

Victoria – Permits and permissions required to access indigenous and other lands, including national parks

The really good news from Victoria is that on and from 1st July, 2010, entry to ALL of Victoria's National Parks is FREE, yes FREE!

This includes major attractions such as: Wilsons Promontory National Park, Point Nepean National Park, Werribee Park, Mount Buffalo National Park, Baw Baw National Park (excluding the Mt Baw Baw Alpine Resort), Mornington Peninsula National Park, Yarra Ranges (Mount Donna Buang), Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, National Rhododendron Gardens and the William Ricketts Sanctuary.

Camping fees, which vary from park to park, continue to apply though in many National Parks. Detailed information regarding the camping fees that apply can be found on the Parks Victoria website at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au click on "Activities" and then "Camping". You will then be able to highlight the Park you intend to visit from a list, and when you click on it, the charges and all related information regarding booking, facilities, site availability, whether or not ballots apply in peak times (and if they do when they open and close), etc., will pop up. For some of the more popular national parks a button may also be available to facilitate on-line campsite bookings – look for it. The information available also includes seasonal and other road closures, and a whole host of other great information.

Bear in mind that there are a whole lot of seasonal road closures that operate in many areas of Victoria, and in many national parks.

Loads of other good information is also available from the Parks Victoria web site at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au and click on "Parks and Reserves". There is also a button on the "Home" page that will take you to "Victoria's Iconic 4WD Adventures"; now there's a great site.

As far as can be ascertained there are no areas in Victoria where any form of aboriginal permit entry system operates.

The Parks Victoria Information Centre can also be contacted on 13 19 63 or by email at info@parks.vic.gov.au.

Head Office is at Level 10, 535 Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 or telephone (03) 8627 4699 or fax (03) 9629 5563.

Road conditions generally:

For road conditions generally throughout Victoria, visit the VicRoads website at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au and click on “Roads and Traffic Conditions”. Up to date road reports are also available at www.exploroz.com/Roads/Default.aspx

Can I get a Concession?:

Don't forget, if you are dealing with a National Park Service or any Government Agency, and you have a Seniors Card or a Pension Card of some description; always ask whether a Seniors Discount is available. In most cases the answer is, yes!

Disclaimer:

Whilst every care has been taken in the preparation of this information, no responsibility can be accepted for either the accuracy of the contents or for any errors or omissions.

With your assistance we might also endeavour to maintain this information in an updated form. So if you wish to amend, or add to any of the information contained in this article, please contact the undersigned on (02) 9523 9266 or email john.greig@bigpond.com

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Please also be sure to read the first part of this site titled “Heading Outback – Do I Need a Permit? – Can I Drive that Track?” in conjunction with the information above.