

Dandenong Ranges National Park

Visitor Guide



The Dandenong Ranges National Park is conveniently located on the doorstep of Melbourne. Visitors to the park enjoy a variety of recreational opportunities, and beautiful flora and fauna. Bushwalk through a forest that contains the tallest flowering plants in the world: the Mountain Ash. Picnic with the melodious songs of the Superb Lyrebird in the background, discover rare orchids and marvel at the ancient tree ferns that have been around for over 150 million years.



Opening hours

Dandenong Ranges National Park is open every day, including weekends and public holidays. Opening times apply to vehicle traffic for the following picnic grounds:

Doongalla Picnic Ground

Daylight saving gates open 9am to 6pm daily.

Non-daylight saving gates open 9am to 4:00pm daily

Ferntree Gully Picnic Ground (including 1000 Steps)

Automatic gate in operation. Open 6am to 9pm daily.

One Tree Hill Picnic Ground

Automatic gate in operation. Open 6am to 9pm daily.

Valley and Eagles Nest picnic grounds

Daylight saving gates open 9am to 6pm daily.

Non-daylight saving gates open 9am to 4pm daily.

Getting here

The National Park is located about 40km east of Melbourne. From the city take the Eastern Fwy (M3) and exit onto Springvale Rd (Route 40). Turn left onto Burwood Hwy (Route 26) which merges on to the Mount Dandenong Tourist Rd just past the Upper Ferntree Gully Railway Station.

Things to see and do

Walking

A network of walking tracks gives access to most parts of the park and catering for a range of fitness levels. For more detailed descriptions of tracks refer to the Dandenong National Park North and Dandenong National Park South Visitor Guides.

Picnicking

There are several picnic areas within the park and all are accessible by car. All of the areas have free electric or gas barbecues, except Valley and Eagles Nest at Olinda, and the Stables and Homestead picnic grounds at Doongalla.

Doongalla, Valley, Eagles Nest, Grants and Olinda Falls Picnic areas have wood fired barbecues – bring your own wood.

Picnic tables are available at all sites. The Ferntree Gully, One Tree Hill and Grants areas have shelters as well.

Toilets are located at all sites (with disabled access available), except at the Eagles Nest and Valley picnic ground.

Bike riding

Cyclists can use roads and vehicular tracks, including 'Management Vehicles Only' tracks, unless they have been closed to bicycles. You are not permitted to cycle on walking tracks because of the danger to walkers on these narrow tracks.

Refer to the maps in the North and South visitor guides for details about where you can and can't ride.

Any track may be closed to cycling at short notice, particularly if the track conditions become very muddy, eroded or dangerous.

Horse riding

Approximately 22km of horse riding tracks have been identified on the map in this guide. They are signposted at the start of each track by a horse riding symbol and brown markers will guide you along the track.

Refer to the maps in the North and South visitor guides for details about where you can and can't ride.

Dog Walking

Dogs can be walked on a lead along the Tan Track loop in Sherbrooke and anywhere inside the Mt Dandenong Arboretum. Dogs are not permitted in any other part of the national park.

Be prepared and stay safe

The Dandenong Ranges National Park is closed when there is a Total Fire Ban or strong winds. Signs may be erected but do not expect a personal warning.

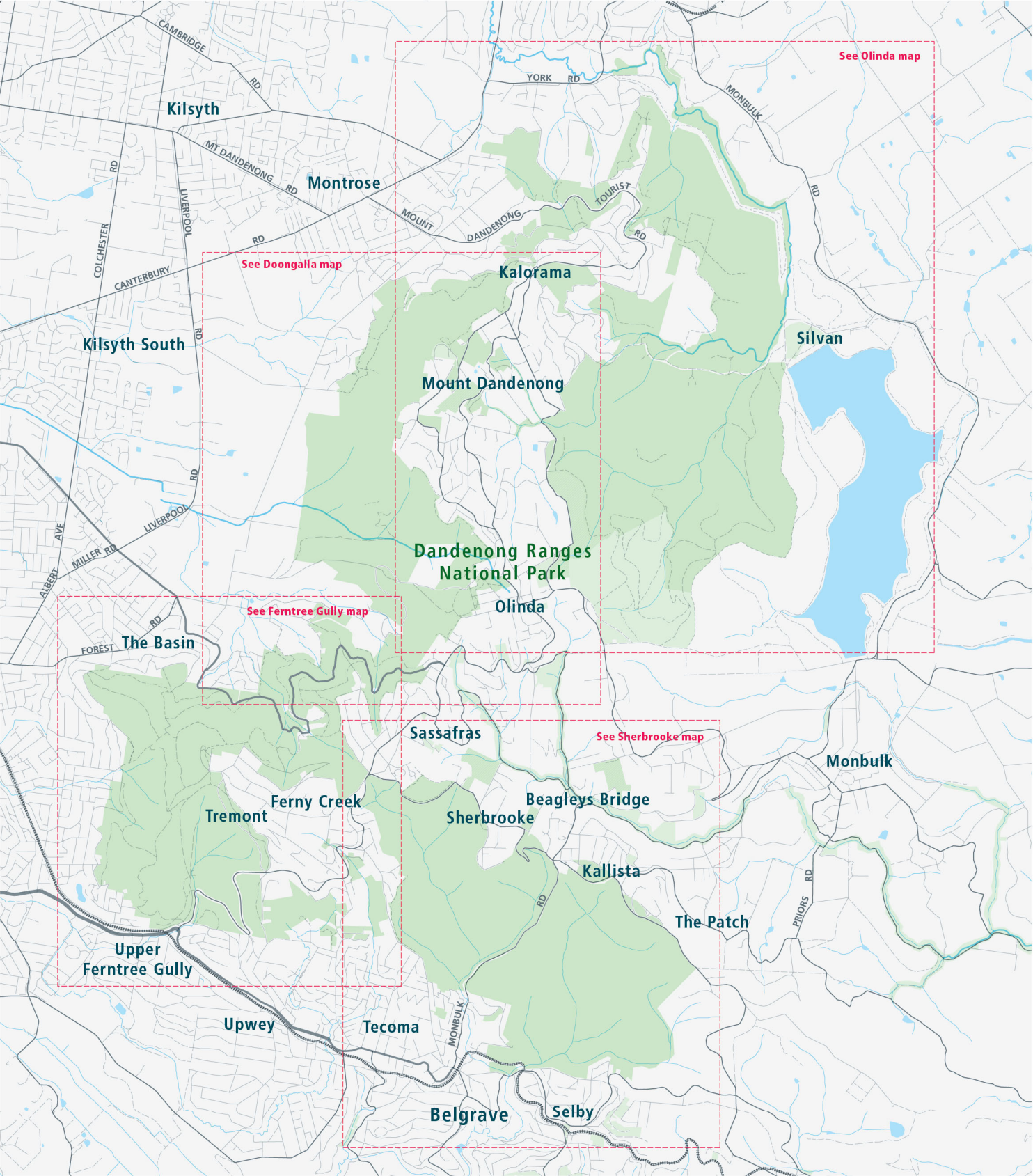
Dandenong Ranges National Park is in the Central fire district. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions. Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

The latest park information is available at www.parks.vic.gov.au or by calling Parks Victoria on 13 1963.

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.

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Overview map



-  Dandenong Ranges National Park
-  Other park/reserve
-  Waterbody