

# Creswick Regional Park

## Visitor Guide



Home to a variety of native wildlife and colourful spring wildflowers, this park provides a fascinating glimpse of the past. Enjoy the bushland as you walk, cycle or drive through the ancient hills and discover the relics of the gold mining era or simply relax and enjoy a picnic by St Georges Lake.



### Getting there

Creswick Regional Park is 120km north-west of Melbourne, half way between Ballarat and Daylesford just off the Midland Highway.

#### Womin-Dji-Ka (Welcome)

Creswick Regional Park is part of the traditional lands of the Dja Dja Wurrung People whose rights were recognised through a Recognition and Settlement Agreement with the State of Victoria in March 2013. The Dja Dja Wurrung People maintain a close and continuing connection to Djandak, their traditional Country.

Djandak is a cultural landscape that includes both tangible objects such as scarred trees, mounds, wells and stone artefact scatters; and intangible stories. Djandak is a living entity, which holds stories of creation and histories that cannot be erased.

Parks Victoria pays our respects to Dja Dja Wurrung Elders, past, present, and future, and asks visitors to do the same. Aboriginal artefacts are protected by law, and it is prohibited to disturb them.

### Things to see and do

#### Walking

Many of the walks follow sections of gentle gradient-pathways of old water-race channels that delivered water to the goldmining sites scattered throughout this area.



#### Landcare Trail – 1km, 30 minutes circuit

Easy

Enjoy this gentle trail revealing ways to address landcare problems. You will pass wetlands, pine plantations and grasslands.



#### La Gerche Circuit Walk – 2km, 1hour circuit

Easy

This gentle undulating walk takes you on a guided walk through the old nursery plantations from La Gerche's original plantings.



#### Koala Park Walk – 2km, 40min circuit

Easy with a small number of stairs

Explore the tracks within Koala Park and spend as long or little time as you like. The original enclosure was constructed by forestry students in 1942 as a breeding site to boost local numbers. The koalas quickly escaped into the forest and are rarely seen here.



#### St Georges Lake – 1.8km, 40 minutes circuit

Moderate

The gently undulating, uneven track around the shore is a great way to enjoy the scenery and walk off lunch.

#### The Goldfields Track – 210km, one way

The Goldfields Track stretches along the Great Dividing Range between Bendigo, Ballarat and Buninyong. The four-hour walk from Creswick to Ballarat follows along the same path miners walked a century ago. Find out more [www.goldfieldstrack.com.au](http://www.goldfieldstrack.com.au)

### Fossicking

Panning for gold along Slaty Creek is a popular pastime in the park. All adults must hold a current Miners Right to engage in fossicking. Visit [www.earthresources.vic.gov.au](http://www.earthresources.vic.gov.au) for Miners Right information.

Remember to backfill any holes, do not dig into any creek-side banks and leave the area as you found it. Relics and vegetation must not be disturbed or removed.

### Picnicking & camping

#### St Georges Lake Picnic Area

Popular with day visitors and wildlife, the Lake was originally built as a mining water supply dam. Today it is a popular summer base for water activities. Free gas barbecues and toilets are provided.

Camping and power boating are not permitted here.

#### Slaty Creek Camping and Picnic Areas

Close to the township of Creswick, Slaty Creek is the only camping area in the park. It has three separate small areas to picnic or camp. Slaty Creek No.1 has toilets – and is suitable for larger groups.

Pan for gold along the meandering creek, take a stroll beside old water races, or sit quietly listening to the bush sounds.

### Cycling

The many open roads and signposted shared tracks and trails lend themselves to exploring the park. Bicycles are not permitted on walking tracks, closed roads or informal un-named tracks. Using informal un-named tracks spreads disease and creates erosion.

### Caring for the park

- Dogs on a lead are permitted in the park
- All vehicles must be registered and drivers and riders licensed; remaining on open, named public roads
- Campfires must be in the designated steel fireplaces provided
- Your rubbish is your responsibility – please carry out what you carry in.

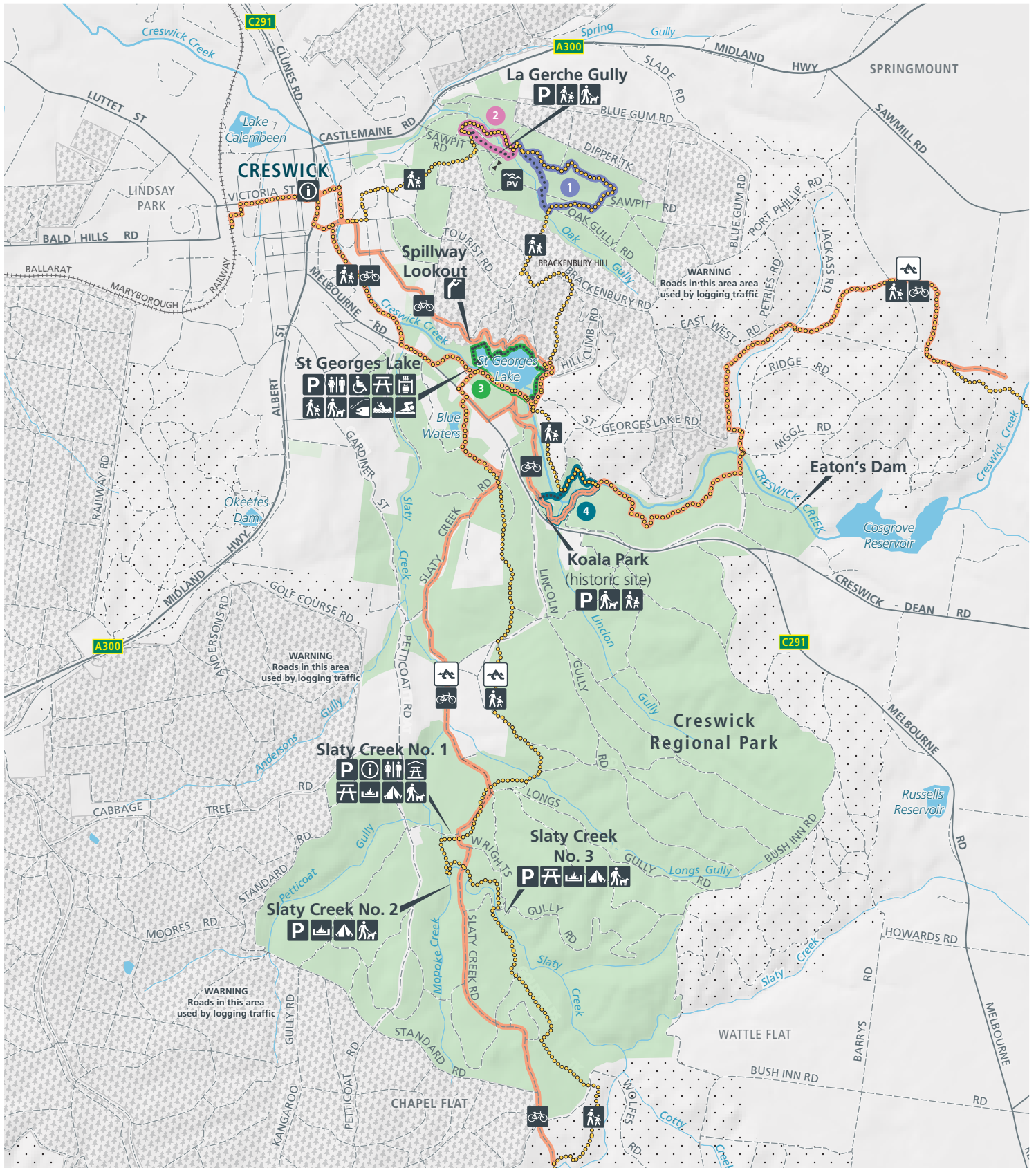
### Be prepared and stay safe

Creswick Regional Park is in the **Central** fire district. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to be aware of forecast weather conditions. Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://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. However gas fuel stoves may be used to prepare food under certain conditions. On Code Red Fire Danger Rating days this park will be closed for public safety. Do not expect an official warning. Check the latest conditions at [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au) or by calling 13 1963.

For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). If there is a green emergency marker near you, read the information to the operator.

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|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Parks Victoria office | Picnic table   | Bike trail         | Regional Park   | Unsealed road            | Goldfields shared trail (walking and bike) |
| Parking               | Barbeque - Gas | Fishing permitted  | Park or reserve | Sealed road              | La Gerche Circuit walk 1                   |
| Information           | Fireplace      | Canoing permitted  | State forest    | Main road                | Landcare trail 2                           |
| Toilets               | Camping        | Swimming permitted | Plantation      | Rail line                | St Georges Loop walk 3                     |
| Disabled access       | Walking trail  | Goldfields trail   | Walking track   | Goldfields walking trail | Koala Park Loop 4                          |
| Shelter               | Dogs permitted | Gate               | 4wd track       | Goldfields bike trail    |  |

