

Holey Plains State Park

Visitor Guide



Walk the heathy woodland at Holey Plains State Park for a chance encounter with a variety of interesting characters, such as the large and lounging Lace Monitor. This scenic park contains an extremely high diversity of native flora and abundant wildlife, as well as providing for camping and other activities.



Getting there

The park is situated south of the Princes Highway between Rosedale and Sale. The main access is from Rosedale, via the Willung Rosedale Road, then Rosedale-Stradbroke Road. A network of sandy roads and tracks provides access within the park. Visitors should note that pine plantations in the area are private property.

Things to see and do

Walking



Banksia Forest Track – 1km, 20 minutes circuit
Grade 3

Walk among some beautiful Banksias and open stringybark forest on this short but appealing trail. Abundant birdlife and orchids will impress as you make your way along the northern slopes of the hill near the camp ground at Holey Hill.



Long Swamp Track – 6.8km, 3.5 hours return
Grade 3

Starting near the tower, Long Swamp Walking Track leads to the largest swamp in the park which is geomorphically significant in the Gippsland area. Look out for Lace Monitors and emus. Start this walk at either Holey Hill camp ground or Long Swamp Track.



Harrier Swamp Track – 1km, 20 minutes circuit
Graded 3

This interesting walk provides an opportunity to hear Growling Grass Frogs while observing life in the swamp. You may also be lucky enough to spot the stunning Sacred Kingfisher or a fringe lily.

Many of the tracks off Rosedale-Stradbroke Road also provide easy walking through some beautiful wildflower areas, particularly in spring.

Scenic drive route

A scenic drive can be taken along West Boundary, Long Ridge and Wildflower tracks. Grass trees grow adjacent to another scenic drive along Jacks Track, South Boundary Track and Merriman Creek. Most tracks are narrow and winding, please drive slowly and use only sign-posted tracks.

Camping

Camping areas and toilets are provided at Holey Hill and Harrier Swamp. Campers will need to bring their own water and fires should only be lit in the fireplaces provided. Camping is not permitted at Merriman Creek.

Picnicking

Holey Hill is the highest point in the park at 218m. Picnic facilities including a toilet are provided here. Other picnic facilities can be found at Harrier Swamp, Merriman Creek. There are no toilets at Merriman Creek picnic area.

Exploring the history

The park was formerly part of a squatting run taken up in the 1840s by the Croke family, whose homestead is to the north of the park. The property was named 'Holey Plains' because the alluvial land along the Latrobe River has many crab holes, unlike the sandy country that makes up the park.

Plants and animals

The park accommodates several threatened species which include the Powerful Owl and Wellington Mint Bush. This rare plant is known only to exist in Holey Plains State Park and Dutson Downs.

The park contains more than 500 species of native plants in 29 different communities. Common eucalypts include Stringybarks, Peppermints and Apple Box. Other common plants are Saw Banksias, tea-trees, bush peas, wattles and 25 species of orchids.

Numerous species of frogs can be heard in the many swamps within the park. Wallabies, emus and echidnas can often be seen, especially on the edge of tracks and firebreaks.

Nightlife includes Ringtail Possums, wombats, bats and Owlet-Nightjars. Birds are abundant with 126 species recorded.

Be prepared and stay safe

For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). Holey Plains State Park is in the West and East Gippsland fire district. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions.

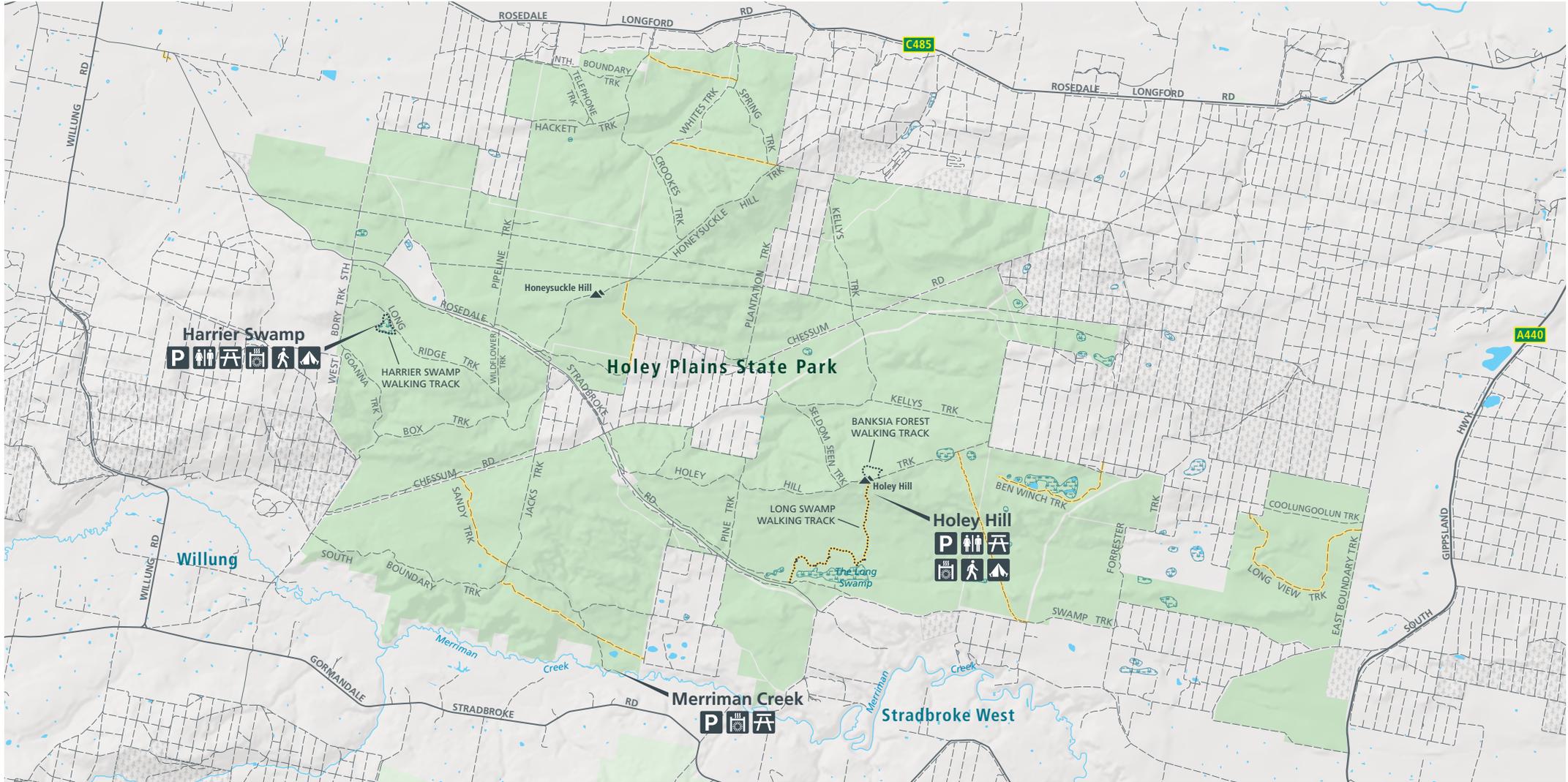
Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at emergency.vic.gov.au, on the VicEmergency smartphone app or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

No fires may be lit on Total Fire Ban days.

On Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating days this park will be closed for public safety. Warnings signs may be erected, but 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 or by calling 13 1963.

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|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Parking | Walking track | Freeway/Highway | 4WD | Holey Plains State Park |
| Toilets | Camping | Main road | Walking track | State forest/plantation |
| Picnic table | | Sealed road | Management vehicle/walking track only | Wetland/swamp |
| Electric barbecue | | Unsealed road | | |

