

7. PINE MOUNTAIN WALKING TRACK

Distance 12km, Grade: Challenging

One for the serious bushwalker! The Pine Mountain Walking Track is located in Burrowa-Pine Mountain National Park. The park is 18,400 hectares in size, features more than 200 native plants, and is home to Australia's largest owl species, the Powerful Owl.

Pine Mountain is reputedly one-and-an-half times the size of Uluru and the challenging walk to its summit provides spectacular views of the surrounding valleys and Murray River. The walk will take you past **Rocky Knob** (approximately 1.5km from the start), a section suitable for families. The track then continues on to the summit of Pine Mountain. Hikers need to consider that the track is not always clearly defined. A long and strenuous track, it is however one of the best ridgeline walking trails in Victoria. Be prepared for varying weather and ensure you advise someone of your expected return time. Carry an appropriate map and adequate water.

8. MOUNT MITTAMATITE WALKS

Distance 200m to 2km, Grade: Easy

Tower Loop Nature Trail (2km) leads you to a number of rocky vantage points below the summit of Mt Mittamatite, including Falcon Point and Reg's Ledge lookout, all offering expansive views over the northern aspect of Mount Mittamatite Regional Park.

Embery Lookout provides spectacular views of Corryong and across the hills to the Snowy Mountains and Mount Kosciuszko. A short walk up and across rock slabs will take you from the visitor area carpark to the lookout.

The park's rocky slopes rise sharply from the surrounding plains and provide shelter for numerous rare plants and is also home to Eastern Grey kangaroos, black wallabies, wombats, possums and many native birds.

A stunning display of wildflowers can be seen in spring. Basic visitor facilities are available for picnicking. Access is suitable for two wheel drive vehicles in dry weather via an unsealed road.





THE BEST VIEWS IN THE UPPER MURRAY

The Playle's Hill Lookout in Corryong offers 360-degree views over Corryong, Mount Mittamatite and the surrounding countryside. There is a bitumen walking track, ample picnic tables and chairs, a barbecue, water and toilets. Lawrence Lookout at Shelley is 2km off the Murray Valley Highway. On a clear day, it offers unbeatable 360-degree views of the surrounding pine plantations and stunning mountain landscapes. The unsealed road is best suited to four-wheel drives in wet weather. There are toilets and picnic tables. Others to check out while in the area are Farran's **Lookout** near Towong, which has excellent views of the Murray River and Snowy Mountains on a clear day. Southern Cloud Lookout, just 5km from Tooma, offers magnificent views of the Maragle and Tooma Valleys as well as the main ridge of the Kosciuszko National Park. This lookout commemorates the Southern Cloud aircraft which disappeared in the mountains in 1931.

The Upper Murray features a range of walking tracks. nature trails and lookouts which provide a great experience for people of all ages and abilities.

Many of the tracks are suitable for families and boast spectacular views, an abundance of flora and fauna, and crisp mountain air. There are a range of natural environments with significant conservation value.

On many walks, you will travel near creeks or can make your way to waterholes or waterfalls; great to cool off on a warm day. At many of the locations you can park and enjoy a picnic or barbecue (weather conditions permitting) before heading off on your walk.

Legend

NATIONAL & STATE PARKS

Corryong Visitor Information Centre 50 Hanson St, Corryong 02 6076 2277 visituppermurrav.com.au











1. MOUNT GRANYA WALKS

Distance 1km (or 10km), Grade: Easy to Moderate

In total, the **Mt Granya Walking Track** is more than 10km return, but the walk to Granya Falls (1km) is more family-friendly and features the wonder of cascading water at the end. While recent rainfall will dictate whether the falls are flowing strongly, the views are well worth the trip all the same. The falls are best in winter and spring. Start your walk at the **Cotton Tree Creek visitor area** and enjoy a snack before you leave. On your way there and back, you will pass by the historic and aptly named **Scout Hut**, a log hut constructed in 1937 by the Granya Scout Group.

Lyrebird Loop Nature Trail (400m), meanders around the open forest and rocky outcrops of the Mount Granya summit, with any luck you might spot a Lyrebird! Stunning native wildflowers including the spectacular fringe lily and greenhood orchids can be found in this area during the spring months.

2. FLAGGY CREEK GORGE WALKING TRACK

Distance 3km (up to 14km), Grade: Challenging

The Flaggy Creek Gorge Walking Track is not for the faint-hearted, but if travelling with family, the walk can be broken into stages. The most family-friendly section of the walk leaves from The Kurrajongs and heads to **Valley View** (a distance of 1.5km one way). The track will see you continually climb through granite boulders making it most suitable for experienced walkers or families with older children. It is quite a demanding climb, in what is considered a dry, hot area during the warmer months of the year; be sure to carry adequate water. At the beginning of the walk, you pass through an old quarry and on to an open grassy area. The track continues south and begins to climb. Upon reaching Valley View, there are spectacular views in both directions along the Murray River and over the northern end of the park. Caution is needed here as there are unquarded cliff edges. Experienced walkers may wish to continue on to Flaggy Creek Gorge (total 14km return); a particularly challenging vet spectacular walk.





3. MOUNT LAWSON WALKS

Distance 1km to 4km, Grade: Easy to Moderate

Mount Lawson State Park is known for its steep slopes, cliffs and prominent rocky bluff which impart a natural rugged beauty. The park contains a range of largely undisturbed natural environments with spectacular displays of wildflowers in spring.

Summit Loop Nature Trail (1km) is a short, circuit walk that meanders over and around the interesting rocky outcrops on the summit of Mt Lawson. It takes about 30 minutes and is suitable for families, with some wonderful things to see along the way.

The Koetong Creek Walking Track makes for a great visit during the spring months. You are also likely to come across a range of wildlife, including kangaroos and wombats. There are several spots to cool off in the Koetong Creek; The Spa, an enticing rock pool, is a particularly great spot for a dip.

4. CONIC RANGE WALKING TRACK

Distance 1.5km, Grade: Easy to Moderate

This out and back walk leads you to an outcrop of granite boulders that form a vantage point over the northern part of Mount Lawson State Park. The park itself is known for its prominent rocky bluffs, which give it a natural rugged beauty. The track meanders through tall Blue Gums; habitat for the park's magnificent Greater Gliders.

Taking around 40 minutes to return, the track is relatively easy, however does present some more challenging sections. Beginning from Firebrace Track, about 5km off the Murray Valley Highway, the track is well marked.

The track rises sharply for the first 200m and then becomes gentle and undulating. Views include Koetong Creek, which meanders through the valley, the summit of Mount Lawson and a glimpse of Lake Hume. **Conic Rocks** is an interesting place to explore, please take care around the many steep drops.





5. MOUNTAIN CREEK NATURE TRAIL

Distance 2km, Grade: Easy

The Mountain Creek Nature Trail is located at Shellev. midway between Tallangatta and Corryong. A self-guided leaflet which describes the various points of interest along the walk, is available from the Corryong Visitor Information Centre and on site. The education area is 770ha in size, has a rich diversity of vegetation, and is a mecca for native birds. Head out early and you're likely to spot lyrebirds, kangaroos and other wildlife in tall Eucaplypt forests. **Shelley** is home to what was once Victoria's highest railway station, located 781m above sea level. The railway played a vital role in the construction of the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme, being used to transport equipment and machinery from Wodonga. The Station was finally closed in 1979. While in Shelley, be sure to visit Avondale Gardens, a magnificent old homestead garden containing exotic trees, shrubs and rock walls and a great place for a picnic.

6. THE LOOKOUTS WALKING TRACK

Distance 1.4km to 6.4km, Grade: Challenging

The Lookouts Walking Track in Burrowa-Pine Mountain National Park leaves from the Bluff Falls carpark. You will initially climb up to the smaller Top Falls, where Bluff Creek cascades into a gully. Access past Top Falls is via a metal walkway and ladder. The track then rises again to Campbells Lookout, which is a rocky escarpment overlooking steep cliffs and the slopes of Cudgewa Bluff. Campbells Lookout is 1.4km return and there is a steel fence safety barrier marking the end of the track. From here, you can turn off to **Ross Lookout**, which offers some excellent views, but is a tough climb and an additional 5km return. The Lookouts Walking Track is not recommended for young children, and some experience with walking is recommended even for older children due to its narrow, steep and unprotected edges. The popular **Bluff Creek Nature Trail** (4km) links the Bluff Creek visitor area with **Bluff Falls**. It's approximately two hours return; an enjoyable walk that meanders through ferny gullies and tall stands of Blue Gums.

