



Werribee Park



Education Program Guide

Werribee Park is an outstanding historic and cultural attraction offering an authentic insight into Australia's richly diverse history. Located just 30 minutes from central Melbourne, the property features a superbly restored 1870s mansion, ten hectares of exquisite formal gardens, the internationally acclaimed Victoria State Rose Garden, contemporary sculpture walk, tranquil riverine, original farmyard and specialised tours.

The park

Werribee Park is an outstanding historic and cultural attraction offering an authentic insight into Australia's richly diverse history. Located just 30 minutes from Central Melbourne, the property features a superbly restored 1870's mansion, ten hectares of exquisite formal gardens, the internationally acclaimed Victoria State Rose Garden, contemporary sculpture walk, tranquil riverine, original farmyard and specialised tours.

What we offer

- A range of curriculum based programs catering for all levels from Prep to Year 10 that meet VELS guidelines.
- Suitability qualified and experienced guides.
- Pre/post visit material and support.
- Itinerary provided for the day.

Programs

Mansion based tours

These tours take approximately 45 minutes.

Cost: \$7.50 p.p

'My life, your life, their lives'

Levels: 1 – 2, Ages: Prep – grade 2

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning.
Discipline based learning
Interdisciplinary learning

While students are guided through the Mansion, comparisons are made between the lives of the Chirside's and the servants who worked for them.

Students are asked to compare their own lives with those of child servants and Chirside children. Has society changed? Or are children still the same?

'Then and Now, Communities at Work'

Levels: 3 - 4, Ages: Grade 4 – 6

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning
Discipline based learning
Interdisciplinary learning

Students, compare the different types of work conducted by both servants and the resident family while being guided through the Mansion.

The co-dependence of family and servants is explored, while also using Mansion artefacts and furniture to illustrate differences in lifestyle. Students are encouraged to compare their own way of living to those who lived in the past.

'Aspirations'

Levels: 5 – 6, Ages: Year 8 – 10

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning
Discipline based learning – History
Interdisciplinary learning

While guides take students through the Mansion, comparisons are made between the two different classes of people, who lived and worked within its walls. How does this form of social structure reflect upon society and is it the same today?

Student analysis of Victorian lifestyle highlights contributing factors to societal change and provides an understanding of the modern world.

Students are encouraged to compare their own life experiences with those of mansion servants and the resident family. What type of aspirations do they have for the future and would the people of the past have the same ones?

education

Mansion and laundry-based tours

These tours are separated into two elements each taking approximately 30 minutes.

Cost: \$7.50 p.p

'Stepping back'

Levels: 1 – 2, Ages: Prep – Grade 2

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning

Discipline based learning

Interdisciplinary learning

Students are encouraged to step back in time and compare their own life with the lives of the Chirnside family and the servants of the Mansion. Artefacts within the building are used to illustrate the changes society has experienced over time.

In the original bluestone Laundry building, students are encouraged to hand wash clothing, using equipment pertinent to the period. Comparisons can be made between the technology of the past and today's modern appliances.

'Time Changes Everything'

Levels: 3 – 4, Ages: Grade 4 – 6

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning

Discipline based learning

Interdisciplinary learning

The Mansion and its resident family and servant staff are indicative of the 19th Century lifestyle of many different classes. Relevant comparisons can be made between the lifestyle, work, social customs and etiquette of communities both past and present.

By understanding the way people lived and worked, students are encouraged to make conclusions about their own world. Why did our forefathers embrace technology? How has technology changed society?

In the original bluestone Laundry building, there is a practical component of the tour. Students are encouraged to hand wash clothing, using equipment pertinent to the late 1800s. Comparisons can easily be made between the technology of the past and today's modern appliances.

'Moving Forward Looking Back'

Levels: 5 – 6, Ages: Year 8 – 10

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social Learning

Discipline based Learning – History

Interdisciplinary Learning

The Mansion represents both the lifestyle of a wealthy Victorian family and its servants. Relevant comparisons can be made between the co-dependence of this small community and the larger community environment of the time.

By understanding the way people lived, students imagine themselves in similar circumstances. They begin to ask personal questions about how they would behave, what would be important to them, and how they may respond in different circumstances.

As a result students are able to compare their own lives, understand the differences and begin to formulate opinions as to why changes have occurred over time.

The tour concludes in the original Bluestone Laundry building, where students are encouraged to try using Victorian technology as a means for washing clothes. Comparisons are made between the technology of the past and today's modern appliances.

Mansion & farm-based tour

This tour is separated into two elements each taking approximately half an hour.

Cost: \$7.50 p.p

'Farm Work, House Work, Hard Work'

Levels: 1 – , Ages: Prep – Grade 6

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning

Discipline based learning

Interdisciplinary learning

Students are introduced to the resident family, 'The Chirnside's', and learn about their lifestyle and history, while exploring the ornate formal Mansion and rustic outbuildings of the farm.

The family is used to illustrate to students white settlement and the community's economic reliance on wool and farming.

Students work as a team to make rope, just like farm workers of the past, in a fun practical activity. This tour is separated into two elements each taking half an hour.

An itinerary is provided.

'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'

Levels: 1 – 5, Ages: Prep – Year 8.

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal and Social learning
Discipline based learning – English
Interdisciplinary learning

The Mansion is used as a backdrop, to give students a visual stimulus for studying this novel. Guides speak about the adventures of Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy while using the Mansion cupboards and artefacts as an example of features within the text.

This tour also aims at inspiring students to use the world around them as a creative impetus for their own writing.

Previsit opportunity

'History Box'

Cost: \$23.00

Further enhance your visit to Werribee Park by hiring one of our History Boxes. A History Box provides excellent preparation for your visit by enabling students to handle and observe artefacts and costumes from the Chirnside's era.

Alternatively, History Boxes are available to hire without a visit. The box is couriered to your school and return courier is arranged if you are not visiting Werribee Park.

Self guided activities

Cost: \$6.00

'Self Guided Tour'

Explore Werribee Park at your own pace or with an itinerary, viewing the intrinsic areas of the property. Wander the formal gardens, viewing the lake and grotto, parterre and Rose Garden. View the Mansion, Laundry and rustic outbuildings whilst considering the opulent lifestyle of the Chirnside's.

An itinerary suggesting areas of interest is available on request and we recommend you allow at least three hours viewing the entire property.

'Sculpture Walk Tour'

Further enhance your visit to Werribee Park, by strolling through the permanent Werribee Park Sculpture Walk. Featuring an interesting selection of work by some of Australia's leading sculptors, this outdoor exhibition

meanders through a unique mix of natural landscape from the rear of the Mansion, along the escarpment and via a set of stairs into the riverine. At your leisure, make your way back up the graded steps to the original farmyard.

Park notes for the Sculptures are provided. An itinerary suggesting areas of interest is available on request. We suggest you allow two hours to view and study the Sculptures.

'Audio Wands'

Cost: \$8.00

With the use of an Audio Wand, students are able to take control of their own learning. This system transforms a student's experience to beyond just the mansion, enabling a park wide integrated interpretation system covering 88 subjects of interest, arranged in five different tours, including Victorian living history and modern artistic endeavour.

Students may therefore move about the property at their own pace, spending more time on areas of specific interest.



Werribee Park Education Service

K Road
Werribee, VIC 3030

P 8734 5135
F 9741 6879
E rtaylor@parks.vic.gov.au

education

'Helen Lempriere Tours'

Cost: \$7.50

These Tours are available only during the 'Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award'. These awards take place between March and May each year. Please contact the Bookings Officer for exact dates.

Levels: 4 – 6, Ages: Grade 6 – Year 10.

VELS Strands:

Physical, Personal & Social learning
Discipline-Based learning – Arts, History
Interdisciplinary learning

Art has been used since the beginning of time to tell a story. It influences architecture and landscaping, both culture and nature – as is evident at Werribee Park today.

In these tours students learn about the artist and what the artist is trying to convey. Students will analyse how the works can make people feel. Are artists' stories factual or perceived and what values are expressed in the works? Why do we, the viewer, feel comfortable with some forms or art, yet others make us curious or uncomfortable?

The guide will lead students through the 'art of today' comparing it with the art of yesterday and debate the 'Mansion V's Modern Art' question. This session engages all the senses to discover the stories behind selected sculptures and evoke and explore personal feelings on interacting with the works. How does a student's own culture, religion, customs, traditions and beliefs influence their appreciation for the efforts of the artists? This session will raise self awareness whilst challenging students' to consider what is accepted as art by society.

Curriculum material

Werribee Park has a range of activities sheets covering all age groups and tours.

Alternatively a range of free curriculum units are available on Parks Victoria's website www.parkweb.vic.gov.au, including:

- native animals
- endangered species
- tourism.

Activities are also available for primary and secondary students.

For further information please contact the Werribee Park Bookings Officer on ph. 8734 5135.

Making the most of your visit

- if you are carrying out an independent excursion within the Park you must notify the Park staff of the date of your visit and location.
- utilise the skills of our education staff when planning and preparing your visit.
- ensure your students are prepared for any kind of weather; bring a drink bottle, sunscreen, suitable clothing and footwear.

What happens if...?

- Cancellations – please notify Booking Officer as soon as possible prior to your visit.

