

Alfred National Park

Visitor Guide

Alfred National Park is recognised for the protection of distinct vegetation communities, in particular warm temperate rainforest, which is of national significance. In an area of 3,050 hectares, many of the vegetation communities within the park contain species of flora and fauna that are uncommon or rare in Victoria. Although there are limited recreational opportunities for visitors to Alfred National Park, it makes a valuable contribution to Victoria's national parks system in the protection of natural and cultural values.

Location and access

Alfred National Park is located 480 km from Melbourne to the east of Cann River and is transected by the Princes Highway.

Experiencing Alfred National Park

Although there is little opportunity for visitors to stop and enjoy the park due to the risk posed by high speed traffic, brief glimpses of the spectacular forested foothills of the Drummer Range may be made while driving along the Princes Highway.

Early in the morning, you may also see Lyrebirds darting across the road and hear the calls of an amazing array of birdlife. From the road, visitors travelling through Alfred National Park will also experience the warm temperate rainforest. Stopping on the side of the road is not recommended so for those who wish to enjoy the rainforest experience on foot, the Bemm River Scenic Reserve on the Melbourne side of Cann River is a great alternative.

A haven for flora

During 1983, much of the park was severely burnt by wildfire. This had a dramatic effect on much of the vegetation and landscape.

Despite the impact caused by wildfire, significant areas of warm temperate rainforest still exist in Alfred National Park, in particular on the Drummer Range. The vegetation community is characterised by a closed canopy of Lilly Pilly with various lianas, ferns and epiphytes.

In addition to being a significant vegetation community, the warm temperate rainforest also protects rare or threatened flora including the Orange-blossom Orchid and Slender Tree-fern.

The wet sclerophyll forest of Alfred National Park is dominated by Messmate, Mountain Grey Gum and Blue Gum. The understorey features Soft

Tree-fern, Austral Mulberry, Hazel Pomaderris and Gippsland Waratah and many species of fern.



Hazel Pomaderris © MT

Along the rivers, the riparian forest is dominated by River Peppermint and Kanooka, while the higher slopes feature Silvertop Ash, White Stingy Bark and Mountain Gum. Within these vegetation communities exist sixteen flora species that are considered threatened in Victoria. The park is particularly important for the protection of Violet Nightshade, which is only found in Alfred National Park, Jointed Mistletoe and both the Prickly Tree-fern and Slender Tree-fern.

... and fauna

The range of habitats within the park potentially supports a variety of native fauna. Although no formal surveys have been undertaken, several important species have been recorded nearby including Spot-tailed Quoll, Common Bent-wing Bat, Powerful Owl and Sooty Owl.

Cultural significance

Alfred National Park is thought to have a cultural significance to the Bidawal People, inhabitants of this area of East Gippsland approximately 20,000 years ago. The park has strong cultural and spiritual places and consists of occupational sites, rock shelters and dreaming places.



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 - the closest public rubbish tip is located in Cann River or Genoa

Pets and firearms are not permitted in Alfred National Park

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

Camping is not permitted within the park. Formal campgrounds may be found nearby at Cann River, Genoa and Mallacoota

Warnings

The Princes Highway is a high speed road and therefore stopping on the roadside is not recommended

Alfred National Park is in the East Gippsland Total Fire Ban District. It is your responsibility to know if it is a day of Total Fire Ban. If in

doubt call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line: 1800 240 667.

Park closures
Be prepared to leave early as extreme weather may cause the closure of some park areas for public safety.

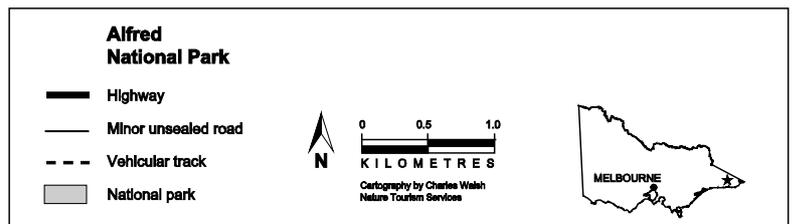
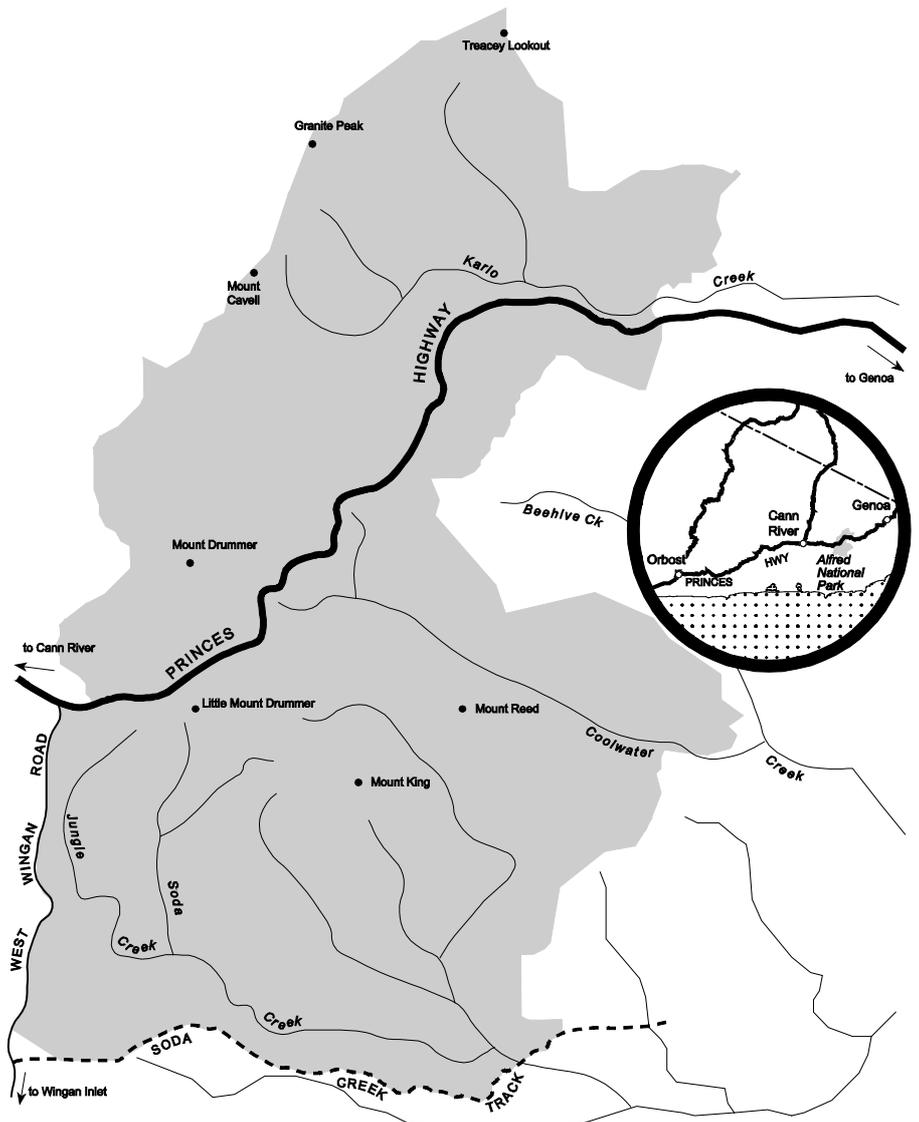
Healthy Parks Healthy People

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!

Exploring Far East Gippsland

Alfred National Park complements a number of other parks throughout Far East Gippsland, all of which feature significant values and provide for visitor experiences. The Bemm River Scenic Reserve on the Princes Highway has been developed with walkways and bridges to allow visitors to experience the rainforest environment.

Croajingolong National Park and Cape Conran Coastal Park both feature magnificent coastal environments, while Coopracambra National Park and Errinundra National Park encompass wilderness and mountain forests.



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