

Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail Design

Section 3 - Lily Pond Reserve to Cumberland River

Community input is invited to help finalise the route and facilities for a new coastal walking trail.

Planning is underway to deliver the Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail from Fairhaven to Skenes Creek.

The Great Ocean Road region showcases some of Australia's most spectacular rainforests, rivers and waterfalls.

We are delivering an iconic new coastal walking trail on Gadabunud Country, Eastern Maar Nation, along the Great Ocean Road from Fairhaven to Skenes Creek. Once complete, approximately 90km of existing and new trails will link up the Surf Coast Walk and the Great Ocean Walk.

Multiple suspension bridges will provide never before seen views and new 'all seasons' walking experiences for locals and tourists to enjoy the region while appreciating the continuing Aboriginal heritage of Gadabunud Country.

The Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail will provide a 4-6 day long hike, half-day walks and shorter loop trails. This is expected to increase visitor spend in the region, with the trail linking together local townships and extending tourism opportunities throughout the year.

The trail is being planned through a partnership of DELWP, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners, the Eastern Maar Peoples.

Project planning

Stakeholder and community engagement is required to develop a Trail Masterplan.

Community feedback was sought in 2019 about the trail's potential opportunities, benefits and challenges. This helped to refine initial concept designs.

We now need community knowledge and opinion to inform decisions about:

- the route for the walking trail, associated walking loops and key features, e.g. new suspension bridges and lookouts
- the location and scale of facilities, e.g. car parks, toilets and camping areas.

For planning and engagement purposes, the project has been split into eight sections. This Fact Sheet relates to Section 3, from Lily Pond Bushland Reserve to Cumberland River.

Section	To/From
1	Fairhaven to Spout Creek
2	Spout Creek to Lily Pond Bushland Reserve
3	Lily Pond Bushland Reserve to Cumberland River (this Fact Sheet)
4	Cumberland River to Jamieson Creek
5	Jamieson Creek to Wye River
6	Wye River to Kennett River
7	Kennett River to Grey River
8	Grey River to Skenes Creek

Lily Pond Bushland Reserve (Lorne) to Cumberland River

This section of the trail will be approximately 15km long.

From Lily Pond Bushland Reserve the walk will pass under the Great Ocean Road via the existing tunnel and follow the Lorne foreshore to the road crossing near Hird St. From here it will follow the existing trail from the southern end of Lorne into the hinterland beyond the St. Georges River trailhead to meet the Allenvale trailhead.

The trail will then head approx 6km towards the coast and Sheoak Falls, where a new lookout (#3) is proposed. From Sheoak Falls it is approx 3.4km to a new junction where walkers will continue along a new trail to Cumberland River. Alternatively, walkers can continue to the third (and longest) suspension bridge.

The Fact Sheet discussing trail section 4 (Cumberland River to Jamieson Creek) will explore the potential for Cumberland River to become a focal point for the walk. The new trail leading to the third suspension bridge is also discussed more on that Fact Sheet.



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How you can be involved

Continuing to involve communities, local groups and organisations with an interest in the future of the Great Ocean Road will ensure the trail's design is well-informed and takes advantage of the best opportunities.

You can share your ideas and local knowledge with the project team at community consultation sessions in October 2021, online at www.engage.vic.gov.au/trail-design or by emailing coastaltrails@delwp.vic.gov.au

The design team will also consult with working groups, including councils, community and business representatives, government departments and authorities.

More information

Visit the DELWP website for background information and updates [Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail \(forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au\)](http://forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au)

Visit Engage Victoria (www.engage.vic.gov.au/trail-design) to:

- Find out about, and register for, community consultation events for all sections of the trail (see below)
- Read background documents that detail the work done to date
- Follow the page to receive email updates as the project progresses.

If COVID restrictions prevent face-to-face sessions, community engagement will occur online. So that we can keep you up to date, please register your attendance at Engage Victoria.

We'd like to hear your thoughts on:

- **The trail** e.g. the overall route from Lorne to Cumberland River, the new trail from Allenvale trailhead to Sheoak Falls, the loop and short walks in this section.
- **The features** e.g. the road crossing at Hird St, the trailheads at St Georges and Allenvale, the Sheoak Falls visitor area, the proposed lookout at Sheoak Falls.
- **The current facilities** e.g. car parking at Allenvale, Sheoak Falls and Cumberland River, as well as toilets and camping facilities in this section.
- **Where we could put new facilities** e.g. new car parks, toilets and camping facilities in this section from Lily Pond Bushland Reserve to Cumberland River.

Questions specific to each section of the trail can be answered in the online survey at www.engage.vic.gov.au/trail-design

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