

The Snake Valley Astro Camp! March 16 – 19 2018

Camp commences midday, Friday 16th March and concludes midday Tuesday 20th .

The Saturday night "Spit Roast under the Stars" will be on again. Cost will be \$10 per head meat and salads provided

PLEASE NOTE: Fees are unchanged except that for juniors (those who have not turned 18 by 24/3/17) a single fee of \$10 will apply regardless of how many nights they stay. Hopefully this will make the camp more affordable for families and juniors.

4 nights of beautiful dark sky away from City glare.

- LIMITED TO 50 BOOKINGS ONLY PER NIGHT-
(plus casual visitors also welcome, if setting up gear a \$5- fee will apply)

- The observing field has 240 volt mains Power
- There are 11 bunkhouses (from 2 to 8 bunks) and lots of camping space on the observing field.
- Caravans welcome.
- Hot showers & toilets in a caravan park style amenities block.
- Large dining room for about 60 people
- Recreation room (billiards, table tennis)
- Fully equipped kitchen with all cooking utensils, crockery, cutlery, fridges etc.
- Lake for swimming, fishing, canoeing etc.
- BBQ facilities

*Please note, Bunkhouses CANNOT be booked for one night only.

Exceptions are accepted if you are in a shared bunkhouse with others staying more than one night. Alternatively, the campsite is available for one night if that's all you can stay.

* Alcohol is allowed, but 'drunkenness' or use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated.

* Aerosols of any description (Aeroguard, deodorant etc) are TOTALLY BANNED on the observing field. Stray spray could (and has) permanently damage optics.

* A red light only policy is in place on the observing field after dark. Lap top screens are to be suitably shielded and dimmed. DIM Red Lights (Red LED Head Torches, etc) are acceptable. PLEASE NOTE, a sheet of cellophane taped over a tactical flashlight is not a DIM red light. If a white light must be used, please warn nearby observers before turning it on.

* Persons violating above rules will be asked to leave and will forfeit fees paid.

* We would prefer for the field to be smoke free, please consider those around you

Snake Valley Astronomy Camps are fun, low key, social events. A white light ban is in force (as expected), but due to the nature of our camps, imagers and observers are all mixed in together having a great social astronomy experience.

WHERE IS IT?

The camp is held at Crystal Lake Cabins in Snake Valley. Street address is 554 Linton-Carngham Rd, Snake Valley VIC 3351. If coming from Melbourne travel to Ballarat then take the Glenelg Highway to Linton and turn right onto the Snake Valley-Carngham Rd. The campsite is on your right before getting to the township of Snake Valley. Please be aware that the Snake Valley Observatory run by the Snake Valley Astronomical Association is not the site of the camp.

The Campsite is a private business that we hire for the duration of the camp.

THE BUNKHOUSES

The 11 bunkhouses range from 2, 4, or 6 bunks up to several with 8 bunks (4 sets of upper and lower bunks).

They have mattresses, but no bed linen. You will need to supply your own sheets, blankets, doona's, and pillows. Or just throw a sleeping bag on the mattress.

CAMPING

The observing field/camping area is on a very gentle slope to assist drainage, bordered on the west by trees and the road, and on the east by the lake. Plenty of room for a lot of people to camp and set up.

240v power is supplied.

SKY

Very dark. There is a faint light dome visible low in the east, coming from Ballarat, Melbourne and Geelong.

OTHER STUFF

Solar Observing during the day. We will try and organise a workshop or two over the weekend. Will advise details once they have been finalised.

COOKING

The kitchen is fully equipped.

All cutlery, cooking utensils, pots, pans, jugs, you name it, it's probably there!

Microwaves, grillers, enormous gas ovens and stove top, 3 fridge/freezers.

All you need is your food.

SHOPS

There are supplies available locally.

3k - Snake Valley General Store: Basic groceries, petrol etc

closes 12:00 Sat, shut Sunday

5k - Linton Store: Basic groceries, petrol, hot fish & chips, hamburgers etc.

Open 7 days till 8pm

12k - Smythesdale: Supermarket, petrol, shops.

Open 7 days

20 minutes - Ballarat

LOCAL SIGHTS: Nimmons Bridge, Computer Museum, Jubilee Gold Mine Historic Reserve, Sovereign Hill, etc.

FEES

(to allow more people to attend the camp some people may have to share a bunkhouse)

PLEASE NOTE: No booking will be regarded as firm until payment is made.

Membership fee (Compulsory for all staying overnight) \$10

Please contact Malcolm Barker via email on snakevalleyastrocamps@gmail.com or by phoning 0352313048 or via PM on Ice in Space, user name barx1963 if you have any queries about the fees

Bunkhouses (per person)*

2 nights \$60.00

3 nights \$80.00

4 nights \$100.00

Campsite (per person)

1 night \$25.00

2 nights \$50.00

3 nights \$75.00

4 nights \$95.00

Juniors under 18 - \$10 regardless how many nights or whether staying in bunkhouses or camping.

Children under 5 y.o. - free

Please book in by completing details on PDF booking form available on the website.

Please scan completed form and return to us via email

to snakevalleyastrocamps@gmail.com along with a payment receipt (see below).

Please note: The camp will be proceeding regardless of rain, wind, snow or cloud. When booking in, please consider that refunds will not be given if pulling out due to the weather forecast.

If you have any queries or would like assistance with your booking, I can be contacted via email on snakevalleyastrocamps@gmail.com or by phoning 0352313048 or via PM on Ice in Space, user name barx1963.

Payment details:

BSB 063510

Account 10397720

Please include your name in the detail field when making a payment. If possible email a copy of the payment receipt to snakevalleyastrocamps@gmail.com