

High Country Back Road Tours Guide

Plan your trip
This map is a tour GUIDE only.
Carry detailed maps on your trip.

These may include:
The Vicmap topographical map
1:25 000 / 1 : 50 000 / 1 : 100 000 series OR
Department of Sustainability and Environment
1:100 000 Bairnsdale, Nowa Nowa &
Swifts Creek District Base Maps.

Road Conditions

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) is the responsible road authority for approximately 34,000 km of roads and tracks in State forests and 14,000 km in parks and reserves. These roads are of relatively low standard and are mainly unsealed.

Please note Public Roads are listed in the Register of Public Roads under the DSE Road Management Plan 2011. The remaining roads are Operational Roads which may be available for public use. The condition of Operational Roads can not be assured due to factors such as seasonal variations and severe weather events.

The condition of forest tracks can be variable due to environmental factors. Be aware of weather forecasts.

Seasonal Road Closures
Some roads and tracks in parks and forests throughout Victoria are seasonally closed during the year, especially in winter to help protect track surfaces, water quality and the environment and to ensure driver safety. Most closures take effect from the Thursday after the Queens Birthday long weekend in June and remain in force until the Melbourne Cup Day long weekend.

Temporary Road Closures
Roads may need to be temporarily closed because of landslids, major roadworks or unseasonable wet weather. Check road conditions before leaving on your trip. For up to date information: Contact Regional DSE offices or Parks Victoria (see reverse side for contact details).

Road closures apply to all vehicles

Be safety conscious. Ensure that your vehicle is mechanically sound and fully equipped. Carry sufficient fuel, food and water in case of an emergency. Where possible, travel with another vehicle or leave details of your trip with family or Police.

Bushfires

On average, campfires cause approximately 10% of the bushfires that start on public land. Restrictions apply to ensure that fires do not escape and bushland is protected.

Total Fire Ban Days
These are declared when conditions are hot, windy and the bush is dry. There are five fire ban districts in Victoria - it is up to you to find out when a fire ban is on. Listen to the radio, contact your local DSE, Parks Victoria or CFA office before lighting up. If in doubt, keep your campfire out. (see reverse side for contact details)

Campfires- State Forests
Use a constructed fireplace where provided or use a fuel stove. Otherwise light your campfire in a trench 30 cm deep, to prevent embers flying out. Take care as some tree roots can burn. A properly constructed fireplace is one that contains the perimeter of the fire. Clear the ground and air space of any flammable material (eg. leaves, twigs, tree stumps) within 3 metres of your campfire.

Campfires- National Parks and other reserves
Campfires are only allowed in permitted areas in properly constructed fireplaces to reduce damage to the environment. Try using fuel stoves as they are cleaner, cook faster and don't scar the landscape. Remember, if your campfire is cool to touch it is safe to leave.

Caring for the Environment

Help us look after your parks by remembering these guidelines:
All native plants, animals, cultural and historic features are protected.
Take your rubbish with you.
Pets and firearms are not permitted in National Parks.
Please do not use soaps, detergents and toothpaste in the streams and waterways as they are a source of drinking water for others.
Dispose of any dirty water away from watercourses.
Please do not feed or handle wildlife as it fosters dependence and may cause disease.

4WD Classification

A classification system for Four Wheel Drive tracks on Public Land across Victoria.



Easy All wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Novice Drivers. Mostly unsealed roads with no obstacles and minor gradients. All-wheel drive and High range 4WD. Can be low clearance with single range and road tyres. Suitable for novice drivers. May be more difficult in wet conditions.



Medium Mainly High Range 4WD but Low Range required. Some 4WD experience or training required. Tracks with some steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have shallow water crossings. Suitable for medium clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain or road tyres. Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training. Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles. Will be more difficult in wet conditions.



For more challenging four wheel drive adventures in this area see: www.iconic4wd.com.au



Snowy River Drive 4WD DIFFICULT

Emergency Calls '000' or '112'

Mobile phone coverage is intermittent in the High Country and East Gippsland. Dialling 000 will connect you with police, fire and ambulance services. Provide the operator with details of your exact location.

In addition, you may be able to make an emergency call using the international emergency call number 112. This is available to GSM users. (GSM- Global System for Mobiles is an international mobile phone standard. Your phone will connect with emergency services if you are outside the coverage of your regular mobile phone network but within the coverage of another GSM operator.)

Legend

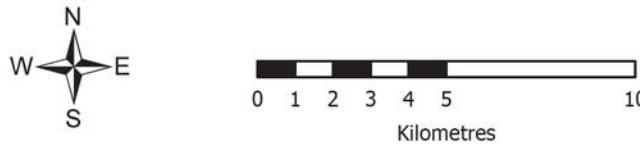
- Highway/Major Road
- Arterial/Sub-Arterial
- Collector
- 4wd
- Rail Line
- East Gippsland Rail Trail
- Gate on Tour for Seasonal Road Closure
- Freehold
- State Forest
- National Parks and other Reserves

Back Road Tours

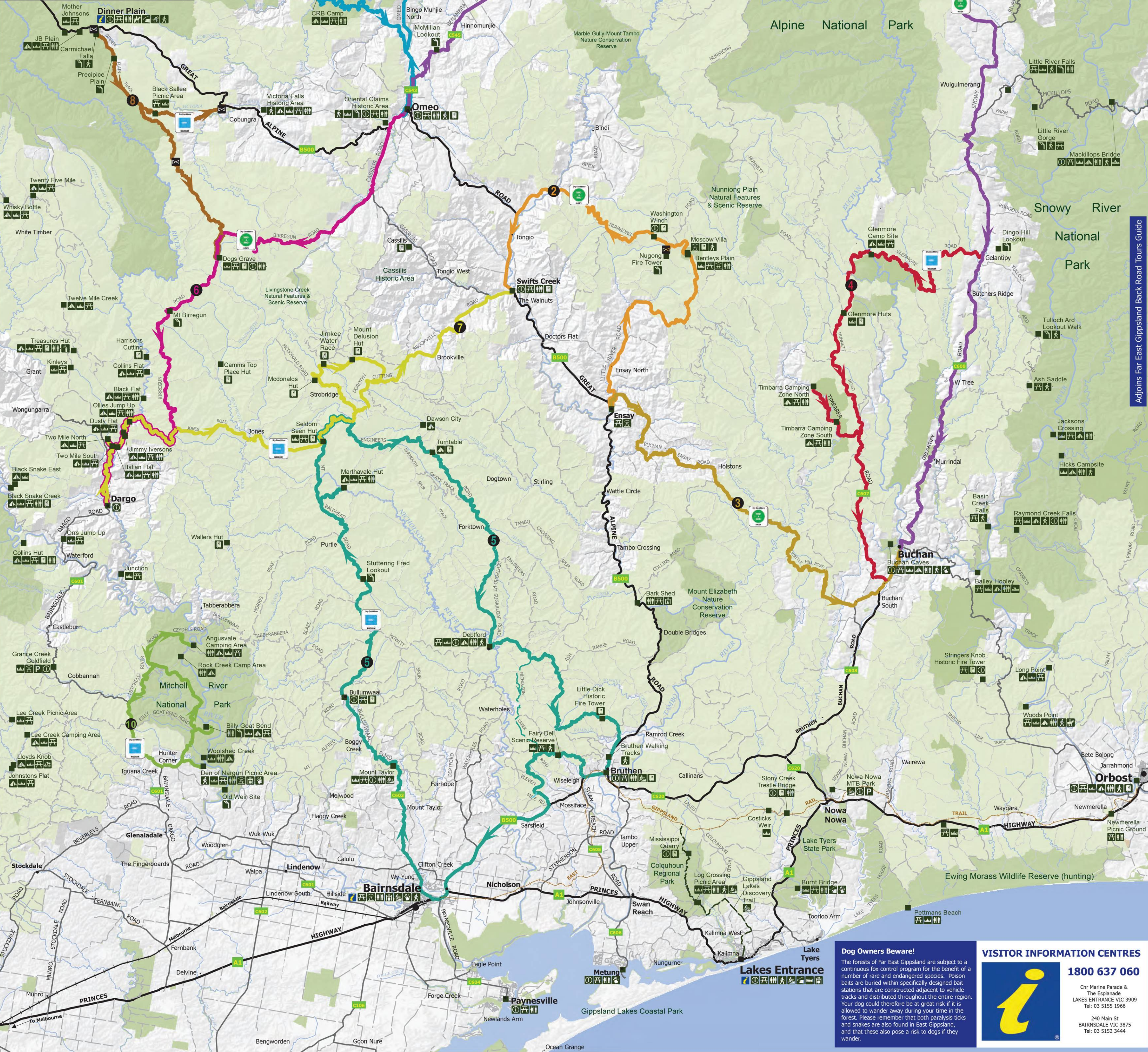
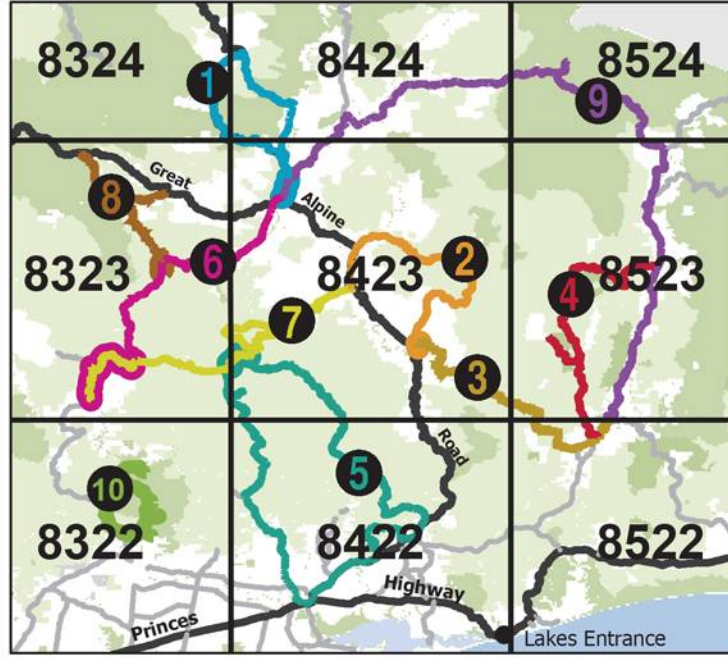
- 1 Glen Wills Loop
- 2 Nunnong Forest Drive
- 3 Ensay - Buchan Link
- 4 Timbarra
- 5 Mt Baldhead Loop
- 6 Omeo - Dargo
- 7 Dargo - Swifts Creek
- 8 Dinner Plain Back Roads
- 9 Limestone Link
- 10 Mitchell Loop

Recreation Facilities

- Accredited Visitor Information Centre
- Bataluk Cultural Trail site
- Camping
- Fire Place
- Wood BBQ
- Gas BBQ
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic Table
- Historic
- Mountain Bike Riding
- Cross Country Skiing
- Information
- Parking
- Fishing
- Boat Ramp
- Boating
- Canoeing
- Lookout
- Toilets
- Walking
- Horse Riding
- Horse Yards



Topographic 1 : 100 000 Map Index



Dog Owners Beware!
The forests of Far East Gippsland are subject to a continuous fox control program for the benefit of a number of rare and endangered species. Poison baits are buried within specifically designed bait stations that are constructed adjacent to vehicle tracks and distributed throughout the entire region. Your dog could therefore be at great risk if it is allowed to wander away during your time in the forest. Please remember that both paralysis ticks and snakes are also found in East Gippsland, and that these also pose a risk to dogs if they wander.

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES
1800 637 060
Cnr Marine Parade & The Esplanade
LAKES ENTRANCE VIC 3909
Tel: 03 5155 1966
240 Main St
BAIRNSDALE VIC 3875
Tel: 03 5152 3444