



# Mt Field

## NATIONAL PARK

The Mt Field National Park is one of Tasmania's oldest national parks, proclaimed in 1916. The park essentially has two visitor sections linked by a 16km unsealed road. The first section, near the park entrance, includes a Visitor Centre, picnic facilities and the famous Russell Falls. Stunning walks through enormous fern forests and some of the tallest trees in the world can be encountered in this area. The second section, the alpine environment surrounding Lake Dobson, provides opportunities for day and over night walks and access to skiing areas.

### Highlights

Short walks to a number of waterfalls including the famous Russell Falls, as well as a number of other short walks exploring the diversity of the park makes this an accessible park to all. Dramatic mountain scenery and alpine plant communities are features of the higher parts of the park, including the spectacular fagus, or deciduous beech, that changes colour during autumn. The diversity in vegetation, ranges from tall swamp gum forests and massive tree ferns at the base of the mountain, through to rainforest along the Lake Dobson Road and alpine vegetation at the higher elevations.

### Getting there

Mt Field National Park is just over one hour's drive (75 km) from Hobart via New Norfolk. From Hobart, take the Brooker Highway (Route 1) towards Launceston. At Granton take the A10 to New Norfolk. Then follow the B62 and B61 to Westerway. From there it is a short drive along a winding bitumen road to the small township of National Park and the clearly marked entrance to Mt Field National Park. The Mt Field Visitor Centre is located near the park entrance. Entry fees apply and you can purchase Parks Passes from the Visitor Centre.

Lake Dobson car park is a further 16km up a winding unsealed road. At times this road may be closed due to bad weather, or snow chains may be required. For information on road conditions phone 03 6288 1319.



Please drive carefully at night as you are sharing the road with wildlife.

### Things to do

Whether you have half an hour or a few days, Mt Field National Park has something to suit everyone; regardless of age or level of fitness. Walks range from easy, low-level strolls, such as the famous Russell Falls Track (suitable for wheelchairs), to cross-country ski trips across the higher plateaus. See the table of walks for a brief guide to some of the walking possibilities in the area. Be sure to assess the weather of the day and gather further information and maps from the Visitor Centre.

### Facilities

The Visitor Centre at the entrance of the Park provides information on walks as well as history and other features of the park. Toilets, and a privately owned café, and shop are also located within the Visitor Centre. The nearest shop to purchase groceries and fuel is Westerway.

**Picnic Facilities:** A range of picnic facilities with expansive grass areas are available at the entrance to the park. Cooking shelters and electric barbecues are provided.

**Lake Dobson Shelter:** The Lake Dobson Shelter provides picnic tables protected from inclement alpine weather. The shelter also has a toilet.

**Camping and Caravans:** Camping and caravan facilities are available near the park entrance, set in a pleasant forest by the Tyenna River. It has basic facilities, including powered sites, a toilet and shower block with coin-operated washing machines, clothes driers and a communal cooking shelter with free electric barbecues. Bookings are not required. A self-registration booth is set at the entrance to the campground. Please phone Parks and Wildlife on 03 6288 1149 for enquiries or if you wish to make a booking.

**Government Huts:** Located within the Park boundary, along the Lake Dobson Road are five huts, 6 bunks per hut, vinyl mattresses, cold water and firewood are provided by PWVS. Toilets are shared and no showers are provided. **Portable or fuel stoves are essential.** Bookings can be made via the Bookeasy link on the Parks and Wildlife website [www.parks.tas.gov.au](http://www.parks.tas.gov.au), (recreation/camping) or by phoning 03 6491 2271.

**Overnight walkers:** All walkers venturing on longer day walks and overnight walks do need to carry a tent, fuel stove, first aid kit and camping equipment. The weather can be very unpredictable and walkers should be equipped for all conditions.

## Walks

Destination	Time
<b>Short Walks</b>	
Russell Falls	30 mins return
Tall Trees Walk	1 hour return
Pandani Grove circuit	1 hour
<b>Half day walks</b>	
Seagers Lookout	2 hours return
Russell/Falls/Horseshoe Falls/Tall Trees Circuit/Lady Barron Falls	2 hours return
Lake Nicholls	2 hours return
<b>Longer walks</b>	
Mt Field East via Lake Nicholls circuit	5+ hours
Mt Field West	8+ hours
Tarn Shelf circuit Lake Newdegate, Twilight Tarn and Lake Webster	6+ hours

*Alpine walks can be linked together to create extended walking options.*

## What to bring

A camera, binoculars and walking gear. All walkers (day and overnight) should be well prepared with sturdy walking boots, warm clothing and waterproof jacket. If venturing overnight, a track map, compass, water, first aid kit, tent and fuel stove are essential.

## Weather

The weather can change dramatically and quickly in this area. Snow, hail and warm sunny days are possible any time of the year. For up to date weather forecasts contact the Bureau of Meteorology, phone 1196; or see the website; [www.bom.tas.gov.au](http://www.bom.tas.gov.au).

## Important

Be sure to notify someone of your planned walk route and return time, to ensure the appropriate measures are taken if you are overdue. Wherever provided, be sure to complete the Parks and Wildlife registration book before and after walking (the registration books are not checked regularly and cannot be used as a safety measure).

Mt Field National Park is a **fuel stove only** area, unless fire places and wood are provided.

Please observe Minimal Impact Bushwalking and do not feed the animals.

Summer rangers organise regular activities in the park from late December through to the end of February each year.

## Further information

*Mt Field National Park, Map & Notes; TASMALP 1:25,000 topographic maps;*

### Contact

Mt Field National Park, 03 6288 1149.