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Media Release

Chinese Garden opens its doors for FREE to the public



For the first time in more than 10 years the Chinese Garden of Friendship will open its doors to the public for FREE on Sunday 25 October.

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority will open the Garden for free from 9.30am to 5.30pm, as part of its celebrations marking Darling Harbour's 21st Anniversary.

Sydneysiders and visitors are invited to come to the Garden and immerse themselves in its rich culture as they wander along winding pathways and graceful bridges, taking in enchanting landscapes, pavillions, waterfalls and lakes, stopping by the Teahouse to enjoy a traditional Chinese tea.

The Open Day will commemorate the Garden's anniversary and the close bond which was forged between the local Chinese community and Sydney's sister city Guangzhou in Guangdong Province, China to share their heritage in Australia through a garden of friendship.

The Garden opened on 17 January 1988 as part of Australia's Bicentenary, and for 21 years has been a place for contemplation and a haven for Sydney workers to escape the city rush and relax with a jasmine tea in the traditional Chinese Teahouse.

The concept of the Garden lies in its intimate association with nature – seeking the unusual and the unexpected – through five key elements of earth, fire, water, metal and wood.

The Garden is one of the few traditional public Chinese gardens created outside Asia that offers a rare opportunity to experience century-old traditions of Chinese landscaping, architecture and garden design.

In 1995 Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority enlisted the expertise of a Feng Shui architect to create and oversee a \$1.6 million upgrade of the Garden to improve the experience for visitors. The Garden now attracts more than 180,000 visitors each year from across Australia and around the world.

For more information on the Chinese Garden and the Open Day visit www.darlingharbour.com

What:	Chinese Garden Open Day
When:	Sunday 25 October from 9.30am to 5.30pm
Where:	Darling Harbour
Cost:	FREE
More info:	www.darlingharbour.com

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