

Gariwerd / GRAMPIANS EXPLORER

4 DAYS | 40 KMs | Track grading: 2– 4 Easy to Hard

Join us as we explore the magnificent gariwerd (Grampians) National Park, a breathtakingly beautiful natural wonder with cultural significance that offers guests a unique and unforgettable wilderness experience.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THIS WALKING EXPERIENCE:

Over four days we explore highlights of the Grampians Peak Trail, a world class walk that showcases the majesty of the gariwerd - Grampians National Park.

Our journey starts in the park's northern end, exploring Mackenzie River and Zumsteins Historical Area. Over the following days we discover a variety of landscapes as we make our way from Stony Creek to the Pinnacle and Sundial Peak to Rosea Campground, we summit Mount Rosea, visiting the Boroughs Huts and we finish on a high with a summit walk to the iconic Boronia Peak.

Our days are filled with majestic waterfalls, dazzling spring wildflower displays and awe-inspiring mountain panoramas. You'll enjoy dramatic peaks, panoramic views, changing landscapes and the grandeur of this ancient and rugged environment.

This area holds significance to the traditional owners, particularly the Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali, and is rich with Aboriginal history, being home to over 80% of Victoria's Aboriginal rock art sites.

OUR ACCOMMODATION

With stunning mountain views, kangaroos grazing at your door step and lovely open log fires, the Halls Gap Valley Cottages is a natural country retreat where you stay in self contained accommodation with beautiful views to the Grampians range and a lovely natural setting. Each cottage has two bedrooms with shared bathroom facilities and a living and kitchen area.

Your guides stay close by in a cabin equipped to serve you your beautifully prepared meals with space to dine as a group.



DAY ONE

Zumsteins & Mackenzie River Walk

Distance: 7kms. Grade: 2 - 3 easy to moderate

Setting off early from the National Gallery of Victoria, our journey takes us west towards the Central Highlands and Wimmera Southern Mallee regions of Victoria.

Enroute to Halls Gap, approximately a three and a half hour drive, we stop for a coffee and some morning tea.

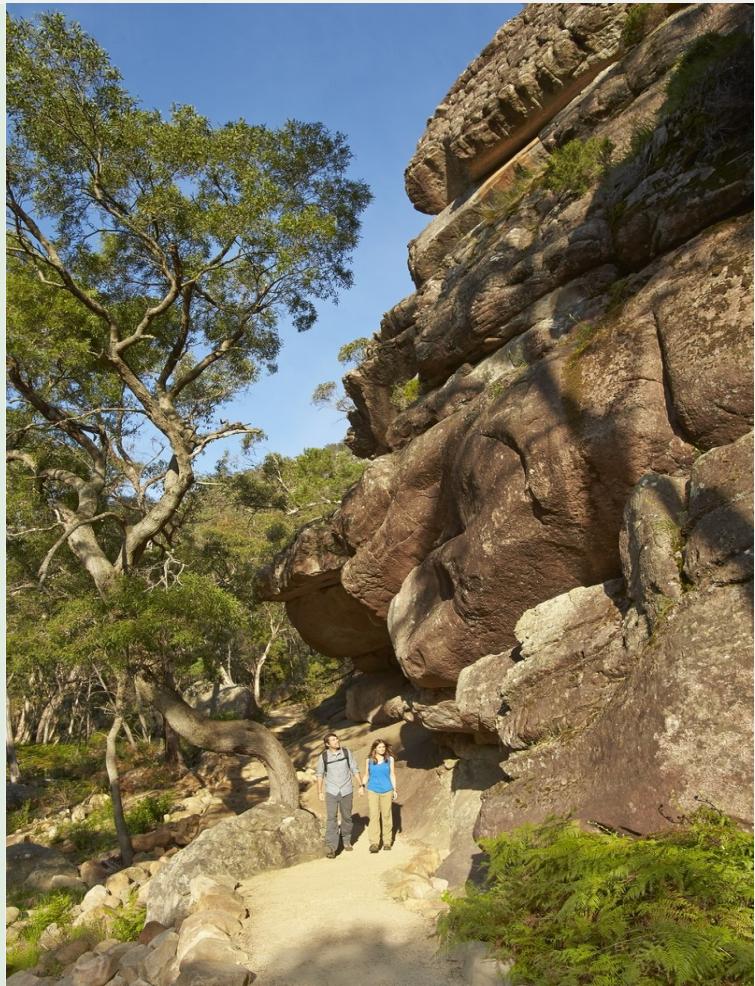
We begin our journey in the National Park's northern end to explore the Mackenzie River which flows through the park. Here you will enjoy stunning views of the surrounding sandstone mountains as we make our way from Zumsteins to Mackenzie Falls.

Along the way, enjoy views of the cascading Fish Falls, before entering into a deep gorge before the final approach to Mackenzie Falls. At the end of the trail, we pass by the Zumsteins Historical Area, where we can learn about the area's rich Aboriginal and European history.

This walk is a beautiful and diverse hiking trail that showcases the natural beauty and cultural significance of the Gariwerd - Grampians National Park.

Following our first day of walking, we make our way to our accommodation at the Halls Gap Valley Cottages where we check in and you have time to relax and enjoy the surrounding bush and wildlife.

In the evening your guides will prepare a nibbles platter for you to enjoy while sitting and taking in the surrounds before sitting together as a group to enjoy a healthy and hearty two course meal.



DAY TWO

Stony Creek to the Pinnacle, Sundial Peak to Rosea Campground

Distance: 11kms. Grade: 3 moderate

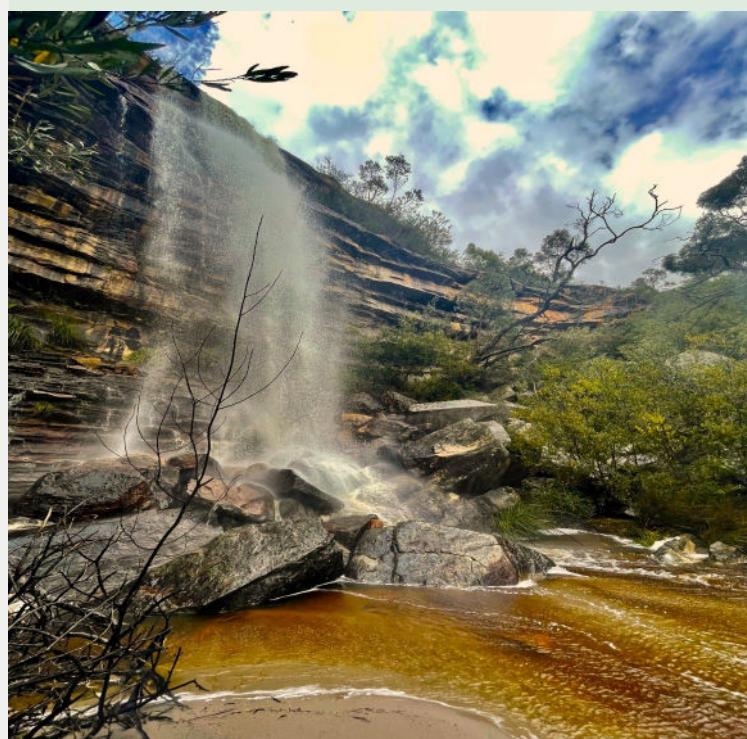
After breakfast, and with our day's lunch packed away in our day pack we begin our walk from the heart of Halls Gap. The trail begins alongside Stony Creek and rises towards Wonderland as it meanders its way through the rugged sandstone mountains, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside along the way.

The imagery and the unique shaping of the rocks gives rise to features like the Elephant Hide and the Grand Canyon. We emerge out onto the rocky spine of the Pinnacle, one of today's highlights, offering panoramic views of the park and beyond.

After lunch our days' walk continues on a more even footing out to Sundial Peak where you can rest and soak up another stunning view. This section of the trail takes us through a variety of landscapes, including forest, rocky outcrops, and open plains.

From here the days' walking winds up at the Rosea Campground, nestled among the mountains .

A short drive later and we have you back at our accommodation where you can freshen up, have some down time and join us for pre dinner nibbles followed by a two-course dinner prepared by your guides.



DAY THREE

Mount Rosea to Borough Huts

Distance: 13kms. Grade: 3 - 4 moderate to hard

After breakfast and lunch making we return to Mt Rosea trailhead where yesterday's walk finished.

From here we continue along the Grampians Peak Trail with a moderately challenging ascent to the summit of Mt Rosea. We pass through a variety of landscapes and environments including rocky outcrops, lush forest and open plains, this stunning walk offers panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

While the climb is challenging the path is well formed and shaded, you will enjoy the rhythm of the walk before topping out at the summit of Mount Rosea. It makes a superb spot for lunch and time to enjoy your reward for your morning's efforts.

The trail from here descends down to Borough Huts Campground, nestled amongst the trees offering a peaceful secluded area to finish our journey. The campground features a number of rustic huts that were once used by early settlers and are now available for visitors to use.

Time back at our accommodation allows for some well earned rest. Tonight we enjoy our final evening together with nibbles and two course meal in a group setting - engage in a moment to reflect upon our discoveries and engage in meaningful discussions.

DAY FOUR

Boronia Peak

Distance: 8kms. Grade: 3 moderate

This morning we pack up and check out of our accommodation before departing on our final walk to the summit of Boronia Peak.

Beginning our walk at the Brambuk Visitor Centre, we make our way to the summit, crossing Fyan's Creek, an easy walk takes us to the base of the Mt William Range, where it begins a steady climb.

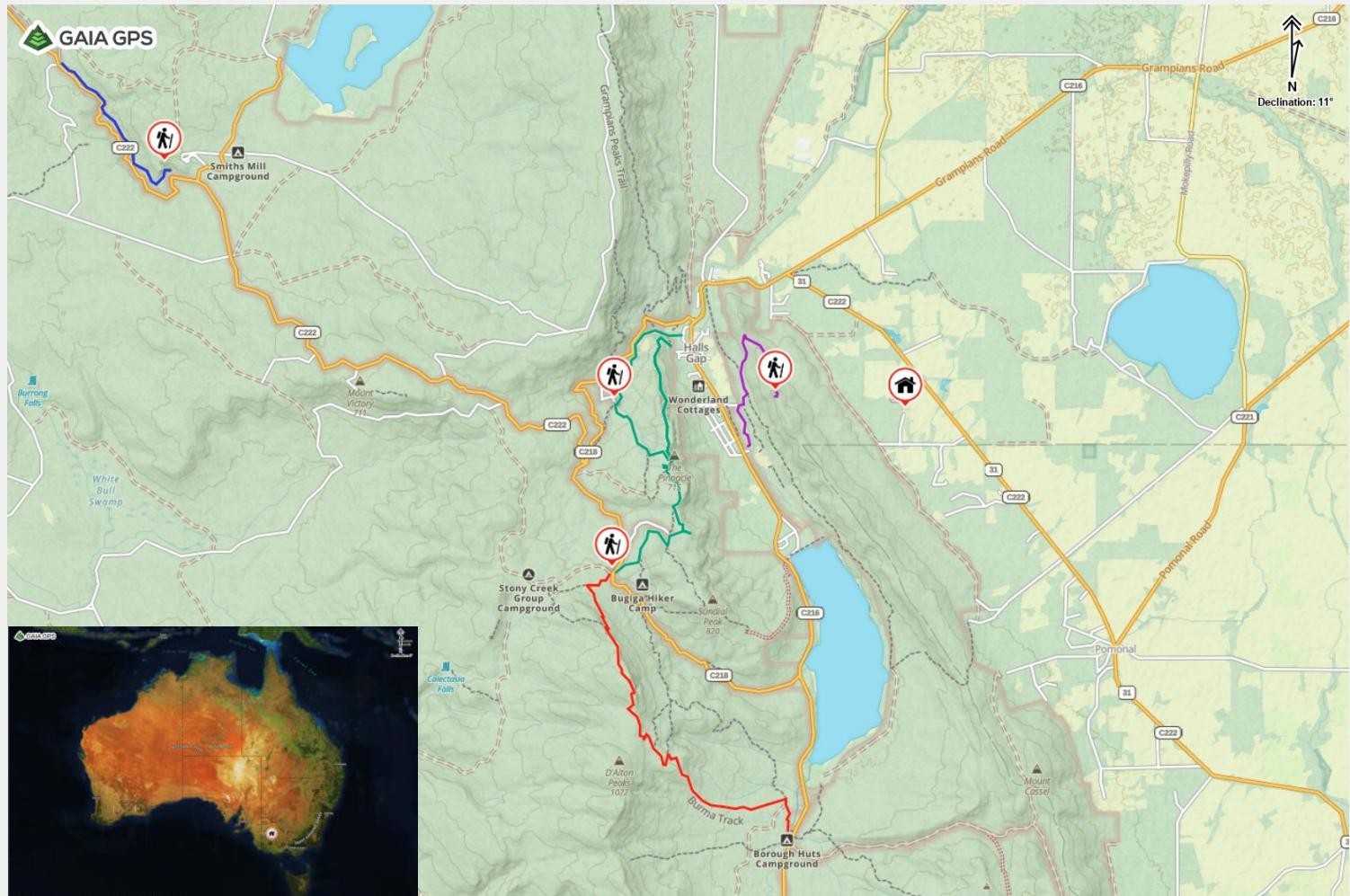
Sitting at an elevation of 985m above sea level, we top out at Boronia Peak, offering unobstructed views of the Grampians and Wonderland range and the surrounding peaks and countryside.

The hike to the summit is relatively challenging, with steep sections and rocky terrain, but the views from the top make it well worth the effort.

From the peak, we retrace our steps back to the van and back to Halls Gap where we enjoy lunch and a well earned cuppa before we begin our journey back to Melbourne.

We will have a short break enroute before arriving back at the NGV at approximately 5pm.





OUR COMMITMENTS & OTHER MATTERS

Our sustainable tourism commitment

As part of our commitment to being an Eco-friendly tour operator, which includes minimising and offsetting our carbon emissions, we also suggest you bring along your own food containers (medium size for lunch, and small for trail mix), beeswax lunch wrap, keep cup etc. if you have them. Please do not buy any of these items if you don't have them. We will supply containers for lunches.

Our commitment to reconciliation

Park Trek acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country and recognises their continuing connection to land, water, skies and culture. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and through our RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan), among other things, we are committed to reconciliation.

Travel insurance and other matters

Park Trek strongly recommends travel insurance, please check with your individual provider for more information regarding coverage for unforeseen circumstances, e.g. flight delays, illness or Covid-19. Please refer to our T's & C's on our website for more information.

Note 1: All of our tours are subject to the occasionally unpredictable forces of nature. Indeed this is the spirit and attraction of adventure. As such our guides may alter our proposed tour itinerary where necessary having regard to Governmental changes, environmental and safety considerations. They will always strive to provide the most scenic and enjoyable walks possible in the environmental circumstances.

Note 2: Please refer to the [Australian Walking Track Grading System](#) for grading of all walks on this tour.



...we walk the highlights



OUR MEALS ON TOUR

The food we serve is healthy, hearty and home style. Our menus seek to showcase regional produce. Fresh local cheese, yoghurt, fruit, vegetables, and meats are used, supporting local farmers and minimising our food miles. Our tours accommodate most dietary needs, please specify this at time of booking.

Breakfast is a continental spread of muesli, fruit, yoghurt, toast and spreads. Coffee and tea are always available.

Lunch can vary from day to day, but includes sliced meat, salad, rolls, bread and wraps. Some days might include something different like roasted chicken.

Dinner is a casual two-course meal of main and dessert prepared by your guides. The menu changes to suit available fresh produce but could include a classic roast lamb, curry or similar. Dessert may include things like apple crumble, mini pavlovas or seasonal fruit salad.

Snacks and antipasto are provided during the trip and include fresh fruit for the trail, biscuits and/or fruit cake for tea breaks. Each night we offer dips, cheese and crackers for pre-dinner nibbles and a self-serve trail mix selection at the start of each day.

Alcohol Our tours do not include alcoholic beverages, however guests are most welcome to bring wine/beer along with them. If you are bringing bottled wine, please pack this well in your main bag to avoid breakages.



REQUIRED GEAR FOR YOUR ADVENTURE

The two most important items to bring with you are a reliable and comfortable pair of walking boots or shoes that you have worn in, and a good quality rain jacket. *Runners and flat-soled shoes are not recommended except as something you can wear after the day's activities.*

Weather can be quite variable in western Victoria so your waterproof jacket is an essential item while on tour, regardless of the weather forecast.

Your day pack: We recommend a day pack of at least 20 litre capacity, with a load bearing harness and the ability to carry a water bladder and your required gear.

Here is a suggested list of what walkers will need to be wearing or have in their day pack:

Essential Items

- Rain jacket *Good quality, seam sealed with a hood
- Fleece jacket
- Wide-brimmed hat for sunny days
- Beanie or woollen hat & gloves for cold days
- Water bladder and water bottle. You will need to have capacity to carry 2 litres of water.
- Electrolytes/hydrolytes
- High factor sunscreen & Lip balm
- Blister pads and / or tape for rubbing and blisters
- Antiseptic hand gel
- Sunglasses
- Tupperware container to pack and carry your lunch

Optional Extras (optional but recommended)

- Walking poles
- Gaiters - *for safety / protection measures*
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Spare batteries for all devices/charger
- Keep cup for any café stops

Main Bag Please bring your gear in a soft bag rather than a hard suitcase to help your guides pack the trailer. Your main bag is transported for you, you only carry your light day pack while walking.

- 2 pairs long and/or short pants - preferably loose fitting, lightweight and quick drying
- 2 x long sleeved shirts light and breathable - for sun protection
- 4 x T-shirts
- Fleece jacket/woollen sweater – something warm
- Swimmers/Bathers and lightweight towel for swimming days
- Walking socks & underwear
- Thermals to keep you warm in the face of blustery conditions
- Waterproof, reusable bag for worn clothing
- Comfortable shoes / clothing for evenings and activities
- Toiletries - shampoo/conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, personal items and insect repellent etc.
- PPE - Masks, hand sanitiser and rapid antigen tests.



LIST OF WHAT WE PROVIDE

- Two Park Trek guides who are experienced, accredited and safety gear equipped to guide, drive, cook and facilitate your tour experience. Our Guides are our story tellers, our chefs, and our legends in the field!
- Transport which includes collection from, and return to Melbourne. We use comfortable 12-seater minibuses with a luggage trailer . We also use the minibus to drop off and pick up during the course of each day.
- Meals - 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners.
- Snacks including trail mix, antipasto, fresh fruit, biscuits or cake.
- We always have a thermos with plenty of tea, coffee or hot chocolate.
- 3 night's accommodation on a twin share basis (single supplement available at additional cost, subject to availability).
- All National Parks fees and passes.

PRE and POST TOUR INFORMATION

Pick up location: **National Gallery of Victoria, 180 St Kilda Road** (just outside the entrance to the gallery and the large pools). We meet at **7:15am on the day of departure for a 7:30am departure.**

We return to NGV around 5:00pm on the last day of tour.

Park Trek Outdoor Experiences Pty Ltd
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