

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Grampians Peaks Trail
Spring 2020



Welcome to the Spring edition of the Grampians Peaks Trail® Community Update. In this issue we are providing an update on what will be open this summer as we move into final stages of construction and an official opening in early 2021.

The fourth and longest walk in the Walk Victoria's Icons series, the Grampians Peaks Trail (GPT) will provide a world-class walking experience of 160kms that can be experienced in sections, or as one 13-day journey.

The GPT will showcase one of Victoria's most significant environmental and cultural landscapes, providing visitors with an experience rich in the Aboriginal culture of the Jadawadjali and Djab Wurrung peoples, who have lived in these ranges for thousands of years

Construction update

Since our last update, despite the challenges posed by coronavirus (COVID-19), construction has continued on the trail and at seven hike-in campgrounds. This year's unprecedented circumstances have, however, led us to focus on opening four, day walks on the GPT this summer, while rescheduling the full opening of the GPT until Autumn 2021.

Hike-in campground construction began in November 2019. Construction works are well underway for Djardji-Djawara, Wannon, Durd Durd, Barigar, Stony Creek and Barri Yalug. Duwul near Mt William has been cleared. The Parks Victoria project team have also begun initial site inspections with the contractor for Werdug and Gar, and the design of Mud-Dadjug is complete.

Track building continues in the southern sections of the trail including the construction of the Mt Sturgeon elevated stairway and boardwalk.

In October, contractors commenced a series of helicopter airlifts from Roses Gap to Mt Difficult, lifting in materials to the remote Gar hike-in campground. The airlifts will continue twice a month to February 2021.

Walking tracks in this area will need to be closed during these operations. Visitors and the local community will be advised of these via the Parks Victoria website, Visitor Information Centres and Brambuk National Park and Cultural Centre in Halls Gap.

Although some trails may appear finished there are more elements to be added, for example, signage for wayfinding, safety and emergencies. Trails will remain closed for safety of park visitors, workers and staff.

(pictured: Djardji-djawara shelter (Cassidy Gap))



You can view designs of hike-in campgrounds at <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/grampians-peaks-trail>



New rock staircase to Signal Peak in the south

If you are a Licensed Tour Operator and want to find out more about how you could operate facilitated walks on the GPT, email GPT@parks.vic.gov.au and we can send through further information.

What's opening in summer?

Parks Victoria will open four, day walks on the GPT this summer. These sections are day walks on the south, central and northern parts of the trail. We will begin to publicly promote these new walks in the over the next month as soon as signage is installed.

Want to know more? Join us for an online information session or give us a call

Join us for online community information drop-in session to receive an update on the Grampians Peaks Trail. You will be able to learn more about recent progress and to discuss any questions.

Monday November, 2020, 5:30pm to 6.30 pm – via an online information session register your interest via Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/gpt-winter-community-online-info-session-tickets-116078099721 or

Email GPT@parks.vic.gov.au to organise a phone update from the local team.

2015 in the central area which is available for hikers to explore.

You can see these walks on the latest GPT map here: <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/grampians-peaks-trail>

Traditional Owner names for the 11 camp sites

In recognition of the cultural significance of the Gariwerd landscape, hike-in campgrounds on the GPT have Traditional Owner names. Parks Victoria has worked closely with Gariwerd Traditional Owner corporations to identify appropriate names for each campground.

These are:

- **Barigar** (North of Roses Gap)
- **Gar** (near the Mt Difficult summit)
- **Werdug** (overlooking Lake Wartook)
- **Bugiga** (South of the Wonderland Range)
- **Barri Yalug** (Barbican Rocks)
- **Duwul** (near the Mt William summit) •
- **Durd Durd** (South of the Major Mitchell Plateau)
- **Yarram** (south of Yarram Gap)
- **Wannon** (at Mt Christobel)
- **Djardi-Djarwara** (near Cassidy Gap)
- **Mud-Dadjug** (on Mt Abrupt)

Stay up to date

Parks Victoria provide updates and information, regarding track closures to allow works to be completed safely. Visit Parks Victoria's website for the latest conditions in the Grampians National Park.

You can also contact us at 13 1963.

To learn more about the Grampians Peaks Trail visit www.grampianspeakstrail.com.au