

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Early Childhood & Pre-Prep
Minister for Environment



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REVITALISING A TOWER HILL ICON

The Andrews Labor Government is improving the visitor experience at Tower Hill Wildlife Reserve near Warrnambool, with conservation works starting on the iconic Visitor Centre.

Member for Western Victoria, Jacinta Ermacora today announced the commencement of works to restore the building that was designed by influential modernist architect Robin Boyd – along with upgrades to the nearby toilet and amenities building.

Opened in 1971, the heritage-listed visitor centre is an iconic feature at Tower Hill. For years, the eye-catching building has welcomed visitors with information and displays, guided tours and a retail outlet.

Following approval from Heritage Victoria, internal and external conservation works commenced in late May to ensure the building continues to welcome visitors into the future.

Barpa Construction Services, a majority Indigenous-owned business, has been appointed to complete the project, including repair of the building's conical roof, which reflects the dormant volcano it's situated on.

This project follows community consultation and finalisation of a Tower Hill Activation and Linkages Plan which sets a vision to upgrade, protect and raise the profile of the reserve as a regional destination.

Set within the crater of a dormant volcano, Tower Hill, or 'Koroitj', is part of an Aboriginal cultural landscape, a captivating geological feature, and home to an array of native animals and birdlife.

With its proximity to the Great Ocean Road and other significant cultural locations, such as the Budj Bim World Heritage Site, Tower Hill is becoming a known stop-off destination for visitors to Victoria's south-west.

Following a major upgrade to Lake View Road and the reserve's entrance and carpark last year, this investment by the Labor Government will further support sustainable recreation and nature-based tourism in the area.

This project is being managed by Parks Victoria and the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation, with funding from Regional Development Victoria.

For further information visit parks.vic.gov.au/projects.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt

"We're proud to keep investing in Victoria's south-west to protect and improve the region's stunning landscapes and bolster its important nature-based tourism industry."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jacinta Ermacora

"Tower Hill is a special place in the region; an Aboriginal cultural landscape and much-loved destination for the local community and visitors."

Quote attributable to Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing

"This exciting project will celebrate Eastern Maar culture and help revitalise the reserve following feedback from the community."

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