

Picnic Grounds of the Dandenong Ranges Tourist Track

Kays, Olympic, Kensleys and Beagleys Picnic Grounds

Located in the spectacular Dandenong Ranges alongside the cool, clear waters of the Sassafras Creek are four scenic and peaceful picnic grounds. Kays, Olympic, Kensleys and Beagleys picnic grounds are surrounded by tremendous Mountain Ash trees and ancient tree ferns - a tranquil destination, perfect for an unforgettable day out.

Nature surrounds you

The forest surrounding the picnic grounds consists of damp to wet sclerophyll (hard-leaved) vegetation, some of which have been disturbed by fires. The canopy is dominated by Mountain Ash, Manna Gum, Mountain Grey Gum and Messmate (eucalypt) trees. The mid-canopy contains Soft and Rough Tree Ferns which provide protection for delicate fern species within the ground cover such as the Common Maidenhair, Common Rasp Fern and the King Fern.



Forest MT ©

Birds Abound

Whether you are relaxing in the picnic grounds or taking a stroll along the walking track, keep an eye out for many native birds that frequent the area. Laughing Kookaburras, Crimson and Eastern Rosellas, King Parrots and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos have all been seen in and around the picnic grounds. If you are lucky you may catch a glimpse of a Superb Lyrebird darting through the dense understorey.



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo MT ©

Night Life

Nocturnal mammals such as Common Brushtail and Ringtail Possums, Sugar Gliders, Black Wallabies, Wombats and Echidnas may be observed at dusk. Goannas are also occasionally sighted climbing a tree or searching for food on the ground.

Walking the Tourist Track

The picnic grounds are located alongside the Dandenong Ranges Tourist Track which extends from Main Street, Sassafras in the north-west (Melways Ref. 66 F9) to the Telopea steps, Telopea Road, Clematis in the south-east (Melways Ref. 127 C2).

The track provides a scenic and varied walking experience, meandering alongside the Sassafras, Woori Yallock and Menzies Creeks, through fern-filled gullies, eucalypt covered ridges and over numerous bridges and boardwalks.

Distance: 17 kilometres one way

Duration: 7 hours one way

Grade: Moderate to gentle undulating terrain with some moderately steep sections. Gravel surface in some sections.

Alternatively, you can walk a shorter section of the track, stopping off at any of the picnic grounds along the way.

How to get there

Beagleys Picnic Ground is situated on Perrins Creek Road. Approach along Monbulk Road via Belgrave and turn left into Perrins Creek Road (Melways Ref. 75 K2) or alternatively, approach along the Mt Dandenong Tourist Road turning left into Perrins Creek Road (Melways Ref. 52 H9).

Kays, Olympic and Kensleys are situated along Monbulk Road and can be approached via Belgrave or Monbulk (Melways Ref. 124 D3 and E3)



Picnic Grounds of the Dandenong Ranges Tourist Track

- Major road
- Minor road
- Walking track
- Park area
- National Park
- Gate

Recreational Facilities

- Barbecue - Electric
- Carpark
- Family walk
- Fireplace
- Picnic table
- Toilet

0 150 300 METRES

Cartography by Spatial Vision 2004 M/6647



Parks
VICTORIA

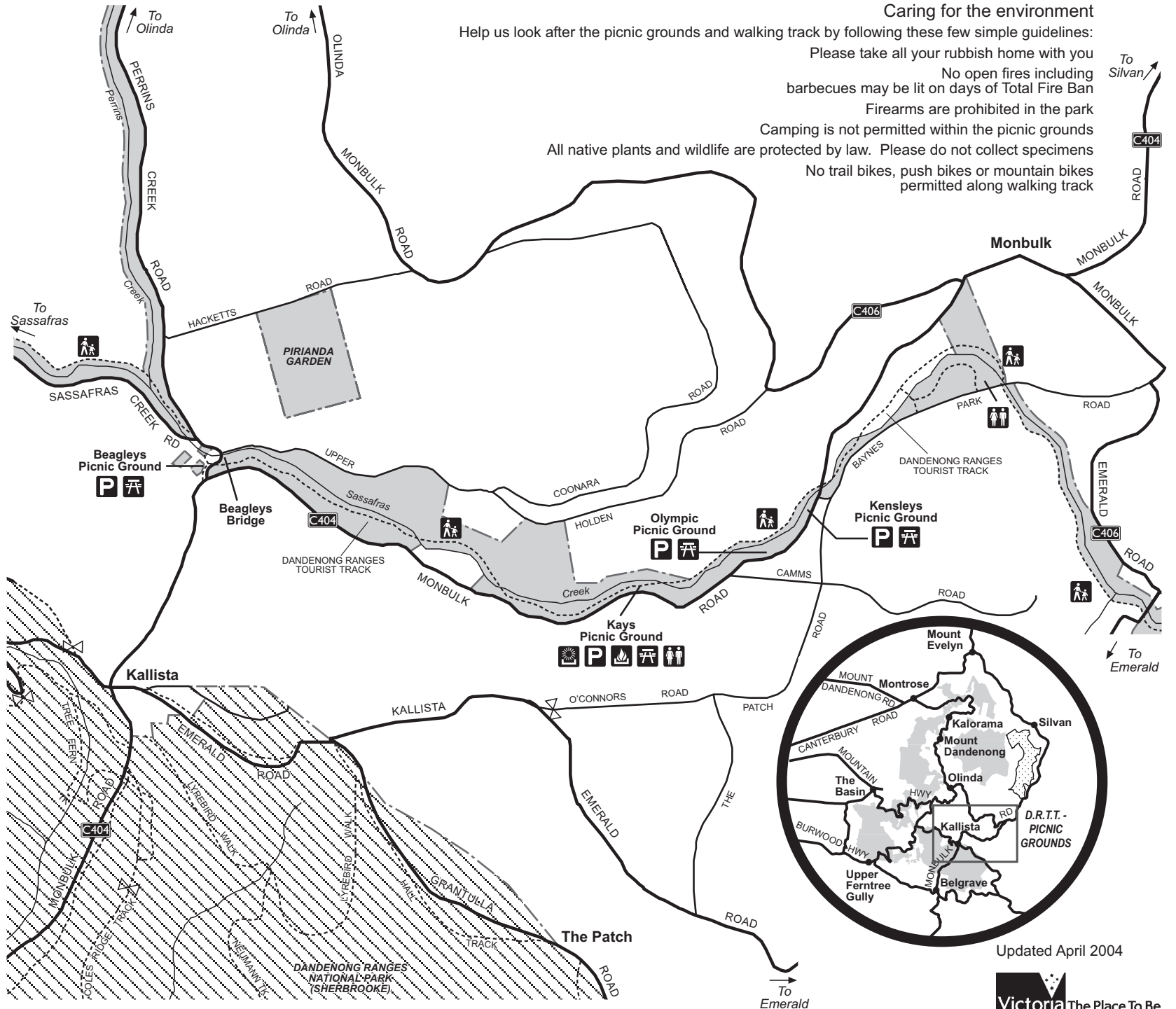
Community Involvement

The management and preservation of the creek and adjacent environment along the Dandenong Ranges Tourist Track is actively assisted by voluntary community groups called Friends of Sassafras Creek and 'Meander'. New volunteers are most welcome

Further Information

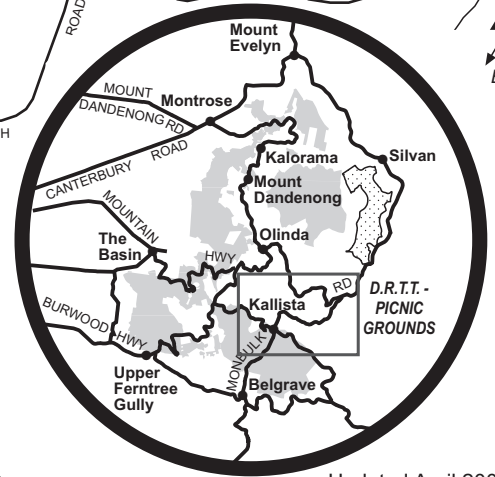
Dandenong Ranges National Park
Walking Tracks Map

This colourful map guide details 16 popular walks with approximate distances, contour lines and bushwalking tips. The map is sold for \$2.00 at the Rangers Office at Ferntree Gully Picnic Ground, Dandenong Ranges National Park and at Dandenong Ranges Tourist Information Centre, 1211 Burwood Highway, Upper Ferntree Gully.



Caring for the environment
Help us look after the picnic grounds and walking track by following these few simple guidelines:

- Please take all your rubbish home with you
- No open fires including barbecues may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban
- Firearms are prohibited in the park
- Camping is not permitted within the picnic grounds
- All native plants and wildlife are protected by law. Please do not collect specimens
- No trail bikes, push bikes or mountain bikes permitted along walking track



Updated April 2004