

Steiglitz Historic Park

Visitor Guide



Situated in the Brisbane Ranges between Geelong and Ballan, Steiglitz is almost a ghost town today. At the height of the 1860s gold rush, it had more than 1500 residents, four hotels, a newspaper, a variety of shops and even an undertaker. A tranquil setting for a bush walk, picnic or discovering spring wildflowers.



Getting there

Steiglitz Historic Park adjoins the Brisbane Ranges National Park and is approximately 80km west of Melbourne. Take the Princes Highway to Werribee and follow the signs for about 40km to Anakie and Steiglitz. Alternatively, approach from Geelong, Bacchus Marsh or Ballan.

Things to see and do

Walking

Walk the township or venture further into the old goldfields on these suggested circuit walks. Be sure to prepare properly for longer walks with a map, walking shoes, water, sunscreen and a hat.

Signs around the old township show where shops and other buildings once stood. Two churches, a former hotel and a few houses remain. The cemetery on Maude-Steiglitz Road is also worth a visit. People still live in the township, please respect their privacy. Please keep to the tracks to avoid mineshafts.

1. Steiglitz Circuit Walk - 8.5km, 4 hours

The Pines Carpark to Steiglitz Courthouse Carpark

From the Pines Carpark, the track heads south past large mullock heaps, remnants of the New Chum Mine, providing good views over Steiglitz Historic Park and Brisbane Ranges National Park. Continue south along Durdidwarrah Road, crossing Sutherlands Creek and into the township of Steiglitz.

Steiglitz to The Crossing Picnic Area

Enter Stawell Street and follow Deadmans Loop Walking Track through to Hut Road then continue to The Crossing Picnic Area.

The Crossing Picnic Area to The Pines Carpark

Continue up Hut Road and turn into a track just past Lease Road. This section of track runs parallel to Yankee Gully Creek before heading up a shallow gully to Mulrooneys Track and the Pines Carpark. Look for signs telling the stories of the gold mining era.

2. Deadmans Loop – 4.7km, 1 hour 45 minutes

From the courthouse, walk one kilometre along Stawell Street to Sutherlands Creek. Follow the creek bed on the western side for 750 metres to a small waterfall. The track then leads into small valleys with grass trees, finishing at Meredith-Steiglitz Road. Return to Steiglitz along the road, passing the old Catholic Church (circa 1868) and cemetery. You will see historic remnants including a large historic pine tree, a round, stone-lined well and some scattered bricks indicating a house site.

3. Beards Gully Walk – 6km, 6 hours

Expect difficult off-track walking, steep climbs and dangerous mine shaft areas. A car shuttle is recommended. You must be prepared. From Bert Boardman Recreation Area, drive or walk along South

Steiglitz Road to Sailors Track. Follow Sailors Track, turning north at Sutherlands Creek. Look for signs of early goldmining but watch your step – old mineshafts are often hidden. Follow the creek north, rock hopping along the creek where possible. Upstream you may see quartz in the creek bed. Look for interesting rock formations on the left side of the creek, north of Miners Track. After meeting Deadmans track, follow Stawell Street to the Courthouse Carpark.

4. Native Youth Walk – 5.5km, 1 hour 45 minutes

Beginning at the Pines Carpark, follow Durdidwarrah Road south, turning right at Hut Road. After 750 metres turn right into Native Youth Track. Cross the creek and continue along Native Youth Track.

Turn right at Yankee Gully Road. Soon you will pass the remains of a mullock heap from the Kinglock Mine which closed in 1916, the last profitable mine in the area. Walk downhill, again crossing the creek. Turn right at Mulrooneys Track and walk back to the carpark.

5. Grahams Creek Walk – 5.5km, 1.5 hours

Starting at The Crossing Picnic Area, follow Hut and turn left into Lease Road. After a long uphill climb of about 45 minutes, turn left into Grahams Creek Road, continue for a kilometre past Grahams Creek Picnic Area over the ford, and continue to Box Track.

Turn left and walk downhill to The Crossing Picnic Area, passing through Silver Banksias and grass trees along the way.

Burchell Trail – 40km, 3 days one way

For the more adventurous, the three-day walk covers both Steiglitz Historic Park and Brisbane Ranges National Park. Starting from the Fridays Camping Area, the walk is marked with orange arrows. Overnight camps are available at Old Mill and Little River. For more information, see the Brisbane Ranges National Park Visitor Guide.

Picnicking

There are many picnic spots around Steiglitz. Toilets are available at the Bert Boardman Recreation Area and behind St Paul's Church.

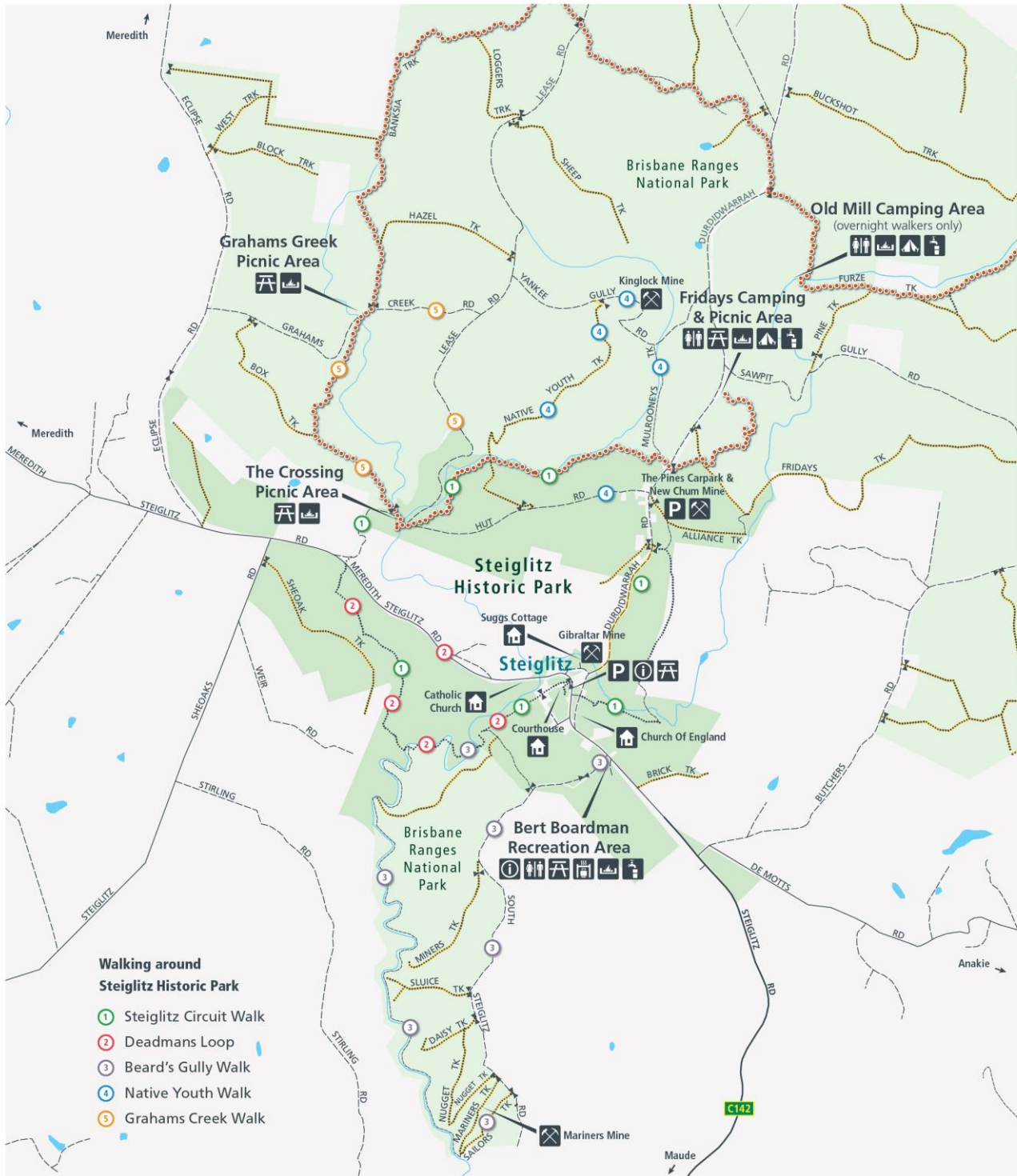
Be prepared and stay safe

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.

Steiglitz Historic 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 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. Check the latest conditions at parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.

Steiglitz Historic Park



- Walking around Steiglitz Historic Park**
- ① Steiglitz Circuit Walk
 - ② Deadmans Loop
 - ③ Beard's Gully Walk
 - ④ Native Youth Walk
 - ⑤ Grahams Creek Walk



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|--------------|--|---------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Parking | Fireplace | Gate | 4WD | Steiglitz Historic Park |
| Information | Gas barbecue | Main road | Walking track | Brisbane Ranges National Park |
| Toilets | Camping area | Sealed road | Management vehicle/
walking track only | |
| Picnic table | Untreated water
(not suitable for drinking) | Unsealed road | Burchell Trail
3 day walk | |

www.parks.vic.gov.au
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