About Lake William Hovell

Lake William Hovell is part of the Hume region in north-eastern Victoria, located approximately an hour’s drive south of Wangaratta. Opened in November 1971, the lake covers 113 hectares of land and at capacity holds 13,690 megalitres of water.

Set in mountain bushland on the King River, Lake William Hovell is a tranquil spot for fishing, boating, and picnicking.

Today the lake supplies water for irrigated crops, vineyards and grazing properties along the King River from Cheshunt to Wangaratta.

Lake William Hovell is one of 24 lakes, dams and reservoirs managed by GMW to capture, store and deliver 70% of Victoria’s stored water across the region.

Facilities

Lake William Hovell has facilities to suit every visitor, including fishing, boating and picnic amenities. Electric barbecues, undercover areas, open space and public toilets can be found on the foreshore at the northern end of the lake.

A public boat ramp is also available near the northern end of the lake, accessible from Upper King River Road.

At the southernmost section of the lake is the entrance to the Alpine National Park, which has a myriad of tracks for four wheel driving, access to fishing spots, walking and mountain biking.

Events

GMW’s lakes, dams and reservoirs are ideal places for events. If you would like to host an event at one of our storages, visit: www.gmwater.com.au/events.

Lake William Hovell Code of Conduct

Lake William Hovell is a beautiful natural resource. Please care for the lake so it can be enjoyed now and into the future.

• Camping and campfires are prohibited in GMW reserves and on foreshore and lakebed areas.
• Refer to your local council for landfill services and consider the environment when disposing of your litter. Penalties apply for illegal dumping of rubbish.
• Don’t take plants from the foreshore, or bring any in.
• Don’t feed the animals or wildlife, or interfere with their habitats.
• Keep to 5 knots.
• Vehicles and trail bikes are only allowed on public roads within the reserve.
• All vehicles and trail bikes must be registered and users must be licenced.
• Keep the waterway healthy by not using soap, toothpaste or detergent in the lake.
• Dogs must be on a lead and/or under control at all times and aren’t allowed in the lake. Please clean up after your pets.

A copy of GMW’s recreational by-law can be found online at www.gmwater.com.au/recreation-tourism

DON’T FORGET YOUR WATER SMARTR

gmwater.com.au/watersmarts

Fishing

Autumn is the best time to catch Redfin and Trout however Lake William Hovell offers year-round fishing opportunities. For the latest information on fishing in Victoria, contact the Victorian Fisheries Authority on 136 186, and don’t forget your Recreational Fishing Licence!

Boating

Lake William Hovell is a popular spot for boating, kayaking and canoeing. Enjoy the peace and quiet of the lake and its surrounds.

Boating is restricted to a maximum speed of 5 knots. Vessels can be launched from the public boat ramp at the northern end of the lake.

Keep a lookout at all times for hazards and other vessels.


Camping

Camping is not allowed on the foreshore of the lake, but there are unofficial camp sites in the broader King River area.

There are a range of accommodation options which can be found online at www.visitkingvalley.com.au and www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Water levels

The water in Lake William Hovell is owned by GMW customers, who produce food and fibre, supply towns and businesses, and protect and improve environmental waterway health.

Visitors need to be conscious of potential hazards and consider their own safety and the safety of other users at all times. Water levels (high or low) can prompt increased safety measures, and changes to access for recreational areas and boating. Safety information and alerts will be signposted at public areas and boat ramps.

You can find out more about water levels at www.gmwater.com.au/storage-levels.

Blue-Green Algae

At times, the level of blue-green algae in storages can exceed safe limits. When this happens you should avoid direct contact with the water as the algae can cause skin rashes; itchiness; sore eyes, ears and nose; and nausea.

If unsafe blue-green algae levels occur, warning signs will be positioned at major recreational areas around the storage.

Recreational users can still boat, sightsee and enjoy other activities that don’t involve direct contact with the water.

Blue-green algae warnings can be found online at www.gmwater.com.au/bluegreenalgae-alert or by phoning the 24 hour GMW blue-green algae hotline on (03) 5826 3785.

For more information on GMW and its operations visit www.gmwater.com.au

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Please Remember

- No camping or fires allowed on GMW foreshore land.
- Confine vehicles and motorbikes to formed public roads.
- Take your rubbish home.