### WELCOME TO GALORE HILL

### **ACCESS TO GALORE HILL**

Wiradjuri mayiny gawaymbanha ngindhugin nginhi yilawura, ngaliguna Wiradjuri Ngurambang !

#### Wiradjuri people welcome you all to this pleasant place, our Wiradjuri home country!

This is a very special area and as such the Wiradjuri people ask that you come here respectfully and enjoy the garray (land) balugan (animals) and mayiny (people) of this place. Our past people still walk here on this place, as we do today.

Rising 215 metres above the alluvial plains of the Murrumbidgee River, the views from Galore Hill encompass an area originally covered by sea over 10 million years ago. From the high vantage points you can look over a huge area. Facing east you can see Kengal (The Rock) to your right, Malebo to your left, and between in the distance are the surrounding hills of Waagan Waagan (Wagga Wagga).

In 1829, explorer Charles Sturt recorded the first European sighting of The Rock (Kengal) and Galore Hill. His report of vast plains changed the course of the region forever, attracting squatters who occupied large tracks of land. Grazed intensively by stock, it was not until 1968 that Galore Hill was proclaimed a Recreation Reserve, under the management of Lockhart Shire Council.

Galore Hill Scenic Reserve is located 12kms south of the Sturt Highway between Wagga Wagga and Narrandera and 16kms north of Lockhart, the historic verandah town.

Access to Galore Hill Scenic Reserve is well signposted. Seberry Lane, a well maintained gravel road, will take you to the top of Galore Hill for impressive views of the surrounding area.



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# GALORE HILL SCENIC RESERVE



#### **POINTS OF INTEREST**

#### **GALORE HILL SCENIC RESERVE**

Galore Hill Scenic Reserve is one of the most prominent landmarks in the Riverina, rising high above the surrounding plains.

A flourishing outdoor area for nature lovers, there are over 500 hectares of native bushland, providing a thriving natural habitat for many different species of fauna and flora.

Galore Hill is a popular destination for locals and visitors, with opportunities for picnicking, nature study, geology, photography, bush walking, rock climbing, mountain biking and horse riding.

#### THE SUMMIT

Take a drive to the Summit and stretch your leas on a short walk to visit Morgan's Caves before enjoying 360 degree panoramic views from the impressive Lookout Tower. At the top, the historic geodetic sign shows the names and distances of nearby towns and landmarks.

#### THE SADDLE

A popular spot for families, the Saddle is known as the place to picnic. Good facilities and a children's playground are set beneath a shady canopy of gum trees, and it's the perfect area for children to explore. The views from here across to The Rock Hill are spectacular.

#### FACILITIES

The Summit and The Saddle are accessible by car and have free gas barbecues, picnic shelters and toilets. Play equipment is located at the Saddle. Dogs are permitted but must be kept on a leash in order to protect the native fauna and flora. Coach and caravan parking is possible at the Summit.

#### Camping is not permitted at Galore Hill.

#### WHAT'S IN A NAME

Folklore has it that the early settler Henry Osborne is responsible for Galore Hill's unusual name. It is said that after climbing to the top, Osborne shouted to the world. "There's land enough and galore for me". Galore Hill has been known by this name ever since.



#### LOOKOUT TOWER

The Lookout Tower at the Summit is worth the climb, providing sweeping views of the changing landscape. Bush colours blend with the patchwork of agricultural farmlands and the blue of distant hills stretched across the horizon.

#### MAD DOG MORGAN

According to local legend, the infamous bushranger, Daniel 'Mad Dog' Morgan, used the caves at Galore Hill as a hideout from the authorities. Considered Australia's most notorious bushranger, Morgan terrorized the region during the early 1860s.



## **FAUNA AND FLORA**



Native fauna and flora abouns in more than 500 hectares, with kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas and over 140 different types of bird species making Galore Hill their home, including the glossy black cockatoo, white throated and brown treecreepers, wood swallows and rosella.

Throughout the year, Galore Hill is a vibrant kaleidoscope of colour with over 850 different varieties of Australian native plants growing in the Reserve. Native bulbs, lillies, bluebells, daisies, wax flowers, hakeas, grevilleas, flowering eucalypt, wattles and carnivorous Sundew abound.



Galore Hill is home to rare ground dwelling orchids including Pink Fingers, Blue Fairies, Slender Sun Orchid, Parsons Bands, Midge Orchid, Leopard Orchid, Purple Beard Orchid, Green Comb Spider Orchid, Dwarf Greenhood and Wax Lip Orchid



#### **WALKING TRAILS**

#### **KEY TO GALORE HILL MAP**







With over 500 hectares at Galore Hill to discover, bush walking is a popular pursuit for locals and visitors alike.

There are a variety of scenic sign posted walks available from the Summit and the Saddle as well as walks along Curly Heckendorf Drive and the Summit Drive. The two most popular walks are the Morgans Caves Loop Trail and The Saddle Loop Trail.

The sign posted walks provide excellent vistas of the changing landscape and are a superb way to observe the changing vegetation while experiencing nature first hand.

Mobs of kangaroos can often be seen in the distance while chance meetings with wallabies and echidnas are a common occurrence.

#### **MORGANS CAVES LOOP TRAIL**

The popular Morgans Caves Loop Trail starts at the Summit and traverses along the northern side of Galore Hill, providing stunning views of the surrounding plains. The highlight of this walk are the shallow caves used by 'Mad Dog' Morgan to avoid the authorities. Morgans Caves Loop takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. The caves can also be accessed by signed walking trails from the Saddle.

#### THE SADDLE LOOP TRAIL

The Saddle Loop Trail links the family friendly picnic area at the Saddle to the viewing tower and picnic area at The Summit. This walk reveals some of the best vistas of The Rock Hill, dominating the landscape to the east. The Saddle Loop takes approximately 45 minutes to complete.

