**Halls Gap Worst Place on Earth 901 Words Travel Blog**

Imagine hopping out of a scorching hot shower to instantly be frozen to the bone; if that’s your cup of tea, then Halls Gap is the place for you. So, what’s on the agenda for a Halls Gap vacation: tedious hikes in abundance, the discovery of your friend’s dullness, and being at a constant loose end because there is literally nothing to do. Halls Gap is certainly a place you’ll never forget – it will be a lingering nightmare haunting you forever, as it has been for me. Located in country Victoria within the Grampians National Park, Halls Gap is surrounded by nothing but trees. Scattered within the soul sucking forest is an insignificant clutter of shops, a clammy swimming pool, crowded playground and…that is all. Literally all.

*What to Pack*

If you make the delusional decision to holiday in Halls Gap, here’s what you’ll need to do: google what to wear in Antarctica; then follow suit. You will also need: a wide range of boardgames in preparation for the inevitable boredom that will descend on you, food, oodles of food since the one good cafe closed: which I suspect was because the owners came to their senses and realised the place, they had been living in was a hole. Now there’s only two pathetic food options: an un-original bakery or an all you can eat disgustingly sweet fudge from the fudge shop. Make sure to pack extra towels because dampness will linger on all your belongings and an umbrella for the inevitable, bi-polar weather. Now, even though I’ve alluded to packing an enormous number of belongings, don’t, because the truth be told, I doubt you’ll last there more than 3 days.

*Hikes*

The root of the problem with Halls Gap is the hikes. Just go on one and you’ll understand what I mean. Take the Pinnacle hike for example, seems like an easy-going hike. I was told it’s only 3.5km, so I thought that’s doable, I’m not that unfit… WRONG! You’re not only climbing stairs and walking practically vertically but your nostrils are also being invaded by the putrid smell of body odour. The last time I went to Halls Gap I did the Mt Rosea hike with a group of people that had never done it before and their responses consisted of: “worst experience ever”, “the view was just as good if not better at the middle of the hike when I could still feel my legs” and “it was torture…actual torture”. So, it’s not just me that hates the hikes with a passion, anyone with two brain cells does.

*Things to do*

Normally when reading a blog this is the most inspiring section. For the most part once you’ve read this section you’ve discovered all these entertaining activities and it’s a struggle to fit them all in. Usually when reading about all the thrilling things to do, see, and experience you’ll be itching with anticipation to go. Alas Halls Gap isn’t a normal vacation; it’s a death sentence. You’ll still be itching but itching to go away from Halls Gap because it offers only hikes. Hikes! That’s correct: hikes. Even die-hard hikers will admit there’s only so many hikes you can go on before your feet are killing you and you die from the pain of every muscle in your body screaming at you to stop. So, if you’re not hiking what can you do? Well, there’s electric motorbikes if you’re willing to sell one of your kidneys to afford a ride; a few generic mundane shops consisting of nothing one would wish to make a purchase in and unbelievably that’s the extent of things to do.

 *How well you know your friends*

This leads me to mention that Halls Gap can be bearable depending on one factor: your friends. How interesting are your friends really? Are they the life of the party or is it just your imagination that makes them seem so full of life? Sadly, it pains me to say it but on one of my unbearable trips to Halls Gap, I had a revelation into my friend’s entertainment levels. As I sat round the scorching fire surrounded by my friends, I was bewildered to feel awkwardness in the air as I made unpleasant eye contact with each of my friends which I had known for at least five years. I waited tentatively for someone to break the ice of apathy that was crushing me. The cloud of dullness had descended on us, and it seemed no one could block it with an umbrella. This discovery only came to me due to the environment I found myself in. If it wasn’t for the fact I was in the worst place on earth I could’ve carried along being naive to the fact my friends are blander than white bread. They were the friends I could survive hikes with but couldn’t survive Halls Gap with.

Let me ask you; do you enjoy the feeling of blissful happiness? Yes? Well, Halls Gap will only suck the will to live from your body, so I’m afraid you must look elsewhere. Preferably somewhere entertaining with a plethora of activities, where you don’t need to rely on your friends to be your main source of entertainment, where the weather isn’t so extreme, where long arduous hikes are nowhere to be found and I’m sure you’ll have a delightful and relaxing holiday.