

Game Hunting in Victoria

Hog Deer Hunting

Series No 17

Who can hunt

To be eligible to hunt Hog Deer in Victoria you must:

- be the holder of a current Victorian Game Licence endorsed to hunt deer; and
- obtain a pair of Hog Deer Tags from the Department of Sustainability and Environment and have them in your possession while hunting

Hunters wishing to hunt Hog Deer with a firearm must be the holder of a current Firearms Licence issued by Victoria Police.

Where can you hunt Hog Deer?

Hog Deer can be found in a range of land classifications along the southeastern coast of Victoria. It is the responsibility of hunters to find out where you can legally hunt. The following is a guide to land classifications:

Land classification	Hog Deer Hunting permitted?
State Forest and other unoccupied Crown Land	Open season only
State Game Reserves	Open season only in the following Reserves: Jack Smith Lake, Dowd Morass, Lake Coleman, Heart Morass, Clydebank Morass, Ewing Morass.
National Parks, State Parks, Coastal Parks, Wilderness Parks	Most Parks are closed to hunting. Exceptions for Hog Deer are sections of: Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park and Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park in Open season only
Leased Crown land	Open season only and with permission of lessee.
Licensed Crown Land	Open season only If land is licensed under the <i>Land Act 1958</i> permission of licensee is required Open season only
Private land	Open season only and with permission of land owner, manager, lessee or licensee.
Sanctuaries	Not at any time
Flora and Fauna Reserves and Nature Conservation Reserves	Not at any time

Further information on where to hunt is available on hunting maps. The series is available on the DSE website www.dse.vic.gov.au. Remember to clearly identify the boundaries of the land where you intend to hunt. You must comply with the firearms safety code at all times.

Season

Opens 30 minutes before sunrise on 1 April

Closes 30 minutes after sunset on 30 April

Bag Limit

One male (stag) and one female (hind)



Methods

The following list details the legal hunting methods for Hog Deer.

Centrefire rifle

Minimum calibre .243" (6.17 mm), minimum cartridge case length 2" (51 mm); minimum projectile weight 85 grains (5.51 grams)

Muzzle-loading rifle

Minimum calibre .45" (11.45 mm); minimum projectile weight 133 grains (8.62 grams)

Long bow / recurve bow

Minimum draw-weight of 22.5 kg; arrows must be broad-head with a minimum of two sharpened cutting blades. Arrows must have a total minimum weight of no less than 25 grams.

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Compound bow

Peak weight of no less than 22.5 kg; arrows must be broad-head with a minimum of two sharpened cutting blades. Arrows must have a total minimum weight of no less than 25 grams.

Crossbow

Minimum draw-weight of no less than 36.6 kg; arrows must be broad-head with a minimum of two sharpened cutting blades. Arrows must have a total minimum weight of no less than 25 grams.

Tag System

Hunters must obtain a pair of Hog Deer tags prior to hunting. There are two tags: one male "M" and one Female "F". You can collect a tag package at DSE and Parks Victoria Offices. Offices are listed below in "Contacts". You must produce your current Game Licence to acquire the tags.

Tags must not be defaced, altered, transferred or lost. Hunters must return any unused tags within 28 days of the end of season with a completed Hog Deer Return Form.

Harvested animals

You must carry your Hog Deer tags with you when hunting. The correct sex specific tag must be immediately attached to a harvested animal. It is inserted between the main bone of the leg and the main tendon, completely encircling the bone.

The head must stay intact. In the field you may cape an animal and field-dress (gut) the animal. If a hind has a foetus note the length and stage of development. If possible collect it for the checking station operator.

All harvested Hog Deer must be taken to a checking station within 24 hours.

Hunters must telephone a checking station operator to arrange an appointment. Locations and details of checking stations are given in *Victorian Hunting Guide*.



Bairnsdale Checking Station operator Greg Rogers April 2008.

Contacts

For Hog Deer tag packages (usually available two weeks before the season) collect at the following DSE offices during business hours:

BAIRNSDALE	574 Main Street 3875
BOX HILL	30 Prospect Street 3128
DSE Customer Service Centre	Please call 136 186 to arrange obtaining your tag pair
NOOJEE	McCarthy's Spur Road 3833
ORBOST	171-173 Nicholson Street 3888
SALE	1 Lacey Street 3850
TRARALGON	71 Hotham Street 3844
YARRAM	310 Commercial Road 3971

For further information on Parks and State Game Reserves contact Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 19 63.

For further details on hunting contact the Department of Sustainability and Environment Customer Service centre on 136 186.

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For more information contact the DSE Customer Service Centre 136 186
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