

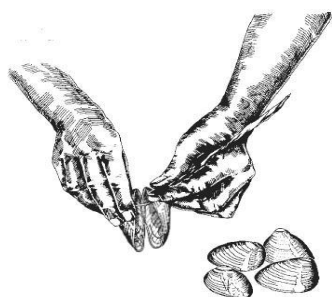
Lake Hindmarsh Lake Reserve

Gurru



Visitor Guide

An ideal place for camping and water sports this is Victoria's largest natural freshwater lake and it is brimming with water and attracting wildlife again.



"Wotjobaluk people have always looked after their country and the country has always looked after Wotjobaluk people." The late Uncle Jack Kennedy, Wotjobaluk Elder

Caring for Country

For thousands of years the Wimmera River and the lakes and woodlands of the Wimmera and Mallee plains have sustained the people of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk people. Caring for Country is the fabric of Indigenous social, spiritual, economic and physical wellbeing and is the basis of their cultural lore.

As Traditional Owners these tribes were the custodians of the land and they effectively practiced what equates in many ways to the concept of sustainable land management.

Parks Victoria recognises and acknowledges this connection and the areas Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Communities. All cultural sites here at Gurru are protected by law.



Rich with plants and wildlife

Lake Hindmarsh (Gurru) is a valuable haven for waterbirds, and is home to permanent and visiting birds including white-breasted sea-eagles, swans, ducks, terns, spoonbills, terns and colonies of pelicans.

River Red Gums and the Three-nerve Wattle fringe the lake and lead into the adjoining Birdcage Flora and Fauna Reserve where Black Box, Yellow Gum and native Slender Cypress-pine provide food and shelter to wrens, honeyeaters, robins, parrots, and species such as the Bush Thick-knee (Curlew) and Gilbert's Whistler.

Enjoying the Lake Reserve

Gurru has basic facilities with bush settings make the lake ideal for the self-contained visitor to enjoy bird watching, bush camping, boating and fishing.



Camping and accommodation

Four-Mile Beach is the most popular area with well-developed facilities. - Camping fees apply.

Schulzes Beach and The Wattles have pit toilets -No fees are charged.

Bush Camping - You can camp at several other locations around the lake. There are no facilities.

A range of accommodation options are available at Jeparit, Nhill, Rainbow and, Dimboola.



Boating

The lake caters for a variety of boat-based activities including fishing, water skiing and sailing.

How to get there

Lake Hindmarsh (Gurru) is reached via the Western Highway, turning north at Nhill or Dimboola. The Lake is 380km from Melbourne and 450km from Adelaide.

Be fire ready and stay safe

Many parks and forests are located in high fire risk areas. 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 when possible, however you may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed so check the latest conditions 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.

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For further information

Parks Victoria Information Centre
Call 13 1963
or visit the Parks Victoria website
www.parks.vic.gov.au

Four Mile Beach Campground

Call Hindmarsh Shire Council
Tel: (03) 5391 4444

Horsham Visitor Information Centre

20 O'Callaghan Parade
Horsham VIC 3400
Toll free: 1800 633 218

Caring for the environment

Help us to look after the park by remembering these guidelines:

All native plants and animals, archaeological sites, historic and cultural remains and geological features are protected by law and must not be disturbed, damaged or removed.

Please take all rubbish home with you for disposal or recycling.

FIRE

Fires may be lit subject to fire regulations at all times

Fuel stoves are preferred

Fire wood may be collected only for campfires within the lake reserve and should only be dead wood from the ground

No fires/flames, (including gas or fuel stoves/lanterns in tents) may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban

Lake Hindmarsh Lake Reserve is in the Wimmera 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



Boating safety

Do not mix alcohol and boating.

Always carry or wear appropriate safety equipment.

Know the boating regulations

Watch out for boats, canoes and hazards.
Do not overload the boat.

Check the Victorian Boating Guide for details www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au



Driving - carefully

Drive only on formed roads and vehicle tracks that are open to the public - do not drive off-track.

Stay off tracks that are too wet, or have been recently graded.

Avoid wheel spin and churning up the track surface.

Don't drive around freshly fallen logs and trees, remove them or return the way you came.



Bush camping

Minimise your impact on the lakes environment. Show care and respect for this place.

Follow these guidelines and you can ensure it survives into the future.

Camp at least 20 metres from water bodies.

Camp in natural clearings and avoid camping under large trees - their limbs may fall without warning.

Use a chemical toilet or bury human waste at least 100 metres from water bodies.

Lake Hindmarsh Lake Reserve

	Sealed road		Lake Reserve
	Unsealed road		Other Public Land
	Vehicular Track		Water body

Recreational Facilities

	Boat ramp
	Camping
	Caravan park
	Kiosk
	Toilets

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K I L O M E T R E S

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