

LAKE CRESSBROOK

With fishing, boating, camping, children's playground, beach volleyball and excellent barbeque and picnic areas ...

How to get there

Lake Cressbrook was completed in 1983 as part of Toowoomba region's water supply and is located about 40 minutes drive from Toowoomba (10 minutes from Crow's Nest) along the Esk- Pechey Road

The lake is set in hills covered by open forest of grey gum and iron bark with areas of grassland. This vegetation provides an attractive habitat for kangaroos, wallabies and a number of smaller marsupials, many of them nocturnal. Waterfowl numbers have increased since the lake was formed and pelicans, ducks, black swans, cormorants and coots can be observed in large numbers. Sea eagles have been known to nest on the foreshore of the lake and platypus have been seen at Lake Cressbrook. This abundance of wildlife is one of the reasons dogs and cats are not permitted within the Lake Cressbrook area.



Day Use

Lake Cressbrook offers many activities: boating, rowing, fishing, bush walking, sailing, camping, windsurfing, picnicking and canoeing to name just a few.

The day use area is open from 6am to 8pm during the summer months (September to April) and from 7am to 6pm during the winter months (May to August). Water-based activities are not permitted outside these hours (campers included).

A site entry fee of \$2.50 per vehicle (current July 2010, coins only accepted, no change given) applies, but aside from permits for fishing and camping there are no other charges. All BBQ's are free and we even supply volleyballs for use on the beach volleyball courts. Lake Cressbrook has the use of both gas and wood fire barbeques.

Camping

The Campground is located on the shores of the lake to the west of the day use area and boat ramps, turn left immediately after passing through the main entry boom gate. There are more than 30 campsites at Lake Cressbrook; six of these are available for campers vans and caravans. All have access to bathroom amenities and barbeque facilities. Firewood not provided.

Campsites cannot be booked, rather campers self register and pay for their site on arrival. Camping fees (current July 2010) are, \$7.90 per person per night or \$31.60 per family (up to two adults and any number of children under 18yrs) per night. Groups of more than 20 persons qualify for a discounted rate of \$7.10 per person per night. A limit of 21 consecutive nights camping applies. NOTE: Campers are also required to pay the site entry fee.

Lake Cressbrook is a Flora and Fauna reserve domestic animals are not allowed. Swimming is also prohibited at Lake Cressbrook.

Fishing and Boating

Boat ramps are located close to the entrance to Lake Cressbrook near the main recreational area, just drive straight ahead after passing through the boom gates. Outboard motors are permitted on Lake Cressbrook, however, **under Local Law, boat speeds must be confined to 4 knots (7.25kms per hour) inshore and 8 knots (14.5kms per hour) offshore.** This is to ensure the safety of other users of the lake and to ensure that sediment from the wave action is not washed into Toowoomba region's water supply.

Boating, canoeing, windsurfing and sailing are all permitted on Lake Cressbrook but don't forget that fishing requires a Stocked Impoundment Permit. This is a State Government Permit, the fees from which are used to stock included dams with fingerlings.

Stocked Impoundment Permits may be obtained:

- Online via www.qld.gov.au/fishing (have a printer and your credit card handy)
- By phone on 13 13 04 (have your credit card handy and your permit will be posted to you)
- Or in person at any of the small business outlets listed below

Toowoomba

Mullet Gut Maine

224A Ruthven Street

TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

8.00am – 5.30pm M/Tu/W/F

8.00am – 7.00pm Thursday

8.00am – 4.00pm Saturday

8:00am – 12:00pm Sunday 4632 9770

Fish 'n' Bits Bait and Tackle

340 Alderley Street

TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

8.00am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday

8.00am – 4.00pm Saturday

7.00am – 1.00pm Sunday 4636 6850

Esk

Grand Hotel

121 Ipswich Street

ESK QLD 4312

7 days 5424 1141

Crows Nest

Crows Nest News

15 Curnow Street

CROWS NEST QLD 4355

6.00am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday

6.00am – 1.00pm Saturday

6.00am – 12.00noon Sunday 4698 1301

There are many types of fish that can be caught in Lake Cressbrook. Bag limits, which are limits set by the Queensland Government regarding the number of a species of fish that a person may have in their possession, apply also at Lake Cressbrook. An indication of bag limits, plus the minimum and maximum sizes, are provided with a list of the most common fish caught at the lake.

Species	Bag Limit	Minimum Size	Maximum Size
Australian Bass	2	30cm	
Eel – tailed catfish	5	35cm	
Golden perch (yellow belly)	10	30cm	
Mary River Cod	1	60cm	100cm
Saratoga	1	50cm	
Silver Perch	5	30cm	

**Bag limit and sizes are correct as of print date 2 July 2009.

If you catch an undersized fish, you must return it the water immediately, taking care to avoid injuring the fish.

