

Candlebark Park

Visitor Guide

Named after the magnificent Candlebark trees (*Eucalyptus rubida*), Candlebark Park is at the western boundary of the Yarra Valley Parklands conservation zone and is an important environmental link between Warrandyte and the Lower Yarra area.

Access to the park

Candlebark Park is beside the Yarra River upstream of Fitzsimons Lane in Templestowe, and is accessible to pedestrians at all times

Car parking with wheelchair access is available from the 'River Car Park' in Westerfolds Park, open 8am – 5pm. (Melway 21 G12).

24 hour car parking is available just east of the Fitzsimons Lane bridge off-ramps (Melway 21 G12).

Dogs are not permitted in the park, to encourage wildlife to return to the area. The residual scent of a dog will prevent many species from entering an area and direct interference with wildlife is clearly unacceptable.

Facilities

Toilets with wheelchair access are available in Westerfolds Park, 100 metres west of the Fitzsimons Lane Bridge along the Main Yarra Trail.

There are many ideal spots along the trail to have a picnic. Fires and barbecues are not permitted in Candlebark Park. Several wood barbecues are located in Westerfolds Park.

Candlebark Park hosts 1.6 km of the Main Yarra Trail, a multipurpose recreational trail that follows the Yarra River for 38 km from Southbank to the Mullum Mullum Creek, a further 2 km upstream of Candlebark Park.

Yarra Valley Parklands

In 1929 it was recognised that rapid urban development in Melbourne after the 1880s had resulted in a lack of parklands to meet community needs. Finally in 1971 the state government announced the 1430ha Yarra Valley Park as a vital wildlife corridor and natural recreational space for Melburnians. The parklands now form a significant 'backbone' of interconnecting trails, linear parks, wetlands and waterways throughout the metropolitan area. The ongoing effort revegetating the parklands, mostly with the aid of valued community groups planting about 30,000 trees per year, has seen the return of a number of significant wildlife species.



Echidna © MT

Flora and Fauna

The Candlebark tree *Eucalyptus rubida* that line the ridge at the south end of the park are some of the last remaining remnants of this vegetation in the Yarra area. Before the arrival of Europeans, the Candlebark was a common species throughout most of the surrounding hills

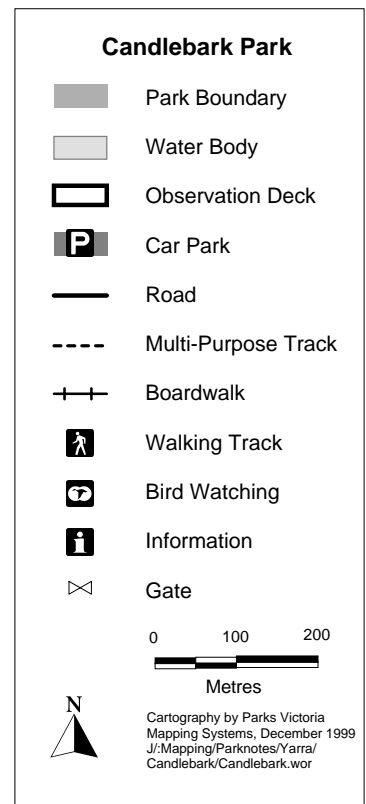
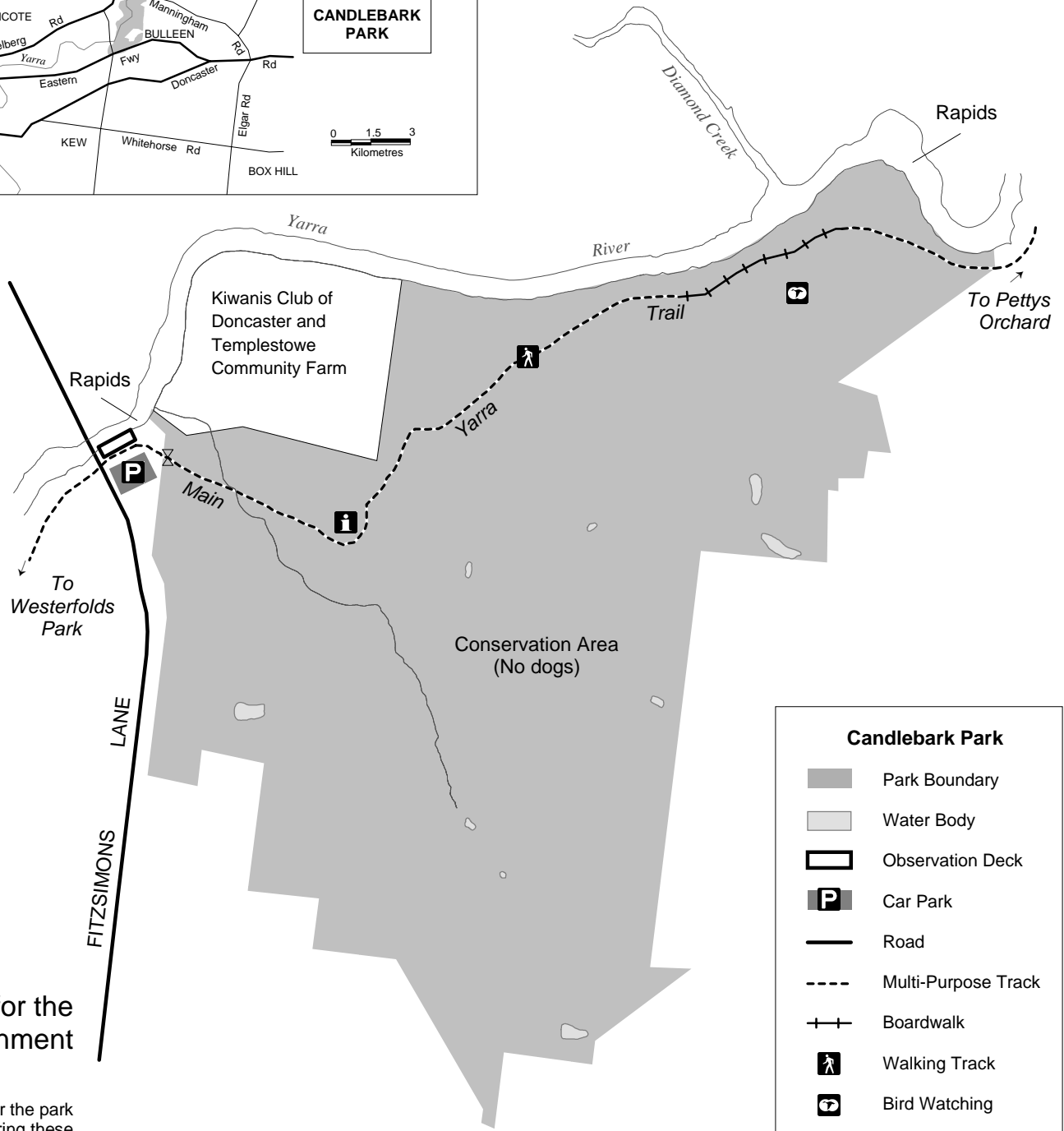
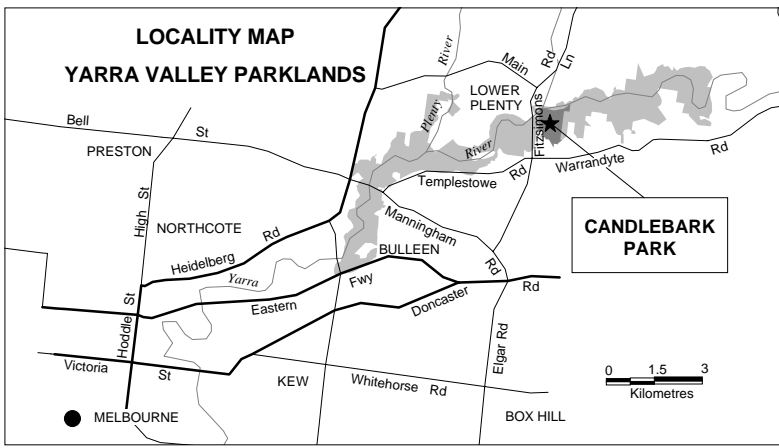
Towards the end of the boardwalk there are some giant Manna Gums *Eucalyptus viminalis* beside the Yarra River. These trees are well over 200 years old and have survived countless floods, droughts, fires and years of altered land use, including timber cutting.

As you move along the boardwalk, look carefully among the grasses, shrubs and trees. You may spot significant native wildlife such as the echidnas, robins, koalas or kangaroos.



Flora © MT





Caring for the environment

Help us look after the park by remembering these guidelines:

Take your rubbish home with you

Keep to the trails at all times

Dogs and other pets are not permitted in the Park

All native plants and animals are protected

Leave the park as you find - take nothing but memories, leave nothing but footprints