

## Woodend

Begin your drive in Woodend; a quintessential rural village with cosmopolitan cafes, bookstores and an eclectic mix of old and new wares for all tastes. Woodend offers a plethora of local, gourmet produce. Try the award winning vanilla slices at Bourkie's Bakehouse or organic produce and quality coffee from the village deli's and cafes. For those who enjoy their beer, stop in at Holgate Brewhouse which is housed in a 19th century hotel in the middle of Woodend.

If you feel like a walk, why not collect a walking map from the Macedon Ranges Visitor Information Centre's for the Five Mile Creek Track; a short walk in the centre of Woodend. Along this route you will find the Woodend Children's Park, a nature based playground that inspires creativity and adventure for children of all ages.

## Mt Macedon & Macedon

Glimpses of magnificent mansions through huge stone gateways and the exotic European plantings that change with every season, to the numerous species of wildlife and birds that inhabit the tall native mountain ash forest wait to greet the visitor. Quaint food stores in the Macedon village, wonderful walking trails over the mountain or contemplation over a glass of wine are all on offer in the natural wonderland of Mount Macedon and surrounds. The true wonder for many visitors is the scenic road that winds its way over the top of Mount Macedon. Some of these garden estates are open to the public on occasion, while others like Forest Glade are open year round, taking you back to a time when Mount Macedon was the playground for the rich and famous. At the summit of Mount Macedon is the Memorial Cross which commemorates Australia's war fallen. The view from the cross takes in the entire southern plain towards Port Philip Bay.

# Explore the Macedon Ranges

Our Naturally Amazing Mountain  
Explorer



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Macedon Ranges.  
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call 1800 244 711.

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**Macedon  
Ranges**  
Shire Council



Macedon Ranges  
Naturally Cool

# Our Naturally Amazing Mountain Explorer

**Approximate driving distance:** 80 kilometres  
**Approximate driving time:** 1 hour, 20 minutes

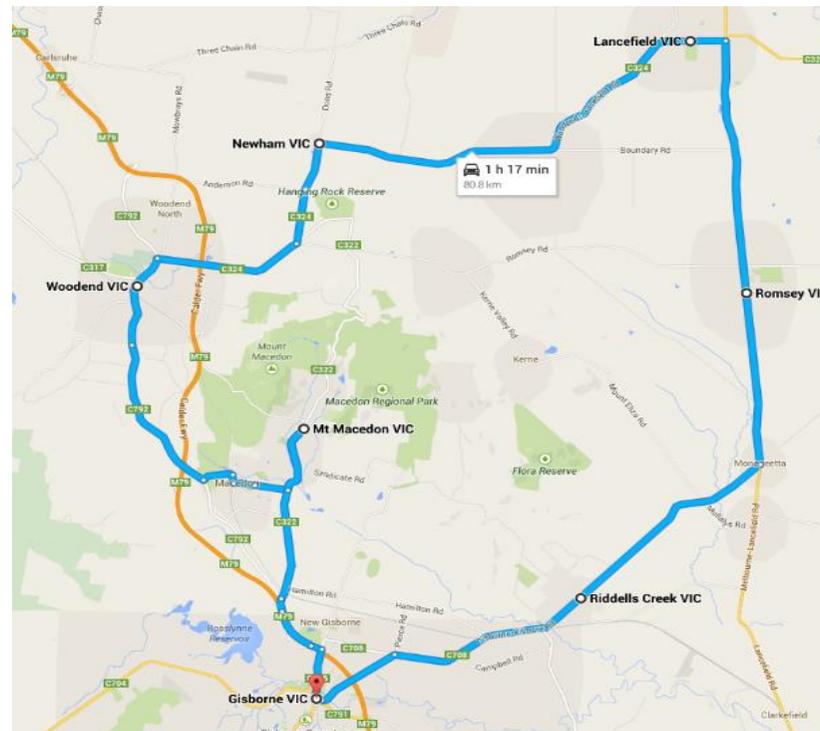
This tour will give you a natural look at the Macedon Ranges. You will get the chance to drive on lovely windy road and take a walk on Mount Macedon or Hanging Rock. You could even pick up produce from villages as you drive and possibly enjoy a picnic along the way.

## Gisborne

Gisborne has a wealth of open spaces with continuous parklands that hug Jacksons Creek for bike riding or walking. Kids will enjoy the adventure playground and the modern aquatic centre. The towns Botanic Gardens are distinct from the other formal gardens in the region with contemporary design and the inclusion of many New Zealand native plants.

## Riddells Creek

Riddells Creek is on the southern foothills of the Macedon Ranges. It is home to two historic railway bridges and is surrounded by natural bushland. Have a picnic lunch in the Lions Park Reserve in the centre of town with goods bought from the Riddell Bakery. Featuring a shady parkland with a playground and BBQ facilities, the reserve is bordered by a quaint timber Catholic Church, sports fields and the grand timber Mechanics Institute built in 1875. Many quality local wineries can be easily accessed from Riddells Creek, toward Romsey including Mount Charlie wines which are available by appointment.



## Romsey

From the battered corrugated iron of the local garage to gothic bluestone churches, the impressive red brick façade of the Mechanics Institute and turn of the century terraces; the main street of Romsey is lined with classic examples of Australian architecture. Romsey has all that you need to stock a picnic hamper for a journey into the Macedon Ranges; organic fruit and vegetables, breads and pastries and choices for coffee and cake can be found along the wide main street.

## Lancefield

Only 70 kilometres north of Melbourne and a short drive from the Calder Freeway or Hume Freeway, Lancefield has the classic air of a pastoral working town with arts, antiques and culinary edge that is bound to surprise. Home to the monthly Lancefield Farmers Market with plenty of fresh produce.

## Newham

Newham is a small village on the northern side of Hanging Rock. The town is home to farmland, wineries, state forests, extinct volcanoes, cycling routes and historic sites. Stop by the Newham General Store for a cup of coffee and delicious local produce or visit the cellar door at Hanging Rock Winery.

## Hanging Rock

Hanging Rock has crammed in a lot over 6 million years... from a reputed refuge for bushrangers to a colorful host of popular horse races, the Rock could tell you many tales about the region's history. Hanging Rock (Mt Diogenes) is a rare volcanic formation near the townships of Woodend and Mount Macedon. Said to be the best example of a volcanic plug or mamelon in the world it consists mainly of soda trachyte rock found only outside this district in Norway and Sweden. Since its formation, the mamelon has been exposed to considerable weathering and erosion, resulting in a conglomeration of unusual rock formations.

You may find that Hanging Rock is the perfect place to take a break and enjoy a picnic or visit one of the many events that take place at the reserve. Visitors can discover the history, mystery and geology of the Rock and surrounding areas at the Hanging Rock Discovery Centre. Discover how and when the Rocks were formed; learn about the Reserve's native flora and fauna, and some of its history through a sequence of hands-on interpretive displays.