

Brimbank Park

Visitor Guide



Just a short drive from the heart of the city, Brimbank Park offers a great setting for a family picnic. The Brimbank Park Playscape is a haven for creative play that will inspire children and their families to connect with nature as they play. You can also get active by walking or cycling along the extensive network of trails.



Opening hours

Brimbank Park is open every day including weekends and public holidays from 6.00am every day.

The park closes at 5.30pm AEST and at 8.00pm during Daylight Savings.

Getting there

Brimbank Park is approximately 15 kilometres north-west of Melbourne CBD in Keilor East. Vehicle access is off Keilor Park Drive.

Things to see and do

There is a network of cycling and walking tracks, an excellent children's playground, picnic areas and an orienteering course in the park. The 25km long Maribyrnong River Trail follows the river from Keilor to Footscray.

Walking

With over 10km of tracks in Brimbank Park and the Maribyrnong River Trail, you are sure to find a path right for you. Most of the tracks through Brimbank Park are sealed and allow for shared access and disabled visitors.

1. Brimbank Loop Walk – 3.5km, 1.5 hours

This wonderful walk allows you to experience much of Brimbank Park's landscapes. The shared path follows the Maribyrnong River as it winds around the natural basin of Brimbank Park, then leads you up the escarpment away from the river, to panoramic views of the area. Along the way, admire the old River Red Gums, with many hollows serving as homes to birds and other wildlife. The geological history of the land is on display on the river banks, where layers of basalt and sandstone were laid around 400 million years ago. The best location to begin this loop walk is from Carpark A, where you can make your way down the hill to the trail alongside the river.

2. Main Regional Trail – 25km

A 5.5km section of this trail runs through Brimbank Park, with the extension following the Maribyrnong River through Melbourne's north-western suburbs all the way to Southbank in the city. It is a shared pathway for cyclists and pedestrians. Over time this river has cut a valley through the basalt plains of northern Melbourne, and those on the trail will experience a variety of landscapes, and a window into Melbourne's past and present land use.

3. Horseshoe Bend Loop Walk – 2km, 45 minutes

Horseshoe Bend Loop Walk is a serene place to experience nature. Begin at the farm driveway, and follow the gravel trail down to the Maribyrnong River. From here, the path is mostly flat and follows the river in a loop, where you can spot wildlife, including many bird varieties and sometimes shy swamp wallabies. At Horseshoe Bend, there is an original 1930s weatherboard cottage and farm outbuildings, a reminder of the site's farming past.

Picnicking

There are several picnic areas in the park. Gas barbecues, shelters and picnic tables are available free of charge with no bookings required. For large group functions, visit www.parks.vic.gov.au to fill out the event application form or call 13 1963.

The café at the visitor centre is open during park hours each day except Monday, with both indoor and outdoor eating areas. The café's conference room can also be hired for events.

Plants and animals

Native grasslands sweep across the open plains, down through the rocky outcrop escarpments with majestic River red gums lining the Maribyrnong River. These natural areas are home to a diverse variety of local wildlife.

The park features a variety of birds including parrots, galahs, large wetland birds and birds of prey. Brushtail and ringtail possums dwell within the large river red gums. Wallabies and bats are known to frequent the area as well as different species of snakes and lizards.

Caring for the parks

Help us look after your parks by following these guidelines:

- Please take rubbish home with you (including cigarette butts) for recycling or disposal.
- All plants, animals, historical and archaeological sites and geographic features are protected by law. Please do not disturb them in any way.
- Dogs are permitted at Brimbank Park but must be kept on a lead at all times.
- Vehicles, including motor bikes, may only be used on formed open roads. Drivers must be licensed and vehicles registered and roadworthy.
- Firearms and generators are prohibited.
- Access to the grasslands is restricted. Please call the Ranger Office to book an appointment.

Be prepared and stay safe

Brimbank 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 will 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.