

## The Googong Dam

# Googong Dam and Foreshores Tour

Queanbeyan River and  
Burra Creek catchments

Completed in 1979, Googong Dam is an earth and rockfill embankment dam with an adjoining converging chute spillway and a nearby 13m high earth fill saddle embankment. Googong Dam's main function is to supply water to Canberra, Queanbeyan and the Googong Township, so water quality is its highest priority. Googong Dam forms a major component of a network of other dams, reservoirs, treatment plants and pump stations.

Googong Dam is our largest dam, holding 119,400 million litres of water from an 873 square kilometre catchment area! In fact it represents 43% of Canberra's (and Queanbeyan's bulk water) supply storage capacity.

On this tour you will learn about the dam, its catchment and gain an overview of the ACT urban water network, including the processes of drinking water treatment at Icon Water's Stromlo and Googong Water Treatment Plants.

The community and all visitors to Googong Foreshores play a critical role in protecting source water quality. It is essential that all recreational activities follow the rules set up by ACT Parks and Conservation Service to avoid contamination of the stored water.

Fishing, the use of clean kayaks and electric powered boats are permitted. Direct contact with the water is not permitted, This means no swimming or standing in the water. Pets and animals are not permitted within the foreshore area.

## Tour requirements

Googong Dam tours are suitable for upper primary, secondary and tertiary students along with industry and community groups.

All participants must wear full length long sleeves, pants and enclosed shoes for entry to Icon water sites and across Googong Dam. Mandatory high visibility vests will be provided to all participants.



**For the safety of our community, Icon Water will not be able to accept participants who do not wear the correct attire to the treatment plant.**

## Visitor numbers and ages

- Group sizes cannot exceed 30 people. Student groups require a minimum supervisor (e.g. teacher or lecturer) ratio of 1:15 (one supervisor per 15 students).
- This is a walking tour approx. 45 minutes over the Googong Dam wall. Participants require an adequate level of fitness to navigate the sites which include stairs, uneven terrain, narrow paths and steep inclines. Sites are not suitable for children under 5 years old.

## Parking and bus arrangements

As well as the Googong Dam lookout, groups may also visit the foreshores picnic and boat ramp areas. Buses and other vehicles with drivers who are not part of the tour may remain onsite during the tour. If correctly attired, they may join the tour. Otherwise, they will be inducted and must remain in their vehicle at all times. Parking locations are highlighted on the tour map overleaf.

## What you need to bring

All visitors should wear comfortable enclosed walking shoes and wear full length long sleeve top and full length trousers as required on Icon Water sites.

All visitors should be prepared for weather conditions, bring a rain coat or jumper. Remember to be sun smart, wear a hat and bring filled water bottles.

Please ensure your group brings a first aid kit with them.

## In the event of an emergency and tour cancellations

Tours may be cancelled with minimal notice. Reasons for cancellation may include:

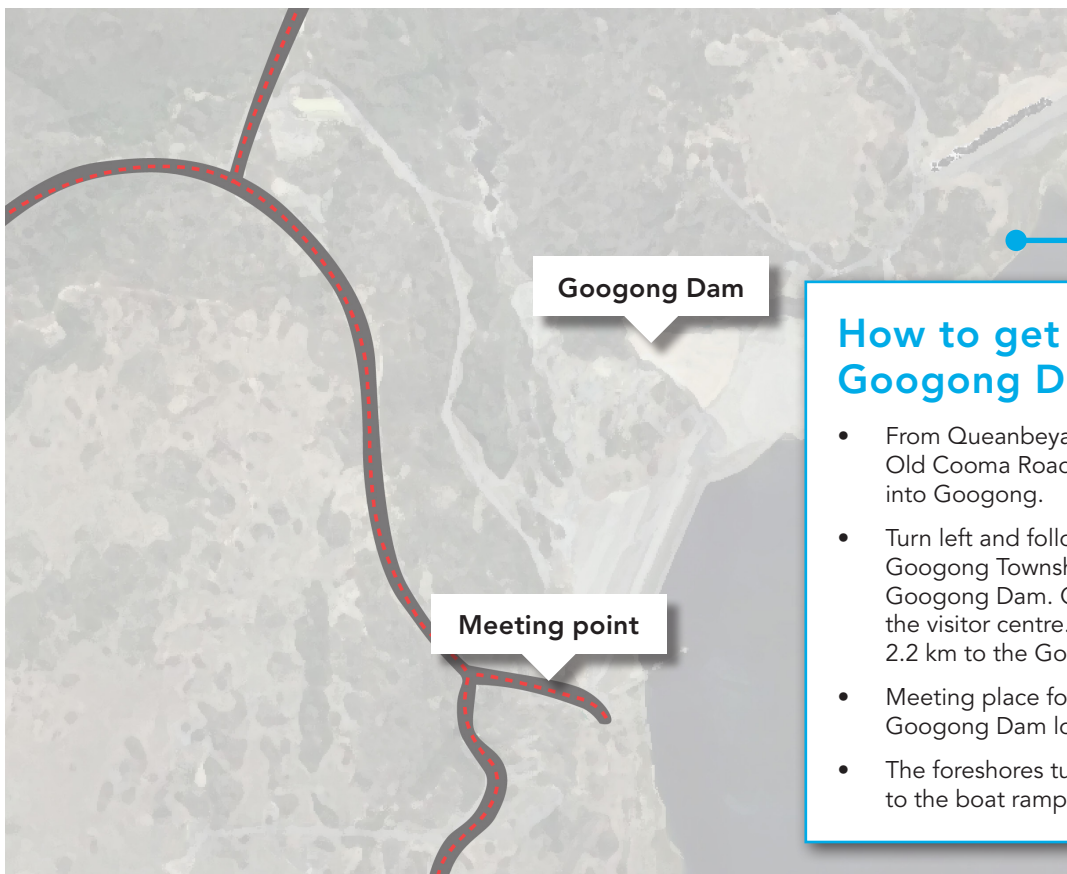
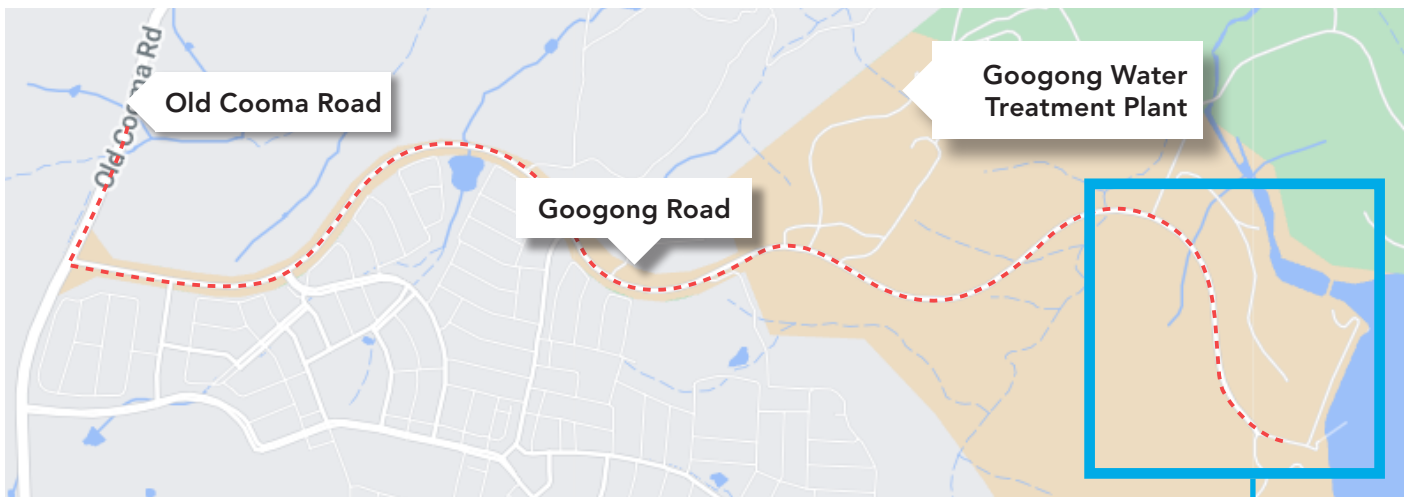
- Total fire bans and extreme heat
- High winds, heavy rainfall or storm activity
- Tour guide unavailability
- On-site operations.

Groups will be notified on the day if there are changes to your tour. If you cannot reach your tour guide contact customer service on 02 6248 3111.

## Onsite

When visiting Googong Dam and Foreshores we all have a part to play in protecting our drinking water. Whilst on tour please note the following:

- It is recommended that bags and other loose items be left in your vehicle. Bags and loose items will not be permitted on the tour (unless they can be secured on your person).
- There may be limited mobile phone reception at the Googong Dam and Foreshores.
- There is no smoking allowed on Icon Water sites or tours.
- Participants must stay together as a group at all times.
- All photography must be taken at designated spots or when participants are completely stationary.
- No dogs are allowed at Foreshores
- There are no rubbish bins onsite (all rubbish will need to be taken with you).
- All visitors need to use the available toilet amenities at the foreshores lookout carpark or boat ramp.



### How to get to Googong Dam

- From Queanbeyan NSW, Follow Old Cooma Road until the turn off into Googong.
- Turn left and follow Googong Road past Googong Township out towards the Googong Dam. Go past the gates of the visitor centre. Follow this road for 2.2 km to the Googong Dam lookout.
- Meeting place for your tour is the Googong Dam lookout carpark.
- The foreshores turn off will take you to the boat ramps and toilet amenities.