Mount Clay & Annya State Forests

Mount Clay State Forest
Mount Clay State Forest is located close to Portland and provides for a range of recreation activities including camping, picnicking, walking and mountain bike tracks. Mount Clay is bordered by the Surry River on the western slope where bream fishing is popular.

Annya State Forest
Annya State Forest is located to the north of Portland and is a popular area for camping and recreation activities.

Getting there
Mt Clay State Forest is located North East of Portland, and can be accessed from Narrawong via Boyers Road, or Tyrendarra & Heywood via Mt Clay Road. Saw Pit Picnic Area can be accessed from Boyers Rd, Narrawong. Turn off near Surry River, Narrawong and travel approx 3km to the sign-posted track to the campsite.

Annya State Forest is located north of Heywood, 7km North of Drumborg and can be accessed via the Casterton-Portland Road.

Picnic and Camping Areas

Saw Pit Picnic and Camping Area – Mt Clay State Forest
This large historic saw mill site has plenty of shade with large camping areas dispersed amongst native forest. The site affords 2WD access and is popular for caravan and campervans. BBQs and toilets are found on site; however own drinking water must be supplied. The site has partial disabled access and is suitable for larger groups.

From the picnic area, a loop track winds through the native forest to the south to Whalers Lookout where a fantastic view can be had across farmland to the Southern Ocean.

The popular Mt Clay Mountain Bike track circuit is also accessed from this area. The trail network has been divided into sectors, and is accessible for a range of riding abilities.

Annya Camp Camping Area - Annya State Forest
This quiet site is located off the Portland - Casteron Rd. There are several camping sites on level ground with room for large groups. Toilets and camper trail access are on site however; own drinking water must be supplied.

Walking Trails

Whalers Lookout Walk
The Whalers Lookout walk leaves from the Sawpit Picnic Area in the Mt Clay State Forest. This easy return track provides a view of the southern ocean from Whaler’s Lookout.

Grade of Walk: Grade 2
Distance: Return 1.5km
Time: 20 mins
Gradient: Flat
Quality of Path: Formed track
Quality of Markings: Clearly sign posted
Steps: No steps
Experience required: No experience required

Annya Picnic Area
A walking track loop links off the Annya Camp Picnic Area in the Annya State Forest.

Grade of Walk: Grade 2
Distance: Return 3.0 km
Time: 45 mins
Gradient: Flat
Quality of Path: Formed track
Quality of Markings: Clearly sign posted
Steps: No steps
Experience required: No experience required

Mountain Bike Tracks

Mt Clay Mt Bike Track
Accessed from Saw Pit Picnic Area. Users need a moderate level of skills. An information board at the
Saw Pit Picnic Area provides more detail.

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<td>Grade of Track:</td>
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<td>Distance:</td>
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<td>Trail Gradient:</td>
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<td>Average Trail Width:</td>
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<td>Natural Obstacles and Technical Trail Features:</td>
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<td>Experience required:</td>
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**Fires**

*Take care with fire – Campfire safety is your responsibility.* No fires, including barbecues may be lit on a day of Total Fire Ban. Use existing fireplaces rather than create your own. Never leave fires unattended. Ensure fires are safe and that they are completely extinguished when you leave. Mt Clay State Forest is in the South West Total Fire Ban District. It is your responsibility to know if it is a day or Total Fire Ban. If in doubt call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667.

**Be fire ready, stay safe.**

Be aware of the forecast Fire Danger Rating for this area when planning your trip. Plan to leave early on hot, dry and windy days, as these conditions may cause the closure of some parks/forests areas for public safety.

For update information on fires in Victoria or general fire safety advice, please call the Victoria Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 or listen to a local ABC/ACE radio station or visit www.CFA.vic.gov.au.

**Looking after our forests**

Forests are special places, but to remain so they need your help. To protect the environment we need to ‘tread lightly’ in the bush to minimise our impact and preserve it for future visits and enjoyment. Here are some basic guidelines you should follow while enjoying the forest:

- When toilets are provided, please use them. If no toilet is provided, choose a spot at least 100 metres from campsites, waterways, and tracks. Dig a 15cm hole and bury your waste and toilet paper.
- There is no rubbish collection service, so please take your rubbish home. If you have the misfortune to come across other people’s rubbish, do the bush a favour and take it with you.
- Firewood collection from the ground is permitted for cooking and warmth whilst camping or picknicking. Firewood is in short supply in some areas so please use it sparingly and be conservative.
- Firewood collection for domestic use is only available from specified designated collection areas within the forest. Please visit http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/forests or contact your local DSE office for more information regarding firewood collection.
- All native plants and animals are protected. Do not cut down standing trees or damage vegetation.
- Trail bikes and other motor vehicles must be registered and riders/drivers must be licenced. All motor vehicles must stay on formed roads open to the public.
- Dogs must be under direct control at all times and are expected to be kept on a leash in picnic and camping areas or when near other visitors.


**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 on 136 186 (TTY: 1800 122 969) or visit DSE’s website at http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/forests.

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