Bushwalking is a rewarding way to enjoy the natural features that the Mansfield area has to offer. There are a variety of walking tracks within a short drive from Mansfield that are well worth exploring, ranging from very short scenic walks to long distance adventures.

**Walking Tracks**

**Mt Timbertop (Saddle to Summit)**
This pretty but steep walk will reward you with extensive views over the Mansfield valley. The walk begins at Timbertop Saddle located on Howqua Track and climbs to the summit. Allow time to enjoy the view sitting under the snowgums at the summit.

- **Return 4.0km** | 2 hours
- **Very steep** | Formed track, some obstacles
- **Limited signage** | Many steps
- **Some bushwalking experience recommended**

**Plain Creek Loop and Tramway Walk**
Plain Creek Loop starts at the Carters Mill Picnic Area and follows the picturesque Plain Creek, returning along the old timber tramway, a relic from the 1930's. The additional Tramway Bridge Walking Track takes you to the remains of the old timber trestle bridge, once part of the tramway used to bring fallen timber down to the mill.

**Plain Creek Loop Walk**
- **Loop 2.0km** | 1 hour return
- **Gentle hills** | Formed track
- **Signposted** | Occasional steps
- **No experience required**

**Tramway Bridge Walk**
- **Return 3.1km** | 1.5 hours return
- **Gentle hills** | Formed track, some obstacles
- **Signposted** | Occasional steps
- **Some bushwalking experience recommended**

**Forest Camp Walk**
The walk at Forest Camp Picnic Reserve is a pleasant, short track along the Delatite River highlighting plants common to the area.

- **Return 0.8km** | 30 minutes return
- **Gentle hills** | Formed track
- **Signposted** | Occasional steps
- **No experience required**

**The Howqua River Walks**
Two long distance walks follow the Howqua River from Running Creek Camping Reserve to Tobacco Flat. The Howqua River Walk follows the river flats involving around 30 river crossings. The Feeder Track follows the high country providing lovely river views and dry feet.

**Howqua River Walk**
- One way 12.4km | 5 hours
- **Gentle hills** | Rough track, many obstacles
- **Signposted** | Occasional steps
- **Experienced bushwalkers**

**Howqua Hills Walks**
There are several walking options in the Howqua Hills Historic Area. The most popular is the Heritage Track from Sheepyard Flat to Fry’s Flat.

**Howqua Hills Heritage Track**
- **Return 3.0km** | 1.5 hours return
- **Gentle hills** | Formed track, some obstacles
- **Signposted** | Occasional steps
- **Some bushwalking experience recommended**

Other tracks include walks to Castle Rock and Eagle Peaks and high and low tracks that follow the Howqua River upstream from Sheepyard Flat. More information on walks in this area is available from Parks Victoria ☎ 131 963 or [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

**Safety – Please read**

On Code Red Fire Danger Rating days, parks and State Forest are closed to the public. Do not enter parks or forests on Code Red Days. If you are already there when a Code Red day is announced, you should leave the night before or early in the morning.

Be responsible for your own safety. Be aware of extreme weather events, carry your own first aid kit and let someone know before you go.

**For more information**

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) is responsible for managing Victoria’s State Forest. For further information contact DSE’s Customer Service Centre ☏ 136 186 (TTY: 1800 555 667) or visit DSE’s website at [http://www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au)

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