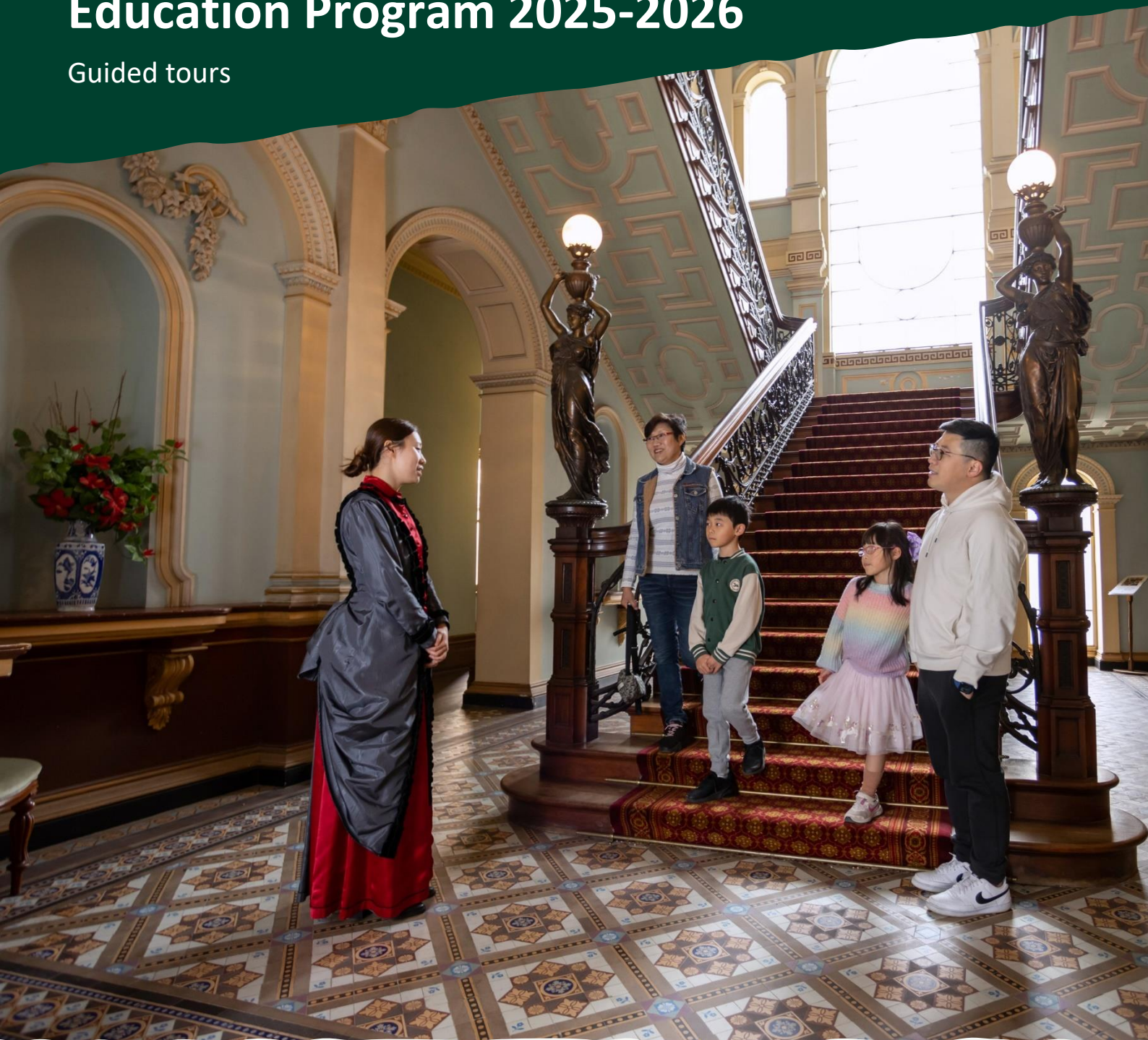


# Werribee Mansion Education Program 2025-2026

Guided tours



## Acknowledgement of Country

Victoria's network of parks and reserves form the core of Aboriginal cultural landscapes, which have been modified over many thousands of years of occupation. They are reflections of how Aboriginal people engaged with their world and experienced their surroundings and are the product of thousands of generations of economic activity, material culture and settlement patterns. The landscapes we see today are influenced by the skills, knowledge and activities of Aboriginal land managers. Parks Victoria acknowledges the Bunurong people as the Traditional Owners of the lands of Werribee Park Mansion, and recognises their continuing connection to this place and their ongoing role in caring for Country.

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Level 10, 535 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000  
[parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au)

## Program logistics



### Cost

The current cost for a Ranger-led tour is \$13.30 per student. Supervising teachers attend for free. An invoice will be sent via email after your visit to the park.



### Location

Werribee Park Mansion  
Gate 2, K Rd, Werribee South VIC 3030



### Year levels

Foundation – Year 4



### Learning areas

History



### Accessibility

Please inform education staff at the time of booking if students have specific access or other requirements.

A social script is available for participants on the autism spectrum. Using plain text and images, the social script describes what children may see and experience during their visit to Werribee Park Mansion. View this resource here - <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/all-abilities-access/autism-friendly-visits>



### Contact

To book or discuss your school needs, please email:  
[werribeebookings@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:werribeebookings@parks.vic.gov.au)

## Creating your tour itinerary

School tours operate Monday to Friday during the school term. The tours are scheduled between 10am and 2pm, with a designated area to store bags and have lunch. Bus parking is available.

Schools can undertake a guided or self-guided tour of the Mansion. 30-minute programs can be combined to make a longer day. For further information on itineraries, please email [werribeebookings@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:werribeebookings@parks.vic.gov.au) and [watch an overview of the education program](#) in progress on the Parks Victoria YouTube channel.

### Group size

Each tour can accommodate up to 20 students at a time. A maximum of four groups per day with student numbers over 100 split over two days.

## Additional resources to support your learning

Visit <http://www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/learning-in-nature/plan-your-learning>

## On the day

- Ensure students bring sunscreen, a drink bottle and pens/clipboard.
- Students must wear suitable clothing and sturdy covered footwear (no thongs or crocs).
- Local weather may vary from regional forecasts. Check the local weather and dress accordingly.
- The healthiest food for wild animals occurs in nature – do not feed or encourage animals to take any human food.
- Leave as little trace of your visit as possible – take all rubbish out of the park and keep to existing tracks.
- Plants, animals and other natural features, objects, and cultural sites in the park are protected by law and must not be disturbed or removed.



# About the park

## Werribee Park Mansion

Visit Werribee Park Mansion and discover what life was like in the 1800s. The build of the large basalt and sandstone mansion completed in 1877 for the Chirnside family who were originally from Scotland. They made their fortune from wool across the Western District of Victoria.

Werribee Park Mansion is one of the largest and most lavish properties in Victoria. With 60 rooms across several wings, the mansion is in a Renaissance Revival style, with a symmetrical two storey central block, dominant tower, and a ground level arcade on three sides of the block.

The fine interior includes some original furniture set within a richly decorated entry hall containing a Minton encaustic tiled floor, niches, Corinthian pilasters, and free-standing columns leading to a grand staircase. The main reception rooms, library and dining room are all classically ornamented. Despite the grandeur and status of the mansion, it remains a mystery as to who designed it.

The mansion was converted into a seminary in the 1920s, and the entire estate was then purchased by the State Government in 1977.



## Primary school programs

### Exploring Werribee Mansion



#### Levels

F-4



#### Learning area

History



#### Location

Werribee Park Mansion



#### Time

1 hour

This tour compares the lifestyle, work, social customs and etiquette of communities past and present. The mansion, its resident family and servant staff represent the lifestyle of many people of the 19th century. Students explore the different lives of the former residents of the mansion and compare their lives based upon their social position and status in society.



#### Learning outcomes:

F-2: VCHHC055, VCHHC056, VCHHC057

3-4: VCHHC069, VCHHC073

#### Links to UN Sustainable Development Goals:



## Playing and Learning in the Victorian Children's Bedroom



**Levels**

F-2



**Learning area**

History



**Location**

Children's Bedroom,  
Werribee Park Mansion



**Time**

1 hour

Covering the themes of education, family and leisure, this program will immerse students in hands-on activities in the children's bedroom to explore the life of a Victorian era child. Students will write on slate boards, see Victorian clothes, learn about the structure of a Victorian household and society. Connecting to the life of a Victorian child will allow the students to compare their lives and the rules they are familiar with at home and school, identifying aspects of continuity and change to daily life over time.



**Learning outcomes:**

VCHHC055, VCHHC056

**Links to UN Sustainable Development Goals:**



## Washday – Housework Hard Work



**Levels**

P-2



**Learning area**

History



**Location**

Werribee Park Mansion



**Time**

1 hour

This program encourages students to compare their own lives with that of the Chirnside family and the servants of the Mansion. Artefacts are used to illustrate changes that have occurred over time. Comparisons of technology past and present are explored, and students can suggest ideas about what objects from the past may have been used for. Students are encouraged to hand wash clothing with equipment from the late 1800s and make comparisons to modern appliances and their impact on daily life.



**Learning outcomes:**

VCHHC055, VCHHC056, VCHHC065

**Links to UN Sustainable Development Goals:**



## Washday – Technology Now and Then



**Levels**

3-4



**Learning area**

History



**Location**

Werribee Park Mansion



**Time**

1 hour

This program encourages students to investigate changes and continuity in relation to daily life at the Mansion. Artefacts are used help students compare the use of technology past and present, and how changes to technology have altered the way we live our lives. Students are encouraged to hand wash clothing with equipment from the late 1800s and make comparisons to modern appliances.



**Learning outcomes:**

VCHHK073

**Links to UN Sustainable Development Goals:**



## The Working Heart of Werribee – The Farm



**Levels**

1-2



**Learning area**

History



**Location**

The Farm



**Time**

1 hour

The working heart of 1880s Werribee, the farm program explores the 1880s pastoral life of workers as reflected through the buildings, objects and hands-on rope making and other activities within the farm area. We meet at the homestead, introducing Victorian farm life through a series of photographs and gain an insight into the lifestyle and the roles people held at the farm. Students will be able to compare farm life to that of the luxury and comfort of the Chirnside mansion, and identify how past and present technology shapes people's lives.



**Learning outcomes:**

VCHHC055, VCHHC056, VCHHK065

**Links to UN Sustainable Development Goals:**



## The Working Heart of Werribee – The Farm



### Levels

3-4



### Learning area

History



### Location

The Farm



### Time

1 hour

The working heart of 1880s Werribee, the farm program explores the 1880s pastoral life of workers as reflected through the buildings, objects and hands-on rope making and other activities within the farm area. Students are introduced to Victorian farm life through a series of photographs, investigating changes and continuity in relation to work and daily life. Students learn about the roles people held at the farm, comparing farm life to that of the luxury and comfort of the Chirnside mansion.



### Learning outcomes:

VCHHK073

### Links to UN Sustainable Development Goals:

