

---

# NSW NATIONAL PARKS

## POCKET GUIDE

EDITION 2

---



[nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)







---

## CONTENTS

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| WELCOME – 3               | 5 COUNTRY NSW – 86      |
| 1 NORTH COAST – 10        | 6 MURRAY-RIVERINA – 110 |
| 2 SYDNEY & SURROUNDS – 40 | 7 OUTBACK – 120         |
| 3 SOUTH COAST – 62        | PARKS INDEX – 130       |
| 4 SNOWY MOUNTAINS – 78    |                         |
-



---

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the Aboriginal People of NSW and pay our respects to the Elders past and present.

When visiting a park or reserve, please take time to reflect on Aboriginal people's relationship with the land, acknowledge the ongoing connection of Aboriginal people to their Country and recognise your own responsibility to travel thoughtfully.

---





---

# WELCOME

Welcome to the second edition of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service's *Pocket Guide*, the perfect glove box companion for your next visit to a NSW national park.

This pocket guide provides you with lots of great information and ideas about where to go and what to do. Find out about our World Heritage parks and attractions or find the perfect picnic spot for you and your family. We also have an easy to read camping guide where you can research campsites before making your booking.

Keep up-to-date with the most recent information about NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service at our website, [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au). We're also on Facebook so you can share your adventures with family and friends.

There is truly a wonderful array of experiences to be enjoyed in NSW national parks and we look forward to welcoming you soon.

---

---

## ABOUT US

### The Office of Environment and Heritage

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), the NSW government agency responsible for working with the community to protect and conserve our environment. For more information on OEH, visit [www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au).

### Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife

The Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife is a not-for-profit organisation with the mission to care for Australia's native plants, animals and cultural heritage through environmental education and conservation projects.

The community can support the organisation through donations of money or property, or you could consider the Foundation in your will. It's a way to protect a piece of Australia or even save a species from extinction. For more information visit [www.fnpw.org.au](http://www.fnpw.org.au).

---

## ANNUAL PASSES

An annual pass is great value for money and allows you to support valuable on-park conservation projects and visitor infrastructure.

For more information on the various passes, visit [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au), call 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) or email [annual.passes@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:annual.passes@environment.nsw.gov.au). You can also buy one at most NPWS offices.

---

## CAMPING IN NSW NATIONAL PARKS

Setting out with the family to find a secluded campsite is a fantastic way to experience the Australian bush – billy tea, sausages cooked on the fire and early morning swims straight out of the tent.

Camping in NSW national parks allows you to explore some of the best of our natural wonders. To ensure you have a great time there are a few things to remember:

- Avoid the ants' nests, swamps and slopes! Camp in designated national parks campgrounds where you'll find more facilities and helpful National Park information on the area you're in. It's also a good idea to avoid low or poorly drained areas in case it rains.
- Always be careful with open fires, especially in high-value conservation areas and make sure your fire is completely out before you leave or go to bed.
- Find out where and when relevant fire bans are in place. A solid fuel fire ban may be in place in some locations between 31 October and 31 March each year. Park management may vary this if local conditions change. Visit [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au) for more information.
- Don't forget to check if firewood and potable water are available before you arrive, making sure you bring enough for your trip.
- Consider using a fuel stove instead of lighting your own fire, it's easier to manage and it will ensure you can cook your dinner and heat water.



Murrumbidgee Valley National Park. Photo: D.Finnegan/OEH

- Don't feed the animals – aside from it being bad for their health and habits, you might just lose a finger if you get too close to that cute-looking monitor lizard!
- Use rubbish bins provided or, if you're in a remote area, take all rubbish away with you so other people can continue to enjoy the camping in NSW national parks.
- Try to leave the environment as you found it. Please don't disturb animal habitats, Aboriginal sites or native plants.
- And finally, don't forget to zip up your tent so you don't have any unwelcome visitors!

---

## BOOK ACCOMMODATION AND CAMPGROUNDS ONLINE

NPWS has expanded its reservation services for camping and accommodation to provide a better service to our visitors.

Next time you are planning your trip, choose from one of the following contact methods.

1. **Online:** Our website offers a 24-hour credit card (MasterCard or Visa only) reservation service as well as being a fantastic information source. See our campgrounds and hard-roofed accommodation sites with online bookings at [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/bookings](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/bookings).

2. **By phone:** call 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) 7 days a week between 9am and 5pm.

Bookings can still be made in person on arrival at the area you wish to visit. However, we recommend that you book ahead to secure your spot. Due to the popularity of our sites, the varied opening hours of park offices and the distance between some park offices and campgrounds, you may arrive to find the site office closed or all sites fully booked.

---

## VOLUNTEERING IN NATIONAL PARKS

Exciting volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups are available in many parks and reserves. NPWS greatly appreciates the generous dedication of thousands of volunteers every year, each of whom has an unforgettable experience – meeting new friends and gaining a new understanding of nature, historic heritage and Aboriginal culture.

There are many options to choose from, including the popular Campground Host program where you can experience camping in our national parks while providing a valuable service to the public.

Campground Hosts volunteer in selected campgrounds around the state over the Easter and summer holidays and assist NSW National Parks to ensure campers have the best possible camping experience. It's the perfect chance to enjoy the great outdoors and be a vital part of the campground community. For more information contact [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/volunteers](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/volunteers).



Murramarang National Park. Photo: D.Finnegan/OEH



---

## WILD ABOUT WHALES

Whale watching season in NSW is from 1 June to 30 November each year, so it's the perfect time to migrate to a coastal national park to see these amazing animals on their own migration.

Wild About Whales is the best way for you to get involved in their journey. Visit the website and find a top whale-watching hotspot in a NSW national park, then tell us all about your other coastal adventures — from bushwalking and photography to a guided tour — on our Facebook page.

Help us track the whales' progress and tweet your sightings to @wildaboutwhales with the hashtag #whaleon. You can also use our mobile app, found in the iTunes and Google app stores, and see where they are on the sightings map.

Plan your coastal adventure for the whale watching season now at [www.wildaboutwhales.com.au](http://www.wildaboutwhales.com.au).

---

## WILDERQUEST

WilderQuest is a fun and innovative children's program designed to inspire a love of nature. Its aim is to motivate and encourage children to learn about and experience the natural world, using a combination of digital and real-life encounters.

Stay up-to-date with all the great things happening with WilderQuest at our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/WilderQuest](http://www.facebook.com/WilderQuest) or visit us online at [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/wilderquest](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/wilderquest).

---

## THINGS TO DO

From the city to the outback, coast and country NSW, there are experiences for everyone in our national parks – whether you're five or 95.

Join in an amazing variety of entertaining and informative tours and activities led by specialist rangers. Learn about bush tucker and rock art with one of our Aboriginal rangers, step back in time at one of our historic sites, or spot wildlife on a walking tour.



Minnamurra Rainforest Centre. Photo: D Finnegan/OEH

Adventure lovers can explore by kayak, bike, or take on multi-day walks through breathtaking scenery, or take in the unexpected delights of the landscape from a scenic lookout or secret beach.

If you need help with inspiration or tips, make sure you chat to our friendly visitor centre staff. For information visit [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/ things-to-do](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do).

---

## TRAVELLERS WITH A DISABILITY

NSW National Parks aims to give all visitors a unique and wonderful experience regardless of individual ability levels.

Many parks feature tracks that are accessible to people in a wheelchair or with reduced mobility, and within this guide you'll find the wheelchair accessible symbol used throughout the park listings. Good examples are the Dorriggo skywalk, the Minnamurra Rainforest Centre and the Warrumbungles.

The Fairfax Heritage walking track in the Blue Mountains is great for all levels of ability, and if you need a rest there are plenty of benches along the way.

For information on individual parks, check with the park office or visit [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/) access-friendly. People with vision or hearing impairment are welcome to bring a trained assistance animal to all areas that are open to the public.



---

## STAY UP-TO-DATE

To follow NSW National Parks on Facebook, visit [www.facebook.com/NSWNationalParks](http://www.facebook.com/NSWNationalParks).

Our quarterly e-newsletter, *Naturescapes*, provides excellent information on seasonal highlights and organised events. To subscribe, visit [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/about-npws/stay-up-to-date](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/about-npws/stay-up-to-date).

---

## SAFETY

### Staying safe in your parks

We want you to enjoy your national park visit, but more importantly we want you to return home safely. There is lots of good information on our website [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/safety](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/safety) – but here are a few things to remember.

### Staying safe at the beach

At patrolled beaches always swim between the flags; if it's unpatrolled take extra care. It might not be worth the risk of facing waves and undercurrents and possibly marine stingers. Please don't swim alone or at night. Protect your skin – be sun safe.

### Staying safe on a bushwalk

Research your walk, ensure everyone is comfortable. Don't overestimate abilities. Check weather forecasts and park conditions, and take appropriate clothing including a wind and waterproof jacket. Know how to use your compass and map. You may not have mobile phone service; consider taking a locator beacon. For longer walks take more water and snacks and a first aid kit. Remember insect repellent and a torch. Provide route details to friends or the police.

### Staying safe in the mountains

Alpine areas present special safety issues, particularly in winter, and you must be knowledgeable and take precautions when visiting these areas. We highly recommend that you visit our website when planning your trip.

### Mountain biking safely

For your enjoyment and safety, you need a clean, well maintained bike, and always wear a helmet. You're also responsible for protecting the park, so avoid skidding, riding in the wet, through puddles or forming new trails.

### Driving in the snow

Driving in the snow needs special attention; watch for signs of tiredness, be patient, take a break, enjoy your trip. Motorists must also carry snow fitting chains on mountain roads in some regions.

### Staying safe in the outback

In outback regions you need to be particularly aware of safety. Tell someone your travel plans before setting out, and avoid midsummer heat. Keep your vehicle in top condition and understand its limitations. Carry extra fuel, two spare tyres and wheel-changing equipment. Take extra food and water.

### Caving and canyoning safely

Caves and canyons are spectacular places to visit and caving offers a thrilling opportunity to explore these unique environments. However, caving is an activity that involves inherent risks that can be minimised but not completely eliminated. Careful research and planning, competent organisation, provisioning and training are a must.

### Roads, weather and park closures

Always check conditions before you set out.

Roads: [www.rms.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au)

Weather: [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

Park closures: [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alerts](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alerts)



Murray Valley National Park. Photo: D Finnegan/OEH

## CAMPING AND ENTRANCE FEES

Some national parks charge a vehicle entry fee. These funds go directly to supporting conservation programs and building and maintaining facilities in the national parks and reserves of NSW. See the park information in this guide for details. Some campgrounds within NSW national parks and reserves also charge fees.

PARK OR RESERVE	ENTRY FEE
Bald Rock NP	\$8
Ben Boyd NP	\$8*
Bents Basin SCA	\$8
Blue Mountains NP	\$8*
Boonoo Boonoo NP	\$8
Booti Booti NP	\$8
Border Ranges NP	\$8
Botany Bay NP	\$8*
Bouddi NP	\$8
Bournda NP	\$8
Brisbane Water NP	\$8
Broken Head NR	\$4 per hour
Budderoo NP	\$12
Bundjalung NP	\$8
Bungonia NP	\$8
Burratorang SCA	\$4
Cape Byron SCA	\$8 cars, \$4 motorbikes charged in the lighthouse precinct per day; \$4 per hour at Lighthouse Road, Cosy Corner, Captain Cook Lookout, The Pass and Tallow Beach carparks
Cattai NP	\$8
Crowdy Bay NP	\$8
Garigal NP	\$8*
Georges River NP	\$8
Gibraltar Range NP	\$8
Hat Head NP	\$8*
Kanangra-Boyd NP	\$8
Kincheha NP	\$8
Kosciuszko NP	\$29 from the start of the June long weekend to the end of the October long weekend, \$17 otherwise; \$4 per vehicle per day for Yarrangobilly Caves, if the general park entry fee has not been paid

For up-to-date information about camping fees call 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) or visit [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au).

Please note, camping fees are separate from vehicle entry fees and are payable upon booking, or if no bookings are required, when you get to the park.

PARK OR RESERVE	ENTRY FEE
Ku-ring-gai Chase NP	\$12
Lane Cove NP	\$8
Limeburners Creek NP	\$8
Mebbin NP	\$8
Morton NP	Fitzroy Falls – \$4, Bundanoon – \$8
Mungo NP	\$8
Munmorah SCA	\$8
Murramarang NP	\$8
Myall Lakes NP	\$8
Oxley Wild Rivers NP	Three areas within the park have day visit fees: Halls Peak \$23, Riverside \$28, Youdales \$17. Discount fees for pensioners and NPWS annual pass holders
Royal NP	\$12
Sturt NP	\$8
Sydney Harbour NP	North Head – \$5, Bradleys Head – \$8, Chowder Bay precinct – special*
Thirlmere Lakes NP	\$8
Tyagarah NR	\$8
Victoria Park NR	\$8
Warrumbungle NP	\$8
Washpool NP	\$8
Willandra NP	\$8
Worimi Conservation Lands – Permit required	Annual permit – \$30, 3-day permit – \$10
Yuraygir National Park	\$8

NP = National Park  
NR = Nature Reserve  
SCA = State Conservation Area

\*Charged in special areas only. Check signage upon entry to park.  
Fees correct at time of printing. Subject to change.



# PARK FACILITIES SYMBOLS

The symbols below have been used throughout this guide to provide basic information on available facilities at each NSW national park. Please note that these are a general guide only and some facilities may be out of order due to unforeseen circumstances. If you happen to come across any damaged facilities, please contact us on 13000 PARKS (13000 72757).

Additionally, some activities may be restricted to certain areas of the park.

DESCRIPTION	SIGNAGE
Aboriginal heritage	
Accommodation	
Barbecue	
Boat ramp	
Camping area	
Canoeing	
Caravan site	
Cycling*	
Diving	
Fishing	
Historic site	
Horse riding*	
Cafe/kiosk	
Lighthouse	
Lookout	
Picnic area	
Restaurant	
Toilets	
Vehicle entry fee	
Walking tracks	
Showers	
Whale watching	
Wheelchair accessible	
World Heritage Area	

# CAMPING SYMBOLS

The symbols below have been used throughout each camping section to show available facilities at NSW national park campgrounds.

More information about these facilities can be obtained by contacting the campground, using the contact details in each camping section.

DESCRIPTION	SIGNAGE
Toilets	
Showers	
Fire pit/wood barbecue* (bring your own wood)	
Electric barbecue	
Picnic area	
Cafe/kiosk	
Drinking water	
Venue	
Camping beside your vehicle	
Camping (short walk to tent)	
Caravan park or site	
Campervan site (caravan park or site for large vehicles)	
Camper trailer site	
Public transport	
Public phone	
Lookout	
Boat ramp	
Dogs allowed*	

\*Please note that these activities may be restricted to certain areas of the park. For more information contact us on 13000 PARKS (13000 72757).