Pyramid Hill Tracks & Trails

Pyramid Hill Trail



On June 30 1836 Major Thomas Mitchell climbed a granite outcrop rising 187m from the rich soils of the northern Victorian plains and from this vantage point surveyed the surrounding area. He named the mount 'Pyramid Hill', a reflection of its remarkable symmetry when viewed from a distance.

In 1872 a settlement bearing that name was established on the southern side of the hill. With the arrival of the railway in 1885 the growing township was relocated to its current place west of the hill.

From the car park on the southern side of the hill a trail loop of 1.8km takes you around the base of the mount. A 600m return trail also climbs to a vantage point in the saddle where a wonderful view of the township, nearby hills and surrounding farmland is on offer. From the saddle one can return south to the car park, scramble to the summit or continue north on unformed track to meet the base loop trail.



Things to see



The Plains Grasslands around Pyramid Hill support sparse woodland, a variety of grasses, saltbushes and groundcovers. The hill itself presents a range of microclimates that many plant species have exploited forming Rocky Outcrop Shrubland. Many wildflowers appear at certain times of the year and the vegetation is habitat to a wide range of birds, reptiles and marsupials. Black Wallabies are regularly sighted amongst the Deane's wattle, the most common small tree in the reserve. Birds of prey, including the Wedge-tailed Eagle, find the plains grassland habitats particularly suitable, they nest in tall old gums and utilise the thermal updraft caused by the hill for spotting prey on the plains below. The region also boasts some of Victoria's largest Brolga nesting sites.

Other places of interest nearby worth exploring include Mount Hope to the north, Terrick Terrick National Park to the southeast, Loddon River wetlands to the west and Kow Swamp to the north-east. All may be visible along sections of the trail.



Advice for walkers



The base loop is an easy Grade 2 trail; no bushwalking experience is required. The trail is formed of granitic material donated by the nearby quarry. The saddle walk has some steep sections (Grade 3) and care should be taken, particularly on the return with any loose gravel. The climb to the summit and scramble north of the saddle is unformed (Grade 4), is not sign posted, has some very steep sections and requires a moderate level of fitness though bushwalking experience is not necessary. You may encounter snakes, insects, fallen tree limbs, large rocks, loose gravel and glass.



Temperatures can be very high in the summer: be sure to carry water, wear a hat and apply sunscreen. The summit is also very exposed and can be quite chilly even on warm days. Toilets, tank water, picnic facilities and a BBQ are available near the carpark.



For further information on walking tracks in Loddon contact Loddon Visitor Information Centre on 03 54943489 or Loddon Shire Council on 03 54941200.





Water





Picnic Facilities



Pyramid Hill Trail



Unformed Trail





