South Coast

An amazing strip of national parks follows the southern coastline, inviting you to discover and uncover. Along the coast, spotted gums, hundreds of years old, stretch to the sky, providing food and habitat to endangered native species.

For some, the appeal is the colourful bird life and cheeky native animals. For others, it’s the grandeur of the endless blue ocean – sometimes calm, sometimes boisterous – as the waves crash noisily over the golden sand. Whales, dolphins, penguins and seals find sanctuary here, while up in the sky you may spot a sea eagle gliding on the breeze.

It warms the heart to know that this is how the South Coast will always be.
LIGHT TO LIGHT WALK

The walk from Boyd’s Tower to Green Cape Lightstation in Ben Boyd National Park can take up to three days, but you can choose to do sections of it as a one day option. It’s a walk of spectacular coastal scenery, beaches, headlands and plentiful wildlife. You’re very likely to see whales during their annual migration between September and the end of November, along with pods of dolphins and magnificent sea birds. It is set in a landscape of great importance to the Aboriginal community and is dotted with vestiges of European efforts to tame this isolated coast and harvest the wild seas.

MONTAGUE ISLAND (BARUNGUBA)

Take a tour from Narooma to the natural haven of Montague Island (Barunguba), surrounded by Batemans Marine Park. The island is home to thriving colonies of little penguins and seals, and offers fantastic whale watching between early September and late November. The island is also a place with a special Aboriginal story and the legacy of an historic lighthouse.

For tour details visit www.montagueisland.com.au

DEPOT BEACH AND PRETTY BEACH

In Murramarang National Park, beautiful Depot and Pretty beaches offer comfortable cabins for overnight stays, along with camping in idyllic bushland with ocean views. They’re great for day visits as well. You can easily access a rich environment of spotted gum forests, rainforest, abundant wildlife, along with swimming and fishing.

MINNAMURRA RAINFOREST

Immerse yourself in cool rainforest beside the river at Minnamurra Rainforest in Budawang National Park and enjoy lunch at the café. Just a short 1½ hour drive from Sydney.

FITZROY FALLS

Enjoy dramatic views and walks ranging from two minutes to two hours at Fitzroy Falls in Morton National Park. On the way to Fitzroy from the Southern Highlands, you can also explore the beautiful Belmore and Carrington Falls.
1 BARREN GROUNDS
NATURE RESERVE 2,090 HA

Highlights This heathland plateau is a mass of wildflowers in spring attracting a wide variety of bird species, great for birdwatching. A range of walks offer magnificent views of the Illawarra coastline and surrounding countryside.

Activities There are several walking tracks, ranging from an easy 1.5 km to a more demanding 9 km. School education programs can be conducted on request.

Access 110 km south-west of Sydney, 20 km west of Kiama, and 12 km east of Robertson off Jamberoo Mountain Road.

Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre: 4887 7270

2 BATEMANS MARINE PARK 85,000 HA

Highlights The marine park offers diverse marine environments and impressive marine life. The park’s sponge gardens, sandy beaches, rocky reefs, kelp beds, ocean waters and numerous island support hundreds of fish species, as well as dolphins, whales, penguins, seabirds and seals.

Activities Scuba diving, snorkelling, beach going, whale, seal and other wildlife watching, fishing, swimming, surfing and boating are all popular pastimes. Many scenic walks are available in adjacent Murramarang and Eurobodalla national parks.

Access Stretches along the NSW south coast from the north end of Murramarang Beach near Bawley Point, to Wallaga Lake in the south, with many access routes off the Princes Highway in between.

Narooma office: 4476 0800

3 BIMBERAMALA NATIONAL PARK 4,420 HA

Much of the catchment area of the pristine Bimberamala River is protected in this national park. Its untouched state rewards independent bushwalkers.

Nowra office: 4423 2170

4 BOURANDA NATIONAL PARK 2,648 HA

Camping fee level 3

Highlights A place of great beauty, cultural and conservation significance, with saltwater and freshwater lakes, a lagoon, a creek and beaches. It is also the nesting place for four species of threatened shorebirds.

Activities There are ample opportunities for swimming, fishing, canoeing, birdwatching, cycling and walking. There’s a viewing platform at North Tura and good picnicking at Bournda Lagoon. The viewing platform and beach access at Turinng Head, north of Wallagoot Lake, is worth a visit to view the dramatic rock formations around the river mouth. Take the Kangarutha Walk from Wallagoot to a hike along coastal cliffs and boulder bays to Tathra, 9 km north. Car-based and caravan camping (not powered) is available at Hobart Beach. Bookings are essential for the Christmas and Easter holidays (email fscr@environment.nsw.gov.au, phone 6495 5000 or write to PO Box 656, Merimbula 2548).

Access 20 km south-east of Bega on the Sapphire Coast Drive. Vehicle entry fee is $7 per day.

Merimbula office: 6495 5000

For more information visit www.nswnationalparks.com.au/southcoast
Camping fee level 3

Highlights Flanking Twofold Bay, Ben Boyd National Park protects a wealth of nature and heritage, with magnificent stretches of rocky coastline featuring amazing rock formations, heaths and banksia forest.

Ben Boyd is a park for discovery, with remarkable sights such as the Pinnacles—white sand cliffs topped by vivid red gravel formed over millions of years—pristine beaches, and the most incredible bird life.

Boyd's Tower, built as a lighthouse by 19th century entrepreneur Ben Boyd, is at the end of a wheelchair-accessible walk and lookout. Unique heritage accommodation is available in the Green Cape assistant lighthouse keepers' cottages. These two historical buildings are a link to early European settlement, along with the Davidson Whaling Station Historic Site to the north. It's remarkable to see relics that reflect how today's awe-inspiring whales were once a commercial resource. During coastal walks in spring, you might spot these magnificent migrating marine mammals.

Activities One of the park's premier activities is the 31 km Light to Light walk – Boyd's Tower to Green Cape – which features spectacular coastal landscapes and scenery. The entire walk can be completed camping, one or two nights along the way, or in sections by organising a car shuffle.

There's car-based camping (not for caravans) at Saltwater Creek and Bittangabee Bay; bookings are essential for Christmas and Easter holidays (email fscr@environment.nsw.gov.au, phone 6495 5000 or write to PO Box 656, Merimbula 2548).

Access Accessible from two sections to the north and south of Eden. The north section is via Haycock Road 8 km north of Eden off the Princes Highway. The south section is 25 km south of Eden on Green Cape Road (unsealed) off Edrom Road. Green Cape accommodation is designed for wheelchair access. Vehicle entry fee is $7 per day.

Merimbula office: 6495 5000
Sydney

7 BUDAWANG NATIONAL PARK 23,786 HA

A rugged wilderness of steep slopes and remote trails, Budawang National Park is a challenging invitation to the experienced bushwalker. The summit of Mt Budawang reveals a magnificent panoramic view of the Southern Highlands and the distant coast.

Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre: 4887 7270

8 BUDDEROO NATIONAL PARK 7,219 HA

Highlights This park features the spectacular Carrington Falls and the Minnamurra Rainforest, a variety of walks and panoramic coastal views.

Activities Short walking tracks, including one that’s assisted wheelchair-accessible, lead to lookout platforms with superb views of Carrington Falls in the plateau section of the park. There are also picnic facilities and longer walks. The popular Minnamurra Rainforest lies below the sandstone plateau. A wheelchair-accessible boardwalk leads from the Rainforest Centre through subtropical and temperate rainforest areas and a separate paved walk leads to Minnamurra Falls.

Access 120 km south-west of Sydney. Entry to the park is off Jamberoo Mountain Road. The Minnamurra Rainforest Centre is 15 km west of Kiama on Tourist Drive 9 – drive through the historic village of Jamberoo and follow the rainforest signs. Minnamurra Rainforest can also be accessed via Robertson and Carrington Falls. For Carrington Falls turn off Jamberoo Mountain Road 8 km east of Robertson. Vehicle entry fee of $11 applies at Minnamurra only.

Minnamurra Rainforest Centre: 4236 0469

Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre: 4887 7270

9 BUSHRANGERS BAY AQUATIC RESERVE 4 HA

An excellent sheltered site, the reserve covers the whole bay including the shores, intertidal zones, kelp forests and submarine cliffs. The intertidal rock pools provide homes for a great variety of animals. Fish are abundant and seagrass beds provide a home for a variety of fish that forage between the seagrass and the other habitats found within the reserve.

Port Stephens office: 4916 3826

King Parrot welcomes visitors to the South Coast

The shy Eastern Blue Devilfish (paraplesiops bleekeri)
10 CECIL HOSKINS NATURE RESERVE 47 HA
These wetlands on the Wingecarribee River support over 90 bird species. Walks from the picnic area provide seats and information for watching the birds.
Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre: 4887 7270

11 CLYDE RIVER NATIONAL PARK 1263 HA
Approximately 9 km of river frontage on the peaceful Clyde River support a range of habitats, including mangrove communities. Enjoy a picnic and views at Holmes Lookout or camp beside the river (no facilities). It’s 4 km west of Batemans Bay just south of Nelligen; enter via unsealed roads off Kings Highway or by boat up the Clyde River.
Nowra office: 4423 2170

12 CONJOLA NATIONAL PARK 11,034 HA
**Highlights** This coastal park features extensive forests beside beautiful lakes and estuaries, and large areas of woodland that become a mass of wildflowers in spring.
**Activities** Monument Beach has picnic facilities, walking tracks and a monument to the shipwrecked Walter Hood. Other walks lead to waterholes and waterfalls off Blackbutt Road and Fishermans Rock Road. Camping is not permitted but there’s a range of camping and accommodation in the surrounding villages and towns.
**Access** Enter via Goonawarra Drive from Cudmirrah, Cedar Road on the Bendalong Road, or Fishermans Rock from Berrara – all unsealed roads.
Nowra office: 4423 2170

13 CULLENDULLA CREEK NATURE RESERVE 126 HA
Explore estuarine wetlands and enjoy lovely views across Batemans Bay to the Tollgate Islands. Signs offering an insight into the area are provided along a raised boardwalk through mangroves beside Cullendulla Creek. Access is from Myamba Drive, Surfside.

14 DAVIDSON WHALING STATION HISTORIC SITE 27 HA
Davidson was the longest running shore-based whaling station in Australia operating from the 1860s to the 1920s. It is the site of a remarkable alliance between humans and killer whales in the last century.
Merimbula office: 6495 5000
DEUA NATIONAL PARK 121,417 HA

Camping fee levels 1, 2

Highlights This park is a place of rugged mountain ranges, plateaus, karst and caves, wild and scenic rivers and threatened plants and animal species. A significant portion of the park is wilderness.

Activities Cavers can explore the limestone caves (caving permits apply to some sites). Canoe on the upper Shoalhaven River or float on an air mattress near the camping areas. There are also opportunities for experienced bushwalkers. See The Big Hole formation (96 m deep) while camping at Berlang or Wyanbene Cave camping areas, or follow the Araluen Road and camp at Deua River, Bakers Flat or Dry Creek (car-based camping, minimal facilities, fees apply). A secluded camp area is also available at Bendethera (4WD only). The Araluen Road from Moruya to Araluen takes you through part of the park, following the Deua River.

Access 100 km south-east of Canberra. Deua River and Bakers Flat camping areas are both on Araluen Road (unsealed but 2WD accessible). Dry Creek camping area is nearby on Dry Creek fire trail (4WD access only). Berlang camping area is on Krawarree Road, 41 km south of Braidwood. Contact the Narooma office for directions and updates for Bendethera camping area (4WD only).

Dharawal State Conservation Area and Nature Reserve 7,050 HA

Explore gorges, swamps and rich Aboriginal heritage. View Maddens Falls and enjoy bushwalking or mountain bike riding along the extensive network of management trails in Dharawal State Conservation Area only.

Wollongong office: 4223 3000

EUROBODALLA NATIONAL PARK 2,913 HA

Camping fee levels 1, 3

Highlights Ocean beaches, spotted gum forests, wetlands and estuaries offer a variety of scenery and an important habitat area for waterbirds and threatened native animals such as the white-footed dunnart. The Eurobodalla area also has significant Aboriginal and European cultural sites.

Activities Enjoy camping, bushwalking, fishing, swimming, birdwatching, boating and other water activities. Congo camping area is suitable for both car and caravan camping. Brou Lake camping area is not suitable for caravans. There are plenty of pleasant picnic spots. Go for a hike along the Bingi Dreaming Trail, extending 14 km (one way) through many different types of coastal habitat from Congo in the north to Tuross Head in the south. It can be walked in a full day or in shorter sections.

Access Stretched along the coast from Moruya Head in the north to Tilba Lake in the south. Various access points off the Princes Highway.

Narooma office: 4476 0800

GULAGA NATIONAL PARK 4,673 HA

Gulaga (Mt Dromedary) and the surrounding landscape have great spiritual significance to local Aboriginal people, particularly women. The park is now jointly managed by a majority Aboriginal Owner Board of Management, the Yuin people, and the NPWS.

Narooma office: 4476 0800

For more information visit www.nswnationalparks.com.au/southcoast
19 ILLAWARRA ESCARPMENT
STATE CONSERVATION AREA 2,635 HA

Highlights
The Escarpment is the signature landform of the Illawarra. Rising to over 500m, it forms an imposing fortress-wall dividing the plateau and the coastal plain and provides a backdrop of spectacular beauty for the city of Wollongong. Vantage points at Bulli, Mt Keira and Mt Kembla offer magnificent coastal views.

Activities
Tracks through a variety of forests, including rainforest, cater for a wide range of walkers. Picnic facilities at Byarong Park and most lookouts, some with wheelchair access.

Access
65 km south of Sydney via the Princes Highway or F6 Freeway to Bulli, Mt Ousley Road to Mt Keira Road, or Harry Graham Drive and Cordeaux Road to Mt Kembla.

Wollongong office: 4223 3000

20 JERVIS BAY
MARINE PARK 21,450 HA

Highlights
Jervis Bay offers beaches, rocky platforms and reefs, extensive seagrass beds, estuaries and deepwater cliffs with caves. Dolphins are a regular sight in the crystal-clear waters.

Activities
Scuba diving, swimming, surfing, boating, kayaking and fishing are all popular. Picnic facilities and walking tracks are available in surrounding Jervis Bay National Park.

Access
170 km south of Sydney, 25 km south-east of Nowra, with many access routes off the Princes Highway.

Huskisson office: 4428 3000

21 JERVIS BAY
NATIONAL PARK 5,249 HA

Highlights
The park fringes Jervis Bay, St Georges Basin and ocean beaches. The area is rich in Aboriginal heritage, includes important wetlands, and preserves a flourishing diversity of plants and animals. It adjoins the Commonwealth-managed Booderee National Park.

Activities
The forest, bays and beaches are great for swimming, bushwalking, birdwatching or just enjoying the tranquillity. Greenfield Beach has a picnic area with electric barbecues, toilets, a shelter shed and wheelchair access to the beach. From Greenfield Beach you can follow information signs on the White Sands Walk to Hyams Beach and return via the Scribbly Gum Track. Hammerhead Point near Currawong and Red Point near Callala Bay on the northern side of the bay have small picnic areas with toilets. Camping is not permitted in the park but the nearby villages and Booderee National Park provide a range of accommodation, including camping areas and caravan parks.

Access
170 km south of Sydney, 25 km south of Nowra. Greenfield Beach is in Vincentia off Elizabeth Drive.

Nowra office: 4423 2170
Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre: 4887 7270

Be inspired by the South Coast’s clear, blue seas...
Some of Australia’s most southern subtropical rainforests grow on the rugged sandstone escarpment of this park. Enjoy a walk through the rainforest to the Cascades Waterfall, from the picnic area at the foot of Macquarie Pass. A longer walk along Clover Hill Trail to Macquarie Rivulet begins halfway up Macquarie Pass.

Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre: 4887 7270

**MACQUARIE PASS NATIONAL PARK 1,064 HA**

**MEROO NATIONAL PARK 3,643 HA**

**Highlights** A wide variety of forest types adjoin a beautiful coastline including Tabourie, Burrill, Termeil and Meroo lakes.

**Activities** You can enjoy bushwalking, fishing, swimming and canoeing. Camping is permitted and there are toilets, a lookout and walking tracks at Meroo Head in the southern section of the park.

**Access** 5 km south of Ulladulla; enter via unsealed roads off the Princes Highway.

Ulladulla office: 4454 9500

Aragunnu Beach in Mimosa Rocks National Park – great for swimming and snorkeling

Relaxing on the beach at Meroo National Park

**MIMOSA ROCKS NATIONAL PARK 5,802 HA**

Camping fee level 3

**Highlights** A diverse coastline of rocky coves and headlands, long sandy beaches, and coastal lagoons, all backed by forested hills.

**Activities** The park provides opportunities for fishing, swimming, surfing, snorkeling, walking, birdwatching or just sightseeing. Car-based camping is available at Aragunnu, Picnic Point and Gillards, with only Gillards suitable for caravans. Walk-in camping is available at Middle Beach. Camp fees apply and are payable on site. Picnic areas with gas barbecues are at Aragunnu, Bithry Inlet, Middle Beach and Gillards. Carparks for other activities such as walks to beaches, lagoons and headlands are at Wajurda Point, Moon Bay, Nelson Beach and Goalen Head. Wheelchair accessible boardwalk and lookouts are at Aragunnu; other lookouts are at Middle Beach and Wajurda Point.

**Access** 22 km north-east of Bega off the Tathra–Bermagui road. The roads are unsealed but are suitable for 2WD in all weather.

Narooma Visitor Centre: 4476 0800

**MONGA NATIONAL PARK 26,464 HA**

**Highlights** The perfect place for a picnic and a stroll through lush, beautiful forests. Penance Grove is a pocket of cool temperate rainforest featuring ancient plumwood trees that form a cathedral-like canopy over tree ferns. The interpreted boardwalk is a must and children will enjoy the magic of this place. Mongarlowe River and Dasyurus picnic areas are shady and tranquil spots adjacent to the pristine waters of the river. The Corn Trail is for the more energetic, extending 15 km (one way) through ancient forests, down the escarpment to a tributary of the Clyde River.

**Activities** Stroll along the Penance Grove boardwalk and other short walks, picnic at one of the well-equipped picnic areas or take a drive through the park (some roads suitable for 2WD). Enjoy a full day hike down the Corn Trail.

**Access** From Braidwood, head 18 km south-east along the Kings Highway, then turn right into River Forest Road and travel another 2 km to the park. Alternatively, head 8 km south of Braidwood on the Araluen Road before turning left into Reidsdale Road and following the signs to the park.

Braidwood office: 4842 1426
Narooma Visitor Centre: 4476 0800

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**MONTAGUE ISLAND (BARUNGUBA) NATURE RESERVE 82 HA**

**Highlights** From the end of winter to early December hundreds of seals make their home on Montague Island (Barunguba). It's also a breeding ground for 15 bird species, including about 8,000 pairs of little penguins. You can tour the lighthouse and its collection of historic buildings.

**Activities** To visit, join a day or evening adventure tour with a park guide from Narooma (tour fees apply). Overnight conservation tours (hosted or self-guided) are also available. Visit www.montagueisland.com.au for details.

**Access** 9 km offshore from Narooma. For information contact the numbers below.

Tour information and bookings
Narooma Visitor Centre: 4476 2881
Narooma Charters: 4476 2240

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**MORTON NATIONAL PARK 199,745 HA**

**Camping fee levels 1, 3**

**Highlights** Explore sandstone scenery and majestic waterfalls on a grand scale throughout the park. In the north, Fitzroy Falls and Belmore Falls plunge off the plateau into rainforest gullies, while Tianjara Lookout, on the Nowra-Braidwood road, provides views of Tianjara Falls. To the south, George Boyd Lookout, Little Forest Plateau and Pigeon House Mountain Didthul offer views of the coastline and the Budawang wilderness areas. On the western side at Tallong there are wonderful views of the Shoalhaven Gorge from Badgerys and Longpoint lookouts.

**Activities** You can drive to a range of picnic areas and breathtaking lookouts. Experienced walkers will find extensive opportunities for remote bushwalking from several locations, especially in the spectacular Budawangs, and easier walks at Fitzroy Falls, Belmore Falls, Little Forest and Bundanoon. Backpack camping more than 500 m from roads is permitted throughout most of the park, and there’s car-based camping at several locations including Gambells Rest at Bundanoon – facilities include hot showers (bookings essential and fees apply). Fires are not permitted. Two sites provide for caravan access (no power).

**Access** Multiple entry points. 150-200 km south-west of Sydney. Fitzroy Falls is 17 km east of Moss Vale on Nowra Road. Bundanoon is 17 km south of Moss Vale. Vehicle entry fees apply at Fitzroy Falls ($3 per day) and Bundanoon ($7 per day).

Fitzroy Falls Visitor centre: 4887 7270

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Photography: TOP: Rene Vogelzang, BOTTOM: J. Winter / DECCW
**28 MURRAMARANG ABORIGINAL AREA 60 HA**

This headland complex of Aboriginal middens is important to local Aboriginal communities, as well as being scientifically significant. This is the largest Aboriginal site on the south coast, one of only three more than 10,000 years old, and contains a dense concentration of stone objects, shells and bones. The variety of tool types illustrates the long history of its occupation. A self-guided walking track provides panoramic views of the coastline, hinterland ranges and Brush Island.

**Nowra office:** 4423 2170

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**29 MURRAMARANG NATIONAL PARK 12,374 HA**

Camping fee levels 3,4

**Highlights** Magnificent spotted gum forests and rainforest gullies provide a backdrop to beautiful natural coastline.

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**20 NADGEE NATURE RESERVE 20,671 HA**

Camping fee level – special fees

Colourful headland cliffs line the only coastal wilderness in NSW, protecting one of the largest undeveloped catchments on the eastern seaboard and offering unique coastal walks over sandy beaches, rocky headlands and lush coastal heath.

**Merimbula office:** 6495 5000

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**31 NARRAWALLEE CREEK NATURE RESERVE 872 HA**

Explore beautiful estuaries, coastal forests, quiet beaches and honeycombed rock platforms. Good for birdwatching. Walking tracks lead from a picnic area near Conjola Beach.

**Nowra office:** 4423 2170

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**32 SEVEN MILE BEACH NATIONAL PARK 954 HA**

**Highlights** The long sweep of Seven Mile Beach is rimmed with sand dunes and a variety of coastal sand forests, some of which are listed as endangered ecological communities.

**Activities** At Beach Road the timber walkway and viewing platform provide easy beach access for all, including wheelchair access. Close by, there is a large picnic area with barbecues in a pleasant forest spot. A second picnic area is located closer to Gerroa, set among tea trees and banksias with easy access to the beach. From the picnic area there are loop walking tracks through the forest and along the beach. Camping is not permitted in the park.

**Access** 140 km south of Sydney, 8 km south of Gerringong along Gerroa Road, towards Nowra.

**Nowra office:** 4423 2170

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SOUTH EAST FOREST NATIONAL PARK 115,534 HA

Camping fee level 1

Highlights Spectacular old-growth forests, heathlands, upland swamps, granite boulders and moist fern-filled gullies reflect the diversity of landscapes of this park.

Activities Scenic drives provide access to picnic areas at Six Mile Creek, White Rock River, Wolumla Peak, Myrtle Mountain, Goodenia Rainforest, Big Jack and Myanba Creek. At Myanba Gorge, viewing platforms look out across the Towamba Valley; you can also follow a boardwalk and trail through tall forests to a waterfall and lookout. Viewing platforms at Pipers Lookout on Brown Mountain offer a birds eye view across the Bega Valley. Car-based camping is available at Six Mile Creek, Postmans Track, Nunnock Swamp and Waratah Gully. There are also two great walks around Nunnock Swamp; the Swamp Walk and the Heritage Walk. Don’t miss the spectacular Goodenia Rainforest Walk west of South Pambula. Low to moderate grade walking; allow a full day to attempt both walks. South East Forest National Park driving tours wind through the villages and hamlets along the escarpment and into the high country inland of the coast.

Access 440-550 km south of Sydney. Six Mile Creek is 12 km west of Candelo on the Tantawangalo Mountain Road (unsealed). Access to Myanba Gorge is via Coolangubra Forest Way and Kanoonah Road (both unsealed) or along the Bucky Springs Road south-east from Bombala. Pipers Lookout is 60 km west of Bega along the Snowy Mountains Highway.

Bombala office: 6458 4080
Merimbula office: 6495 5000
Narooma Visitor Centre: 4476 0800

WADBILLIGA NATIONAL PARK 98,530 HA

Camping fee level 1

An area of mountainous wilderness cradling one of the state’s largest undisturbed river catchments. The Cascades Walk winds through lush forests, following a spectacular gorge to a breathtaking waterfall lookout. There is car-based camping next to the Turross River.

Narooma Visitor Centre: 4476 0800
GREAT PLACES TO STAY

DEPOT AND PRETTY BEACH CABINS

The NSW South Coast is famous for its perfect, unspoilt beaches. Depot Beach and Pretty Beach, at the southern end of the Shoalhaven, offer wonderful day excursions – but those in the know take advantage of self-contained cabins to really relax and unwind in a beautiful beachside location.

Murrarang National Park encompasses these spectacular beaches and more, offering abundant bird and animal life, including kangaroos grazing close to the beaches. Spend your days exploring. You’ll never tire of the park’s wonderful walks – beachside, lakeside, level strolls and challenging climbs leading to spectacular ocean views.

Activities also include birdwatching – more than 90 species have been recorded in the park – photography, nature study, rock hopping and exploring rockpools, fishing and picnicking. There are options for the whole family.

And at night, comfortable cabins allow you to see a different side to the park, observing nocturnal animals under the stars. A range of one and two bedroom cabins will sleep up to six people and each provide a fully-equipped kitchen.

Facilities are also available for camping.

For more information and bookings
Depot Beach phone: 4478 6582
Pretty Beach phone: 4457 2019

GREEN CAPE LIGHTSTATION

Peaceful, misty mornings and relentless pounding seas – yours to enjoy from the comfortable isolation of the restored Green Cape Lighthouse Keepers’ cottages in Ben Boyd National Park.

The NSW South Coast offers some of the world’s finest whale-watching opportunities – and what better vantage point could there be than a light station? Whale watching is available from May to December, with plenty more to do all year round.

Your comfortable, self-contained accommodation is a base from which to explore the park and its surrounds, including the Light to Light Walk and its beaches and bays, offering great spots to fish. A free tour of the lighthouse is available to guests.

Each cottage can accommodate up to six people with a maximum two week stay.

For more information and bookings contact the Merimbula office: 6495 5000

For more information visit www.nswnationalparks.com.au/southcoast
GRAND PACIFIC DRIVE

The drive from Sydney through the Illawarra and beyond just begs to be taken along the Grand Pacific Drive. This way, you’ll enjoy spectacular scenery; discover the wonderful attractions such as cafes, restaurants, pubs, art galleries, picnic areas, quirky small towns, pristine beaches, bushland, escarpments and rainforests along this stretch of Illawarra coastline.

The Grand Pacific Drive is well signposted heading south from Sydney, taking the Lawrence Hargrave Drive through Royal National Park along to the impressive Sea Cliff Bridge. The drive then takes you through to Nowra with extensions to the Southern Highlands or Canberra.

You’ll find many ideal spots for short or long walks and picnics, along with spectacular views. National Parks include the Royal, Booderee, Jervis Bay and the spectacular Minnamurra Rainforest.

For more information visit www.grandpacificdrive.com.au

MINNAMURRA RAINFOREST

The Minnamurra Rainforest is 15 km west of Kiama on Tourist Drive 9.

It features elevated walkways through the rainforest, beside the Minnamurra River – keep an eye out for superb lyrebirds scratching in the leaf litter. The paved track to the Upper Falls is steep but well worth the effort.

In the newly refurbished Visitor Centre you’ll find information on rainforests and environmentally themed items for sale. Enjoy light meals and refreshments at the Lyrebird Café; picnic and BBQ facilities are also available. Open 7 days a week, 9 am to 5 pm (closed Christmas Day), with an $11 vehicle entry fee. Allow 45 minutes to an hour to complete the Loop Walk (1.6 km), last access to the walk is 4 pm. To undertake the Falls Walk (an additional 2.6 km return) allow 2 hours, and leave from the Visitor Centre no later than 3 pm as the park gates close at 5 pm (total distance of both walks is 4.2 km).

Budderoo National Park, Minnamurra Falls Rd, Jamberoo
Phone 4236 0469

FITZROY FALLS VISITOR CENTRE

A wheelchair-accessible boardwalk provides spectacular views of the waterfall, rainforest gullies and sandstone escarpment. Six kilometres of walking tracks provide access to 15 lookouts and picnic tables/barbecues are available. You can pick up information on all the national parks in southern NSW, Australian-made souvenirs, annual parks passes, maps, postcards, books and local crafts. There are interpretive and interactive displays and Discovery Rangers can tailor a tour for your community, business or school group (bookings required). The Falls Cafe offers a range of delicious home-cooked meals, drinks and snacks in an indoor/outdoor setting.

Open 7 days, 9 am to 5.30 pm (closed Christmas Day). Vehicle entry fee applies.

Morton National Park, 1301 Nowra Road, Fitzroy Falls
Phone 4887 7270

KINGS HIGHWAY TO DISCOVERY

The Kings Highway to Discovery follows the Kings Highway between Canberra and the NSW South Coast, encouraging travellers to visit towns, villages and national parks along the way. A feature is Monga National Park, providing picnic areas, short walks, and a 4wd driving tour.

For more information visit www.kingshwytodiscovery.com.au

South Coast rainforest
Photography: DECCW