

Kinglake National Park



Visitor Guide

Kinglake National Park is the largest national park close to Melbourne. It has 22,360 hectares of tall forests, fern gullies and rolling hills, an extensive network of walking tracks and other facilities, as well as vantage points offering scenic views.



Wombelano Falls

Enjoying the park

Kinglake National Park protects almost 600 native plant species, over 40 native mammal and 90 native bird species. Bushwalking, picnics, camping, horse riding, cycling and nature study are all popular activities in the park. In spring, keep an eye out for wildflowers in bloom, while winter is a good time to discover fungi, mosses and lichens.

Nature revives

Approximately 98 per cent of the park, including the office and most visitor facilities, were burnt by the Black Saturday bushfires in February 2009. Rehabilitation work and assessment of fire damage is continuing in the park and areas will be re-opened progressively.

Open visitor sites

Frank Thomson Reserve, located at the highest point of the district between Kinglake Central and Kinglake on the Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, offers views to the Melbourne city skyline. The carpark has been re-established and a new gas barbecue and picnic tables installed.

Wombelano Falls, located off Captains Creek Road, offers a 1.5km circuit walking track to view the falls.

Mt Sugarloaf, located at the end of Mt Sugarloaf Road, offers spectacular views to Melbourne and access to Sugarloaf Ridge walking track.

The Gums Camping Area, located off Eucalyptus Road, offers 18 campsites with five suitable for caravans. Bookings are required. Go to www.parks.vic.gov.au to book.

Island Creek Picnic Area, located off Eucalyptus Road, is an ideal spot to relax and enjoy a picnic - great for families and small groups.

Note: Please refer to the map for visitor site locations and facilities. All tracks and sites marked in red on the map remain closed until further notice, including Masons Falls Picnic Area and some surrounding walking tracks in the park. Please avoid visiting these areas until you are advised that it is safe to do so.

Timelines for opening visitor sites

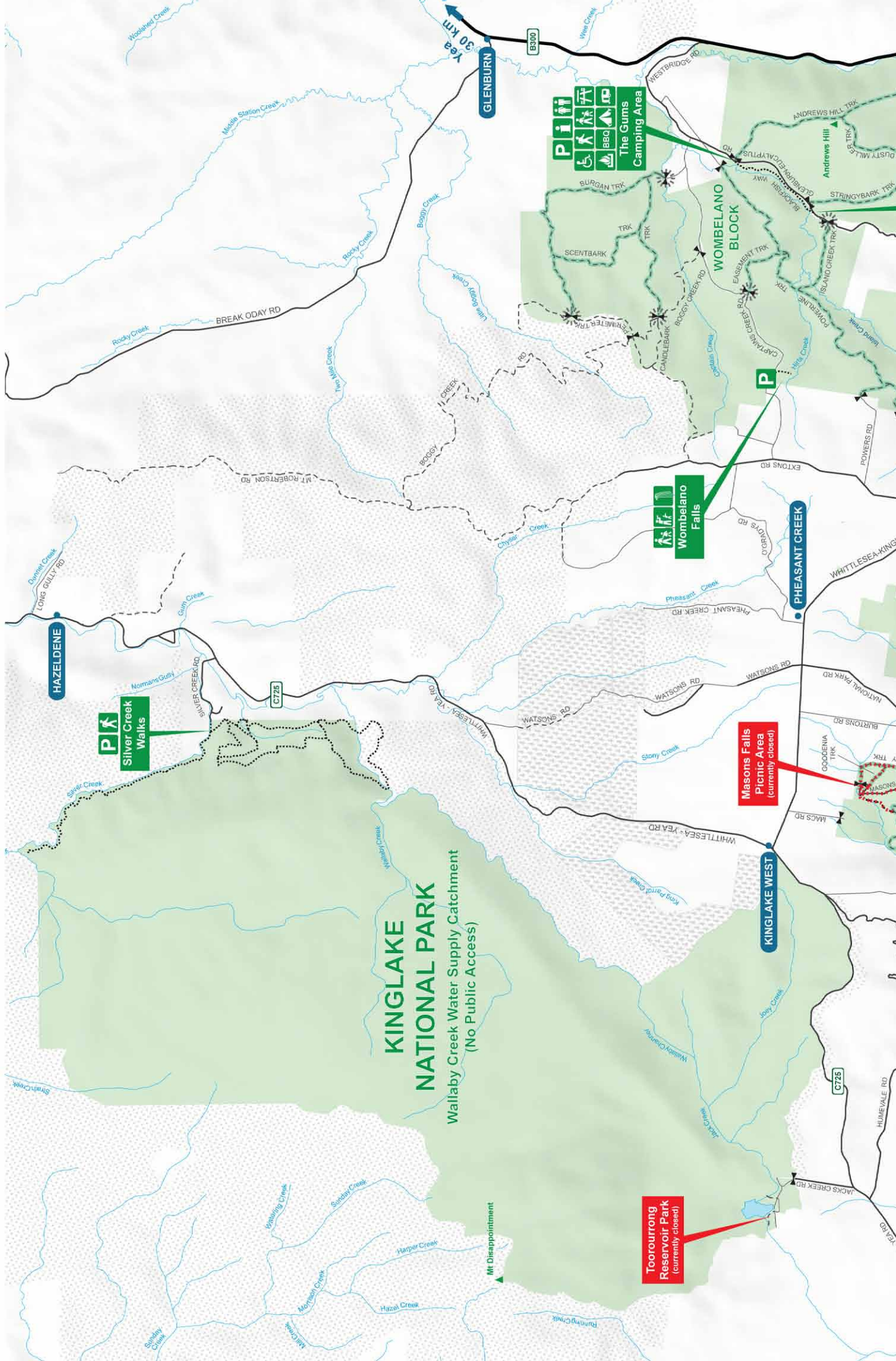
As areas of the park are made safe and facilities are rebuilt they will be re-opened to visitors. The following opening times are estimates only.

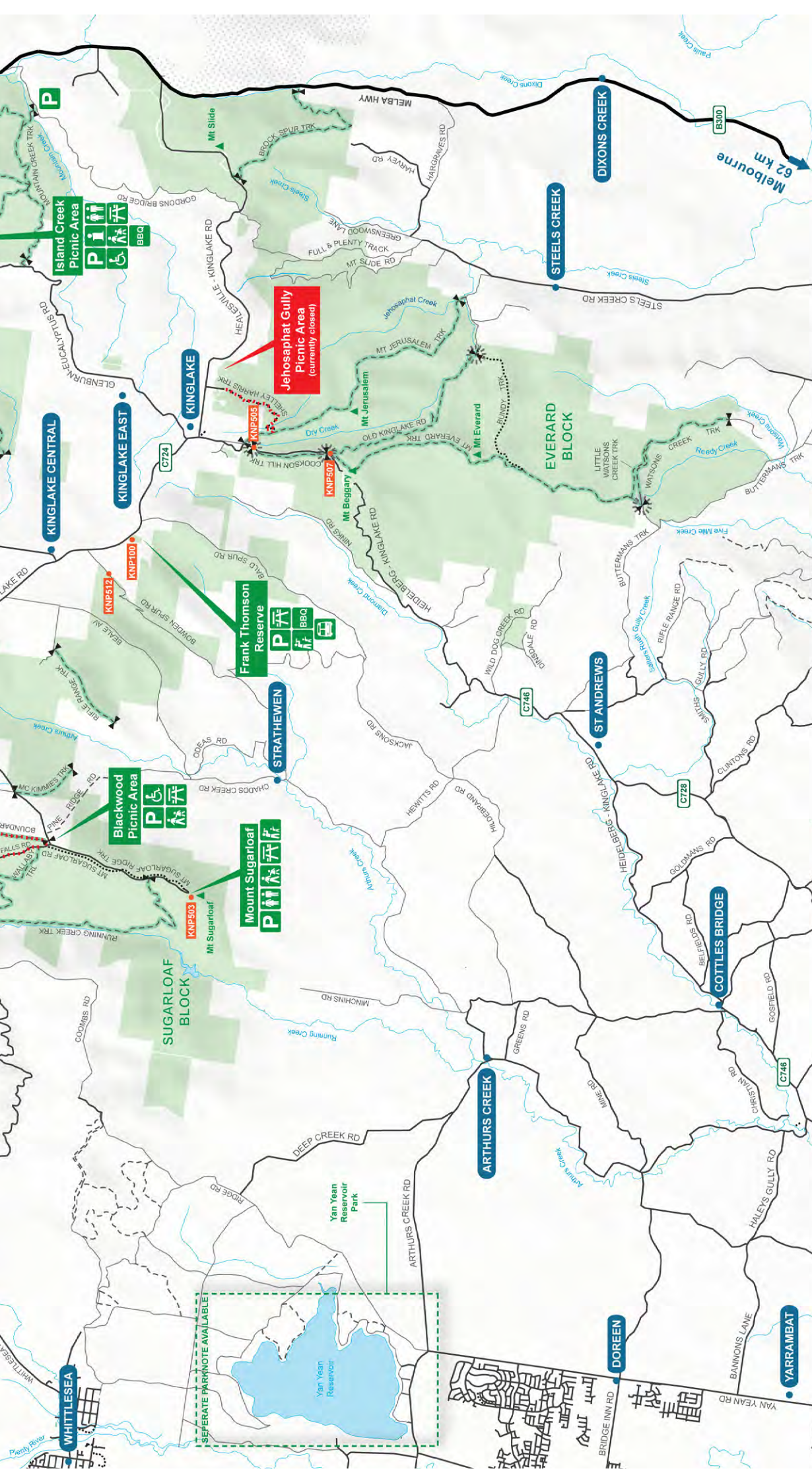
Jehosaphat Gully Picnic Area – March 2012
 Masons Falls Picnic Area – April 2012
 Toorourrong Reservoir Park – 2012

Before you visit, call 13 1963 to check on site openings.



Kinglake National Park





www.parks.vic.gov.au

Disclaimer: Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information.

Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA 94) Zone 55.
Map produced by Parks Victoria. This map supercedes all previous editions. Data source acknowledgements: State Digital Mapbase, The State of Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Cartography by Parks Victoria 2011

- Kinglake National Park
- State Forest
- Softwood Plantation
- Waterbody
- Sealed Road
- Unsealed Road
- 4WD
- Walking Track
- MVO
- Track and Visitors sites coloured red remained closed to the public
- KNP#/#/#
- ESTIA Emergency Marker
- Mountain/Hill
- Gate
- Horse Entry
- Picnic
- Gas Barbecue
- Fireplace
- Camping
- Bus Access
- Caravan
- Waterfall
- Park Information
- Toilets
- Disabled Access
- Walking Track
- Family Walk
- Picnic Ground

- Island Creek Picnic Area
- Blackwood Picnic Area
- Mount Sugarloaf Picnic Area
- Frank Thomson Reserve
- Jenosophat Gully Picnic Area (currently closed)

0 1 2 Km

For further information

Call Parks Victoria on **13 1963**
or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au

Whittlesea Courthouse Visitor
Information Centre
Cnr Beech and Church Streets
Whittlesea Vic 3757
Tel: (03) 9716 1866

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park
by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish with you for
recycling and disposal

All native plants and animals,
historical and archaeological
features are protected by law.
Please do not disturb
them in any way

Wallaby Creek Designated Water
Supply Catchment is a major
closed catchment for Melbourne's
pure water supply. It is vital that
everyone helps to ensure the
prevention of pollution and fire

Dogs are permitted only in Frank
Thompson Reserve and must be
kept on a lead at all times.

Dogs, cats and other pets are
not permitted in the
remainder of the park

Firearms are prohibited

There are limited tracks
available for horse riding

Fires are permitted only in
fireplaces provided.

No fires are permitted on days of
Total Fire Ban. Kinglake National
Park is in the Central and North
Central Total Fire Ban district

Vehicles, including motor bikes,
may only be used on formed
open roads. Drivers must be
licensed and vehicles registered
and roadworthy

Healthy Parks Healthy People

*Visiting a park can improve
your health, mind, body and
soul. So, with over four million
hectares of parkland available
to Victorians, why not escape
to a park today!*



Plants and animals

Most of Kinglake National Park has a cover of eucalypt forest. You will notice many of the trees showing a green flush of new growth along their trunks following the fire. This is a survival feature that assists in recovery after loss of foliage, damage or intense heat.

Each species has its own survival features - grass trees send up their tall flowering spikes full of seed and tree ferns are protected by thick bark. Acacias may survive due to regrowth from root suckers and soil stored seed. Gradually other species have regerminated in the park including Bush peas, Cassinias, Heath, Tussock grass and orchids.



Island Creek Picnic Area

A number of birds and mammals can again be seen in the forest. Lyrebirds are out gathering food, while the wallabies are feeding on the fresh new shoots.

History of the park

The land now known as Kinglake National Park has been important to people for many years and in many different ways.

It has provided shelter and food, spiritual wellbeing, inspiration, gold, water and timber. Kinglake National Park came into being in 1928 when 5,590ha was first reserved.

With reservation came protection and its value as a sanctuary to be protected for future generations was recognised. The park is a site for research and nature study, and a place to escape and enjoy with family and friends.

Aboriginal People

The area now known as Kinglake National Park is located within the traditional land of the Wurundjeri people to the south and the Taungurung people to the north.

For many thousands of years Wurundjeri and Taungurung people inhabited this area and made use of the abundance of seasonally available plants and animals, and to carry-out important cultural duties. Plants and animals served many purposes including temporary shelter, transport, food, medicine, clothing, hunting implements and many other important cultural items.

Seasonal movement within their traditional lands was determined by the availability of food and weather conditions. Present day Wurundjeri and Taungurung people still have a very strong connection with this area.

Many Aboriginal sites were uncovered by the fires in 2009 including scatters and hand tools. These sites are being surveyed and recorded so that they can be protected forever.

Become a friend

Spending time with Friends in the park can be good for your mind, body and soul! There is growing recognition of the vital contribution parks and reserves make to a healthy environment, to the health of individuals and to a healthy society.

You can join the Friends of Kinglake National Park in caring for this special place and become a Friend today! Call Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au.

How to get there

Kinglake National Park is 65km north-east of Melbourne. Access from Melbourne is by three main routes: the Melba Highway from Yarra Glen or Glenburn, the Heidelberg-St Andrews Road from St Andrews and the Whittlesea -Yea Road from Whittlesea.

December 2011

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