James’ Camping Reserve, Lima East, is situated in the north-east region of Victoria in the Strathbogie Ranges. The campsite is on the banks of the Moonee Moonee Creek (otherwise known as Black Charlie Creek) in State Forest only 36.5km from Benalla. The Grid Reference Number for this site is DV 060226 or Map 47 H7 in Vicroads Country Directory.

This campsite is on the way to the Crystal Mines and Tallongalook Track (south of the campsite) which are popular tourist destinations in the area. Lima East offers various recreational opportunities in the surrounding forest including trout fishing, walking, and 4WD touring. There are many tracks that can be used, and the river is only 50m from the camping area. An information board at the campsite provides details of many other interesting spots in the area.

**Getting there**

Take the Midland Highway from Benalla past Reef Hills Park towards Swanpool, for 24km. Go through the shops at Swanpool, and turn right past the recreation reserve following the sign to Lima East. Turn left 1.4km on down the Lima East Road. After 7.4km this turns into gravel road. James’ campsite is a further 5km on. The continuation of this road leads to a turn-off to Barjarg.

**What facilities are provided?**

There are toilet facilities here. Fresh water can be obtained from the creek nearby and we suggest you boil any water for drinking. There are no facilities for rubbish collection at this campsite so you must take it home when you leave and ensure the area is clean for future campers.

No firewood is supplied here. Use fallen dead wood but do not remove any from standing trees or damage other vegetation. There are no built fireplaces at this site so please use a previous campfire site where possible and clean up afterwards. Make sure you clear the ground at least 3 metres around your campfire and 1.5 metres around portable gas appliances. **Do not light fires on a ‘Total Fire Ban Day’**.

Remember to watch for overhead branches and refrain from throwing non-burnable objects into the campfire. Don’t camp directly under trees as branches can fall unexpectedly. Check overhead before pitching your tent.

**Attractions**

Touring by 4WD is popular here and there are many tracks to follow. Remember to stay on formed vehicle tracks. While driving be aware of other recreationists using these tracks as they may appear unexpectedly. For safety keep your vehicle well maintained and carry sufficient food and water.

**Horse riding** is allowed but problems can occur if some guidelines are not followed. Please hold horses away from other campers in temporary yards and at least 30 metres from waterways. To prevent weed spread restrict the horse feed to processed feed and lucerne hay. Use a nosebag, and make sure any spilt feed is removed. Refer to the brochure ‘FS0004 – Horse riding in State forest’ before riding.

Trail bikes are permitted in this reserve but must be roadworthy and fully registered. Drivers must be fully licenced and riders should consider other recreationists. While riding, use only formed roads and tracks available to public vehicles.

**Dogs** are also allowed in this area but they must be kept under control. We also ask that you do not place generators where they will disturb others. If you are hunting, please keep your hounds away from the camping area and don’t shoot across roads.

**Useful maps and brochures**

- Vicmap 1: 25 000 Moonee Creek (8024-2-1)
- Natmap Euroa, 1: 100 000 (8024)

**For more information**

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) is responsible for managing Victoria's State Forest. For further information contact the Department of Sustainability and Environment office at Benalla (5761 1611) or DSE’s Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Visit DSE’s website

http://www.dse.vic.gov.au then select “Forestry”.

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