Lake Hindmarsh Lake Reserve

Gurru

Visitor Guide

An ideal place for camping and water sports this is Victoria’s largest natural freshwater lake and it is brimming with water and attracting wildlife again.

Enjoying the Lake Reserve
Gurru has basic facilities with bush settings make the lake ideal for the self-contained visitor to enjoy bird watching, bush camping, boating and fishing.

Camping and accommodation
Four-Mile Beach is the most popular area with well-developed facilities. - Camping fees apply. Schulzes Beach and The Wattles have pit toilets -No fees are charged. Bush Camping - You can camp at several other locations around the lake. There are no facilities. A range of accommodation options are available at Jeparit, Nhill, Rainbow and, Dimboola.

Boating
The lake caters for a variety of boat-based activities including fishing, water skiing and sailing.

How to get there
Lake Hindmarsh (Gurru) is reached via the Western Highway, turning north at Nhill or Dimboola. The Lake is 380km from Melbourne and 450km from Adelaide.

Rich with plants and wildlife
Lake Hindmarsh (Gurru) is a valuable haven for waterbirds, and is home to permanent and visiting birds including white-breasted sea-eagles, swans, ducks, terns, spoonbills, terns and colonies of pelicans.

River Red Gums and the Three-nerve Wattle fringe the lake and lead into the adjoining Birdcage Flora and Fauna Reserve where Black Box, Yellow Gum and native Slender Cypress-pine provide food and shelter to wrens, honeyeaters, robins, parrots, and species such as the Bush Thick-knee (Curlew) and Gilbert’s Whistler.

“Wotjobaluk people have always looked after their country and the country has always looked after Wotjobaluk people.” The late Uncle Jack Kennedy, Wotjobaluk Elder

April 2011

For more information call the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963 or visit our website at www.parks.vic.gov.au
Caring for the environment
Help us to look after the park by remembering these guidelines:

All native plants and animals, archaeological sites, historic and cultural remains and geological features are protected by law and must not be disturbed, damaged or removed.

Please take all rubbish home with you for disposal or recycling.

FIRE
Fires may be lit subject to fire regulations at all times
Fuel stoves are preferred
Firewood may be collected only for campfires within the lake reserve and should only be dead wood from the ground

No fires/flames, (including gas or fuel stoves/lanterns in tents) may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban

Lake Hindmarsh Lake Reserve is in the Wimmera 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

Boating safety
Do not mix alcohol and boating.
Always carry or wear appropriate safety equipment.
Know the boating regulations
Watch out for boats, canoes and hazards.
Do not overload the boat.

Check the Victorian Boating Guide for details www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au

Driving - carefully
Drive only on formed roads and vehicle tracks that are open to the public - do not drive off-track.
Stay off tracks that are too wet, or have been recently graded.
Avoid wheel spin and churning up the track surface.

Don’t drive around freshly fallen logs and trees, remove them or return the way you came.

Bush camping
Minimise your impact on the lakes environment. Show care and respect for this place.
Follow these guidelines and you can ensure it survives into the future.

Camp at least 20 metres from water bodies.
Camp in natural clearings and avoid camping under large trees – their limbs may fall without warning.
Use a chemical toilet or bury human waste at least 100 metres from water bodies.

Mobile Phones
You may not be in network range in some areas of the park. To be connected to Police, Ambulance or CFA, key in 112 then press the YES key.