

Coopracambra National Park



Visitor Guide

Coopracambra National Park, declared a National Park in 1991 is one of the most remote and scenic parks in Victoria, covering an area of 38,800 hectares. Combined with the adjoining South East Forests National Park in New South Wales, it forms one of the largest areas of high quality wilderness in south eastern Australia. The Genoa River flows through the park and has been given heritage status due to the undisturbed nature of its surrounds.

Location and access

Coopracambra National Park is located 500km east of Melbourne and 250km south of Canberra. The park is bounded by three major sealed roads – the Monaro Highway to the west, the Imlay Road to the north in New South Wales and the Princes Highway to the south. Though possible to access the park from any direction using a network of roads, sections of these roads are only suitable for 4WD vehicles.

Within the park there are relatively few tracks. The WB Line is the main park road, joining Chandlers Creek on the Monaro Highway to the west and the Wangarabell settlement to the east. It also provides access to the cascading Beehive Falls and to the helipad at Mealing Hill, with breathtaking views.

Please note that the WB Line has steep grades and is not recommended for 2WD vehicles. Ivor Track on the southern side of the Genoa River at Wangarabell is utilised by bushwalkers accessing the Genoa Gorge.

Exploring and enjoying

Day trips

Enjoy a picnic at Chandlers Creek before taking a walk to the picturesque Beehive Creek Falls. Travel two km along the WB Line from the Monaro Highway, then a short walking track takes you to the falls. Beyond this point the road becomes 4WD only. The WB line continues through to Jones Creek Road which then connects to the Princes Hwy just west of Genoa.

Walks

The walks to Mt Denmarsh and Mt Kaye are only suitable for those with a high level of fitness and navigational skills.

Extended walks

The wilderness core of the park provides excellent opportunities for extended remote 'off track' walks, especially along the Genoa River. Only experienced and well equipped hikers should undertake walking in rugged and remote areas.

Facilities

No camping or toilet facilities are provided in the park although bush camping is permitted. The nearest campgrounds and facilities are in Cann River and the Croajingolong National Park.

Geology and geomorphology

Much of the park is very rugged, with the magnificent red sandstone gorge of the Genoa River being a major feature. The park is a very significant geological site and ancient tetrapod footprints have been found in Upper Devonian sediments. These footprints are believed to be the oldest fossil record of any land-dwelling vertebrate.

Flora

Vegetation varies from warm temperate rainforest in the sheltered gullies to open forests of White and Red Stringybark on the ridges, while the riparian zone is dominated by Kanooka and Peppermint. The massive Gippsland Grey Box is particularly striking, with its rough grey trunks contrasting dramatically with snowy white branches. Wildflowers are plentiful in the park, some of which are classified as very significant

Early beginnings

Aboriginal history indicates that the Bidawal people inhabited the Cann and Genoa Valleys where their occupational sites, hunting grounds and places associated with ceremonial activity have been identified. These valleys were travelling routes connecting the Monaro Plains to the coast. The highland territory and lowland coastal areas were important to indigenous people for shelter, trade and food.

European history

The area was settled by Europeans during the 1840s. A bridle trail, later named the WB Line from Wangarabell to Bendoc provided access during the gold mining period from 1860 to 1880. Early naturalist Norman Wakefield walked the Genoa Gorge and noted the qualities and diversity of species in the area and made recommendations for the creation of a park.

For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre
Call 13 1963

or visit the
Parks Victoria website
www.parks.vic.gov.au

Mallacoota Office
PO Box 179
Cnr Allan & Buckland Drives
Mallacoota Vic 3892

Cann River Office
PO Box 79
Princes Hwy
Cann River Vic 3890

Caring for the environment

Help us look after this park by remembering these guidelines:

All native plants, animals, cultural and historic features are protected

Please take your rubbish home with you

Pets and firearms are not permitted

Please do not use soaps, detergents and toothpaste in the streams and waterways as they are a source of drinking water for others. Dispose of any dirty water away from watercourses

Please do not feed or handle wildlife as it fosters dependence and may cause disease

Road closures apply to all vehicles

Warnings

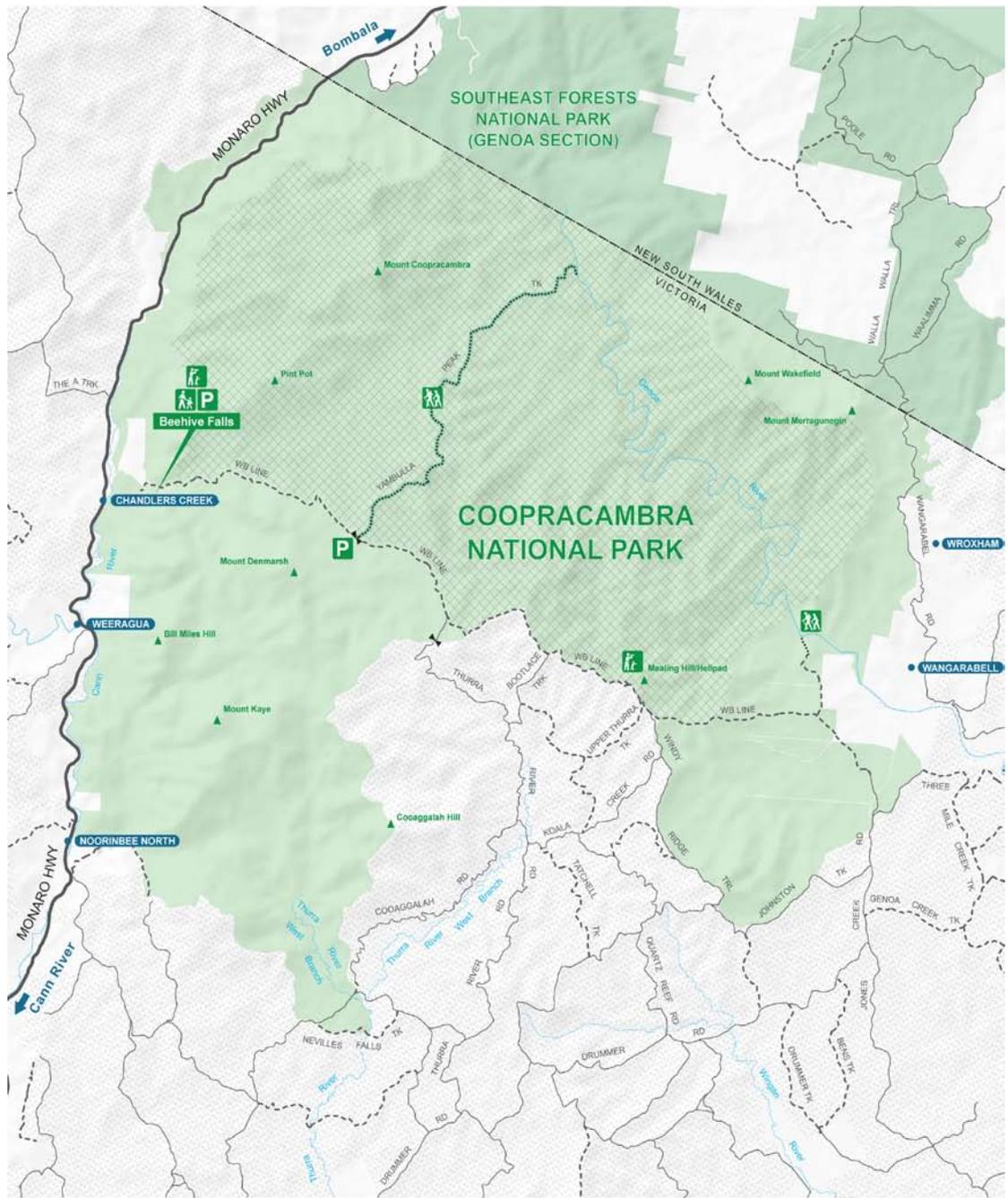
Coopracambra Park is in the East Gippsland Total Fire Ban District. It is your responsibility to know if it is a day of Total Fire Ban. If in doubt call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line: 1800 240 667

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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!



Coopracambra National Park



- Carpark
- Park Information
- Pedestrian access
- Picnic Table
- Lookout
- HWY
- Unsealed Rd
- 4WD Track
- Walking Track Only
- Management Vehicle Access
- National Park
- State Forest
- Declared Wilderness
- South East Forests National Park (NSW)

www.parks.vic.gov.au

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