

Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park

Visitor Guide



Welcome to Grampians National Park, known traditionally as Gariwerd, where you can experience significant Aboriginal culture in one of Australia's most iconic natural places. Explore the natural beauty of Gariwerd, from its world famous hiking trails, majestic waterfalls, stunning spring wildflowers and awe-inspiring mountain views. Cross paths with kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas and native birds. Parks Victoria respects the deep and continuing connection that the Jadawadjali and Djab Wurrung Traditional Owners have to the lands and waters of Gariwerd, and we recognise their ongoing role in caring for Country.



Getting there

Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park is located in west Victoria, a three-hour (260 km) drive from Melbourne and a five-hour (460 km) drive from Adelaide. The park is easily accessible from Halls Gap and Dunkeld, and is a short distance to the regional towns of Hamilton, Horsham, Stawell and Ararat.

Things to see and do

Brambuk - The National Park and Cultural Centre

Make Brambuk your first stop before exploring Gariwerd. Visit the national park information centre for the latest walking, camping and touring information. A unique range of souvenirs and park maps are available in the gift shop. A series of self-guided walks through the Brambuk wetlands and native gardens provide a glimpse of the native plants and animals of Gariwerd.

Please note that the Cultural Centre building is currently closed for upgrades. The Information Centre remains open and is located 2 km south of Halls Gap. The centre is open daily 9 am – 4 pm (closed Christmas Day), or call our team on 03 8427 2058.

Bushwalking

Pick up a walking map from Brambuk - The National Park and Cultural Centre and plan a walk to match your fitness and experience. Always pack for the weather: water, food, clothes and equipment. Adjust your day to the weather conditions and have a bushfire plan.

Central Grampians Area

Popular walks accessible via sealed roads between Halls Gap and Wartook include Boroka Lookout, Reed Lookout, the Balconies, Lakeview Lookout and Venus Baths. More challenging half-day walks include the Pinnacle, Mt Rosea and Mackenzie Falls.

Northern Grampians Area

Access is mainly via unsealed roads. Roses Gap Road is sealed.

Easier walks include Ngamadidj and Gulgurn Manja Shelters, Heatherlie Quarry and Beehive Falls.

More challenging and remote hikes include Hollow Mountain (Wudjub-guyun), Mt Stapylton (Gunigalg) and Mt Difficult (Gar).

Southern Grampians Area

Accessed via sealed and unsealed roads. Easier walks include Bainggug (The Piccaninny), Manja Shelter, Brownings Loop and Billimina Shelter. More challenging day walks include Mt Abrupt (Mud-dadjug), Mt Sturgeon (Wurgarri) and The Chimney Pots.

Grampians Peaks Trail

This spectacular trail is a 164 km, multi day walking experience that showcases Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park. The trail is a 13 day/ 12 night hiking experience from Mt Zero in the north to Dunkeld in the south and provides many options, from overnight to multi-day itineraries.

Camping

Campgrounds with fees must be booked online prior to arriving. Visit parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963 to book.

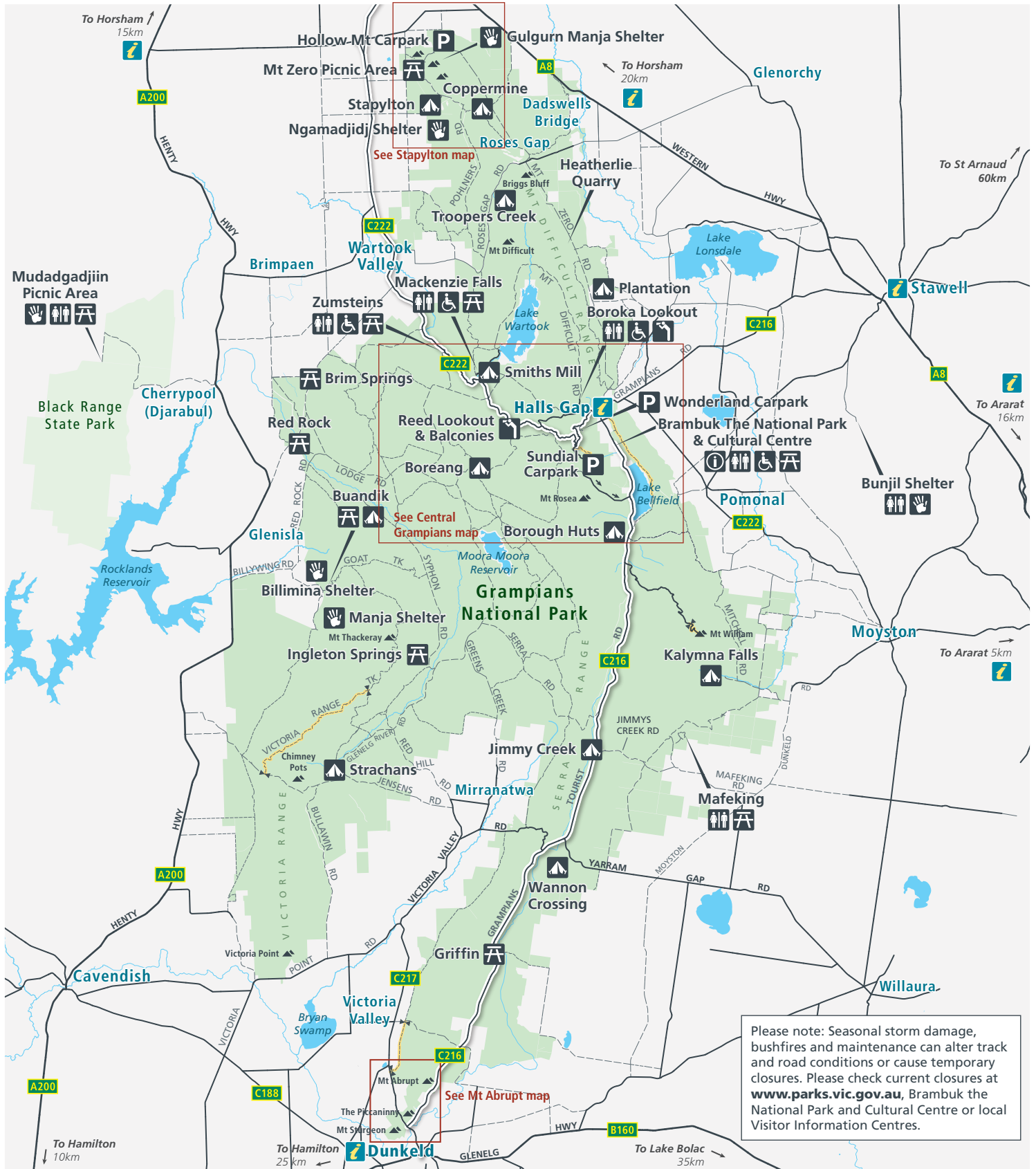
Campground	Tent	Car	Wheelchair	Picnic	Shower	ATV	Drone	Fee
Boreang Secluded, unsealed access	12	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Borough Huts Popular, sealed access	30	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Buandik Rock art, unsealed access	13	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coppermine Secluded 4WD access	0	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jimmy Creek Popular, sealed access	13	8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kalymna Secluded, unsealed access	5	0	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Smiths Mill Central, sealed access	22	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stapylton Popular, unsealed access	11	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Strachans Secluded, unsealed access	2	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Troopers Creek Variety of sites, sealed access	9	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wannon Crossing Small, sealed access	6	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Plantation* State Forest, unsealed access	20	30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Dogs on-lead are permitted at Plantation Campground only (State forest areas).

Dispersed bush camping

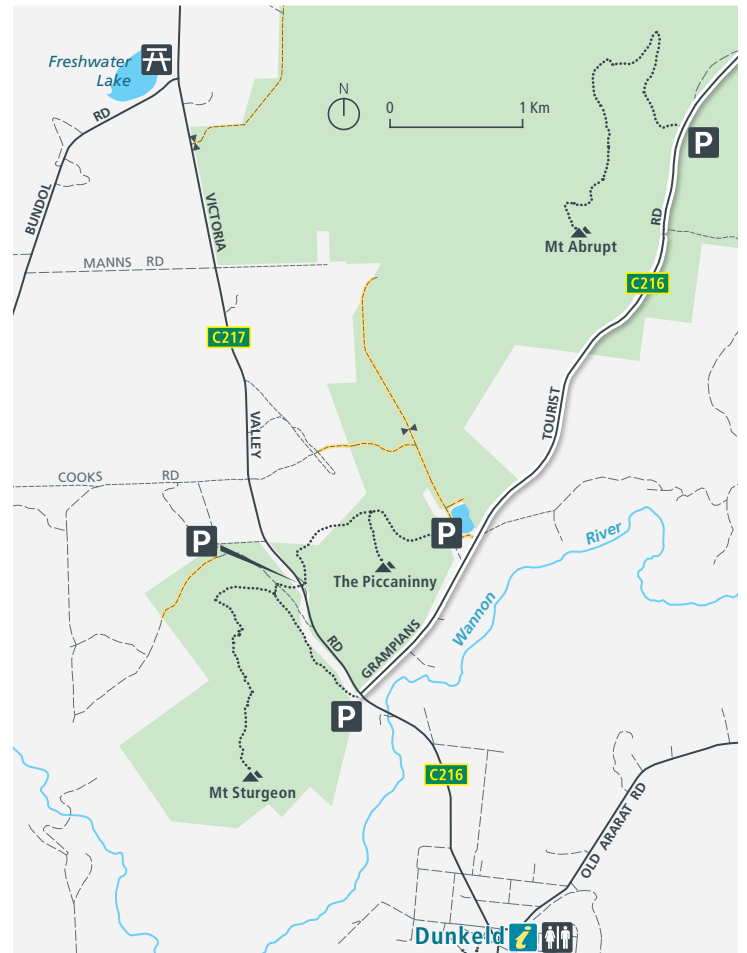
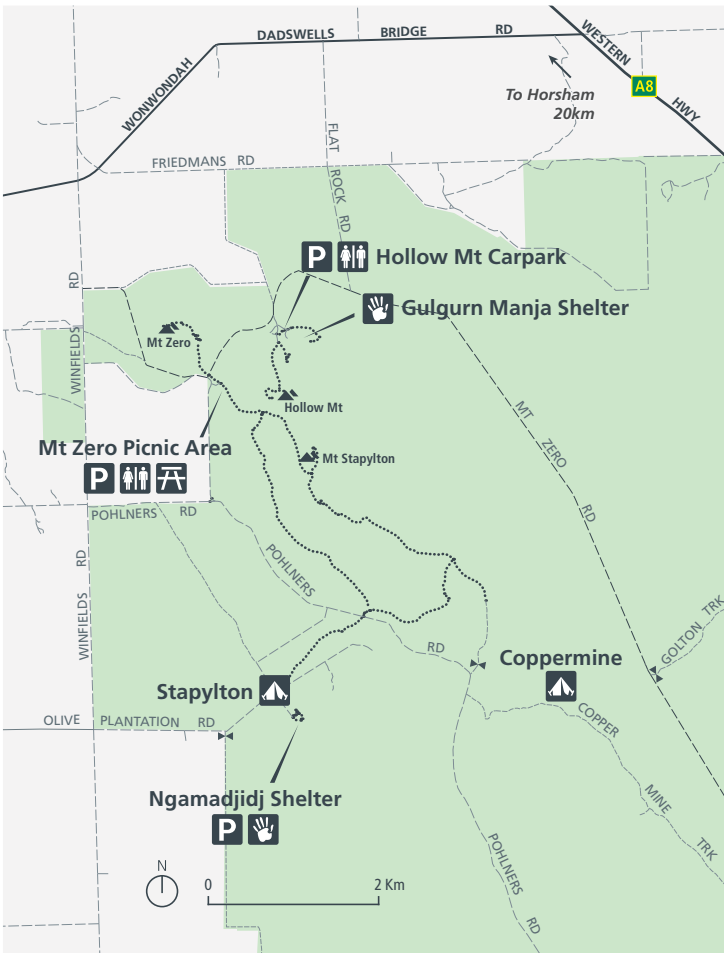
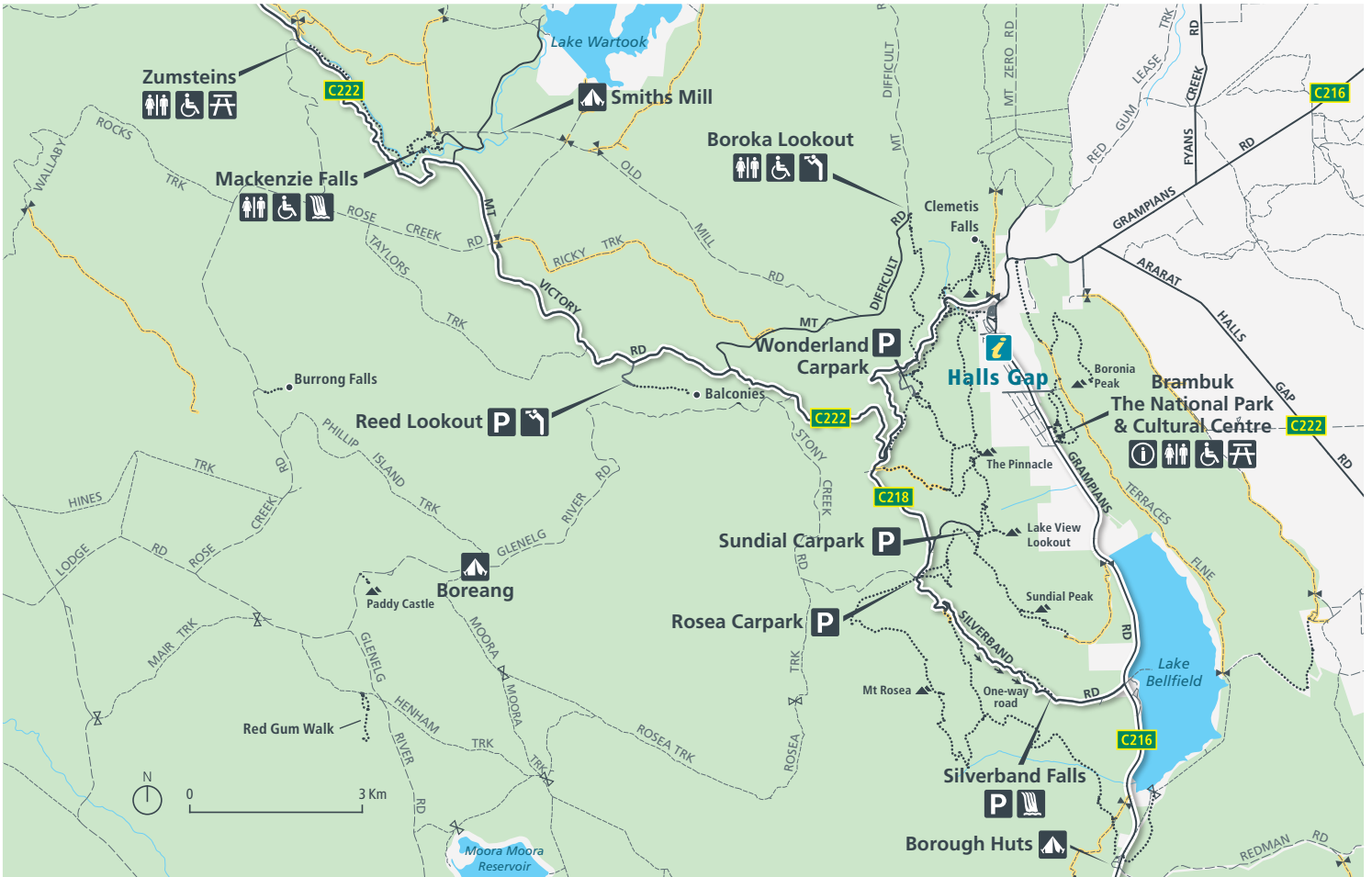
Free dispersed bush camping is permitted at designated and provisional bush camping areas, as per the [Greater Gariwerd Landscape Management Plan](#) (p. 94). Call into Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre to learn more, and remember:

- No campfires – fuel stoves only
- Do not clear vegetation – camp in clearings
- Use toilets or dig a hole at least 20 cm deep (away from streams)
- Leave no trace of your visit – take all rubbish home.



Grampians National Park

Central Grampians, Stapylton Area, Mt Abrupt Area



Rock climbing, abseiling and bouldering

The Gariwerd landscape contains many registered Aboriginal places and holds the richest concentration of Aboriginal rock art in Victoria. Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners developed the Greater Gariwerd Landscape Management Plan in 2021. Recreation opportunities, including rock climbing, have been identified in the plan.

What do I need to do before climbing?

Information is available on the Parks Victoria website and at Brambuk - The National Park and Cultural Centre in Halls Gap.

Conditions:

- Rock climbing and bouldering can only occur in designated areas.
- Rock climbers are responsible for assessing and accepting the risks associated with climbing.
- Respect other climbers and park visitors.
- Stay on established tracks where possible. Vegetation removal for new tracks and routes is prohibited.
- Use chalk coloured to the local rockface, minimise its use where possible.

Other activities

Road cycling and mountain biking are permitted on public roads and open 4WD tracks. It is not permitted on closed roads, or management vehicle and walking tracks.

Fishing is popular in surrounding lakes. Visit vfa.vic.gov.au to obtain a licence and for information on where and how to fish in Victoria.

Swimming areas are located at Lake Bellfield and Lake Fyans. Visit gwmwater.org.au for more information. **Swimming is not permitted in Mackenzie Falls due to hidden dangers including submerged rocks, deep cold water and strong currents.**

All-abilities access and TrailRider

The 'All-Abilities Walking Track and TrailRider Guide' is available for download from parks.vic.gov.au or pick up a copy at Brambuk. A TrailRider (all-terrain wheelchair) and assistant are also available for hire free of charge. Phone 13 1963 to book.

Environment, culture and heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage

The park, part of a landscape traditionally known as Gariwerd, has an Aboriginal cultural history dating back at least 22,000 years. The landscape holds this heritage and protects many important cultural sites. Begin your journey at Brambuk - The National Park and Cultural Centre, or visit one of five easy to access rock art shelters open to the public (see map).

Post settlement history

The Grampians was named after the Grampian Mountains in Scotland in 1836. Since this time, the area has seen change through resource industries such as forestry, stone quarrying, gold mining and water harvesting. Tourism was established in the early 1900s.

Geology

The five distinct sandstone ranges of the Grampians began forming approximately 430 million years ago. Over time, geological processes such as pressure, heat, folding, faulting and erosion have slowly shaped the mountains we see today. Geology is fundamental to soil composition and influences where flora are found.

Plants

Protecting one-third of Victoria's flora, the park is the state's most important botanical reserve. It is home to nearly 970 native plant species, including over 40 that occur nowhere else in the world. In spring, visit popular walking destinations such as the Heatherlie area, Sundial Peak, The Piccaninny, or Mt Zero to experience wildflower displays.

Wildlife

The park supports a diverse range of wildlife, including at least 230 bird species, 40 mammals, 30 reptiles, 11 amphibians, and six native fish. Of these, 50 species are classified as threatened, including the Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby, Smoky Mouse, and Powerful Owl.

Caring for the national park

- Keep wildlife wild – do not feed native wildlife
- Take all rubbish home with you
- Campfires are only permitted in the steel fireplaces provided, otherwise use a fuel stove
- Respect other campers, keep noise down after 10 pm
- Hunting, firearms, generators and chainsaws are not permitted
- Dogs and domestic pets are not permitted.
- Drone use requires a permit as they impact wildlife, other visitors and park operations using aircraft.

Be prepared and stay safe

In an emergency dial Triple Zero (000) for police, ambulance or fire.

- At lookouts, never climb over barriers. Your safety is more important than a social media post.
- Mobile phone coverage is unavailable in many areas.
- Plan ahead - check for closures and road conditions.
- Carry a quality map and plenty of water and food.
- Wear sturdy shoes, a hat, sunscreen and carry a small first aid kit.
- Plan your timing and return from walking well before dusk.
- Wildlife is common along roadsides at dawn and dusk.

Be fire ready

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. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park is in the Wimmera and South West fire districts. 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, 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. Warning signs may be erected, but do not expect a personal warning. Check the latest conditions at parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.

Further information

For general park information, visit parks.vic.gov.au or phone 13 1963. For local park information, call 03 8427 2058 or visit our friendly team at Brambuk.

Accredited **Visitor Information Centres** (VIC) can assist with accommodation, dining, tours, activities, festivals and events: visitgrampians.com.au

Ararat VIC	1800 657 158
Dunkeld VIC	03 5577 2558
Halls Gap VIC	1800 065 599
Hamilton VIC	1800 807 056
Horsham VIC	1800 633 218
Stawell VIC	1800 330 080

Parks and reserves nearby

Arapiles-Toooan State Park, Black Range State Park, Little Desert National Park, Mt Langi Ghiran State Park and Budj Bim National Park. For information on State Forest areas, visit deeca.vic.gov.au