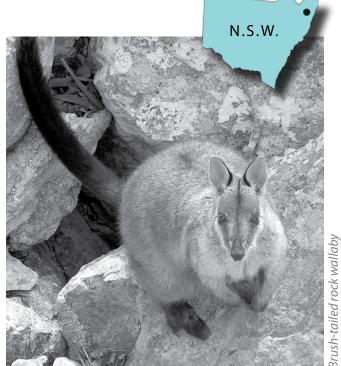


# **Guy Fawkes River** and Chaelundi

NATIONAL PARKS and RESERVES



Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW



#### **Highlights**

Guy Fawkes River and Chaelundi national parks and reserves are located in a region where powerful rivers have etched deep and rugged gorges into the eastern edge of the New England Tablelands. Visit Ebor Falls, at the head of the Guy Fawkes River Gorge for an enticing view north across the wild and scenic gorge country.

Vast expanses of declared wilderness within the reserves provide essential habitat for native animals and plants. These parks are important contributors to water quality in the region.

Give yourself time to explore the more remote locations. Three camping areas provide bases from which to venture more deeply into these lonely and remote areas.

#### **Cultural significance**

These parks are located in the traditional lands of the Gumbaynggirr and Banbai Aboriginal people. Sites of high cultural significance are located along traditional walking routes between the Boyd River and high country around Fbor

#### **Getting there**

Ebor Falls, part of Guy Fawkes River National Park is located near the village of Ebor on Waterfall Way, 46km south-west of Dorrigo.

Access to the facilities of the more remote parks is from either the Armidale - Grafton Road, via Marengo Road at Hernani, Sheepstation Creek Road at Dundurrabin, Ellis Road and Boundary Creek Road further north; or from the Old Grafton- Glen Innes Road, via Chaelundi Road at Dalmorton.

Unsealed forest roads can be rough and narrow, so drive carefully and observe the 50kph speed limit. Always check on road conditions after wet weather.

Four wheel driving enthusiasts should seek further information if wishing to explore forest roads in this area. Maps are available from Forests NSW, Coffs Harbour, phone: 1800 011 688.

### What is wilderness?

Wilderness is a large area of natural land, where genetic diversity and natural cycles remain essentially unaltered.

It is remote from modern civilisation and away from human reminders - noise, pollution, and the "rat race". It is a place where you can immerse yourself in nature and regain your sense of perspective about life on earth.

Guy Fawkes River and Chaelundi National Parks contain significant Wilderness Areas totalling more than 94,600 hectares.

Be prepared for wilderness with maps, compass, water, food and camping gear. Rivers and streams can rise rapidly after heavy rain in the upper catchments, so check weather reports. Notify friends of your timetable.

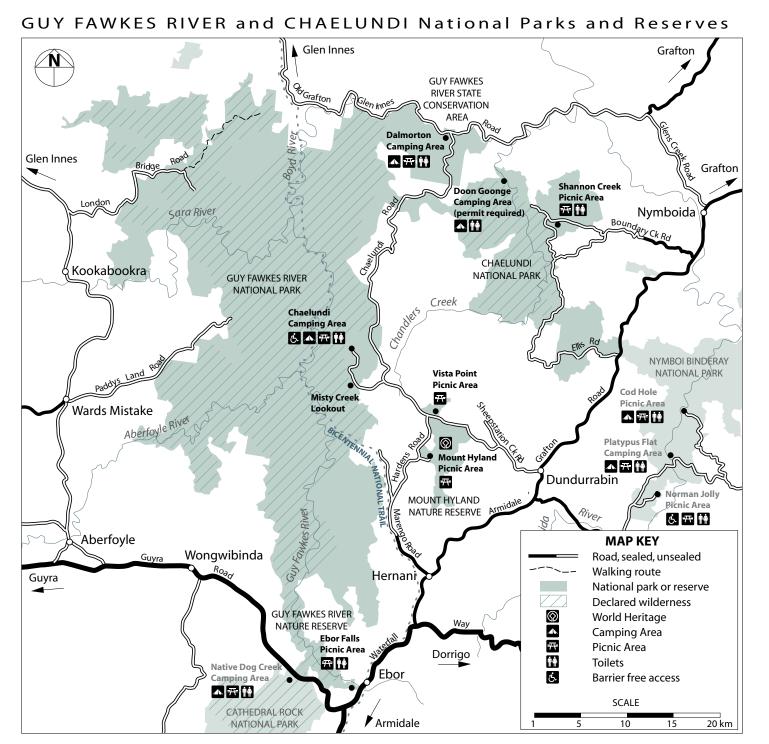
#### More information

For more information on these parks, and bookings for Doon Goonge Camping Area please contact:

#### **NPWS Dorrigo Plateau Area**

Dome Road (PO Box 170), Dorrigo NSW 2453 Phone: (02) 6657 2309 Email: dorrigo@environment.nsw.gov.au

> Published by Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW 59-61 Goulburn Street, Sydney. PO Box A290, Sydney South, 1232 Phone: 1300 361 967, web: www.environment.nsw.gov.au © Department of Environment and Climate Change, 2007. Photographs © NPWS



#### Powerful owl - threatened species

The powerful owl, the largest of Australia's owls, is found in these parks. It is one of many species threatened by loss of tree hollows.



#### Be a five-star camper

#### \* Sharing the space

Be a thoughtful camper, allowing your neighbours to enjoy their stay too. Lots of noise may annoy others and scare wildlife.

#### \* Spying on wildlife

Enjoy watching wild animals but don't interfere or offer food as it may make them sick or aggressive. Domestic animals are not permitted in national parks and reserves as they can frighten wildlife, annoy other visitors or become lost.

#### ✤ Boiling the billy

In camping areas, use only the fireplaces provided and observe all total fire bans.

#### \* Getting the grime off

Soaps, detergents and toothpaste can harm fish and other water life - always wash well away from streams.

#### ✤ Leaving no trace

Leave your campsite tidy and take all rubbish home for disposal. Only organic waste can be put in a composting toilet.

### GUY FAWKES RIVER NATIONAL PARK

# Ġ. 🏎 🕭 🕅 🕅 👛 🦜 开 🛉

Through this park of wild ranges the Guy Fawkes River cuts a deep zig zag gorge north along the line of an ancient fault. Rocky crags top the narrow ridges which drop steeply from the plateau edge into the valley and seasonal waterfalls plummet into the depths.

Guy Fawkes River National Park is regarded as a "bio-diversity hotspot", with over 40 different vegetation communities, 28 threatened plant species, 24 threatened fauna species and significant areas of old-growth forest. The diversity of eucalypt species is especially rich, with over 50 species having been identified within the park.

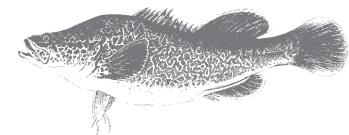
Watch for brush-tailed rock wallabies around **Misty Creek** Lookout and other clifftop lookouts and keep an eye to the sky for hunting wedge-tailed eagles and peregrine falcons.

Barrier-free facilities are provided so everyone can enjoy camping beside the creek at **Chaelundi Camping Area** (fees apply). Echidnas, grey kangaroos and glossy blackcockatoos are often seen in the woodlands nearby.

Walking tracks include the spectacular 4.8km return walk to Lucifers Thumb, via Chaelundi Falls, and the longer Escarpment Walk which meanders along the gorge rim providing glimpses to the river 700m below (8km to **Spring Gully Picnic Area**, 5km return via the road). The more fit and adventurous can try a number of overnight hikes down to the river and back.

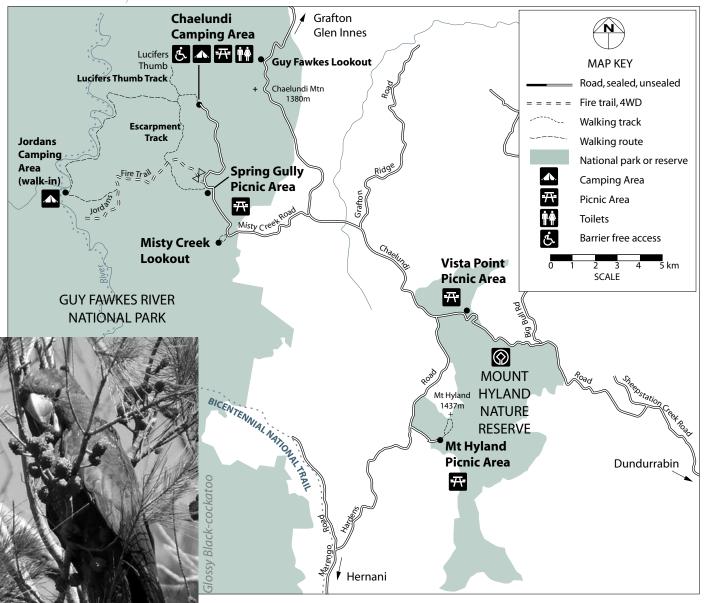
The **Bicentennial National Trail** traverses the park from Marengo Station in the south to Broadmeadows Station in the north. A detailed guidebook is required for anyone planning this remote section of the trail.

**Dalmorton Camping Area** (fees apply) is located near the ghost town of Dalmorton, a once-thriving gold- mining centre in the 1880s, within Guy Fawkes River State Conservation Area. Wander around the area and discover many historic remains of a busier past, when the old Grafton-Glen Innes Road was a highway and former land use included grazing and timber-getting as well as mining.



#### Eastern cod - threatened species:

The eastern freshwater cod has disappeared from much of its former range as water quality has declined. It still survives in the rivers of this region.



### MT HYLAND NATURE RESERVE

# 

Travellers on the way to Guy Fawkes River National Park will appreciate a short stop at **Vista Point Picnic Area**, where the view north is truly memorable. About six kilometres south along Hardens Road is the turn off to the other part of the reserve.

Discover a secret rainforest along the three kilometre circuit of **Summit Track** to the top of Mount Hyland. The ancestors of some species in this cool temperate rainforest grew in Gondwana.

## CHAELUNDI NATIONAL PARK

# æ‱∰∦∦**@**\$,**∰**

Old-growth forests of great beauty and the graceful fronds of *Macrozamia johnsonii* line the roads and trails within Chaelundi National Park. Bushwalkers will find magical pools and rainforest gullies along the creeks. Chandlers Creek traverses the park, hidden in a deep gorge among the ridges.

The old-growth habitat provides ideal home sites for many native animals dependent on tree hollows for nesting sites. These include yellow-bellied gliders, masked owls, sooty owls, powerful owls, glossy black cockatoos and at least five threatened species of insectivorous bats.

Enter the park from the east via Boundary Creek Road or Ellis Road, from the Grafton-Armidale Road and follow the forest roads.

Picnic in the forest at **Shannon Creek Picnic Area** before exploring the forest roads and trails.

**Doon Goonge Camping Area** is a peaceful, remote, riverside camp reached via the steep Chandlers Fire Trail, or from Quartz Road {both 4WD}. Please book and pay in advance to obtain a permit and a key to the locked gates. Bookings can be made at the NPWS Dorrigo Plateau Area office listed on the back of this brochure.

