

Shelley Hunting Camp – Essentials Info-Pack

We ask that all ADA members bring their ADA membership cards so that we can check their credentials for insurance purposes. All hunters need a current firearms licence (from any state) and a Victorian Game License (<http://www.gma.vic.gov.au/licensing/apply-for-a-game-licence>).

1. For transport in Victoria, firearms and ammunition must be secured in separate locked compartments (e.g. portable hard-case/ammo tin) both attached to the inside of the transporting vehicle; note that the transport of spotlights with firearms in deer habitat (i.e. NE Victoria) is prohibited by law.
2. The camp is at 800 metres altitude and therefore cold at night. A -5 degree sleeping bag is advisable. No linen will be supplied for indoor accommodation.
3. The manager (Lyn) of Shelley Forest Camp has kindly agreed to run an info session with projector on Sunday evening (28 September). Lyn lives nearby and runs a local native nursery; she will alert us to what the deer are eating and provide other tips for hunting.
4. On Monday evening, Bob Gough (ADA Life Member and former National President) will give a talk on “Getting the most out of your GPS”.
5. During the camp, all ammunition is banned from the buildings. Ammunition must remain locked and out of sight in vehicles. We will attempt to set aside a dedicated room for the cleaning of firearms (and the butchering of deer) and a particular safety protocol will need to be followed to take a firearm from a vehicle to the cleaning-room, and then back again. Having said that, we prefer that firearms remain in vehicles 24/7.
6. Attendees are responsible for obtaining their own map(s), navigation equipment and other gear for the bush; however, there will be a very limited supply of maps available free, or for purchase. Note that both “print-ready” and new 2019 “web-based” maps are downloadable from the Game Management Authority website. These are essential to delineate legal hunting areas in this complex terrane.
7. At Shelley on Saturday evening, people will choose the area they wish to hunt and inform the camp organiser(s) of their intentions, by marking individual hunting areas on a large-scale wall-poster map, and also by recording details in a day-log book. The area is so huge that nobody should miss-out on a good area. However, in the case where someone’s preferred area is taken by another hunter, we ask that everyone respects that fact.
8. Telstra phones are essential for NE Victoria and the High Country – no other network services these areas. Having said that, phones will have limited use in most hunting areas. We insist that hunters have a 2-way radio, a GPS, laminated maps and a compass. An emergency bivy-bag and realistic survival gear must be carried in a rucksack no smaller than 25 litres.
9. Hunters can operate alone in the bush but they must have a "hunting buddy". “Hunting buddies” will not necessarily hunt together, although some might. A “hunting buddy” must understand the day-to-day intentions of his buddy. The rationale is that if something goes wrong, the alarm can be raised quickly, in the

first instance by the buddy. Blaze orange should be worn by hunters operating in areas where other hunters are likely to be encountered.

10. We encourage people to camp-out from night 3 onwards if they wish – there is huge scope for that as long as buddies are told. All people attending the camp must have had some deer hunting experience with their local branch. However, even people with no experience of eastern Victoria are encouraged to attend. Such people will find their feet quickly as long as they arrive prepared and with the correct equipment.
11. **To register for the camp, e-mail the following details to michaelsen@geologist.com: your name, ADA branch affiliation, mobile phone number, ADA membership number, vehicle registration, and whether you intend to sleep indoors or camp outdoors. If you are in a group of 2 or more, please also indicate the names of your preferred roommates if you want indoor accommodation.**

Most of the dorm rooms have two beds; several have 3 or 4 beds as bunks. We will do our best to place people in the groups they want. However, if you definitely want to sleep indoors, please bring an air mattress for the very large “family rooms”. Indoor accommodation is **ONLY** available to persons staying at least 3 consecutive nights.

The trick is to be flexible, and bring a tent and mattress in case the dorm rooms are full: that way you will not miss-out!

We have a contingency plan – an overflow camp (~65 km away) if numbers at Shelley camp become too great.

12. Payment for accommodation at Shelley must be made on the evening of Saturday (28 Sep) or Sunday (29 Sep) – **NO EXCEPTIONS**. The closest flexi-tellers are 45 km away at Corryong or Tallangatta, therefore everyone is advised to bring the exact change upon arrival.
13. There are no shops at Shelley. The closest modern supermarkets are at Wodonga, 82 km away; these are open between 6 AM and midnight, seven days.

We look forward to another safe and successful Shelley Hunting Camp.

Please, only call an organiser after thoroughly reading these instructions. Bookings will ideally be made without a phone call.

Bernd Michaelsen (NY Branch) 0419 832 995

Enquiries only: northern-yorke.sec@austdeer.asn.au

Firm bookings with required details as outlined above: michaelsen@geologist.com

Other contacts:

Jake Nicholson (SE Branch) 0468 897 235

Pejman Hurmuzniya (NY Branch) 0407 012 189

Paul Castle (NY Branch) 0428 382 997 (post mid-August only)

Ben Nicolson (NY Branch) 0488 257 764 (enquiries from WA)