

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



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FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

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TOURISM UPGRADES FOR GREAT OTWAYS NATIONAL PARK

A favourite location in the Great Otway National Park has had a makeover thanks to the Andrews Labor Government with visitors now able to enjoy upgraded facilities at Melba Gully.

A refurbished BBQ area and picnic shelter is available for visitors to take a break and relax as they explore some of Victoria's most lush rainforest locations

With those works now complete, the Labor Government is getting on with the second stage of its \$2.5 million investment package to improve visitor facilities in the National Park.

Maits Rest, which attracts more than 150,000 visitors a year, will see upgrades to the entire 800 metres of its trail introducing larger platforms that invite visitors to gather and share experiences.

The infrastructure is designed to better protect the forest systems through raised platforms, keeping visitors on trails and providing corridors for native animals to move through the forest safely.

Maits Rest will close from Monday 8 July until November while the works are being completed.

In the meantime, visitors can continue to be impressed by Melba Gully's rainforest walk and attractions including the famed glow worms and the Otway Black Snail, endemic to the region and one of five carnivorous snails in Australia.

Stretching from Anglesea to Princetown and up through the Otways hinterland, the 100,000-hectare Great Otway National Park is one of Victoria's largest and most important environmental and tourism locations.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

"These investments in the Great Otway National Park ensure some of Victoria's most precious natural treasures are cared for and protected while providing an immersive and enjoyable visitor experience."

"We are committed to protecting biodiversity while supporting local business and communities through nature-based tourism."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney

"It's great to see the first set of works completed, this project will ensure the Great Otway National Park remains an enjoyable tourism destination for many years to come."