

# Places of interest

## Murray River

The Murray River is one of Australia's greatest tourism destinations, stretching over 2,500 kilometres in length. It provides irrigation water to many farming communities, as well as providing important environmental flows to forests and wetlands. Thousands of campers flock to the Murray River annually to camp and fish for the iconic Murray Cod. The Murray River can be accessed from our river towns, Koondrook and Murrabit, and via the Gunbower Forest near Cohuna and Leitchville.

## Gunbower Island

Bordered by the Murray River is Gunbower Island, a 26,400-hectare floodplain extending from Koondrook to the Torrumbarry Weir, formed by the Gunbower Creek branching off the Murray River then re-joining downstream. Gunbower Island consists of Gunbower National Park and Gunbower State Forest, and is considered the largest inland island in Australia. Gunbower Island is the ideal destination for nature lovers and campers year-round, popular for bird watching, kayaking, fishing and leisure driving.

## Kerang Lakes

The Kerang Lakes comprises of 23 named lakes, marshes and swamps on the lower reaches of the Avoca and Loddon rivers. The lakes are recognised as wetlands of international significance under the Ramsar Convention, and provide important feeding and breeding grounds for a large number of local and migratory waterbirds.

Lake Charm and Kangaroo Lake are key destinations with locals and visitors alike for powered watersports, swimming, fishing, kayaking and birdwatching.



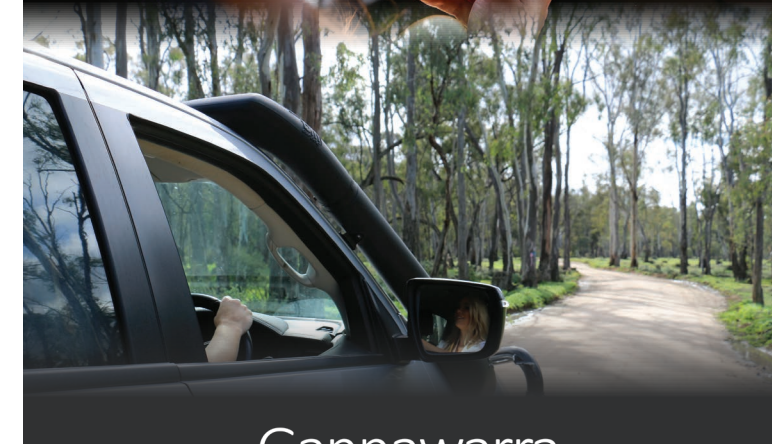
*We acknowledge the Barapa Barapa, Yorta Yorta and Wamba Wamba people as the Traditional Owners of the Gannawarra. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge their rich culture and connection to Country.*

# Must Do's

- Book a unique glamping experience at **Koondrook Glamping Retreat**.
- Visit **Koondrook Waterfront** and the international award winning wharf.
- Join **Murray River Adventures** on a guided eco-experience and kayak tranquil wetlands.
- Enjoy a swim or build sandcastles along the sandy shores of **Cohuna Beach** at **Apex Park**. The park also features an all abilities adventure playground, impressive skate park and modern barbecue facilities.
- Hire a free **mountain bike** from the Visitor Centre and ride along the scenic Gunbower Island Road in Cohuna.
- Wander through the extensive collection of historical items at **Kerang Museum**.
- Explore **Kerang Regional Park** and **Loddon River**, offering natural wetlands and vibrant birdlife.
- Visit the **Ibis Rookery** at Middle Reedy Lake - the largest rookery in the southern hemisphere.
- Camp, swim, fish or simply relax on the white sandy shores of **Lake Meran**, a picturesque freshwater lake with red gum surrounds.
- Experience **Kow Swamp**, a large natural wetland and water storage, located 2.5km south of Leitchville. Kow Swamp is rich in indigenous history and is a great place for fishing, kayaking and sunset photography.
- Experience **Quambatook Silo Cinema**, a unique community run cinema screening great Aussie films on old grain silos.
- Join hundreds of eager shoppers on the first Saturday of each month at the **Murrabit Country Market**, one of Victoria's longest running markets. You can also visit **Kerang Community Market** (4th Saturday of each month) and **Cohuna Farmers Market** (4th Sunday of each month).
- Hire a bike, e-bike, scooter, kayak or SUP from **Barham Adventure Hire** and explore the twin towns of Koondrook Barham on the Murray River.



# the Gannawarra Touring Guide



For more things to do... pick up a copy of the Gannawarra Visitor Guide or visit [www.thegannawarra.com.au](http://www.thegannawarra.com.au)

the Gannawarra  
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# Bush Camping

Popular camping locations across the Gannawarra include;

- Gunbower State Forest (Gunbower Creek/Murray River)
- Gunbower National Park (Murray River)
- Guttrum and Benwell Forests (Murray River)
- Miss Keats Park, Murrabit (Murray River)
- Lake Meran Campground (Donation)
- Lake Bael Bael (1st, 2nd and 3rd Marsh)

Please check track, park and fire danger conditions before setting out. For maps and further information on camping locations please visit the Gateway to Gannawarra Visitor Centre.



# RV Free sites

The Gannawarra welcomes RV travellers and offers short-term (72-hour) free RV camping in six locations.

- Flora Park - Tennis Road, Cohuna
- Turf Club - Park Road, Kerang
- Wetlands Reserve - Cnr View and Penglase Street, Koondrook
- Travellers Rest - King George Street, Leitchville
- Market/Lions Club Park Reserve - Gonn Avenue, Murrabit
- Apex Park - Apex Road, Reedy Lake

For a fee RV travellers can stay for short or extended periods at Cohuna Golf Course, Kerang Golf Course, Murrabit Recreation Reserve and Lake Meran Campground (donation).

Dump points are located in Kerang, Cohuna, Koondrook and Quambatook. Free accessible points are located in Kerang, Cohuna, Koondrook, Leitchville and Murrabit.

# Travelling with Dogs

Dogs are welcome at most locations across the Gannawarra. Always keep your dog on a lead, except in designated off-lead areas, such as the second oval at Cohuna Recreation Reserve and Narcorrow Park in Kerang.

All regional parks and state forests in the Gannawarra are open to dogs. Dogs are not permitted in Gunbower National Park (except accredited assistance dogs).

# Driving Tours

## Cohuna Island Road Drive

**Start: Cohuna Town Bridge**  
**End: Burkes Bridge, Cohuna Island Road**

Cohuna Island Road follows Gunbower Creek and offers access points to Gunbower National Park and State Forest. Cohuna Ski Run is a great spot to stop and enjoy a picnic along the water. At Burkes Bridge, return to Cohuna via Cohuna Island Road or follow Cleaves Road onto the Murray Valley Highway.

*Distance: 13km to Burkes Bridge.*

## Gunbower Forest Drive

**Start: Rifle Butt Road off Cohuna Island Road**  
**End: Nursery Track onto Cohuna Island Road**

The Gunbower Forest Drive is a leisurely drive linking historical, cultural and ecological sites along the Murray River including Graham's Hut, Cemetery Bend and the experimental nursery of Mountain Ash and Monterey Pine trees. Detailed map available.

*Distance: 35km. Recommended for dry weather.*

## Spences Bridge Forest Drive

**Start: Spences Bridge, Cohuna Koondrook Road**  
**End: Koondrook Weir, Kerang Koondrook Road**

The Spences Bridge Forest Drive is a narrated tour through Gunbower State Forest highlighting the history of the timber industry, Aboriginal heritage and wetlands of international significance. Purchase the CD from the visitor centre or listen free on Soundcloud by scanning the QR code.

*Recommended for dry weather.*

## Kerang-Kangaroo Lake Drive

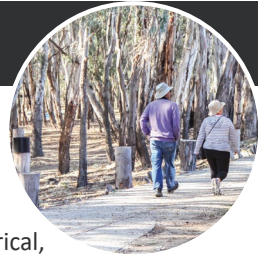
**Start and end: Atkinson Park, Kerang**

Travel along the Murray Valley Highway to find Kangaroo Lake Foreshore featuring a boat ramp, fishing jetty, barbecues and toilet facilities. Continue your drive around the lake along scenic Gorton Drive past local vineyards. Proceed onto the gravel road which will lead you back onto the highway. You may also like to stop at Lake Charm Foreshore, Middle Reedy Lake's Ibis Rookery or Apex Park at Reedy Lake on your return to Kerang.

*Distance: 58km.*

# Popular Walks

The **Koondrook Red Gum Forest Walk** through the Gunbower encompasses the Turtle Loop (13.2kms) and Eagle Loop (9.1kms) and is marked with interpretative signage highlighting historical, cultural and ecological sites of interest.



The **Koondrook Barham Redgum Statue Walk** features red gum statues carved by chainsaw depicting local identities and wildlife. Scan the QR code for brochure and map.



The **Goanna Walking Track** (3.2km) via the red gum footbridge at Koondrook Glamping Retreat takes you onto Gunbower Island and crosses back at historic Condidorio's Bridge.

The **Loddon River Walk** in Kerang Regional Park meanders through the relaxed woodland setting showcasing natural wetlands and vibrant birdlife.



See historic buildings and landmarks on a **Self Guided Walk or Drive of Historic Kerang**. A detailed brochure and map is available featuring stories dating back to the 1800's.

From Apex Park in Cohuna, take the **Gunbower Island Walk** along the scenic Gunbower Creek out to the Ski Run.

Starting at the Cohuna Weir follow the **Gilrue Walking Track** along the Gunbower Creek. The community project involved the planting of 1200 indigenous plants selected to provide food, shelter and nesting sites for native birds and reptiles. Find mural by artist, Shaun Devenney on the side of the Scout Hall.

Discover birdlife, native flora and local history on the 2.6km **Cohuna Nature and Historical Walk** starting at the Cohuna Weir.

The Kerang Lakes provide many walking opportunities including the **Kangaroo Lake Walking Track** along Gorton Drive and **Lake Charm Walking Loop** and artwork installation.

Wander along the **Avoca River Levee Walk** in Quambatook.

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*Tag us in your photos*



Distances (km)	Kerang	Cohuna	Koondrook
Kerang	-	32	24
Cohuna	32	-	22
Koondrook	24	22	-
Kangaroo Lake	23	55	47
Lake Charm	20	52	44
Murrabit	26	45	23
Quambatook	40	72	65
Swan Hill	60	92	84
Echuca	96	64	88
Bendigo	128	124	150
Ballarat	222	237	242
Melbourne	280	275	295
Adelaide	566	598	590
Sydney	822	821	798

Approximate distances based on most direct route.

## Caring for the environment

We ask that you respect all native plants and animals, geological, historical and cultural features, which are protected by law and must not be disturbed or removed. The region has a number of unsealed and 'dry weather only' roads. It is recommended to check road conditions with local visitor information centres before venturing "off-road". Please take all rubbish with you for disposal or recycling. During peak holiday periods large waste bins are strategically placed at entrance/exits to popular areas. At all times it is important to be fire aware and observe fire regulations.

[www.thegannawarra.com.au](http://www.thegannawarra.com.au)

