

## FACT SHEET

# Cliff Risk



### Cliffs can collapse without warning. Stay safe!

- **Keep away from cliffs and caves.**
- **Stay on marked tracks.**
- **Follow the signs.**
- **Warn other people.**

### What can happen?

A cliff can suddenly collapse under its own weight. This can happen when a cliff gets weaker and weaker from the inside until it reaches breaking point.

The results can be dangerous and deadly, ranging from a few tumbling rocks to large landslides. Entire cliff formations of over 100 metres in length and weighing as much as 3,000 trucks could break off and crash onto the beach.

### Watch for hazards

Cliff collapses are more likely when there has been:

- erosion at the bottom of the cliff
- extreme heat or cold
- very dry weather
- lots of rainfall and water runoff
- an earthquake.

Be particularly careful when you walk near cliffs after those weather events.

A cliff collapse can happen at any time without warning.

### How we protect you

Parks Victoria and the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority manage the Victorian coastline to keep you safe. Cliffs and bluffs are always changing. We monitor these changes regularly – by land and by air – to understand when a rock formation might collapse.

- Look for warning signs and fences to keep you away from dangerous areas and cliff edges.
- Stay on the marked tracks. We will continue to move some walking tracks inland away from eroding cliffs.



### Contact us

Do you have any questions? Would you like to share a photo of a recent cliff collapse or failure? Please get in touch.

#### Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority

Call: 1300 736 533

Email: [info@greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au)

#### Parks Victoria

Call: 13 19 63

Email: [info@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@parks.vic.gov.au)