

Fact Sheet

Sharp Campground Closure – December 2022

Sharp Campground is an informal campground in the Great Otway National Park. Due to environmental and safety risks, Parks Victoria has decided to close the campground and support a safer and more enjoyable experience at other nearby campgrounds.

The Great Otway National Park

The Great Otway National Park is a stunning place to connect with nature. There are many camping locations throughout the Otways, but it is important that the areas provided are in safe and sustainable locations that protect the wonderful area that so many love to visit.

Why will the campground close?

Over the past few years, Sharps Campground near Lorne, has regularly become overcrowded with a growing number of illegal camps and campfires. Without any supporting facilities and hazardous trees, it has become a health and safety risk to visitors, as well as causing negative impacts to the surrounding environment. The campground is also situated along a 40m wide Strategic Fuel Break that runs the length of Sharps Track.

Given these risks, Parks Victoria has decided to close the existing six campsites and incorporate them into other campgrounds, where facilities support a safer and improved camping experience. Camping capacity has increased in the local area over the past two years to cater for increased demand.

When will it close?

Sharps Campground is planned to be closed and rehabilitated during December 2022.

What are the upgrades to other campgrounds in the area?

Over the past 2 years, an additional 18 sites have been established at Allenvale, Big Hill and Jamieson Creek campgrounds near Lorne. Further towards Anglesea, Hammonds Campground has recently had additional sites added and a new campground within the Anglesea Heath is currently under planning for construction. The Parks Victoria website provides up-to-date information on these campgrounds, including where and how to book alternate campsites.

Where can I camp if I don't want to book?

Visitors seeking a camping experience in a more informal setting where bookings are not required, camping is available in the nearby Otway Forest Park. Sites and facilities are available at Hammonds Road North, Tanners Road, Dandos and Stevenson Falls (closed until March for upgrading) camping areas. For more information about these sites please visit www.exploreoutdoors.vic.gov.au



(Image: overcrowding and risks has led to the closure of Sharps Campground, with capacity being added to other sites with facilities within the area)

For further information

For further information on camping in the Great Otway National Park or other parks and reserves in Victoria, please visit Parks Victoria at www.parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963.

