

Bemm River Scenic Reserve



Visitor Guide

A rainforest experience; Bemm River Scenic Reserve protects a pocket of warm temperate rainforest, the drier eucalypt forest and other significant plant communities. The paved Rainforest Walk at the junction of the Bemm and McKenzie rivers enables visitors to experience a rainforest river valley, its secrets of survival and the creatures it harbours. The suspension bridges pass over the tranquil McKenzie River and bird calls resound through the canopy, providing visitors with a unique rainforest experience.

Location and access

The Bemm River Scenic Reserve is located 30 km west of Cann River and 45 km east of Orbost.

Highway signage leads to an all weather gravel access road from the highway to a car park, picnic area and a short walking track.

Enjoying the park

The walkway through the Bemm River Scenic Reserve meanders through a spectacular pocket of Warm Temperate Rainforest. Two swing bridges lead over the picturesque McKenzie River, providing visitors with the opportunity to view the magnificent surrounding riparian forest from within the canopy.

This walk is the perfect place for travellers to stop, break their drive and experience one of the treasures of Far East Gippsland. Picnic facilities, including tables and toilets with disabled access, are provided. Parking for caravans and buses is also available within the reserve.

Although camping is not permitted in the reserve, camping facilities are located in the nearby townships of Cann River, Orbost and Bemm River and within the Croajingolong National Park

The Rainforest Walk

The walk is approximately one kilometre long and consists of sealed pathways, boardwalks and swing bridges. The walk takes about 45 minutes to complete at a relaxed pace.

Information boards along the walk provide insight into the forest, the species it protects and the processes which have helped shape this significant area.

Wheel chair access is not recommended as there are steps in some sections.

A haven for flora

The Warm Temperate Rainforest through which the trail winds is characterised by a closed canopy of Kanooka (*Tristania laurina*) with various lianas, ferns and epiphytes occurring at all levels through the forest.

Tall Mountain Grey Gums (*Eucalyptus cypellocarpa*) tower above the mid story which is characterised by fine examples of tree ferns and mosses while brightly coloured fungi cling to decaying trunks and branches.

... and fauna

The Bemm River Scenic Reserve supports a range of native fauna. As you walk along the path, lyrebirds may be seen scratching at the ground surface in search of food. The distinctive call of the Eastern Whip Bird often resounds through the forest canopy, while tiny wrens and flycatchers flit amongst the undergrowth.

As you pass over the bridges, a symphony of frog calls can often be heard echoing from the protected pools along the river.



Lyrebird



For further information

Parks Victoria Information Centre Call 13 1963 or visit the Parks Victoria website www.parks.vic.gov.au

Mallacoota Office PO Box 179 Cnr Allan & Buckland Drives Mallacoota Vic 3892

> Cann River Office PO Box 79 Princes Hwy Cann River Vic 3890

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by remembering these guidelines:

All native plants, animals, cultural and historic features are protected

Please take rubbish away with you

Dogs are permitted in the reserve but must be on a leash at all times

Please do not use soaps, detergents and toothpaste in the streams and waterways as they are a source of drinking water for others

Dispose of dirty water away from watercourses

Please do not handle or feed the wildlife as it fosters dependence and may cause disease

This reserve is in the East Gippsland Total Fire Ban District

Please don't throw this park note away. Keep it, return it for others to use, or recycle it

Healthy Parks Healthy People

Visiting a park can improve your health, mind, body and soul. So, with over four million hectares of parkland available to Victorians, why not escape to a park today!





