

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

There are no areas in Victoria where any form of aboriginal permit entry system operates. However, in a number of the more popular national parks and conservation areas entry fees and/or camping fees apply. In winter, the costs increase in those parks where snow areas and/or ski resorts operate. For example, in 2009 a day entry pass (summer) in Mount Buffalo is \$10.30, but in winter a day pass is \$14.40. Other Parks charge similar amounts for the summer entry cost. A few others are considerably cheaper.

They also have a system of Annual Parks Passes and Multi Day Passes for a number of National Parks: Some examples are: Wilson's Promontory, (\$52 Annual - \$16.20 for a 2 consecutive day pass); Mount Buffalo, (\$53.00 Annual - \$16.20 for 2 consecutive days when ski lifts are not operating and \$22.00 when they are operating); and Mornington Peninsula (\$24.00 Annual). These offer considerable savings over day passes if you are planning on multiple entries.

A National Parks Pass is also available covering multiple entries to the following Parks: Wilson's Promontory; Mount Buffalo; Mornington Peninsula; Baw Baw; and Yarra Ranges. Cost is \$72.50 in 2009 for a 12 month period from the date of purchase. But please check the web site carefully as some areas in some of those parks are excluded from the Pass coverage.

Day passes are available from the Parks themselves, as are the Multi Day and Annual Passes. The National Parks Pass is also available from Parks Victoria Information Centre on phone 13 19 63.

Camping fees, which vary from park to park, also apply in many National Parks regardless of whether or not an entry fee is payable. For example, camping in Grampians National Park is \$13.00 per vehicle per night for up to 6 people. A second vehicle on the same site costs an additional \$5.50 per night.

Bear in mind also that there are a whole lot of seasonal road closures that operate in the high country of Victoria during the winter season.

Loads of good information including road and track seasonal closures is available from the Parks Victoria web site at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au and click on "Parks and Reserves".

The Parks Victoria Information Centre can 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 however, visit the VicRoads website at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au and click on “Roads and Traffic Conditions”.

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.