

# For the mountain adventure enthusiast, Mt Stirling offers more than 68 kilometres of trails that wind amongst beautiful, sheltered forests of Alpine Ash on the lower slopes and rise through Snowgum forests to the open areas of the Summit.

## THE TRAILS

With the exception of Circuit Road, all ski trails are marked with orange markers at regular intervals.

A snow pole line (in summer a 4WD track) with reflective markers runs across the Summit above the tree line. All intersections are signposted and numbered. Please do not venture off these trails, and keep a map with you at all times.

The grading of ski trails is relative to Mt Stirling only and may be more difficult than at other resorts. For your own safety, do not start along any trails unless you know its gradient. If part of a trail is too difficult and you need to remove your skis, walk at the trail edge so you do not leave dangerous footprints in the skiing surface. Walking on the trails is not permitted without the use of snowshoes.

**Caution** – Adventure trails are not maintained or patrolled. Injury may result in prolonged evacuation.

## FACILITIES

Adjacent to the car park at Telephone Box Junction is a Visitor Centre, containing a public shelter with fireplace, a First Aid Centre and Ski Patrol Base. Information, intention forms and trail maps are all available from this building.

The building also contains ski and toboggan hire, ski school, a bistro and takeaway food outlet, all of which operate daily throughout winter.

Toilets are located at the Visitors Centre, King Saddle, Razorback Hut, Bluff Spur Hut, GGS Hut, Cricket Pitch and Howqua Gap Hut.

**Telephone** – The nearest public telephone is located off mountain at the Mirimbah Store. Mobile phone coverage extends throughout most of the Resort.

**Pets** – Visitors to Mt Stirling are reminded domestic cats and dogs are not permitted within the Resort.

## FLORA & FAUNA

Mt Stirling boasts one of the most pristine alpine environments in Australia, and is home to many species of native plants and animals. The alpine and sub-alpine environments provide the ideal conditions for a variety of trees including tall Alpine Ash trees at the lower elevations, and the smaller Snowgums at around 1400m where the snowline begins. At 1700m, the Snowgums are replaced with alpine herbfields, which are home to many rare and threatened species.

At the Summit of Mt Stirling, you'll find a majestic ancient Snowgum that stands alone on the hill – the inspiration for the Mt Stirling logo.

Wombats are commonly found on Mt Stirling, as are the Southern Bush Rat, the Broad Toothed Rat and the Dusky Antechinus. Many species of reptiles inhabit the forest floors as do invertebrates, all playing a major role in the ecological cycle of the environment.

Mt Stirling's creeks are home to two of many unique and precious species - the endangered Barred Galaxias and the colourful Mt Stirling Stonefly.

## SKI PATROL

The Mt Stirling Ski Patrol operates seven days a week over winter and is staffed by trained and qualified ski patrollers, who are easily identifiable by the yellow Maltese Cross on their black uniforms. Ski Patrol operates from 8am–5pm and can be contacted on 03 5777 6532 or 0409 945 901. **All day visitors should return to Telephone Box Junction by 5pm.**

If you require information about Ski Patrol or would like to become a patroller, please contact a ski patroller on the mountain or call 03 5777 6532.

## CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS CODE

- 01 – Always ski under control.
- 02 – Keep to the left and ski in preferred direction.
- 03 – Give way to other skiers when entering a trail or when starting downhill.
- 04 – Do not obstruct or walk on ski trail.
- 05 – Ski only groomed or marked trails that are within your ability.
- 06 – Do not ski alone.

# CROSS-COUNTRY Trail Map



## SNOW CAMPING

Truly immerse yourself in the alpine experience and try snow camping. Areas suited to camping within the Resort include the Cricket Pitch, the Bluff Spur Hut area and the top of Dugout Bowl at the Summit. Toilet facilities are located around the mountain for your convenience, however drinking water is not usually available.

## SNOWSHOEING

Snowshoeing is a popular way to explore Mt Stirling, particularly as walking on the trails without snowshoes is a hazardous and therefore not permitted. Keep to the left side of the trail and give way to skiers.

[mtstirling.com.au](http://mtstirling.com.au)

## CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Mt Stirling has an excellent network of groomed trails suitable for cross-country skiing. Well-maintained and sheltered, the 68km of trails provide great skiing no matter what the conditions. Mt Stirling's trails are free to use, which means cross-country skiing presents great value for families looking for a ski experience. Lessons are available for all levels of skier from Mt Stirling Ski School, located at Telephone Box Junction.

## SNOWBOARDING

Mt Stirling offers snowboarders a unique backcountry experience. The Summit and Stanley Bowl areas are suitable for intermediate and advanced riders and must be accessed using snowshoes or split boards with skins.

## TELEMARK SKIING

Telemarking, or 'free-heel' skiing, allows you to take your skiing to a whole new level, learning new skills as you access untouched, off-piste areas of the mountain. The Mt Stirling Summit area has a variety of off-piste terrain for intermediate to advanced backcountry telemark skiers. Telemark ski hire and lessons are available from Mt Stirling Ski Hire at Telephone Box Junction.

## TOBOGGANING

Tobogganing is ideal for all ages and is a great way to have fun on Mt Stirling. Only plastic moulded toboggans are permitted in the Resort, and may only be used in designated toboggan areas.

## TIPS FOR FIRST TIMERS

The Circuit Road Ski Trail is an excellent beginner trail, although there are other practice slopes marked in green on the trail map. If this is your first time cross-country skiing, please steer clear of the Summit and trails leading to the Summit as they are unsuitable for beginners and descent on icy days is hazardous for inexperienced skiers.

If this is your first time cross-country or telemark skiing, it is recommended you take a lesson with the Mt Stirling Ski School. Lessons are available for all skill levels. Private lessons, guided day tours and overnight trips are regularly scheduled throughout the season.

For further information or to book, visit the ski school at Telephone Box Junction or phone 03 5777 6441.

## ALPINE RESPONSIBILITY CODE

Regardless of how you enjoy your snow sport, always show courtesy to others. Be aware that there are inherent risks in all snow recreational activities. Common sense and personal awareness can reduce risks which include rapid changes in weather and surface conditions, collisions with other people, and natural and artificial hazards such as rocks, trees, stumps, bare spots and snowmaking equipment. Know and observe the code – it's your responsibility.

- 01 – Know your ability and always stay in control and be able to stop or avoid other people and objects.
- 02 – Take lessons from qualified professional instructors to learn and progress.
- 03 – Do not stop where you obstruct a trail or run or are not visible from above.
- 04 – When entering a trail or run or starting downhill, look uphill and give way to others.
- 05 – Always use proper devices to prevent runaway equipment. Ensure your equipment is in good condition.
- 06 – Avoid people ahead of you as they have right of way.
- 07 – Observe all signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and runs and out of closed areas.
- 08 – Do not ski, snowboard or undertake any other alpine activity, if drugs or alcohol impair your ability.
- 09 – If you are involved in a collision or witness an accident, alert Ski Patrol, remain at the scene and identify yourself to the Ski Patrol.

## SAFETY

Please collect a new map each time you visit the Resort to ensure that you have the latest edition and lodge your completed Trip Intention Form at the Ski Patrol. If you require further information or advice, please ask any ski patroller.

Make sure you are warmly dressed. When skiing several layers of clothing should be worn, allowing you to adjust those layers according to conditions. A warm hat, gloves and a waterproof jacket should also be carried. Carry some emergency food supplies (chocolate or other high energy food), a whistle and waterproof matches.

The weather at Mt Stirling can deteriorate rapidly. Poor visibility can make navigation very difficult.

## EMERGENCY

In an emergency, contact the Mt Stirling Ski Patrol at Telephone Box Junction (phone 0409 945 901 or 03 5777 6532) or alert an on-mountain patroller. The nearest public telephone is at the Mirimbah Store.

More emergency contact numbers are located on the back of this trail map. If you become lost or injured don't panic. Stay where you are, don't keep moving until you are exhausted. Shelter from the wind, stay dry and light a fire. Place your skis crossed, upright in the snow near you in a prominent position and attract attention by blowing your whistle. The distress signal is three long blasts, repeated at one minute intervals.



## ACCOMMODATION

Mt Stirling features an Alpine Winter Camp, located at the Cricket Pitch. The Camp provides ski-in, ski-out accommodation above the snowline and is ideal for groups.

A large central tepee with pot belly stove is perfect for socialising and dining, and the seven accommodation tents feature insulated flooring and camp stretchers for four people.

The Alpine Winter Camp is adjacent to the composting toilet and guest shelter, and makes an ideal base for exploring the mountain.

For further information, please contact Stirling Experience on 03 5777 6441.



Mt Buller & Mt Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board & Tourist Information 03 5777 6077  
 Accommodation & Booking Service 1800 039 049  
 Mt Stirling Ski Patrol 03 5777 6532 or 0409 945 901  
 Medical and Emergency Services 000 or 112  
 Mansfield Hospital 03 5775 8800  
 Mt Buller Towing 0427 077 572  
 Mansfield Police Station 03 5775 2555  
 RACV 131 111

## CONTACT DETAILS

