Camp Howqua

127 Howqua River Road
Howqua VIC 3722

Camp Howqua is an educational, recreational and camping facility set on 64 hectares on the Howqua River. It offers self contained or fully catered accommodation for individuals, families and small and large groups.

There are four accommodation options. These are;

- Self Contained Cabins
- Main Lodge (this main building contains dining, recreation and theatre facilities). Visitors using this facility either camp or stay in cabins that have no kitchen.
- Camping Area
- Ski Lodge

Of these the Ski Lodge has the best accessible facilities, while the Main Lodge itself is reasonably accessible, including an accessible toilet. Unfortunately the accommodation cabins associated with the Main Lodge are not accessible at this stage. There are plans to improve accessibility to these cabins in the future.

The self contained cabins are not accessible at present either.

Reservations:

Phone:	03 5777 3509
Fax:	03 5777 3901
Email:	howqua@adventist.org.au
Web:	www.camphowqua.com.au
TTY:	n/a

Transport:
Transport is available via private car or private coach only

Parking

While it is possible to drive to reception and there is plenty of room to get out onto a reasonably level gravel surface, the reception building itself is not accessible. Note there is very limited mobile reception at Camp Howqua.

There is no designated parking available parking at Ski Lodge. However there is a large parking area in front of the building that would provide ample circulation space on a level gravel surface.

Main Lodge

Parking
It is possible to drive to the Main Lodge and park in front of the building. This area is a flat, reasonably level, firm gravel surface.

Entry
The main entry is level with the outside surface although there are 25mm deep mat pits at the front door.
The entry door is a double door with a total opening 1580mm or 790mm per half. The doors are outward opening, not too heavy and have D handles at 1020mm high.

Picture 1: Main Lodge entry

Dining Hall
The dining hall is a large open area with tables and chairs with the servery at one end of the hall.

The floor is firm and level with a low pile carpet.

Dining Area
The dining area (at right minus tables) can be arranged to any configuration. Tables are700mm high with knee clearance of 680mm. The salad bar at right is 870mm high.

Picture 2: Main Lodge dining area

Service Counter
The corridor at the service counter is 890mm wide. The counter is 830mm high and 310mm wide. Staff are happy to assist with serving and passing food.

At the end of the counter is a hot water tap for drinks. The tap is 1370mm high while the table below it is 940mm high.

Picture 3: Main Lodge service counter

Bathroom

There is an accessible male and female bathroom and toilet rooms in the Main Lodge.

The entry door is 770mm wide, is inward opening, is fairly heavy and has a D handle.

The bathroom has good circulation space of approximately 2600 x 2550mm. The wash basins are 825mm high with capstan taps. The bottom of the mirror is 1130mm high.

Picture 4: Main Lodge bathroom basin

Picture 5: Main Lodge bathroom toilet

Toilet

The accessible toilet is 420mm high. The front of the seat is 700mm from the rear wall and the centerline of the toilet is 480mm from the side wall. There is 890mm on the other side of the toilet for a left hand transfer. The side and rear grab rails are 890mm high.

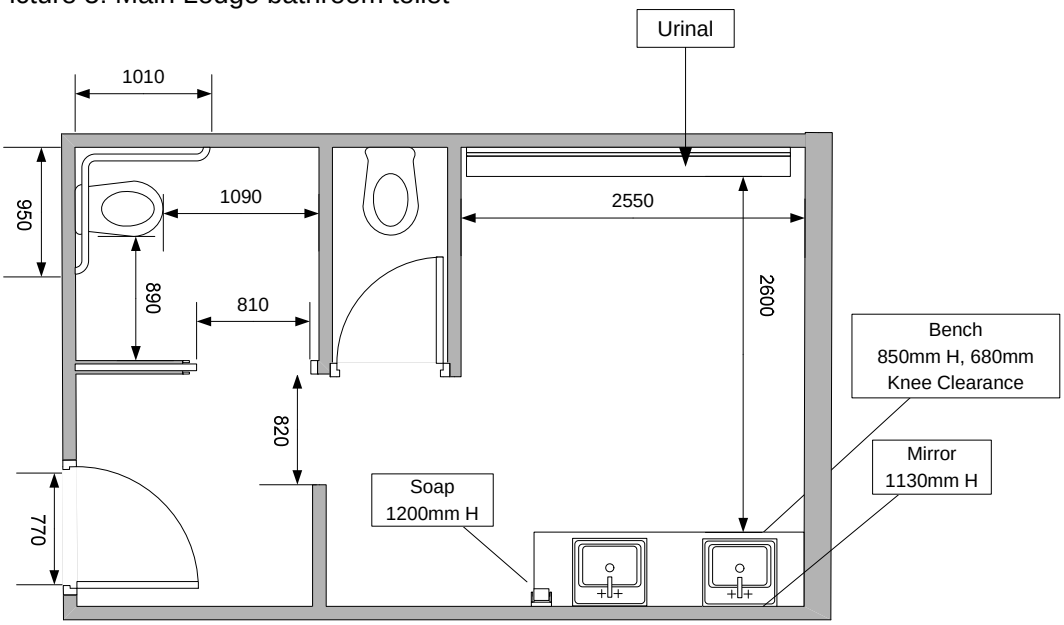

Figure 1: Main Lodge bathroom

Lounge Areas

The lounge area in the Main Lodge is along a flat corridor covered with low pile carpet from the dining area. However there are two steps with a total drop of 330mm down into this area. This area can also be accessed from outside on the west side of the building where there is a smaller 100mm step up.

Along the hall leading to the lounge area there is a medium weight, self closing door which has knob handles at 1200mm high.

Picture 6: Main Lodge lounge area

Picture 7: Main Lodge lounge area

Emergency:
A documented emergency procedure is displayed on the door of each room. The alarm is audio and a Warden will seek to evacuate guests to safe refuge. Each building has a number of emergency entry/exit points.

Accommodation

Ski Lodge

Parking:
There is no designated parking available. However there is a large parking area in front of the building that would provide ample circulation space on a level gravel surface.

Picture 8: Ski Lodge accommodation entry

Entry:
The path of travel from the parking area to the lodge is via a steep concrete path. Immediately leaving the parking area the gradient raises to 24.2% on loose gravel for 500mm until the concrete path, 1200mm wide, begins. This continues for approximately 5m at a similar gradient and then the gradient lessens to 9.1% for another 5m. Here the path widens directly in front of the buildings. At this point, the conventional path of travel is via 6 steps to the front entry. The path of travel to the accommodation is to take a path to the right reaching an under cover section. Here take the first door on the right to the bedroom. The door width is 870mm with a door knob at 1185mm high.

Kitchen/ Dining/ Lounge Area:

There is no internal accessible route from the bedroom to the dining area. The path of travel from the accommodation is to return to the concrete path at entry. Follow the path to the left, towards the front of the main building for approximately 5m. The concrete path ends but the route continues across an uneven grassed area the length of the building. Turn right and the gradient increases to 10% with a 12% cross fall to the left. Follow the line of the building for approximately 15m to the rear, then turn right again (gradient remains similar). Continue across the rear of the building for approximately 7m, turning right again directly onto a concrete ramp 1500mm wide, 2.5m long and a gradient of 6.7%. At the top of the ramp is a flat area 1400 x 1400mm in front of outward opening door with left hand hinge.

Picture 9: Ski Lodge dining entry

The door way to the dining area has an outward opening fly screen door with 760mm clearance, and lever door handle at 1070mm high. The inward opening main door has 780mm clearance and a door knob at 1380mm high. There is a 25mm threshold lip. The dining area offers ample circulation space. There is a TV with remote control, a slow combustion heater, and several round tables that can be easily moved to meet needs. The tables have 4 legs and are 680mm high with 860mm distance between legs. Light switches are at 1360mm high.

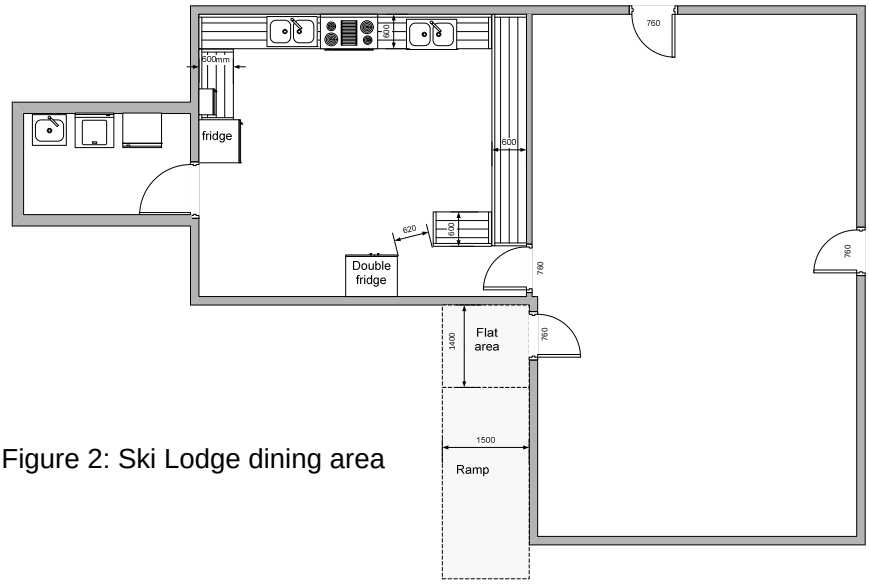

Figure 2: Ski Lodge dining area

Picture 10: Ski Lodge dining area

Access to the self contained kitchen is a via a door 760mm wide opening into the kitchen. Path of travel into the kitchen is limited and offers only 620mm clearance. Once in the kitchen there is ample circulation space.

The benches are 660mm deep x 830mm high and no knee clearance. The microwave is placed high at 1200mm minimum.

Picture 11: Ski Lodge kitchen

Bedrooms:
There is one shared bedroom that provides adequate circulation space. The room has 2 x single beds and 3 x bunk beds. Hanging space is available at 1350mm high on the end of each bunk. There is adequate circulation space beside all beds. The single beds are 560mm high with 260mm under bed clearance. The beds could be elevated further with purpose built blocks. The floor surface is low pile carpet.

Picture 12: Ski Lodge shower

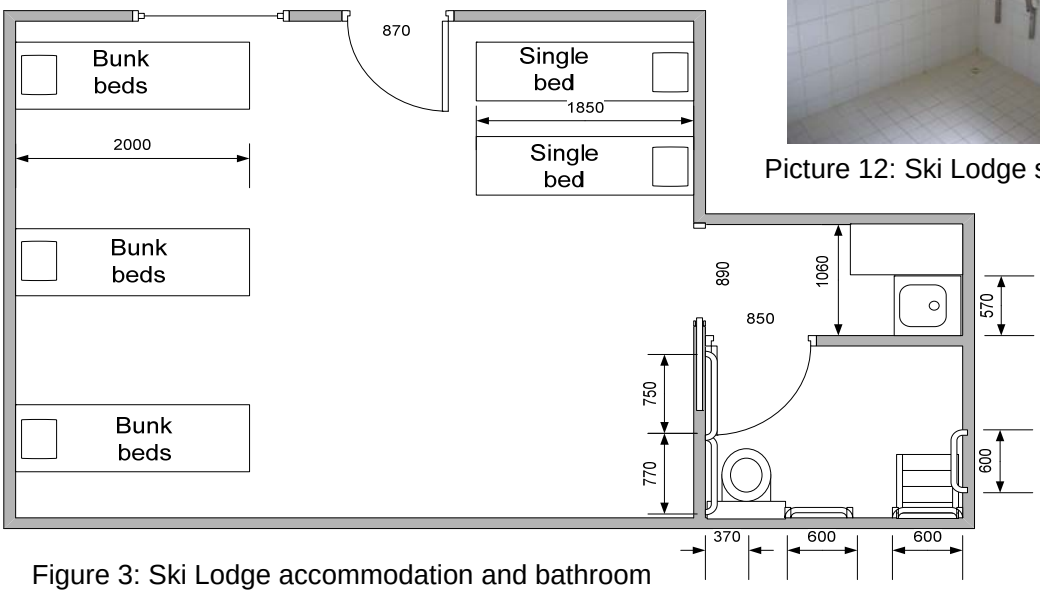

Figure 3: Ski Lodge accommodation and bathroom

The bedroom has an ensuite bathroom. The path of travel from the bedroom to the ensuite is via a portable ramp that is 490mm long and 880mm wide and a gradient of 13%. There is a sliding door offering 890mm clearance. Once through this door a small alcove of 1180 x 1060mm clear contains a vanity area ahead and a second door to the right provides entry to the bathroom. This door is light, opens into the bathroom, offers 850mm clearance and the door knob is 940mm high.

The bathroom offers adequate circulation space. There is a mirror above the basin 700 - 1300mm high. The basin is 680mm high with knee clearance of 550mm and 290mm deep. The capstan taps are approximately 800mm high.
The toilet offers adequate circulation for a left hand transfer. The seat is 440mm high, centre line to wall 370mm and front of seat to rear 870mm. There is a 300mm rear grab rail at 830mm high and a horizontal rail on the left hand side, 700mm long and 830mm high. There is an oblique portion at 45º that continues for another 700mm.
The shower area offers ample circulation space and is free of hobs or tracks. There is no shower curtain or screen. There is a hand held shower hose on a vertical slider track and there are 2 x 600mm horizontal grab rails 840mm from the floor. The shower has a fold down slatted seat with dimensions 220mm deep and 350mm wide. In the folded down position it is 480mm high.

Picture 13: Ski Lodge toilet

Activities

Camp Howqua offers a number of outdoor activities. A number of these are reasonably accessible. Again, staff are happy to provide assistance where they can.

Activities need to be arranged prior to arriving.

Buggies

Camp Howqua has 3 off road go carts available. These can take two people at a time.
The buggies have foot controls with a right foot accelerator and left foot brake. The buggies have full shoulder harnesses.

The side rail of the buggy is 520mm high. The side frame has an opening 780mm high. There is 210mm of clearance between the seat and the steering wheel.

Picture 14: Buggie

Picture 16: Swing Bridge

Swing Bridge

There is an unformed pathway from the Main Lodge, where you can park, to the river's edge. This has a mixture of grass and dirt surfaces. It is approximately 200m from the Main Lodge to the swing bridge. Most of this pathway is at 1-2% with a maximum of 3.3% for about 5 metres.

The slope leading to the start of the bridge is 14.3%. There is a small hump at the very start of the bridge which is 12.5% up then 18.5% down on the bridge side. At the other end of the bridge the exit ramp goes down very steeply initially (40%) then gradually levels out.

The gap at the start of the bridge is 1230mm wide.

River

The river can be accessed on both sides. Visitors can drive to the edge of the river in a number of places on the Main Lodge side. Access to the waters edge is more difficult on this side, although it would be suitable for fishing from the river bank which is about 2 metres high.

Picture 17: River crossing

The west side of the river is the best if you want to get to the water's edge, or in. To get here you would have to cross the swing bridge above. Alternatively you may be able to arrange to be driven across the river by staff in the cam
edge on this side is about 16%.

The Howqua River at the vehicle crossing

Water Slide

There is a large water slide built on the hill on the other side of the river opposite the Main Lodge. This is a straight slide down the hill and is fairly fast. Normally visitors walk up the hill to the top of the slide. There are steps for this which are irregularly spaced and around 200mm high. Arrangements can be made to be driven to the top of the slide.
The area around the top of the slide is open unformed ground covered with grass or bare earth. It is reasonably level but a little uneven.

Picture 18: Water Slide

From the side of the slide users step or transfer into the slide. The sides of the slide are 450mm high from the outside ground level. Internally the slide is 590mm high and 520mm from the edge to the centre.

Picture 19: Archery

Archery

Archery is a fully supervised activity only, conducted on a large, open and flat area of land near the river.

The area is grass with no paved sections and so can be a little uneven. Vehicles can drive to the area if needed.

The targets are moveable so can be adjusted to individual needs. Similarly the camp has a number of bows of varying strength or degrees of stiffness.

Tennis and Basketball

The tennis and basketball courts are easily accessible from the Main Lodge across about 100 metres of flat grass.

Other Activities

Camp Howqua has a number of other activities including the following. However these have limited accessibility. This may change in the future and camp management should be contacted to check the current status of these activities.

High Ropes
Flying Fox
Horse Riding
Low Ropes
Tubing
Swimming
Bushwalking
Mountain Biking

Picture 20: Tennis Courts

Picture 21: Basketball area