

Distance

3.5km

Time to complete

1-2 Hours

Relative difficulty

Easy



Options

The tracks all loop back into each other. Shorter walks are easy to make.

Topography

This 3.5km network of tracks is distributed to make the most of a forested, low rising site that sits above the undulating Goulburn River flood plains.

Amenities

Car parking
None other

Cautions

Visitors must be self-reliant
Native flora and fauna are protected

Restrictions

No dogs
No firearms
No potable water
Take your rubbish with you
Drivers must: use formed roads only, be licensed, be registered

In case of emergency

For emergency help dial 000.
For emergency information and warnings
emergency.vic.gov.au
In case of fire call 000.

Local History

Mangalore Nature Conservation Reserve sits beside the Goulburn Valley Freeway. After initially losing 1.5ha from its western side to the construction of the freeway, it has been re-endowed and more than compensated. An addition of 14ha bushland from landholdings on the eastern boundary was made. Surprisingly, the freeway noise is relatively mute.

Photo by Sean Mathews



For more information
and interactive maps check out these websites:
www.strathbogies.vic.gov.au/tourism/tourism/tracksandtrails
<https://www.victoriawalks.com.au/Strathbogies/>



Mangalore Flora
Walk
Mangalore



Photo by Sean Mathews

Location



End of Mangalore Rd, Mangalore 3663.
Access across the railway line from the Seymour-Avenel Rd is via O'Connors Rd, then turn left into Magpie Lane and right into Mangalore Rd.

Track notes

- The Reserve puts on its best wildflower displays in spring and summer.
- This is typically dry country. However, visiting in colder months gives another perspective on the natural cycle. It is a good time to come for different wildflower species and fungi.
- Observe ground covers closely for delicate, small flowers and carnivorous Sundew.
- Wherever you are in the Reserve, the resident White-winged Choughs are likely to be watching. They are just 1 of 155 species reported at this site across the year.
- It doesn't matter which way you look out of the Reserve, the views are of kilometres of rolling pasture. As pretty as they may be, they make you appreciate just how valuable Reserves such as this really are.

The Tracks

The tracks are well defined, of easy gradients and there is room for two abreast. They are generally of good quality on a sandy / clay base, with quartz pebbled surfaces. The site is consistent with the drier of the lower slopes and plains of mainland eastern Australia adjacent to the Great Dividing Range. Some spots may be muddy in the wet and motor bikes do some damage.

Threatened Species

At 78ha, the Reserve is not a huge space. However, this area has been enough for it to qualify as an eBird hotspot where 155 species have been observed and recorded. It is also home to many flora and fauna species, including several that are threatened such as the swift parrot, brush-tailed phascogale, squirrel glider, bush stone-curlew and shiny wallaby-grass. Hope to observe any one of these. Also keep your eyes and ears open for woodland birds with state-wide diminishing populations such as Gilbert's Whistler and the Hooded Robin.

Birdlife to be on the lookout for:

Swift Parrots, Painted Buttonquail, Jacky Winter, Black-chinned Honeyeaters, Dusky Wood Swallow, Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike, White-browed Babbler, White-plumed Honeyeaters, White-browed Wood Swallows, White-backed Swallows, Striated Pardalotes, White-winged Chough, Noisy Miners, Eastern Rosellas, Crested Shrike-tits, White-bellied Cuckoo Shrikes, Brown Treecreepers, Gang Gang Cockatoos and Raptors.

Flora

The roadside vegetation experienced along the freeway and Mangalore Rd extends into and improves significantly inside the Reserve. It consists of a Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) dominated canopy of grassy woodlands. The large, old gums provide plenty of hollows and, along with the light understorey, an excellent range of habitats are provided for in this compact area. The Reserve is also home to flora protected on Crown Land such as Gold Dust Wattle (*Acacia acinacea*).

The ground layer is open and home to numerous indigenous perennials. At any time of year wildflowers are to be found. In spring there is a profusion of species. Orchid beds are a key feature. In autumn and winter the fungi are worth a visit of their own.

Flora to be on the lookout for:

Native grevillias, acacias, orchids, daisies, lilies, grasses and herbs.

Fauna to be on the be on the lookout for:

Yellow-footed antechinus, echidna, goannas, eastern grey kangaroos and wallabies.



**Mangalore
Nature
Conservation
Reserve**

MANGALORE RD (UNSEALED)

GOULBURN VALLEY FWY

SELECTORS RD