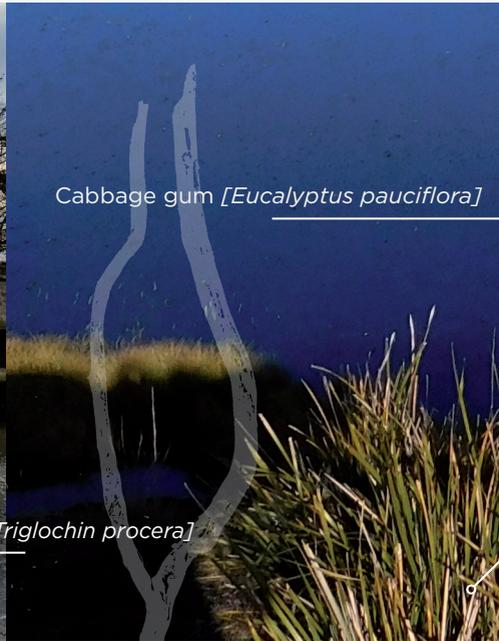


Welcome to the scenic foreshore of Lake Dulverton and the Dulverton Track, land of the Lairmairrener people of Big River nation, a sanctuary for birds since 1929



Water ribbons [*Triglochin procera*]



Cabbage gum [*Eucalyptus pauciflora*]



The foreshore is a perfect habitat for Tiger snakes



**THINGS YOU CAN DO ON A VISIT TO LAKE DULVERTON:**

walk the foreshore, observe the abundant birdlife, walk or cycle to Parattah 7 kms away, enjoy the playground, have a picnic or bbq, all while taking in the scenery and quietude of the Southern Midlands.

Lake Dulverton, a designated Conservation Area under the Nature Conservation Act 2002, was proclaimed a Sanctuary for Birds in 1929. The 233 hectare Lake (16 ha. privately owned) is renowned for the variety of birds that inhabit the area. Lake Dulverton is managed by Southern Midlands Council under terms of a lease with the Tasmanian Government's Parks & Wildlife Service.

Recreational activities permitted in the Recreation Zone area of the Lake include non-motorised boating and fishing. Each year Inland Fisheries stock the Lake with trout.

**INDIGENOUS HERITAGE**

Lairmairrener is one of the five Aboriginal tribes that occupied the Big River Nation land area of Central Tasmania. During seasonal migrations in search of food and warmer weather over winter, the tribe travelled to the East Coast, the Oyster Bay nation area. The tribe would pass Lake Dulverton as part of their journey.

**EUROPEAN HISTORY**

Lake Dulverton was originally named Lake Frederick in the early 1800s. Oatlands was established beside the Lake, ensuring a good water supply for the town. In 1827 convicts built an earthen and stone dam to increase water storage. Lake Dulverton was described by early settlers as a fine lagoon although 'overgrown' with rushes. It was also known as the 'Great Lagoon'.

The official name was later changed to Lake Dulverton, most likely by Thomas Anstey, a judge and influential citizen in the Oatlands area. Dulverton is the area that Thomas Anstey came from in England, while Marys Island is believed to be named after his wife.



**DULVERTON WALKING TRACK**

A 7km walking track follows the south eastern side of the Lake, linking Oatlands and Parattah townships. Much of the track aligns with the old railway line route (line ceased operation in 1949). You will find historic restored railway culverts and former sandstone quarries where stone was sourced for buildings in Oatlands. Most of the track and associated tree planting has slowly been developed through Landcare activities supported by community volunteers and the Midlands Tree Committee. Dedicated people worked to complete the track between 1995 and 2011. A brochure is available on the Southern Midlands Council website detailing key points of interest along the track. Picnic tables, seating, shelter huts and toilet facilities can also be found along the track. There is a public toilet in the old Railway station at Parattah.



A sanctuary for birds since 1929

White-bellied Sea Eagle  
[*Haliaeetus leucogaster*]

The rare Great Crested Grebe  
[*Podiceps cristatus*]

**PRECIOUS WATER**

The Lake is a shallow deflation basin of Triassic sandstone, with windblown lunette dunes of deep sands occurring at the south-eastern end. The water level fluctuates, with a depth of one to two metres in winter.

The Lake became completely dry in 1993 prompting the community to secure additional water for the Lake.

In 1996, a small earth bund wall was constructed between two headlands by the Southern Midlands Council to create a 2.2 hectare 'mini lake' at the Lake's northern end. Following the success of this first bund wall, in 1998, volunteers, using donated machinery, constructed a 460m bund wall behind Marys Island. Volunteers also constructed a 5.6km pipeline extension to provide supplementary water to the Lake from the Blackman River.

In 2014, the Midlands Water Scheme began piping water to the front section of the Lake in a further attempt to maintain an adequate water level. This water comes from Arthurs Lake in the Central Highlands. When the water is flowing into the Lake it can be seen cascading over a rock boulder on the far lake shore.

With climate change impacting the Lake, work continues to secure the future of this significant body of water, essential in sustaining our local flora and fauna. The Lake is important for the health and well being of Oatlands' residents, visitors and the amenity of our town.

**FLORA AND FAUNA**

A feature of the Lake is its abundance of water ribbons (*Triglochin procerum*). Water ribbons, an Australian native plant, are commonly found in shallow fresh water and provide food and shelter essential for insects, amphibians and birds to thrive.

The foreshore of Lake Dulverton is perfect habitat for Tiger snakes. In late spring and summer, please keep to paths and mowed areas. It is better to avoid than to say hello to a snake!

**BIRDLIFE**

Just over 100 different bird species have been recorded in and around the Lake. The time of year and the level of water makes a difference to what bird species are around the Lake. The Lake is noted as the only known breeding location in Tasmania for the Great Crested Grebe however there have not been many recent sightings.

As you enjoy watching and photographing the many bird species please respect their wellbeing and habitat. It is important to observe birds from a distance that will not disturb them.



A side track at Freds Point

An easy 7km walk or bike ride to Parattah



Lake Dulverton CONSERVATION AREA

For further information visit:  
[www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au/lake-dulverton](http://www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au/lake-dulverton)

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Lake Dulverton & Callington Park Management Committee 2022



An easy walk, an expanse of water,  
a place for wildlife to thrive.  
Oatlands Tasmania



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