

Howman's Gap Base Camp (near Falls Creek) – 5 Nights 27 Dec to 31st Dec 2022 (leave 1 Jan 2023)

Essendon Bushwalking club members have been invited to attend the Howman's Gap base camp again this year, so initially, we are requesting expressions of interest from members.

This popular base camp offers five night's accommodation including 3 meals per day in the YMCA Lodge near Falls Creek. This camp has been running for a number of years offering a variety of walks over 4 days to and is a fun and relaxing time with the chance to make new friends. This is a 4 clubs event (Koonung, Diamond Valley, Waverley and Essendon Bushwalking clubs) with combined walks and activities including a New Year's Eve celebration.

Further Details – so far:

Payment Details (to be confirmed):

1. Proposed online direct payment to YMCA, however other options **may be** available through the club.
2. Deposit: \$200.00 due before 31 August 2022.
3. Couples requesting their own room: **about** \$570.00.
4. Singles - sharing: **about** \$530.00.
5. Singles – solo: TBA (**if available**)
6. Final balance of payment: Due before 01 Dec 2022.
7. **If you find that you cannot attend after final payments have been requested, then you will need to find a replacement person to cover your costs – as there will be no refund following final payment.**
8. If a COVID lockdown prevents the event from going ahead, then YMCA have agreed to pay a full refund (**to be confirmed**).

Travel:

1. Howman's Gap YMCA, Bogong High Plains Road (10 kms Northwest of Falls Creek).
2. Arrive PM hours on Tuesday the 27th of December 2022; and depart AM hours on Sunday the 1st of January 2023.
3. About 4 hours 45 minutes' drive from Melbourne. It's recommended members refuel at Mt Beauty or Bright prior to arrival as you may be asked to drive for carpooling.

Accommodation:

1. The facility is booked exclusively for the clubs during this event.
2. Bunk rooms with shared facilities (Women and Men's' showers and toilets)
3. Sharing (maximum 3 per room, all on lower bunks). Rooms for couples are available; and depending on numbers, solos may also be available.

Catering:

1. Full cooked breakfast and dinner each day.
2. Ingredients provided daily for self-made lunch and morning tea.
3. Members need to advise the coordinator in advance of any dietary requirements (vegetarian, no seafood or gluten free).

Walking:

1. Several walks offered each day by leaders from each club.
2. Gradings each day are from Easy to Medium/Hard.
3. Most walks are repeated at least once during the 4 days.
4. Carpooling is required for most walks.
5. There is a walking track between Howman's Gap and Falls Creek for a casual walk.

Entertainment:

1. Common room for relaxing, with free-to-air TV, and a limited library of books and videos.
2. There may be a large "community" jigsaw puzzle for members to complete.
3. A theme night (to be advised) to see out 2022 on New Year's Eve.

BYO:

1. Bring your bedding (doona/sheets or sleeping bag. Pillows provided, but you may prefer to bring your own.
2. BYO nibblies and drinks for Happy Hour each day. Supplies can be bought at nearby Falls Creek.
3. Costume for New Year's Eve.

Contacts for Expressions of Interest and Registrations:

1. Reply to this email.
2. Col Purchase: colwilpurc@gmail.com
3. The event is listed on the online program (27 Dec to 01 Jan), but bookings can only made on the YMCA website.

Please Note: These details may change depending for other logistical reasons.

Weather in the Alpine Region can change without warning, and it is usually several degrees cooler than sea level temperatures.

Enter details in the table below and send to Col for expression of interest:

Name, Email and Phone No.	Single (Share)	Couple (no Sharing)	Single Solo (if avail.)	Dietary Requirements