

MTHOTHAM



Beyond HOTHAM

An exceptional 4WD Experience

**BEYOND
HOTHAM**

MTHOTHAM.COM.AU



THE ADVENTURE BEGINS



EXPLORE BEYOND HOTHAM THIS GREEN SEASON

TOURING IN VICTORIA'S HIGH COUNTRY	02
WHAT YOU DON'T NEED	02
WHAT YOU NEED	02
FUEL REQUIREMENTS	03
TEMPERATURE AND WEATHER	
ESTIMATES	04

TRIP DETAILS	06
ROAD CONDITIONS	08
TREK NOTES	10

DRIVING TIPS	11
WATER CROSSINGS	12
TYRE PRESSURES	13
VEHICLE SUPPORT NETWORK	13

FACILITIES	14
TOILETS	14
PICNIC AREAS	14
RUBBISH	14
SHOPS	15
WASHING	15

TREK 1 - THE PLAINS TO THE FALLS : PRECIPICE PLAIN, VICTORIA RIVER, VICTORIA FALLS	16
ROAD CONDITIONS	16
TRACK HISTORY	17
TREK NOTES	18
TREK MAP	19

TREK 2 : PRECIPICE PLAIN, DOGS GRAVE, ORIENTAL CLAIMS, OMEO (OPT: KING CASSILIS MINE, VICTORIA FALLS	20
ROAD CONDITIONS	20
TRACK HISTORY	21
TREK NOTES	22
TREK MAP	23

TREK 3 - GRANT HISTORIC AREA : DARGO HIGH PLAINS, GRANT, TALBOTVILLE, DARGO	24
ROAD CONDITIONS	24
TRACK HISTORY	25
TREK NOTES	26
TREK MAP	27

TREK 4 - BLUE RAG RANGE : BLUE RAG RANGE TRIG, RED CARRIAGE, WHITE TIMBER SPUR, DEVILS HOLLOW	28
ROAD CONDITIONS	28
TRACK HISTORY	29
TREK NOTES	30
TREK MAP	31

TREK 5 : WHITE TIMBER SPUR, RED CARRIAGE, BASALT KNOB, TALBOTVILLE, GRANT, DARGO	32
ROAD CONDITIONS	32
TRACK HISTORY	33
TREK NOTES	34
TREK MAP	35

TREK 6 - CROOKED RIVER RUN : GRANT, STONEWALL, HOGTOWN, TALBOTVILLE, CROOKED RIVER, BLACK SNAKE CREEK HUT, DARGO	36
ROAD CONDITIONS	36
TRACK HISTORY	37
TREK NOTES	38
TREK MAP	39

TREK 7 : MT MURRAY	40
ROAD CONDITIONS	40
TRACK HISTORY	40
TREK NOTES	41
TREK MAP	41

DIGITAL TOUR GUIDE	42
--------------------	----

THE GENERAL MT HOTHAM	44
-----------------------	----

ACCOMMODATION - HOTHAM & DP	46
-----------------------------	----

SUMMER BUSHWALKING	48
--------------------	----

SUMMER ACTIVITIES - HOTHAM & DP	50
---------------------------------	----

USEFUL CONTACTS	52
-----------------	----

HEMA REGION MAP	FLIP OUT BACK COVER
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THIS BOOK IS INTENDED AS A GUIDE ONLY. PLEASE ALWAYS BE ALERT AND AWARE AND SEEK INFORMATION FROM AUTHORITIES AND LOCALS IF UNSURE AS CONDITIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. 4WD COMES WITH AN INHERENT RISK AT THE INDIVIDUAL'S RESPONSIBILITY NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AUTHOR. PLEASE ALWAYS DRIVE WITHIN YOUR LIMITS. MHRMB ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LOSS, INJURY OR INCONVENIENCE.

HOTHAM'S HIGH COUNTRY TREKS



TOURING IN VICTORIA'S HIGH COUNTRY

Congratulations on choosing to travel around Australia's iconic Victorian High Country, we want your adventure in our backyard to be enjoyable. This booklet provides you with key information on points of interest and how to get there and back, we want to ensure your experience is safe. Please take a moment to read this as it could save you time, money and a lot of anxiety, we want to make your experience memorable.

WHAT YOU DON'T NEED

As you are going to be travelling through the Alpine National Park, it is a condition of entry that you do NOT carry:

- Firearms,
- Chainsaws, or
- Animals.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Capable vehicle such as an All-Wheel Drive (AWD) or Four-Wheel Drive (4WD) vehicle with low range – check each trip to see if your vehicle is suitable
- Map of the area, do not rely on your in-car navigation system – we suggest the Hema High Country Victoria Map
- Fuel for your vehicle (at least half a full tank) – see next page for Fuel Requirements
- Food and drinks for the day – make sure you carry a bit extra just in case; especially water and energy food

- Plastic bags for rubbish – you are responsible for the collection and correct disposal of your own rubbish
- Suitable clothing – we suggest at least warm weatherproof jacket, long trousers, closed-in sturdy footwear, gloves, hat and sunscreen for all people in your vehicle
- Camera – make sure your batteries are charged and you have plenty of room for photos
- Air compressor – varying road conditions and terrain may require tyre pressure to be adjusted.
- First Aid Kit
- Extra water to extinguish camp fire
- Sense of Adventure – take the time to wonder at what it would have been like in earlier years to travel this terrain without the comfort of your horseless carriage!



IMPORTANT NOTE FOR DIESEL VEHICLES: IF YOU ARE DRIVING A DIESEL VEHICLE TO ALPINE AREAS DURING COLD WEATHER WE RECOMMEND AN ALPINE DIESEL FUEL ADDITIVE, AVAILABLE FROM GARAGES. IN VERY COLD TEMPERATURES NORMAL DIESEL WAXES UP AND WON'T MOVE THROUGH THE FUEL SYSTEM.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU CHECK YOUR OWNER/OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON ALPINE DIESEL AND DRIVING IN ALPINE OR COLD AREAS.



NEAREST FUEL STOPS

- OMEQ** (54 km)
Diesel, LPG, Unleaded and Premium Unleaded
- BRIGHT** (56 km)
Diesel, LPG, Unleaded and Premium Unleaded
- DARGO** (80 km)
Diesel, Unleaded and Premium Unleaded

FUEL REQUIREMENTS

As each vehicle is different we cannot tell you how much fuel your vehicle will use. However, be aware that travelling on unsealed dirt roads and narrow tracks can use more fuel, maybe as much 30% more fuel. We recommend you have at least half a full tank of fuel before heading off on any one of the trips outlined in this booklet.

Fuel costs vary significantly in this area due to transport costs. We suggest you fill up at every available opportunity, even if you only add a quarter a tank of fuel. This preventative measure will assist with having enough fuel to complete your journey.

Most major credit cards are accepted at locations throughout the Victorian High Country, however EFTPOS should NOT be relied upon. It is a good idea to always have cash handy just in case.

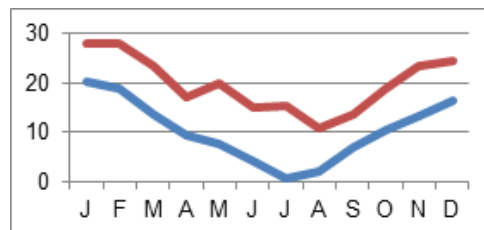
TEMPERATURE AND WEATHER ESTIMATES

TEMPERATURE AND WEATHER ESTIMATES

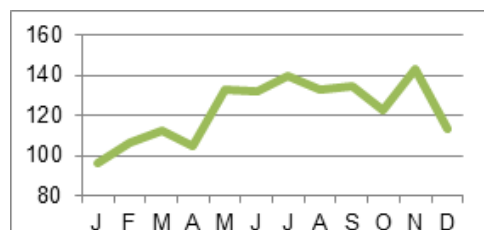
The weather in the Victorian High Country is unpredictable and can change very quickly without warning. You should always be prepared for the unexpected. As a guide here are Mount Hotham's historical monthly temperature ranges and rainfall numbers:



MONTHLY MAXIMUM/MINIMUM TEMPERATURES (°C)



MONTHLY AVERAGE RAINFALL (MM)



Data for these charts was extracted from Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology website Climate Data Online for the Mount Hotham Climatological Station viewed on 28 June 2015.



SNOW CAN OFTEN FALL OUT OF THE WINTER SEASON AND IT IS NOT UNCOMMON TO HAVE SNOWFALLS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. PLEASE TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN PACKING CLOTHES AND EQUIPMENT.



VEHICLES



MINIMUM TYPE OF VEHICLE RECOMMENDED FOR THE TRIPS

VEHICLE

Based on the grade of the trip, ground clearance and track steepness, All Wheel Drives are minimum type of vehicle recommended for the trip. However it does not provide for the skill level of the driver, if you are at all unsure, and then please discuss your adventure with us before heading off. As a guide, this is how we classify the difference between the two types of vehicles:

All Wheel Drive

A vehicle with reasonable ground clearance (more than that of a standard two-wheel drive sedan) and the ability for engine torque/power to be shared by the front and back axles.

Four-Wheel Drive

A vehicle with very good ground clearance, ability to manually/automatically lock the front and rear axles together.



HOTHAM'S HIGH COUNTRY TRIP DETAILS



EACH TRIP PROVIDES YOU WITH SOME KEY DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ADVENTURE

These trips have been put together with all possible care with times calculated for an average driver of average dirt road experience travelling at a safe speed for the road conditions in fair weather.

TOTAL DISTANCE

This is the total distance for each adventure excluding any optional extras. Use this distance to help determine if you have enough fuel for the journey.

Check your trip meter. The distances given in this booklet do not account for variations in individual vehicle odometer readings. These variations could be as much as 10%, so please take this into consideration when calculating your distances. We suggest resetting your vehicle's trip meter at each location to keep this difference to a minimum.

TRAVEL TIME

This is the on road driving time in fair weather conditions, it does not include the time you may take to look around and enjoy the view or take in the atmosphere – that is up to you!

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Most of the adventures contain some options for your consideration. To assist you with making the decision on whether to take the option or not, we have included distances and travel times. These distances and times are either:

- Return – to and from that particular point in your journey
- One Way – from that particular point in your journey to the optional destination.

GRADE

Each trip is graded in fair weather conditions using three descriptions:

- Easy – contains sealed and unsealed roads
- Medium – contains sealed, unsealed and formed dirt roads
- Difficult – contains sealed, unsealed, formed dirt roads and narrow tracks

Read the section on Road Conditions below for more information about what to expect on each of these road types. In adverse weather conditions, consider each trip to be at least the next level of difficulty.

NOTE – ALWAYS check with local authorities before heading off on your adventure to be safe.

FUEL

For each journey you will be travelling towards a town with a service station or general store that have fuel available. Not all fuel types are available in these locations, so this will provide you with the location and a guide to the types of fuel available.



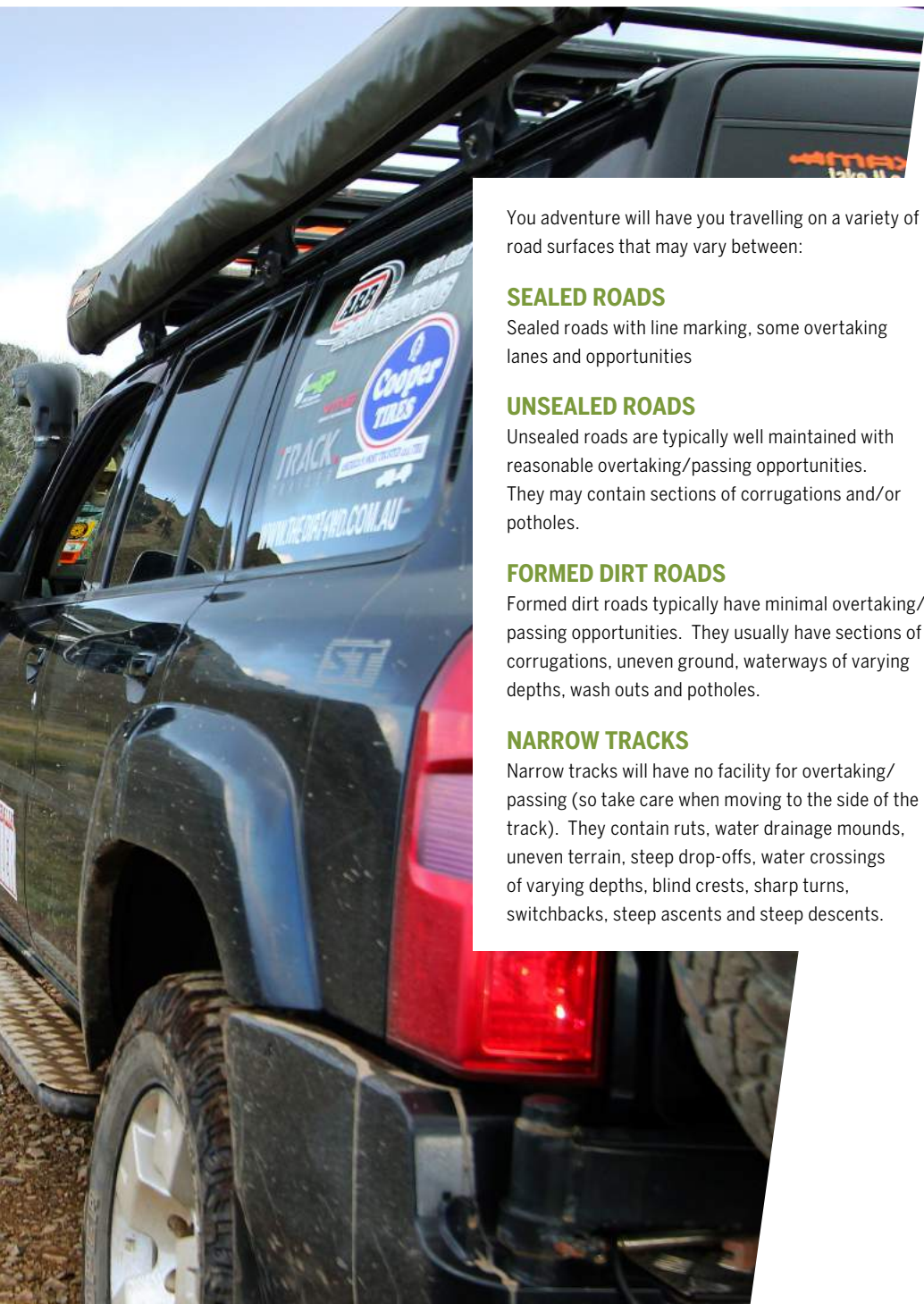
ROAD CONDITIONS

SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES

All trips outlined in this booklet have sections that are subject to seasonal road closures. These closures occur each year typically between June and November.

NOTE – ALWAYS check with local authorities before heading off on your adventure to be safe.





You adventure will have you travelling on a variety of road surfaces that may vary between:

SEALED ROADS

Sealed roads with line marking, some overtaking lanes and opportunities

UNSEALED ROADS

Unsealed roads are typically well maintained with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities. They may contain sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

FORMED DIRT ROADS

Formed dirt roads typically have minimal overtaking/passing opportunities. They usually have sections of corrugations, uneven ground, waterways of varying depths, wash outs and potholes.

NARROW TRACKS

Narrow tracks will have no facility for overtaking/passing (so take care when moving to the side of the track). They contain ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, steep drop-offs, water crossings of varying depths, blind crests, sharp turns, switchbacks, steep ascents and steep descents.



TREK NOTES

EACH TRIP STARTS AND FINISHES AT THE MOUNT HOTHAM RESORT MANAGEMENT OFFICE, CORRAL CAR PARK

The Trek Notes provide you with:

Distances

the distance between each point of interest or road junction and the one before it.

Directions

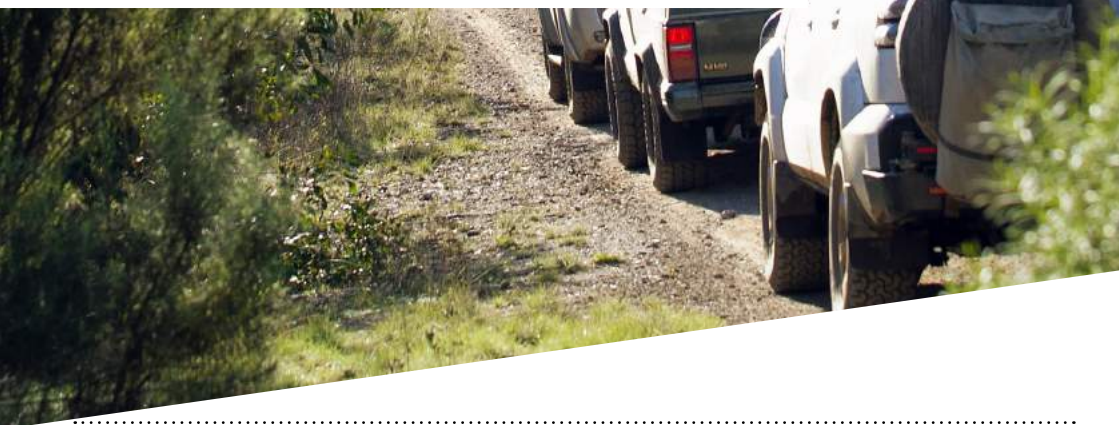
which way to turn or what to do, such as take in the view and take a photo or two!

Facilities

such as toilets, fuel, food, shops, picnic tables and fire pits.

Optional extras

these are choices for you; which may include additional views, points of interest or nearest town.





➔ DRIVING TIPS

FOUR WHEEL DRIVING TIPS



IF IN DOUBTTHEN DON'T

- Make sure you take regular stops during the day – use points of interest for your morning, lunch or afternoon breaks
- Always keep the vehicle on the track, avoid driving over vegetated areas
- Always drive according to the road and weather conditions
- Drive within your limits and that of your vehicle – if you are in doubt then don't, turn back or look for a safer alternative
- Always expect another vehicle to be coming towards you when approaching a bend in the road
- Make use of your vehicle's park-brake whenever you stop and to assist with starting on slopes
- Observe all road rules and signs
- Travel outside the dust cloud of any vehicle in front of you
- When reversing, make sure you check behind your vehicle or get someone outside the vehicle to help guide you

If in doubt ... then don't!



IF YOU ARE UNSURE AT ANY STAGE OF YOUR ADVENTURE, THEN DON'T RISK THE SAFETY OF YOURSELF, YOUR PASSENGERS, YOUR VEHICLE OR THE ENVIRONMENT. IT IS BETTER TO TURN AROUND AND COME BACK AGAIN ANOTHER DAY. DON'T RISK THE ALTERNATIVE!





WATER CROSSINGS



SOME OF OUR ADVENTURES TAKE YOU ACROSS CREEKS AND RIVERS OF VARYING DEPTHS

CAUTION

Always

Check water crossings for depth, flow and obstacles before proceeding. If you are unsure, then turn around.

Before crossing water

Make sure you allow time for the vehicle to cool – this reduces the risk of damage to your vehicle.

When travelling through water

Keep an even slow pace, do not create a big breaking wave in front of the vehicle.

CAUTION

Anything deeper

Than the centre of your vehicle's wheels should not be crossed by inexperienced drivers.

After crossing water

Allow the water to drain from the underside of your vehicle and check the operation of your foot brake as you move off.

Weather will dramatically change dirt/gravel road/track conditions, so you will need to adjust your driving to suit the prevailing conditions.

CAUTION

Always

Check with local authorities before you head off on your adventure.

TYRE PRESSURES



INCORRECT TYRE PRESSURES ARE THE GREATEST SOURCE OF TYRE FAILURE WHEN TRAVELLING ON GRAVEL ROADS, WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING TYRE PRESSURE:

CAUTION

Always

Reduce speed your speed when travelling on reduced tyre pressure.

BITUMEN = MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATION

Refer to your vehicle's tyre placard (typically around the driver's door) or your vehicle's handbook

Remember any extra load inside or outside will change the handling characteristics of your vehicle.

GRAVEL = 22 TO 30 PSI

Reducing your tyre pressure will allow the tyres to distort slightly over rocks and soften the ride

Do not reduce your tyre pressures too far if you do have the ability to re-inflate them

Even a small reduction of 10% in your highway tyre pressures can make a significant difference, for the better, to your vehicle's ride and handling characteristics on unsealed roads. You can still travel on sealed roads with this slight reduction in tyre pressure, with care!

VEHICLE SUPPORT NETWORK



You will be travelling on public access gazetted roads, so your roadside assistance service provider should be able to provide you with any support. If you are unsure, give them a call and check before you set off.

If you are using a hire vehicle, then check the fine print to make sure you are not going to void any part of your hire agreement.





TOILETS



Toilets encountered in the area range from normal flushing toilets through to enviro-cycle and pit toilets. Most of them are located at or near various points of interest along the way. It is a good idea to have your own roll of toilet paper available just in case local supplies have been used up.

PICNIC AREAS



THERE MANY PICNIC STOPS AVAILABLE ALONG THE WAY, SOME ARE TUCKED AWAY WITH GREAT VIEWS

CAUTION

You are responsible

For making yourself aware of any fire restrictions in place before you start your adventure. It is illegal to light a fire during periods of Total Fire Ban.

Most of these areas have picnic tables with bench seats as well as formed fire pits. Some of the fire pits are setup with hotplates and cooking hooks. Don't rely on cooking facilities being available everywhere you go.

Fires

Throughout Victoria there are restrictions associated with barbeques and open fires. These restrictions are in force to reduce the risk of bushfires that could cause irreparable damage to flora and fauna as well as possible loss of life and property.

If you are going to have a fire, please keep it as small as possible, just big enough to do your cooking. Make sure you only use the designated fire pits for this purpose.

In most cases firewood is not supplied, you will have to gather it from designated collection areas.

Make sure you check the rules for firewood collection with local authorities.

Once you have finished with your fire, please make sure it is fully extinguished before you leave the area (douse it with water).

RUBBISH



We ask that you respect the fragile environment your adventures take you through, so please ensure anything you take in ... you take out.

Most picnic areas you will encounter do not have rubbish bins so local wildlife is not tempted to investigate, causing possible harm to themselves. Please dispose of your rubbish when you get to an area with proper rubbish disposal facilities.





SHOPS

There are a variety of shops you will encounter on your travels, take the time to explore any town you venture into, talk to the locals, take in the history and atmosphere. Even the local pubs are worth the visit.

Food shops will range from basically stocked general stores through to mini supermarkets. Please take the opportunity to support these communities.



WASHING

NEVER wash yourself or cooking/eating gear in natural or man-made waterways – this will pollute them making them damaging to flora and fauna as well as humans that rely on them. Where water is in short supply, store your dirty gear and wash them when water is available. Always do your washing at least 50 m away from any waterway.



WHEN LEAVING YOUR CAMPSITE, WHETHER FOR THE DAY OR TO MOVE ON TO YOUR NEXT DESTINATION, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CAMP FIRE IS COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED

TREK 1 THE PLAINS TO THE FALLS

PRECIPICE PLAIN, VICTORIA RIVER, VICTORIA FALLS



84KM

Optional Extras
(return)
+44km for Omeo.



3.0HRS

Optional Extras
(return)
+40 minutes for
Omeo.



EASY

In dry weather.



ALL WHEEL DRIVE



OMEQ

Diesel, LPG,
Unleaded and Premium
Unleaded

ROAD CONDITIONS



Dinner Plain Track

Narrow track with minimal facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, sharp turns, short steep descents and ascents.

Victoria River Track

Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, sharp turns, short steep ascents and descents.

Victoria Falls Track

Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, steep drop-offs, uneven terrain and potholes.



NOTE – VICTORIA FALLS TRACK IS A DRY WEATHER ONLY ROAD AND SHOULD NOT BE DRIVEN ON BY ANY VEHICLE DURING OR DIRECTLY AFTER WET WEATHER.

TRACK HISTORY



The Plains to the Falls

From humble high plains grazing to ambitious technological advances brought about by the gold mining era in one of the State's first hydro-electric power schemes, this easy trek offers a historical insight into the spectacular Victorian mountain ranges. Skirt the basalt rim of the high plains, drive through Snow Gum woodlands and view the magnificent waterfalls, this trek takes in the vastness of the alpine country. Highlighting the diversity of European pioneers use of the Alps, this trek is a great introduction to what was once a remote corner of the State.



TREK 1

THE PLAINS TO THE FALLS

TRACK NOTES



START

The General Store Mt Hotham

Head South on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Dinner Plain and Omeo.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.8 KM

JB Plain Hut on Right

Stay on Great Alpine Road.

1.3 KM

Dinner Plain Track on Right

Turn right onto Dinner Plain Track, just before Dinner Plain Hut (on left). Engage your vehicle's 4wd system if available.

CAUTION – Track is difficult to see, if you miss the turn, continue to Dinner Plain turn-off and come back.

(Toilets available at Dinner Plain)

4.6 KM

Precipice Plain Lookout on Right

Park in the marked area and walk 100 m over flat ground to the edge of a cliff with great views west towards Mt Tabletop and Mt Blue Rag.

CAUTION – Stay back from the cliff edge, as the ground can be unstable. Keep a close eye on any children.

(Photo opportunity)

7.0 KM

Victoria River Track on Left

Turn left onto Victoria River Track.

2.4 KM

Black Sallee Lake on Right

Turn right into Black Sallee Lake (120 m).

When ready, return to Victoria River Track and turn right.

(Picnic area with table and fire pit)

8.2 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right onto the Great Alpine Road.

3.6 KM

Victoria Falls Track on Left

Turn left onto Victoria Falls Track. CAUTION – Track is difficult to see, it is on a right hand bend in the road, if you miss the turn, continue down the road and come back.

800 M

Victoria Falls Picnic Area

There are two picnic areas either side of the road right beside the Victoria River. Above the day picnic areas are toilets and bush camping areas with more fire pits.

(Picnic area with table, fire pit and toilets)

3.9 KM

Cattle Grid on track

Stay on Victoria Fall Track.

300 M

Victoria Falls Lookout Parking Area

There is a short (50 m) marked walking track, over uneven ground, down to a fenced viewing area looking down onto Victoria Falls.

CAUTION – Walking track is steep with loose ground.

(Photo opportunity)

1.0 KM

Victoria Falls Viewing Area

A clearing in the trees allows a great view back to the falls. Park with care.

CAUTION – Edge of track in unfenced and steep.

(Photo opportunity)

300 M

Hydroelectric Station Dam

This is the end of the road, you can drive around the dam and explore the area. When you are ready, return to the Great Alpine Road.

(Toilets available at the Victoria River picnic area)

1.0 KM

Victoria Falls Viewing Area

A clearing in the trees allows a great view back to the falls. Park with care.

CAUTION – Edge of track in unfenced and steep.

(Photo opportunity)

300 M

Hydroelectric Station Dam

This is the end of the road, you can drive around the dam and explore the area. When you are ready, return to the Great Alpine Road.

(Toilets available at the Victoria River picnic area)

6.4 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right onto Great Alpine Road to return to Mt Hotham.

OPTIONAL – If you want to visit Omeo (22 km away), then turn left.

(Fuel, food, shops and toilets available in Omeo)

22.6 KM

Dinner Plain on Left

Stay on Great Alpine Road.

(Toilets available at Dinner Plain)

11.5 KM

The General Store Mt Hotham

This is the end of this journey!



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
BEYONDHOTHAM.COM.AU
[FACEBOOK.COM/BEYONDHOTHAM4WD](https://www.facebook.com/BEYONDHOTHAM4WD)



PRECIPICE PLAIN/VICTORIA FALLS LOOP

LEGEND



HISTORICAL HUT



HISTORICAL MINING SITE



CAMPING GROUND



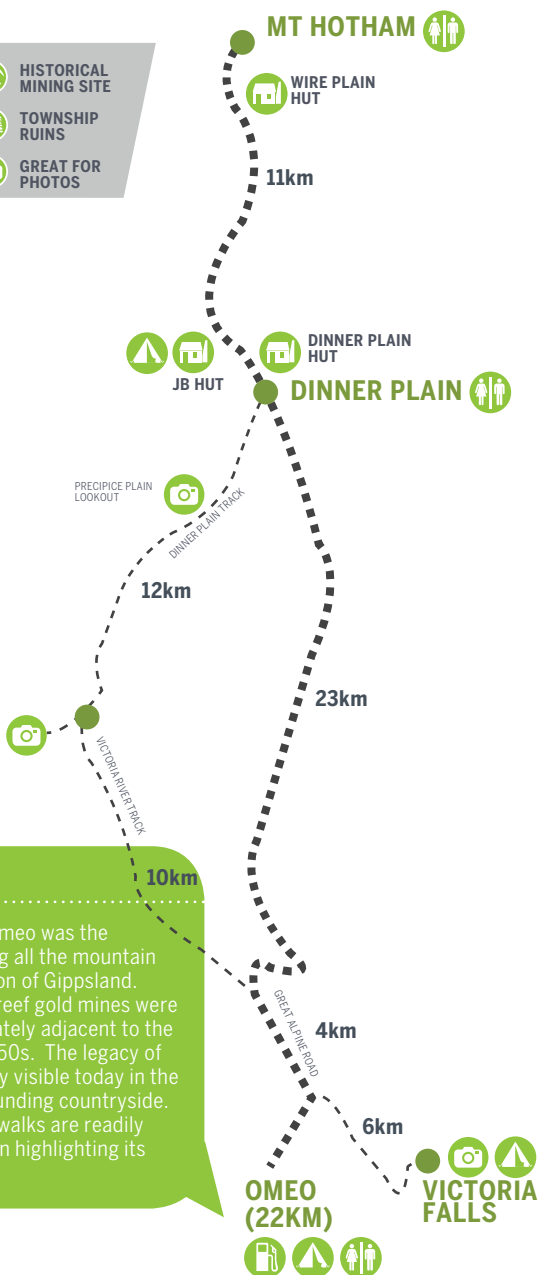
TOWNSHIP RUINS



FUEL



GREAT FOR PHOTOS



OMEO

A town built on gold, Omeo was the principal town servicing all the mountain goldfields in this division of Gippsland. Many rich alluvial and reef gold mines were worked in and immediately adjacent to the town from the early 1850s. The legacy of the golden era is clearly visible today in the streetscape and surrounding countryside. Numerous interesting walks are readily accessed from the town highlighting its remarkable heritage.

TREK 2 PRECIPICE PLAIN, DOGS GRAVE, ORIENTAL CLAIMS, OMEO

OPT: KING CASSILIS MINE, VICTORIA FALLS



139KM

Optional extras
(return):
+ 26 km for King
Cassilis Mine
+ 13 km for
Victoria Falls



4.3HRS

Optional extras
(return):
+ 45 minutes for
King Cassilis Mine
+ 45 minutes for
Victoria Falls



EASY

In dry weather.



**ALL
WHEEL
DRIVE**



OMEO

Diesel, LPG,
Unleaded and Premium
Unleaded

ROAD CONDITIONS



Dinner Plain Track

Narrow track with minimal facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, sharp turns, short steep descents and ascents.

Birregun and Upper Livingston Roads

Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

Victoria Falls Track

Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, steep drop-offs, uneven terrain and potholes.



NOTE –VICTORIA FALLS TRACK IS A DRY WEATHER ONLY ROAD AND SHOULD NOT BE DRIVEN ON BY ANY VEHICLE DURING OR DIRECTLY AFTER WET WEATHER.

TRACK HISTORY



Precipice Plain, Dogs Grave, Oriental Claims, Omeo

From tributes to the working bush dogs of the cattle grazers to the digging habits of gold miners, this well-paced trek give you the option to delve a bit deeper into the history of the region, without having to take to extremes of 4WDiving. The monument to 'Boney' the drovers dog will reveal some of the hardships for man and beast in the remote corners. A detour through the pretty Cassilis Valley will take you to the sites of ore treatment plants where quartz reef miners went to extremes to extract gold from complex ores. Back on the Great Alpine Road on the way into Omeo, take time to walk amongst the towering cliffs of the Oriental Claims, where the hydraulic cannon of the alluvial miners blasted away millions of cubic metres of hillside between 1876 and 1904. Take time at Omeo to wander the heritage landscape and absorb the atmosphere of a mountain township built on gold.



TREK 2 PRECIPICE PLAIN, DOGS GRAVE, ORIENTAL CLAIMS, OMEO

TRACK NOTES

START

The General Store

Head South on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Dinner Plain and Omeo.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.8 KM

JB Plain Hut on Right

Stay on Great Alpine Road.

1.3 KM

Dinner Plain Track on Right

Turn right onto Dinner Plain Track, just before Dinner Plain Hut (on Left).

CAUTION Track is difficult to see, if you miss the turn, continue to Dinner Plain turn-off and come back.

NOTE – Engage your vehicle's 4wd system if available.

(Toilets available at Dinner Plain)

4.6 KM

Precipice Plain Lookout on Right

Park in the marked area and walk 100 m over flat ground to the edge of a cliff with great views west towards Mt Tabletop and Mt Blue Rag.

CAUTION – Stay back from the cliff edge, as the ground can be unstable. Keep a close eye on any children.

(Photo opportunity)

7.0 KM

Victoria River Track on Left

Turn left onto Victoria River Track.

2.4 KM

Black Sallee Lake on Right

Turn right to Black Sallee Picnic area.

When you are ready return to

2.4 KM

Dinner Plain Track Junction

Turn left onto Dinner Plain Track.

19.2 KM

Birregun Road Intersection

Turn right onto Birregun Road.

2.6 KM

Dogs Grave Track on Left

Turn left into Dogs Grave.

350 M

Dogs Grave Picnic Area

Take time to explore the area and pay tribute to a little mate. When you are ready return to Birregun Road.

(Picnic area with tables, fire pits and toilets)

350 M

Birregun Road Junction

Turn right onto Birregun Road.

18.1 KM

Upper Livingston Road Intersection

Turn left onto Upper Livingston Road.

6.3 KM

Cassilis Road Intersection

Turn left onto Cassilis Road.

OPTION – If you turn right onto Cassilis Road, then travel 12.7 km, you can explore the King Cassilis Mine ruins (return to Upper Livingston Road intersection when you're ready).

7.3 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right onto Great Alpine Road.

250 M

Oriental Claims Historic Area

Turn left into Oriental Claims Historic Area, keep right on the dirt and travelling 650 m will take you

to the Picnic Area and suspension footbridge. The track to the left is a short 400 m drive to a lookout platform (worth the visit). When you're ready return to the Great Alpine Road and turn left.

(Picnic area with fire pit and toilets)

2.0 KM

Omeo Township

Explore the historic Omeo township. When you are ready return to the Great Alpine Road and turn towards Mt Hotham.

(Fuel, food, shops and toilets)

7.8 KM

Kosciusko Lookout on Right

Turn right into Kosciusko Lookout. When you're ready return to the Great Alpine Road and turn right towards Mt Hotham.

(Picnic area and photo opportunity)

12.5 KM

Victoria Falls Track on Right

OPTION – Turn right onto Victoria Falls Track.

CAUTION – Track is difficult to see, it drops off the side of the road on a left hand bend, if you miss the turn, continue up the road and come back.

(Refer to Precipice Plain Trip for Trek Notes)

(Toilets through camping area 800 m from Great Alpine Road)

22.6 KM

Dinner Plain on Left

Stay on Great Alpine Road.

(Toilets available at Dinner Plain)

11.5 KM

The General Store Mt Hotham

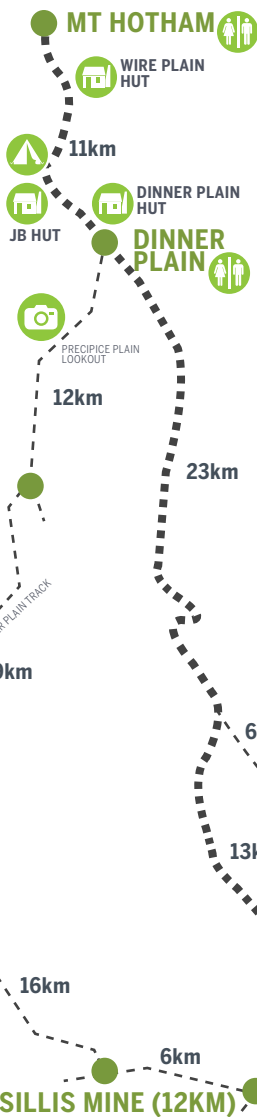
This is the end of this journey!



→ DOGS GRAVE/ORIENTAL CLAIMS, OMEO

DOGS GRAVE

A monument to the cattle grazers' humble companion and assistant, the cattle dog. A small granite cairn erected to the memory of Boney the cattle dog of stockman Peter Meehan. The storey goes that Meehan was camped the night at the hut when Boney took a bait laced with strychnine. Distressed by his loss the stockman buried his companion near the hut and erected a picket fence around the grave. A similar version is that the dog was Angus, owned by drover Johnny Crisp. Angus also took a bait set for dingoes and was also buried near the hut by his owner.



	HISTORICAL HUT		HISTORICAL MINING SITE
	CAMPING GROUND		TOWNSHIP RUINS
	FUEL		GREAT FOR PHOTOS

LEGEND

KING CASSILLIS MINE

Gold-bearing quartz reefs were first opened in the Cassilis area in the late 1860s, however recovery of gold from complex ores saw most of the mines abandoned by the 1870s. The King Cassillis or Mt Hepburn mine were taken over by an English company in 1896 and a 20-head battery was erected to crush the quartz. A large cyaniding plant was also erected to recover gold from the complex ores. Despite its investment the company failed losing over £180,000 in just a few years. A later attempt saw a large ore-roasting furnace erected, treating 2,500 tons of concentrates for a return of 5,000 ounces of gold. Today machinery and ruins from numerous stages of mining lay scattered through the bush in the area.

OMEO

A town built on gold, Omeo was the principal town servicing all the mountain goldfields in this division of Gippsland. Many rich alluvial and reef gold mines were worked in and immediately adjacent to the town from the early 1850s. The legacy of the golden era is clearly visible today in the streetscape and surrounding countryside. Numerous interesting walks are readily accessed from the town highlighting its remarkable heritage.

TREK 2
→

TREK 3 GRANT HISTORIC AREA

DARGO HIGH PLAINS, GRANT, TALBOTVILLE, DARGO



196KM



4.7HRS



EASY

In dry weather.



ALL
WHEEL
DRIVE



DARGO

Diesel, Unleaded
and Premium
Unleaded

ROAD CONDITIONS



Dargo High Plains Road

Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing rough sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

King Spur Track

Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain and sharp turns.

McMillan Road

Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven terrain, wash outs and potholes.



TRADITIONAL DAMPER RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

450 grams flour, self-raising
¼ teaspoon salt
180 ml milk (if too dry, add more)
1 teaspoon sugar, caster
80 grams butter, chilled
(extra flour, if needed)

INGREDIENT VARIATIONS

You can add a variety of ingredients for a different flavour. Add coconut, cinnamon, sultanas and extra sugar to make the damper sweeter.

METHOD

1. Mix the flour, salt and sugar together in a bowl.
2. Rub the butter into the flour with your fingertips until it looks like fine breadcrumbs.
3. Add milk slowly and mix to form a soft dough.
4. Knead lightly on a floured board until smooth. Shape into a round loaf, brush with milk and cut a cross in the top surface of the dough.
5. Grease tin foil and dust with flour. Add bread dough and wrap it.
6. Place in the coals of the BBQ and let it bake for about 30 minutes.

To test if it's cooked, tap on the loaf and it should sound hollow.

Cut into slices and serve while still warm. Top with butter, golden syrup or your favourite jam.

TRACK HISTORY



Grant Historic Area

Follow the pathways blazed by the miners and explorers who opened up this country in the rush for gold and see the magnificent wilderness as it was viewed by these first prospectors in the early 1860s. Visit the ruins of this almost forgotten gold era, now being reclaimed by the very wilderness which was once peeled back by the early miners. From dirt roads to bitumen, this well-paced trek takes in the haunts of the early miners. With historic sites that once boomed from the late 1800s, including, wayside stops, hotel sites, ghost towns, cemeteries, machinery sites and old gold mines. After absorbing the ruins of the past catch your breath in the quaint mountain township of Dargo.



Dargo Hotel. Photo : Destination Gippsland

TREK 3

GRANT HISTORIC AREA

TRACK NOTES

START

The General Store

Head North on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Harrietville and Bright.

There are numerous lookouts along the way.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.7 KM

Dargo High Plains Road on Left

Turn left onto Dargo High Plains Road.

17.5 KM

King Spur Track on Left

Turn left onto King Spur Track, keep left through clearing and travel 200 m to Lankey Plain Hut. When you are ready return to the clearing and turn left onto King Spur Track.

2.4 KM

Clearing on Left (Devils Hollow)

Park in a safe place and walk over flat ground to the edge of a cliff with great views north towards Mt Hotham.

CAUTION Stay back from the cliff edge, as the ground can be unstable. Keep a close eye on any children.

(Photo opportunity)

When you are ready return to the Dargo High Plains Road and turn left.

10.1 KM

Gows Hotel Site (ruins) on Left

Parking on the left, explore the area.

250 M

Little Woman's Grave on Left

Parking on left, explore the area. Ritchie Road on right. Stay on Dargo High Plains Road.

11 KM

Twelve Mile Creek Campsite on Left

Picnic area on left.

(Picnic area with fire pit)

5.8 KM

Clark Camp Road on Left

Treasures Mt Ewen Hut down on right, cattle holding yards on left.

8.4 KM

McMillan Road on Right

Turn right onto McMillan Road.

3.9 KM

Grant Cemetery on Right

Park where safe and explore the historic cemetery. When you are ready, continue on McMillan Road.

1.4 KM

Grant Track on Right

Turn right onto Grant Track.

400 M

Grant Historical Area Information

Explore the area.

When you are ready, return to McMillan Road and turn right.

9.8 KM

Talbotville Camping Area

Explore the area.

(Picnic area with toilets, picnic tables and fire pits)

When you are ready, return to McMillan Road and follow back to Dargo High Plains Road intersection.

15.6 KM

Dargo High Plains Road Intersection

Turn right onto Dargo High Plains Road.

16.7 KM

Dargo Township

Explore the area. When you are ready return to Dargo High Plains Road and travel towards Mt Hotham.

(Fuel, food, shop and toilets)

69.7 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right to return to Mt Hotham. OPTION – Turn left to Harrietville (19 km) and Bright (45 km)

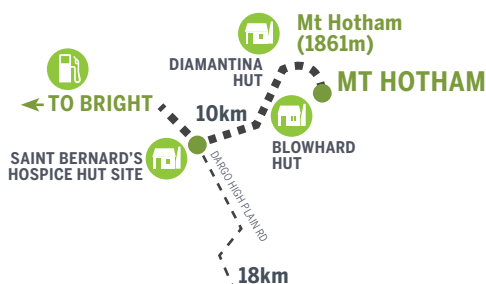
9.7 KM

The General Store Mt Hotham

This is the end of this journey!



GRANT HISTORIC AREA



	HISTORICAL HUT		HISTORICAL MINING SITE
	CAMPING GROUND		TOWNSHIP RUINS
	FUEL		GREAT FOR PHOTOS

LEGEND

LANKEY PLAIN

Situated at the junction of the Kings Spur Track and the Dargo High Plains Road this locality was once a busy intersection for mining traffic. Cattle grazing followed closely behind the paths blazed by the miners in this part of the mountains, with the Gow and Treasure family having grazing interests on these plains for many years. Lankey Plain hut is a link to grazing activity in the area. The corrugated iron shack was erected in the early 1950s.

DEVILS HOLLOW

DEVILS HOLLOW

Perched on the edge of the basalt cap of the Dargo High Plains, the view over the Upper Dargo River towards Mount Tabletop are full of a hidden history. Echoing up from the wilderness below are the stories of the mountain goldminers who worked these remote regions for many decades from the 1860s. Tales from Mount Tabletop of lost ancient streams of gold trapped beneath the basalt plains, of murder of Chinese miner Ah Kee by his partner Carl Wilhelm at the township of Louisville. In Devils Hollow, the government established a quartz crushing mill in 1900 to test a number of reefs which had been discovered in the locality.

GRANT

Within a few months the township of Grant emerged as the principal mining centre for the region, situated on a broad open hilltop overlooking the Crooked River goldfield. Stores, hotels, a police station, churches, banks, dwellings and even a local newspaper flanked two broad main streets. With over speculation and poor returns from the majority the new found mines, the population of Grant plummeted from over 1000 in the early 1860s to barely 100 by the close of the decade. By the early 1900s the town was deserted, with once grand buildings and stores laying in decay.

TREASURES-MT EWEN HUT

17km

DARGO



TREK 3

TREK 4 BLUE RAG RANGE

BLUE RAG RANGE TRIG,
RED CARRIAGE, WHITE TIMBER SPUR, DEVILS HOLLOW



196KM



4.7HRS



MEDIUM

In dry weather.



4WD



DARGO

Diesel, Unleaded
and Premium
Unleaded

ROAD CONDITIONS



Dargo High Plains Road Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing rough sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

Blue Rag Range Track Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, steep drop-offs, uneven terrain, switchbacks, blind crests, steep ascents and steep descents.

Basalt Knob North Track Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, water switchbacks, steep ascents and steep descents.

Ritchie Road Formed dirt road with minimal overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven terrain, sharp turns, switchbacks, wash outs and potholes.

King Spur Track Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain and sharp turns.



TRACK HISTORY



Blue Rag Range

Not for the faint-hearted, Mount Blue Rag and the Blue Rag Range is the iconic high country peak of 4WDDriving treks. A once valuable trig point used by the early surveyors in what was challenging and gruelling country to map. Perched on a point in amid the wilderness of the Wongungarra Valley, this peak now rarely sees a surveyor, and is instead visited by the keen 4WD adventurer who wants to experience some of that early pioneering spirit. The views into the wilderness of across the High Country and across to the Great Dividing Range are a photographers dream.



TREK 4 BLUE RAG RANGE

TRACK NOTES

START

The General Store

Head North on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Harrietville and Bright.

There are numerous lookouts along the way.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.7 KM

Dargo High plains Road on Left

Turn left onto Dargo High Plains Road.

11.45 KM

Blue Rag Range Track on Right

Turn right onto Blue Rag Range Track.

CAUTION – Engage you vehicle's low range 4WD capability.

3.4 KM

Basalt Knob North Track on Left

Stay on Blue Rag Range Track.

3.5 KM

Blue Rag Range Trig Marker

Park and enjoy the view. When you're ready return along Blue Rag Range Track.

CAUTION – Steep slopes, take care when exploring.

(Photo Opportunity)

3.5 KM

Basalt Knob North Track on Right

Turn right onto Basalt Knob North Track.

350 M

Helipad

Stay on Basalt Knob North Track.

(Photo Opportunity)

9.6 KM

Ritchie Road Intersection

Turn left onto Ritchie Road. Visit the Red Train Carriage picnic area directly across from intersection.

(Picnic area)

6.7 KM

Whisky Bottle Flat Campsite

Stay on Ritchie Road

11.7 KM

Thirty Five Mile Creek Campsite

Stay on Ritchie Road

9.7 KM

Dargo High Plains Intersection

Turn left onto Dargo High Plains Road. Little Woman's Grave opposite intersection.

250 M

Gows Hotel Site (ruins) on Right

Park in a safe place and explore the area. When you are ready continue on the Dargo High Plains Road.

10.1 KM

King Spur Track on Right

Turn right onto King Spur Track, keep left through clearing and travel 200 m to Lankey Plain Hut. When you are ready return to the clearing and turn left onto King Spur Track.

2.5 km

Clearing on Left (Devils Hollow)

Park in a safe place and walk over flat ground to the edge of a cliff with great views north towards Mt Hotham.

CAUTION – Stay back from the cliff edge, as the ground can be unstable. Keep a close eye on any children.

(Photo opportunity)

When you are ready return to the clearing and turn right onto Dargo High Plains Track.

17.5 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right to return to Mt Hotham. OPTION – Turn left to Harrietville (19 km) and Bright (45 km)

9.7 KM

The General Store Mt Hotham

This is the end of this journey!



→ BLUE RAG RANGE

LEGEND



HISTORICAL HUT



HISTORICAL MINING SITE



CAMPING GROUND



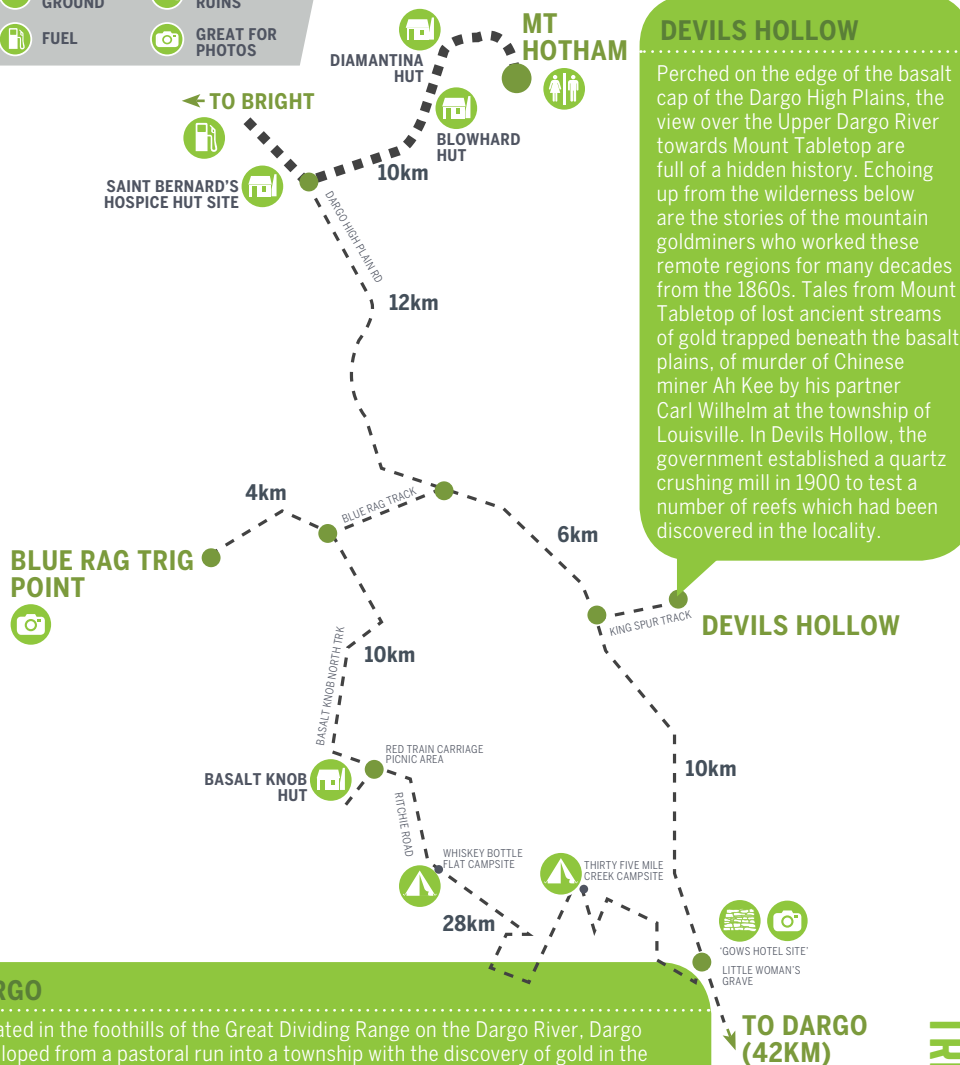
TOWNSHIP RUINS



FUEL



GREAT FOR PHOTOS



DEVILS HOLLOW

Perched on the edge of the basalt cap of the Dargo High Plains, the view over the Upper Dargo River towards Mount Tabletop are full of a hidden history. Echoing up from the wilderness below are the stories of the mountain goldminers who worked these remote regions for many decades from the 1860s. Tales from Mount Tabletop of lost ancient streams of gold trapped beneath the basalt plains, of murder of Chinese miner Ah Kee by his partner Carl Wilhelm at the township of Louisville. In Devils Hollow, the government established a quartz crushing mill in 1900 to test a number of reefs which had been discovered in the locality.

DARGO

Situated in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range on the Dargo River, Dargo developed from a pastoral run into a township with the discovery of gold in the mountains during the early 1860s. Dargo was important in servicing the Crooked River, Dargo High Plains and Dargo River goldfields with produce, provisions and carters. With the demise of the goldfields Dargo would survive on agriculture, based on its fertile river flats, with walnuts and cattle being the main produce from which the town would survive.

TREK 4



TREK 5

WHITE TIMBER SPUR, RED CARRIAGE,
BASALT KNOB, TALBOTVILLE, GRANT, DARGO**179KM**Optional Extras
(return)
+ 34 km for Dargo**7HRS**Optional Extras
(return)
+ 50**MEDIUM**

In dry weather.

**4WD****DARGO**Diesel, Unleaded
and Premium
UnleadedROAD
CONDITIONS

ROAD CONDITIONS

Dargo High Plains Road

Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing rough sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

Dargo High Plains Road

Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing rough sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

Ritchie Road

Formed dirt road with minimal overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven terrain, sharp turns/switchbacks, wash outs and potholes.

Basalt Knob Track

Narrow track with minimal facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, sharp turns, steep ascents and steep descents.

Brewery Creek Track

Narrow track with some steep descents, sharp turns, water drainage mounds and uneven terrain.

Collingwood Spur Track

Narrow track with steep ascents, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain and sharp turns.

McMillan Road

Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven terrain, wash outs and potholes.

.....



TRACK HISTORY



White Timber Spur

A drive that is as diverse as many of the place names through which it passes, plus it has a few surprises. Behind every name is a great story and this trek explores some of the history and terrain of the remarkable region. From place names stemming from the gold mining era to more recent times of logging, (with a little evidence from a bygone railway era thrown in) this trek has a little something for everyone. Drive the vastness of the Dargo High Plains, traverse challenging ridge-lines and ranges. Descend into the Wongungarra and Crooked rivers where the mining past can be glimpsed through the place names and ruins of these magnificent narrow valleys.





TREK 5

WHITE TIMBER SPUR, RED CARRIAGE,
BASALT KNOB, TALBOTVILLE, GRANT, DARGO

TRACK NOTES

START**The General Store**

Head North on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Harrietville and Bright.

There are numerous lookouts along the way.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.7 KM**Dargo High Plains Road on Left**

Turn left onto Dargo High Plains Road.

17.5 KM**King Spur Track on Left**

Stay on Dargo High Plains Road.
OPTION – Turn left onto King Spur Track, keep left through clearing and travel 200 m to Lankey Plain Hut.

10.4 KM**Ritchie Road on Right**

Little Woman's Grave on left opposite road junction.

Turn right onto Ritchie Road.

(Photo Opportunity)

9.7 KM**Thirty Five Mile Creek Campsite**

Stay on Ritchie Road

11.7 KM**Whisky Bottle Flat Campsite**

Stay on Ritchie Road

6.7 KM**Basalt Knob North Track Intersection**

Turn left onto Basalt Knob Road. Visit the Red Train Carriage on left at intersection.

(Photo opportunity)

6.4 KM**Wongungarra Track on Right**

Stay on Basalt Knob Track

9.9 KM**Brewery Creek Track on Right**

Turn right onto Brewery Creek Track.

16.5 KM**Crooked River Crossing**

Cross Crooked River and keep left.

CAUTION – ALWAYS check water crossing for depth, flow and obstacles before proceeding. If you are unsure, then turn around.

250 M**Talbotville Camping Area**

Explore the area. When you are ready return to Crooked River crossing (returning the way you arrived) and turn left onto Crooked River Track.

2.8 KM**Racecourse Track Junction**

Keep left on Crooked River Track

100 M**Collingwood Spur Track on Left**

Turn left onto Collingwood Spur Track.

6.4 KM**McMillan Road Intersection**

Turn right onto McMillan Road.

600 M**Grant Historical Area Information**

Explore the area. When you are ready, return to McMillan Road via the left fork in Grant Track.

350 M**McMillan Road Intersection**

Turn left onto McMillan Road.

1.3 KM**Grant Cemetery on Left**

Park where safe and explore the historic cemetery. When you are ready, continue on McMillan Road.

3.9 KM**Dargo High Plains Road Intersection**

Turn left onto Dargo High Plains Road.

OPTION – Turn right to Dargo (16.7 km).

(Fuel, food, shop and toilets)

53.0 KM**Great Alpine Road Intersection**

Turn right to return to Mt Hotham.

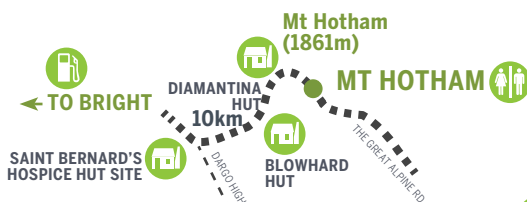
OPTION – Turn left to Harrietville (19 km) and Bright (45 km)

9.7 KM**The General Store Mt Hotham**

This is the end of this journey!



→ WHITE TIMBER SPUR, GRANT, DARGO

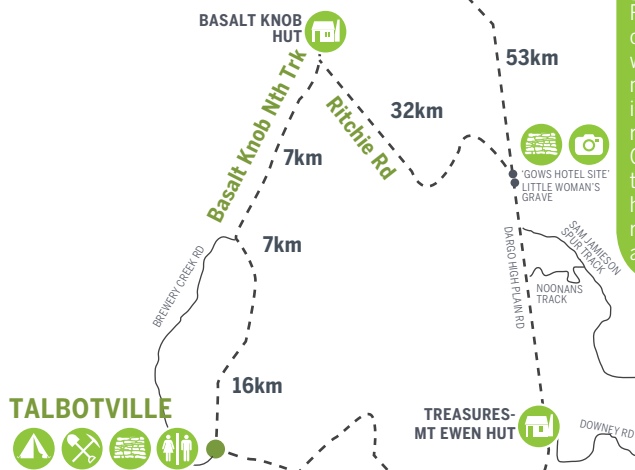


	HISTORICAL HUT		HISTORICAL MINING SITE
	CAMPING GROUND		TOWNSHIP RUINS
	FUEL		GREAT FOR PHOTOS

LEGEND

TALBOTVILLE

A mountain gold town which flourished during Victoria's golden era, Talbotville was one of the longer lasting of the remote mountain towns of the region. Located on an open grassy flat on a bend in the Crooked River, the 1860s presented a scene of weatherboard stores and dwellings with the township servicing the local miners and rural families. Businesses included a butcher, baker, chemist, restaurant and a hotel, with a Post Office operating intermittently into the late 1940s. Today a sense of this history can be found in the rubble ruins old chimneys, mine workings and the old cemetery.



DARGO

Situated in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range on the Dargo River, Dargo developed from a pastoral run into a township with the discovery of gold in the mountains during the early 1860s. Dargo was important in servicing the Crooked River. Dargo High Plains and Dargo River goldfields with produce, provisions and carters. With the demise of the goldfields Dargo would survive on agriculture based on its fertile river flats, with walnuts and cattle being the main produce from which the town would survive.

GRANT

Within a few months the township of Grant emerged as the principal mining centre for the region. Situated on a broad open hilltop overlooking the Crooked River goldfield. Stores, hotels, a police station, churches, banks, dwellings and even a local newspaper flanked two broad main streets. With over speculation and poor returns from the majority the new found mines, the population of Grant plummeted from over 1000 in the early 1860s to barely 100 by the close of the decade. By the early 1900s the town was deserted, with once grand buildings and stores laying in decay.



TREK 5
→

TREK 6 CROOKED RIVER RUN

GRANT, STONEWALL, HOGTOWN, TALBOTVILLE,
CROOKED RIVER, BLACK SNAKE CREEK HUT, DARGO



206KM



6.3HRS



DIFFICULT

In dry weather.



4WD

with low range
and good ground
clearance



DARGO

Diesel, Unleaded
and Premium
Unleaded

ROAD CONDITIONS



ROAD CONDITIONS

Dargo High Plains Road Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing rough sections of corrugations and/or potholes.

McMillan Road Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven terrain, wash outs and potholes.

Bulltown Spur Track Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, switchbacks, steep ascents and steep descents.

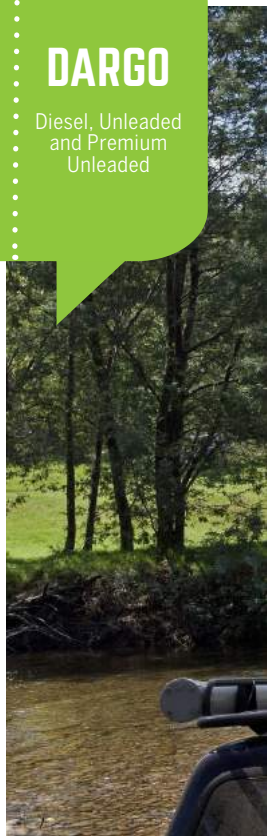
Crooked River Track Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, multiple water crossings of varying depths, switchbacks, steep ascents and steep descents.

Wonnangatta Road (Crooked River Track) Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven ground, wash outs and/or potholes.

Short Cut Road Unsealed road, typically well maintained with overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations and/or potholes.



CAUTION – THIS TREK CONTAINS MULTIPLE RIVER CROSSINGS AND STEEP DESCENTS, DRIVERS MUST CHECK TRACK CONDITIONS BEFORE STARTING.



TRACK HISTORY



Crooked River Run

Gold was the cry in 1860, when the precious metal was discovered in this remote corner of the colony by explorer William Howitt. Townships and mining camps sprang up overnight amidst the wilderness as thousands searched the rugged terrain in search of their fortune. Nearly quickly as they arrived they departed, most financially poorer for the experience.

Get a glimpse into a way of life now long gone, through the crumbling ruins of goldfields towns perched on hillsides and river bends. Take timeout to visit the machinery remains of the stamp batteries that released gold from its host quartz. Marvel at the feat of getting the machinery into the once remote New Good Hope mine site, or take the easier stroll to the Exhibition battery at Dargo.



TREK 6

CROOKED RIVER RUN

TRACK NOTES

START

The General Store

Head North on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Harrietville and Bright.

There are numerous lookouts along the way.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.7 km

Dargo High Plains Road on Left

Turn left onto Dargo High Plains Road.

17.6 KM

King Spur Track on Left

Turn left onto King Spur Track, keep left through clearing and travel 200 m to Lankey Plain Hut. When you are ready return to Dargo High Plains Road.

10.1 KM

Gows Hotel Site (ruins) on Left

Parking on the left, explore the area.

250 M

Little Woman's Grave on Left

Parking on left, explore the area. Ritchie Road on right, stay on Dargo High Plains Road.

11.1 KM

Twelve Mile Creek Campsite on Left

Picnic area on left.

(Picnic area with table and fire pit)

5.7 KM

Clark Camp Road on Left

Treasures Mt Ewen Hut down on right, cattle holding yards on left.

8.5 KM

McMillan Road on Right

Turn right onto McMillan Road.

3.9 KM

Grant Cemetery on Right

Park where safe and explore the historic cemetery. When you are ready, continue on McMillan Road.

1.3 KM

Grant Track on Right

Turn right onto Grant Track.

600 M

Grant Historical Area Information

Explore the area. When you are ready, return to McMillan Road and turn right.

4.5 KM

Bulltown Spur Track on Right

Turn right onto Bulltown Spur Track.

3.0 KM

Crooked River Crossing

Follow Crooked River Track. CAUTION – ALWAYS check water crossings for depth, flow and obstacles before proceeding. If you are unsure, then turn around.

8.5 KM

Talbotville Camping Area

Explore the area.

(Picnic area with tables, fire pits and toilets)

When you are ready continue to the other end of the camping area and cross the Crooked River. Turn left after crossing the river onto the Crooked River Track.

2.8 KM

Racecourse Track Junction

Keep left on Crooked River Track.

100 M

Collingwood Spur Track on Left

Stay on Crooked River Track.

11.4 KM

Wonnangatta Road Intersection

Kingswell Bridge on right, turn onto Wonnangatta Road heading towards Dargo.

(Photo opportunity)

7.9 KM

Black Snake Creek Camping Area

Stay on Wonnangatta Road.

(Picnic area with fire pit and toilets)

11.5 KM

Shortcut Road on Left

Turn left onto Shortcut Road.

2.1 KM

Dargo Road Intersection

CAUTION – Ensure your vehicle has its highway mode of operation selected.

Turn left onto Dargo Road.

300 M

Exhibition Battery on Left

Turn left to explore this historical display.

5.7 KM

Dargo Township

Explore the area. When you are ready follow Dargo High Plains Road and travel towards Mt Hotham.

(Fuel, food, shop and toilets)

70 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right to return to Mt Hotham. OPTION – Turn left to Harrietville (19 km) and Bright (45 km)

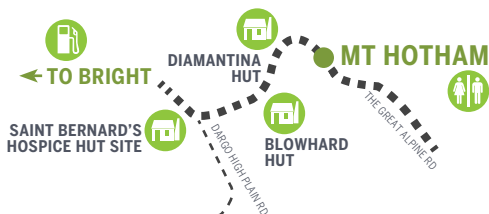
9.7 KM

The General Store Mt Hotham

This is the end of this journey!



➔ CROOKED RIVER RUN



	HISTORICAL HUT		HISTORICAL MINING SITE
	CAMPING GROUND		TOWNSHIP RUINS
	FUEL		GREAT FOR PHOTOS

LEGEND

TALBOTVILLE

A mountain gold town which flourished during Victoria's golden era, Talbotville was one of the longer lasting of the remote mountain towns of the region. Located on a open grassy flat on a bend in the Crooked River, the 1860s presented a scene of weatherboard stores and dwellings with the township servicing the local miners and rural families. Businesses included a butcher, baker, chemist, restaurant and a hotel, with a Post Office operating intermittently into the late 1940s. Today a sense of this history can be found in the rubble ruins old chimneys, mine workings and the old cemetery.

MAYFORD

MAYFORD

Mayford once promised to be a booming mining township on the Upper Dargo Goldfield. In 1866 the government had suburban lots and streets laid out and surveyed anticipating a growing township, however only one site was occupied by a store run by the King family. Gold was first discovered downstream from Mayford in the early 1860s, and a rush occurred to the upper tributaries when rich gold was apparently discovered by Jimmy Bloomfield in 1863. Bloomfield later became lost during a snow storm in returning to the location. Mayford was located along a mining track linking Omeo to the Dargo High Plains and Grant, originally blazed by Angus McMillan in 1861.



GRANT

Within a few months the township of Grant emerged as the principal mining centre for the region. Situated on a broad open hilltop overlooking the Crooked River goldfield. Stores, hotels, a police station, churches, banks, dwellings and even a local newspaper flanked two broad main streets. With over speculation and poor returns from the majority the new found mines, the population of Grant plummeted from over 1000 in the early 1860s to barely 100 by the close of the decade. By the early 1900s the town was deserted, with once grand buildings and stores laying in decay.

DARGO

TREK 6
➔

TREK 7 MT MURRAY



53KM



2.5HRS



MEDIUM

In dry weather.



4WD



OMEQ

Diesel, LPG,
Unleaded and
Premium Unleaded

BRIGHT

Diesel, LPG,
Unleaded and
Premium Unleaded

ROAD CONDITIONS



ROAD CONDITIONS

Twins Jeep Track

Narrow track with no facility for overtaking/passing, containing ruts, water drainage mounds, uneven terrain, sharp bends, ascents and descents.

Mt Murray Track

Formed dirt road with reasonable overtaking/passing opportunities, containing sections of corrugations, uneven ground, steep ascents and descents, wash outs and/or potholes.

TRACK NOTES

START

The General Store

Head North on the Great Alpine Road heading towards Harrietville and Bright.

There are numerous lookouts along the way.

(Toilets inside the 24H Transit Lounge - Mt Hotham Resort Management Office)

9.8 KM

Twins Jeep track on Left

This entrance to Twins Jeep Track is from the Great Alpine Road 2 metres on the Bright side of the Dargo High Plains Road.

Turn left onto Twins Jeep Track.

14.5 KM

Mt Murray Track Intersection

Turn left onto Mt Murray Track

2.2 KM

Mt Murray Campsite

Park your vehicle and enjoy the view.

300 M

Mt Murray Trig

This is a short walk on a formed track to the summit of Mt Murray with 360 degree views.

(Photo opportunity)

2.2 KM

Twins Jeep Track on Right

Turn right onto Twins Jeep Track.

14.5 KM

Great Alpine Road Intersection

Turn right to return to Mt Hotham. OPTION – Turn left to Harrietville (19 km) and Bright (45 km)

9.8 KM

The General Store Mt Hotham

This is the end of this journey!

TRACK HISTORY



Mt Murray

Following the spine of the Great Dividing Range between the Gippsland Coast and inland Victoria, this trek is big picture alpine driving at its best. Glimpse coast side into the wildernesses of Wongungarra and Wonnangatta valleys, first explored by the hardest of gold prospectors. Then cast your eyes inland over the Buckland valley, once the scene of a rush of over 6000 gold diggers and the infamous race riots which saw 2000 Chinese expelled from the valley in 1857. This route also follows the path of the keen bushwalker, taking in part of the 655km Australian Alps Walking Track from Walhalla to Tharwa near Canberra.



➔ MT MURRAY

LEGEND



HISTORICAL HUT



GREAT FOR PHOTOS



FUEL



TO BRIGHT

SAINT BERNARD'S
HOSPICE HUT SITE

TWIN JEEP TRACK



DIAMANTINA
HUT



BLOWHARD
HUT

MT HOTHAM



THE GREAT ALPINE RD

MT MURRAY

Amongst the more modest peaks of the Great Dividing Range at an elevation of 1640 metres Mount Murray takes in some spectacular views. To the north, looking inland towards the Murray River, the views take in the Buckland River, the scene of a great gold rush of over 6000 diggers in 1853 and place of the infamous Buckland riot which saw the expulsion of 2000 Chinese miners by a small number of the European population on the 4th July 1857. To the south and overlooking Gippsland the breathtaking views take in the ravine of the Wongungarra wilderness, a rugged and wild place only penetrated by the bravest of diggers from the 1860s.



TREK 7



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT HOTHAM DIGITAL TOUR GUIDE



EXPLORE.MTHOTHAM.COM.AU

explore.mthotham.com.au is a mobile website compatible with both apple and android devices. The site gives you access to information about Hotham and the surrounding areas including activities and things to do. For more information and updates about the Beyond Hotham Self Guided Treks or event, visit explore.mthotham.com.au.

You will have access to more 4WD maps, photos of the treks and surrounding region, history and much more to make your adventures more fulfilling and enriching.

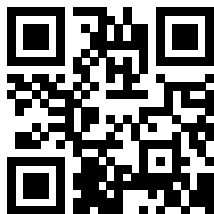
SO MUCH MORE TO EXPLORE

explore.mthotham.com.au

Expand your mind and your journey with this exciting new website you can take with you on your adventure. Learn more, see more, experience more and explore more.

MAPS

All of the maps featured in this guide will be available on your smart phone. There are plenty of other maps to download also including Mt Hotham Village Maps and Bushwalking Maps and guides.



GREAT ALPINE ROAD HISTORY DRIVE

Travelling the Great Alpine Road spectacular views greet you everywhere you look, views of the looming Mt Feathertop and distances and mountain ranges as far as the eye can see.

ACCESS educational history videos about the Great Alpine Road as you are travelling to and from the village.

Signage located in sections along the road tell a piece of the story associated with that area. Each signage point along the GAR has significance and a story to be told of gold rush and pioneering.

Continue learning about the history of each area with educational videos produced and narrated by our Cultural History and Tracks & Trails Manager Andrew Swift as he tells the tales he is so passionate about. Explore more at explore.mthotham.com.au





REMOTE WI-FI AND RECEPTION

As we all know mobile reception and Wi-Fi in remote areas is a little hard to come by sometimes. With explore.mthotham.com.au you can pre-empt your trip and download everything you need before you start your adventure. Download PDF maps, photos and videos from the site to view later when you have no reception.





ALL ROADS LEAD TO...

THE GENERAL STORE HOTHAM

EVERY TREK

Each trip featured in this booklet starts and finishes at The General Store, Mount Hotham. The General is a great place to start, the local watering hole is the perfect rest spot, serving up delicious pub meals, coffee and the best views. Enjoy a local wine on the back deck where you can take in a magical sunset. Open 7 days a week in summer for fresh food, cold drinks and breakfast on holidays and by booking request.



THE GENERAL STORE

PHONE 03 5759 3523

EMAIL INFO@THEGENERAL.COM.AU

MOUNTAINDREAMING@THEGENERAL.COM.AU

THE GENERAL STORE MT HOTHAM



UNIQUE, ENTERTAINING, ALIVE

The General is your complete dining, entertainment, accommodation and shopping location when visiting Mt Hotham, conveniently located near the Big D.

All year round, The General is Mt Hotham's premier conference and meeting venue, offering full function, conference and wedding facilities from meetings for six through to weddings catering for up to one hundred and fifty people. Activities can be co-ordinated for your function. Mount Hotham Resort Management hold guided bushwalks on long weekends and holidays during the green season and each walking group meet at The General before the bushwalk and end back at The General after the walk for drink and something to eat. A great meeting location for everyone, whether you enjoy a nice dinner and watch the sunset from the deck, a drink with friends after a day touring, passing through the village and stopping for a lunch break or a relaxing space to chill during the day.

FOOD

The General offers a menu that suits the whole family at affordable prices!

Checkout their summer menu online at www.thegeneral.com.au

ACCOMMODATION

Mountain Dreaming Apartments

Open year round, these six star energy rated apartments are fully self-contained and boast one of alpine Australia's best views.

Featuring stylish designer interiors and modern furnishings, an apartment at Mountain Dreaming becomes your own private haven on top of the world. Apartments are 2 bedrooms and sleep 5 or stay in on of the luxurious new studio apartments.

Mountain Dreaming can be found nestled in behind well known bar/restaurant 'The General'. You are central to all that Mt Hotham has to offer and if you stay at Mountain Dreaming you have access to The General's bar/restaurant and conference facilities including free Wi-Fi.

Perfect for couples, families and groups, Mountain Dreaming apartments are unique and individual, comfortable and inviting; we invite you to come and experience some Mountain Dreaming and General difference.



Mountain Dreaming Apartments, The General Store

HOTHAM & DINNER PLAIN SUMMER ACCOMMODATION

ENJOY A COOL SUMMER HOLIDAY IN ACCOMMODATION
WHICH SUITS THE STYLE OF BREAK YOU ARE AFTER

From lodges to fully self-contained mountain chalets, Hotham offers a large range of accommodation options to choose from.





➔ WHERE TO STAY AT HOTHAM

HOTHAM & DINNER PLAIN ACCOMMODATION SERVICES



APARTMENTS, UNITS AND LODGE STYLE ACCOMMODATION
AVAILABLE, CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS LISTED BELOW

MOUNT HOTHAM ACCOMMODATION BOOKING SERVICES

ALTITUDE ACCOMMODATION

(03) 5759 3333

bookings@altitudeaccom.com.au www.altitudeaccom.com.au

HOTHAM HOLIDAYS

1800 HOTHAM (1800 468 426)

holidays@hotham.com.au www.bothamholidays.com.au

MT HOTHAM ACCOMMODATION

(03) 5759 3522

info@mthothamaccommodation.com.au

www.mthothamaccommodation.com.au

MOUNTAIN DREAMING APARTMENTS

(03) 5759 3523 mountaindreaming@bigpond.com www.thegeneral.com.au



**CONTACT INDIVIDUAL LODGES OR CLUBS
VISIT WWW.MTHOTHAM.COM.AU**



DINNER PLAIN ACCOMMODATION BOOKING SERVICES

ACCOMMODATION AT DINNER PLAIN

(03) 5159 6556

info@discoverdinnerplain.com www.discoverdinnerplain.com

ACCOMMODATION SERVICES OF DINNER PLAIN

1800 444 066

www.accommdinnerplain.com.au

DINNER PLAIN CENTRAL RESERVATIONS

1800 670 019

info@dinnerplain.com www.dinnerplain.com

RUNDELLS ALPINE LODGE

(03) 5159 6422 info@rundells.com.au www.rundells.com.au

HOTHAM ACCOMMODATION



ENQUIRE ABOUT THE FREE GUIDED
BUSHWALKING PROGRAM
PHONE 03 5759 3550
EMAIL MHAR@MTHOTHAM.COM.AU
WEBSITE MTHOTHAM.COM.AU



DISCOVER HOTHAM'S FORGOTTEN HISTORY



THE REGION'S WALKING TRACKS OFFER BUSHWALKERS A
UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE SOME OF THE
HIGH COUNTRY'S RARELY SEEN SIGNIFICANT AND
HISTORIC LANDSCAPES.

Interpretive signs highlighting some of the remarkable history have been installed along some of the tracks. Our trails take you through a range of natural landscapes, from shady and sparsely open woodlands to gullies and impressive waterfalls. In late January and early February the Alps are flourishing with a range of spectacular wild-flowers. Quieter walkers may also spot local inhabitants such as a grazing wombat or a foraging Flame Robin.

VISIT EXPLORE.MTHOTHAM.COM.AU
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND
HOTHAM'S BUSHWALKING GUIDE
AND TRACK & TRAIL MAPS





➔ THINGS TO DO AT HOTHAM

MOUNT HOTHAM SUMMER BUSHWALKING



**SUMMER IS A GREAT TIME TO EXPLORE
HOTHAM AND SURROUNDING ALPINE REGIONS.**

A variety of tracks and trails access some of Australia's best views, unique flora and fauna and some of the region's richest history. Suited to all fitness levels, age groups and interests, Hotham and Dinner Plain have something for everyone to discover.

COBUNGRA DITCH

The Cobungra Ditch Walking Track follows the course of an abandoned water race, a ruin from the gold mining era of the district. Literally carved through the steep mountain ranges and retained for much of its length by an impressive dry-stone wall, this engineering wonder once conveyed a stream of water 10.5km to the hydraulic sluicing operations of the Cobungra Gold Mining Company. The water race commences from the head of Swindler's, an upper tributary of the Cobungra River, and terminates at the Brandy Creek mine towards Dinner Plain. Interpretive signs along the track brings to life the history that surrounds this magnificent structure and track.

THE HUTS WALK

Huts have played an important role in the European history of the Hotham region. From the earliest crude buildings of the miners and cattle grazers, wayside shelters for early travellers and tourists and important refuges for the pioneer skiers. The Huts Walk takes in three high country huts, each represent and important place in the history of Australia's Alpine region. The State Heritage Registered Spargo's Hut was built in the late 1920's for Bill Spargo's gold mining activities; the Silver Brumby Hut was build as a film production set based on Elyne Mitchell's novel The Silver Brumby; and Derrick Hut was built as a day shelter for ski tourers by Wangaratta Ski Club in memory of Charlie Derrick.

BRABRALUNG TRAIL (HOTHAM - DINNER PLAIN TRAIL)

Walk or ride the Brabralung Trail linking the alpine villages of Mount Hotham and Dinner Plain. Launched with a traditional smoke ceremony in March 2015. The trail Highlights the importance of the ongoing Aboriginal heritage of the region, Brabralung, is the name of the Gunaikurnai clan for this region of Gippsland. Translates as 'Male, Berry Worcat (female)' meaning 'the people'. The ancient mountain route is interpreted along its length providing an insight into the Aboriginal first peoples of the Alps. As well as cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing during the winter, this 12km trail is ideal for cycling, walking and trail running during the summer months.

Originally planned as a ski trail in the 1980s to follow the Great Dividing Range between Mount Hotham and Dinner Plain it was partially constructed as the 'Great Divide Trail'. In 1991 the trail was extended from Whiskey Flat to Dinner Plain and given the name 'Hotham Dinner Plain Trail'. The Brabralung Trail is a sheltered, scenic, undulating trail with some steeper sections. Magnificent views can be had on a clear day and at all times the splendour of the winter environment is close at hand. Look out for the native fauna and flora such as the resident emus at JB Plain. This trail will take you through the woodland to open scenic plains that give the High Country its unique views. There are numerous areas to rest and picnic along the way. A location not to miss is the old cattlemen's post JB Hut. Stop for lunch or camp overnight with impressive views of the surrounding valleys on show.

VISIT MTHOTHAM.COM.AU
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND
DINNER PLAIN'S BUSHWALKING
GUIDE AND TRACK & TRAIL MAPS



DINNER PLAIN SUMMER ACCOMMODATION



RELAX, INDULGE AND EXPLORE THE UNIQUE ALPINE VILLAGE OF DINNER PLAIN

Indulge yourself and spend a weekend, a few days or a week away in a fully self-contained apartment or chalet with everything at your fingertips. Just 10 kilometres down the Great Alpine Road from Mt Hotham, the village offers a range of accommodation for singles, couples, families and groups all year round.

From one bedroom and luxurious self contained apartments to chalets sleeping up to 12 people with all the modern conveniences and on-site parking, many properties also have open fireplaces, hot tubs and outdoor BBQ facilities.



DINNER PLAIN VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

PHONE 1300 734 365

EMAIL INFO@DINNERPLAIN.COM

WEBSITE VISITDINNERPLAIN.COM.AU



➤ THINGS TO DO-HOTHAM & DINNER PLAIN

HOTHAM & DINNER PLAIN SUMMER ACTIVITIES

WITH PLENTY OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES TO ENTERTAIN THE ENTIRE FAMILY HOTHAM AND DINNER PLAIN IS THE PERFECT HOLIDAY

HORSE RIDING

For a truly unique alpine experience, try a horseback riding adventure in Victoria's high country.

Contact Packers Horse Treks

www.horsetreks.com

Dinner Plain Trail Rides take you off the beaten track, exploring the vast hills and valleys on cattle and stockman trails.

They offer rides to cater for The Beginner through to The Experienced rider, led by our qualified trail guide and instructor. Tuition can be provided so you get the most out of your horse riding adventure.

Contact Dinner Plain Trail Rides

www.highcountryhorserides.com.au

MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDING

Hotham and Dinner Plain offer well-defined tracks for an exhilarating mountain biking experience. With a variety of terrain, the degree of difficulty is up to the individual.

CYCLING

For cyclists, mountains are mythical places that challenge and inspire, they tell you a lot about who you are and what you are willing to do to succeed. They test your limits and when conquered set new boundaries. Those that conquer mountains are revered, celebrated forever. Their reputations are forged through hard work and dedication and through their sheer will to overcome the physical and mental challenge.

FISHING

Hotham and Dinner Plain are in close proximity to some of Victoria's best trout fishing streams and rivers. Call into the Mt Hotham Resort Management Office for maps to the local rivers and further information on guided fly-fishing expeditions.

SELF GUIDED WALKS

Take your choice of easy family walks, or more challenging bush trails; with over 35km of trail at Hotham and 15kms of walks around the Dinner Plain village, and not to mention the cross-country trails including the Hotham to Dinner Plain Brabralung Trail.

Visit Mt Hotham Resort Management or Dinner Plain Information Centre for Walking Trail Maps.

TENNIS

Dinner Plain's Snowgum Tennis Courts - 2 asphalt tennis courts are available for hire - balls and racquets also available if required.

WHITE WATER RAFTING

Seasonal white water rafting tours are available through "Rafting Australia" on the Mighty Mitta Mitta River from June to December.

Contact Packers Rafting Australia

www.raftingaustralia.com

DINNER PLAIN ACCOMMODATION



USEFUL CONTACTS

POLICE

P: 000

Bright Police P: 03 5755 1444

Omeo Police P: 03 5159 1222

www.police.vic.gov.au

AMBULANCE

P: 000

www.ambulance.vic.gov.au

FIRE

P: 000

Bushfire Information Hotline

P: 1800 240 667

www.cfa.vic.gov.au

SES

P: 13 25 00

www.ses.vic.gov.au

BRIGHT HOSPITAL

P: 03 5755 0100

www.alpinehealth.org.au

OME0 HOSPITAL

P: 03 5159 0100

www.odh.net.au

RACV BRIGHT

Roadside Assistance P: 13 11 11

Membership P: 13 72 28

www.racv.com.au

PARKS VICTORIA

P: 13 19 63 (8am-6pm weekdays
and 9am-6pm weekends)

www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

ALPINE SHIRE

P: 03 5755 0555

www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING

P: 13 61 86

www.depi.vic.gov.au

FISHERIES: DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES - FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

P: 13 61 86

www.depi.vic.gov.au

COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY

Headquarters -

Burwood P: 03 9262 8444

Bushfire Information Hotline

P: 1800 240 667

www.cfa.vic.gov.au

THE GENERAL STORE MT HOTHAM

P: 03 5759 3523

www.thegeneral.com.au

BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY

www.bom.gov.au

MOUNT HOTHAM RESORT MANAGEMENT

P: 03 5759 3550 (Monday -
Friday 8am - 4:30pm)

mhar@mtthotham.com.au

www.mthotham.com.au

VICROADS

Traffic Management Centre/Road
Conditions and Seasonal Road

Closures P: 03 9854 2666

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

ALPINE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE - BRIGHT

P: 03 5755 0584

www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au

OME0 REGION VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

P: 03 5159 1455

www.omeoregion.com.au

DINNER PLAIN VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

P: 1300 734 365

www.visitdinnerplain.com



FOR GUIDED TAG-ALONG 4WD TOURS

CONTACT MOUNT HOTHAM RESORT MANAGEMENT

P: 03 5759 3550 E: [Mhar@MTTHOTHAM.COM.AU](mailto:mhar@mtthotham.com.au) W: WWW.MTHOTHAM.COM.AU

The information presented in this book is always subject to change. Roads change, rules and policies are amended and new facilities and services become available while existing facilities may become unavailable. Quoted schedules and contact details were correct at the time of publication, but you should always check with operators to avoid disappointment.

This book is only a guide and should not be taken as gospel. Keep an open mind and talk to others as you explore this beautiful alpine area.

