

Jells Park

Visitor Guide



Jells Park is nestled in the Dandenong Creek Valley, Wheelers Hill, away from the hustle and bustle of urban life. The park attracts over 900,000 visitors a year, with over nine kilometres of paths and trails, 127 hectares of wide open space and enough picnic areas for everyone to enjoy.



Opening hours

Jells Park is open every day, including weekends and public holidays, with 24-hour pedestrian access. The vehicle entry gate from Waverley Road opens at 8.00am and closes at dusk with 24-hour vehicle exit.

Getting there

Vehicle access is from Ferntree Gully Road or Waverley Road. Enter by foot along the Dandenong Creek Trail, the Scotchmans Creek Trail or via the Eastlink Trail on Ferntree Gully Road.

Things to see and do

Walking and cycling

All paths and trails in Jells Park are multi-use so you can cycle, jog or simply stroll.

Dandenong Creek Trail

The main Dandenong Creek Trail runs north-south through Jells Park, linking with the Eastlink Trail, Scotchmans Creek Trail and the Blind Creek Trail (near Nortons Park). There are many opportunities to explore the surrounding parklands through this network of trails.

Lake Conservation Trail

The conservation trail meanders around the eastern perimeter of Jells Lake. As you pass through the wetlands and billabongs on this trail look out for a variety of native birds such as the Purple Swamphen, Eurasian Coot, Cormorants, Darters and if you are lucky, Pelicans. The bird hide provides an excellent viewing spot.

Picnicking

Jells Park has many picnic areas with free electric barbecues. Relax under the shade of the Pines, enjoy the lake views at the Elms, or watch the children enjoy the playground at Stringybark or Yabbie Hill. Please remember to take all of your rubbish home for sorting and recycling.

For larger gatherings the Ashes and Oaks picnic areas have excellent facilities and the ovals are available for event bookings.

Jells Lake

Jells Lake is a beautiful man-made feature with a variable water level that flows from the Dandenong Creek. As its main purpose is for conservation, no public boating or canoeing is allowed. Fishing in Jells Lake is permitted, but only with a valid Recreational Fishing Licence and from Jetties one and two. Fishing is strictly prohibited within the conservation area.

Dog walking

Dogs are allowed in Jells Park, except in the conservation area at the rear of the lake and other signposted bushland areas. Please consider the safety and enjoyment of other park users and wildlife by ensuring that your dog is restrained on a lead at all times. A short walk away is Nortons Park, which is a dog off lead park.

Please remember to clean up after your dog.

Get involved

You can get involved with planting, propagating, weeding and maintaining walking tracks with the Friends of Dandenong Valley Parklands who work closely with the rangers to restore and improve Jells and other nearby parks. Check out www.parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963.

Visitor Centre and Madelines

The Visitor Centre is a multi-use facility consisting of Madelines at Jells café, restaurant, function centre, kiosk, toilet facilities and park information. Light snacks and meals are available from 9.00am daily. Phone Madelines at Jells on 9561 4522 or go to www.jells.com.au

Caring for the park

Help us look after the park by following these guidelines:

- Please take rubbish home with you for recycling or disposal.
- All plants, animals, historical and archaeological sites and geographic features are protected by law. Please do not disturb them in any way.
- Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times.
- Firearms are prohibited.

Be prepared and stay safe

Jells Park is in the Central 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 www.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 Code Red Fire Danger Rating days the conservation area behind Jells Lake will be closed for public safety. The rest of the park will remain open. Closure signs will be erected but do not expect an official warning. Check the latest conditions at www.parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.

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.