

Media Release

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UPGRADED CARAVAN PARKS DRAW TOURISTS TO REGIONS

Caravan parks across Victoria are in for a boost as the Andrews Labor Government backs regional tourism accommodation operators to drive up visitation.

The latest round of funding from the Labor Government's *Regional Tourism Investment Fund* will deliver \$4.6 million to upgrade three more regional parks, delivering better experiences and more places to stay.

Wimmera Mallee Cabins will receive \$3 million to construct 16 state-of-the-art cabin accommodations across its three caravan parks located in Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack.

Over \$1 million will go towards modernising Edenhope Lakeside Caravan Park, increasing the park's capacity and providing visitors with a new common room with kitchen and games area.

\$525,000 will allow Lilydale Pine Hill Caravan Park to build 14 new accommodation cabins, along with an amenities block featuring mountain bike equipment and pet wash area.

The three projects will generate up to 37 construction jobs and 13 ongoing employment positions, with works expected to be finished in 2023 and 2024.

In 2019 more than 1.9 million visitors stayed overnight in a caravan park or campground in Victoria, delivering an important tourism stream to local communities – supporting businesses across the state including tourism and experience operators, hospitality businesses and retail outlets.

The *Regional Tourism Investment Fund* is helping entice more visitors to Victoria's regions, driving private investment and accelerating the recovery of the tourism sector.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Event Steve Dimopoulos

"Many Victorians have cherished childhood memories from stays at caravan and holiday parks across the state, which collectively provide more accommodation to domestic tourists than any other sector in Victoria."

"These three projects will deliver even more holiday makers to Victoria's regions – and with even more to offer they'll stay longer, supporting local businesses and the people behind them."

Quotes attributable to CEO of Victorian Caravan Parks Association Scott Parker

"Caravan parks remain such an integral way for Victorians to explore and enjoy what this great state has to offer."

"We thank the Victorian Government for this investment."