

Lake Eildon National Park

Visitor Guide



Lake Eildon National Park offers a variety of settings to explore, from open bush in the north, to dense vegetation in the south and east. Enjoy bushwalking, cycling, boating and fishing or try the more adventurous pursuit of water skiing. Relax along the scenic shores and encounter native wildlife, or walk up to one of the lookouts to appreciate stunning views across the lake and hills.



Parks Victoria acknowledges the Taungurung Clans as the Traditional Owners of Lake Eildon National Park and pays our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. All Aboriginal artefacts are protected by law and must not be removed or disturbed.

Getting there

The park is a leisurely and picturesque two hour drive from Melbourne (145km north east). Fraser camping area is located 17km east of Alexandra and Jerusalem Creek camping area is 10km east of the Eildon township.

Things to see and do

Picnics

Enjoy a picnic with family and friends at Forsyth Flat or Herb Fitzroy Day Visitor Areas. Both have shelters with free gas barbecues and picnic tables. No bins are provided – please take your rubbish home.

Bike riding

The Collier Bay Walking and Cycling Track links the three campgrounds. Cycling is permitted on roads and vehicle tracks throughout the remainder of the park, but not on walking tracks.

Walking

Walking is one of the best ways to explore the park and there are tracks suitable for all ages, interests and fitness levels. Enjoy a gentle lakeside walk between the camping areas or take a longer hike and explore some of the more remote and scenic areas of the park.

Most long walks are of moderate to steep grade. They incorporate a variety of forest types and include remains from the gold mining era. Estimated times do not include breaks.



Perfect Cure Creek Nature Trail – Grade 2

1.5km, 1 hour circuit



Candlebark Nature Trail – Grade 3

2km, 1 hour circuit

These short, self-guided walks will each take around one hour and introduce you to the park's natural features and history. Spot kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas and the remnants of a once thriving gold mining industry.



Collier Bay Walking and Cycling Track – Grade 2

3.5km, 45 mins one way

This shared-use track follows the lake edge, connecting all camping and day visitor areas from Devil Cove to Lakeside. Enjoy the varied landscapes of Lake Eildon and stop for a scenic picnic along the way.



Wallaby Bay Walk – Grade 3

Cook Point – 2.5km, 40 mins one way

School Point – 7km, 2 hours one way

This shady gently undulating walk begins at Wallaby Bay car park and follows the lake shore to Cook and School Points. Stop at one of the points for a swim, before returning the same way. Take a short detour from the car park to the Merlo Lookout for stunning views across the turquoise waters of Collier Bay.



Estate Spur and Bolte Bay Tracks – Grade 4

Point Mibus or Lakeside – 3 km, 1 hour one way

Bedrock Creek – 2.2 km, 45 mins one way

From the park office, this track climbs steeply to the top of the hill. Turning east (left) onto Estate Spur, the track is open and undulating, offering expansive views before descending to Point Mibus or Lakeside. For a slightly longer walk, turn west (right) and south (left) down the well-shaded track which descends to Bedrock Creek, and follow the Bolte Bay Track to Point Mibus. Return along the lakeshore to Point Mead and the Lakeside Camping Area.



Keg Spur and Blowhard Spur Tracks – Grade 4

Perfect Cure to High Camp – 1.5km, 30 mins one way

Perfect Cure to Cook Point – 5km, 1.5 hours one way

Perfect Cure to School Point – 4.6km, 2 hours one way

High Camp to Blowhard Summit – 1.7km, 45 mins one way

Blowhard Summit to Merlo Lookout – 1km, 30 mins one way

Several challenging walks begin at the Perfect Cure Creek car park, suitable for people with some bushwalking experience. Sections of the tracks are steep and exposed with loose surfaces that can be slippery. Walkers need to self-reliant, carry sufficient water (3 litres recommended for the longer walks), a first aid kit, and be prepared for changing weather conditions.

The walks all begin with a steep climb up the Keg Spur Track to High Camp. For a short walk, return the same way. There are several options for a longer hike, which all start by following the Blowhard Spur Track north east, and on to Blowhard Summit and Merlo Lookout or Point Cook, or to School Point via the Devass Gully Track.



Pinnacle Walking Track – Grade 4

10km, 4 hours return

From the southern end of the Jerusalem Creek Campground, this track leads up to The Pinnacle for views across the lake. There are some short steep sections, and the track can be slippery in wet weather. Some bushwalking experience is recommended. Walkers need to self-reliant, carry sufficient water, a first aid kit, and be prepared for changing weather conditions. A topographic map and compass or GPS are recommended as track markers are infrequent.

Parks Victoria

Phone 13 1963

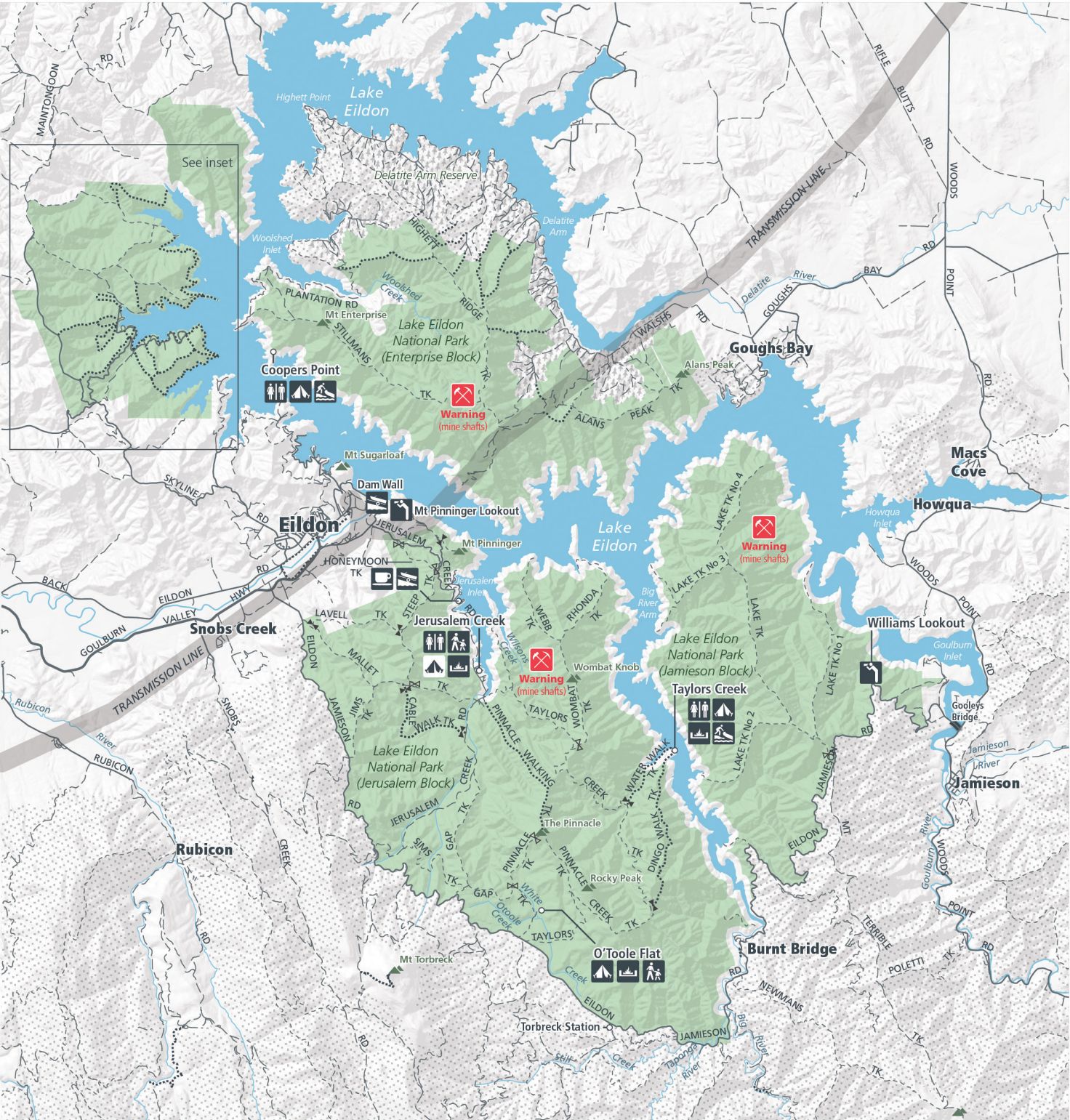
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Lake Eildon National Park



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|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Park information | Fireplace | Showers | 4wd track |
| Toilets | Boat ramp | Mine shafts (warning) | Walking track |
| Disabled access | Walk in boat access | Gate (management vehicle only) | Coller Bay Walk/Bicycle track |
| Telephone | Lookout | Gate (seasonal closure) | Lake Eildon National Park |
| Picnic shelter | Camping | Highway | State Forest |
| Picnic table | Camping (permit required) | Main road | Softwood plantation |
| Family walk | Cafe/Store | Sealed road | Waterbody |
| BBQ (Gas) | Water | Unsealed road | |

This map details the Fraser Block of Lake Eildon National Park. Key features include:

- Trails:** Mountainier Creek, Aird Inlet, Devass, Blowhard, Perfect Cure, Wallaby Bay, Merlo, Auriferous, Candlebark, and Bolte.
- Car Parks:** Perfect Cure Creek Car Park (P), Merlo Lookout (P), and Forsyth Flat Day Visitor Area.
- Visitor Areas:** Herb Fitzroy Day Visitor Area, Lakeside, and Devil Cove.
- Landmarks:** High Camp, Blowhard Summit, Haines Saddle, and Eildon Weather Station.
- Water Bodies:** Lake Eildon, Mountaineer Inlet, Aird Inlet, Wallaby Bay, Coller Bay, Bolte Bay, and Horse Bay.
- Infrastructure:** Main Ramp, PV, and various walking paths (TK, SPUR, WALK).
- Warnings:** A red warning icon indicates mine shafts in the Perfect Cure Creek area.
- Directions:** Arrows point towards Bonnie Doon, Alexandra, and Eildon.

Swimming

There are many beautiful spots for a swim at the day visitor area areas, campgrounds and along the lakeshore walking tracks.

Boating and water sports

The lake provides great opportunities for boating, paddling and water skiing. Boats and house boats can be hired from local operators. Boat ramps at the day visitor and camping areas provide access to the lake. Please follow the regulations and guidelines in the *Victorian Recreational Boating Safety Handbook* which can be found at www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au.

Fishing

Shore and boat-based fishing is a popular activity around the lake with many great spots available. Fish include Murray Cod, Redfin, Carp, Golden Perch, and Brown, Yellow-belly and Rainbow Trout. Fishing requires a Victorian fishing licence, which can be purchased from many local outlets and online from www.vfa.vic.gov.au.

Camping

Car and boat-based camping opportunities abound within the park. All campsites are unpowered. The Fraser camping area can accommodate tents and some caravans and campervans. Avoid camping under or near large trees – branches may fall and swing away from the tree at any time.

Fraser camping area – Lakeside, Candlebark and Devil Cove

All three campgrounds in the Fraser complex offer flushing toilets, hot showers, drinking water, free gas barbecues, shelters and picnic areas, with wheel-chair accessible toilets and showers at Candlebark and Devil Cove. Camping fees apply throughout the year. Bookings are required and can be made at www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay.

Lakeside is a beautiful campground on the edge of Lake Eildon, providing panoramic views of Collier Bay. It is a great spot for motorised boating and watersports enthusiasts. There is a boat ramp below the campground offering access to the lake year-round.

Candlebark is a large campground with camp sites close to the edge of the lake surrounded by woodland. It is an excellent base for walking and for non-motorised water-based activities like canoeing, paddle-boarding and swimming.

The **Devil Cove** camping ground can accommodate tents and some caravans and campervans. There is no boat ramp, making it best suited for walkers and nature lovers looking to relax. Wake up to the sights and sounds of native birds and grazing kangaroos.

Jerusalem Creek camping area

Jerusalem Creek has eight camping areas. Fireplaces and pit toilets are provided. Bring your own drinking water and firewood. Dogs are permitted at this camping area but must be kept on a lead. Camping fees apply. Bookings are required and can be made at www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay.

Launch a boat or canoe in Jerusalem Inlet and discover picturesque coves, unexplored swimming holes and the submerged township of Darlingford. Walk up to the Pinnacle, or walk or drive to Foggs Lookout for beautiful views across Lake Eildon.

Boat-based camping

Self-sufficient campers can relax and fish at the remote and secluded Taylors Creek, Mountaineer Creek and Coopers Point campgrounds, which can only be accessed by boat or on foot. No bookings or fees apply. Composting toilets are provided at all three campsites. Fireplaces are provided at Taylors Creek and Mountaineer Creek. Bring your own drinking water and firewood.

Caring for the park



- All plants, animals, other natural features and cultural sites are protected and must not be disturbed or removed.
- There is no rubbish collection in the park, please take all your rubbish home with you for recycling and disposal.
- Dogs and other pets are not permitted in the park, except at the Jerusalem Creek Campgrounds where dogs are permitted but must be on a lead at all times.
- Firewood collection is not permitted in the park. Please bring your own firewood or barbecue coals.
- Fires must only be lit in the fireplaces provided that:
 - It is not a day of Total Fire Ban.
 - Never leave the fire unattended. An adult must supervise at all times.
 - Put the fire out with water, not soil. Make sure you have at least 10 litres of water available for immediate use.
 - If the campfire is cool to touch, it is safe to leave.
- Feeding wildlife is bad for its health. It is an offence to feed or leave food where it is accessible to wildlife. Penalties apply.
- Please abide by speed limits within the park, drive safely and watch for wildlife.
- No vehicles, including bicycles, are permitted on walking tracks, except for the Collier Bay Walking and Cycling Track.
- Seasonal road closures apply in the park. Please comply with local signage.
- Loud noise can disturb wildlife. Please respect the local wildlife and your fellow campers and keep noise to a minimum.
- Firearms are only permitted in designated areas of the park from the first Saturday after Easter to 30 November for hunting Sambar deer by people who hold a current Game Licence for Deer and a current Firearms Licence. At other times and in other areas of the park, firearms are not permitted. Refer to the *Lake Eildon National Park – Deer Hunting* factsheet for further information.

Be prepared and stay safe



In an emergency call Triple Zero (000) for fire, police and ambulance. If there is a green emergency marker sign near you, read the information on the marker to the operator.

Phone signals are unreliable in the park. Campers at remote sites and walkers on longer hikes should consider carrying a radio or personal locator beacon.

Take care when swimming, boating or paddling - deep holes, submerged objects, and currents may not be obvious. Supervise children at all times in or near water.

Lake Eildon National Park is in the North 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 in the 'Prepare and Get Ready' tab 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 this park will be closed for public safety. 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.