

Balmattum Hill Walking Track



**Strathbogie Ranges
Nature Trails**



www.strathbogierangescmn.com

Clear route markers are placed along the track for both short and long walks. The Balmattum Hill Walking Track links with the Seven Creeks Walking Track, or Apex Track (see the arrow near the lower edge of the accompanying map).

Short walk

The track from the car park to the rotunda is about 300 m long, offering a pleasant walk with valley views. The Euroa Rotary Club completed the track in 2001 to commemorate the Centenary of Federation. Along the track, extensive revegetation using native plant species has helped prevent soil erosion and create better habitats for wildlife, and it has made the area more attractive.

Long walk

From the rotunda, the track rises steeply (about 170 m of incline) for about 1 km and ends near the summit of Balmattum Hill. The Euroa Rotary Club constructed this section of the track in 2011 as an extension to the short walk. The track offers views over Euroa township and across the vast Victorian northern plains as far as the eye can see. Rather spectacular!

The track passes a rock stack, showing where during World War II soldiers physically trained by carrying rocks up the hill. These rocks remain along the track side.



Rocks stacked by soldiers in training exercises during WWII

Rotunda



HUME FWY

EUROA-STRATHBOGIE RD

To Seven Creeks Walking Track →



Distance

Short walk – 600 m return | Long walk – 2 km return
Total – 2.6 km return

Time to complete

Advanced walkers

Short walk – 10 min | Long walk – 1 hour

Moderate walkers

Short walk – 20 min | Long walk – 1½ hours

Slow walkers

Short walk – 25 min | Long walk – 2 hours

Relative difficulty

Short walk – easy | Long walk – moderate

Location

175 Euroa–Strathbogie Road, Euroa

Travel south along the Euroa–Strathbogie Road from the intersection of Tarcombe Street and the Euroa–Strathbogie Road (Templeton Street). This intersection is signposted to Strathbogie. After 1.75 km turn left at the Balmattum Hill Walking Track sign, and continue for 120 m to the car park.

Enjoy this walk at any time of year, although summer can be very hot – go early or late in the day and take water and a hat. Sturdy footwear is advisable.

Dogs are permitted – however, for the benefit of other visitors and native wildlife, please use a leash.

Track notes

Balmattum Hill Bushland Reserve was established in 1979 and consists of 78.6 ha of Crown land managed by Parks Victoria. The vegetation community is Grassy Woodland. White Box is the dominant tree species and Grey Box, Red Box and wattles are also present.

Kangaroo, wallaby and spear grasses and lichens, mosses and herbs cover the ground, together with different types of shrubs.

The reserve is home to many kinds of native animals such as birds including owls, parrots, honeyeaters, finches, treecreepers and kookaburras. Mammals such as microbats, kangaroos, wallabies, wombats, possums, gliders and phascogales live here. Reptiles include tree goannas, snakes, blue-tongued lizards, skinks and geckos.

Invasive pest plants and animals also live here. Exotic grasses, weeds such as Paterson's curse, St John's wort and thistle and pest animals like rabbits, Indian mynas and foxes all compete against native species for the same limited resources.

Granite boulders and rocky outcrops are prominent in the reserve's landscape. Weathering and erosion of the hard granite over many years has created sheltered habitats among the soil and debris at the base of the rock formations. Invertebrates such as ants, centipedes, beetles, crickets, slugs and spiders live here. This means good food for birds and reptiles.

In case of emergency

- In case of fire call 000.
- For emergency help call 000.
- The nearest medical facilities are Euroa Medical Practice and Euroa Health Hospital in Euroa township.

About Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network

The Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network (SRCMN) is a community organisation whose mission is to improve nature conservation and management in the Strathbogie Ranges through learning, sharing and collaboration.

Formed in 2010 the SRCMN has been actively involved in on-ground conservation activities such as protecting wetlands and rocky outcrops. The SRCMN creates and organises community activities such as the Wild Strathbogie Festival and education workshops such as our Landscape Discovery Tours.

We partner local Landcare groups and work with the traditional owners of this land, the Taungurung Clan.

For further information please visit our website www.strathbogierangescmn.com