

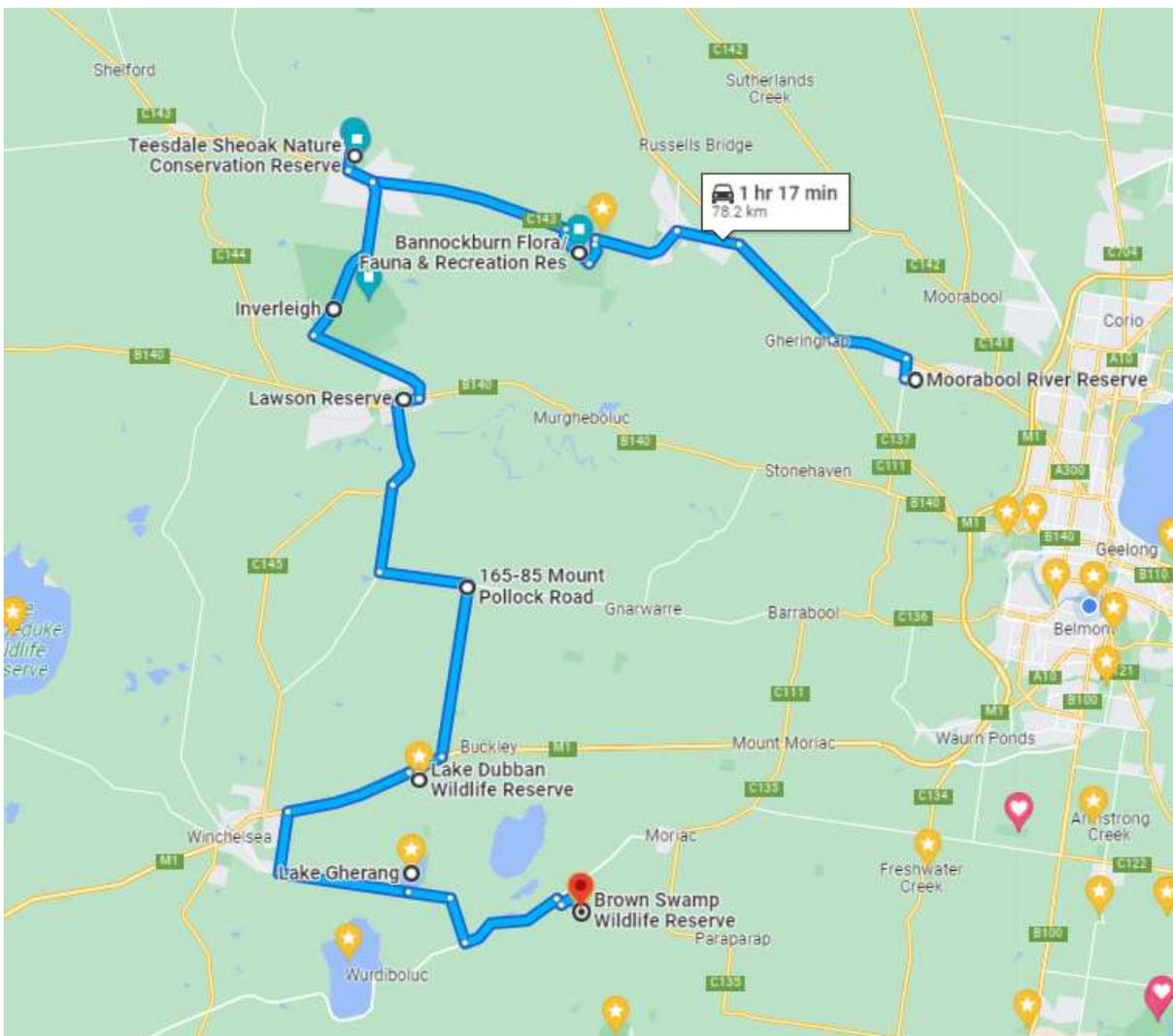


Great Southern BioBlitz

Trip Planner No 4

Golden Plains

A trip to the parks and reserves of the Golden Plain can be a rewarding experience with plants, birds, and invertebrates in open and woody grasslands as well a selection of ephemeral wetlands. This is a good trip to stop off along roadsides if you see anything interesting but ensure to take care with parking vehicle.





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| Dog Rocks and Moorabool River Reserve | Explore the Dog Rocks and see if you can locate the Cunningham's Skink. The site is also known for the Grassland Copper butterfly and several grasshopper species. A short drive away is the Moorabool River and worthwhile taking photos of the riparian plants. This location is also great for birds. |
| Bannockburn Flora/ Fauna Reserve | A 15-minute walk thru this bushland can give a surprising number of species. Several locations to choose but the small pond along Old Base Road is a popular spot. |
| Teesdale Conservation Reserve | Wildflower at the Teesdale grassy woodlands is a delight to see. Allow 30 minutes to walk the circular path and there is a very informative sign off Shaws Rd with photos of the main plant species likely to be seen. Spring is the best time of year to visit. |
| Inverleigh Nature Conservation Reserve | This dry woodlands on a sandy soil can provide many flowering species. Keep eye out for Orchids. The cleared roadside along Common Rd south of the reserve is worth a walk. Common Brown Butterfly likely be seen here. |
| Lawson Reserve /Inverleigh Township | This location near the confluences of the Leigh and Barwon Rivers is a noteworthy spot for bush birds. |
| Mount Pollock | No specific site but there is a selection of roadside stop where there is native grassland vegetation to explore. |
| Lake Durban Wildlife Reserve | Worth a stop off. Klug's Xenica Butterflies can be abundant when conditions are right as there are a few flowering trees in the area. Brolga may also be seen in the area |
| Lake Gherang/ Wurdiboluc Reservoir | Bird watching at either of this location may yield a good number of species. |
| Brown Swamp Wildlife Reserve | Another location where there can be many bird species depending on the water level in this ephemeral wetland. |

Bring: Take along refreshment for the trip plus your camera/ phone with spare battery, hat, binoculars, strong footwear, and sunscreen.

Recommendation: This journey can be varied by selecting alternative locations and using opportunity to explore interesting roadside vegetation and as a result suitable for all weather conditions.

Local Supporting Information:

- The Golden Plains South-east region has over 1300 species
<https://inaturalist.ala.org.au/places/golden-plains-south-east>
- The Local Guides with more common and interesting species are-
 - Indigenous Wildlife of the Moorabool River Catchment, CCMA
 - Indigenous Plants of the Moorabool River Catchment, CCMA
 - Indigenous Flora and Fauna of the Bannockburn Reserve, Ballarat Environment Network
 - Grassland Species of Victorian Volcanic Plains, Hamilton Field Naturalists Club
 - Wings over Wetlands – birds of Western District Lakes, CCMA