

FRIENDS COMING?
PLEASE FORWARD THIS ON TO THEM TOO.

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A Plain Text copy of Pocket Companion can be found on the website under <u>Accessibility</u>.

Welcome

Thank you for being part of The 33rd Annual Meredith. Pocket Companion is designed to help make your time here incredibly smooth and outrageously enjoyable.

ENTRY – To help everyone enter as smoothly as possible, please check this **Traffic Updates** page for general information about getting here and in, and particular information about any pertinent updates to traffic on the day. Please be careful and patient on the roads and follow directions, both outside and inside the festival. Park safely at camp and do not drive again until it is time to leave. Never reverse or attempt to move your vehicle before checking under and around it.

PLEASE LOOK AFTER YOURSELF AND OTHERS – the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre can feel like a sovereign dominion, but the same laws that apply outside its boundaries apply within them. Similarly, the laws of the human body are no different here than anywhere else. Rest and rehydrate. Pace yourself. Do not mix drugs and do not use them on your own. If you are feeling unwell, tell someone. There are several recent drug alerts, which you can find via **theknow.org.au**.

NO FIRES – it's a Total Fire Ban day and night.

NO GAS – whether in bottles, cylinders, canisters, whatever. No camp stoves, BBQs, lanterns, soda water makers etc. No cooking equipment at all please, including induction and solar-powered cooktops.

NO GLASS or CERAMIC – don't bring any glass at all. In order to look after the animals that call this farm home, all glass will be confiscated. Ceramic crockery is no good either.

LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES – if you plan on driving an EV, or bringing a power bank or other device with a lithiumion battery, please check out these **lithium-ion battery guidelines**, which will help reduce the risk of fire.

NO TOOLS – don't bring tools like hand and power saws, nail guns etc. You won't be allowed in with these banned items.

GET PREPARED – check the **forecast** before you leave and bring waterproof clothing and several changes of warm clothes. Quality waterproof boots are highly recommended, as is bringing a ground sheet or tarp to place under your tent. No thongs – the #1 treated injury on the First Aid Hit Parade is cut feet: can't dance to that. And cover up and slip-slop-slap-seek-slide.

Asthmatics and sufferers of allergies such as hayfever, please come prepared, and go to First Aid early if you have concerns. On days of heightened **thunderstorm asthma** risk, be aware that people with no history of asthma can be susceptible too. To combat mozzies, pack an effective repellent that contains deet or picaridin.

If you have a viral or bacterial illness, please take one for the team and stay home to keep from infecting others. And practise good hygiene, both before you arrive and whilst here.

Follow these <u>Directions</u> to get here, drive safely and be good in town. To camp together, arrive together – in convoy.

The one and only stage lets loose from 3:15pm Friday with the smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country.

Read on carefully, even if you've flown with us before. Go to mmf.com.au for Every Thing.

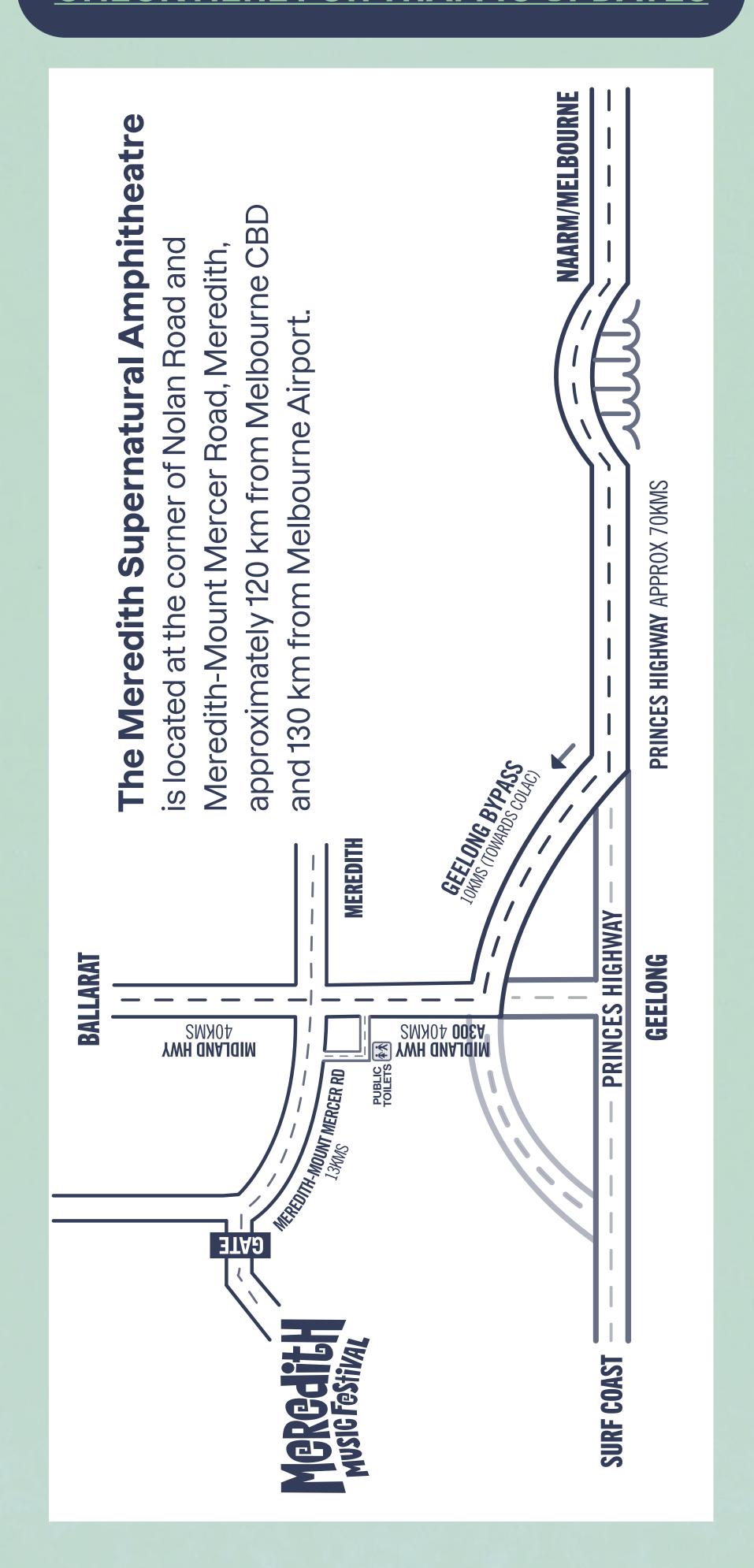
I very much look forward to The Pleasure of Your Company,



How To Get Here

GATES OPEN AT 8AM ON FRIDAY PLEASE DON'T COME EARLIER - ROADBLOCKS ARE IN PLACE

CHECK HERE FOR TRAFFIC UPDATES



DRIVING FROM NAARM/MELBOURNE

From Naarm/Melbourne, take the Princes Fwy (M1) towards Geelong.

As you approach Geelong, keep right to stay on the Geelong Bypass, following the signs to Colac.

Travel on the Geelong Bypass for about 10 km and then take the Ballarat Exit A300.

Turn right onto the Midland Hwy (A300) and head towards Ballarat for about 40 km until you get to Meredith.

At Meredith, turn left after the service station. This is Meredith-Mount Mercer Rd.

The Sup' is approximately 13 km along this road.*

DRIVING FROM GEELONG & SURF COAST

From Geelong, take the Midland Hwy (A300) and head towards Ballarat for about 40 km until you get to Meredith.

At Meredith, turn left after the service station. This is Meredith-Mount Mercer Rd.

The Sup' is approximately 13 km along this road.*

*On the Friday, this might take up to 60 minutes, as there are holding bays in place to ensure safe and steady traffic flow.



DRIVING FROM BALLARAT

From Ballarat, take the Midland Hwy (A300) and head towards Geelong for about 40 km until you get to Meredith.

Turn right after the corner pub in Meredith. This is Meredith-Mount Mercer Rd.

The Sup' is approximately 13 km along this road.*

*On the Friday, this might ordinarily take up to 60 minutes, as there are holding bays in place to ensure safe and steady traffic flow.

NB: Deans Road is closed to festival traffic on entry (Friday) and exit (Sunday) days. There are currently roadworks in the district, and some delays may be expected. Exercise plenty of care if using the very narrow Elaine–Mount Mercer Rd. Be sure to follow the above directions rather than any shortcuts or navigation app.



BE GOOD IN TOWN

Please respect the fine township of Meredith, our gracious hosts, and be good if you stop in town.

Observe road rules – don't overtake. Don't litter, swear, have a sneaky wee on a fence, etc. You know, don't be a dickhead. There are public toilets at the oval and the Interpretative Centre.

GET HERE AND BACK SAFELY

We respect the work of Victoria Police, who set up booze and drug testing buses before and after. Getting home safely is part of going. If you take drugs, do not drive. Many drugs can stay in your system for over a week. NEVER drive under the influence. ALWAYS designate a driver.

Free breath testing will be available next to the Meredith Eye Ferris Wheel throughout the weekend, and from two satellite locations on the last day (SportsField and near the U11 Helper Hut at the junction of Outer Space, Top Camp and South Pines). Get a breath test before getting behind the wheel. Drug (saliva) testing is also available at the location next to the Ferris Wheel throughout the weekend.

REMEMBER

- You can't reserve campsites so, if you want to camp together, arrive together in convoy.
- Put your wristband on (not too tight) as you head to Meredith, and leave it on for the duration, until you are out the gate at the end.
- Anyone without a valid wristband will be regarded as a trespasser and handed over to Police. Trespassers will be charged and subject to substantial fines. All occupants of any vehicle assisting a trespasser will be refused entry. Wristbands must stay on for the entire weekend and cannot be shared.

DRIVERS

- After entry, drive slower than walking pace (5 km/h or less).
- Park safely at camp and do not drive again until you leave.
- Park perpendicular to any slope (across it rather than up or down).
- Triple-check that your handbrake is on.
- NEVER REVERSE.
- Always check under and around your vehicle before moving it.
- Be aware that driving on wet grass or gravel can be slippery.
- Take the free shuttle bus (which departs from the Reception Bus Stop) to town and back on Saturday, or check out Heaven Eleven (next to Helper Hut Central) – they sell things you forgot.
- Zero tolerance for dickheads behind the wheel.



What To Bring

GETTING HERE ESSENTIALS

	This Pocket Companion. Save to your device for offline viewing.
	Your ticket. The wristband is your ticket. It gets you in around and out. Double-check you have it now. Put it on as you leave home. Keep it on at all times while you're here.
	A designated driver for Friday.
	A designated driver for Sunday. Plan ahead.
\bigcirc	Public transport is a good option.
	A convoy plan. Reserving campsites is not permitted Arrive together to camp together. If your friends can't turn up when you do, just make new ones.
CA	MPSITE ESSENTIALS
	Bulk drinking water – free drinking water is available on-site but bring big (eg. 10 litre) refillable containers for drinking, washing, cleaning, brushing your teeth, etc.
	Bring a tarp or mesh ground sheet to put under your tent.
	A reusable drink bottle, for filling up at any of the 19 free drinking water locations.
	No glass at all. Plastic or cans only. No bottles of any kind (including wine, champagne), jars of any kind (including salsa, vegemite), containers, mirrors, mirror balls or perfume. All glass will be confiscated and cannot be returned. No ceramic crockery either please.

A good tent (or caravan, campervan, etc.) – waterproof shelter, in good repair, so you can rest well in all weather conditions.
Weights to hold down the interior corners of your tent. Keep your campsite secure from wind.
Lots of long tent pegs, a mallet, camp chair, rug or blanket and plenty of ropes to take any furniture back home.
A table for sharing snacks and playing card games.
LOTS of warm bedding, doonas, sleeping bag, blankets – nights can get <i>really</i> cold, even if days are hot.
Pillows, camping mattress (and air pump if required) – something to insulate you from the ground.
Torch/camplight – strap-on headlamps are good. Battery-powered camp lantern.
Tent marker like a flag, or similar, on a pole. Tents all look the same.
Snacks – in non-glass, reusable containers. Please decant/transfer things like salsa, sauce and vegemite from their original glass packaging.
The foresight and stamina to pack up and take all your shit home with you again.

CAMPING GEAR HIRE

Now available next to the Meredith Eye.

Hire tents, chairs, buggies, coolers, bedding

– or utilise the onsite gear repair service for tents, shoes and more.

PERSONAL ESSENTIALS

	Multiple pairs of good, sensible shoes – quality waterproof boots are highly recommended – and lots of socks. Thongs and sandals don't really cut it.
	A sturdy waterproof raincoat with a hood, and a big bag of spare warm and waterproof clothes and boots (jumpers, thermals, socks, beanie, gloves).
	Any medication you need – there is no pharmacy on site. If you have a chronic condition or illness (including asthma, diabetes, epilepsy) and/ or allergies, please come prepared with your medication and present to First Aid early if you are concerned or experiencing difficulty. If you suffer from hayfever, come prepared with your regular medication. Carry emergency contact numbers and information regarding your condition at all times.
	If you do have an allergy or medical condition, have a buddy system in place so there is at least one person aware of your situation.
	Sunglasses, sunblock, sun hat, long sleeve shirts and long pants for sun protection.
	Earplugs and, if needed, anything else that helps to soften sensory input.
	Familiarise yourself with any <u>accessibility</u> related site features that you might want to access.
	Valid form of photo ID (physical overseas drivers licences and all <u>digital Australian drivers licences</u> are accepted) – carry it at all times, even if you are 73.
	Toiletries – toothbrush, toothpaste, biodegradable shampoo and soap for hot showers, condoms, deodorant, tissues, sanitary items, towel, wash cloth, etc. Please don't bring baby wipes.

- First aid kit band-aids, headache and hangover relief, insect repellent (with deet or picaridin to repel mozzies), lip balm, earplugs, pain relief for bites and stings, instant cold/hot pack.
- Card (virtual or physical). Many places of commerce are now Card Only, including all bars, the showers, Heaven Eleven and the Gift Shoppe. Some food stalls, including the Tucker Tent, will continue to accept cash, but there is no ATM on site so please bring cash if you need it.
- Mobile phone there are no landline public phones on site. There is a public phone in the town of Meredith, 10 minutes drive from the site. You should be able to get a decent signal from both major national mobile networks. Phone recharging is now provided by the Community Tucker Tent. See the booth, just to the left of the main Tucker Tent building (K12).
- Save the 24 hour Helper Hotline number to your phone to call or SMS for assistance –

0430 091 120

(it's on your wristband)

Please register your tickets and in-case-of emergency contact numbers via **mmf.com.au/register**.

- O Download the free **Emergency Plus App**. The app uses GPS functionality to help staff and emergency services locate you.
- Maybe bring something to read, something to play not bongos! (see banned items below)

AND WHAT NOT TO

There are some things you can't bring, including: glass, commercial signage, gas bottles, animals, and things that block views in the Amphitheatre. You can bring things-on-sticks, but they must be narrower than your average head of cauliflower. Don't bring tools like hand and power saws, nail guns, etc. They can't come in.

Banned items and terms, conditions and policies are viewable at mmf.com.au.

CAUTION FIRE WARNING

NO FIRES, NO MATTER THE WEATHER. TOTAL FIRE BAN DAY AND NIGHT.

- No gas bottles, gas kegs, candles, lanterns, cooking equipment, BBQs, generators, fireworks, sparklers or lasers. You can cloak and/or discard all banned items at Reception and your nearest Helper Hut (a much better option than having your stuff confiscated by staff).
- Keep all internal roads clear for emergency vehicles.
 And by clear we don't mean kinda clear, or mostly clear. If it doesn't fit, park it elsewhere. Please do not park ANY part of your vehicle on ANY road. If you do, it will be towed.
- Cigarettes ensure butts are 100% extinguished. Butt
 'em out, pick 'em up, put 'em in the bin. It's real easy.
 Used vapes can be disposed of at Helper Huts rather
 than in the general waste, as they are a danger to
 waste staff.
- Avoid setting up next to vehicle exhaust.
- Keep your campsite free of flammable material and rubbish.
- Don't leave your vehicle running longer than necessary.
- In the food courts, at the showers and in the campgrounds, free drinking water tanks can be used to refill your campsite bulk water containers.

How To Get Help



EVERYONE CAN ACCESS APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL HELP AND WELFARE 24 HOURS

Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Doctors, Welfare, Helpers, Private Security and Public Safety Officers are available on-site. Our welfare team includes professional counsellors, social workers and psychologists, should you need support. Together, our priority is to listen without judgement and encourage appropriate professional help for immediate and ongoing care.

HOW TO ACCESS HELP OR WELFARE 24 HOURS

- Visit your nearest Helper Hut or Helper Hut Central
- Call or text the Helper Hotline on 0430 091120 (it's on your wristband)
- Email Aunty: <u>auntym@mmf.com.au</u>
- Contact the Helpdesk (it's anonymous):
 helpdesk.mmf.com.au
- Visit First Aid, Welfare or Police, to the right of the stage
- Emergency Services request that you not use social media to report an incident or emergency
- Download <u>Safety Information</u> from the website, which includes contacts for off-site support

Look after yourself and others. If you see someone who is unwell, please alert us immediately.





Friday

SMOKING CEREMONY	WELCOME TO COUNTRY	DR SURE'S UNUSUAL PRACTICE	DRIFTING CLOUDS	FOLK BITCH TRIO	HOUSEKEEPING	SAYA GRAY	BROWN SPIRITS	PERFUME GENIUS	MILDLIFE	PA SALIEU	SAM AUSTINS	NINAJIRACHI 🔼	RP BOO	SILENCE WEDGE
3:15 — 3:45PM	3:45 — 3:55	4:00 – 4:40	5:00 - 5:40	6:00 — 6:40	6:40	7:05 – 7:45	8:10 — 8:55	9:25 — 10:15	10:40 — 11:40	12:05 — 12:50AM	1:10 — 1:40	1:55 — 2:55	3:00 - 4:00	4:00 - 10:00



Performance uses one or more of: rapidly flashing lights, visuals with repeating patterns and/or strobe-like effects, designed to create a high sensory experience. Discretion is advised.

Performance uses flashing and flickering lights and/or visuals, at settings used to reduce health and safety risks.

SYMBOL KEY:

(Circle)

MC: SHORTY, UNCLE BARRY
INTERSTITIAL SOUNDTRACK BY:
SMALL FRY, DJ FEE B2, JIMI DAWG

WAX'O PARADISO

- 7:00

5:00

INTERSTITIAL SOUNDTRACK BY: SAM CUMMINS, BABYCINO

MC: SHORTY

Saturday

CITY OF BALLARAT	MUNICIPAL BRASS BAND
10:00 - 10:40AM C	2

								IPNY		0				0		0
MOUSEATOUILLE	THE PRIZE	JUNE JONES	RADIO FREE ALICE	COLIN HAY	HOUSEKEEPING	DAMES BROWN	OMAR SOULEYMAN	ODDISEE & GOOD COMPNY	HOUSEKEEPING	CHET FAKER	BAR ITALIA	TV ON THE RADIO	ATARASHII GAKKO!	MEREDITH SKY SHOW	RONA.	HAAI
11:00 — 11:40	12:00 — 12:40PM	1:00 — 1:40	2:00 – 2:40	3:00 – 3:45	3:45	4:10 — 4:55	5:15 — 6:05	6:30 – 7:15	7:15	7:45 — 8:35	9:00 — 9:45	10:15 — 11:25	11:55 — 12:55AM	1:08 — 1:20	1:20 — 2:50	2:55 — 4:55



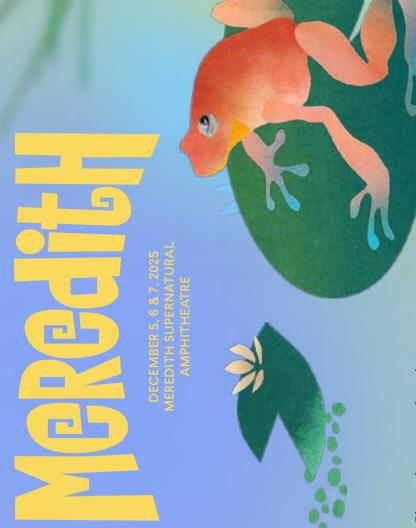
SILENCE WEDGE	9:00 - 9:40 MASTER SONG TAI CHI	10:00 - 10:40 GUY BLACKMAN	CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S CHOIR
7:00 - 9:00AM	9:00 — 9:40	10:00 — 10:40	11:00 — 11:40

FLORIST	1:00-1:40 JACK J	THE MEREDITH GIFT	WITH GABRIELLA BARTONOVA AND THE HUXLEYS
12:00 - 12:40PM FLORIST	1:00 – 1:40	2:00 - 2:30	

RHYSICS	LAZY SUSAN
2:30 — 3:00	SPECIAL GUEST MC

4:30PM GATES CLOSE
INTERSTITIAL SOUNDTRACK BY:
SARITA

THE 33RD ANNUAL



Please be aware that, due to circumstances beyond our control, these playing times could change at any time.

Stage Lighting & Visuals

On-screen messages will be displayed for any sets that feature flashing lights and visuals at a rate that could mean you need to practise discretion. You can also refer to the symbols shown on the Playing Times above, which inform of any higher intensity sets. The same playing times are available from the website and will appear on the Playing Times board at the right side of the stage (when facing the stage from the Amphi) once you're at Meredith.

The symbols on the Playing Times within this Pocket Companion are current as of the date of publication, but may be subject to change.

SYMBOLKEY

(Circle)

Performance uses flashing and flickering lights and/or visuals, at settings designed to reduce health and safety risks.

(Triangle)

Performance uses one or more of: rapidly flashing lights, visuals with repeating patterns and/or strobe-like effects, designed to create a high sensory experience. Discretion is advised.



Please Look After Yourself & Others

We want you to have the best possible time. The time of your life. We also want your friends and the people around you to have a great time. Please don't stuff that up by not being responsible for your wellbeing.

- Rest and rehydrate. Meredith goes for three days and two nights. Pace yourself if you want to enjoy it all. Take regular drinks of water, particularly in hot weather.
- If you are intending to take drugs or drink alcohol, please take these things into consideration:
- Never source drugs at the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre.
- Always assume that your drugs may not be what you expect.
- Do not use drugs on your own.
- Start low and go slow with dosing. The amount of MDMA in pills and capsules varies significantly – so start with a low dose. Even if you've used MDMA before, hot and humid conditions can make your 'normal' dose hazardous.
- Go slow if consuming any other substance or redosing

 wait until peak effects have passed. You shouldn't
 need to take as much when redosing to maintain the
 same effect.
- Delayed or different effects could be a sign of unexpected ingredients like PMMA or cathinones.
- Recent drug alerts have indicated that opioids may be sold as or found in cocaine, methamphetamine and MDMA.

- Additionally, using opioids with depressants such as alcohol, GHB or benzodiazepines ('Xanax', 'Valium', 'Mylan', etc) increases the risk of overdose.
- Signs of an opioid overdose may include a person who is unconscious or unresponsive, or who is having breathing difficulties.
- If you administer your own naloxone, please seek medical help from our First Aid team.
- You can visit the <u>Victorian Pill Testing Service</u>'s
 fixed site at 95 Brunswick St, Fitzroy in the lead up to
 Meredith, if you'd like to have your drugs checked.
 The service has comprehensive testing capabilities
 and can provide longer consultation times and referral
 pathways if needed.
- If you or someone near you is feeling unwell, immediately alert our staff, a Helper Hut, security, or the First Aid or Welfare team (to the far right of the stage). If you or a friend have taken drugs and are in need of medical attention, medical staff are not obliged to involve anyone else, including the Police. So don't be afraid to go to First Aid or Welfare. The team is not here to judge you, they are here to help you. So be honest with them. Everyone can access appropriate professional help during the weekend.
- Drug education information is available from all Helper Huts and First Aid or Welfare.
- National drug alerts can be found via **theknow.org.au**.
- For anonymous, confidential and accessible information about particular drugs, you can use the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's free Text the Effects SMS service 24/7. Simply text the name of the drug you want to know about to: 0439 TELL ME (0439 835 563). You can also contact <u>DirectLine</u>, which provides free confidential alcohol and drug counselling and referral 24/7 on 1800 888 236.

- CONSENT We can only freely agree to something if we are able to show or say in a clear and open way that we want to take part in something. Consent is not the absence of a No it's the presence of an enthusiastic Yes. Consent is given by opting in not by being silent. Once consent is given it can be withdrawn at any time. In line with the affirmative consent laws introduced in Victoria, a person must take steps by saying or doing something to find out if the other person consents. ALWAYS ASK, NEVER ASSUME.
- If you experience anything that you are not ok with, please let a member of staff know as soon as you can.
- There are onsite supports for anyone who has concerns about their sexual health and safety.
- If you have a viral or bacterial illness (including COVID)
 please stay at home, to keep from infecting others.
- Please wash your hands.
- Trees can, like us, break. Take care when camping under them and definitely don't climb them.
- For your safety, please always stay within the boundaries, familiarise yourself with the map grid reference of your campsite, the location of your local Helper Hut, and the emergency assembly areas.
- Please notify our staff if you see something you think is unsafe or might need attention.
- Have a buddy system in place with a trusted mate.
 Check in regularly with each other, especially if you or a friend have an illness or allergy.
- Please allow your fellow campers to get some rest by not playing music or making noise back at camp during Silence Wedge.

The No Dickhead Policy

Is really about us showing each other common courtesies. It began in the early 90s when it quickly became clear that Meredith-goers liked the lack of dickhead behaviour.



If you behave like a dickhead, this place isn't for you. Zero tolerance for offensive verbal comments, aggression, violence, intimidation, harassment or assault of any kind.

NEVER – any aggressive behaviour, intoxicated drivers, driving faster than walking pace, swimming in dams or elsewhere, glass or breaking the law.

IN THE AMPHITHEATRE – no stage diving, crowd surfing, shoulder rides, moshing or blocking views with raised couches, things-on-sticks (ok if no bigger than your average cauliflower) or large cameras.

IN THE CAMPGROUNDS – no reserving campsites, super-messy campsites, loud or offensive tunes or leaving furniture and crap behind for landfill.

If you think you've spotted someone being a dickhead, politely let them or one of their friends know. If one of your friends is being a dickhead, get them to pull their head in.

THANK YOU FOR UPHOLDING THIS TRADITION.

