

Walking your Dog in Victoria's Parks



*Healthy Parks
Healthy People*

The logo for Parks Victoria, featuring a stylized mountain range above the word "Parks" in a bold, sans-serif font, with "VICTORIA" in a smaller, all-caps font below it.



Out and About with your Canine Companion

Round up your dog, grab the lead, stretch those legs, take some clean fresh air into your lungs and enjoy the surroundings in any number of parks and reserves in and around Melbourne and regional Victoria.

They are loyal, unquestioning, trusting and unconditionally loving. Our dogs provide companionship and enrich our lives in many ways.

One of the most important contributions they make is their ability to compel us to get out of the house and take regular exercise. Owning a dog can set you apart from the couch potatoes and allow you to lead a healthy lifestyle, and facilitate social interaction with fellow dog owners.

And when you enjoy the great outdoors in many of the parks managed by Parks Victoria, there is no reason why your dog can't join you.



Favourite Places for Dogs in and Around Melbourne



Our dogs are lucky creatures indeed. Not only do they have the run of Council off-lead parks, but also access to some favourite Parks Victoria parks where on-lead and off-lead areas are available. Here are just a few ideas to get you started.



Yarra Bend Park

The largest area of natural vegetation near the city, Yarra Bend Park has large off-lead areas for your dog to run, sniff and socialise with other canine chums. And with 16 kilometres of river frontage, views from the city to the Dandenongs, and plenty of on-lead trails, both you and your dog will share some wonderful walks.

Albert Park

Melburnians are fortunate to have this 225-hectare recreational park in the heart of their city. With its picturesque lake and network of trails, Albert Park offers your dog a smorgasbord of exciting sights and smells as well as off-lead areas to run and play. It is also the home of the RSPCA Million Paws Walk every May, the number one metropolitan social event for your dog.

Jells Park

A suburban park with nine kilometres of paths and trails, hectares of open space, and the Dandenong Creek running through it, Jells Park is popular with both human and canine visitors. Please keep your dog on-lead and stay within the 'dogs allowed' areas in order to protect native wildlife including the 150 bird species that call this park home.



Check with **Parks Victoria** about dog-friendly parks and off-lead areas available. Call **13 1963** or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

View of You Yangs Regional Park

Further Afield

Victoria is blessed with vast hectares of state, regional, historic and coastal parks where you and your dog can get the valuable exercise you both need! Why not grab the lead and introduce your dog to some of these beautiful places?

Macedon Regional Park

Both you and your dog will enjoy the expansive walking tracks in this park that take in pleasant shaded picnic grounds, Messmate Gum forests, damp gullies and a variety of native plants and animals.

Hepburn Regional Park

The Eucalypt forests and gently undulating hills of the Hepburn Regional Park provide a lovely setting for a stroll with your dog. So next time you're headed for the nearby attractions of Daylesford and Hepburn Springs, don't leave the dog at home.

You Yangs Regional Park

The granite peaks of the You Yangs rise dramatically from the surrounding volcanic plains between Melbourne and Geelong. Explore one of the tracks that traverse the park, taking in magnificent views, or relax in one of the park's many picnic areas.

Bunurong Marine and Coastal Park

Explore the sandy coves and rocky headlands with your dog, along some of Victoria's most beautiful coastline. The rugged sandstone cliffs of this park are a striking backdrop for other beach activities such as swimming and exploring rockpools.





Cape Conran Coastal Park

Cape Conran Coastal Park

Explore a network of on-road and off-road tracks with your canine friends in this rugged coastal park. The park features wild ocean beaches, estuaries and inlets, heathlands and banksia woodlands brimming with nectar-feeding birds. Camping with dogs is also allowed in some areas.



Macedon Regional Park

Doggie Etiquette in the Park

- Please remember your dog must be on-lead in Victoria's parks and reserves unless you're in a designated off-lead area.
- National parks and conservation reserves are sanctuaries for native animals, and as such dogs are generally not allowed in these areas.
- In designated off-lead areas, remember that you are responsible for being in effective control of your dog at all times. There are many organisations available to assist in training your dog if needed.
- Remember when walking to carry enough water for you and your dog.
- Please always be responsible – carry a pooper scooper and clean up after your dog.



Explore the Great Outdoors

There are beautiful landscapes to enjoy and a whole host of recreational activities to pursue in Victoria's parks and reserves. Get the most out of life and seize the day – the great outdoors beckons.

You can plan and do park activities on your own, or join one of hundreds of tours and activities offered by Licensed Tour Operators, ranging from surfing and snorkelling, to caving, horse riding, bicycle touring and much, much more!

There are 8 titles in this series – call **Parks Victoria** on **13 1963** to find out more.



There's no better way to truly appreciate the diversity of our parks and reserves than to spend time in them under canvas. Breathe in the aromas of the bush, be awed by the true brilliance of stars in a deep night sky, enjoy the happy gathering of friends and family around a shared meal, and escape the stresses of the everyday.



In quiet lakes and gently flowing rivers, in the pounding surf or in the depths beneath your boat – the waters of Victoria's parks and reserves offer some prize catches. So grab your hat, pack some drinks in the esky and get your rods and reels out while the fish are biting!



Swap four wheels for two, the air-conditioning for fresh air, and the car radio for the sweet sounds of the great outdoors. Cycling in Victoria's parks is a simple joy that anyone can share, whether you're rolling sedately on a sealed path or seeking thrills on a steep rocky mountain bike track through the bush.



The lakes, rivers and marine waters of Victoria's parks and reserves are ideal for water sports of all kinds. Whether your pleasures are to be found in, on, or under the water, the state's parks and reserves are the perfect getaway to get wet and get happy.

A Selection of Great Parks for Dog Walking

Albert Park <i>3km South of Melbourne CBD</i>	
Bunurong Marine and Coastal Park <i>10km South of Wonthaggi</i>	
Cape Conran Coastal Park <i>30km SE of Orbost</i>	
Cape Liptrap Coastal Park <i>10km South of Leongatha</i>	
Cardinia Reservoir Park <i>45km SE of Melbourne</i>	
Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park <i>60km East of Sale</i>	
Greenvale Reservoir Park <i>22km North of Melbourne</i>	
Hepburn Regional Park <i>5km West of Daylesford</i>	
Jells Park <i>20km East of Melbourne CBD</i>	
Karkarook Park <i>17km SE of Melbourne CBD</i>	
Kooyoora State Park <i>220km NW of Melbourne</i>	
Lerderderg State Park <i>75km East of Melbourne</i>	
Macedon Regional Park <i>57km NW of Melbourne</i>	
Maroondah Reservoir Park <i>70km East of Melbourne</i>	
Murray-Kulkyne Park <i>50km South of Mildura</i>	
Silvan Reservoir Park <i>50km East of Melbourne</i>	
Westerfolds Park <i>16km NE of Melbourne CBD</i>	
Westgate Park <i>6km West of Melbourne CBD</i>	
Yarra Bend Park <i>4km North of Melbourne</i>	
You Yangs Regional Park <i>55km SW of Melbourne</i>	



Please check with Parks Victoria before visiting parks and reserves with your dog to find out if there are any off-lead areas or dog exclusion zones and if camping with dogs is allowed.

Find out more

For comprehensive park information, park listings and maps, call the **Parks Victoria Information Centre** on **13 1963** or visit **www.parkweb.vic.gov.au**

For details on over 250 Licensed Tour Operators offering guided tourism and recreational activities across our park system, contact **13 1963** or visit **www.parkweb.vic.gov.au**

For further activities, attractions and accommodation in Victoria, visit Tourism Victoria's website **www.visitvictoria.com**

To meet up with other dog owners in your local area and to link up with more places to take your dog for a walk, visit **www.dogabout.com.au** or **www.4legs.com.au**



Healthy Parks Healthy People

Research has shown that a visit to a park can improve your health; mind, body and soul. Parks provide natural settings where we can escape the noise, air and visual pollution of our cities as well as the everyday stresses that sometimes overwhelm us.

Parks can offer physical challenges or calming retreats. They provide us with moments of respite in which to recharge ourselves. There is a strong correlation between the accessibility of parks, the physical and mental health of individuals, and the creation of a healthy and harmonious community.

Parks Victoria manages many wonderful parks and reserves in Victoria including national, state and metropolitan parks, conservation reserves, marine national parks, marine sanctuaries, and many significant cultural and heritage sites. Parks Victoria is also responsible for the recreational management of Port Phillip, Western Port and the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers. Altogether the parks and waterways system attracts over 70 million visits each year.

There are a whole host of activities to pursue in Victoria's parks and reserves. So come visit, explore and enjoy your Victoria.

For more information please call **Parks Victoria** on **13 1963** or visit **www.parkweb.vic.gov.au**

go
for
your
life™



This brochure is printed using soy-based inks. The paper stock is made from 50% recycled, 50% elemental chlorine free wood fibre, which is harvested from sustainable forests. This reflects Parks Victoria's commitment to reducing our ecological footprint. To support us in our efforts to minimise impact on the environment, when you have finished with this brochure please recycle or pass on to a friend. Free publication from Parks Victoria. Printed August 2006.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of printing, but Parks Victoria accepts no responsibility for inconvenience or loss arising from the use of this publication.