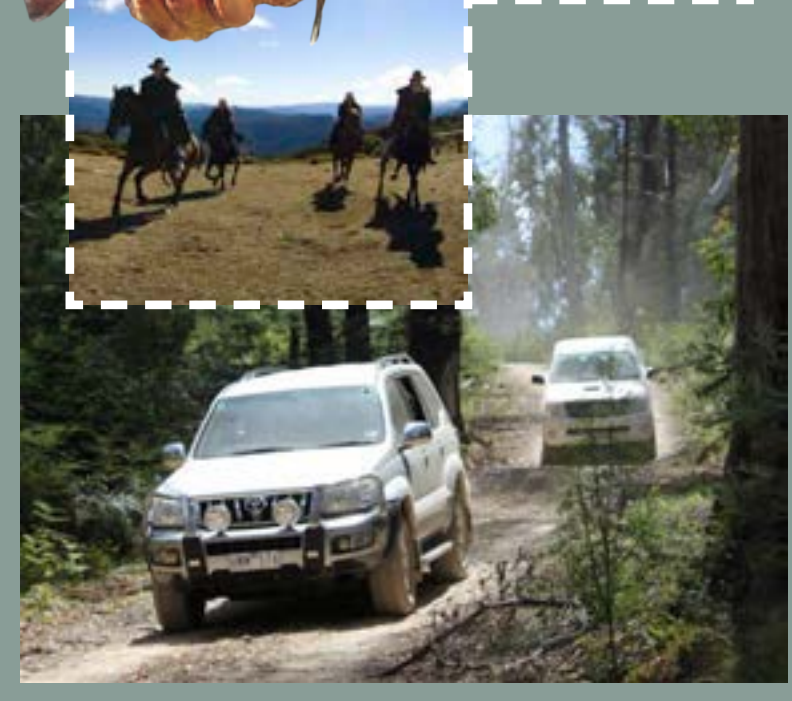


Your adventure starts here...



Mansfield-Mt Buller The High Country Adventure Guide

Horse Riding	Bushwalking	4-Wheel Drive
Fishing	Mountain Biking	All-Wheel Drive

Horse Riding

For sheer exhilaration, nothing compares with riding the High Country. No wonder High Country legends always ride on horseback.

There are many inviting bridle tracks and trails to explore. Two regions in particular offer a wonderful High Country horseback experience – Howqua Hills and the area around Razorback Hut. Both areas offer riders designated yards for overnight stops.

Generally, the riding season runs during the warmer months – from December to April above 1000m, slightly longer in the lower forested areas. This is because the alpine and subalpine environment is especially vulnerable during cold, wet times.

Horse riding throughout the Alpine National Park, Mt Stirling Alpine Resort and Howqua Hills is subject to seasonal closures. Check with the Mansfield Visitor Information Centre or Parks Victoria before you set out.

Remember horses can damage sensitive environment, so please ride with respect for the High Country and don't use tracks closed to horses.

Howqua Hills

These rolling hills, punctuated by river flats, make for really delightful riding. There are many bridle paths, logging roads and even part of a long distance riding trail in the area. Most routes are well marked. Enjoy the scents of Manna and Peppermint Gums as you pass, and watch for evidence of early migrants as well as signs of Aboriginal trade and culture.

The designated horse camping sites and free yards at Fry's Flat and Tunnel Bend offer a good launching-off point for excellent local rides. Bookings can only be made online for yards located in the Alpine National Park at www.parks.vic.gov.au/howqua-yards

The Howqua Feeder Track

The Howqua Feeder Track starts at Rurring Creek, then hugs Howqua River to upper Howqua and the base of the Howitt Spur. From here, the trail runs over the summit of Mt Howitt, dropping down past Valpo Gannther Hut.

Do note, that Howitt Spur is for experienced horses and riders who are fit and can work in extremely steep and rough country, exposed to heights.

Staying in the High Country

From chic B&Bs to five-star luxury properties, from snug cottages to family resorts, Mansfield and Mt Buller offer a warm welcome after a hard day's adventuring.

Or, for something a little bit different, check out the possibilities in the surrounding villages and settlements of the High Country. There's a lot to choose from.

Mansfield

Mansfield – Heart of the High Country

This attractive country town is at the centre of the High Country activities. Spend some time exploring the streets of Mansfield – this region has a fascinating history, which can be read from its buildings. Mansfield itself offers a wide range of accommodation options and is in easy striking distance from most of the walks, drives and rides described in this guide.

Eating out in Mansfield

There's nothing quite like a day out in the High Country to work up a healthy appetite. Fortunately, there are great eating options many using delicious local produce, wines and locally brewed beers.

Mt Buller

Mt Buller – Heart of the action

Stay in Mt Buller village, and you're right in the thick of High Country action. Here, adventure is on your doorstep.

From comfortable chalets to top of the range, see-and-be-seen hotels, there is a range of options up here. One thing is certain, wherever you choose to stay your head-top view in the morning. Even better, you'll find Mt Buller's spring and summer rates very attractive. Top local tip! The walk to the top of Mt Stirling can take the sunset.

Gourmet food at altitude

Eating on the Mountain also serves up some great choices. For something fast and filling, try the bistrot-style restaurants. In the mood for a civilised, gourmet experience? There are some top restaurants up here, featuring High Country produce, teamed with beautiful local wines. www.mtbuller.com.au

Activities? Ideas? Let us help

Wondering what to see and do in the region? Ask our friendly knowledgeable staff at the Mansfield Visitor Information Centre. All of them are locals and know the area well. Chances are they've done the drives, walks or rides you're planning to try, so they can offer useful, accurate advice. You can reach them on:

03 5775 7000
visitorinfo@mansfield.vic.gov.au

Somewhere to stay?

For a complete options check-out, visit www.mansfieldmtbuller.com.au

Your adventure starts here...

We've chosen the most beautiful tracks, the most scenic trails, the most fascinating regions.

We've selected our most absorbing legends, our prettiest riverbank sites, our most spectacular picnic spots, viewpoints and stopping places.

We've picked the most exciting drives, the most exhilarating walks, and the best regions for mountain bike riding and horse-riding.

We've chosen what we believe are the best places to enjoy the essence of the High Country. And we've put all of them onto this. The High Country Adventure Guide.

Local knowledge for an authentic High Country experience.

The High Country Adventure Guide is a bit like having your own local guide.

We've also added a few local yarns the old-timers like to tell, plus some interesting geological information and history, so you get the most from your visit here.

We've chosen tracks and trails to suit all levels of ability, fitness and confidence.

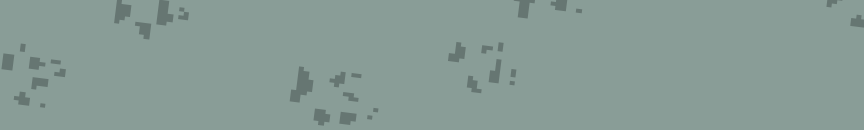
And every trail, drive, track and region is graded, so you have a pretty clear idea of what to expect.

We hope this guide enables you to experience this, our beloved High Country, as we locals do.

From the wild, remote valleys to the silent, Alpine Ash forests, from the mesmeric call of a lyre-bird to the soaring scenery at Eagle's Peak there's always something special to discover up here.

So pack your gear and prepare for a break that is extraordinary. In every step, every bend in the track, every whisper of running water, you'll hear the High Country calling you to adventure. Why resist?

We acknowledge the Taungurung people as the traditional owners of the land. We pay respect to the Taungurung Elders, past, present and future and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Mountain Biking and Cycling

Fast descents. Gentle bubble-track tracks. Tight, winding woodland trails. Whatever your level of experience, riding the High Country promises an adrenaline-fuelled experience. Oh yeah, and the scenery is pretty spectacular too.

One of its operators who can take you out, show you around, even offer a few tips. Expert riders can head straight for the top of Mt Buller where the local heroes, complete with body armour, surrender themselves to gravity and the mountain. Try some of the areas closer to town. There are plenty of great places to take a spin.

Razorback Hut

Alpine and subalpine forest, signature views and the wealth of legends make riding the area around Razorback a must-do experience.

Riders are well served with yards close to Razorback hut, off the Circuit Road, a few hundred yards past the Mt No. 3 Road junction with Circuit Road (about 5 km past Telephone Box Junction). These sites are operated on a first-come, first-served basis.

From here, ride up to down stream along old logging and 4WD tracks.

Yards in the Alpine National Park

There is some great riding to be had in some areas of the Alpine National Park. Riders can use the yards at Pike's Flat, Bulfinch Hut, 7 Mile and at Mitchell's Flat, Ruffe Hut and the King River Hut.

Bookings can only be made online for yards located in the Alpine National Park at www.parks.vic.gov.au/howqua-yards

The Bicentennial National Trail

This long-distance national trail, designed specifically for horse riding, runs from Cooktown in Queensland to Melbourne and travels through the Wonnagatta Valley, at the edge of the Alpine National Park. The trail is marked by red and yellow triangular markers and you'll find the High Country section of the trail covered in the *Bicentennial National Trail Guidebooks 11 and 12*.

Horse riding on Mt Stirling Alpine Resort is permitted between 1st November and 30th April.

Download Fact Sheet: Horse Trail Riding in the Mansfield/High Country, Mt Stirling Area www.mtstirling.com.au/activities/horse-riding/

Seasonal Road Closures

Many roads and tracks are seasonally closed to vehicle traffic each year.

Seasonal Road Closures are in place in parts of the Alpine National Park, State Forests and the Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort to protect the environment, maintain water quality and for visitor safety.

Closures generally operate from the long weekend in June through to the end of October, but may be extended due to seasonal conditions or to better protect areas of environmental sensitivity.

For further details and maps see: <https://parks.vic.gov.au/safety/closures/seasonal-road-closures/>

<https://www.mtstirling.com.au/au/parks/seasonal-road-closures/>

www.mansfield.vic.gov.au/residents-house-and-property/roads-and-infrastructure/road-limits-and-closures

or contact the Mansfield Visitor Information Centre on 03 5775 7000.

Email: visitorinfo@mansfield.vic.gov.au

A few words on safety

At altitude, weather and conditions can change quickly. Snow can fall at any time of the year. It makes sense to be prepared with the following items:

- Waterproof jacket
- Warm clothing – woollen hat, gloves
- Sun protection – sunglasses and sunscreen
- Strong footwear
- High energy food and water
- First-aid kit
- Detailed map of the area and a compass (which you know how to use)

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to defined tracks – it is easy to become quickly disoriented in thin bush.

Driving – keeping safe

Many roads and tracks are closed seasonally for safety reasons. Check conditions before setting out on any trip.

Be fire aware

Familiarise yourself with important bushfire safety information and well as what you can and can't do during Fire Danger periods and Total Fire Bans. Try www.emergency.vic.gov.au for information about all emergencies including current fires, flood and storm, heathwave, thunderstorm asthma and blue green algae.

Download the Fire Emergency app to your phone – available from Apple Store and Google Play. You can also set the watch zone for an area.

Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Walking – how far, how fast?

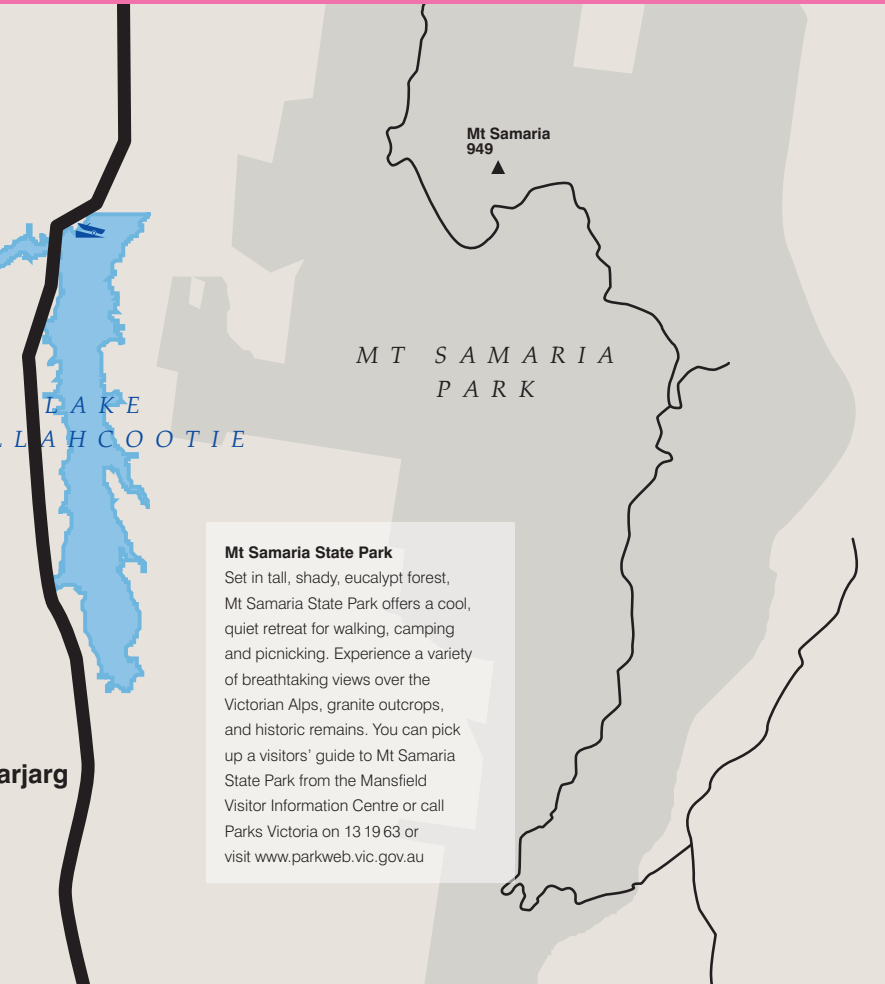
Allow 3-4km per hour if you're fit, conditions are good and the track is well marked. Add extra time for steep climbs, heavy packs, taking pictures and rests. Keep to

4-Wheel Drive



4-Wheel Driving in the High Country

Bushwalking



Mt Samaria State Park
Set in tall, shady, eucalypt forest, Mt Samaria State Park offers a cool, quiet retreat for walking, camping and picnicking. Experience a variety of bushwalking views over the Victorian Alps, granite outcrops, and historic remnants. You can pick up a visitors' guide to Mt Samaria State Park from the Mansfield Visitor Information Centre or call Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or visit www.parksweb.vic.gov.au



Immerse yourself in nature

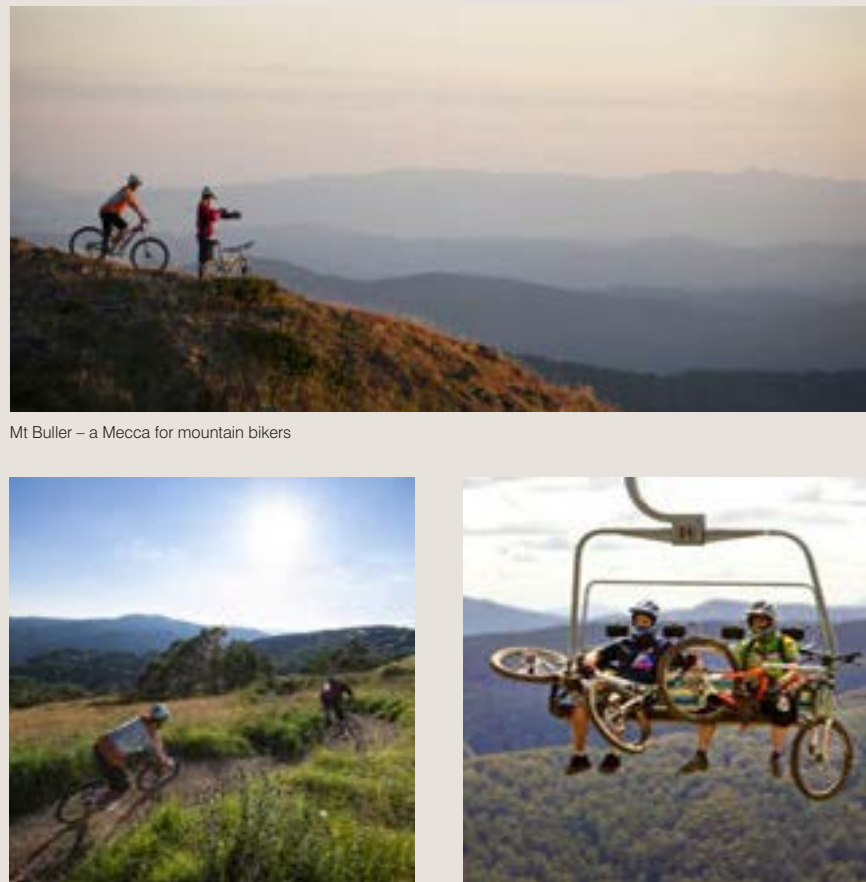


The Kelly Tree at Stringy Bark Creek

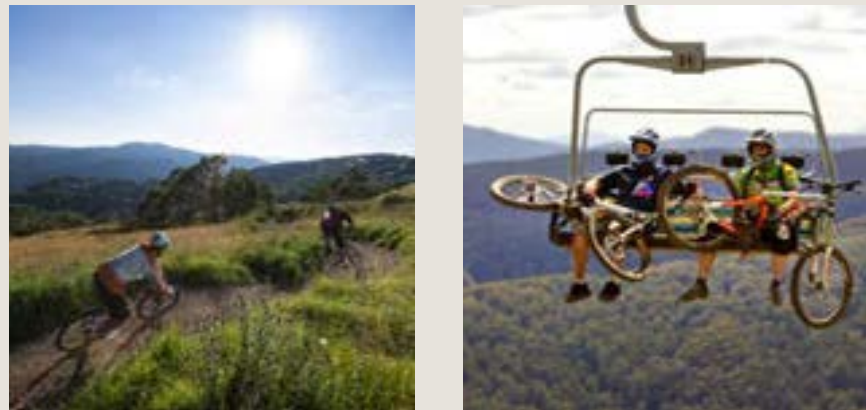


Explore the spectacular roads of the High Country

Mountain Biking



Mt Bulter - a Mecca for mountain bikers



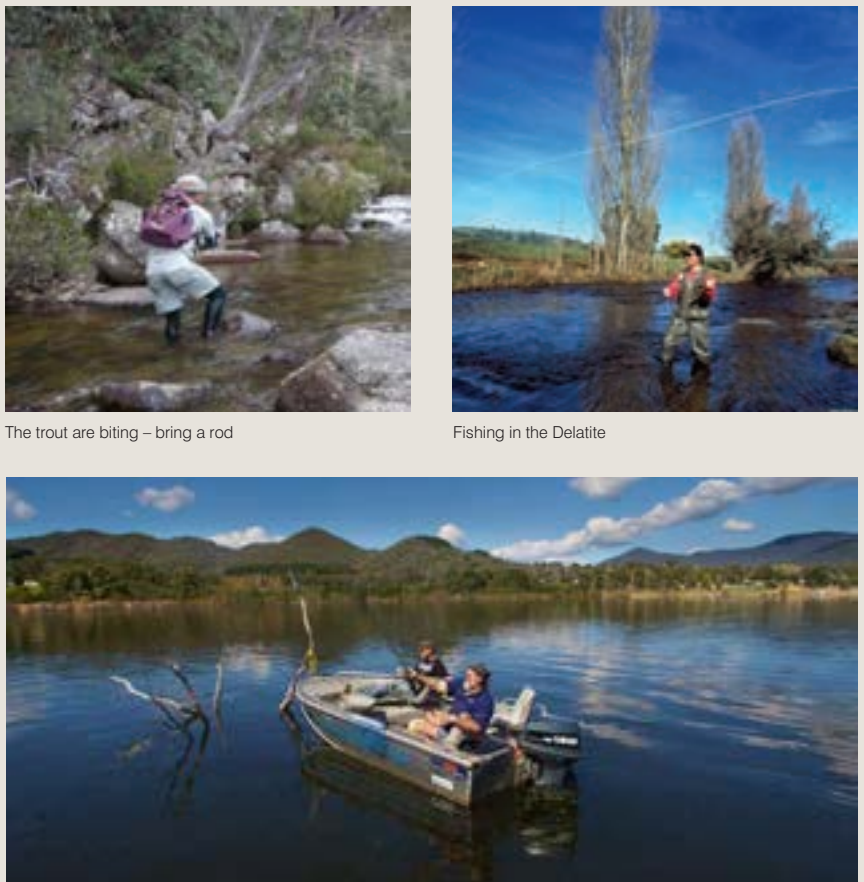
Mountain biking in the High Country

Horse Riding



River crossing on a horse trail ride

Fishing



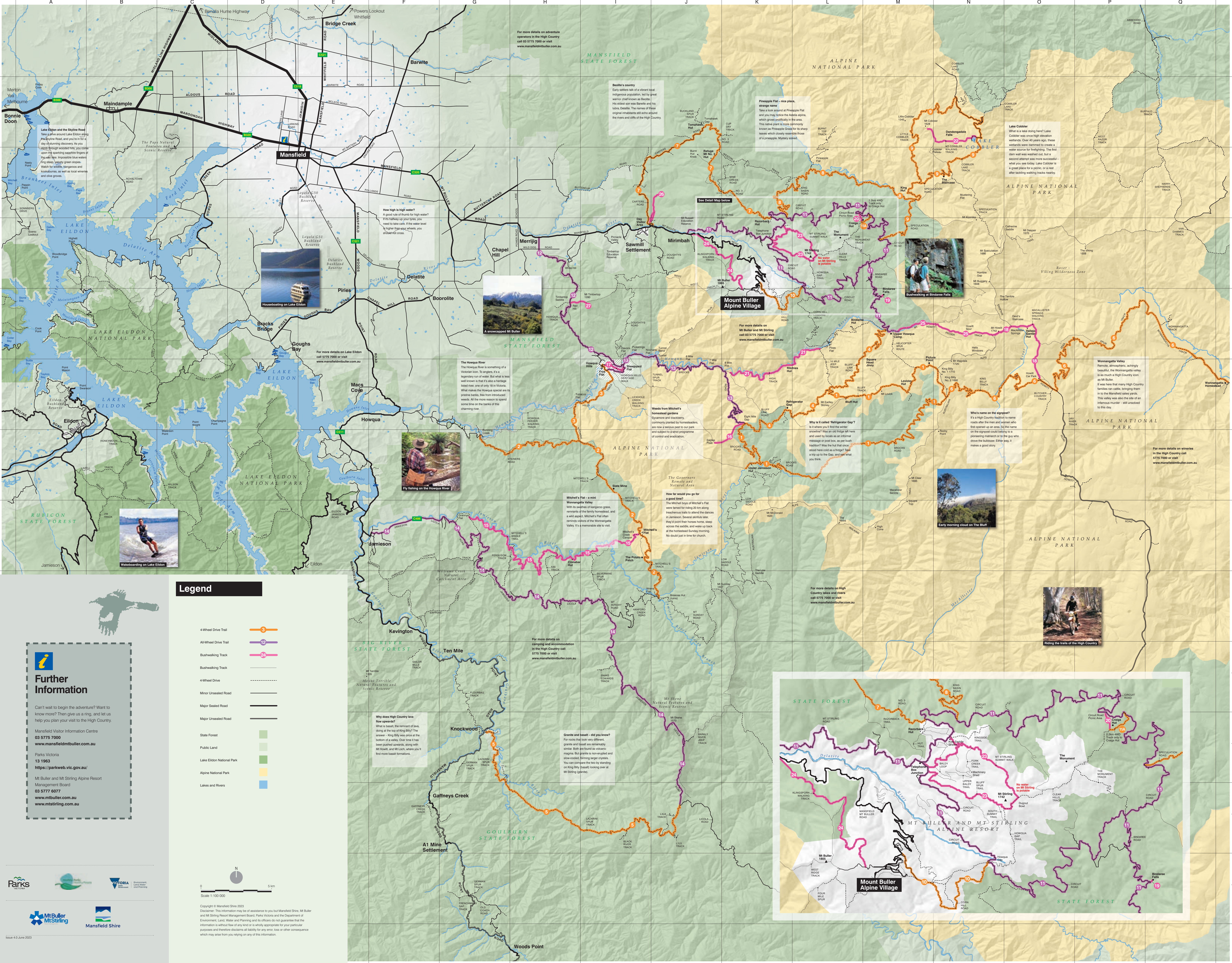
The trout are biting - bring a rod



Fishing in the Delatite



Find yourself a secluded spot on the lake



Further Information

Can't wait to begin the adventure? Want to know more? Then give us a ring, and let us help you plan your visit to the High Country.

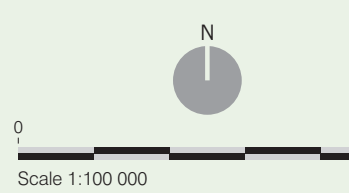
Mansfield Visitor Information Centre
03 5775 7000
www.mansfieldmtbulter.com.au

Parks Victoria
13 1963
<https://parksweb.vic.gov.au/>

Mt Bulter and Mt Stirling Alpine Resort
Management Board
03 5777 6077
www.mtbulter.com.au
www.mtstirling.com.au

Legend

- 4-Wheel Drive Trail
- All-Wheel Drive Trail
- Bushwalking Track
- Bushwalking Track
- 4-Wheel Drive
- Minor Unsalted Road
- Major Sealed Road
- Major Unsalted Road
- State Forest
- Public Land
- Lake Eildon National Park
- Alpine National Park
- Lakes and Rivers



Copyright © Mansfield Shire 2023.
Disclaimer: This information may be of assistance to you but Mansfield Shire, Mt Bulter and Mt Stirling Resort Management Board, Parks Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and its officers do not guarantee that this information is without flaw or any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any of this information.

