

Yarra Ranges National Park



Healesville area

Enjoy fresh mountain air surrounded by mature forest. Forest walks pass through ancient fern gullies, across clear mountain streams and meander among mighty Mountain Ash trees.



Laughing Kookaburra

The area around Healesville has something for everyone. Enjoy a peaceful walk through Mountain Ash and fern gullies, take in sweeping mountain views, have a family picnic or large gathering in a park or go for a mountain bike or horse ride along The Bicentennial National Trail.

Gates at Maroondah Reservoir, Badger Weir and Donnellys Weir open at 9am. Closing times vary so check signs at park entry.

Badger Weir

Old-style shingle roof rotundas, landscaped grounds and barbecues, all bounded by spectacular forest, make a picnic with family and friends a memorable experience.

Short walks around Badger Weir

Badger Weir via Slip Creek Track

- 1.4 km, approx 30 minutes, Moderate

The many steps on the fern gully boardwalk make this walk unsuitable for prams and strollers.

Badger Weir via Coranderrk Track

- 1.1km, approx 30 minutes, Easy (follows vehicle track to weir)

Badger Weir via Lyrebird Track

- 1.1km, approx 30 minutes, Easy (a few steps)

Maroondah Reservoir

See the 41 metre high dam wall, historic valve houses, the 'Rose Stairway,' exotic trees, native eucalypts, scenic lookout and the reservoir spillway (overflowing during spring, depending on seasonal conditions).

Rotundas in the park may be booked for special events by calling Parks Victoria on 13 1963.

Construction of the Maroondah Reservoir wall began in 1920 and was completed in 1927. Donnellys Creek was diverted in 1893 to augment the water supply to the Maroondah Aqueduct. Today, the weir acts as a reserve supply during dry periods.

Short walks around Maroondah Reservoir

Lookout Track (crosses the dam wall)

- 1km, approximately 30 minutes, Moderate

Start at the information shelter north of the main carpark area and see the many attractions below the dam wall before climbing the Rose Stairway for spectacular views of the reservoir. A bitumen walking track at the eastern end of the carpark also leads to the top of the dam wall.

Maroondah Forest Track

- 800m, approx 15 minutes, Moderate

This track connects the Lookout and Henderson's Picnic Area via a pleasant forest walk.

Scenic Views Track

- 1.3km, approx 30 minutes, Easy

Start at the top carpark and wind through grassed areas with large exotic trees and mountain views before heading to the top of the dam wall.

Henderson's Hill Track

- 1.4km, approx 40 minutes, Moderate

Leaving Henderson's Picnic Area at the footbridge over the Watts River the track climbs to the top of Henderson's Hill and back down to the access road. At this point, return to Henderson's Picnic Area or continue on to Donnelly's Weir.

Maroondah Reservoir to Donnellys Weir

- 2.8km, approx 1 hour - one way, Easy

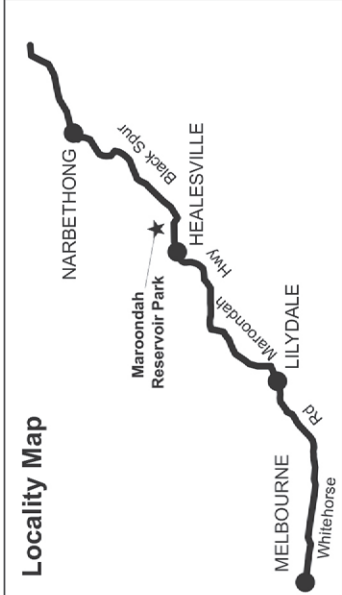
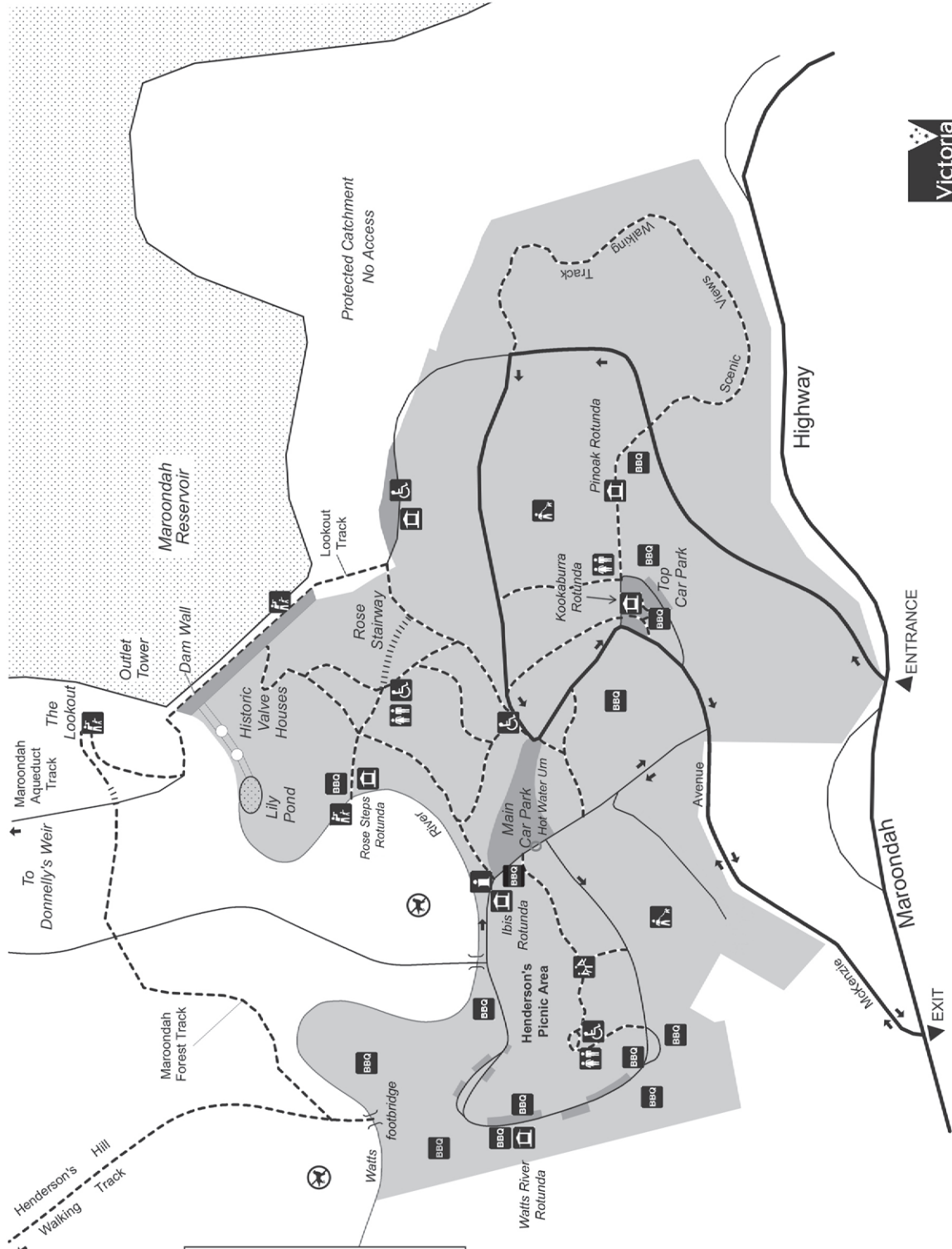
Starting from Henderson's Hill Track stroll through forests of tree-ferns and eucalypts with a stop at Echo Tunnel where the pipe connecting Maroondah Reservoir to the aqueduct emerges from under the hill.

For a slightly longer walk you can take the alternative route via the Maroondah Forest Track, or for a steeper, more strenuous walk there is an alternative route over Henderson's Hill.

For more information call Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au



Maroondah Reservoir Park



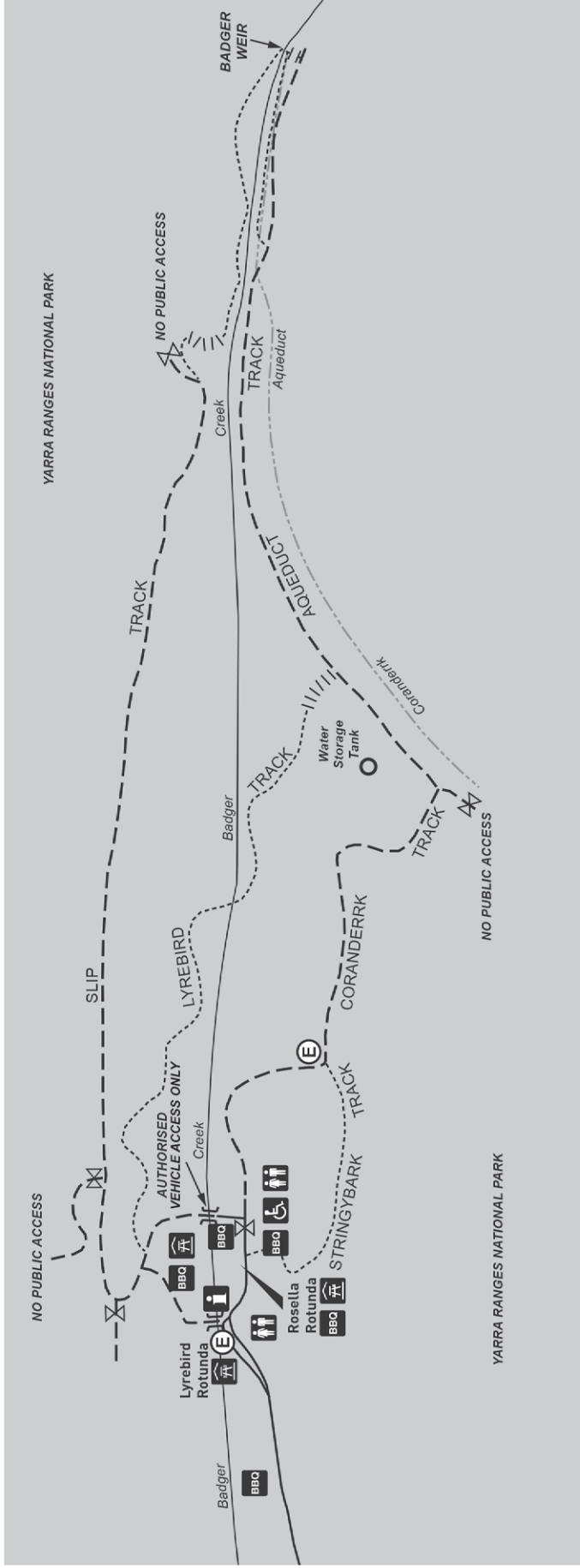
Maroondah Reservoir Park

| | | | |
|--|---------------|--|----------------------|
| | Park Boundary | | Toilets |
| | Water Body | | Disabled Access |
| | Carpark | | Rotunda |
| | Mejor Road | | Barbecue |
| | Minor Road | | Lookout |
| | Walking Track | | Playground |
| | Steps | | Dogs Allowed on Lead |
| | River | | No Dogs Allowed |
| | Information | | Bridge |

0 50 100 Metres

Cartography by Parks Victoria and Spatial Vision 2004 M16823

Badger Weir - Yarra Ranges National Park



Be fire ready and stay safe

On days of forecast 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 for your own safety.

Closure signs will be erected and rangers will patrol where possible, however you may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed so check by calling **13 1963** or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au.

For up to date information on fires in Victoria or general fire safety advice call the **Victorian Bushfire Information Line** on **1800 240 667** or visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au.



| | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | Sealed road | | BBQ | | Barbecue-Wood |
| | Vehicle track (4WD) | | Facilities for people with disabilities | | Barbecue-Wood |
| | Walking track | | Park Information | | Facilities for people with disabilities |
| | Boardwalk | | Picnic shelter | | Park Information |
| | Aqueduct | | Toilets | | Picnic shelter |
| | National Park Access | | Toilets | | Toilets |
| | Gate-Pedestrian Access | | ESTA Marker | | ESTA Marker |

Badger Weir
Yarra Ranges National Park

Recreational Facilities
Barbecue-Wood
Facilities for people with disabilities
Park Information
Picnic shelter
Toilets
ESTA Marker

0 50 100 METRES
Cartography by Spatial Vision 2008 M/6634

MELBOURNE

Parks VICTORIA

For further information

Call Parks Victoria on **13 1963**
or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au

Yarra Valley
Visitor Information Centre
The Old Courthouse
Harker Street
Healesville 3777
Tel: (03) 5962 2600

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park
by following these guidelines:

Yarra Ranges National Park
encompasses major closed
catchments for Melbourne's pure
water supply. It is vital that
everyone helps to ensure the
prevention of pollution and fire.
Take notice of signs stating No
Public Access

Please take rubbish with you for
recycling and disposal

All native plants and animals
are protected by law. Please do
not disturb them in any way

Dogs and other pets are not
permitted in Yarra Ranges
National Park, Donnellys Weir or
Badger Weir

Dogs are allowed in Maroondah
Reservoir Park, but must be kept
on a lead at all times

No fires are permitted on a day of
Total Fire Ban. Built-in gas or
electric barbecues may be used.
You can also use your own gas or
electric barbecue provided:

- a 3 metre area is
cleared of anything
flammable
- at least 10 litres of
water is available for
immediate use
 - an adult is in
attendance at all times

Yarra Ranges National Park is in
the **Central, North Central** and
North East Total Fire Ban District

Feeding of birds and other wildlife
is not permitted

Firearms and other weapons are
prohibited

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!



Donnellys Weir

Donnellys Weir forms both the start and finish of The Bicentennial National Trail. A variety of walks from the Picnic Area cater for both casual and longer distance walkers. All times are estimates only.

Condons Track

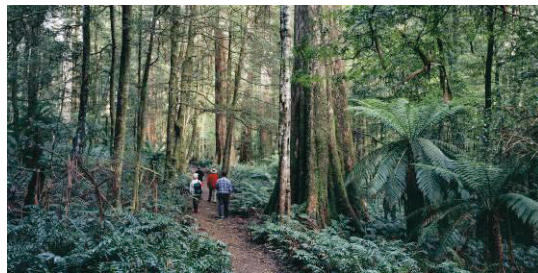
- 8 km, approx 3.5 hours - one way, Difficult

This walk is for experienced bushwalkers only and is very steep. Beginning on Road 17 just past Echo Tunnel, the track climbs the slopes of Mt Monda through ancient fern gullies and tall, wet Mountain Ash forest. From Road 9 Mt Monda return to Donnellys Weir via Condons Track, or follow the sign posts on Road 9 to Mt St Leonard. The entire circuit from Donnellys Weir to Mt Monda, Mt St Leonard and back to the weir is 21km and takes seven to eight hours.

Mt St Leonard Track

- 8km, approx 3 hours - one way, Moderate

Incorporating part of The Bicentennial National Trail, this track passes through mixed eucalypt forest and offers magnificent views across the Yarra Valley from the summit of Mt St Leonard.



Fernshaw

Fernshaw Picnic Area is located at the foot of the Black Spur amid Mountain Ash and Fir trees. There are walking tracks, a parking area, picnic and barbecue facilities and toilets. The picnic area is located 11 km north-east of Healesville on the eastern side of the Maroondah Highway and is open daily.

The picnic area at Fernshaw was once the main street of the township of Fernshaw. In the 1860s the town was a vital rest and stabling point for those journeying to the Woods Point goldfields and beyond and boasted several hotels, a school, houses and shops.

The well-known 5.5km "Morley's Track" starts at the picnic area takes you to the Dom Dom Saddle, and then on to Mt Donna Buang.

Dom Dom Saddle

Dom Dom Saddle, atop the Black Spur is 500m above sea-level. The picnic ground is set among large oaks and elms.

History

For thousands of years, Aboriginal people of the Wurundjeri Clan inhabited this area, forming part of the larger Kulin Nation. The area provided opportunities for hunting and gathering, and the network of indigenous walking tracks eventually gave early Europeans direction through the thick scrub and forest.

Water for Melbourne

The water catchment area surrounding the weir has been managed for water harvesting for more than 100 years.

Since 1968, research has been undertaken in the area to examine the relationship between Mountain Ash forests and the water cycle. The research shows that mature age forests use less water than young, fast growing forests. As more water is available from a mature forest, every effort is made to protect the forest from fire. This is one of the reasons why most of the catchment is closed to the public.

A haven for plants and animals

Surrounded by protected water catchment, the mature forest of Mountain Ash and Manna Gum is a magnificent sight. Hollows in these old trees provide homes and nesting sites for many native mammals and birds such as possums, gliders, owls, bats, cockatoos and parrots.

Picnic grounds established at the weirs were planted with many exotic trees including cedars, firs, pines and cypresses.

Native plant species found in the parks include eucalypts such as Messmates, Manna Gums, Silver Wattles, Rough Tree-ferns and Prickly Currant bush. The gullies are filled with tree ferns that grow extremely slowly - about two centimetres each year. Some of these are over 200 years old!

Birds are abundant throughout the park and include Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos, Laughing Kookaburra, Pied Currawong, Eastern Yellow Robins, Bassian Thrush and White-throated Treecreepers.

Emergency markers

The Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) has created Emergency Marker Points to help to pinpoint exact locations in the case of an emergency. In an emergency, phone 000 and quote the closest ESTA Emergency Marker code. For further information visit www.esta.vic.gov.au.

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