

# Grampians National Park - UPDATE



In January 2011 a significant storm and flood swept through the Grampians National Park causing damage to roads, walking tracks, campgrounds and popular visitor sites. Many areas of the National Park are closed. However the townships surrounding the park, including Halls Gap, Dunkeld and Wartook are open for business. The lakes surrounding the Grampians are looking spectacular and there is still plenty to do in the Grampians Region. Please call into a local visitor centre or Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre for information on the many activities and attractions.

## Northern Walks - 26th January 2011

### 1 HOLLOW MOUNTAIN

*...spectacular rock formations and views*

**Distance:** 2.2 km return **Time:** 1 - 1½ hours

**Elevation Change:** 158 metres **Grade:** medium-hard

**Start:** Hollow Mountain Carpark

Follow the sign-posted track through a densely vegetated gully to start climbing through a woodland of banksias, grass-trees, native pines and eucalypts. The track then leads you to the base of an iron-stained cliff. It's a steep and strenuous climb through fallen boulders and along exposed ledges to a sparsely vegetated rocky outcrop. A short uphill scramble completes the climb to the wind-scoured caverns with views overlooking Mt Stapylton and the Wimmera plains. Return by the same route.

### 1 GULGURN MANJA SHELTER

*...an Aboriginal cultural site*

**Distance:** 1 km return **Time:** 20 - 40 minutes

**Elevation Change:** 30 metres **Grade:** easy

**Start:** Hollow Mountain Carpark

A short up-hill stroll leads to Gulgurn Manja Shelter - meaning 'Hands of Young People'. Signs tell some of the stories and legends of the Jardwadjali people and the mountains they call Gariwerd. The local Aboriginal communities welcome visitors here to learn about their culture and heritage. Please respect Gulgurn Manja. Return by the same route.

### 2 MT ZERO

*...a steep climb for the adventurous family*

**Distance:** 2.8 km return **Time:** 1 - 1½ hours

**Elevation Change:** 151 metres **Grade:** medium

**Start:** Mt Zero Picnic Area

From the picnic area, carefully cross the Halls Gap-Mt Zero Road to the sign-posted walking track. Track markers guide you up the rocky hillside. Near the top of the ridge the track becomes steeper - a hand rail will help you up the rocky steps to the summit. Views of Mt Stapylton and the surrounding Wimmera plains are some of the best in the area. Return by the same route.

### 2 MT STAPYLTON

*...a rugged strenuous walk with panoramic views*

**Distance:** 4.6 km return **Time:** 2 - 2½ hours

**Elevation Change:** 278 metres **Grade:** hard

**Start:** Mt Zero Picnic Area

This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve water crossings, slippery track surfaces, rock hopping and rockscrambling. Signs and track markers guide the way up the steep rock slope of Flat Rock to a splendid vantage point overlooking a natural amphitheatre. The track descends briefly to the base of the impressive Taipan Wall before continuing its steady climb along rock terraces to a track intersection. Follow signs and track markers on the final steep ascent, which involves some rock hopping and scrambling past a wind-scoured cave. The view from the summit is spectacular, taking in much of the park and surrounding plains. Return by the same route.

### 3 MT STAPYLTON LOOP

*...a walk for the fit and adventurous*

**Distance:** 12.2 km circuit **Time:** 5 - 5½ hours

**Elevation Change:** 230 metres **Grade:** hard

**Start:** Stapylton Campground

This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve water crossings, slippery track surfaces, rock hopping and rockscrambling. A sign posted walking track leads through dense scrub and crosses Pohlner Road, continuing to a track intersection. Turn right and begin the steady climb up the timbered slopes. Signs and track markers guide you over exposed rocky outcrops and through forested gullies. The final steep climb involves some rock hopping and scrambling over rock ramps. The summit views are spectacular, taking in much of the park and surrounding plains. Return to the last intersection and follow the sign toward Mt Zero Picnic Area. The track follows water-etched rock terraces flanked by low vegetation, and leads into a natural amphitheatre. Continue to a sign posted track intersection which will direct you back to Stapylton Campground.

### 3 NGAMADJIDJ SHELTER

*...an Aboriginal camping place*

**Distance:** 300 metre circuit **Time:** 10 minutes

**Elevation Change:** 10 metre **Grade:** easy

**Start:** Stapylton Campground

The walk from the carpark to Ngamadjidj Shelter is short and suitable for people with limited mobility. This self-guided walk gives an insight into the culture and heritage of the local Aboriginal people. This is an important Aboriginal rock art site. Please treat Ngamadjidj with respect.

#### 4 BEEHIVE FALLS

*...spectacular after rain*

**Distance:** 2.8 km return **Time:** 1 - 1½ hours

**Elevation Change:** 110 metres **Grade:** medium

**Start:** Beehive Falls Carpark, Roses Gap Road

A gently undulating walking track follows Mud Hut Creek upstream, to a series of rock steps and on to Beehive Falls (best after rain). Enjoy the pretty rock pools and ferns. The base of the falls makes a peaceful resting spot. Return by the same route.

#### 4 BRIGGS BLUFF

*...grand views and a rich diversity of flora*

**Distance:** 10.6 km return **Time:** 4½ - 5½ hours

**Elevation Change:** 419 metres **Grade:** hard

**Start:** Beehive Falls Carpark, Roses Gap Road

Warning: Do not embark on this walk on a misty day, when visibility near cliffs is poor. This walk, suitable for fit and energetic walkers, can involve water crossings, slippery track surfaces, rock hopping and rockscrambling. Follow directions to Beehive Falls (see notes for Beehive Falls). From Beehive Falls, the track immediately becomes steeper. An unrelenting scramble over steep slopes and rock outcrops brings you to a plateau with splendid views. The track, flanked by low vegetation, then cuts a large arc across the plateau to the base of an imposing cliffline. Signs and track markers guide you on a steady climb through massive boulders and over windswept terraces to the summit. The view from the plummeting cliff edge is unrivalled. Return by the same route.

#### PLEASE TAKE CARE IN THESE OPEN AREAS

While some walking tracks and roads in the Park will be open, visitors are advised that the maintenance standard may be less than normal or expected. Park staff have taken much care to ensure that risk issues have been minimised, however hazards may still be present and visitors are advised to proceed with caution.

#### BE SAFE, BE PREPARED

- There are steep cliffs in the Grampians National Park.
- Keep to the track, mind your footing and supervise children at all times.
- Walking tracks may involve rock steps, uneven and slippery track surfaces, water crossings and rock hopping.
- Always wear sturdy footwear with a good tread.
- A good quality map should always be carried.
- Always bring drinking water and food.
- On longer walks, carry protective clothing.
- A hat and sunscreen are essential in summer.
- Please follow the directions and advice of signs.
- Plan your timing. Ensure you return from walking well before dusk.

#### BE FIRE READY STAY SAFE

Be aware of the forecast fire danger rating for this area when planning your trip. Plan to leave early on hot, dry and windy days as these conditions may cause the closure of some park areas for public safety.

Before you visit a park check the latest conditions by calling 13 1963 or visit: [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

For updated information on fires in Victoria or general safety advice, please call the Victorian Bushfire

Information Line on 1800 240 667 or, listen to local ABC/ACE radio stations, or visit: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

#### EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency - Police, Ambulance, Fire 000

Victorian Bushfire Information Line: 1800 240 667

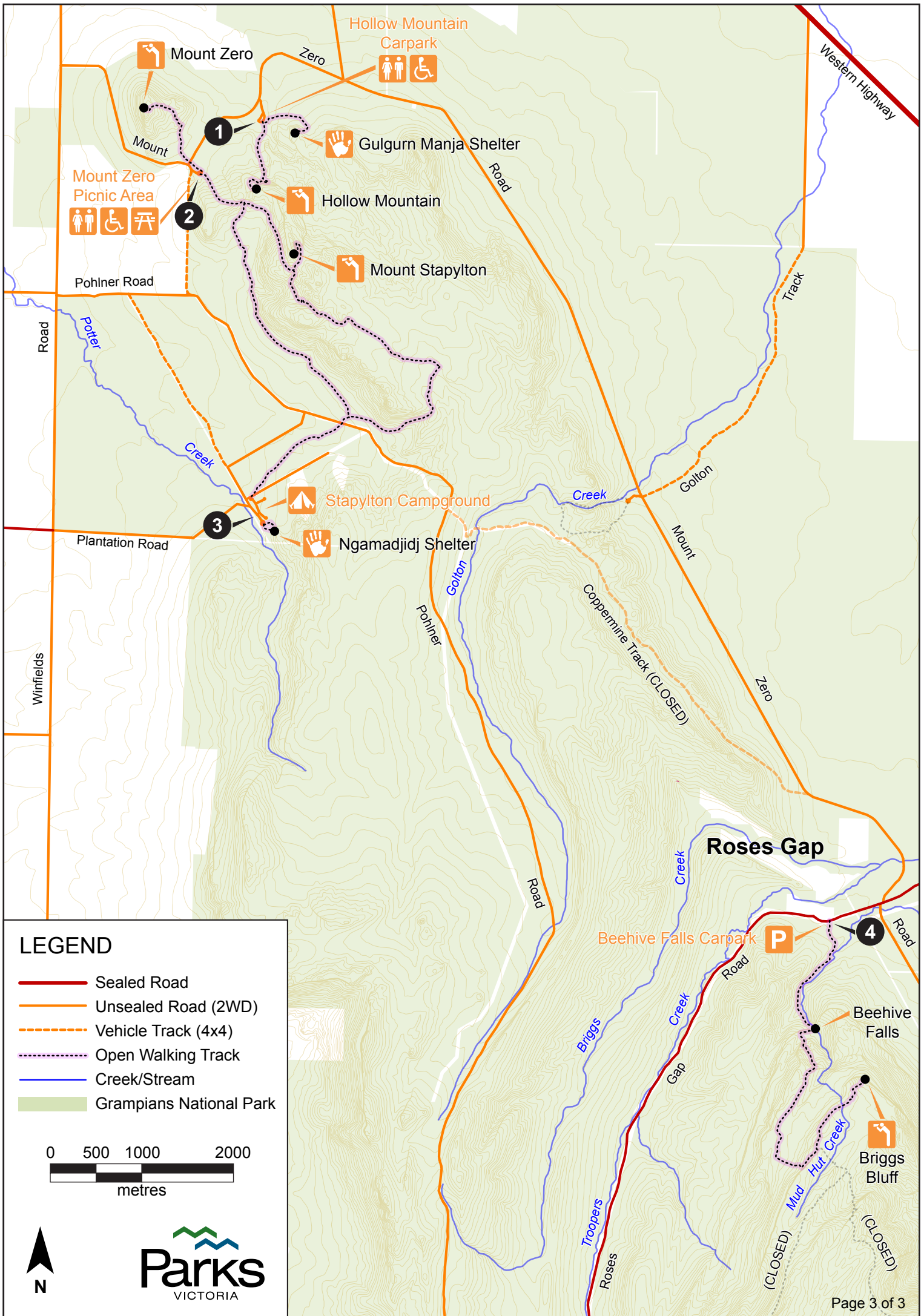
#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Parks Victoria Information Centre 13 1963

or visit [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre

03 5361 4000



**LEGEND**

- Sealed Road
- Unsealed Road (2WD)
- Vehicle Track (4x4)
- Open Walking Track
- Creek/Stream
- Grampians National Park

