



Plants that Clothe the Bluff
Barwon Heads, Victoria, Australia.



GROUND COVERS

These plants are herbaceous, i.e. without woody stems, and are low-growing. Some are prostrate plants that grow across the ground and others are small, erect plants. Some scramble along the ground and over any obstacles such as rocks or fences.



GRASSES AND ALLIES

These plants are all shapes and sizes but they all have narrow leaves. They can form distinctive tussock shapes, smaller tufted plants, or spread over the ground. Grasses and tussocks are useful for binding embankments or coastal sands.



SCRAMBLERS, CLIMBERS AND TWINERS

Climbers and twiners like to grow upwards, but need something to grow up or over. They can be found forming masses across the ground or up and over fences, rocks, other plants, or anything else in the way.



FORBS

These are small herbaceous (non-woody) plants that are usually between 20 cm to 1 m in height. They often have delicate flowers and colourful foliage and grow across the Bluff, between grasses and sedges or under larger shrubs and trees.



SHRUBS

Shrubs are typically woody and multi-trunked with multiple separate stems at or near ground level. A shrub is usually smaller than a tree but there is no clear distinction between a large shrub and a small tree.



TREES

Trees at the Bluff range between 3 m to 6 m and usually have one large woody trunk covered in bark. The height of the trees of the Barwon Bluff can change dramatically depending on their location, e.g. trees and shrubs on the south side of the Bluff can be quite stunted by exposure to salt and wind.

Acacia longifolia subsp. *sophorae*
Coast Wattle



Potentially invasive



Zone:	Moonah Cliff Grassy Fore-dune Central Shrubland Plateau	Plant size:	2 – 3 m x 2 – 6 m
<p>This large spreading wattle has precumbent lower branches running to 4 m and sustains little understorey. It has flat dark green leaves with spikes of yellow blooms in Spring. This wattle should be restricted to the face of the primary dune but is spreading across the Bluff and is crowding out the indigenous species.</p>			
Flower Colour:	Yellow	Flowering:	Jul - Oct

Acacia paradoxa
Hedge Wattle/Prickly Wattle



Zone:	Cliff Plateau	Plant size:	2 – 4 m x 2 – 5 m
<p>This shrub is easy to identify due to its generally prickly appearance. It has dark green oblong phyllodes (modified leaf structures) with wavy leaf margins.</p> <p>The flowers are abundant in large golden yellow balls.</p>			
Flower Colour:	Yellow	Flowering:	Aug - Nov