

# **Trip Participants Guidelines**

All Club members are welcome to participate in Club trips that are consistent with their skills and experience. Trips may be listed as appropriate for a certain level – Novice, Intermediate or Advanced.

## For the purposes of VCC trips:

You are a *Novice* climber if...

You can tie yourself in using a figure of eight knot and you have a harness, helmet, suitable footwear, one sling and a screw gate karabiner.

You are an Intermediate climber if...

You can tie yourself in using a figure of eight knot plus you can safely belay and second a lead climber, you can abseil and you have a harness, helmet, suitable footwear, several long slings, two screw gate karabiners, nut pick and belay device.

You are an Advanced climber if...

You meet the Intermediate criteria plus you can lead climb using traditional gear, you can set up belays on multi pitch climbs and you have all the above mentioned gear plus a rack and a rope.

Contact the trip leader or vccclubtrips@vicclimb.org.au for more details.

Please note that the Club has no gear available for beginners to use. Ropes and protection may be generously provided by the trip leader and other experienced climbers on the trip. All climbers need a helmet and harness which are specifically designed for rock climbing and which adhere to UIAA, CE or equivalent, and climbing shoes.

Due to conditions of the Club's insurance, it is a requirement that all trip participants wear helmets at all times when climbing, belaying, or above or below a cliff. No persons who are under the influence of alcohol are permitted to participate.

If you suffer from any allergies, are taking any medication, or have a pre-existing injury or illness, you *must* inform the Trip Leader.

The Club does not run abseiling trips. Commercial instruction groups can be approached for this.

Anyone who is planning on going on a trip **must** contact the trip leader well before the trip to register. This allows the leader time to organise enough experienced climbers to help out with new climbers on the trip. It also helps in organising transport so no one misses out. Minors, i.e. anyone under 18 years of age, may attend a Club trip if, and only if, accompanied by a parent or guardian.

All participants (or parent/guardian, in the case of minors) *must* sign the Trip Register before joining a particular trip.

### **Trip Leaders**

Leaders can reject intending participants if the leaders, in their absolute discretion, are not satisfied that those participants have the necessary level of skill and equipment or are otherwise unsuitable.

#### Guests

Non-members may attend 2 Club trips as guests, after which they will be required to become members to attend further Club trips.

#### Learn to Lead Climb

Club trips are not intended to be instructional. If you are new to climbing and want to get out onto rock and learn to lead climb, one of the VCC courses can teach you the basics to make sure you have fun and get home safely.

Check the website for details.