



The Nomads

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Meetup: www.meetup.com/Nomads-Outdoors-Group

The Nomads Outdoors Group Inc. A0044907T

Walking with the Nomads Outdoors Group Inc.

Walking enhances your wellbeing, makes you more creative, is a health booster, is a form of meditation and is good for the Planet!

The Nomads Outdoors Group has provided Melbourne's diverse-gender community with a continuous program of quality walks for over 36 years. The Group can trace its roots back to 1981, and by 1989 had over fifty persons on the mailing list.

The Nomads have always been strong supporters of our diverse community. Each year you can join us for our events in the Midsumma program, wave to us at the Midsumma Pride March or join us for the Saturday morning community walk in the fabulous ChillOut Festival.

Some of Our Most Frequently Asked Questions

1. How many people attend the walks?

The number of people who attend varies from event to event, depending on location, weather, difficulty, time of the year, etc. Our numbers normally vary between 10 and 20 people. Naturally, the harder the walk, the fewer people come along. Likewise, the better the weather, the more people attend.

2. How many members are there in the Group?

We typically have around 200 financial members in the Group. However we also have many visitors (non financial members) attending our events.

3. How old are the people who attend the walks?

Our members range in age from 18 to 70 and older. There's no hard and fast rule about how old our members are. The group is made up of those who love to walk for fitness and for friendship.

4. How fast do you walk?

Relax! The Nomads are about enjoying the health benefits of regular walking. For that reason alone, we take the time to enjoy getting outdoors to experience nature and the environment. The focus is on a casual stroll, avoiding power walking at all costs. Obviously, some activities are more difficult than others, so our events are always [graded](#) to give you an idea of what to expect. We are primarily a social group, so there needs to be enough breath to chat while we stroll. The leader will make sure you do not get left behind.

5. How long do the walks take?

Many of our events are day walks. The distance is typically about 8-16 km, and takes around 5 hours. Have a look in the newsletter, or contact the leader if you want more information on a particular event.

6. What do I need to bring with me to the walk?

We don't do many extreme events so you only need to take normal things. Reasonable walking shoes, sun protection, some water or fluid, and warm clothing if the forecast is for cool weather. Your leader will brief you when you apply. If in doubt, ask your leader.

7. I don't know anyone in the group and my friends won't come along! Now What?

Fear not! You are never alone. The Nomads is a social group and we pride ourselves on our friendliness! Our newest members would be happy to confirm that we make everyone feel welcome. We form a circle and then introduce ourselves at the formal start of each event. Within minutes of your arrival you will be involved in the pre-event chat and not left standing all alone. And by the end of the day you should be eager for the next event!

8. I have health/medical problems. Can I still come along?

Joining a walking or outdoors group is like undertaking any form of exercise. While we encourage members to go at their own pace, you should consult your doctor or medical practitioner before undertaking any form of exercise. If you have NOT exercised in a while, then start with an "easy" graded walk. You must take responsibility for yourself and stay within your own limitations. If in doubt, talk to the leader to confirm that the activity is within your capabilities.

9. I'm not gay or bisexual. Can I still come along?

The Nomads is a gay outdoors group, embracing the entire GLBTQIA+ community. Those who are supporters of our community are welcome to attend however! We've had mothers and straight friends attend walks with us. We don't ask about your sexuality when you arrive - we're just pleased you've decided to spend the day with us. The only judgement a leader will make is your fitness for the planned activity.

10. Can Women attend?

The Nomads is a predominately gay male-identifying outdoors group, however, everyone is welcome to join our activities.

11. I am not out. Is it safe to come along?

Not all of our members are "out" to families and friends. Although we are a gay social group, we don't wave a banner or scream our sexuality to the world. To the general public we are just a bunch of people hiking through the countryside like so many other walking groups. We make no guarantee of discretion (because everyone is welcome) but your membership or attendance is kept as confidential as practical and for the most part, no one outside of the group would know that we're a gay social group.

12. Do Nomads events have a "cruising" flavour?

Our members all share their friendship, and love for the outdoors and healthy activities. That said however, there are many couples who met on Nomads events! The best way to find someone who you might spend your life with, is to meet them on activities that you like to do. And if you don't end up spending your life with them, you will enjoy the time you do spend together.

13. How can I stay informed of upcoming events?

The best way is to join the Nomads. You will then be sent out email reminders of all events. All members are emailed our quarterly newsletter showing upcoming events. As a visitor you can view and register for events on our website www.thenomadsinc.org.au, or join our Meetup site at www.meetup.com/Nomads-Outdoors-Group.

14. How much does it cost, and how do I join?

A full yearly subscription costs \$44 full or \$36 concession. Go to our [Website](#), click on the Memberships tab then click on "Register" and you are on the way to fun.

15. Are visitors welcome?

Absolutely, we often have visitors on our activities. We generally ask a small fee per event (typically \$5) to cover our expenses. Being a visitor is the ideal way to see if you fit in. If you enjoy the company and events, we hope you join as a member. We also offer a *Temporary 1 month membership*, which costs \$8 and is a great way to try out a few activities prior to signing up for a year.

16. My question hasn't been answered here. How do I get an answer?

Still got a question? Don't be afraid to ask because your question is probably the same as many others who haven't asked it! You can email info@thenomadsinc.org.au.