

Distance

4 km

Time to complete

Recommended times listed take into account extra time to take in the full sensory experience of this walk. .



Advanced walkers – 1.5 hrs Moderation walkers – 3 hrs Slow walkers – 4 hrs

Relative difficulty

This walk is easy to moderate. Don't rush it, take plenty of time to stop, look and listen

This forest drive plus a walk starts 23 km from the Strathbogie Township. From Euroa it is a 45 minute drive to the start of the track. The drive takes you deep into the Strathbogie Forest to reach the start point which is 12.7 kms from the end of the bitumen on Tames Rd, or about 25 minutes drive from Strathbogie.

The walk is recommended as a slow ramble towards the peak of Golden Mountain. Walking along old logging tracks you will pass large moss covered granite boulders, Eucalypts including Peppermint Gum and Ti-tree thickets. At the summit you will be rewarded with magnificent views to both the east and west.

In case of emergency

For emergency help dial 000.

For emergency information and warnings
emergency.vic.gov.au

Mobile phone coverage may be inconsistent

Geological history of the Strathbogie Forest

The boulder formations and rocky outcrops seen in the Strathbogie Ranges are the result of geological processes that began between 300 and 400 million years ago. After the sea withdrew during the Devonian period, there was a large scale crustal collapse which resulted in two volcanic cauldrons. Eruptions built up large layers of volcanics and the emplacement of granitic rock which has been eroded to the present day to form the Strathbogie Ranges.

Gold was first found in the area in 1851. This was shortly after gold had been discovered in Victoria for the first time. During the gold rush in 1860, alluvial mining occurred on the mountain but the rush lasted only for a short time with the area all but deserted by the end of 1861. Many of the miners headed for Jamieson. At its peak, production of alluvial gold was reportedly around 6,000 – 7,000 oz per annum. Gold production diminished towards the turn of the century and only small operations continued.

Quartz crystal has also been mined in the Strathbogies and one crystal mine operates within the forest. The crystal is used for piezo-electric applications including radio transmitters. A 1.7kg crystal known as 'Crystal King' was mined in the Strathbogies, which at the time was the largest hand faceted stone in the world. Unfortunately, visitors are not permitted at or around the active Crystal King Mine.

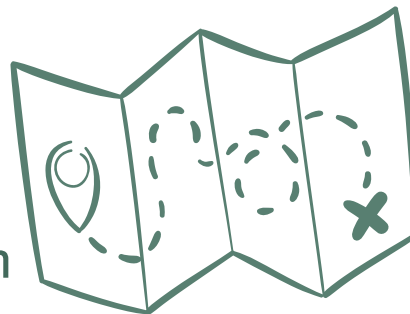
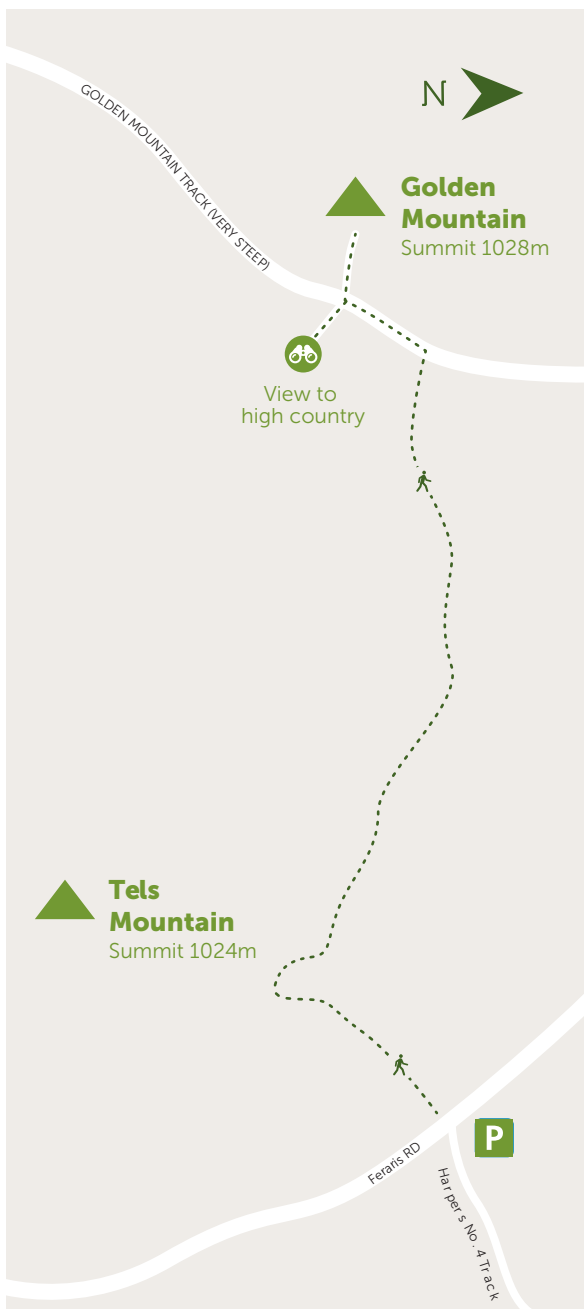
Golden Mountain Walking Track

Strathbogie Forest



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





Location

As the drive to the start of this walk is quite lengthy if travelling from Euroa it is recommended that walkers make the drive a feature as well as the walk. Note the changes in vegetation as you rise in altitude. Note also the forest management as you drive past the Vic Forest coupes. You could break the trip with a coffee or drink at the (only) store in Strathbogie. From Strathbogie Post Office, drive east along Tames Road until you reach the end of the bitumen at 9.7km. Veer right onto the dirt road. Tames Rd continues, turning into Barjarg Rd at 14.7km. Follow Barjarg Rd until it veers right and becomes Ferraris Rd at 20.1km. Follow Ferraris Rd to the intersection with Ferraris Link Track at 21.5km. Take the left branch of this intersection to continue along Ferraris Rd until you reach the T-junction with Harpers No. 4 Track at 22.3km. Park here. Walk along the road uphill for 100m. You will find the entrance to the track from the roadside on your right.

Track notes

From where the car is parked the first part of the track is not well marked but head in a SSW direction up the rise. The forest is quite open here and as you head up you will begin to see a magnificent granite boulder stack in front of you, this is well worth exploring.

Rounded granite boulders are randomly stacked into a great labyrinth. In winter and spring the mosses and lichens are vibrant and alive.

Our path follows the old logging track just to the south of the stack. Head in a westerly direction into deep forest, at first walking through the tree thicket and then becoming more open. The Mountain Grey Gum are giants in this part of the forest and exploration off the path is recommended as long as you don't get lost!

The path is easily followed and heads below the spur that links Golden Mountain with Tels Mountain. At one point on the path the motorcycles have veered off the track and headed up the spur as a massive tree has fallen and blocked the way. For an agile walker it is not necessary to leave the track as the tree is negotiable. After this obstacle the path is an easy walk as it heads up towards Golden Mountain

As you come up the rise the path meets the Golden Mountain track. Follow it up the hill and as you reach the summit of the track, veer to the right to the trig point on the top. From here to the west between the trees are views to Mount Wombat and the Tableland.

The real gem of the walk lies back down at the base of this path just east of the Golden Mountain track. There is a cliff face looking east. From the edge you can view Lake Eildon, The Paps, and further into the high country to Mt Buller and Mt Stirling and The Bluff.

From here, either you follow the same path back or the more venturesome could follow the ridge that lies above the old logging track you have walked on and meet the track back half way home.