

Holey Plains State Park



Visitor Guide

Holey Plains State Park covers an area of 10,638 hectares of mostly Banksia and Eucalypt open-forest and woodlands growing in a series of low sandy ridges. The park, proclaimed in 1977, protects an extremely high diversity of native flora and abundant wildlife, while providing for bushwalking, picnicking, camping and other activities.

Location and access

The park is situated south of the Princes Highway between Rosedale and Sale. The main access is from Rosedale, via the Willung Rosedale Road, then Rosedale-Stradbroke Road (see map). A network of sandy roads and tracks provides access within the park. Visitors should note that pine plantations in the area are private property.

Things to see and do

Picnicking

Holey Hill is the highest point in the park at 218m. Picnic facilities including a toilet are provided here. Other picnic facilities can be found at Harrier Swamp, Merriman Creek and Clear Water Lake. There are no toilets at Merriman Creek picnic area.

Walking

Banksia Forest Walking Track (1km, 20 minutes), located near the picnic area at Holey Hill leads around the northern slopes of the hill.

Long Swamp Walking Track (3.2km, 1.5hours return), starts near the tower and leads to the largest swamp in the park.

A short walking track (1km, 20 minutes) around Harrier Swamp provides another interesting walk and a good opportunity to listen to frogs and observe life in the swamp.

Many of the tracks off Rosedale-Stradbroke Road also provide easy walking through some beautiful wildflower areas, particularly in spring.

Scenic drive route

A scenic drive can be taken along West Boundary, Long Ridge and Wildflower tracks. Grasstrees grow adjacent to another scenic drive along Jacks Track, South Boundary Track and Merriman Creek. Most tracks are narrow and winding, please drive slowly and use only sign posted tracks.

Camping

Camping areas and toilets are provided at Holey Hill and Harrier Swamp. Campers will need to bring their own water and fires should only be lit in the fireplaces provided in the adjacent picnic areas. Camping is not permitted at Merriman Creek or Clear Water Lake picnic areas.

In the past

The park was formerly part of a squatting run taken up in the 1840s by the Crooke family, whose homestead is to the north of the park. The property was named 'Holey Plains' because the alluvial land along the Latrobe River has many crab holes, unlike the sandy country that makes up the park.

Plants and wildlife

The park accommodates several threatened species which include the Powerful Owl and Wellington Mint Bush. This rare plant is known only to exist in Holey Plains State Park.

The park contains a rich variety of native plants (over 500 species) in 29 different communities. Common eucalypts include Stringybarks, Peppermints and Apple Box. Other common plants are Saw Banksias, tea-trees, bush peas, wattles, heaths and 25 species of orchids.

Numerous species of frogs can be heard in the many swamps within the park. Wallabies, emus and echidnas can often be seen, especially on the edge of tracks and firebreaks.

Nightlife includes Ringtail Possums, wombats, bats and Owlet-Nightjars. Birds are abundant with 126 species recorded.



Echidna © MT

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Sale Park Office
1 Lacey Street
Sale Vic 3850

Wellington Visitor
Information Centre
8 Foster Street
Sale Vic 3850

Phone: 1800 677 520

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these regulations:

Chainsaws and firearms are not permitted in the park
Vehicles including motorbikes to remain on formed tracks

Firearms, dogs, cats and other pets are not permitted in the park

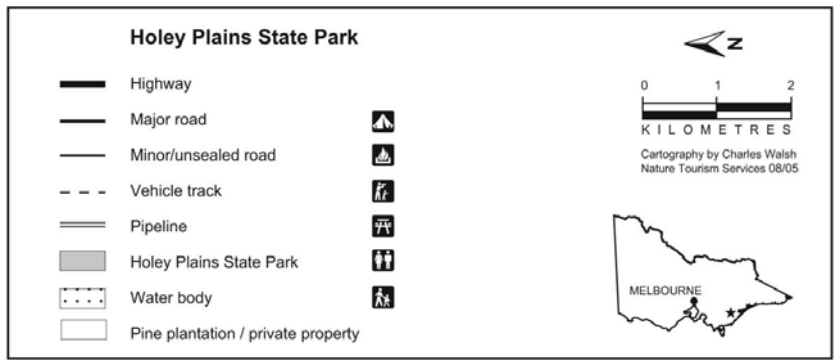
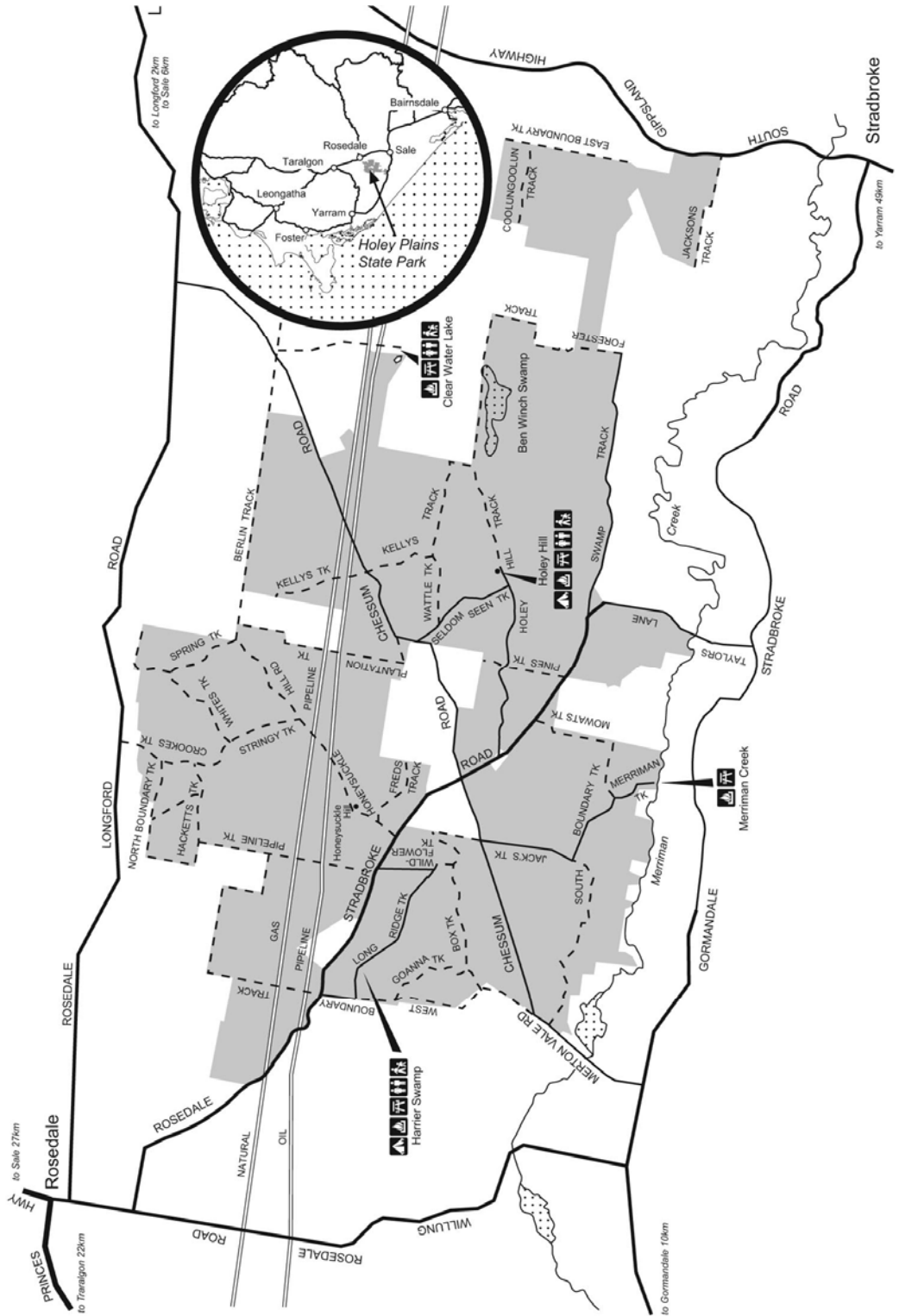
Fires can only be lit in the fireplaces provided, and are prohibited on days of Total Fire Ban

The vegetation is extremely fire prone and will burn even in winter

All native plants, animals and natural features are protected

Please take your rubbish with you

Please don't throw this park note away. Keep it, return it for others to use, or recycle it



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