

You Yangs Regional Park

Visitor Guide



Welcome to You Yangs Regional Park – part of the traditional lands of the Wadawurrung People. The name comes from the Wadawurrung word ‘Youang’, meaning big hill or big mountain. The You Yang’s distinctive granite peaks rise from the flat volcanic plains between Melbourne and Geelong. Visitors can enjoy magnificent views, birdlife, bushwalks and horse riding. The Park is renowned for its two purpose-built mountain biking areas, with over 50km of exciting trails.



Parks Victoria recognises the Wadawurrung People have sustainably cared for and managed the landscapes and waterways of Wadawurrung Country for thousands of years. Parks Victoria acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of this park and recognises their continuous connections to Country.

Opening hours

You Yangs Regional Park is open 7.00am – 8.00pm daily, including weekends and public holidays. The front gate is closed to vehicles each night.

Getting there

You Yangs Regional Park is 55km southwest of the Melbourne CBD and 22km north of Geelong. Access to the Park from the Princes Freeway is clearly signposted via Lara.

Things to see and do

Education Excursions

The You Yang’s curriculum-based education program offers students an excellent opportunity to learn about Wadawurrung culture and the unique plants and animals that call the You Yangs home. An Education Officer can deliver a range of activities that are adapted to meet the specific Victorian Curriculum and VCE outcomes (fees apply for education services). For bookings, please contact 13 1963. The You Yangs also runs a Junior Ranger program on school holidays. For more information, visit juniorrangers.com.au

Horse riding – Western Plantation Area

The Western Plantation offers great horse riding opportunities. Three looped horse riding trails, marked with arrows, begin at the Western carpark located just off Sandy Creek Road. Horses are not permitted in any other area of the park.

Mountain Bike Riding (MTB)

The Stockyards MTB Area provides challenging downhill and cross country trails for experienced riders. The Kurrajong Plantation MTB Area provides family friendly and beginner trails through flat terrain. Mountain bikes are not permitted on tracks or Management Vehicle Only tracks outside of the areas listed above. The Western Plantation area is horseriding and walkers only.

Rock-climbing and abseiling

There are several great rock-climbing and abseiling sites throughout the park. Bookings are required for groups. Individuals are not required to book but should check the availability of sites with the Park Office. Seasonal closures apply to some sites.

Orienteering

A permanent orienteering course has been established in the park. Additional information and maps are available from the park office.

Walking

Fantastic walking and wildlife viewing opportunities abound within the park, catering for all ages and abilities. Many of the walks can be linked by management vehicle tracks to provide longer walks.

Big Rock Walk – 3km, 1 hour return

From the park office carpark, wind your way around Big Rock and then back down the same path.

Big Rock – 100m, 10 minutes return

Starting from the Big Rock carpark this short walk takes you to Big Rock with brilliant views towards Geelong.

East-West Walk – 4.5km, 2 hours return

Starting and finishing at the Turntable carpark, this challenging walk provides excellent views of the park and surrounding countryside.

Flinders Peak – 3.2km, 1 hour return

Starting from the Turntable carpark, this walk takes you to the highest point of the You Yangs. There are 450 steps and some sections with steep gradients.

Branding Yard Trail – 5km, 2.5 hours return

This gentle walk starts from either the Turntable carpark or Branding Yard Road. From the Turntable carpark, walk down a medium gradient to connect with the trail.

Northern Range Walk – 3.5km, 1 hour one way

Extending from the East-West Walk and the Branding Yard Trail, this walk provides some challenging steep gradients and water views.

Facilities

There are nine picnic areas, many with accessible carparks and toilets (see map). The main picnic areas provide free gas BBQs and space to set up your own gas BBQ. Drinking water is available from the Park Office drinking fountain. Please take your rubbish home.

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. You Yangs Regional 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.

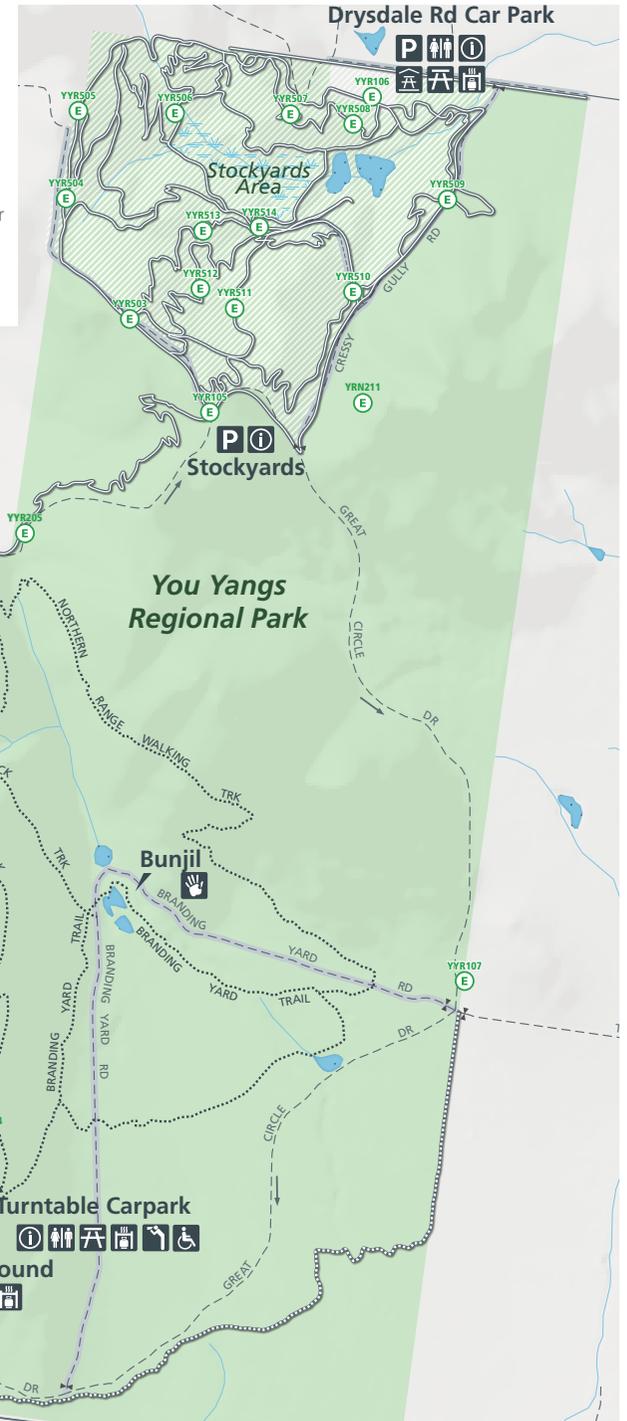
On Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating days this park will be closed for public safety. Warnings signs may be erected, but do not expect a personal warning. Check the latest conditions at parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.

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|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------|
| Parking | Picnic table | Main road | Walking track | One-way road only | You Yangs Regional Park | Wetland |
| Information | Gas BBQ | Sealed road | Mountain bike track | Management vehicles/walking track only | Mountain bike area | Waterbody |
| Toilets | Fireplace | Unsealed road | Shared track | Minor river | Horse riding area | Gate |
| Sheltered area | Parks Victoria office | 4WD | Horse riding trail | Stream | | ESTA marker |
| Lookout | Aboriginal Site | | | | | |
| Horse ride | | | | | | |
| Disabled access | | | | | | |



0 0.5 1 kilometres



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.

Cartography by Parks Victoria August 2017.

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