

# Patterson River

## Boating Guide

The Patterson River is a unique man made waterway, created in 1876 to provide direct drainage from the entire Dandenong Valley catchment area. Since then, the Patterson River has become a designated safe harbour and popular recreational venue offering a range of recreational opportunities not provided elsewhere in the region.

### Location and Access

Patterson River is situated within the City of Kingston, approximately 28kms south east of Melbourne. The boat ramps at the Patterson River are accessible via Launching Way off Macleod Road, Carrum. (Melways Ref: 97 E7).

### Facilities

- Four two lane launching ramps allow boats of varying sizes to access Port Phillip Bay from the Patterson River. Launching fees apply to all launch boats at the boat ramps. A seasonal ticket is available at the ticket box located in Launching way.
- Ramp 1 is suitable for small craft, ramp 2 is suitable for medium sized craft and ramps 3 & 4 are suitable for larger vessels.
- Please ensure you read the boating information signage at the ramps prior to launching your boat.
- The boat ramps have excellent car and trailer parking facilities and boat washing facilities are available.
- The tackle shop and kiosk at Launching Way cater for most boating and fishing needs, including fuel, fishing licenses and weather reports.
- Picnic and barbecue facilities are also located at the Launching Way. The river banks allow for picnic and strolling watching the boats slip by.

### Boating on the river

- All craft must adhere to State Boating regulations.
- A 5 knot speed limit applies along the entire length of the river and within 200m of the waters edge of Port Phillip Bay.
- A transit lane exists between the most easterly boat ramp and 200 metres off the shore. Boat and Personal Water Craft operators should not use transit lane for anything other than transition.
- The mouth of Patterson River can be hazardous during westerly winds, and a bar like situation can occur.
- Keep right when transiting along Patterson River.
- As the area surrounding Patterson River is residential, please be considerate to others.

Note: 'No Boating' Zones exist along the Port Phillip Coastline at Carrum. Please observe all signs to ensure your boating trip is a safe one.

### Personal Watercraft (Jet Skis)

Personal Watercraft (PWC) are an increasingly popular pastime and just like normal boat operators, PWC operators are subject to boating regulations. PWC operators will be required to hold boat operator licenses under the State Governments new boat operator licensing program (see below). For the safety of PWC operators and other users of the Patterson River, speed restrictions must be adhered to.

*Note: 'No PWC' zones exist at the mouth of the Patterson River. Please observe all signs to ensure your boating trip is a safe one.*

### Boat operator licensing

To help make Victoria's waterways safer, the State Government is introducing boat operator licensing. Licensing will apply to all operators of recreational powerboats and personal watercraft. It will ensure that everyone has at least a basic knowledge of waterway rules and safe boat operation.

- From February 2002, all operators of PWC and all recreational powerboat operators under the age of 21 will require a license to operate.
- From February 2003, all recreational PWC and powerboat operators will require a license to operate.

For more information regarding boat operator licenses contact the Marine Safety Victoria on 1800 223 022 or visit [www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au)

### Fishing

A recreational fishing licence is required for all forms of recreational fishing in all Victorian waters including Patterson River and Port Phillip Bay. Recreational Fishing licenses can be purchased at the tackle shop and kiosk at Launching Way - Ph: 9772 5777.

### Dredging keeps you boating

Parks Victoria dredges year round at Patterson River to allow safe access for recreational boats. At certain times of the year, and particularly after large storms, a dredge will be working around the mouth of the river. Dredging material deposited on the beach, while unsightly at first, is cleaned by natural processes over time.

### Further boating information

Further information is available in the Boating on the Bay brochure which is available from the Parks Victoria Patterson River office, by phoning the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963 or by visiting [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)



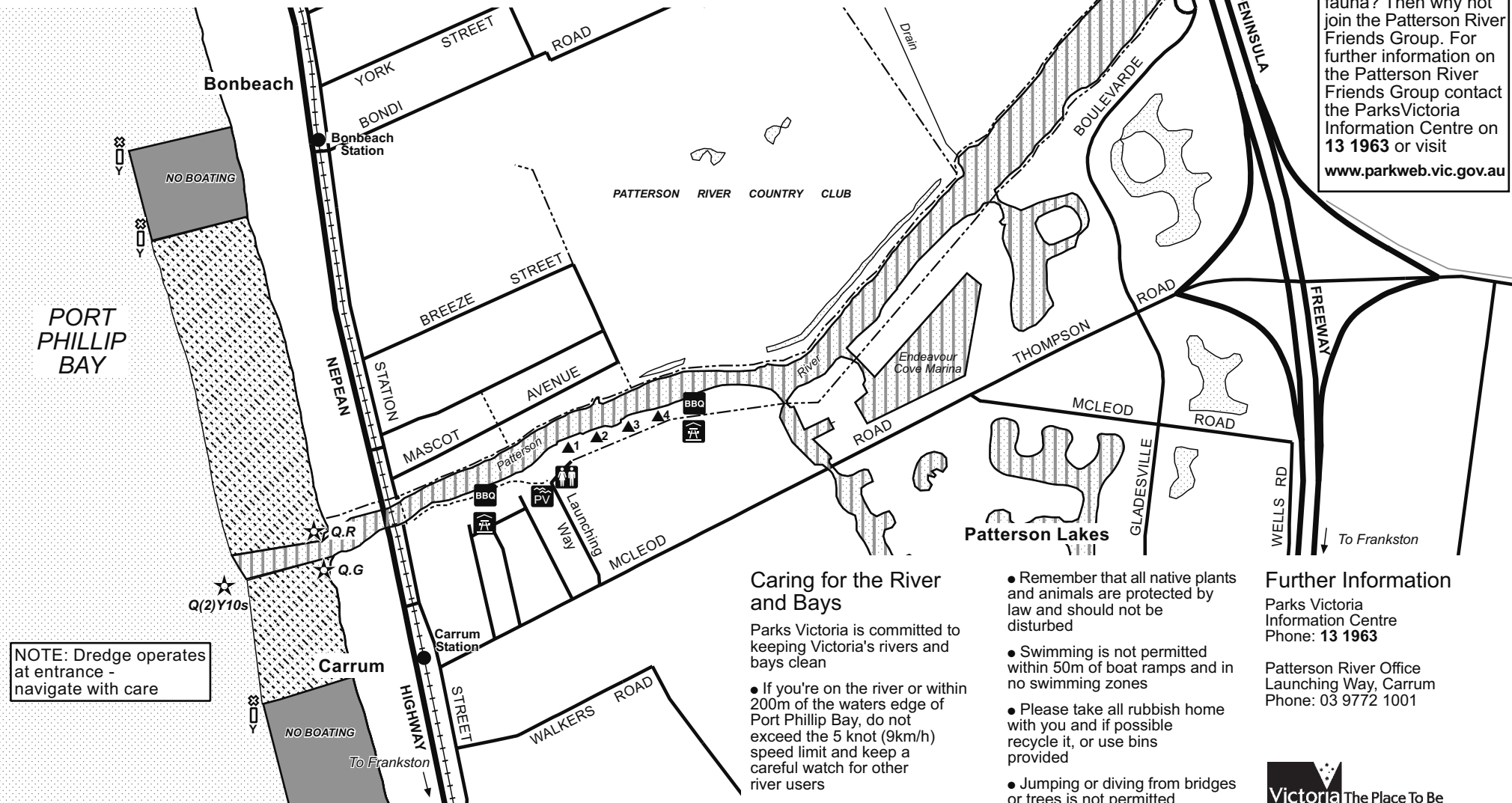
**Patterson River**

Freeway / Highway	5 Knot Zone	Barbecue
Sealed road	No Personal Watercraft	Parks Victoria Office, Tackle Shop & Coastguard
Bicycle path	Water body	Picnic shelter
	Ramp	Toilets
	Flashing Marker	
	Special Marker	

**Recreational Facilities**

MELBOURNE  
GEELONG

0 200 400 METRES  
Cartography by Spatial Vision 2002 M/6932



**Join a Friends Group**  
 Are you interested in helping to protect the Patterson River's heritage, flora and fauna? Then why not join the Patterson River Friends Group. For further information on the Patterson River Friends Group contact the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963 or visit [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

NOTE: Dredge operates at entrance - navigate with care

**Caring for the River and Bays**

Parks Victoria is committed to keeping Victoria's rivers and bays clean

- If you're on the river or within 200m of the waters edge of Port Phillip Bay, do not exceed the 5 knot (9km/h) speed limit and keep a careful watch for other river users

- Remember that all native plants and animals are protected by law and should not be disturbed
- Swimming is not permitted within 50m of boat ramps and in no swimming zones
- Please take all rubbish home with you and if possible recycle it, or use bins provided
- Jumping or diving from bridges or trees is not permitted

**Further Information**

Parks Victoria Information Centre  
 Phone: 13 1963  
 Patterson River Office  
 Launching Way, Carrum  
 Phone: 03 9772 1001

