assortment of new species. Hornbeams, teddy bear magnolias, crepe myrtle, forest pansy, along with black and white figs, loquat, and mature olive trees, form the dynamic cast of this botanical theatre.

The scene is further enhanced by a range of palms - the European fan palm, the Chinese windmill, the phoenix silvestrus, and the dracaena draco, each adding a unique shade to our horticultural palette. Mass plantings of anthuriums, salvia, French and oak leaf hydrangea, and various species of viburnums create a visual rhythm, interrupted only by the English buxus balls - both green and variegated - scattered in varying sizes throughout the garden.

The tale of Creeting Lodge is one of an ageless beauty, where architecture and nature intertwine in a seamless bond, creating a living, breathing masterpiece. It's more than just a house; it's a testament to design, tradition, and nature's boundless beauty.

***Creeting Lodge is located on the lands of the Bunurong people. Open Gardens Victoria wish to acknowledge the Traditional custodians and we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.***

**These notes can be downloaded from the Open Gardens Victoria website:**

[www.opengardensvictoria.org.au](http://www.opengardensvictoria.org.au)