

Bolin Bolin Billabong

Yarra Valley Parklands

Visitor Guide with Map

Located in Bulleen near the banks of the Birrarung (Yarra River), Bolin Bolin Billabong is an important cultural site for Traditional Owners. Surrounded by river red gums, the site flourishes year-round with native flora and fauna. Dogs are not permitted around the billabong but may be walked (on lead) around the River Walk which follows the Birrarung. No fishing or swimming is allowed in the billabong.



Welcome

Bolin Bolin is part of an Aboriginal cultural landscape that includes the traditional Country of the Wurundjeri People. Parks Victoria respects the deep and continuing connection that Traditional Owners have to these lands and waters, and we recognise their ongoing role in caring for Country.

Getting here

Bulleen Road, Bulleen VIC 3105

Part of the Yarra Valley Parklands, Bolin Bolin Billabong is approximately 25 kilometres north of Melbourne's CBD.

The site is best accessed via an entrance behind the Veneto Club on Bulleen Road. There is another unmarked carpark off Bulleen Road with limited parking spots available, more suited to visitors without dogs as it connects to the dog-free Outer Billabong Loop

Things to see and do

Walking

Enjoy the spectacular scenery, abundant wildlife and magnificent native plant species. Walking around the park allows the perfect experience for nature enthusiasts.

Bolin Bolin has three main walking tracks. To protect wildlife, dogs are only allowed on the River Walk and they must be on a lead at all times.

Occasional flooding from the Birrarung into the billabong does occur. These inundation events are critical for lifecycles of native wildlife and the health of the landscape. As a result, footpaths may be underwater during high river flows and can get muddy after rainfall.



Inner Billabong Loop
Flat, 630m loop

Accessed from the Outer Billabong Loop, walk around the centre of the billabong.



Outer Billabong Loop

Flat, 1.2km loop

The Outer Loop goes around the billabong showcasing both the wetlands and bushland. There is an informative series of Wurundjeri interpretive signs along this trail.



River Walk

Flat, 1.8km one way

The River Walk follows the Birrarung. It runs parallel to Bulleen Road in both directions. You can walk your dog on this path, but it must always be kept on a lead.

Wildlife watching

As you explore, stay alert for turtles resting on logs and wallabies bounding through the bushes. At dawn and dusk you may even spy sugar gliders dancing up in the trees. Some of the river red gums are over 250 years old. Their hollows provide excellent habitat for possums, parrots and small bats.

When water flows in from the Birrarung, the billabong bursts with life. However, each season in this parkland brings a unique beauty. Look for the tiny, abundant flowers of the native tree violet or the bright red berries of the prickly currant bush. Listen for the calls of the six different frog species that call this area home.



Shy swamp wallabies live at Bolin Bolin.

What makes this park special?

Bolin Bolin Billabong is part of the Yarra Valley Parklands, which stretch for 24 kilometres along the Birrarung from Warrandyte to Ivanhoe East. Bolin Bolin itself covers 3.7 hectares and is one of the few remaining wetlands in this area of Melbourne, offering a bushland escape from the nearby city and a chance to spot local wildlife.



A mighty river red gum canopy shades this area.

Land of flooding rains

Bolin Bolin is what is known as an oxbow lake or billabong. These are formed when large, flowing rivers on flat floodplains suddenly change, leaving behind a horseshoe-shaped lake that was once part of the river.

Up until the mid-late 1990s, the Birrarung flooded Bolin Bolin Billabong at least once a year. As a result of land use changes around the area, the billabong now experiences an altered water regime that consists of fewer inundation events. However, regular flooding in the billabong is important. Its connection to the river allows native fish to complete their life cycles. This includes the short-finned eel, flathead gudgeon, Australian smelt, and common galaxias. Flooding also brings nutrients and sediments. They are critical for the landscape's health, from the red gums to the birdlife.

Bolin Bolin is an important billabong for cultural, ecological and liveability reasons. It supports native plants and animals and is a significant cultural landscape for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Caring for the park



Please leave the park as you find it. Help us look after your park by following these regulations:

- Dogs are not permitted in the billabong area. They can be walked on a lead along River Walk.
- No bins are provided in this park. Please take rubbish home with you for recycling, composting or disposal – this is a carry in, carry out park.
- All native plants and animals are protected by law. Please do not disturb them in any way.
- Motorised vehicles are not permitted in this area.
- No fishing or swimming.
- Use of drones is prohibited.
- Campfires or open fires are not allowed at any time. On days of Total Fire Ban, barbecues are not allowed.

- Snakes are important to the park's ecosystem. They warm up by sunbaking on the paths. Do not approach.
- Visit the park in daylight hours when visibility is best.

Emergencies

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.

This 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.

Check for park, facility and road closures and the latest conditions at parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.



Want to know the latest park conditions? Visit the Bolin Bolin webpage: parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/sites/bolin-bolin

Last updated September 2026

Be prepared and stay safe



- Trails can be slippery when wet.
- For personal safety, do not walk through flood waters when flooding or walking tracks occurs.
- Stay a safe distance from the river edges during high rainfall as water could weaken the banks.

Bolin Bolin Billabong

Bulleen Rd, Bulleen





**P** Car park

 Bridge

 Dogs on lead

 Fishing not permitted

 Dogs not permitted

 MYT 565 Emergency marker

 Park entrance

 Main road

 Sealed road

 Unsealed road

 Walking track

 Yarra Valley Parklands

 Other parks and reserves

 Conservation area

 Stormwater Irrigation Wetland

 Waterbody