

Mt Buller Accommodated Trip

26-29 December 2018



(Mt Timbertop, image courtesy <https://www.mansfieldmtbuller.com.au>)

Mt Buller is normally associated with down hill skiing during the winter months, and the nearby Mt Stirling with cross country skiing. However, they also offer excellent alpine hiking opportunities during the summer months.

ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation is the Kandahar lodge located on the mountain (195 Summit Road) and managed by Ski Victoria. It consists of up to 14 rooms in a various configurations (a maximum of 2 people will be allocated to each room). It has a self-catering kitchen, shared bathrooms and communal lounge area. There will be an onsite manager from the 27/12.

COST

Four nights accommodation are included from the evening of 26th December to morning of the 30th. Cost is \$200 (YHA Bushwalking Club members), or \$210 (non-member). Note that YHA card holders no longer have a discount.

ITINERARY

The primary planned activity is day walks in various parts of the Alpine National Park. Participation is optional and the plan may change due to weather and group interest.

Note that the terrain is relatively rugged, can be slippery and some of the walks require rock hopping (including across rivers). The walks will be changed if river levels are high, and may be shortened depending upon the group.

26/12:

- arrive late afternoon or evening

27/12:

Mt Buller to Mt Stirling & return: Walk from Mt Buller to Mt Stirling summit via some of the remote areas of the park. Good views from Mt Stirling. Some steep & rough sections.[16km, 5+hr.]

28/12:

Mt Stirling summit loop: From Mt Stirling, follow the contours with a side trip to the Mt Stirling summit, The track passes granite boulders, Alpine Ash, Snow Gums and a couple of huts along the way.[16km, 5h]

29/12:

There will be 2 options available from a few different possibilities, depending upon the group & leaders preferences.

Harder option:

Mirimbah→Mt Buller via West Ridge Walk. This involves a 1200m ascent over 10km. The walk initially follows Doughty Road before diverging with some steep ascents, rock scrambling, and fantastic views. "The Mount Buller Traverse ascends the scenic West Ridge of Mt Buller and is one of the most exhilarating ridge hikes in the Victorian Alps. There are sweeping views of the surrounding mountains and the rugged terrain is a real eye-opener to those unfamiliar with this less visited side of the mountain." (ref <https://www.trailhiking.com.au/mount-buller-traverse/>)

Easier option:

Mt Buller resort→Little Mt Buller summit → Mt Buller summit nature walk→resort. This follows a circuit via the two summits. There are spectacular views. Note that the trail is moderately steep and rough in sections. [approx 9km, 3-4h]

evening: optional group dinner at a pub or restaurant in Mt Buller

30/12:

Some short walk options prior to traveling back to Melbourne are:

- i. Merrijig→Mt Timbertop (4km, 2h): A steep but rewarding climb to Mt Timbertop including some rock scrambling. Views and snow gums at the top.
- ii. Tramway Bridge Walk/Plain Creek (3km, 1.5h): Follows the Plain Creek and a former tramway to a trestle bridge.

depart for Melbourne early afternoon.