

# NARMBOOL

## FACT SHEET



***Narmbool is an historic pastoral property owned and operated by The Sovereign Hill Museums Association.***

Narmbool is located off the Midland Highway at Elaine – just a 30-minute drive from Ballarat and 90 minutes from Melbourne. This magnificent, 2,000-hectare property is renowned as a working example of sustainable land management in a farm environment. It carries approximately 7,000 sheep and incorporates large areas of native bushland that provide habitats for kangaroos, koalas, platypus, native birds and insects.

There is also a series of walking trails allowing visitors to appreciate the natural beauty of Narmbool – from its luxuriant homestead gardens to rolling green hills and across rocky volcanic escarpments with commanding views of nearby Mount Buninyong.

### Features

#### The Narmbool Lodge

Narmbool's facilities are designed specifically for group visits with stylish, modern and environmentally friendly motel-style accommodation at Narmbool Lodge.

Set on a rugged escarpment, Narmbool Lodge has been designed to blend in with the surrounding landscape. Its design includes iconic Australian materials and many water, waste and energy efficiency features.

#### The Garden Room

The Garden Room is an elegant restaurant catering for 60-130 guests. Lined with The Garden Room is an elegant restaurant with French doors opening out onto a terrace framed by sweeping lawns and lush gardens. Set beside the Narmbool Homestead, the Garden Room caters for 60-130 guests. It is an ideal venue for weddings, special functions and conferences. The garden also provides a stunning setting for pre-event cocktails or al fresco dining.

#### The Narmbool Homestead

The historic bluestone homestead, dating back to the 1830s, is a highlight of Narmbool. It is surrounded by an extensive country garden, which also includes an Indigenous area, a large pond and a rotunda.

For wedding and function bookings in the Garden Room Restaurant, and to arrange accommodation for your group at Narmbool Lodge, contact:

Delaware North Companies Australia at Sovereign Hill and Narmbool  
Phone: (03) 5329 2394  
Email: [functions@sovereignhill.com.au](mailto:functions@sovereignhill.com.au)

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### **The Narmbool Interpretive Exhibition**

Behind the homestead is an original bluestone cottage believed to date from the 1850s. Here visitors can view an interpretive exhibition illustrating Narmbool's natural and cultural history.

### **School Camps at Narmbool**

Narmbool's multi-disciplinary Environmental Discovery Camps are an immersive exploration of the wonderful biodiversity on Narmbool and sustainability in a mixed farm and bush environment. Modern, lodge-style accommodation, a learning centre and an arts centre complement a unique educational experience.

By visiting and examining some biodiversity hot spots, students learn about healthy habitats, how all things are connected in ecosystems, and the impact of human decisions in maintaining a vibrant and healthy environment. Indigenous perspectives on the land and its significance further enrich the experience.

Education programs are designed by Sovereign Hill's Education Officers to cater for middle years students. The Education Officers, who are qualified and experienced teachers, conduct the programs, working with visiting teachers to ensure the best curriculum and personal outcomes for every student.

Students can learn or enhance a variety of skills, including bushwalking, orienteering, navigation, animal and plant identification, tracking and water quality testing.

### **Camp Accommodation**

Narmbool provides two types of accommodation and experiences for school groups.

#### **Narmbool Lodge**

The Lodge incorporates environmentally sustainable features, including efficient energy systems, water recycling and worm farms. Teachers and students are accommodated in 3.5 star motel-style rooms. This stylish, comfortable accommodation has en-suite bathrooms, and the dining room takes in superb views across the property's hills and valleys.

Narmbool Lodge caters for 73 people (66 students and 7 adults).

#### **Tea Tree Gully Bush Camp (Yrs 5-6)**

The Tea Tree Gully Bush Camp accommodation is a mixture of pioneer-style huts and timber slab buildings. This secluded location provides a quiet space for learning and social activities by the school group.

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Students learn bush skills, orientation, animal tracking and plant identification. They learn responsibility for camp safety, cleanliness and cooking. Tea Tree Gully Bush Camp caters for 40 people (35 students and 5 adults).

Please note that camp activities may be restricted during summer.

For more information, or to make a booking at a Narmbool Environmental Discovery Camp, contact:

Sovereign Hill Education Booking Office  
Phone (03) 5337 1188  
Fax (03) 5332 9168  
Email: [education@sovereignhill.com.au](mailto:education@sovereignhill.com.au)