Westgate Park

Visitor Guide

Westgate Park is a green oasis located in the heart of industrial Melbourne. The land has undergone many transformations before emerging as one of Melbourne's most visible parks. Westgate Park is a vibrant example of how a wasteland can become a flourishing ecological and recreational wetland environment.





















Opening hours

Westgate Park is accessible at all times, providing vehicle, pedestrian and cyclist access into the park at various locations.

Getting there

Westgate Park is located along the eastern banks of the Yarra River, under the Westgate Bridge. Limited parking is available within the park off Todd Road, or along Lorimer St, Port Melbourne (Melway map reference 56 F1).

Catching the bus is a great way to visit Westgate Park, with the #235, #237 and #606 bus route running past the park.

Things to see and do

Walking and riding

The shared paths in Westgate Park are popular with cyclists, joggers and walkers. From shorter local walks to connections to significant trail networks of Melbourne.

Bay Trail - 53km, 2.5 hours one way (cycling)

The Bay Trail commences within Westgate Park at the Yarra River and heads through the park, all the way to Frankston, along the eastern edge of Port Phillip Bay.

Williamstown Foreshore Trail - 6km, 23 minutes one way

Travel via the bicycle punt service across the Yarra River (westgatepunt.com for timetable) which allows easy access to Scienceworks and the Williamstown Foreshore Trail.

You may wish to take one of the park's other unsealed trails that wind past lakes and wetlands to view the park's plants and animals and unique vistas.

Sculptures

Westgate Park is home to Lyn Moore's Earth Series Sculptures, which are made from natural materials and provide an interesting contrast, adding to the landscape and character of the park.

Picnicking

Pack a picnic or make use of the free shared electric barbecue facility and come and explore this beautiful environment at the city's doorstep.

Seasonal pink lake

Westgate Park's salt lake turns pink seasonally, in response to high salt levels, high temperatures, increased sunlight and lack of rainfall. Algae growing in the salt crust produces the red pigment in response to the extremely high salt levels. The lake returns to its normal colour as the weather cools and rainfall increases.

Bird watching

Westgate Park forms a sanctuary for a variety of bird species from around the world. Wading birds such as stilts, ibis and spoonbills feed on the shores of the lakes. Swimmers and divers including ducks, gulls, coots, pelicans, swans and moorhens venture into the deeper water.

Get involved

You can join the Friends of Westgate Park who regularly conduct tree planting, participate in community science programs and undertake various other activities which enhance the park's ecological values.

Caring for the parks

Help us look after your parks by following these guidelines:

- · Please take rubbish home with you.
- Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times.
- Please clean up after your dog.
- All native plants and animals are protected by law.
- Camping is not permitted within Westgate Park.
- Portable solid fuel barbecues are not permitted, however portable gas barbecues may be used.

Be prepared and stay safe

For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). If there is a green emergency marker sign near you, read the information on the marker to the operator.

For updated information on Fire Danger ratings or general safety advice call 1800 240 667, listen to a local ABC/ACE radio station, or visit www.emergency.vic.gov.au.

Healthy Parks

Visit www.parks.vic.gov.au or phone 13 1963 for the latest conditions and park information.





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Melbourne





