

St Arnaud Range National Park



Visitor Guide

Experience a sense of what the Box-Ironbark forest landscapes were like before the gold rushes. St Arnaud Range National Park contains one of the most intact large areas of Box-Ironbark vegetation and landscapes in Victoria.



*"A rugged range,
rich in history..."*

TM © 1988 G. G. G.

Enjoying the park

Camping and picnicking

The banks of the Upper Teddington Reservoir provide a pleasant venue for camping and picnics. Toilets and fireplaces are provided. Camp only in designated camping areas and at least 40m from the reservoir. Camping is also available at Teddington Hut (bookings essential).

Fishing and boating

The Teddington Reservoirs are popular fishing sites with Brown Trout and Redfin commonly caught. Anglers over 16 require a Victorian fishing licence, which can be obtained in the St Arnaud township.

Non-powered boats (electric motors accepted) can be launched in the Upper Teddington Reservoir.

Swimming is **NOT** permitted in Teddington Reservoir.

Bushwalking

The rocky ridge tops in the park offer fine views for bushwalkers and four-wheel drivers. There are ample opportunities for hiking in the steep and rugged terrain and visitors will see a variety of native flora and fauna.

Prospecting

Recreational prospecting is permitted in designated areas (see map). Prospectors must hold a current Miner's Right. Please do not drive off road, and fill any holes created by prospecting.

Centre Road Nature Drive

The Centre Road Nature Drive passes through St Arnaud Regional Park, St Arnaud State Forest, Stoney Creek Nature Conservation Reserve and St Arnaud Range National Park. The drive is approximately 50km long and starts from the Wimmera Highway just out of St Arnaud. Four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended from Stuart Mill Gap Road to Redbank.

For a shorter tour, you can drive from St Arnaud to Rostron Picnic Area. A dam here provides a pleasant setting for a picnic. Stop at the West of England Lookout for great views of the surrounding countryside and the Grampians National Park.

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 you visit a park check the latest conditions by calling 13 1963 or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au.

For updated information on fires in Victoria or general fire safety advice, please call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 or listen to a local ABC/ACE radio station or visit www.CFA.vic.gov.au.



St Arnaud Range National Park

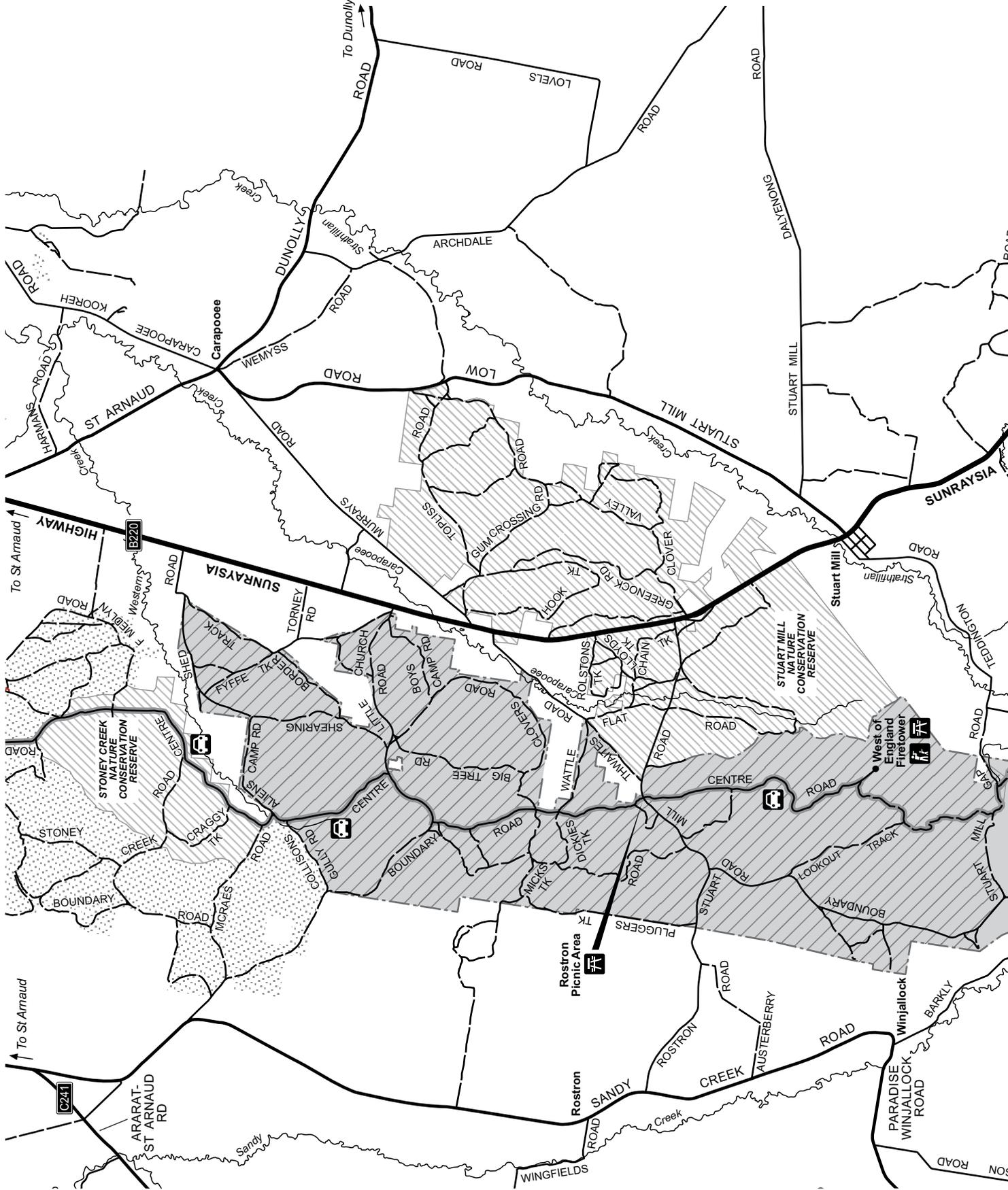
- Highway
- Sealed road
- Major unsealed road
- Minor unsealed road
- Vehicle track (4WD)
- Nature Drive
- National Park
- Other Park / Reserve
- State Forest
- Reference Area -No Public Access
- Prospecting permitted
- Water body

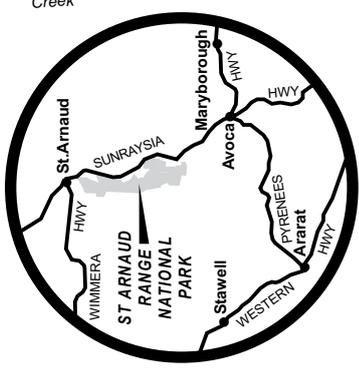
Recreational Facilities

- Camping
- Fireplace
- Fishing
- Lookout
- Nature drive
- Park information
- Picnic table
- Toilets
- Water



Parks
VICTORIA





For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre

Call 13 1963

or visit the

Parks Victoria website

www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Northern Grampians Shire
Visitor Information Centre
4 Napier Street
St Arnaud Vic 3478
Freecall: 1800 246 880

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish away with you for recycling and disposal

All native plants, animals and archaeological sites and geological features are protected by law

Dogs and other pets are not permitted in the park

Firearms are prohibited in the park

Light fires only in fire places provided. Gas barbecues are preferred. No fires, including gas barbecues may be lit on a day of **Total Fire Ban**

St Arnaud Range National Park is in the **Wimmera** and **South West Total Fire Ban Districts**

Prospecting is permitted in designated areas.

Prospectors must hold a current Miners Right.

Refer to the Prospecting Guide for more information

Collection of firewood is prohibited from the park

Vehicles, including motor bikes, may only be used on formed open roads.

Drivers must be licensed and vehicles registered and roadworthy

Past to present

Aboriginal people lived in the area before European settlement. Significant sites within the park which are evidence of this include scarred trees, mounds and stone artefact scatters.

In the 1840s squatters took up land in the area. Strathfillan Creek is named after one squatter's run. Stock grazing continued in some areas until 1995 - sheep yards built from bush timbers are among the few structures remaining from this activity.

Alluvial and shallow reef mining for gold began in the 1860s and a number of mining sites can still be found around the park today.

The park was also an important source of timber, supplying logs to local timber mills. Other uses included fence posts, palings and firewood. Yellow Gum, Grey Box and Red Ironbark were the main species harvested. A small Blue Gum plantation established in the 1920s and numerous tree stumps are reminders of the logging era.

The Teddington Reservoirs were constructed to supply water to the town of St Arnaud - N^o1 was completed in 1900 and N^o2 in 1929. The reservoir system was downgraded in 1947 and now only supplies nearby Stuart Mill. Many of the structures remain, including catch drains, weirs and the concrete lining of part of Strathfillan Creek.



Teddington Reservoir

The 13,526ha St Arnaud Range National Park is one of the new and expanded parks created in October 2002 to conserve and enhance what remains of Victoria's Box-Ironbark forests and woodlands. The park includes the former Kara Kara State Park and much of the St Arnaud Range State Forest.

Teddington Hut

Teddington Hut was originally constructed by the State Rivers and Works Commission around 1955. It was used to provide temporary accommodation for employees to carry out erosion works associated with the Teddington Reservoir Catchment.

The Teddington Reservoirs were officially considered an unreliable source of water by 1955 and as a result there was no longer a need for employees to use the hut for work purposes. Today the hut is used for camping. Bookings are required by contacting Parks Victoria's Inglewood office on 5431 7120.

Plants, birds and animals

Forests and open woodlands dominate most of the park. A number of vegetation types have been identified within the park including Heathy Dry Forest, Grassy Dry Forest, Valley Grassy Forest, Alluvial Terraces, Herb-rich Woodland and Box-Ironbark Forest.

Two hundred and seventy native flora species have been recorded within the park, five of which are listed as rare or threatened. A further 77 native species have been recorded a short distance from the park boundary.

Mature trees with hollows, standing dead trees, fallen logs and abundant ground litter provide nesting sites and shelter for a variety of native birds, mammals and reptiles. These include the Kookaburra, Crimson Rosella and nocturnal animals such as the Yellow footed Antechinus and Sugar Glider.

Six are regarded as being rare and endangered of which five are listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act - the Freckled Duck, Swift Parrot, Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Powerful Owl, and Brush-tailed Phascogale.

Wedge-tailed Eagles are often seen above the steep forested ranges.



Wedge-tailed Eagle © MT

How to get there

St Arnaud Range National Park is 200km north-west of Melbourne. Main access to the park is from the Sunraysia Highway to the east. At Stuart Mill, follow the signs to Teddington Reservoir.

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