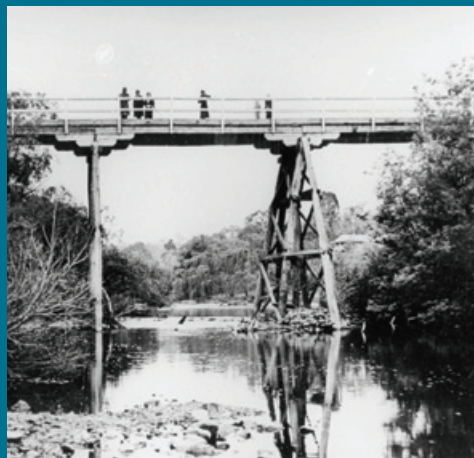




Suitable for

Active Families	✓
Seniors & Strollers	✓
Pleasure Walkers	✓
Super Striders	✓
Circuit	✓
Seating	✓
Dogs Welcome	✓
Trail Type	Natural Heritage with Historic Places and Points of Interest



Walk Overview

This is a relaxing and picturesque walk that can be taken at a brisk pace or leisurely stroll and is great for the entire family. After featuring points of interest along the Warrandyte Riverside walk, it is time to explore the historic village of Warrandyte.

Time

1.5+ hrs

Distance

4.7 kms

Difficulty

Easy

Accessibility

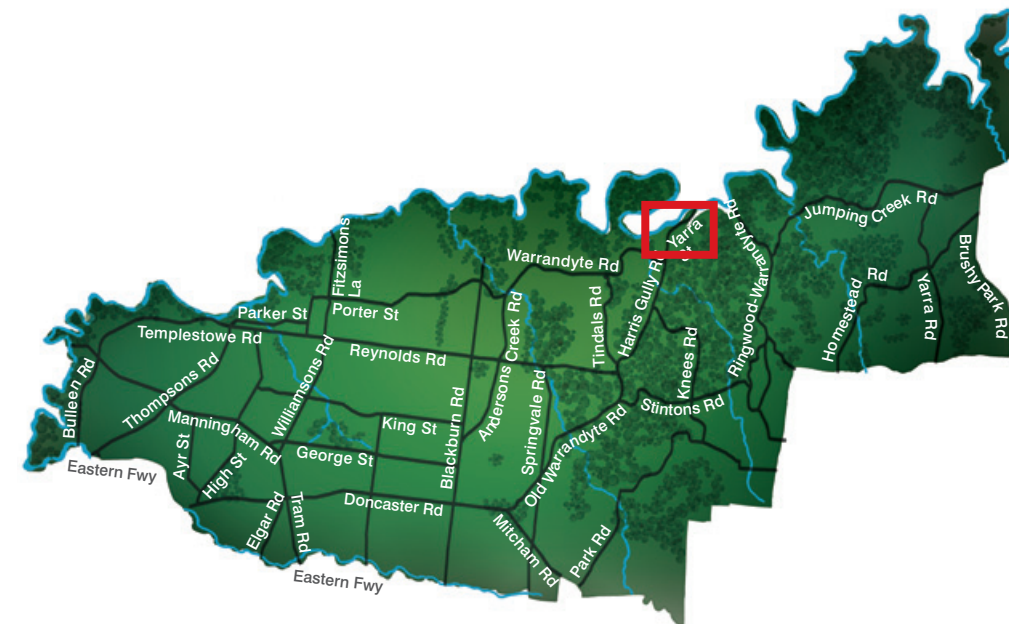
Medium

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Relaxing Riverside Ramble Warrandyte Riverside Walk



Location

Starts and finishes at Stiggants Reserve, Stiggant Street, Warrandyte.

Melway Reference

23 D12

Public Transport

Metlink: t 131 638
 www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

Ventura Buses: t 9488 2100
 www.venturabus.com.au

Parking

Several locations along Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte.

Warrandyte was the town that became famous with Victoria's first official finding of gold in Andersons Creek. This sparked the gold rush of the 1850s. Despite such a lucrative beginning, the town has a rural village atmosphere with a focus on community, art and natural environs.

Your walk begins along the meandering Yarra River with interpretation about local artists. The walk circles the Warrandyte village to the historic Stonehouse Café before returning to the centre of town. You will learn about the town's colourful characters and the heritage behind many local landmarks.



Facilities

Toilets, playground, cafés, parking, drinking fountain, retail therapy.

Hazards

Beware of deep water and rapids
 Beware of snakes in summer
 Track prone to flooding in places
 Use designated pedestrian crossings at all roads.



Be Prepared

Sun protection recommended.

Days of total fire ban

Check the fire risk warning before embarking on this walk:
 www.cfa.vic.gov.au



Additional Walks

There are 20 walks in the series to choose from. If you liked this walk, you might like the ones listed below:

- Building the Warrandyte Style**
 Historic Warrandyte Architectural Walk
- 100% Special**
 The 100 Acres Walk.







Wheelchair Access

We have developed three walks specifically for wheelchairs. Look for **A Wheel Pleasure** pamphlet.

Images

Warrandyte Historical Society Council Database

-  Parking (incl. disabled parking)
-  Public toilets
-  Picnic area
-  Playground



The walk begins at Stiggants Reserve where there are toilets, a drinking fountain, picnic tables and a barbecue. The Yarra River is instantly relaxing and calming and there are colourful artworks along the path. The Warrandyte Market occurs at Stiggants Reserve on the first Saturday of the month.

Facing the river, turn right and head upstream for a kilometre and enjoy the views as you go.

1 The interpretation sign is about Clara Southern, a local artist who painted here in the early 1900s. The natural beauty and isolation of the area began to attract artists and writers with many settling here and giving Warrandyte a distinctive 'arty' appeal.

2 The Warrandyte Punt operated from this site ferrying locals across the river from 1856 until the bridge was completed in 1863.

About 160 metres up from here, to your right, is a cairn that identifies the site of the last water powered quartz crushing plant in Warrandyte, known as the Government Stamping Battery. The battery broke the quartz up to reveal the gold within.

It would have been a noisy but exciting sound as it heralded possible riches.



3 Continue to the Stonehouse Café. This is a great resting spot before heading back along the river to the Yarra Street roundabout. There is a soundpost on the corner of the Stonehouse and features stories about the gold rush.



4 At the roundabout, cross Yarra Street towards Folk Art. This rustic shop was established in 1890 as a wine saloon. In 1924, it became a sweet shop with adjacent tea rooms.

5 The random rubble sandstone footpath and stairs lead to the Warrandyte War Memorial. The memorial was built in 1922 and has plaques commemorating the First and Second World Wars

and the conflicts in Malaya, Korea and Vietnam. The sandstone is local and gives Warrandyte its distinctive rustic style.

6 The first Mechanics' Institute was built in 1890 in Webb Street. The current building dates back to 1928. Mechanics' institutes offered workers books, lectures and demonstrations to improve their education. Later the hall became a focus for community life including dances, weddings and moving pictures. There is a listening post with stories about Warrandyte's hotels and dances.

Cross Yarra Street at the pedestrian crossing and turn right towards the bakery.



7 The historic bakery has existed here since the 1880s. The old oven still bakes bread as it has for over 100 years (apart from a few years as a leather shop and wood-stove shop).

Enjoy a coffee and cake here, or veer right towards the Federation Playspace.



8 The Warrandyte Federation Playspace was inspired by the town's gold mining history and features a mineshaft, miner's hut, gold wagon and tunnels. There is a sound post just next to the miner's hut with some great sound effects on it—enjoyable for young and old. There is a ruin to one end that tells the story of Taffy, an ill fated local who never got to finish rebuilding his fire destroyed home and café.

Rejoin Yarra Street and turn right. You can stay on this side of the street or cross and visit the shops and hotel.



9 The Grand Hotel is a local landmark that features in many historic Warrandyte photographs. It dates back to 1896 and replaced the Andersons Creek Hotel. It was a site for the popular theatre restaurant craze from the 1970s–1980s.

10 The Old Post Office Museum is open afternoons on weekends and public holidays. The museum has a number of historical artifacts and a large collection of photographs. There is a sound post with stories about saving the building from the 1939 fires.

If the museum is open, head right through and out the back to join the river again. There are several steps to navigate. Otherwise keep to Yarra Street and take the ramp from any of the car parking areas along this stretch. Return to Stiggants Reserve.

This finishes your walk. Time to relax and plan your next adventure.