

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

October 2021



Dromana Pier safety measures

We're implementing a partial closure at Dromana Pier as part of Parks Victoria's commitment to ensuring safety for all visitors.

Why is Dromana Pier head closed?

As part of our ongoing pier and jetty maintenance program we regularly assess the condition of maritime structures through technical inspections using professional engineers and divers. A recent engineering inspection at Dromana Pier has resulted in safety concerns and a recommendation to close the **outer section** for public safety. **As a result, the pier head (approximately 40 metres) was closed on Wednesday 6 October 2021 to all public access until further notice.**

How was the pier monitored and maintained prior to partial closure?

Parks Victoria has been monitoring the condition of Dromana Pier closely as it approaches the end of its life. In 2018, the low landing was replaced with a new structure, and a section was repaired, following structural failures. The pier has been deteriorating more rapidly in recent years.

Can I still access other parts of the pier?

Yes. The pier remains substantially open for walking, boating and fishing activities. This includes the inner approach section of pier (approx. 147 metres) between the foreshore up to and including the low landing (approx. 40 metres).

Will the pier head be repaired to reinstate access?

Further investigations are underway to determine the residual structural life of the pier, which was built more than 60 years ago. This will include considering the cost and viability of short and medium remediation works to potentially restore access while the long term future of the pier is considered. Until further investigations are complete, public safety is our highest priority and the pier head will remain closed.

Through the State Budget 2021, the Victorian Government has committed \$2.5 million to implement the Sustainable Local Ports Framework to provide a consistent planning and decision-making pathway. This Framework will enable government to prioritise future investment and direct investment to where it is needed most. Dromana Pier will be considered as part of this Framework.

What future planning has already been done?

In anticipation of Dromana Pier approaching the end of its design life, a broader early planning process commenced in late 2020 to consider the future options for the pier. As part of this process, we obtained valuable community feedback on three design options which will help inform a future for this much-loved pier. The design options and community consultation summary report can be viewed at engage.vic.gov.au.

Can I access the pier by boat?

Yes. The low landing is still open, as the closure commences after the access point to the low landing.

Vessels can still berth at the low landing.

As has always been the case, berthing is not permitted at the pier head so there is no impact to boating and paddle craft access.

Can I swim or dive /snorkel around the pier?

Yes. Swimming and diving / snorkeling is permitted around the open section of pier approach and can be accessed from the low landing, ladders or foreshore. However, due to the structural safety risks, there is no permitted access underneath the closed outer section of pier. Please remember diving or jumping from piers and jetties is **prohibited**. There are shallow areas and often unexpected submerged objects.

Can I fish from the pier?

Yes. Approximately 80% of Dromana Pier remains open for walking and fishing / angling activities, including the low landing. Only the last 40 metres of the pier head cannot

be accessed. You can also enjoy similar experiences at [Mornington Pier](#), [Rosebud Pier](#) and [Sorrento Pier](#).

When was Dromana Pier built?

Originally built in the 1860s and extended in the 1870s, Dromana Pier on the Mornington Peninsula was the second longest pier in Port Phillip. In the 1950s it became unsafe and was replaced with the current much shorter (187 metre) concrete pier. The low landing was built in 2018. The pier remains popular for fishing, walking, and swimming, with the occasional recreational boater stopping to visit.

Further information

To find out more call Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or email info@parks.vic.gov.au.

Sign up to the [Dromana Pier Mailing List](#).

