

# Errinundra National Park



# Visitor Guide

Errinundra National Park is one of East Gippsland's most outstanding natural areas, protecting Victoria's largest stand of rainforest and age old tall eucalypt forests. The park now covers 39,870 hectares extending from Mt Ellery across the Errinundra Plateau, which rises more than 1000 metres above sea level, to the Coast Range.

# Location and access

Errinundra National Park is 373 km east of Melbourne via the Princes Highway. The two main approaches are:

From the west via the Bonang Road, Gap Road and Gunmark Road; or

From the south, turn off the Princes Highway along Combienbar Road, 54 km east of Orbost. Drive through Club Terrace to Errinundra Road which climbs onto the Plateau. Allow two hours driving time from Orbost.

# Things to see and do

The bushwalking and management tracks are ideal for easy and medium length walks.

- Mt Ellery offers spectacular views and a close look at the granite tors.
- Ancient Mountain Plum Pines are easily accessible from Goonmirks Rocks Road.
- Errinundra Saddle features the history of the park and boardwalk through cool temperate rainforest.

# Car touring

The Baldwin Spencer Trail which passes through the park closely follows the route of scientist and explorer William Baldwin Spencer.

# Facilities and accommodation

Frosty Hollow is the only camping area in the park. Other sites with basic facilities and reliable water are located on the map overleaf.

# Road conditions

Road conditions can deteriorate quickly at any time of the year. Some roads are subject to permanent seasonal closures during the wetter months when rain and snow make them impassable. Check with Parks Victoria for up to date information.

# Remnants and history

The plateau was linked to ancient trails and meeting places for local Aboriginal tribes. European history is evident here from derelict mine shafts, old fence lines and machinery associated with early grazing leases, gold mining and timber harvesting.

# Wilderness wonder

The Errinundra National Park was recently expanded by 12,340ha due to the State Government's commitment to preserving old growth forest for future generations.

Errinundra Plateau is a south east extension of the Monaro Tablelands. It contains three granite outcrops - Mt Ellery, Mt Morris and Cobbs Hill-which extend into the rain clouds, causing much of the rain which falls in the catchment areas. Clouds come from the coast, dropping their rain as they rise above the plateau. Three high points also push the rivers off in different directions.

# Ancient forests

Errinundra National Park is unique in that it offers both ancient cool temperate and warm temperate rainforest. It is dominated by Southern Sassafras and Black Olive Berry and features Mountain Plum Pines, some specimens of which are over 400 years old.

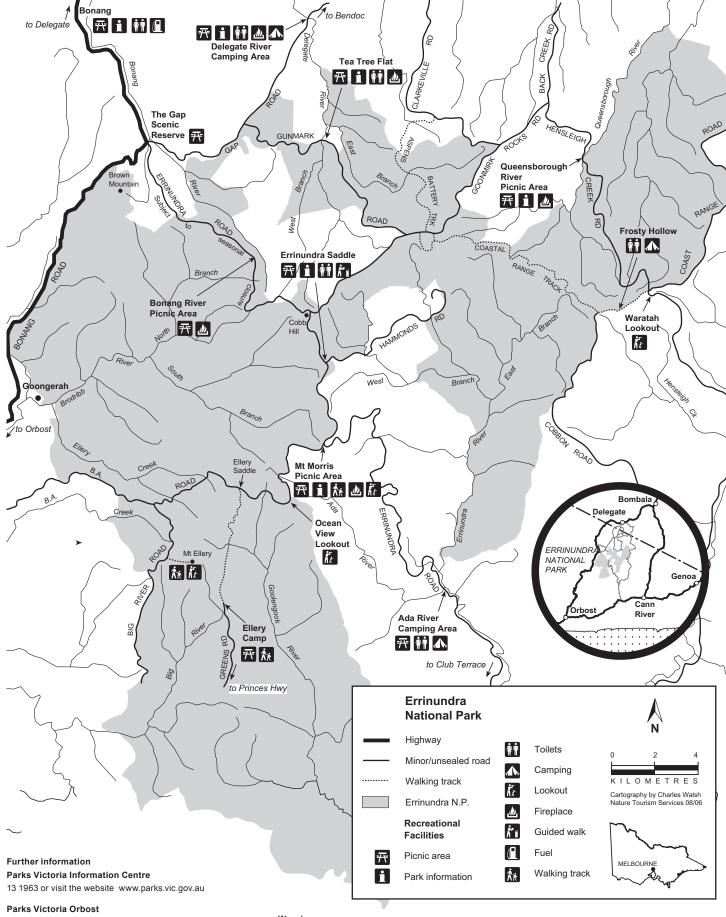
The Plateau's tall, wet eucalypt forests of shining gum and Cut-tail include some giants many hundreds of years old. These species occur in some areas over an understorey rainforest forming what is known as a 'mixed forest'.

# River sources

Errinundra Plateau is the source of seven rivers flowing south, north and east, providing water for many of the regions communities before flowing into Bass Strait or becoming part of the Snowy River system.

For more information call the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963 or visit our website at www.parks.vic.gov.au





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**Sonwy River Orbost Visitor Information Centre** Lochiel St, Orbost 3888 Tel: (03) 5154 2424

#### Warnings

Errinundra National 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.

#### Park closures

Be prepared to leave early as extreme weather may cause the closure of some park areas for public safety.

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