

# Tali Karng – Alpine National Park

## Visitor Guide

Tali Karng is a hidden jewel nestled deep in the mountains of Gippsland, fed by snowmelt waters of the Wellington Plains. The lake is believed to have been formed about 1500 years ago when a massive rock slide collapsed into the valley damming the waters of Nigothoruk Creek above Wellington River. The water runs underground from the lake to emerge as the infant Wellington River 150m below in the Valley of Destruction.



### Welcome to Country

The first occupiers of this area were the Gunaikurnai people, most likely member of the Brayakaulung clan. Aboriginal people guided many European explorers and gold miners through the mountains along well used pathways, which eventually formed some of today's road and track network.

Tali Karng is a sacred place to the Gunaikurnai and in keeping with their law, Aboriginal people are forbidden to go there.

Aboriginal people do not oppose non-indigenous people visiting Tali Karng as long as they treat the area with respect. Camping at the lake is disrespectful to Aboriginal people, so please treat the area with care as you pass by the lake and camp elsewhere.

### Getting there

The nearest town is Licola. To get there, take Princes Highway to Traralgon, turn off to Heyfield and on to Licola.

### Things to see and do

#### Walking

Tali Karng is accessible via walking tracks, each offering a different type of landscape. Choose the easier 13km (each way) walking track, or the longer, more challenging route – either way, you need to be fit and self-sufficient.



#### Tali Karng via Wellington Plains – Grade 4, 13km each way, 4 hours to the lake, 5 hours back.

This is the easiest route to the lake, which begins at McFarlane Saddle Carpark on the Moroka Road, 60 km from Licola. The walk follows a well-defined track across Wellington Plains for 9 km to Nyimba Camp before reaching Gillios Track branching off to the south. This track is about 4 km long, and although steep, is well graded down to the lake.



#### Tali Karng via Wellington River & Clive Lanigan Track Grade 4, 17km each way, 7 hours to the lake, 6 hours back.

This route begins at the third bridge over the Wellington River, about 22 km north of Licola (sealed road). The route follows the Wellington River upstream for 17 km, crossing the river 16 times. These crossings may be hazardous if the river level is high. Continue past Riggall Spur Track to Clive Lanigan Track, which climbs steeply through the Valley of Destruction and on to the Lake. A slightly longer alternative route is via Riggall Spur Track up to Echo Point. From here it is a 1 km walk down to the lake.



#### Tamboritha Rd via Tali Karng and Wellington River – Grade 4, 30km one way, 12 hours + overnight

This overnight hike is a through hike combining the Wellington River and Wellington Plain options, it can be done either direction.

Begin at McFarlane Saddle carpark. Follow the Wellington Plains track for 9km to Nyimba camp before following Gillios track for 4km to the lake. Follow Clive Lanigan for 5km onto Wellington River Tk, from here it is 12km to Tamboritha Rd – crossing the river 16 times. These crossings may be hazardous if the river level is high.

#### Camping

Camping is available at Nyimba Camp near at the southern end of the Wellington Plains walking track or below the lake in the Valley of Destruction along the Wellington River. Please do not camp at the lake. It is a day walk from Nyimba Camp to Tali Karng and return without heavy packs.

Fires are permitted in fireplaces at Nyimba camp. Tali Karng is a fuel stove only area and no fires are permitted within a 1km radius of the lake. There is a toilet at Nyimba Camp and Nigothoruk Creek nearby is a potential source of water. Be prepared with plenty of food and water before setting off on any long-distance walk.

#### Be prepared and stay safe

**Fire:** For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). Tali Karng is in the West & South Gippsland fire districts. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions. Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au), on the [VicEmergency smartphone app](#) or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226. **No fires may be lit on Total Fire Ban days.** On Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating days this park will be closed for public safety. Do not expect a personal warning. Do not enter the Park. If you are already in the Park, leave the night before or as early as possible in the morning. Check the latest conditions at [parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au) or by calling 13 1963.

Firewood supplies are limited, so the use of camping stoves is preferred. Never leave a fire unattended if alight. Extinguish fire with water when unattended.

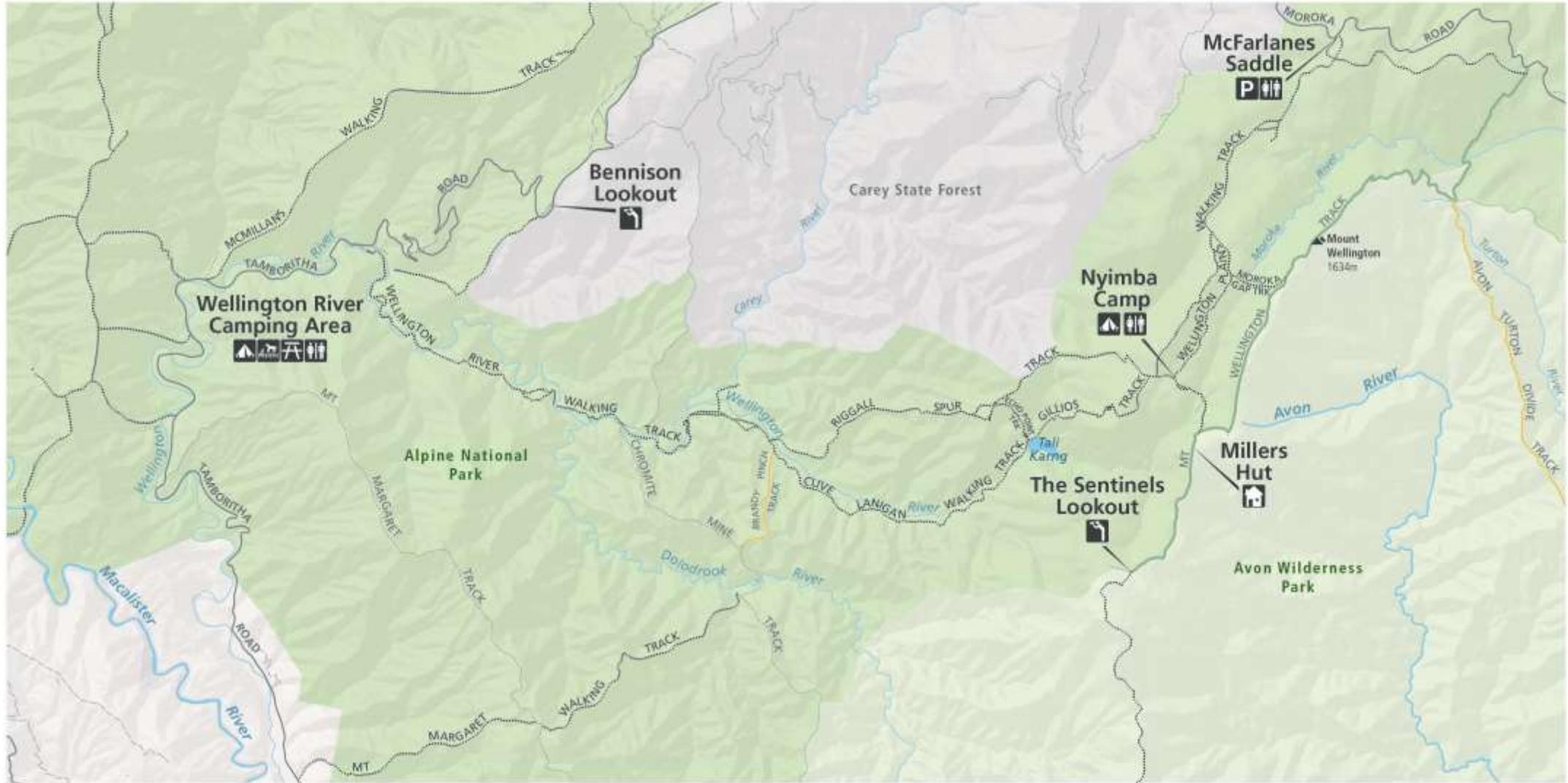
**Walkers:** Weather conditions can change rapidly in alpine areas. Snowfalls can happen at any time of the year. Always be prepared with:

- warm clothing, including wind and waterproof jacket
- gloves, hat, sunglasses and strong footwear
- first aid kit and sunscreen
- energy food and water
- compass and relevant topographical map

Before you go, let someone know where you are going, and when you expect to return. Please keep your group small (4 - 8 people).

# Alpine National Park

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|--------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Camping area | Lookout        | Main road     | 4WD track               | Minor river           | Alpine National Park |
| Toilets      | Stable         | Sealed road   | Vehicle management only | Seasonal road closure | Other park           |
| Picnic table | Historical hut | Unsealed road | Walking track           | Major river           | Public land          |
| Parking      |                |               |                         |                       |                      |

