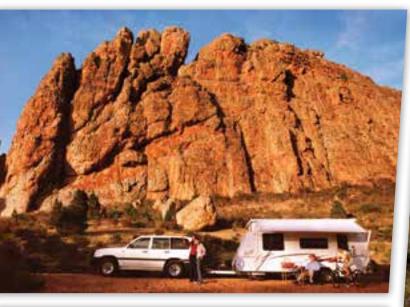
GRAMPIANS NORTH WEST REGION

Great Outdoors

RECREATIONAL GUIDE









Explore, Discover, Uncover

4WD Tracks, Fishing, Caravanning, Camping, Water Sports & Recreational Activities

visithorsham.com.au



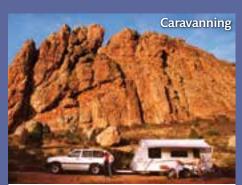
Fishing

Explore Grampians North West Region offering expansive Rivers, Lakes and Reservoirs for fishing. Reel in a selection worthy of a barbecue feast.



Walking & Hiking

Experience the region's diverse wilderness by traversing one of the many walking trails within national or state parks.



Caravanning

Exploring the great Australian outdoors has never been easier. Discover what the region has to offer as you travel in your own comfort and style.



Camping

Pitch a tent and set up camp under the canopy of the big sky. Camping is permitted in a number of locations within the region.



4 Wheel Driving

Drive through incredibly diverse landscapes and discover the Grampians ruggedness and majestic mountain ranges.

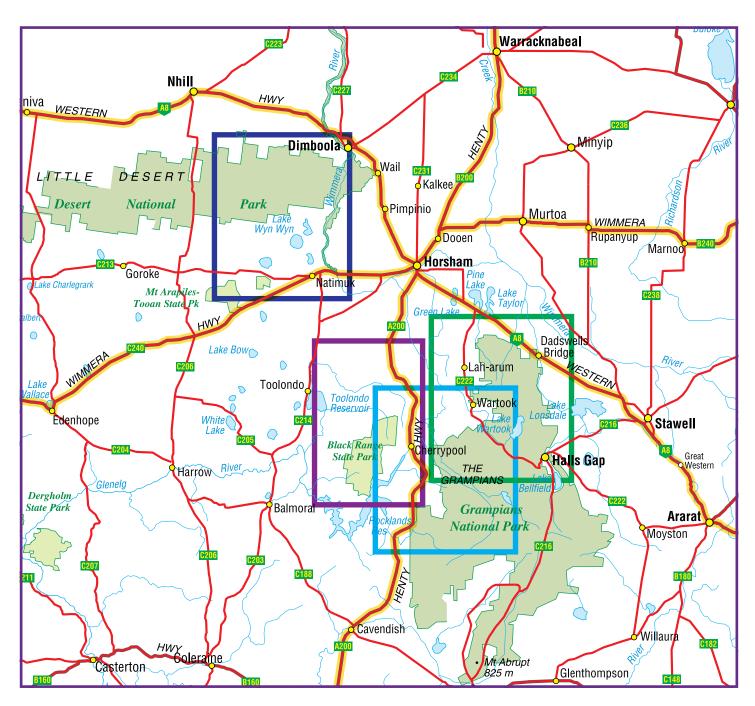
There are a number of medium four wheel drive tracks to experience then delve into the Little Desert to explore open spaces and the sandy dunes of the northwest.



Water Sports

Be part of some great family activities, and enjoy the regions recreational waterways.





4WD Self Drive Tours

Grampians

Black Range State Park

Western Grampians

Mt Arapiles & Little Desert National Park



Self Drive Acronyms:

TR - Turn Right

TL - Turn Left

VR - Veer Right

VL - Veer Left

PSA - Proceed Straight Ahead

RHS - Right Hand Side

LHS - Left Hand Side

Four Wheel Driving

A fantastic way to experience the great outdoors of the Grampians North West Region

Using a Vehicle in a Victorian National Park:

- Unsurfaced roads and tracks in Victoria's Parks are governed by the same road rules that apply to surfaced roads
- Like any other road, you need to be fully licensed to drive on a National Park Track, and your vehicle needs to be road worthy
- 4WD motor vehicles and trail bikes are permitted in national parks on approved tracks.
- Unfortunately quad bikes cannot be registered for public road and track use in Victoria and as a result are not permitted in Victorian National Parks
- Drivers found travelling away from signed open tracks (ie. On closed roads, bushwalking paths, or through unpathed terrain) risk serious fines
- Parents of unlicensed children driving trail bikes, monkey bikes, quad bikes, go-karts, and motor vehicles in national parks can also face heavy fines and in serious cases where injury or damage is caused, a court appearance, if in doubt, leave it at home
- Please note that all Parks are attended regularly by Victoria Police and Parks Victoria Rangers to ensure each park's facilities are responsibly enjoyed by all.

Tread Lightly in the Victorian Bush:

Please help protect the natural environment by following these guidelines:

- Keep to walking tracks, short cuts cause erosion and disturb native habitat
- If you carry it in then carry it out! Please take your rubbish with you when you leave
- Dogs, cats or other pets are prohibited in National Parks
- Firewood is limited. Please use fuel stoves for cooking, and observe fire regulations and days of total fire ban

Minimal Impact Camping

- Be self-sufficient with drinking water. Carry it in and or know how to make untreated water safe for drinking
- · Camp at least 20 metres from any stream, lake or reservoir
- Dispose of any dirty water away from streams and waterways. Do not use soaps, detergents and toothpaste near water sources so fish and wildlife aren't harmed
- Use toilets where provided or bring your own portable toilet. If there are no toilets, walk at least 100 metres from water sources and campsite, dig a hole 15 centimetres and cover
- Light fires in designated fireplaces. Use a fuel stove where possible as it's better for the bush

Seasonal Road Closures

Be aware that Seasonal road Closures exist across Victoria due to the potential for increased environmental impacts and risks to public safety during the wetter months.

Be sure to check for road closures before you go check with Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au or the Department of Environment and Primary Industries on 13 6183 or visit www.depi.vic.gov.au



Healthy Parks Healthy People



Important changes to staying overnight in Victoria's parks and reserves

Overnight visitor's are now able to pre-book their campsite, securing it for the duration of their stay.

Campsites can be booked online at www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay or by calling 13 19 63. Visit www.parks.vic.gov.au for the fee schedule and further information.

Grampians National Park can also be booked in person at Brambuk, the National Park and Cultural Centre in Halls Gap. The centre is open daily from 9am to 5pm except Christmas Day.

Be Fire Ready and Stay Safe

A bushfire survival plan is just as essential for drivers and campers as it is for those at home. Check the weather forecast before you go, stay aware of daily conditions and be ready to activate you bushfire survival plan. Remember that official warnings of bushfires are not always available in remote locations. Take a portable radio and tune in to ABC or local outlets for weather and fire updates.

Many parks and forests are located in high fire risk areas. On days of forecast Code Red Fire Danger parks may be closed for public safety. If you are already in the park you should leave the night before or early in the morning for your own safety.

Closure signs will be erected and rangers will patrol when possible, however you may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed so check the latest conditions by calling 13 19 63 or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au

4 Wheel Driving Techniques

Off road driving uses different techniques to road driving, and every surface has its own particular characteristics. All vehicles should be in first class mechanical condition and carry equipment appropriate to the trip. It may be worth considering one of the training programs for touring off roads run by 4 Wheel Driving Victoria to ensure you are properly prepared.

Tips: Dirt Road Driving

Kit:

- Tyre repair kit
- · Tyres suitable for 4WD conditions

Driving Tips:

- · Reduce speed to match tyre press
- · Expect the unexpected during your adventure
- · Use a slightly lower gear than normal
- · Headlights on for visibility
- · Don't swerve for animals, slow down
- · Slow down for oncoming vehicles, especially those with dust clouds
- · When following another vehicle keep well back to avoid dust
- · Keep away from loose, gravelly parts of the road, follow defined wheel tracks.

Tips: Sand Driving

Kit:

- Take a shovel and flat plate so the jack doesn't sink in, plus a compressor and tyre pressure gauge
- · Full tank of fuel as consumption is high

Driving Tips:

- · Use steady momentum, but not aggressive driving
- High range for higher speed, low range for tight tracks
- · Keep the speed down event when it's flat
- · If the wheels spin, immediately stop and back out.
- Don't spin your vehicle's wheels into a hole
- · Headlights on for visibility.

Tips, 4 Wheel Driving in Victoria's Parks

- · Plan ahead and obtain a detailed map before you go
- · Drive vehicles only on formed roads and vehicle tracks that are open to the public - do not drive off-track
- Stay off tracks that are too wet, or have been recently graded
- · Avoid wheel spin and churning up the track surface
- Remove fallen trees or limbs from roads, don't create new tracks by driving around them.
- · Cross rivers and streams only where river crossings are clearly marked. Check depths and drive slowly.
- Use a tree protector if winching is required and use wheel chains as a last resort.
- Be aware that seasonal road closures exist across Victoria due to the potential for increased environmental impacts and risks to public safety during the wetter months.





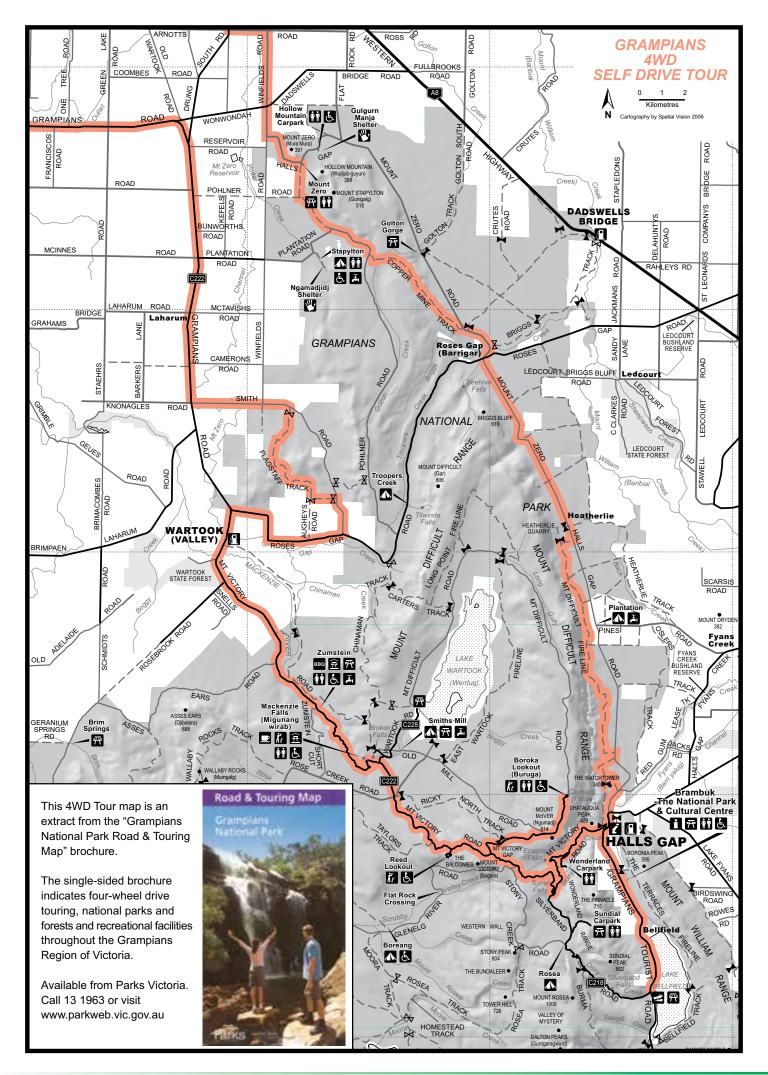


The park is a great place for touring on a extensive network of sealed dirt or 4WD tracks (depending on road conditions). The Grampians 4WD self drive tour will lead you into the following area:

Zumsteins, McKenzie Falls, Lake Wartook, Reeds & Boroka lookouts Brambuk the National Park and Culture Ccentre at Halls Gap and onto Lake Bellfield, Rose's Gap, Mt. Zero and Heatherlie Quarry.

History can be seen at Heatherlie Quarry with remnants of old machinery and living quarters of days past. It is so quiet here that your can almost feel the workings churning away and taste the dust as men labour. The Quarried stone was sent to Melbourne and can be seen today in buildings such as the Victorian Parliament House.

Kms 0	Distance 0			
	U	Zero trip meter TR off Bakers Street onto O'Callaghan Parade TR at roundabout and head towards Ballarat/Melb		
4.8	4.8	TR sign posted Wonwondah East		
28.9	24.1	TR at T junction sign post Halls Gap Laharum		
40.3	11.4	TL Smiths Road (opposite Laharum CFA shed on the RHS of main road)		
44.7	4.4	TR onto side track (Flagstaff Track) - (Seasonal Road Contact Parks Victoria on 03 53 61400) (If seasonal closure in place remain on Smith Road		
51.9	7.2	TR onto main track (Smith Road)		
53.5	1.6	TR onto Roses Gap Road		
59.6 70.8	6.1	TL a T junction sign posted Halls Gap		
75.8	11.2 5	Zumsteins (toilets, BBQ and historical walks available 10-20 min)		
76.2	0.4	TL sign post McKenzie Falls - Lake Wartook		
76.8	0.6	TL a T junction sign post McKenzie Falls Car park McKenzie Falls (kiosk, toilets) allow walking time to Lookout 40min and McKenzie Falls 11/2 to 2hrs.		
77.4	0.6	TR a T junction sign post Halls Gap		
77.3	0.4	TL sign post Halls Gap		
83.7	5.9	TR Reed lookout		
84.3	0.6	Reed Lookout car park (bushwalk to Balconies 30min to 1hr)		
84.9	0.6	Proceed back to main road TR		
87	2.1	TL onto Mount Difficult Road		
92.8	5.8	Car Park Boroka Lookout		
98.6	5.8	Head back to Mount Victory Road TL		
108.6	10	TR at sign post for Halls Gap town centre		
109	0.4	Halls Gap town centre car park		
111.5	2.5	Brambuk National Park and Culture Centre		
114.2	2.7	Lake Bellfield on left		
116.5	2.3	TL into picnic area opposite Silver Band Falls Road and follow main track straight on towards lake		
117.1	0.6	Turn left a T junction		
117.3	0.2	Old ruins and swimming pool on right head back along the track		
117.5 118	0.2 0.5	Keep left		
118.3	0.3	TR onto side track TL onto main track		
118.5	0.2	TR onto main road head back towards Halls Gap		
121.1	2.6	TR into Lake Bellfield car park viewing area straight through the car park turn right at the end		
121.5	0.4	Keep right		
122	0.5	Car park at bottom of wall (short walk available) head out of car park		
122.5	0.5	TR Thyma Street, passing Lakeside Caravan Park		
123.3	8.0	TR onto main road		
127.3	4	Town Centre car park		
128.5	1.2	TL at Rose Gap Mount Zero Road		
129.6	1.1	TL onto Mount Difficult Fire Line Track		
130.9	1.3	TR at T junction		
131.6	0.7	TL onto main track		
132	0.4	TL onto fire track		
134.9	2.9	Keep left		
138.9	0.4 3.8	Keep left		
142.7 143.4	0.7	TR TL onto main track		
144.5	1.1	Heatherlie Quarry on left (worth while visit 30-40min walk)		
153.3	8.8	TR		
153.3	0.5	TL sign post Mount Zero Road		
155.3	2	TL onto Copper Mine Track	M	
161.3	6	TR Pohlners Road	We recommend you purchase a more	
165.6	4.3	TR sign posted Mount Zero	detailed map such as the Grampians	
167	1.4	Keep right	National Park Road Map as all tracks	
167.1	0.1	TL Mount Zero on right hand side	are clearly marked.	
169.4	2.3	TR Winfield road		
170.7	1.3	Straight on over main road	The Horsham Visitor Information	
174	3.3	TL onto Arnotts Road	Centre has the Grampians National	
175.7	1.7	TR main road (Northern Grampians Road)	Park Road Map for sale.	
179.6	3.9	TL onto Western Highway	Talk hour map for suice	
196.8	17.2	Return to Horsham Visitor Information Centre		





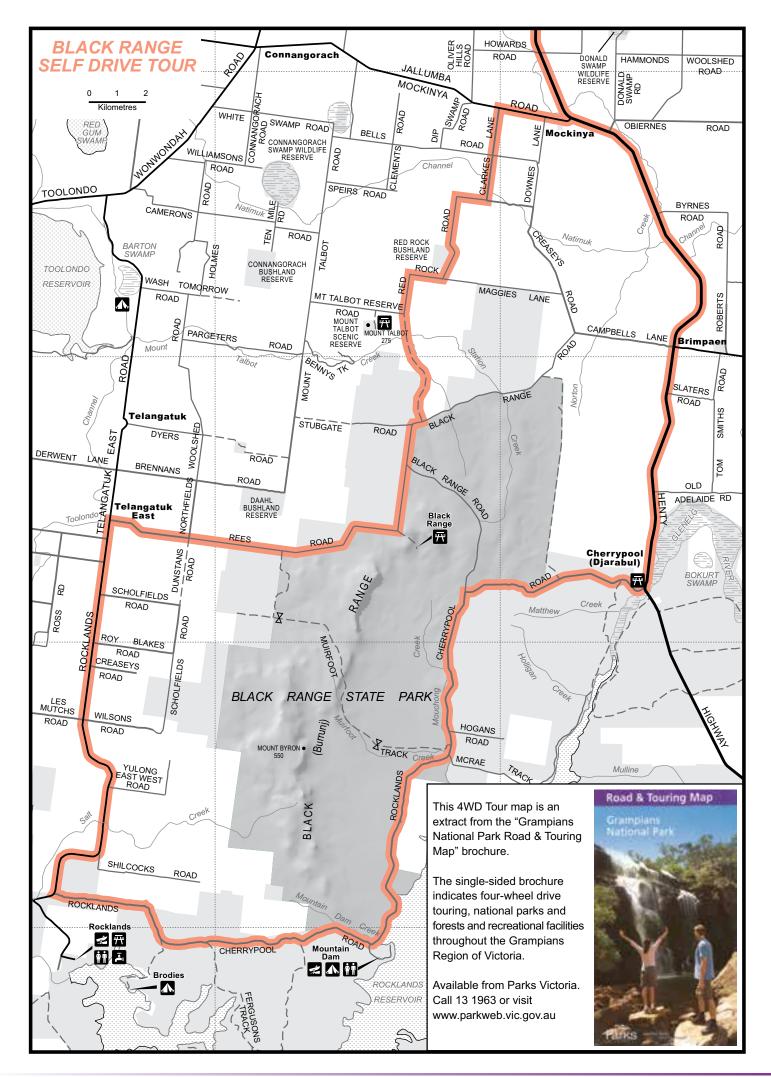
Black Range State Park is situated in Western Victoria 340 km north-west of Melbourne. Access is via Cavendish from the south on the Henty Highway or from Horsham or Wartook on the north. The area provides a range of recreational opportunities including 4WDriving and camping in designated areas. The State Park is relatively quiet and remote that offers the experienced walker opportunities to experience some of its unique flora, fauna and cultural history.

The State Park contains significant Aboriginal cultural sites including rock shelters, rock art, quarries and scare-trees. Large populations of the Red Necked Wallaby & Eastern & Western Grey Kangaroo are found in the park. The Black Range is an outlier of the Grampians formation. You can see its distinctive shape of long, gentle slopes that end in abrupt escarpments facing east.

Sections of all tracks in and around the Black Range State Park are subject to flooding in winter. Roads and tracks are not designed for speed where defined tracks exist, please remain on the track to minimise erosion damage to plants. Please respect wildlife. When bushwalking, remember to walk in groups, dress with appropriate shoes, warm and waterproof clothing (during winter) and carry water on the longer walks (particularly during summer). Take care of exposed cliff edges and supervise children at all times.

Starting Kms	Kms Distance	Depart from Horsham & Grampians Visitor Information Centre		
0	0	TR off Bakers Street onto O'Callaghan Parade TR at roundabout and head toward Henty Highway		
1.7	1.7	TR Henty Highway		
40.5	38.8	PSA Brimpaen/Wartook Road on LHS and Black Range Road on RHS		
49	8.5	TR Black Range State Park Road (gravel) (Cherrypool Picnic area on LHS)		
55.9	6.9	TL HGH Corner Balmoral / Rocklands		
61.9	6	VR Balmoral / Rocklands dam sign		
65.1	3.2	VR Better Road (no signs)		
70.1	5	VR Mountain Dam sign		
82.6	12.5	TL Balmoral 12.5 Kms (bitumen road)		
83.3	0.7	TL Rocklands		
85.7	2.4	TL Rocklands Reservoir Arch—visit wall picnic area, caravan park etc. Return back to Arch and reset odometer.		
0	0	Rocklands Arch		
2.5	2.5	TR Balmoral Telangatuk Road		
5.7	3.2	VL Mountain Dam sign on right		
18.2	12.5	TR Telangatuk East Hall (Rees Road)		
21.1	2.9	PSA Cross Road Gravel Road		
24.7	3.6	PSA Road turns Sandy		
28.8	4.1	TR Black Range Road / campground intersection		
29.8	1	Camping Ground / Rock Art site	Please refer to Park Notes	
30.7	0.9	TR Black Range Road	11000010101010100100	
33.7	3	Water crossing safe take care	www.parkweb.vic.gov.au or we	
34.5	0.8	PSA Borkem sign on right pointing left	recommend you purchase a more	
37.7	3.2	PSA Dip ahead sign (take care)	detailed map such as the Grampians Park	
41.4	3.7	VR Unnamed intersection (Limestone Road)	Road, as all tracks are clearly marked.	
44.9	3.5	TL Henty Highway / Horsham proceed to Horsham		







Attractions In The Area

The Chimney Pots

A unique rock stack. Commence at the Chimney Pots car park, this walk is suitable for energetic walkers, involves slippery track surface, rock hopping. A steep climb to the base of the Chimney Pots rewards you with a view of the surrounding ranges and countryside.

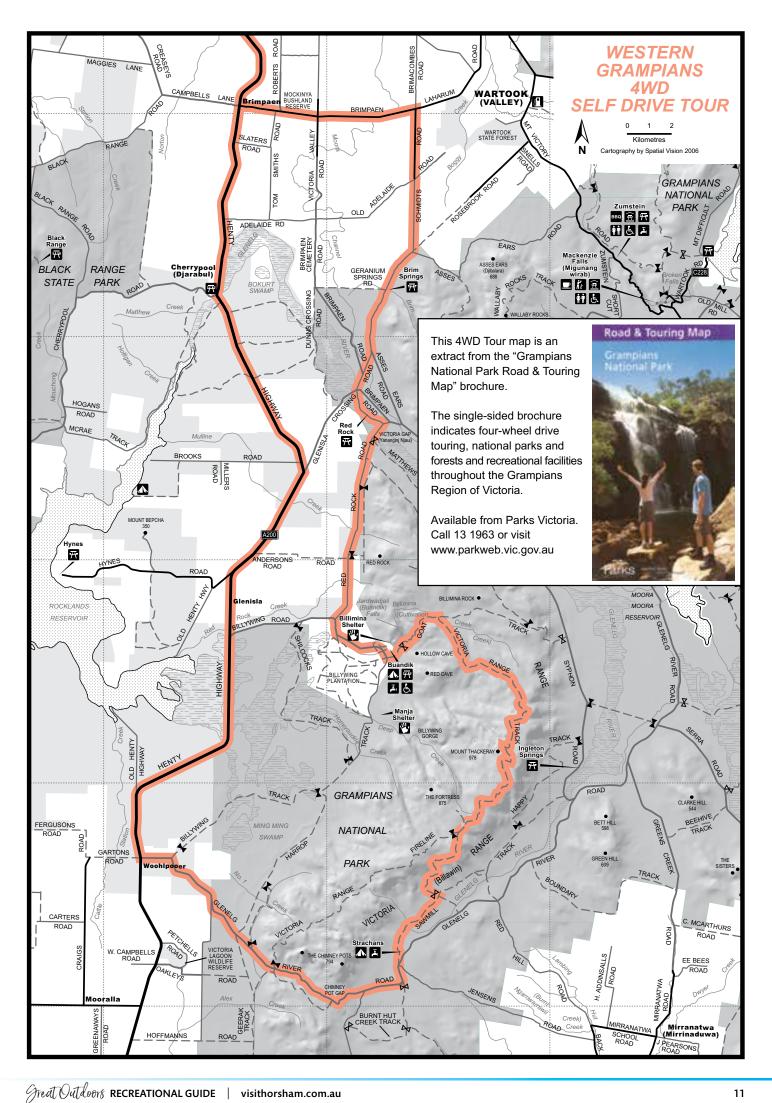
Mania Shelter

A gentle walk to an Aboriginal Cultural site. This uphill walk winds past rocky outcrops and through a stringy bark forest. A series of steps leads to boardwalks which protect the moist heathland areas near Manja Shelter.

Billimina Shelter Loop

Wet weather waterfalls and a significant Aboriginal cultural site. Commence at the Buandik Picnic area. Follow Billimina Creek, which is best after rain. An uphill walk near the falls leads to Billimina Shelter, a massive rock overhang with impressive Aboriginal art.

Starting Kms	Kms Distance	Depart from Horsham & Grampians Visitor Information Centre		
0	0	TR off Bakers Street onto O'Callaghan Parade TR at roundabout and head toward Henty Highway.		
1.7	1.7	TR Henty Highway		
19.6	17.9	PSA Wonwondah Road on left		
29.9	10.3	PSA Balmoral—Toolondo Road on right		
40.5	10.6	TL Grampians Alternative scenic route Brimpaen / Wartook		
48.1	7.6	TR Schmidts Road (watch for Kangaroos)		
52	3.9	PSA Old Adelaide Road sealed to gravel road		
55.4	3.4	TR Asses Ears Road		
55.5	0.1	PSA RHS Old Shepherd grave Mohammed Pastra Died 1878		
57.6	2.1	PSA Brim Springs Track		
58	0.4	PSA LHS Brim Springs Picnic area—Homestead built 1843 by Charles & Thoms	asina Carter	
60.7	2.7	VR Henty Highway sign reads 6 Kms.		
61.1	0.4	PSA Over channel		
61.7	0.6	PSA onto Brimpaen Road		
62.3	0.6	PSA un-sign posted gravel road		
62.5	0.2	VL Picnic area, Lodge Road on LHS and road subject to flooding on RHS		
63.5	1	PSA RHS Red Rock picnic area		
64.7	1.2	TR Red Rock Road		
65.8	1.1	PSA Matthews Track on left		
69.9	4.1	PSA floodway—safe		
72.4	2.5	PSA Red Rock Creek		
74.3 75	1.9 0.7	TL Harrops Track – Buandik Camping ground Manja Shelter		
75.8	0.7	VL Harrops Track - Aboriginal Art Site		
76	0.8	VR Buandik Picnic & Camping ground on left Signs read- Please take your litter home. Firewood—Please collect fallen dead timber. PSA Creek Crossing safe 4WD		
76.2	0.2	PSA Steep uphill and many humps proceed slowly		
78.9	2.7	PSA Downhill climb		
79.4	0.5	TR Victory Range Road 4WD		
86.4	7	PSA Rocky climb		
90	3.6	PSA cleared area on right		
91	1	PSA Wattle & white wildflowers during September		
95.1	4.1	PSA Little Creek		
100	4.9	PSA downhill beware of humps		
100.6	0.6	TR Sawmill Track		
104	3.4	PSA Strachans camping ground		
105.8	1.8	VR Glenelg River Road		
108.5	2.7	PSA Bullawin Road on left	Refer to Park Notes	
109.9	1.4	PSA Harpin right turn good view south	www.parkweb.vic.gov.au or purchase	
111.1	1.2	PSA Chimney Potts Car Park-please take care-hair pin turns	a more detailed map such as the	
116.1	5	PSA Harrops Track Crosses	Grampians Park Road as all tracks are	
120.9	4.8	TL Henty Highway directional sign	clearly marked.	
121.8	0.9	PSA sealed road & house	The Horsham Visitor Information Centre	
123.7	1.9	TR Henty Highway	has maps for sale at a cost of \$6.00.	
200	76.3	PSA Horsham 77 kms		



Little Desert National Park

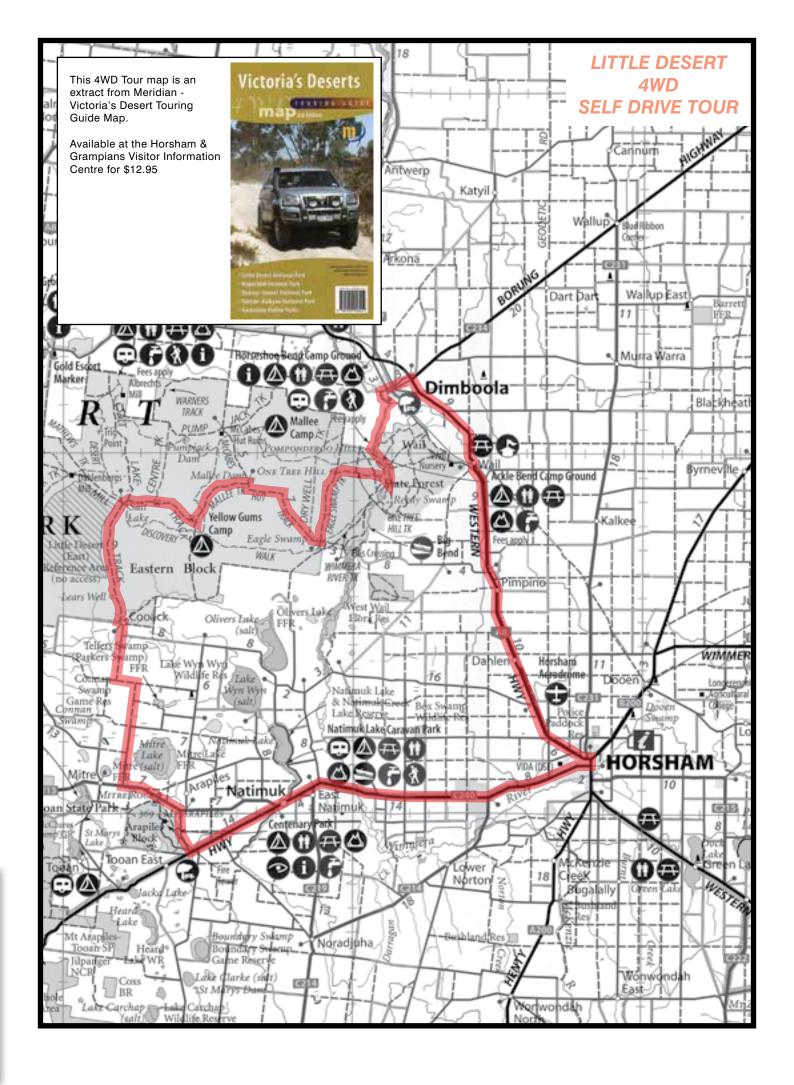
Self Drive (Note: High clearance 4WD is required for this drive)

Situated some 400kms from Melbourne between Horsham and Dimboola, the Little Desert runs west to the border in three sections. This area has seen a lot of history, with some concrete shelters which were part of a bombing and gunnery range during WW11 in the Central Block, and sugar gum plantations in the Wail State Forest to the east of the Wimmera River.

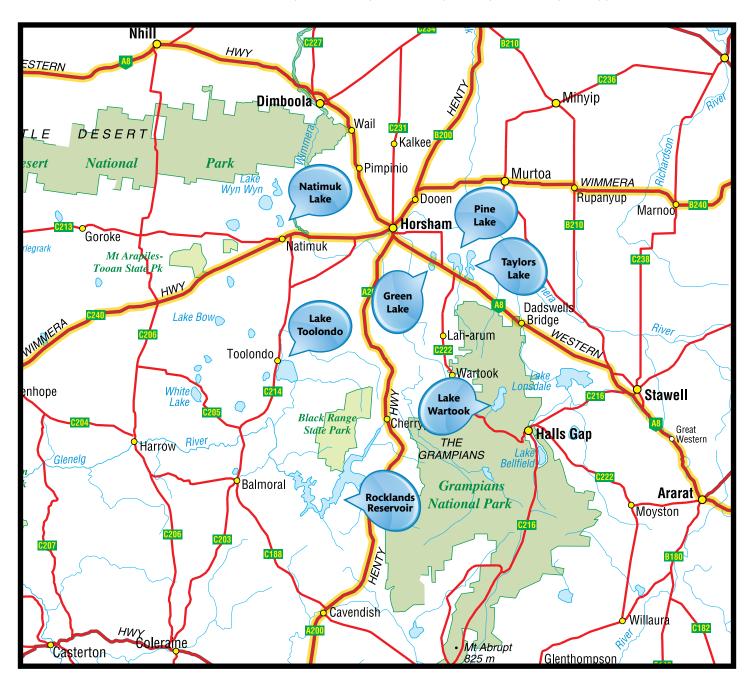
Subtle changes in the vegetation and sand make the trek interesting. Popular attractions within the park, apart from the four wheel driving are many self guided walks in the eastern block. It is recommended you travel with at least two four wheel drive vehicles. Easy to medium – during summer months deep sand becomes very soft and will require the lowering of tyre pressure to at least 20psi to 25psi or less. If you get bogged, you will need to reduce the tyre pressure further.

0 0		Ctroot through post roundahout		
		TL into O'Callaghan Parade. PSA through roundabout. TL at 1st set traffic lights - Wilson Street, through next roundabout,		
0.5 0.5	PSA Wilson Street will turn into Natimuk Road, as you continue out of town.			
19.8 19.3	You are passing over the Wimmera River- continue onto Natimuk			
25.9 6.1	Natimuk Post Office, continue along Hwy towards Edenhope			
27 1.1	VL onto Edenhope Road			
35 8	TR at Mt. Arapiles then immediately take left fork in road			
39.7 4.7	This road will take you to the top of Mt. Arapiles, look out and fire tower.			
44.4 4.7	Back down to the bottom of Mt. Arapiles. TL onto Centenary Park road.			
46.7 2.3	Mt. Arapiles - Tooan State Park camping area on left. This is a very popular spot for rock climbing. PSA.			
48.1 1.4	TL a T intersection on to Natimuk-Francis road Mitre Rock on right PSA.	TL a T intersection on to Natimuk-Francis road Mitre Rock on right PSA.		
53.4 5.3	TR onto Mitre road. PSA at cross roads onto gravel road.			
61.8 8.4	TL a T intersection			
63.4 1.6	TR, continue over cross roads, heading towards Nhill			
68.1 4.7	TL			
68.5 0.4	TR onto Salt Lake Track - engage four wheel drive. Because of deep dry sand, you will need to lower tyre pressure, in the dry weather.			
	You will see a Salt Lake on right.			
79.4 10.9	TR onto Dahlenburgs / Mill Track			
86 6.6	TL onto Mallee Track			
92 6	TR onto McCabe's Hut Track			
101 9 106.9 5.9	TL onto Eagle Swamp Track			
		TR onto One Tree Hill Track		
108.8 1.9	Track to left, PSA			
112.2 3.4 112.7 0.5	At cross roads, PSA			
113.5 0.8	Turn left onto River Track			
114.7 1.2	VR at fork in road. Wimmera River on right			
114.7 1.2	Camping area on left TR onto Horshoe Bend - camping area, toilets			
116.4 1.1	Return to River Track and TR			
118.9 2.5	Back onto the bitumen – Olive plantation on left	Please refer to Park Notes		
122.7 3.8	TR over Bridge - Wimmera River, you are now in the township of Dimboola	www.parkweb.vic.gov.au		
123.2 0.5	TR at crossroads	The Horsham Visitor Information		
123.4 0.2	TL (sign direct to Horsham)	Centre has a more detailed map		
123.4 0.2	Roundabout - PSA	at a cost of \$12.95 (Meridian		
125.5 1.5	TR onto Western Highway, heading for Horsham	Victoria's Desert Country)		
162.9 37.4	Horsham Visitor Information Centre	victorias Desert Country)		





Experience a three day Grampians Fishing Trail from Lake Wartook, to Lake Toolondo and then onto Rocklands Reservoir. The lakes are located within a short drive from Horsham "City of the Grampians" where you can purchase all your supplies and services.



Lakes and Reservoirs - from Horsham

Lake Wartook 65Kms Wimmera River Flows through Horsham

Lake Toolondo45KmsGreen Lake10KmsRocklands Reservoir80kmsTaylors Lake30KmsNatimuk Lake30Kms

Refer to the following pages or to find out more about the Grampians Fishing Trail visit www.grampiansfishingtrail.com.au

Recreational Fishing & Waterways

Grampians Fishing Trail

Lake Toolondo (Reservoir)

Toolondo has always been favourite for Trout and Redfin with outstanding catches being regularly reported. The reservoir offers great fishing whether you are into fly fishing, bait or lure fishing. The majority of fish, including trout, are taken by boat fishing around trees with bait such as worms, gudgeon and yabbies or by spinning in open waters. The lake is also popular for swimming and boating activities.

At the northern end there is a boat ramp and toilets. Camping facilities are available, including a privately operated park on the eastern shore. The reservoir is subject to low water levels.

Rocklands Reservoir

The reservoir is a well-known waterway for its various tourist activities and attractions. Constructed during the 1950s, the Rocklands Reservoir is one popular site for fishing and boating activities, as the lake boasts a good variety of fish species including Trout and Redfin. It is currently the second largest lake in Victoria.

There is good stretch of bank fishing near the dam wall. However, a boat is necessary to reach the more remote areas of the dam. The tranquil waters of Rocklands contain flooded forest and submerged logs and boat users should exercise extreme care and be alert for sub-merged logs.

Note: Boating is prohibited within 200 metres of the dam wall. Boat ramps are located at Rocklands wall, Hynes, Glendinning, Fergusons and Mountain Dam. Small boats can be launched around the shoreline. Guests looking for a venue to water-ski and canoeing. Rocklands area is also known for its abundant wild flowering plants and trails. In spring, you will find a range of flower shows hosted in this area. Also, enjoy a scenic walk across the stony pathways near the hill ranges on the craggy landscape.



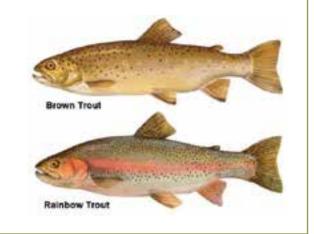


Brown and Rainbow Trout

These two species of trout not only look different but have quite markedly different characteristics as well.

Rainbow Trouts are a beautiful silver colour with a pink stripe down the body and are a magnificent sight to see on the water. They are easier to catch then browns and (the females especially) leap high from the water when hooked. Rainbow Trout prefer fast flowing water to the Brown Trout.

Brown Trouts are more likely to be in a deeper water and are not only harder to hook, they fight much harder and longer than Rainbow Trout. Most trout fishers will prefer to hunt brown because they are a greater challenge.



Recreational Fishing & Waterways

Grampians Fishing Trail

www.grampiansfishingtrail.com.au

Lake Wartook (Reservoir)

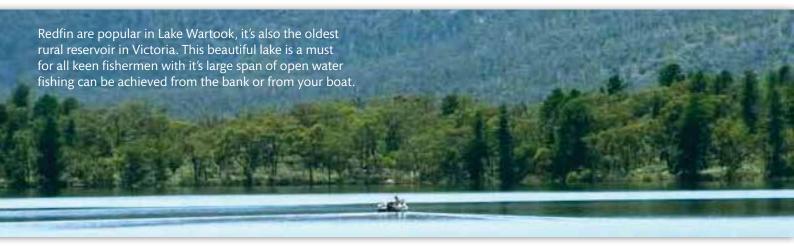
Located in the Grampians National Park is bordered by the majestic mountain ranges in the backdrop, The reservoir is also one of the largest and renowned lakes in the entire region of the Grampians. Lake Wartook is an anglers heaven for catching Brown Trout and Redfin, the picturesque lake is the oldest rural reservoir in Victoria.

The water at Lake Wartook is clear, there is a small island known as Bear Island just east of the middle of the lake. The eastern side of the lake is shallower with extensive weed beds and a good spot to soak a mudeye or fly-fishing from a boat. The middle of the lake near the wall is very deep and a good spot to drift for the local Redfin. Maximum boat speed is 8 knots.



Fishing off the wall is permitted and provides comfortable bank fishing. The wall is a popular bank fishing spot due to its close proximity to the picnic facilities and car park. Many fishermen use unweighted scrub worms off the wall and fish with an open bail arm. Live minnow and mud eye suspended under a bubble float are also popular baits.

Trolling lures is also very popular and productive due to the clarity of the water. Brighter lures seem to do a little better and deep divers will account for redfin and trout during summer when the surface gets a little too warm. When the lake is at capacity, the east and west bank floods into low lying bushy areas and the fly-fishing can be fantastic.



Victorian Fishing Licences and Restrictions

Persons wishing to partake in recreational fishing in Victoria are required to obtain a licence unless you are under the age of 18 or over the age over 70. You may also be exempt form obtaining a licence if you are the holder of a:

- Victoria Senior's Card or Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Card
- TPI coded Veterans' Affairs Repatriation Health Card
- AGE, AGE Blind, CAR, DSP or DSP Blind Coded Pensioner Concession Card You can obtain a Recreational Fishing Licence from any of the Department of Primary Industry offices.

Recreational Fishing & Waterways Grampians North West Region - Other regional lakes

Wimmera River

Flows through Horsham with its gum trees lining the banks. The river provides good fishing from yellowbelly to redfin, catfish, golden perch and Murray cod, along with the odd silver perch and many carp of all sizes. The river is famous for its fishing competition held in March on the Labour Day Long Weekend being the largest and richest of it's type in Australia. It is the only place in Victoria where you can legally catch and possess two freshwater catfish over 30 centimetres. The Horsham Weir and Riverside areas are also well know for its fishing spots. Fish bait used are yabbies, worms and peeled yabby tails.

Green Lake

The gateway to Horsham, this public recreation reserve has boat ramps, picnic facilities, barbecues etc. The lake is surrounded by farmland and is located immediately adjacent to the Western Highway. Green Lake is very popular with the Horsham residents for all general water-based recreation being the ideal lake for swimming, windsurfing, water skiing and fishing. It has one of the regions most productive native fishing waters in the region, it has good fishing for Murray Cod, Golden Perch and Redfin.

Taylors Lake

Located approximately, 20km south-east of Horsham and can be reached via the Western Highway or Horsham Lubeck Road. The lake's importance as a local fishery was first recognised in 1932, when the first consignment of Murray Cod from the Murray River was released into the lake it was known as the most popular Murray Cod waters in Victoria. Taylors Lake is used for boating, water skiing and swimming, and provides good fishing for Redfin and Golden Perch as well as Murray Cod.

Natimuk Lake

This is a shallow lake surrounded by flat agricultural land and is usually very shallow or dry. When conditions are suitable, it provides very good fishing for Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout and Redfin and is renowned for Yabbies. Good bank fishing with worms and spinners, a nature lover's paradise. The lake is popular for all kinds of water activities and has a plenitude of wildlife, which includes the rare freckled duck, pelicans, spoonbills, cranes and many more. (Natimuk Lake currently has low water levels).

Fishing

Enjoy diverse, year-round recreational fishing all across the region from freshwater rivers, lakes an reservoirs which provide good catches from the shore or boat, with the most commonly caught species being trout, redfin, Murray cod and golden perch.

Horsham Fishing Competition - ANNUAL Event March **Long Weekend**

This annual event is one not to be missed. It encompasses the experience of family friendly camping and fishing. Located along the banks of the beautiful Wimmera River.

The event offers amazing prizes for all sections from senior through to juniors sections. Find out more and register for the next Horsham Fishing Competition by visiting their website horshamfishingcomp.com.au for further details.











Recreational Yabbying Grampians North West Region

Yabbies

The prevalence of yabbies is influenced by a number of factors, particularly water temperature. Yabbies become more active during the warmer months of the year from spring to autumn. Yabbies are found throughout the region living in ponds, rivers and both permanent and temporary water holes. When water holes dry out, the yabby burrows to moist soil (the water table) and emerge when water refills the catchment area. Yabbies also occur in brackish water near the coast. The best time to find yabbies is on the declining phase of a flood. Yabbies can remain underground for at least five years.

Generally, mating occurs in the spring and early summer and spawning reaches its peak between December and February. However, when conditions are right, yabbies can be in berry (carrying eggs) throughout the year. Following spawning the female carries her eggs under her tail, where they incubate for three weeks.



During the first two years of life, the yabby moults several times reaching a length of approximately ten centimetres. In the third year of life the yabby moults only twice and reaches a length of about thirteen centimetres. However, when conditions are right, yabbies can grow much larger – up to twenty-eight centimetres and above.

The main food consumed by yabbies is dead and decaying animal and plant material known as detritus. Yabbies are also opportunistic feeders, catching and eating small fish and crustaceans, as well as grazing on any aquatic vegetation that might be present. Yabbies also eat their old exoskeletons after moulting, mainly to increase reserves of calcium.

Common Name	Yabby
Scientific Name	Cheraz spp.
Minimum Legal Size	No minimum
Bag possession Limit	30 litres whole yabby or 200 whole yabbies of any size (whichever is the lesser), or 5 litres of yabby meat, claws or other parts or 200 parts of yabby meat, claws or other parts (whichever is the lesser) in, on or next to Victorian waters. Berried female yabbies must be returned to the water.
	The 'absolute' state-wide possession limit, regardless of if you are at home or in, on or next to Victorian waters is as follows:
	• Less than 90 litres whole yabby or less than 600 whole yabbies of any size, whichever is lesser, anywhere in Victoria; or
	• Less than 15 litres whole yabby meat, claws or other parts, or less than 600 parts of yabby meat, claws or other parts, whichever is the lesser, anywhere in Victoria.
	You cannot possess both whole yabbies and yabby parts.
	Yabby bag and possession limits will be reviewed and may change in 2014.
	Contact the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) on 136 186 from anywhere in Australia for the cost of a local call (except for mobiles and public telephones, which have additional costs).

Collection methods for Yabbies

Not more than 10 baited lines (no hooks) or not more than 2 bait trap (labelled) or up to 5 hoop nets (labelled) but no open top lift nets in specified waters (see Using Equipment in Inland Waters); or A combined total of 10 nets (labelled) that are hoop nets or open top lift nets.

Opera house nets

The use or possession of opera house nets is prohibited in, on or next to Victorian public waters. Opera house nets can only be used in private inland waters such as farm dams where a **maximum** of 3 pots applies.

Recreational Water Activities

Grampians North West Region

Horsham Yacht Club is based at Green Lake only 10 kms from Horsham. The season runs from first weekend in October to the last weekend in April, with races every Sunday.

The club has also held summer school holidays sailing courses for both boys and girls from the age of 7 to 12 years of age. The courses are designed for juniors wishing to learn to sail and build on existing skills, these courses are held in conjunction with Yachting Victoria.

For further information about the Horsham Yacht Club and to view the 2015 calendar listing view horshamyachtclub.com

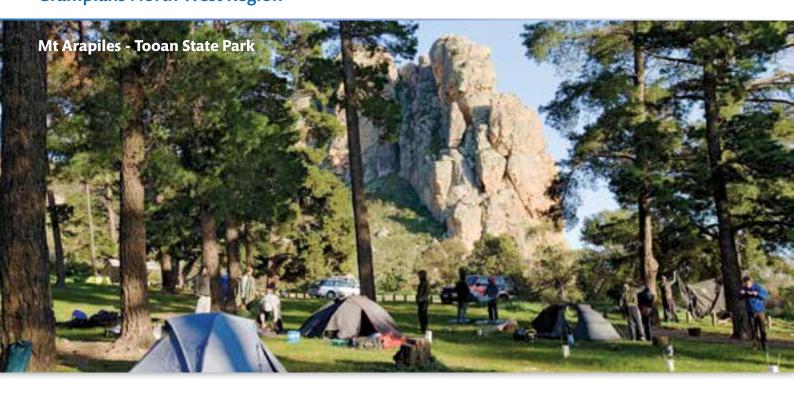
Water Skiing Green lake, located on the southern side of the highway, has a picnic area overlooking the beautiful lake and includes a boat ramp, jetty and swimming beach. Whilst Taylors Lake, a few kilometres north of the highway, is a recreational lake suitable for all water sports.

The Wimmera region welcome skiers of all levels from beginner to advance. The lake provides great opportunities for fishing, boating, water skiing and wind surfing.





Camping and Carounthing Grampians North West Region



Grampians North West Campgrounds

There are a variety of campgrounds location in and around the beautiful Grampians National Park. All campgrounds have basic amenities including pit toilets, fireplaces and picnic tables. Drinking water is not provided so please bring your own. Sites are unpowered and most will accommodate up to six people. Booking are essential especially during busy holiday periods. Contact 03 5361400.

Stapylton Campground is one of the best places to stay when exploring the Northern Grampians. It is close to a great selection of day walks, Aboriginal rock shelters and world class rock formations.

Campsites: There are three options, 6 vehicle sites caravans, campervans and tents with 7 tent only sites and 6 group camping areas with shared platform tables and fireplaces. Sites are unpowered.

Smiths Mill Campground is positioned within heath woodland at the site of an old sawmill. It is centrally located a kilometre from MacKenzie Falls and only a short drive to Lake Wartook.

Campsite: There are 28 sites suitable for tent-based camping, and 5 drive-in sites suitable for camper-trailers, caravans and campervans. Each site at Smiths Mill Campground accommodates a maximum of 6 people. Sites are unpowered.

Plantation Campground is set within an old Radiata Pine forest on the eastern edge of the Mount Difficult Range. This campground is located close to Halls Gap.

Campsite: There are 30 campsites at Plantation Campground catering for tent-based camping, caravans, campervans and camper trailers. Each site at Plantation Campground accommodates a maximum of 6 people. Sites are unpowered.

Mt. Arapiles-Tooan State Park

Mount Arapiles is regarded as the top rock climbing area in Australia and is world renowned. The Centenary Park campground is the only place to camp in the park. There are three camping areas the Lower Gums camping area, the Gums Camping area and the Upper Gums and Pines camping area. The whole park area has a shelter, picnic tables, toilets and wood barbecues. There is also the Jane Duff Park, a peaceful woodland area home to numerous plants and animals.

Day visitors can relax and enjoy a picnic. Overnight camping is also permitted.

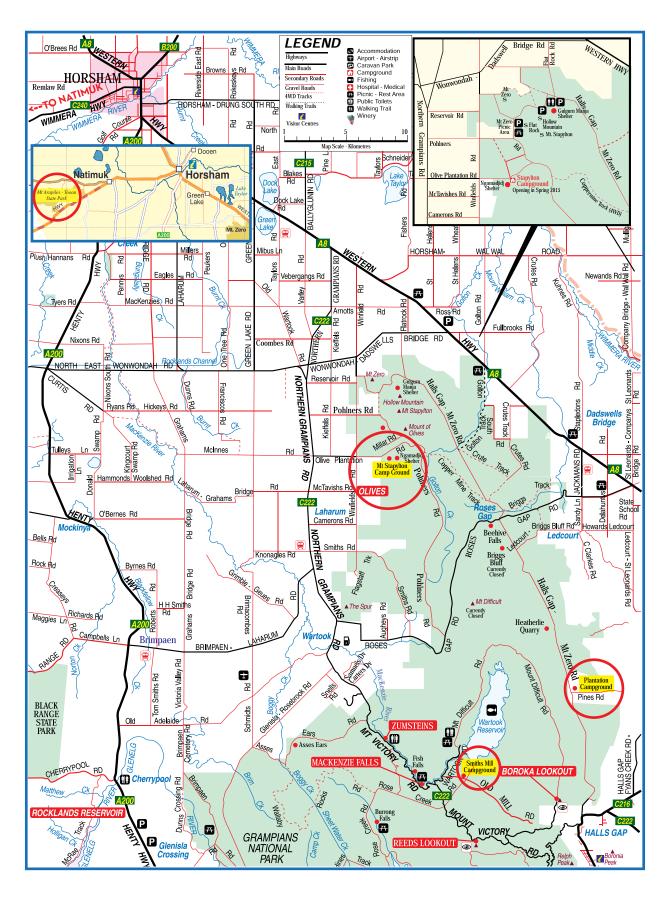
Camping Fees in the National Parks

Camping fees applies to all campgrounds. Permits are available at Brambuk the National Park & Cultural Centre In Halls gap or by credit card by phoning the centre on 03 5361 400

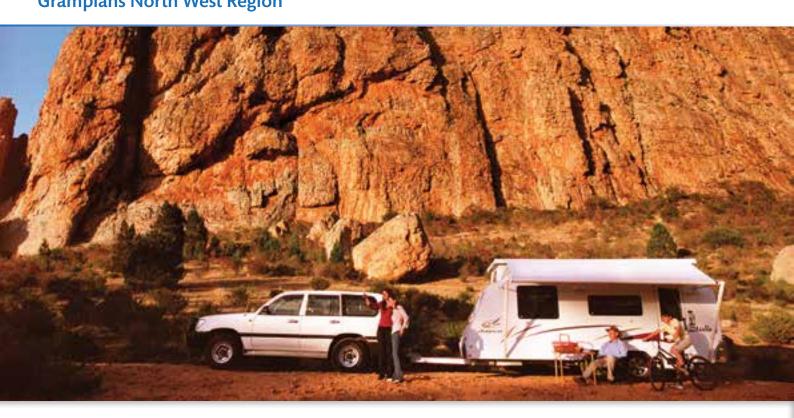
Be Fire Ready & Stay Safe - Campfire Guidelines

- Light fires only in the fireplaces provided or use a portable gas or fuel stove
- Ensure fires are never left unattached and are completely out before you leave
- During summer and autumn Total Fire Bans are common, this means <u>NO FIRES</u> are to be lit,including solid and liquid fuel stoves.
- Always check for Total Fire Ban (1800 240 667) and fire conditions prior to your walk and carry a small radio or mobile phone.

Pitch a tent or park your campervan / caravan within the Grampians North West Region and you will truly appreciate the region's natural attractions. Get closer to nature and meet wildlife. The starting points of many great walks are just a short stroll from your campsite.



Comping and Corowanning Grampians North West Region



Caravanning The Grampians Region

Caravanning holiday gives you the flexibility to move with the good weather, change the view from your window and escape from every day routine.

It is a popular choice for family holidays, the activity is a practical means of experiencing the great outdoors. Choose your spot (regulations permitting) park your caravan and then depart the next day or two en-route for another new adventure.

Consider joining a caravan club in your area to meet people with similar interests and gain new information about popular destinations.

Caravan Parks -Located in the Grampians North West Horsham Riverside Caravan Park

Situated on the Wimmera River adjacent to the Horsham Botanical Gadens. From the park it's just a short stroll to the vibrant CBD

188 Firebrace Street Horsham Ph:5382 3476

Wimmera Lakes Caravan Resort

Ideally located on the Western Highway on the Melbourne side of Horsham. 4 Kms from the Horsham CBD 9161 Western Highway Ph: 5382 4481

Grampians Edge Caravan Park

Relax in the shade at the edge of the Grampians National Park in Dadswell Bridge

Western Highway, Dadswells Bridge Ph: 5359 5241

Happy Wanderer Holiday Park

Location in the beautiful Wartook Valley region with mountain range as a back drop.

2493 Northern Grampians Road, Wartook Valley

Ph: 5382 6210

Natimuk Caravan Park

Located near the Natimuk township and 30kms from Horsham Natimuk Lake Ph: 0407 800 753

Alternate Camping Locations

Western Highway - Melbourne Bound

Burnt Creek Rest Area - 4.5km from Horsham CBD ONE Night Only, NO facilities, NO Tents. NO Cost.

Taylors Lake

Western Side Under Trees ONLY NO Cost.

Henty Highway- Hamilton Bound

Cherrypool Campground - 50k south of Horsham, Next to the Glenelg River. Toilets facilities. Suitable for tents, caravans, campervans in dry weather. No cost.

Rocklands Reservoir Camp Areas

A number of camping sites are located around Rocklands. Contact the Visitor Information Centre for more details.

Wimmera Highway-Edenhope Bound

Mt. Arapiles (Tooan State Park) - 35km West of Horsham Toilet facilities (non power sites) wood fired barbecue, picnic Tables. Booking required cost \$5.00 per person. Visit - www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay for more details

West of Horsham on Natimuk Frances Road

Jane Duff Park

45kms from Horsham (Natimuk Frances road is sealed) campsite suitable for tents, caravans and campervans. Area has non flush toilets, barbecues & picnic tables available but the area is unpowered. No drinking water supplied.

Camping and Caravanning Grampians North West Region



Camping & Caravanning A great way to explore the region

There are many locations scattered throughout the Grampians North West region, you're sure to find one to suit your liking, with fantastic sunrises and sunsets along with outstanding night skies. The region offers a wide range of camping and caravanning facilities.

Explore the Grampians National Park, Black Range State Park, Mt Arapiles Tooan State Park including the Little Desert National Park all of which are centrally located around Horsham the Capital of the Wimmera.

Discover Aboriginal Rock Art sites, wilderness, abundance of kangaroos, emus and other wildlife not to forget the wildflowers, waterfalls, rock formations, rugged sandstone cliffs all in a varied landscape.

Experience outdoor activities such as bushwalking, rock climbing, fishing, canoeing, mountain biking, bird watching or simply visit olive grove plantations and local wineries.

Parking - Horsham CBD

The Victorian road rules state that a long vehicle shall take up a minimum amount of bays. Parallel or angle and must feed at least 1 bay, therefore you do not have to feed all bays.

Long Vehicle Parking near the CBD:

There are a number of free parking (unmetered and no time limit) where cars and caravans and motorhomes can park without a time restriction at the following locations:

- McLachlan St (1 at eastern end and 2 at western end)
- Darlot St (1 at northern end and 1 at back of Coles)
- Wilson St (1 at western end)
- Firebrace St (1 next to Harvey Norman)
- Hamilton St (1 next to Comfort Inn Capital)
- Madden St (1 next to Aldi)
- O'Callaghans Parade (1 next to the Visitor Info Centre)

(Call into the Horsham & Grampians Visitor Information Centre for you free town map). Location at 20 O'Callaghan Parade Horsham.

Caravan & Motorhome Dump Points:

- · Located south end of Firebrace St in front of the Horsham Riverside Caravan Park.
- Located at Wimmera Lakes Caravan Resort, Western Hwy

Recreational Walks Grampians North West Region











Zumsteins Historic Walk

Includes a historic picnic area. Take the time to look around the historic walk, and pise' cottages. Signs tell the story of Walter Zumstein and the area he developed. A timber board walk is located along the banks of the MacKenzie River to allow visitors to interact with the river. It is suitable for wheelchairs.

Start: Zumsteins Picnic Area Time: Approx. ½ - 1 hr return Distance: 250m return Grade: Easy (elevation: 10m)

MacKenzie River Walk

Start at Zumsteins picnic ground, follow the track up the MacKenzie River to Fish Falls where the track becomes steeper, meandering through a large gorge beside the river to the base of MacKenzie Falls being the largest falls in the Grampians and well worth the walk. There is always a good flow of water, whatever the season, as the River forms Horsham's Water Supply.

Start: Zumsteins Picnic Area Time: Approx. 3 hrs return

Distance: 7 km return Grade: Medium (elevation: 80m)

MacKenzie Falls

One of the most popular spots in the Grampians and Victoria's largest Waterfall. An easy but gentle stroll from the carpark leads to a viewing platform overlooking the picturesque Broken Falls. To reach the base of the falls, follow the signs. Take care as this walk has many steps and is steep, slippery and strenuous in sections. Return the same way. The falls provide a great photographic opportunity. Alternatively you can take the easy stroll to view the falls from Bluff Lookout. From the main walking track intersections turn right past the permanent toilets. Return via the same track.

Start: MacKenzie Falls Car Park Time: Approx. 1 hr return

Distance: 2 km return **Grade:** Medium (Easy to Broken Falls)

Mt Zero

From the picnic area at the base of Mt Zero, follow the track markers which will guide you up the rocky hillside. Near the top of the ridge the track becomes stepper to rock steps that lead up to the summit. Enjoy view of Mt Stapylton and the surrounding Wimmera plains. Return by the same route.

Start: Mt Zero Picnic Area **Time:** Approx. 1 hr return

Distance: 2.8km return **Grade:** Medium (elevation: 150m)

Mt Stapylton

This walk is suitable for energetic walkers and can involve slippery track surfaces. Signs and track markers guide the way up the steep rock slope of Flat Rock to a splendid vantage point overlooking a natural amphitheatre. The track descends to the base of Taipan Wall before continuing along rock terraces to an intersection. Follow signs and track makers to the final steep ascent. The view from the summit is spectacular. Return by the same route.

Start: Mt Zero Picnic Area Time: Approx. 3 hrs return

Distance: 4.6km return **Grade:** Medium / Hard (elevation: 200m)

Recreational Walks **Grampians North West Region**

Beehive Falls

Commence the walk from the roadside car park at Roses Gap, this is a short walk, follow Mud Hut Creek upstream to a series of rock steps to Beehive Falls is a lovely small waterfall with surrounding rock pools. This is a excellent walk for wildflowers in the spring and early summer. Return the same way route. (Please note that the walk towards Briggs Bluff remains closed until further notice).

Start: Beehive Falls Car Park Time: Approx. 1 hr return Distance: 2.8km return Grade: Easy (elevation: 110m)

Mount Arapiles Tooan State Park

A spectacular feature, rising sharply from the Wimmera plains. Mt. Arapiles is widely regarded as the top rock climbing area in Australia. However, there are walking tracks that link Centenary Park to the summit of Mt Arapiles. Walking is a great way to discover this amazing park. Marked walking tracks feature some spectacular views, catering for a range of fitness levels and time constraints.

Mitre Rock

Located along the Natimuk / Goroke road, it is a sacred Aboriginal site which is surrounded by a small reserve and situated just north of Mt Arapiles. It provides the enthusiast with some great climbs. There are no toilets or any other amenities at Mitre Rock, you'll need to make your way to the Centenary Park campground at Mt Arapiles.

Black Range State Park

The park is located west of the Grampians National Park, the area has significant Aboriginal cultural sites. Relax with a picnic surrounded by tranquil forest before making your way to the Mudadgadjin Art Site, a short climb takes you through the forest to the base of the art site which has been significant to local Aboriginal people for thousands of years. Continue over the rise and across the flats to the amazing rock escarpments and wind swept caverns.

Little Desert National Park

The range of soil types in the Little Desert National Park causes marked differences in vegetation. Many species of plants and animals have succeeded on poor soils with little water. Creating a kind of arid landscape where survival depends on maintaining a delicate balance of natural forces. The best time to visit the park is between late winter and early summer when the temperatures are comfortable and the park is full of blossoms and wildflowers.

Be Fire Ready - Stay Safe

Be aware of the forecast fire danger rating for this area when planning your trip. Plan to leave early on hot, dry and windy days as these conditions may cause the closure of some park areas for public safety. Before your visit a park check the latest conditions by calling 13 19 63 or visit the following website: www.parkweb.vic.gov.au for updated information on fires in Victoria or general safety advice, please call the Victorian Bushfire information line on

1800 240 667 or listen to local ABC / ACE radio stations, or visit: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

For further Information

Parks Victoria Information Centre 13 19 63 or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au or Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre on 03 5361 4000.

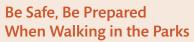












- There are steep cliffs in the Grampians National Park.
- · Keep to the track, mind your footing and supervise children at all times
- · Walking racks may involve rock steps, uneven and slippery track surfaces, water crossings and rock hopping
- · Always wear sturdy footway with a good tread
- · A good quality map should always be carried
- · Always bring drinking water and food
- · On longer walks, carry protective clothing
- · A hat and sunscreen are essential in summer
- Plan your timing. Ensure you return from walking well before dusk

Recreational Day Trip / Framing The Wimmera Grampians North West Region





Our landscape is unique and diverse, whilst pictures allows you to capturing the essence of the moment and the beauty of the region.

Back in 2005, Nati Frinj festival founder and local artist Dr. Greg Pritchard installed a large wooden frame outside Natimuk that framed Mt Arapiles. It has since become a local tourist attraction. Inspired by the success of this installation, Horsham Rural City Council's Public Art Committee have commissioned four new structural frames to frame outstanding views of the municipality, the project known as Framing the Wimmera came to life.

Experience the frames created by Banyena Artist Donal Molly-Drum and tag your images **#framingthewimmera** or **facebook/framingthewimmera**. These frames showcase Mt Arapiles, the Wimmera River, the Grampians and Toolondo Reservoir. So explore the region and travel the loop to experience the arts side of the region.

Framing the Wimmera

We often take pictures of our landscape, positioning the lens to frame an image, capturing the essence of the moment or the beauty of the landscape. It could be the silos upon the Wimmera Plains or the sunset at Mt Zero... what if you had a site that was already framed?

Mt Arapiles View

from Natimuk-Frances Rd, near Edenhope intersection

Google Map Reference: -36.744370, 141.930513

Wimmera River View

from dirt track off Three Bridges Road, 100m back from intersection with Horsham-Noradjuha Rd

Google Map Reference: -36.759808, 142.115432

Toolondo Reservoir View

from Toolondo Foreshore off the Wonwondah Toolondo Rd

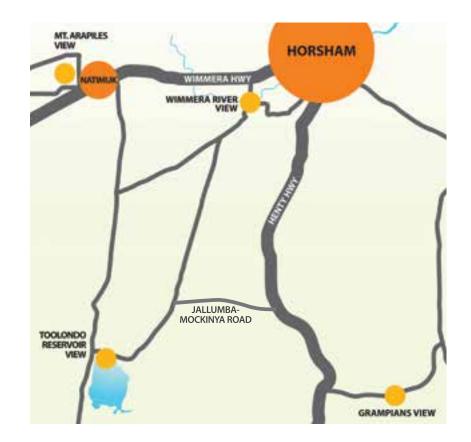
Google Map Reference: -36.992758, 141.937393

Grampians View

from Brimpaen-Laharum Road south side, 400m

west of Schmidts Rd

Google Map Reference: -37.035513, 142.279030



Rock Climbing & Bouldering

Grampians North West Region

Step out and explore Grampians North West region activities from rock climbing, abseiling to bouldering. Test your stamina on rocky outcrops and bluffs at a number of locations within the region.

Mt Arapiles - Tooan State Park, is widely regarded as the top rock climbing area in Australia and world renowned for its variety of climbs. Just next to Mt Arapiles on the Natimuk/Goroke Road is Mitre Rock a small reserve that also provides the enthusiast climber with some great climbs.

Mt Arapiles is a stunning peak just west of Horsham, Mt Arapiles boasts some of the most dramatic and demanding rock formations in Australia. Mt Arapiles features a wide array of cliffs, pinnacles and bluffs, it has become the most popular climbing and abseiling destination in Australia. The mountain boasts more than 2,000 designated climbs, ranging from easy ascents for first-timers to level 30 climbs.

Grampians National Park home to hundreds of exciting climbs, especially on the rugged cliff faces of Mount Stapylton and Rosea. Local adventure companies offer a variety of climbing and abseiling courses, including introductory lessons for the novice and programs covering advanced skills for the experienced.

Don't stop on account of the weather. Local caves and shelters provide great opportunities for climbing on rainy days. Popular spots include the Gallery, Millennium Caves and Muline Cave in the Victoria Range.

Rock climbing is by using ropes involves two or more people. Traditional climbing is where the first climber (the 'lead') places their own protection on their way up the rock face and their partner (the 'second') removes the protection while they are 'seconding' the route. Sport climbing is where fixed protection (primarily bolts) is already placed in the rock for climbers to clip into as they ascend.

Abseiling (or rappelling as called by mountaineers) is a recreational sport of descending a cliff safely, while attached to a rope under controlled conditions.

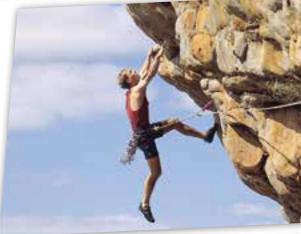
Bouldering is a form of rock climbing that is performed without the use of ropes or harnesses. Whilst it can be done without any equipment most climbers use climbing shoes to help secure footholds, chalk to keep their hands drv.

Boulderers usually use padded mats to jump down to prevent injuries and reduce impact on landing and to also protect the ground from erosion. Bouldering is usually practised on small rocks / boulders.

Grampians Adventure Company are friendly and professional rock climbing and abseiling guides/instructors in the Grampians National Park and Mount Arapiles.

Visit www.grampiansadventure.com.au/









GRAMPIANS NORTH WEST REGION

4WD Tracks, Fishing, Caravanning, Camping, Water Sports & Recreational Activities

