

# Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People



Government  
of South Australia



## Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park

Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park is located 12 km south-east of Tanunda in the Barossa Valley. Nestled amongst the Barossa Ranges, this 390 ha park was dedicated in 1978 to protect one of the last remnants of native vegetation in the region. It also protects important seasonal creek and wetland habitats.

This park is an ideal location for visitors to enjoy low impact nature orientated activities such as birdwatching, bushwalking and photography.

Please walk quietly through the park, and tread lightly.

Please keep to designated trails to minimise impact. This will help reduce the spread of weeds, prevent soil erosion and allow regeneration to continue in the open areas.

### Phytophthora (Root-rot fungus)

*Phytophthora* (fy-TOFF-thora), otherwise known as root-rot fungus is killing our native plants and threatens the survival of animals depending on plants for food and shelter. This introduced fungus can be found in plant roots, soil and water. Please help stop the spread by staying on tracks and trails and by complying with all *Phytophthora* management signs.

Please clean footwear before entering and leaving the park to prevent the spread of soil diseases.

### Facilities

There are no picnic or toilet facilities provided in the park. These facilities and recreation areas are available in nearby towns or other parks in the region. Car parking areas are not provided, but parking is permitted along the road outside the park boundary. Camping is not permitted and all types of fires including gas barbecues are prohibited.

## Roll Back the Years

Tanunda Creek Bullock Track originally crossed the creek several times within the park but was closed around 1885 in favour of the more direct route along Tanunda Creek Road.

Two plaques record the bequest to the Field Naturalists' Society of South Australia by Mr L. W. Nicholls. This provided major assistance for the purchase of the park in 1978. The official dedication ceremony took place in 1983.

## Natural Features

The park includes granite features such as Horse Head Rock. Weathering and erosion have produced this rock formation which, as the name suggests, resembles a horse's head.

Capped Rock, a horizontal rock slab perched on a vertical outcrop, is another interesting feature and provides an exciting photographic challenge.

## Friends of Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park

Community involvement in South Australian parks takes place through membership of volunteer groups, which are part of an umbrella organisation called Friends of Parks Inc. The Friends of Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park was formed in 1990 and voluntarily assists the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in many ways including:

- monthly meetings and working bees
- plant labelling, weed control and trail maintenance
- research projects on birds, water quality and plant regeneration.

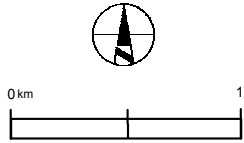
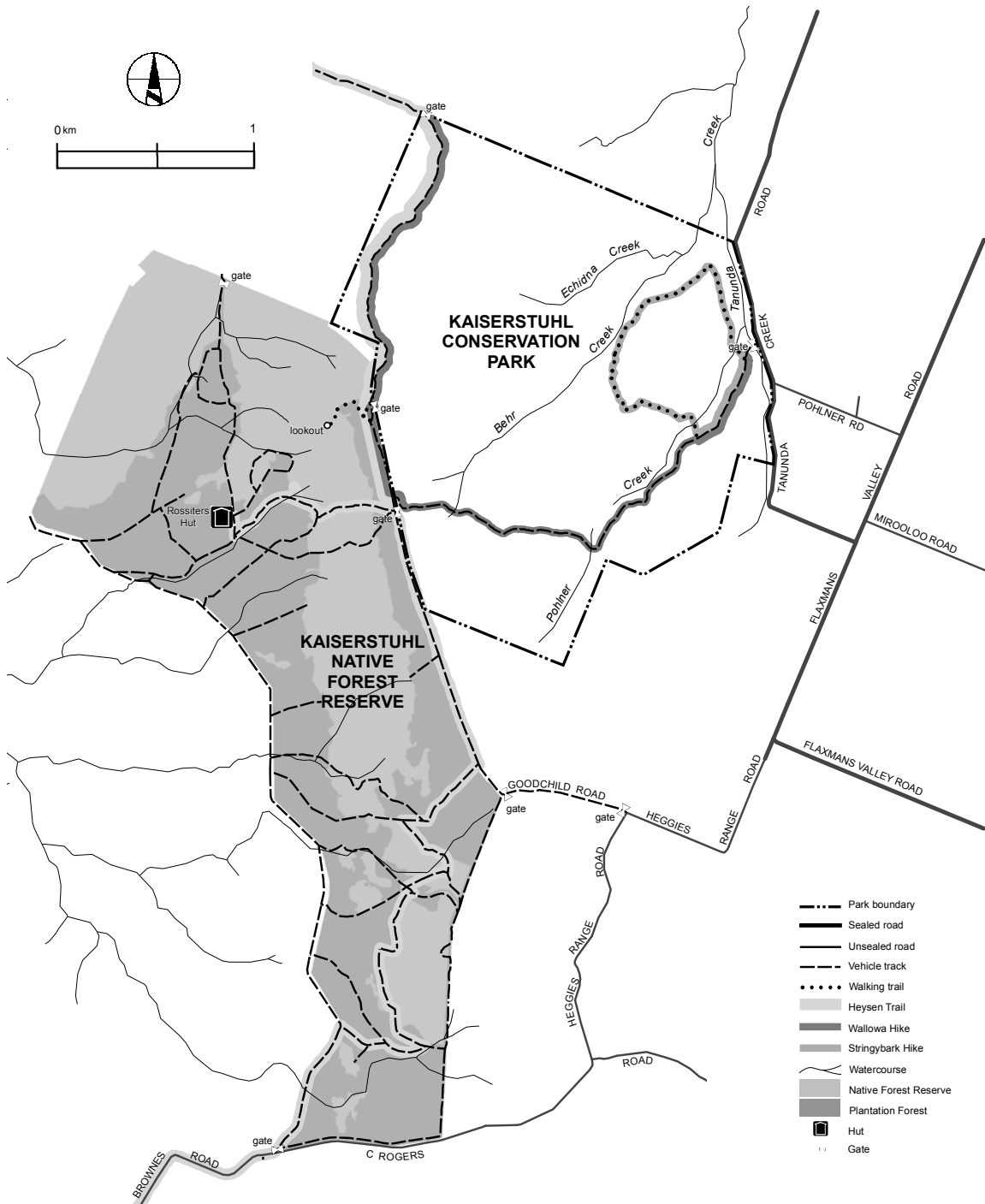
**For more details please write to:**  
PO Box 258, Angaston SA 5353,  
or contact the ranger at  
Para Wirra Recreation Park.



## Nature Trails

One of the best ways to explore the park's unique wildlife is to take a self-guided hike.

Moving quietly through the park causes less disturbance to the animals and lets you observe their natural behaviour. The following nature trails start from the information board near the main entrance of the park.



**Stringybark Hike**  
1 hr 2 km return

**HIKE**

**MODERATE**

- some moderate inclines
- irregular surface with loose, uneven base
- average level of fitness,

The **Stringybark Hike** is a loop trail that traverses the flat regenerating areas of the park, as well as some dense stringybark forest.

**Wallowa Hike**  
2 hrs 4.7 km one way

**HIKE**

**MODERATE**

- some moderate inclines
- irregular surface with loose, uneven base
- average level of fitness,

The **Wallowa Hike** passes through most of the landforms and vegetation associations of the park. Near the pine forest, a short signposted detour leads to a lookout on top of a large granite rock outcrop. Be rewarded with views of other impressive outcrops

and a panorama of the ranges to the valley floor below. Watch for western grey kangaroos and native birds such as honeyeaters, tree-creepers, rosellas and lorikeets.

- Park boundary
- Sealed road
- - - Unsealed road
- · · Vehicle track
- · · · · Walking trail
- Heysen Trail
- Wallowa Hike
- Stringybark Hike
- Watercourse
- Native Forest Reserve
- Plantation Forest
- Hut
- Gate

## Animals

The park is home to native birds such as blue wrens, parrots, honeyeaters, finches and thornbills. Many of the bird populations are declining in the Mount Lofty Ranges, even in the parks, due to fragmentation of their territories. These parks are too small to contain viable populations of some species, and as the old birds die they are becoming locally extinct.

In the late afternoon or early morning, western grey kangaroos are found feeding on open grassland areas. Euros can occasionally be seen on the rocky ridges of the higher sections of the park.

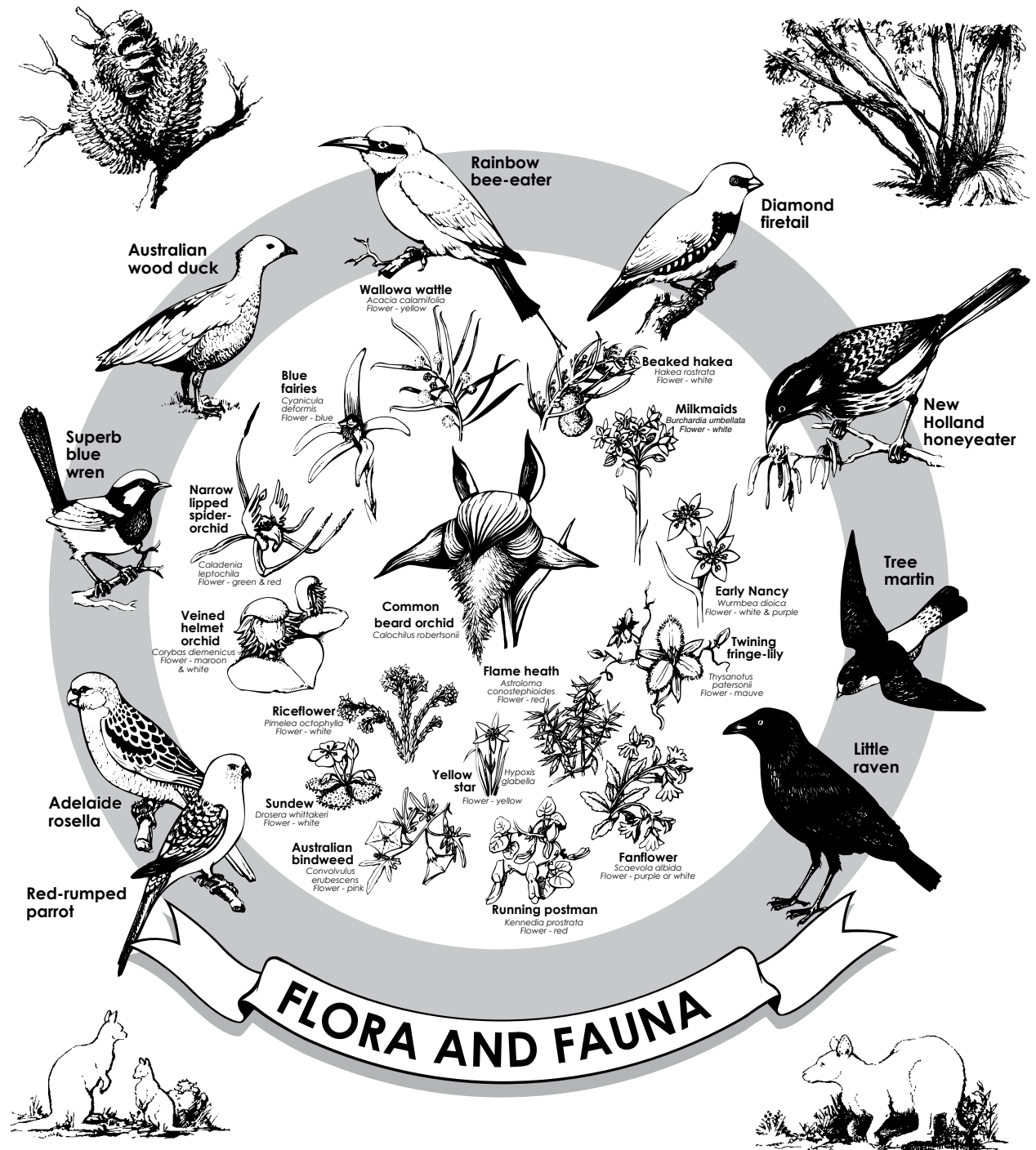
A quiet observer may spy a variety of snakes and lizards basking in the midday sun. At dusk, the occasional echidna, possum or bat may be spotted foraging for food.

## Plants

Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park supports approximately 400 plant species and was principally established to preserve the most northerly occurrence of the brown stringybark, *Eucalyptus baxteri*. Their multi-stemmed, mallee-like appearance is the result of earlier, regular trimming to provide wood for the Nuriootpa brick kilns.

Large blue gums, river red gums, native pines and sheoaks provide shady cover for the diverse understorey of yaccas, wattles, tea-trees and silver banksias. Many plants, such as lavender grevilleas and fringe myrtles flower in spring. The green flowered hairy correa is an unusual plant that grows in the shelter of the large granite outcrops. The rare prickly tree violet also occurs in the park and is often mistaken for the African boxthorn. This native plant provides protected nesting sites for small birds.

You may see mistletoe growing on the eucalypts, acacias and casuarinas in the park. These are parasitic native plants, which provide food and shelter for many bird species. The lichens growing on the rocks are also an important part of the ecosystem helping to weather the rocks to form soil.

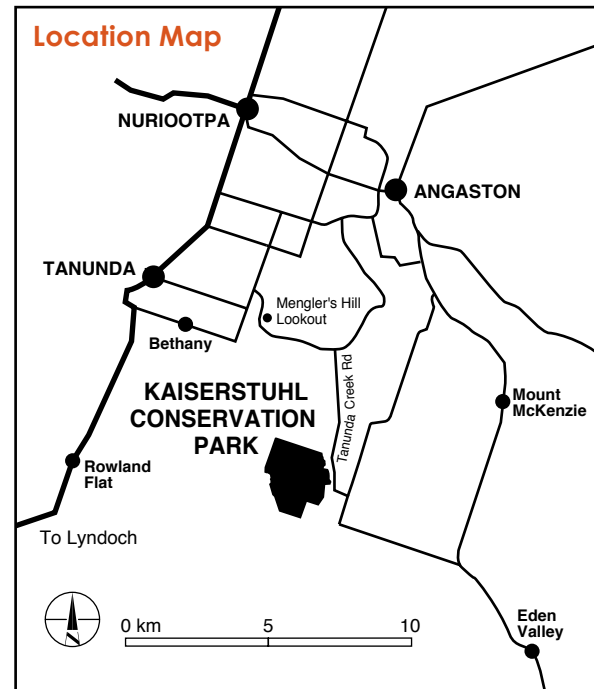


## The National Parks Code

Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

- Leave your pets at home.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Observe fire restrictions, usually 1 November to 30 April. Check CFS hotline 1300 362 361.
- All fires including gas barbecues are prohibited.
- Camping is not permitted in the park.
- Respect geological and heritage sites.
- Keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails.
- Generators, chainsaws and firearms are not permitted.
- Motorcycles and bicycles are not permitted.
- Be considerate of other park users.

**Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state for the enjoyment of others.**



## For further information contact:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 Para Wirra Recreation Park  
 RSD Humbug Scrub Road  
 One Tree Hill SA 5114  
 Ph (08) 8280 7048  
 Fax (08) 8280 7862  
 Website: [www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/)

This brochure was prepared with the help of Friends of Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park.  
 Artwork by Sheila Dodds.

Cover: Eastern spinebill on hairy Correa  
 © Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 June 2010 • FIS 90723  
 ISBN 1 9210 1806 2  
 Print on recycled paper