

Upper Yarra Reservoir Park

Visitor Guide



Nestled at the top of Yarra Valley, 24km east of Warburton, lies the popular Upper Yarra Reservoir Park – the uppermost point of the Yarra River accessible to the public. The park's peaceful open spaces, picnic grounds and spectacular scenery make picnicking, walking and camping a memorable experience.



Opening hours

The park is open every day of the year. Gates open at 8am and close at 5pm, or 6pm during daylight savings.

Getting there

Upper Yarra Reservoir Park is 24km north-east of Warburton. From Melbourne take the Maroondah Highway through Lilydale then the Warburton Highway to Warburton.

Things to see and do

Walking



Fern Gully Track – 500m, 20 minutes circuit

A beautiful shaded walk through tall eucalypts and a mystical fern gully. Although fairly easy-going, this walk features many steps.

Dogs are not permitted on this track.



Batts Creek Track – 1.4km, 1 hour return

Follow the Yarra River to the secluded Batts Creek Point. Please note that the track terminates here, and return is via the same route.

Dogs are not permitted on this track.



Brimbonga Walking Track – 300m, 15 minutes return

Take a short stroll from the easternmost car park to the viewing platform overlooking Upper Yarra Reservoir and watch water flow through the outlet basin as it begins its journey to Melbourne.

Picnicking

Have a picnic or barbecue in the attractive and peaceful grounds at Upper Yarra Reservoir Park. Picnic tables and barbecues can be found in the picnic areas near McVeigh's Water Wheel or at the campground carpark.

Near the campground, the hall that once served as the mess room for the dam construction team provides sheltered seating, electric barbecues and Coonara fires. Bring your own wood for the fire.

Camping

There is well serviced bush camping with wheelchair access to all facilities near the hall. With fireplaces available and no formal or powered sites, the campground is casual and spacious.

Booking are essential and can be made by visiting www.parks.vic.gov.au or calling Parks Victoria on 13 1963.

Large groups are welcome. When booking, campers will be given a code for the entry gates.

McVeigh's Water Wheel

Originally used to power a generator to run equipment in the Contention gold mine, this 4.3m historic water wheel also supplied power to McVeigh's Hotel.

Dogs

Dogs are permitted in much of the park, but not along Fern Gully Track or Batts Creek Track. Refer to map. Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times.

Exploring the history

The park area was originally a small town constructed for the workers who built the dam between 1947 and 1957.

Caring for the park

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

- Firearms, cats and other pets are not permitted in the park.
- All plants, animals, other natural features and cultural sites are protected and must not be disturbed or removed.
- Feeding wildlife is bad for their health. It is an offence to feed or leave food where it is accessible to wildlife. Penalties apply. Store all food securely (in your vehicle if camping) and properly dispose of all rubbish, including food scraps.

Be prepared and stay safe

Upper Yarra Reservoir Park is in the Central fire district. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions. Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at www.emergency.vic.gov.au, on the VicEmergency smartphone app or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226. No fires may be lit on Total Fire Ban days.

On Code Red Fire Danger Rating days this park will be closed for public safety. Closure signs may be erected but do not expect an official warning. Check the latest conditions at www.parks.vic.gov.au or by calling 13 1963.

For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). If there is a green emergency marker sign near you, read the information on the marker to the operator.