

# Yarra Ranges National Park



# Mount Donna Buang

At an elevation of 1245 metres, Mt Donna Buang offers panoramic views over Melbourne, the Yarra Valley, Dandenong and Cathedral Ranges, Mount Baw Baw and the Alps. While on the mountain you can take in a rainforest experience and even walk through the tree tops at the spectacular Rainforest Gallery. In winter, the mountain offers the closest and most accessible snow to Melbourne for family snow-play and tobogganing.



Superb Lyrebird

## Rainforest Gallery

Walk among the treetops on the 40 metre long observation platform (one of only three of its type in Australia). The 350 metre long elevated walkway takes you through the Rainforest Gallery where you will see magnificent 65 metre tall old growth Mountain Ash trees, ancient Myrtle Beech trees (many of which are 300 to 400 years old), ferns, mosses and other plants that make up this damp and diverse rainforest environment. There are several viewing spots along the walkway where you can pause and enjoy the sounds of Cement Creek flowing past on its journey to the Yarra River.

A staircase descends from the carpark to the Rainforest Walkway and Myrtle Beech forest. Some of the beech trees here could be up to 400 years old. Part of the walkway runs alongside the cascading waters of Cement Creek.

#### Be fire ready and stay safe

On days of forecast Code Red Fire Danger this park will be closed for public safety.

If you are already in the park you should leave the night before or early in the morning for your own safety.

Closure signs will be erected and rangers will patrol where possible, however you may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed so check by calling 13 1963 or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au.

For up to date information on fires in Victoria or general fire safety advice call the **Victorian Bushfire Information Line** on **1800 240 667** or visit **www.cfa.vic.gov.au**.

#### Mountain Drive

As you drive towards the summit, watch out for Superb Lyrebirds. They can sometimes be seen foraging on the roadside, particularly in the cooler months. Take time to admire views of Warburton and the Yarra Valley from vantage points along the way.

#### Walks

Times are estimates only. Allow more time if walking uphill towards Mount Donna Buang or in inclement weather.

- Mt Donna Buang to 10 Mile Picnic Area
  1.2km, 30 minutes Moderate
- 2. Mt Donna Buang to the Rainforest Gallery 3km, 1.5 hours Moderate/Hard
- Mt Donna Buang return via Mt Victoria and 10 Mile
   6km, 3 hours - Moderate

#### Mt Donna Buang summit

The summit features a 21 metre lookout tower with panoramic views across the park and way beyond. It is also a popular picnic area and starting point for walks on the mountain.

In winter, the summit area turns to snow play and three toboggan runs are opened.

Car parking is available at the summit through the day, however the summit gate is locked when there is snow. At these times car parking is available at the gate and the summit can be accessed by a 300 metre walk along the road.

### How to get there

From Melbourne follow the Maroondah Highway through Lilydale turning right onto the Warburton Highway. After the Warburton township follow the signs left up Mount Donna Buang to the Rainforest Gallery, 10 Mile Picnic Area and Mt Donna Buang summit.

June 2013

Printed on Australian-made, 100% recycled paper



