

Tower Hill Reserve

Visitor Guide

“A stroll among the gigantic ferns of the valley... a ramble among the cones and craters... the winding path at the foot of the basaltic rises close to the lake... almost tropical reeds rustle in the breeze... leafy shrubs and trees form delightful bowers and alcoves... tender emotion in suitable company”
– notes from George Bonwick’s visit to Tower Hill in 1858.



Getting there

Tower Hill Reserve is located 18 km west of Warrnambool and can be accessed from the Princes Highway.

Facilities

The picnic area has picnic tables, electric barbecues and toilets. The visitor centre has light refreshments. There are no drinking water taps or rubbish bins available. Staying overnight in campervans, caravans or tents is not permitted.

Things to see and do

Wildlife

Tower Hill provides a habitat for many birds and animals and is a great place to view them. You may see koalas, emus, kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, turtles and possums, as well as many waterbirds such as black swans, ducks and spoonbills.

Please admire but do not feed the animals.

This may cause them illness and pain putting their health at risk. Wild animals are at risk of annoying behavioural change when fed or handled. Feeding or handling may lead to injury to park visitors and to the demise of these animals.

Tower Hill Visitor Centre

Open 10am to 4pm including weekends and public holidays except Christmas Day. The Visitor Centre is located near the picnic area and is managed by Worn Gundidj Aboriginal Cooperative. The centre has displays along with light refreshments and aboriginal arts and crafts for sale.

Guided Tours

Guided tours of the park featuring wildlife and Aboriginal cultural heritage are provided for individuals and groups by Worn Gundidj.

Tours run daily at 11am, and other times may be arranged by appointment. Bookings are required. Enquire at the Visitor Centre on (03) 5565 9202.

Volcano

Tower Hill is a dormant volcano and has remarkable geological landscape features visible from lookouts around the reserve and when walking in the park. These include conical hills, large and small craters, basalt outcrops from lava flows, and layers of ash from eruptions long ago.

Walking

Take in the sights, sounds and smells of Tower Hill on one of the four self-guided walks. All walks start near the Visitor Centre in the picnic area.



1 Peak Climb 1.5km, steep hills, 30 minutes return

This steep walk goes via the Yatt Mirng Crater and provides panoramic views of the park and the coast.



2 Wagon Bay Loop - Easy 1.5km, 30 minutes circuit

This gentle walk circles Wagon Bay pond, home to bird life and with views back to the Visitor Centre. The walk is mostly flat with some steps along the way.



3 Journey to the Last Volcano Loop – Easy/moderate 1.9km, some steep hills, 1 hour circuit

This walk is easy in the first section and becomes moderately strenuous as the walk leads up to and around the most recently active volcano crater. It provides good views of the park.



4 Lava Tongue Boardwalk - Easy 1.6km, flat, 30 minutes circuit

This gentle walk passes the remnant rocky outcrop of an old lava flow and crosses the wetlands to Fairy Island. This walk has some of the best natural habitat in the park. It provides excellent opportunities for potting birds, reptiles, koalas and echidnas.

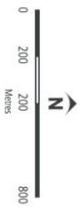
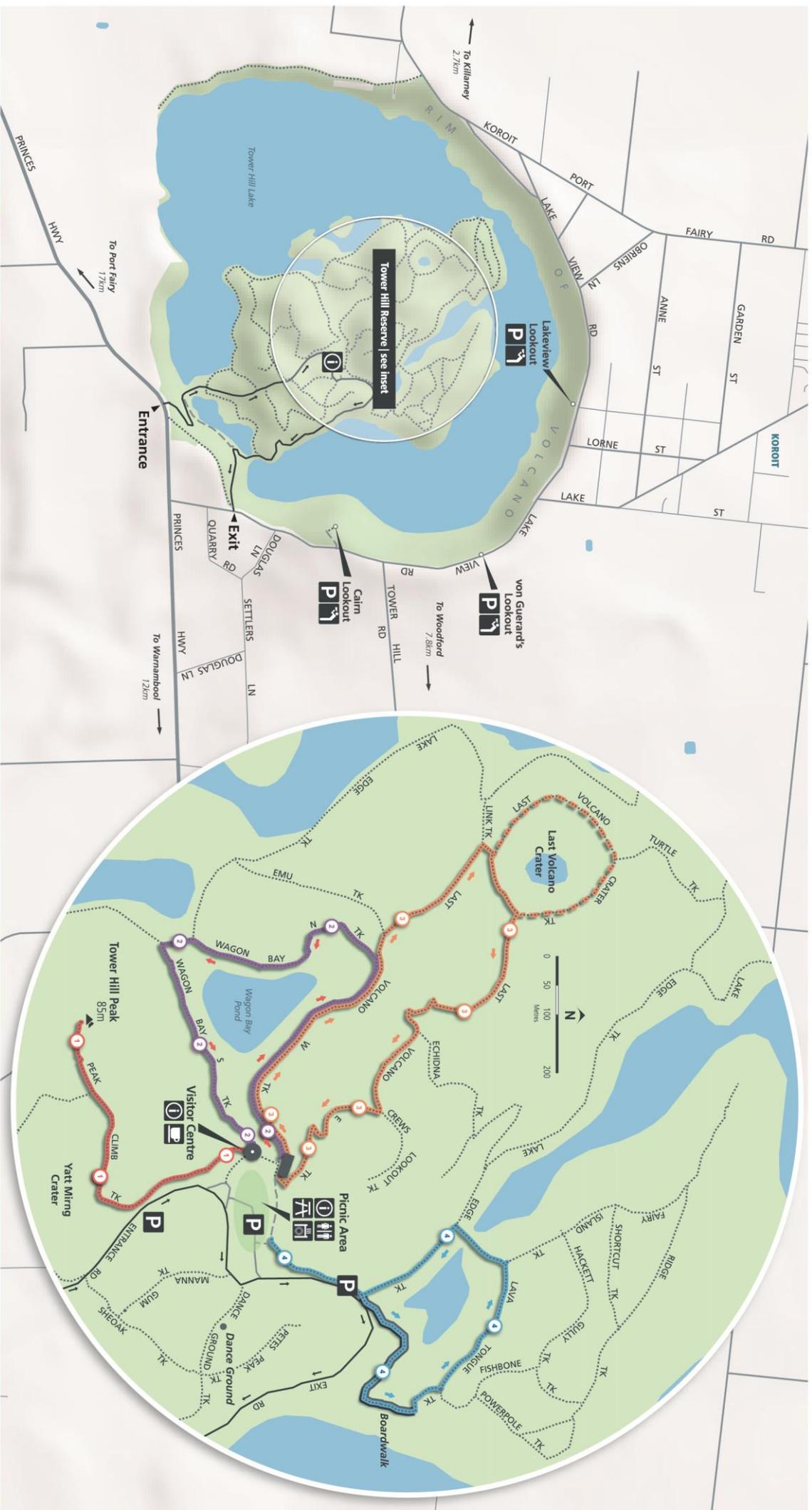


Flying of drones is prohibited in the park due to conflict and impacts with wildlife and park visitors.

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. Tower Hill Reserve 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 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 www.parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.

Tower Hill Reserve



- P** Parking
- i** Information
- T** Toilets
- ☐** Picnic tables
- BBQ** Electric BBQs
- L** Lookout
- H** Bird Hide
- ☕** Refreshments
- Highway
- Sealed road
- Entrance/Exit road
- Walking track
- Tower Hill Reserve
- Waterbody
- Preferred walking direction
- One way road
- Picnic area

Tower Hill Reserve feature walks

- 1** Peak climb (Return: 1.5km | 30 mins | steep | purple markers)
- 2** Wagon Bay loop (Circuit: 1.5km | 30 mins | easy | red markers)
- 3** Journey to the last volcano (Circuit: 1.9km | 1 hour | moderate | orange markers)
- 4** Lava tongue boardwalk (Circuit: 1.6km | 30 mins | easy | light blue markers)

www.parks.vic.gov.au

Disclaimer: Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information.

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