

# Grampians National Park

## Overnight Hiking

Bushwalkers looking for the excitement and challenge of overnight hikes will find plenty of scope in the Southern and Northern areas of the Grampians National Park. Only fit and experienced groups should undertake these strenuous walks.

### Register your trip

- A compulsory registration system applies for the three overnight walks in the Grampians, (*See trip intention form for details*).
- Details of your party, proposed route & emergency contact numbers need to be lodged at Brambuk the National Park & Cultural Centre Halls Gap, well in advance of departure.
- All walkers are to report back in at the conclusion of their trip to prevent emergency response procedures being activated.
- Group sizes must not exceed 15 people.

### Walking track conditions

- Track conditions are likely to change
- ALWAYS check current conditions when you register your walk with Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre.
- Walking tracks may involve rock steps, uneven and slippery track surfaces, water crossings and rock hopping - so mind your footing.
- There are steep cliffs throughout the Grampians, please supervise children at all times.

### Overnight campsites

- Please use fuel stoves in all hiker campsites - campfires are not permitted.
- Always check for Total Fire Bans and fire conditions prior to your walk and carry a small radio or mobile phone.

### Weather

- At higher altitudes weather conditions can change rapidly at any time of year.
- Temperatures exceeding forty degrees may be experienced during Summer and Autumn.
- Strong winds, low temperatures and heavy rain-squalls are common all times of the year.
- Snowfall and blizzards are common in Winter.
- Low cloud may seriously reduce visibility with little warning.

### Respect our environment and culture

Please follow minimal impact guidelines:

- Stay on track - prevent trampling.
- Carry it in, carry it out; don't bury or burn it.
- Leave campsites as you find them.
- Use toilets where available, otherwise dig a hole 15 cm deep, 100 paces from water, campsites and walking tracks. Cover well.
- Leave no trace - respect Aboriginal heritage by not camping in caves or rock shelters.
- Leave all artefacts undisturbed.

### Be safe, be prepared

- Plan your route according to your group ability and ensure all members understand emergency evacuation procedures.
- Each member of the party should carry a topographic map and a compass, and know how to navigate with them.
- At least one member of the party should have previously completed the proposed route at the same time of the year.
- If you are using a GPS, ensure the datum is set up relevant to the map you are using.
- Check clothing, tents and other equipment prior to departure to ensure you are properly equipped.
- Water is usually not available in Summer and Autumn.
- Ensure all group members carry at least 3-4 litres per person per day.
- All members should carry good quality, waterproof, outer shell protective layers.
- Walkers should have knowledge of first aid, particularly for conditions such as sprains and strains, hypothermia and heat exhaustion.

### Be fire ready – stay safe

The Grampians National Park is located in a high fire risk area. Code Red is the highest fire danger rating and on days of Code Red Fire Danger this park will be closed for public safety. If you are already in the park you should leave the night before or early in the morning. You may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed so always check the latest conditions by calling 13 1963 or visit [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au).

During Summer and Autumn, Total Fire Bans are common; this means no fires are to be lit in the park including portable cooking appliances. Being aware of Total Fire Bans or high fire risk weather is your responsibility.

For up to date information on fires in Victoria or general fire safety advice call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667, listen to local ABC or ACE radio.

**Please note:** The Fortress walking track is currently closed due to damage from the Grampians fire in February 2013. Parks Victoria are assessing this track and will reopen it as soon as works are completed.



For further information

Parks Victoria  
Information Centre  
Call **13 1963**

or visit the  
Parks Victoria website  
[www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)

You can also visit  
Brambuk - The National  
Park & Cultural Centre  
Halls Gap  
**(03) 5361 4000**  
[www.brambuk.com.au](http://www.brambuk.com.au)

Caring for the  
environment

Dogs, cats and firearms  
are not permitted in the  
national park

Do not feed kangaroos or  
any other wildlife

Drive carefully on roads as  
wildlife cross without  
warning

Please take your rubbish  
home with you

Generators are not  
permitted in the  
national park

#### **FIRE**

Fires may only be lit in  
fireplaces provided at  
designated campgrounds  
(please see map)

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

Grampians National Park  
is in the **Wimmera** and  
**South West Total Fire  
Ban Districts**

**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

#### **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**

#### **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!*



## Recommended overnight hikes

### Grampians National Park

#### **MT DIFFICULT (GAR) AND BRIGGS BLUFF**

**Distance:** 21.2km total

**Time:** 2 days / 1 night

**Start:** Troopers Creek Campground

**Grade:** Hard

#### **Elevation change:**

**Day 1:** 480m, **Day 2:** 420m

#### **Hiker Campsites:**

Datum used GDA94 Zone 54

- Briggs Bluff Hiker Campsite 294 055
- Mt Difficult Hiker Campsite 284 030
- Longpoint West Hiker Campsite 293 024
- Longpoint East Hiker Campsite 306 026

#### **Recommended Map:**

Northern Grampians Outdoor Recreation Guide  
Scale: 1:50,000 produced by Spatial Vision

#### **Day One**

##### **Troopers Creek Campground to Briggs Bluff Hiker Campsite (12.4km - 6-7 Hours)**

This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve water crossings, slippery track surfaces, rockhopping and rock scrambling. The walk begins as an easy stroll through forested slopes. Soon the track becomes a steep, zig zagging climb to the base of massive cliff overhangs and then weaves through a maze of weathered rock formations and boulders. Just beyond the Mt Difficult Hiker Campsite, turn left and follow the track markers over the rocky slope until you reach the summit. Return back to the Mt Difficult Hiker Campsite and descend into the Wartook Basin to the Long Point West Hiker Campsite.

Follow the Long Point Fireline to your left, until you near the Long Point East Hiker Campsite where the walking track climbs back up the Mt Difficult Range. Shortly after passing the Deep Creek Gorge you will reach your overnight destination at the Briggs Bluff Hiker Campsite which is located near Mud Hut Creek.

#### **Day Two**

##### **Briggs Bluff Hiker Campsite to Troopers Creek Campground (8.8km - 5 Hours)**

Continue north-west beyond the Briggs Bluff Hiker Campsite for 150m and turn right and follow the track to the summit of Briggs Bluff that offers some of the most spectacular cliffline views in the Northern Grampians. Return along the same route back to the Briggs Bluff Hiker Campsite and beyond for another 300m and turn right. Follow the undulating, rocky track through to the Mt Difficult Hiker Campsite. To complete the loop, descend via the overhanging cliffs to Troopers Creek Campground.

#### **MAJOR MITCHELL PLATEAU**

**Distance:** 40.7km total

**Time:** 3 days / 2 nights

**Start:** Sheep Hills Carpark, 3km south of Mt William Road

**Grade:** Hard

#### **Elevation change:**

**Day 1:** 640m, **Day 2:** 850m, **Day 3:** 190m

#### **Hiker Campsites:**

Datum used GDA94 Zone 54

- First Wannon Hiker Campsite 407 683

#### **Recommended Map:**

Southern Grampians Outdoor Recreation Guide  
Scale: 1:50,000 produced by Spatial Vision

#### **Day One**

##### **Sheep Hills Carpark to First Wannon Hiker Campsite (12.7km - 5 Hours)**

This walk begins as a gentle stroll through a forest of Stringybark's and Banksias before rising steadily to a ridge where you will be rewarded with great views of the neighbouring ranges and valleys. Follow the ridge until the track intersects with the Mt William Road. Follow the sealed road towards your right until you reach the Mt William Carpark. From the Carpark follow the sealed road beyond the gate towards the summit of Mt William (Duwul). Before the summit, follow an old management vehicle track along the top of the range, the track narrows and descends to Boundary Gap (Dirag). A steep rock scramble upwards brings you onto the Major Mitchell Plateau, and the First Wannon Hiker Campsite is reached shortly after.

#### **Day Two**

##### **First Wannon Hiker Campsite to Jimmy Creek Campground (13km - 5 Hours)**

The track continues beyond the First Wannon Hiker Campsite along the Major Mitchell Plateau, revealing magnificent panoramic views. Keep watch for the track markers along the less conspicuous sections of the track. The track leaves the Major Mitchell Plateau and descends steeply to Stockyard Saddle; continue along a Management Vehicle Track that leads to a helipad. From the helipad, the walking track gradually winds downhill to the Jimmy Creek Campground.

#### **Day Three**

##### **Jimmy Creek Campground to Sheep Hills Carpark (15km - 5 Hours)**

Cross the Wannon River at the footbridge and follow the track to the Ingleton Fireline. From this intersection follow the Fireline towards your right. Cross over Serra Road and continue along the undulating Fireline, directional signage indicates the turn-off to the Sheep Hills Carpark.

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## Recommended overnight hikes Grampians National Park

### **WONDERLAND OVERNIGHT WALK**

**Distance:** 32km total  
**Time:** 2 days / 1 night  
**Start:** Halls Gap Tennis Courts  
**Grade:** Hard

**Elevation change:**  
**Day 1:** 770m, **Day 2:** 160m

**Campground**  
Datum used GDA94 Zone 54  
• Borough Huts Campground 366 791

**Recommended Map:**  
Northern Grampians Outdoor Recreation Guide  
Scale: 1:50,000 produced by Spatial Vision

**Day One**  
Halls Gap to Rosea Carpark (8.5km - 4 Hours)  
Follow the well formed track to Venus Baths.  
The rocky track continues to Splitters Falls then  
to the Wonderland Carpark.  
Cross the footbridge over Stony Creek and  
enter the majestic Grand Canyon. A steady  
climb past magnificent rock formations and  
through Silent Street brings you to awe inspiring  
views at the Pinnacle Lookout. From here turn  
left, and take the track through to the Sundial  
Carpark. Follow the walking track towards the  
Sundial Lookout for 260m and turn right onto  
the gently undulating walking track that will lead  
you to the Rosea carpark.

**Day One Continued**  
**Rosea Carpark to Borough Huts  
Campground (9.5km - 4 Hours)**  
Cross Stony Creek Road to start an ascent  
through tall Messmate forests. On the ridge,  
carefully follow track markers through a maze of  
sandstone outcrops, to cross a bridge over the  
Gate of the East Wind.  
Continue the ascent up windswept terraces to a  
signposted intersection, turning left to the  
summit of Mount Rosea. Enjoy a remarkable  
360-degree view before returning to the last  
intersection and veer left, down into a shady  
forest. Track markers will guide you through  
rocky outcrops. The track steepens through for-  
ested gullies before reaching the Borough Huts  
Campground. (Camping fees apply)

**Day Two**  
**Borough Huts Campground to Halls Gap  
(14km - 5-6 Hours)**

Walk north along the Grampians Tourist Road,  
turn right onto the Bellfield Track then continue  
along the Terraces Fireline. Follow this track  
beyond the Tandara Road intersection and  
continue the track as it narrows through to  
Delley's Bridge. From the Bridge turn left, and  
follow the bike path for a short distance into the  
town and to the Tennis Courts.  
Please note: On the first day of this walk you  
will need to allow at least 8 hours for walking.  
Only undertake this walk from Spring to Autumn  
when there are more daylight hours.

# Overnight Hiking - Trip Intention Form

## Grampians National Park

phone: 03 5361 4000 fax: 03 5361 4059 email: info@brambuk.com.au

- Please ensure that this form is completed, and all information is accurate.
- In filling out this form it is YOUR responsibility to contact Brambuk - National Park & Cultural Centre before you commence your walk to discuss details with staff. Allow more than two days in case any changes need to be made.
- To ensure you have returned safely, please contact staff again at the completion of your hike.
- The Centre is open daily from 9am to 5pm. If the Centre is closed you may leave a message on the answering machine, or place this form under the door to say that you have returned.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Group name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Hikers in group: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Walking Track Route	Overnight Hiker Campsite	Grid reference

**First Vehicle** Location left at: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle make: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle model: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle colour: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Vehicle** Location left at: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle make: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle model: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle colour: \_\_\_\_\_

### Group Carries

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Map _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Water _____ litres/per day | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof jackets | <input type="checkbox"/> Tent/Tarp        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compass       | <input type="checkbox"/> EPIRB                      | <input type="checkbox"/> GPS                | <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite phone  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel stove    | <input type="checkbox"/> Spare clothing             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag       | <input type="checkbox"/> Food for __ days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Matches                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle            | <input type="checkbox"/> Torch            |

Other relevant information eg: Medical Condition

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In the event of NOT REPORTING my return to Brambuk - The National Park & Cultural Centre by \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

I request that you contact my emergency contact person/s:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*EMERGENCY PROCEDURES** will be initiated in the event of you not reporting at the end of your trip. If you do not report the completion or cancellation of the trip, a search by local police and emergency services may be undertaken. If this occurs you could be liable for civil action for any costs involved.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

Office Use Only Trip details checked by, Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____
Discussion Tick Box <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Ban <input type="checkbox"/> Water <input type="checkbox"/> Weather <input type="checkbox"/> Not Reporting In
Return confirmed: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> In Person <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Signed: _____