

Grampians National Park - UPDATE



In January 2011 a significant storm and flood event swept through the Grampians National Park causing damage to roads, walking tracks, campgrounds and popular visitor sites. Parks Victoria have worked hard to open many areas, however conditions may change quickly if there is further weather events.

Walks Open - Southern Grampians 18th January 2012

1 MT STURGEON

...panoramic views of the surrounding ranges

Distance: 7 km return **Time:** 2½ - 3 hours

Elevation change: 343 metres **Grade:** hard

Start: Intersection of Grampians Tourist Road & Victoria Valley Road

This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve water crossings, slippery track surfaces and rock hopping. Follow the path up through open woodland and view endemic montane species such as the Grampians Gum. Several steep sections lead through rocky terrain and stunted vegetation dominates as the track nears the summit. The walk provides panoramic views of the surrounding ranges and volcanic plains over Dunkeld, the gateway to the southern Grampians. Return by the same route.

2 MT ABRUPT

... a strenuous hike with spectacular views

Distance: 6.5 km return **Time:** 2½ - 3 hours

Elevation change: 457 metres **Grade:** hard

Start: Mt Abrupt Carpark, Grampians Tourist Road

This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve water crossings, slippery track surfaces, rock hopping and rock scrambling. The steep track winds its way through heathy woodland to a ridge. Follow the ridge over rock slabs and stunted montane vegetation to the summit, for one of the most spectacular views.

A large landside caused by the storm event in January 2011 badly damaged this walking track. Parks Victoria has worked hard to rebuild this track but further rain could cause movement of soil and rock over the track. Please note the following when walking this track:

- Sections of the Mt Abrupt walking track may be susceptible to Landslips
- Rock and soil falls may occur from above the track
- Future heavy rain events may cause further landslips and flash flooding in these areas
- Do not stop in landslide hazard areas during or after heavy rain
- Your safety is our concern but your responsibility

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Parks Victoria Information Centre 13 1963 or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au
Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre 03 5361 4000

3 THE PICCANINNY

...spring wildflowers and high peaks

Distance: 2.4 km return **Time:** 1 - 1½ hours

Elevation change: 128 metres **Grade:** easy-medium

Start: Piccaninny carpark, Grampians Tourist Road, 1.3 km north of Victoria Valley Road intersection

This track is a gradual climb through open forest with an understorey of Hakea, Grevillea and Banksia. The summit provides excellent views of Mt Abrupt and the nearby town of Dunkeld with its surrounding pastoral landscape.

This is an excellent walk to take during spring when there are many species of colourful wildflowers on show.

4 CHIMNEY POTS

...a unique rock stack

Distance: 2.8 km **circuit Time:** 2½ - 3 hours

Elevation change: 320 metres **Grade:** hard

Start: Chimney Pots Carpark, Glenelg River Road

This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve slippery track surfaces, rock hopping and rock scrambling. A steep climb to the base of the Chimney Pots rewards you with views of the surrounding ranges and countryside. Follow rock cairns and orange arrows for a further kilometre. The track loops back to the main path and returns to the carpark.

5 MANJA SHELTER

...a gentle walk to an Aboriginal cultural site

Distance: 2.6 km **return Time:** 1 hour

Elevation change: 100 metres **Grade:** easy

Start: Manja Shelter Carpark, Harrop Track

An up-hill walk winds past rocky outcrops and through stringybark forest. A series of steps leads to boardwalks which protect the moist heathland areas near Manja Shelter. Return by the same route.

6 BILLIMINA SHELTER LOOP

...wet weather waterfalls and a significant Aboriginal cultural site

Distance: 1.7 km **circuit Time:** 45 minutes

Elevation change: 100 metres

Grade: medium **Start:** Buandik Picnic Area

Follow the creek upstream to Jardwadjali (Buandik) Falls (best after rain). Near the falls an uphill walk leads to Billimina shelter, a massive rock overhang with impressive Aboriginal art. Interpretive signs at Billimina, explain Aboriginal occupation of the area.

