

# Paddys Ranges State Park



## Visitor Guide

This beautiful Box-Ironbark forest bursts into colour with spring wildflowers and is dotted with relics and reminders of an industrious past. Visitors today can retrace the steps of 'Paddy', a miner who reputedly roamed this area in the 1800s. These parks remain as fragmented remnants of bushland to encourage the return of endangered plants and animals.

## Womin-dji-ka (Welcome)

Paddys Ranges State 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.

Paddy's Ranges State Park, Greater Bendigo National Park, Hepburn Regional Park, Kara Kara National Park, Kooyoora State Park and Wehla Nature Conservation Reserve are jointly managed by the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation and Parks Victoria.

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.

Many of the sites in this area are sacred and spiritually important including rock rainwater wells and scar trees.

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 in any way.

## Location and Access

Paddys Ranges State Park is 170km north west of Melbourne, just south of Maryborough. Sealed roads surround the park and there are good graded roads to visitor facilities.

## Enjoying the park

**Bushwalking** - A pleasant track suitable for prams and wheelchairs begins at the picnic area and winds through the forest to an old eucalyptus distillery dam - 40 mins return.

Enjoy a spring wildflower walk along the self-guided Interpretive Trail from the picnic area. Or take a forest walk from the campground to the picnic area.

**Picnics** - Settling Ponds Track Picnic Area has tables, toilets and wood barbecues. We recommend bringing your own firewood.

**Camping** - Karri Track camping area has toilets and fireplaces. No fees apply, but it is advisable to contact the ranger to ensure site availability.

**Horse riding** - is permitted on formed open roads, but horses must not be taken on walking tracks. Horses must not remain in the park overnight.

**Prospecting** - Recreational prospecting is only permitted in designated areas. Prospectors must hold a current Miner's Right. Please do not drive off road, and fill any holes created by prospecting.

Refer to the "Prospecting Guide" for more information. **Caution Care must be taken as dangerous mine shafts occur throughout the park.**

## Paddy's Friends

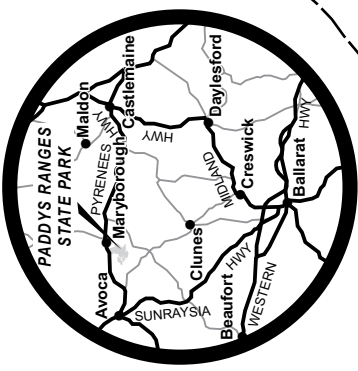
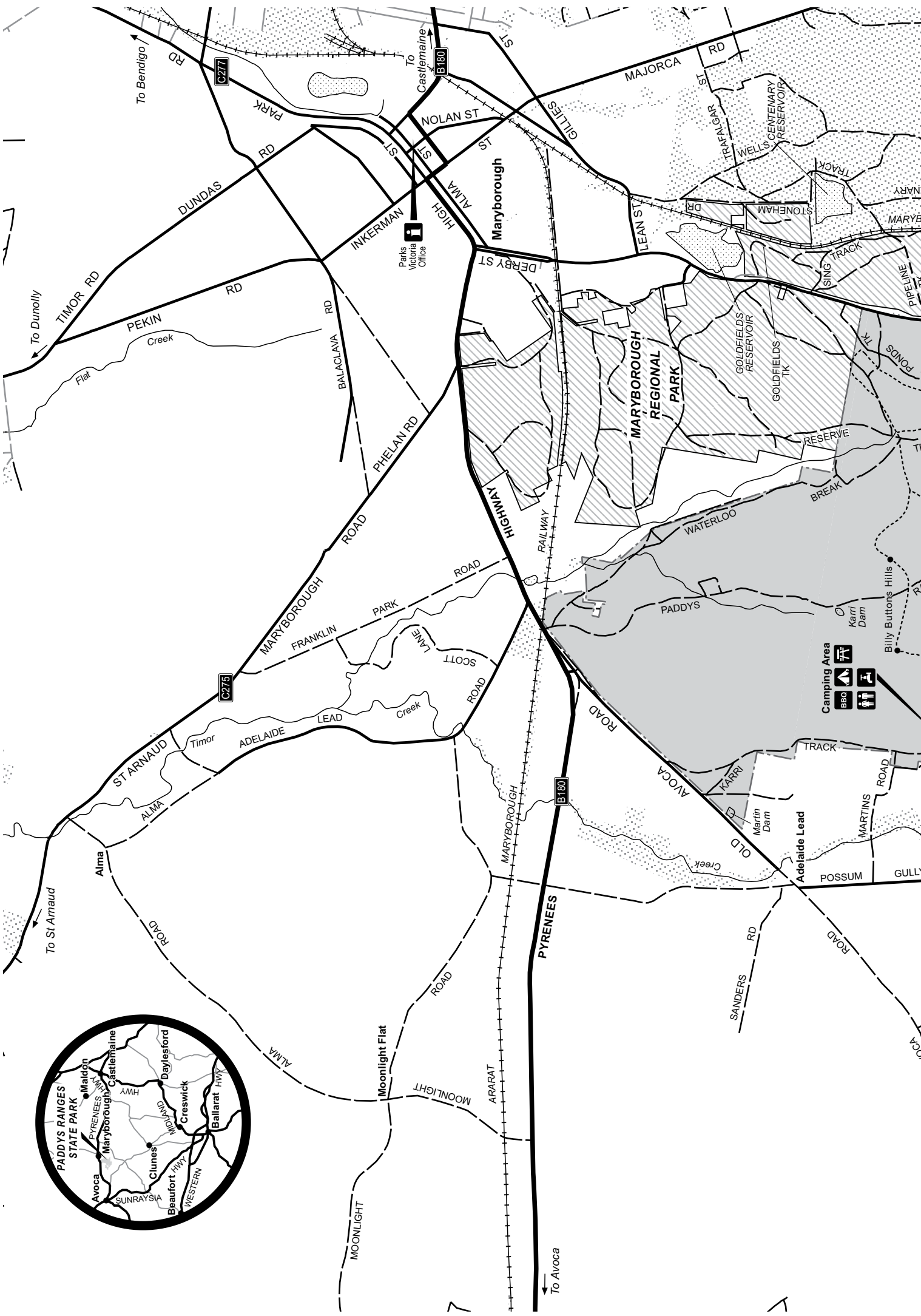
Who were you, Paddy? The people of Maryborough knew you simply as an Irishman, so the area southwest of the town where you lived, some time before the 1880s, became known as Paddys Ranges.

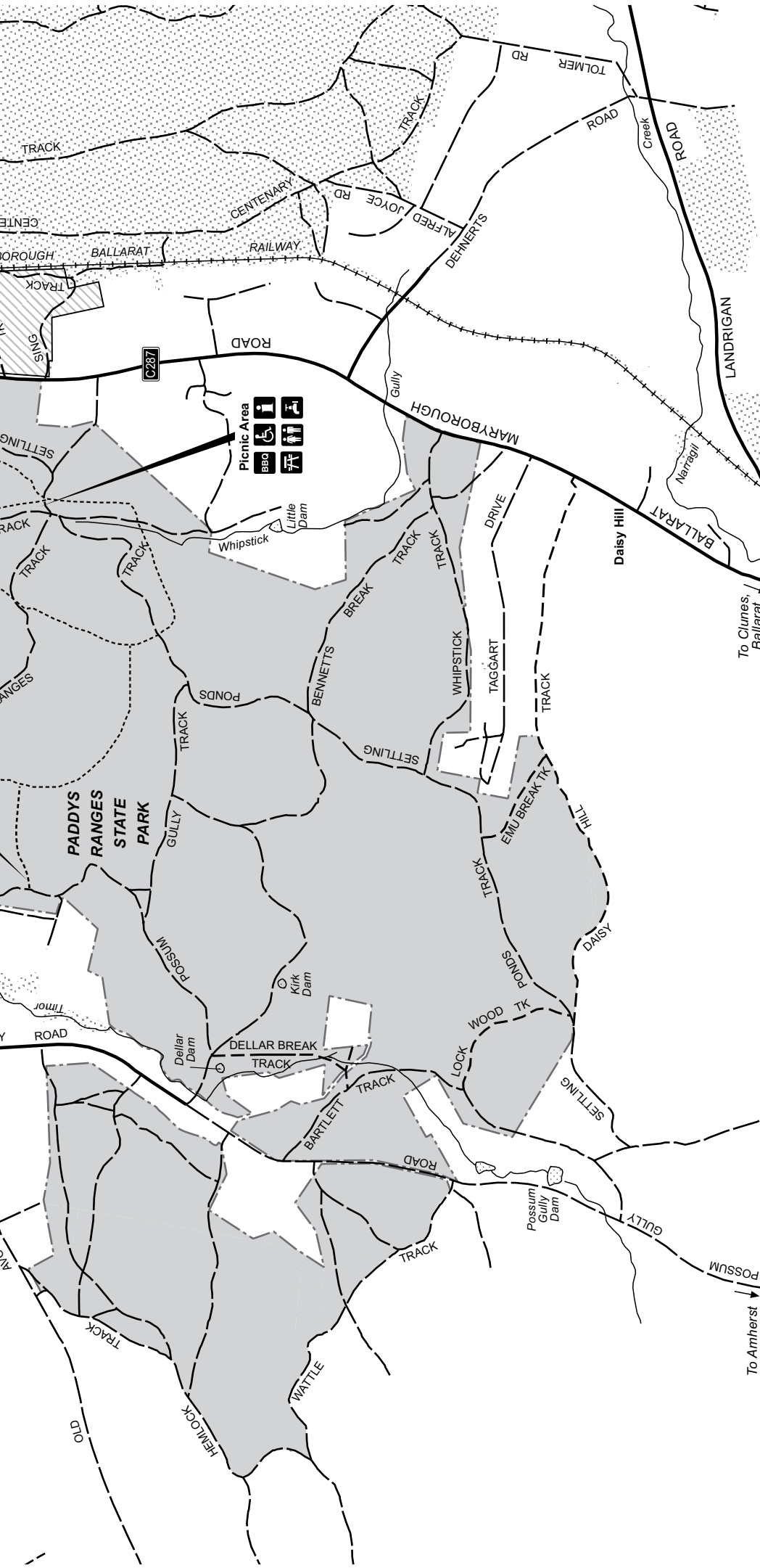
From the 1840s the area was used for grazing, gold mining, timber harvesting, eucalyptus oil and honey production. In 1951, the Maryborough Field Naturalists Club began pushing for the protection of the park's unique Box-Ironbark forest. In 1989, Paddys Ranges State Park was reserved.

The park was increased to 1,954ha in October 2002 to conserve and enhance what remains of the Box-Ironbark forests and woodlands of north central Victoria.



For more information call **Parks Victoria** on 13 1963 or visit [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)





**Paddys Ranges State Park & Maryborough Regional Park**

	Highway		State Park		Barbecue - Wood		Park information
	Sealed road		Regional Park		Camping		Picnic table
	Unsealed road		State Forest		Facilities for people with disabilities		Toilets
	Vehicular track (4wd)		Water body		Fireplace		Water
	Walking track						

**Recreational Facilities**

- BBQ
- Camping
- Facilities for people with disabilities
- Fireplace
- Barbecue - Wood
- Camping
- Facilities for people with disabilities
- Fireplace

**Park information**

- Park information
- Picnic table
- Toilets
- Water

**Scale:** 0, 500, 1000 METRES  
 Cartography by Spatial Vision 2004  
 M15307

**Map of Victoria:** MELBOURNE

**Parks VICTORIA**

**Directions:** To Amherst, To Clunes, Ballarat

## For further information

Call Parks Victoria on  
13 1963 or visit  
[www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)

Central Goldfields Visitor  
Information Centre  
Cnr Alma and Nolan Streets  
Maryborough Vic 3465  
Freecall: 1800 356 511

## Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park  
by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish away 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 the park

Firearms are prohibited

Light fires only in fire places  
provided. No fires, including  
gas barbecues may be lit on a  
day of Total Fire Ban

Collection of firewood is  
prohibited from the park

Vehicles, including motor bikes,  
may only be used on formed  
open roads. Drivers must be  
licensed and vehicles  
registered and roadworthy

Be self-sufficient with drinking  
water. Carry it in and/or know  
how to make untreated water  
safe for drinking

### 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?

**Parks**  
VICTORIA

## A haven for animals and plants

**Birds** - more than 140 bird species have  
been recorded in the park including the rare  
Swift Parrot. Flowering eucalypts attract these  
parrots to migrate from Tasmania annually  
between autumn and spring.

The Grey Shrike-thrush, Golden and Rufous  
Whistlers are best identified by their beautiful  
song. Peregrine Falcons, a threatened species in  
Victoria, nest in the park and majestic Wedge-  
tailed Eagles can often be seen circling above.



*Peregrine Falcon*

Wallabies, kangaroos and echidnas are seen  
more often than nocturnal mammals like possums  
and antechinus (a small, carnivorous marsupial).  
The park is also home to the threatened Brush-  
tailed Phascogale, sometimes called the Tuan.



*Brush-tailed Phascogale (Tuan)*

**Wildflowers** – over 230 species of wildflowers  
have been listed in this fine example of Box-  
Ironbark forest, including about thirty species of  
orchid such as this purple Wax-lip Orchid.



*Purple Wax-lip Orchid*

Golden Wattle is the main understorey species,  
along with Gold Dust Wattle and Bush Peas.  
During spring these plants provide the forests true  
'golden' treasures and perfume.

Healthy Parks  
Healthy People®



*Golden wattle*

Box-Ironbark trees are not one, but several  
different types of tree. Box eucalyptus trees have  
a light flaky bark. The park has Red, Yellow and  
Grey Box species. Ironbark trees are easily  
distinguished by their dark, deeply grooved rough  
black bark.

## Plan your visit

Access information about Victoria's parks, rivers  
and bays, cultural sites, print park notes and find  
local tour guides at [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au).

## Other parks to visit

### Percydale Historic Reserve

Enjoy spectacular views, goldfields heritage tour  
and picnics in the Pyrenees Ranges, 10  
kilometres west of Avoca.

### Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park

This is Australia's first National Heritage Park  
harbouring fascinating tales of a golden past and  
retaining much of its gold-rush character. The  
Mount Alexander Diggings Trail takes you to 19  
heritage sites in and around the park. Picnic  
areas, campground and mineral spring facilities  
are also available.

## Emergencies

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.

Paddys Ranges State Park is in the North 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](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.

On Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating days this  
Park will be closed for public safety. Do not enter  
the Park. If you are already in the Park, leave the  
night before or as early as possible in the morning.  
Warnings signs may be erected, but do not expect  
a personal warning. Check the latest conditions at  
[www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au) or by calling 13 1963.

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