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Fort Denison, Sydney Harbour National Park. Photo: D Finnegan/OEH
**ABERCROMBIE RIVER NATIONAL PARK**

19,000 ha

Deep waterholes beneath towering casuarinas are threaded along three waterways as they run through the largest remaining patch of low, open forest in the south-west central tablelands area.

Fish for trout in the streams (licence required) or enjoy swimming and canoeing in the waterholes when water is high. Car-based camping is available at Silent Creek, The Sink (Retreat River), The Beach (Abercrombie River) and Bummaroo Ford (Abercrombie River). A 4WD is needed for all parts of the park except Bummaroo Ford.

Access: 120km west of Sydney, 40km south of Oberon along Abercrombie Road (5km unsealed)

**BENTS BASIN STATE CONSERVATION AREA**

48ha

Bents Basin forms a deep waterhole, part of the Gulguer Gorge on the Nepean River between Camden and Penrith, and is a popular picnic spot with visitors.

Enjoy water-based activities such as swimming and canoeing. There are picnic areas with accessible toilet facilities. The Basin is not wheelchair accessible. Car-based and caravan camping are available in the camping area. Facilities include hot showers, electric barbecues, fire rings for camp fires and there is also a kitchen and shelter for hire. Grab a bite to eat at the kiosk; open weekends, and public holidays between 11am and 4pm (kiosk closed during winter).

Access: 60km west of Sydney, 8km south of Wallacia and 25km south west of Penrith. From Bents Basin Road, follow Silverdale Road from the roundabout at Wallacia. From Wolstenholme Avenue from the north, follow Greendale Road from Wallacia; or from the south, follow Greendale Road from Bringelly. Access to the campground is via Wolstenholme Avenue only. Vehicle entry fees apply.

**BEROWRA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK**

3,589ha

The natural bushland along the Berowra Creek Valley is a bushwalker’s paradise.

The Great North Walk from Sydney to the Hunter Valley passes through the park, following Berowra Creek. In the south the track enters from Bellamy Street Pennant Hills, travels north to Galston Gorge, then 7km on to the Crosslands Reserve picnic area. From Crosslands Reserve you can walk a further 7km north to Berowra Waters, where the track continues on to Cowan railway station and beyond. Barnetts Lookout has wheelchair access, a children’s play area and nearby access to the Great North Walk. For a scenic day out, Crosslands Reserve offers waterfront picnic and barbecue facilities, toilets and short walks.

Backpack camping is permitted at approved locations along the Great North Walk and there are camp sites available at Crosslands Reserve. For bookings phone Hornsby Shire Council Parks Booking Officer on (02) 9847 6791. Only gas fires are permitted throughout the park.

Access: 24km north-west of Sydney. The main access point is Crosslands Reserve at the end of Sommerville Road, Hornsby Heights.

**BLUE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK**

267,183ha

The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage landscape of massive cliffs, deep rainforested gullies and water-smoothed sandstone canyons is the traditional country of six Aboriginal language groups. This remarkable area achieved World Heritage status due to its outstanding universal values, reflecting adaptability and evolution in post-Gondwana isolation. The park contains wide representations of eucalypt habitats, protecting rare and threatened species.
There are over 140km of walking tracks of all grades in diverse settings, making the Blue Mountains a bushwalker’s paradise.

Cycling along the fire trails is popular and several competitive endurance running events are held annually. The Grand Canyon at Blackheath is the only Blue Mountains canyon with a walking track in it and a great way to begin exploring the vast Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

See the impressive Three Sisters from the Giant Stairway at Echo Point, or explore the historic Mount Werong and Ruby Creek area (south of Oberon). The National Parks Heritage Centre at Blackheath and visitor centres at Echo Point and Glenbrook provide information on local walking tracks.

The Fairfax Heritage Track at Blackheath is wheelchair-accessible to Govetts Leap lookout, and the Conservation Hut and Wentworth Falls picnic area also have great views that are wheelchair-accessible. Car-based camping is available in areas such as Euroka near Glenbrook and Murphys Glen near Woodford.

Access: Blue Mountains National Park lies 50–110km west of Sydney with entry points off the Great Western Highway between Glenbrook and Mount Victoria, and the Oberon–Colong Stock Route. Close to railway stations at Glenbrook, Wentworth Falls, Leura, Katoomba, Blackheath and Mt Victoria. Vehicle entry fees apply in Glenbrook precinct only.

BOUDDI NATIONAL PARK
1,532ha

Small secluded beaches, fringed by rainforests, sandstone cliffs and coastal heaths blanketed in wildflower colour, make Bouddi National Park one of the most diverse and delightful reserves accessible to Sydney.

Discover picturesque Maitland Bay and the wreck of the PS Maitland at the heart of the park’s marine protected area. Explore the spectacular Bouddi coastal walk with its breathtaking views along the windswept coastline.

The Maitland Bay Information Centre has interactive audio and visual displays and is open on weekends and public holidays from 11am to 3pm.

Access: 95km north of Sydney, 19km south-east of Gosford along Avoca Drive and the Scenic Road. Vehicle entry fees apply at Putty Beach.

BRISBANE WATER NATIONAL PARK
11,473ha

This sandstone landscape is rich in Aboriginal art. See engravings at Bulgandry Aboriginal art site on Woy Woy Road via an accessible boardwalk, and there are sweeping water views over the Hawkesbury River from Warrah Trig and across Brisbane Water and the coast from Staples lookout. Somersby Falls and Girrakool picnic areas have excellent picnic facilities and forest walks.

Access: 60km north of Sydney, 6km west of Gosford. Girrakool is near Kariong off the Pacific Highway; Somersby Falls is along Somersby Falls Road off Wisemans Ferry Road. Vehicle entry fees apply at Somersby Falls and Girrakool picnic areas.
BURRAGORANG
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
17,642ha

The newly-upgraded Burragorang lookout is a window on the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and provides breathtaking views of Lake Burragorang and the Nattai wilderness. Shaded tables and barbecues are ideal for picnics. Viewing points provide scenic vistas unparalleled in the district.

Access: 80km south-west of Sydney, 20km west of Camden along Burragorang Road. The lookout is open during daylight hours and is the only part of the park accessible by vehicle. Vehicle entry fees apply.

CAPETTEE NATIONAL PARK
2,800ha

Located just west of the Blue Mountains, this reserve is rich in fauna and flora, including some species found nowhere else in the world. A popular spot for birdwatching, it also offers plenty of tracks for mountain bikers.

You can camp, stay at Capertee Cottage or enjoy the heritage charms of Capertee Homestead; for bookings please contact the Mudgee park office on (02) 6370 9000.

Access: 60km from Capertee, 95km from Mudgee and 105km from Lithgow. Please note that entry is controlled by a locked gate – call the Mudgee park office for access information.

DALRYMPLE-HAY
NATURE RESERVE
11ha

Escape from the busy rush of Sydney life with a walk among the majestic tall blue gums and blackbutts. Check out the large hollows in the tree trunks as they burst with colours of the beautiful native birds, such as king parrots, rosellas and lorikeets.

The reserve’s stand of blue gum high forest is one of the last remaining of this type in Sydney.

Access: St Ives, 15km north of Sydney CBD. Enter via Mona Vale Rd, Rosedale Rd or Vista St.
DARUG NATIONAL PARK
14,850ha

The multi-hued sandstone landscape forms part of Sydney’s green belt and protects vital clear-water tributaries to the Hawkesbury River.

Step back in time and enjoy a spectacular section of the convict-built Old Great North Road as you walk up Devines Hill. Download the new interpretive smartphone app Convict Road from our website before you go. This section of the Old Great North Road is recognised as part of the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Property.

Enjoy a picnic or camp the night at Mill Creek or Ten Mile Hollow. You will need to walk or ride in to Ten Mile Hollow. Mountain biking is also popular at this park.

Access: 40km north-east of Windsor. Mill Creek is 5.5km east of Wisemans Ferry along Wisemans Ferry Road.

GARDENS OF STONE NATIONAL PARK
15,130ha

This park, part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, features prominent ‘pagoda’ rock formations, sandstone cliffs and canyons. Banksias, dwarf casuarinas and other wind-pruned heathland plants give the area its garden-like appearance.

There are no established walking tracks but you’ll find plenty of space for horse riding, cycling or walking along the Bicentennial trail. If you’re four-wheel driving, head out to Baal Bone Gap for a picnic and some of the finest views in the Blue Mountains.

Backpack camping more than 200m from roads is permitted in most areas of the park, though camping is not permitted in caves or within 200m of limestone, and only fuel stoves may be used. There are no designated camping areas, but you can camp outside the park at Capertee or Glen Davis, or at Newnes in Wollemi National Park.

Access: 160-175km north-west of Sydney, 30km north of Lithgow off the Mudgee Road via unsealed roads from Lidsdale to the south (4WD) or via Capertee to the north.

GARIGAL NATIONAL PARK
2,203ha

This park has an impressive expanse of diverse bushland with great scenery, water and bush views, waterfalls, significant Aboriginal sites and heritage. You can enjoy a number of great activities, including mountain bike riding, horse riding and walking.

Davidson Park on the north side of Middle Harbour Creek (near Roseville Bridge) is a popular spot for picnicking, boating, paddling and fishing, and has canoe launching ramps and a multiple lane boat ramp.

Access: 12km north of Sydney CBD. Entry to Davidson Park picnic area and boat ramp is from the north along Warringah Road just before the Roseville Bridge. The Davidson Park picnic area is closed from 6.30pm to 6am, and 8pm to 6am during daylight saving. Other sections of Garigal can be accessed from Forestville, Killarney Heights, Frenchs Forest, Seaforth, Lindfield East, Killara East, St Ives, Belrose, Davidson and Oxford Falls. Vehicle entry fees apply.

GEORGES RIVER NATIONAL PARK
337ha

Georges River National Park has steep forested hillsides, plateaus and riverside flats that conserve some of Sydney’s best river habitat for native plants and animals.

There are several popular riverside picnic areas, large and small, and a network of fun walking tracks. Stroll around peaceful Yeramba Lagoon, home to more than 100 bird species, or the Ridge Track, which offers spectacular river views.
Access: 25km south-west of Sydney along Henry Lawson Drive. Vehicle entry fees apply. Open only during daylight hours.

**HARTLEY HISTORIC SITE**

13ha

This 19th century village sits on the western edge of the Blue Mountains, and features a sandstone courthouse built in the 1830s. Absconding convicts, petty thieves, highway robbers, and the drunk and disorderly all came before the Hartley magistracy. St Bernards Catholic Church (c. 1842) is a romantic stone church still used for weddings and baptisms. The Post Office, Royal Hotel and other buildings complete a streetscape of a bygone era, and Farmers Inn includes information and souvenir sales. Guided tours are available.

Stroll around the village or join a tour of the courthouse (small fee). Explore the visitor centre, based in the Farmers Inn. The centre stocks a range of heritage-style books, oil lamps, candlesticks, souvenirs and pens, as well as sweets and drinks.

Access: 120km west of Sydney, 12km south of Lithgow on the Great Western Highway, just near the turnoff to Jenolan Caves. Open every day 10am to 4:30pm.

**HEATHCOTE NATIONAL PARK**

2,672ha

The wild, rugged landscape is perfect for walkers and easily accessible from Sydney. In spring, Gymea lilies give a scarlet glow to the gullies.

Take one of the series of walking tracks to see the beauty and diversity of the park’s rocky bushland and stop for a swim in a hidden pool along Heathcote Creek Valley. Remote camping is permitted at designated sites.

Permits and bookings are essential; phone 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) or visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/bookings for more information.

**JENOLAN KARST CONSERVATION RESERVE**

2,422ha

Jenolan Caves are the oldest discovered open caves in the world. Apart from the spectacular beauty of the caves, the soil derived from the surrounding limestone rock supports a special part of the biodiversity of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Enjoy the wonders of the nine Show Caves alongside those entering the world of adventure caving. Take a guided cave tour, stroll along a choice of scenic bush tracks (from easy to strenuous) or picnic at the Blue Lake. Hiking, swimming and wildlife spotting are some of the activities you can enjoy in the area.

Access: From Sydney, take the M4 Motorway travelling west through the Blue Mountains, Katoomba and Mount Victoria on the Great Western Highway. After Victoria Pass, the Jenolan Caves turnoff is found just past Hartley Historic Site. Turning left, this road passes through Hampton and then down a steep winding road to Jenolan Caves.

**KAMAY BOTANY BAY NATIONAL PARK**

456ha

The two headlands of Botany Bay (La Perouse and Kurnell) are rich in Aboriginal and European history. At La Perouse you can take a tour of Bare Island Fort, learn about the park at La Perouse Museum and Visitor Centre (open Sundays), or enjoy one of the local beaches that are excellent for diving.

Discover Captain Cook’s landing place at Kurnell, then follow the Burrawang walk to the Kamay Visitor Centre. Join an Aboriginal Discovery tour for an insight into living with the land and
The significance of this location to Aboriginal Australians. The Banks-Solander and the Burrawang walk are both self-guided walks. Cape Solander provides a superb vantage point for watching the annual whale migration during June and July.

Access: 15–30km south of Sydney. Entry to La Perouse is from Anzac Parade. Entry to Kurnell is from the end of Captain Cook Drive. Vehicle entry fees apply at Kurnell.

KANANGRA-BOYD NATIONAL PARK
68,661ha

The Kanangra-Boyd wilderness is part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Vast gorges, high lookouts and wild and scenic rivers lend Kanangra-Boyd a rugged and dramatic grandeur. Thurat Spires, Kanangra Walls and Mount Cloudmaker provide sandstone scenery on a majestic scale.

For experienced bushwalkers there are plenty of opportunities for extended walks and backpack camping. Most of the park is declared wilderness, so group sizes and activities are restricted.

Wildlife abounds at Boyd crossing, where car-based camping is available. A pleasant 10 minute walk from Kanangra Walls carpark takes you to a lookout over the park. The carpark toilets, lookout and Boyd River camping area are all wheelchair accessible. Visit Morong Falls to see granite rock waterfalls.

Access: 180km west of Sydney near Jenolan Caves on Kanangra Road (unsealed but suitable for 2WD). Vehicle entry fees apply.

KU-RING-GAI CHASE NATIONAL PARK
14,928ha

Ku-ring-gai Chase offers a rich variety of things to see and do in a natural setting near Sydney’s northern suburbs. West Head, the jewel in the park’s north-east, has some of Sydney’s best water views plus Aboriginal engraving sites, picnic areas and many trails for walking and mountain biking. Bobbin Head, on the western side, is well known for its waterways, picnic areas and walking tracks.

Jump on a ferry or water taxi from Palm Beach and camp the night at The Basin campground, or adventurous travellers can access the campground along a trail from West Head Road.

Visit the marinas at Bobbin Head and Akuna Bay and stop in for lunch at one of the cafes. There are boat ramps at Appletree Bay and Akuna Bay. Barrenjoey Lighthouse is a must see (tours available). Enjoy the stunning views of Broken Bay and the coast walking track and remember to take your own refreshments as this site has no visitor facilities.

The rugged cliff lines and pristine waters make the area ideal for any water activity. Fishing can be outstanding with species including bream, kingfish, taylor, flathead, mud crabs and enormous jewfish. Waterskiing and jet skiing are popular activities, allowed in some areas of the main channels, or you can kayak through the many quieter bays and creeks.

Access: 26km north of the Sydney CBD. Access to the western side is from Bobbin Head Road via the Pacific Highway (from the south), or from Ku-ring-gai Chase Road via the F3 Freeway (from the north). Access to the eastern side (West Head) is via Mona Vale Road. Vehicle entry fees apply.
LANE COVE NATIONAL PARK
684ha

The picturesque Lane Cove River winds through a peaceful bushland valley. For a longer day of walking follow The Great North Walk through beautiful bushland and breathtaking vistas.

For a shorter 10km loop walk, try combining the 5km Riverside Walk from the Delhi Road or Lane Cove Road entrances of the park with 5km of the Great North Walk on the opposite side of the river. Picnic, boat and bike ride, through the bushland and along river foreshores. The extensive fire trail network in the Pennant Hills section of the park is great for off-road bike riding, running and walking.

Camping and accommodation is only available at Lane Cove River Tourist Park, visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/bookings for more information.

Access: 10km north-west of Sydney CBD. Enter from Lane Cove Road, Delhi Road or Lady Game Drive. The 545 bus service operates regularly from Chatswood Station. The northern end of the park can be accessed using the closest train station at Thornleigh. Vehicle entry fees apply.

LEACOCK REGIONAL PARK
34ha

A welcome area of open space in Sydney’s south-west, with views from the ridgeline over the Holsworthy bushland. Walking trails and cycle tracks link the park with other facilities, such as Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre. There’s a lookout platform and picnic tables. This park allows opportunities to walk your dog on a leash.

Access: 45km west of Sydney CBD, 5km south of Liverpool via Leacock Lane off the Hume Highway at Casula.

MARRAMARRA NATIONAL PARK
11,786ha

A peaceful stretch of bushland overlooking the Hawkesbury River and Berowra Creek with excellent examples of mangrove forest at Big Bay, Pumpkin Point and Gentlemans Halt.

Follow one of the many walking tracks, or go canoeing on Marramarra Creek or one of the little-known waterways and take a close look at local wildlife. There’s bush camping at Marramarra National Park. Photo: J Spencer/OEH
Gentlemans Halt (access only via water or 10km walk) and Marramarra Creek orchards (via water or 4km walk).

Access: 50km north-west of Sydney. For walking tracks, enter via Bloodwood Road, Arcadia or Canoelands Road, Glenorie. Boat access is available from boat ramps at Berowra Waters, Brooklyn, Mooney Mooney or Spencer.

MUNMORAH
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
1,515ha

Munmorah State Conservation Area includes 12km of rugged coastline; making a fine site for water sports, coastal walks with magnificent ocean views and wildflower displays in spring.

Launch a boat from the ramp at Elizabeth Bay or swim and surf at a variety of beaches. Surf beaches are not patrolled, except Frazer Beach which is patrolled during Christmas and Easter holidays. Car-based camping is available at Frazer camping area and car-based and limited caravan camping at Freemans camping area. Only gas barbecues may be used in the park.

Access: 115km north-east of Sydney, 41km north of Gosford via Elizabeth Bay Drive off the Pacific Highway. Vehicle entry fees apply.

MUOGAMARRA
NATURE RESERVE
2,571ha

Open around springtime for just six weekends a year to preserve the fragile ecosystems and Aboriginal heritage of this outstanding nature reserve. The park transforms into a brilliant display of colour when the spring wildflowers come into bloom and is home to many native animals.

Join a ranger-led tour and hear the secrets of Muogamarra, see Aboriginal rock engravings and learn about the area’s significance on a Muogamarra Indigenous heritage walk. Or if you’d prefer to take things at your own pace, simply pack a picnic and a pair of binoculars and take in spectacular views on a self-guided walk.

Open during select dates during spring. Phone 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) for more information.

Access: 43km from the centre of Sydney. From Sydney head north towards Newcastle on the F3 Freeway and take the Berowra exit. Turn right onto the Pacific Highway and follow it past Cowan. The park entrance is on your left, about 3km north of Cowan.

NATTAI NATIONAL PARK
48,944ha

Nattai includes the Warragamba Dam catchment, within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The park’s wilderness bushland is ideal for experienced bushwalkers.

Minimum impact bushwalking and backpack camping are permitted, except in the 3km zone around Lake Burragorang. Wilderness walks require a topographic map and compass, and all walkers need to be experienced and well-equipped.

Access: 100km south-west of Sydney, 30km south-west of Camden off Wattle Ridge Road or Wombeyan Caves Road.

PARR
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
38,121ha

A rugged and little-known area of steep gorges, cliffs and rock outcrops where you can join one of the guided tours (including 4WD tours) throughout the park. Backpack camping is available at Heartbreak Hill, 18km from the eastern end of the park.

Access: 35km north of Windsor via Putty Road at Colo Heights, 8km west of Wisemans Ferry, take the Webbs Creek ferry at Wisemans Ferry.
POPRAN NATIONAL PARK
3,970ha

The main visitor area is at the end of Ironbark Road where you will find walking tracks to Mount Olive, which provides excellent views over the valley. Walk to beautiful Emerald Pool, just one of the pristine small creek catchments within the park.

Whether you like to bush walk or mountain bike, you will be rewarded with spectacular views. Horse riding is also a popular activity in this park.

Access: From Sydney, take the M1 motorway. Exit at Calga onto Peats Ridge Road. After 13km turn left into Wisemans Ferry Road. After a further 8km turn left into Ironbark Road.

ROUSE HILL REGIONAL PARK
43ha

The landscape overlooked by Rouse Hill House was built between 1813 and 1818 and has been gradually transformed from paddock to parkland, retaining existing features such as Second Ponds Creek, farm dams and remnant woodland.

Cycling and walking tracks wind through the park, with play equipment for toddlers and children. You can have a picnic or barbecue, and the two Iron Bark Ridge Pavilions can be hired for functions. You can walk your dog on a leash.

Access: 45km north-west of the Sydney CBD, 10km north of Blacktown on Windsor Road, to Rouse Hill Road, then Worcester Road.

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK
15,800ha

This historic national park – the first in Australia – has now been placed on the National Heritage List and is easily accessible from Sydney. Walk the coast for magnificent views, or experience the variety of habitats, including heath, rainforests, open woodlands and estuarine systems. Over 100km of walking tracks give access to the park. The 26km Coast Track has magnificent cliff-top views, or you can take the Forest Island loop walk through cool, rainforest valleys. For a relaxing walk, enjoy the Bungoona track along an easy 500m path with a wheelchair accessible lookout.

Wattamolla, Garie and Burning Palms are among the most beautiful beaches in Australia. Enjoy a picnic in one of many peaceful, shady areas or hire a rowboat at historic Audley and take a paddle up Kangaroo Creek. Visit the kiosk at Garie beach for maps, brochures and information on things to see and do in the park.

Activities in this park range from swimming to surfing, canoeing, beach fishing, bushwalking, and bush camping.

Bonnie Vale camping ground is the only car-based camping area in the park and provides basic facilities (fees apply). Other walk-in camping sites are limited with bookings and permits essential.

Access: 32km south of Sydney CBD via the Princes Highway, or take the Illawarra train line, stopping at Loftus, Engadine, Heathcote, Waterfall or Otford. Access the north-eastern area of the park via the Cronulla train line to Cronulla and then ferry to Bundeena, phone (02) 9523 2990 for timetable. The park is closed between sunset and sunrise. Vehicle entry fees apply.

SCHEYVILLE NATIONAL PARK
920ha

Evidence of the area’s rich history of European occupation can still be seen in the relics of agriculture, immigration and military training. The park also contains one of the largest remaining areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland, which once covered much of what is now western Sydney, but is now threatened by urban expansion.

Walk the history trail and imagine what life was like in the years of the Casual Labour Farm, Agricultural Training Farm, migrant hostel or military occupation. The walking track around Longneck Lagoon provides excellent birdwatching. Picnic facilities and information are available at the Scheyville office.
Access: 45km north-west of Sydney, 6km east of Windsor. From Paramatta, take Windsor Road to Boundary Road, then Old Pitt Town Road to Scheyville Road. From Windsor, take Pitt Town Road to Saunders Road, then Scheyville Road.

SYDNEY HARBOUR NATIONAL PARK
393ha

Sections of park scattered around Sydney Harbour offer views of the majestic harbour entrance, natural bushland, secluded sandy beaches, harbour islands and rugged sandstone cliffs – all with the contrast of cosmopolitan Sydney in the background.

The park boasts some fantastic fortifications, including the oldest surviving fort in Australia, which dates back to the days of Governor King. It is home to a number of threatened species, including endangered populations of little penguins and long-nosed bandicoots, bent-wing bats and red-crowned toadlets.

Aboriginal repatriation sites, rock engravings and fantastic kayaking experiences are all part of the Sydney Harbour National Park experience.

Swim and picnic at Nielsen Park (shark-netted during summer) and walk the Hermitage Foreshore track. Another great track includes the Manly to Spit Bridge walk, taking in an amazing loop of North Head, then onto Bradleys and Middle heads. Visit North or South Head for astonishing views of Sydney Harbour.

Take a tour of the harbour islands, such as historic Fort Denison, Goat and Clark islands. You can also enjoy a picnic on Clark, Shark and Rodd islands. Landing fees apply for all islands but bookings are not essential. For information on visiting the islands, tickets, tours and fees phone 13000 PARKS (13000 72757).

Access: A number of points around Sydney Harbour, most of which are accessible by car and public transport. Vehicle entry fees apply at North Head, Bradleys Head and the Chowder Bay precinct.

THIRLMERE LAKES NATIONAL PARK
630ha

Thirlmere Lakes is part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Its five reed-fringed freshwater lakes are abundant with waterbirds and surrounded by quiet patches of forest. These lakes are among the last undisturbed lake systems near Sydney and have significant scientific value.

Walking, swimming, canoeing and picnicking are popular. Camping is not permitted in the park, and to ensure the lakes remain undisturbed, power boats are prohibited.

Access: 95km south-west of Sydney, 35km south-west of Camden off Remembrance Drive (unsealed). Open during daylight hours. Vehicle entry fees apply.

TOWRA POINT NATURE RESERVE
1,400ha

Towra Point forms the largest and most diverse estuarine wetland complex in NSW. With around half of the remaining mangrove area near Sydney, and most of the saltmarshes remaining in the region, this park is as beautiful as it is diverse. Towra Point provides breeding, feeding and roosting sites for many threatened and migratory bird species, which makes this reserve ideal for wetland birdwatching. Quibray Bay viewing platform is a great place to stop on your walk. This reserve is home to many threatened species and it’s important that we don’t disturb their habitat, so please remember to stay within the designated visitor areas.

This park is especially popular with boaties in summer. Remember to pack a picnic and bring your swimmers when visiting the Towra Beach Picnic area.

Access: From Sydney, make your way to Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell. From Kurnell, head south-west on Captain Cook Drive towards Bridge Street.
TURON NATIONAL PARK
2,778ha

The open eucalypt forest and river oaks of historic Turon Valley were once the site of one of the state's major goldfields and the area is rich in colonial and Aboriginal heritage.

Enjoy the trout fishing (licence required). There are also opportunities for remote bushwalking as there are no formal tracks. There is car-based camping at Woolshed Flat and The Diggings. You can swim or paddle a canoe when the water is high.

Access: 150km north-west of Sydney, via Capertee on the Lochaber Road (unsealed, 4WD).

WALLUMATTA NATURE RESERVE
6.1ha

Wallumatta Nature Reserve protects one of the last remaining turpentine-ironbark forests in Sydney. Visitor facilities are limited, but visitors are welcome to enjoy the loop walk and explore the diverse landscape of the reserve. Bring along your binoculars and spot the 35 species of birds that have been recorded in the reserve.

Access: Corner of Twin Road and Cressy Road in the Sydney suburb of Ryde, 10km north-west of the Sydney CBD. Access to the loop track is off Cressy Road.

WILLIAM HOWE REGIONAL PARK
43ha

Discover a beautiful big back garden at William Howe Regional Park, a lovely oasis in the heart of south-western Sydney. Take a walk along the Loop trail, play hide and seek with the kids among the trees and let everyone get their fill of fresh air. Head to Turkeys Nest picnic area for a tasty feast and enjoy the view, stretching southwest over the Razorback Mountains and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Dog walking on a leash is permitted.

Access: Narellan Vale, 70km south-west of Sydney, Mary Howe Place, via Narellan Road.

WINDSOR DOWNS NATURE RESERVE
272ha

This reserve, featuring a historic windmill and water tank, protects a number of endangered plant communities, such as the broad-leaved ironbark, grey box, scribbly gum, narrow-leaved angophora, pea flowers and a species of geebung.

Spot birds and surprise trails along the Richmond Road. Keep an eye out for the red-capped and hooded robins, white-winged choughs,
buff-rumped and yellow-tailed thornbills and the endangered regent honeyeater – which is usually found in the drier habitats of the central west slopes.

Access: 3.5km south of Windsor between the suburbs of Bligh Park and Berkshire Park (36km north west of Sydney). Access the reserve via Sanctuary Drive and Surprise Crescent.

**WOLLEMI NATIONAL PARK**

501,698ha

This park, the largest wilderness area in NSW and part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, is a maze of canyons, cliffs and undisturbed forest.

Descend to the Colo River on Bob Turners track (4km, 200m descent, some steep sections) and enjoy the beaches in one of the state’s longest and most scenic gorges. There are historic ruins at Newnes, across the river from the camping area. The Glow Worm Tunnel is part of the old railway that serviced the area (access from Clarence on the Bells Line of Road). On the western side of the park, Dunns Swamp has easy walks and plenty of opportunities for swimming and canoeing.

Access: 100–250km north-west of Sydney. Dunns Swamp is 25km from Rylstone along Narrango Road; Newnes is 47km north of Lithgow along Wolgan Road; access Coorongooba via Glen Davis, 35km north of Capertee and Bob Turners Track starts off Putty Road 15km north-west of Colo. All roads are unsealed.

**WOLLICREEK REGIONAL PARK**

8ha

This park is a long sliver of greenery in Sydney’s inner south-west; a beautiful gem in the suburbs. The park conserves a richly varied vegetation corridor along Wolli Creek, providing a home for an astonishing array of birdlife and grey-headed flying foxes.

It’s a great place for a morning walk along the Wolli Creek track, part of the longer Two Valley trail via Campsie and Bexley. If you’re looking for a new barbecue spot, try Girrahwee picnic area or the nearby Turella Reserve.

Access: 500m from Bardwell Park, Bexley North, Earlwood and Turrella. Easily accessible by public transport, including from Bardwell Park and Turrella stations.

**WYRRABALONG NATIONAL PARK**

621ha

Divided into two sections, this park conserves the last patch of coastal rainforest on the Central Coast. Enjoy swimming, surfing and fishing along a striking coastline and be awed by the superb red gum forest, diverse wildlife and rich Aboriginal heritage.

Explore the park’s varied landscape on a network of walking tracks, or stop at its picnic areas and enjoy picture-perfect surroundings. There are a few bike trails in the park to explore as well. Soak up dramatic coastal views and take in the spectacular sight of whales on their annual migration – the park is a hot spot for whale watching.

Access: 105km north-east of Sydney. The two sections of the park are 5km north and south of The Entrance off Wilfred Barrett Drive (north) and The Entrance Road (south) respectively.

**YELLOMUNDEE REGIONAL PARK**

485ha

A visit to Yellomundee Regional Park gives you the opportunity to explore large areas of native bushland, significant plant communities, and important cultural and historic sites. It’s a great family day out.

It’s a haven for mountain bikers, bushwalkers, horse-riders and dog-walkers. Find a relaxing spot to set up your picnic, enjoy unspoilt nature and sweeping views from the park’s lookouts. There are also great places to canoe along the Nepean River.
Access: From Emu Plains, exit the Great Western Highway at Hawkesbury Road. For Hawkesbury lookout, continue for about 10km along Hawkesbury Road, then turn right into the carpark. For Yellow Rock lookout, turn right from Hawkesbury Road into Singles Ridge Road. Turn left into Yellow Rock Road and follow to its end.

YERRANDERIE REGIONAL PARK
470ha

Under stately escarpments and among wildlife-filled forest lies a unique area with a fascinating mining history. This, combined with its rugged wilderness, makes Yerranderie popular with history buffs, heritage enthusiasts, photographers, and intrepid 4WD enthusiasts alike.

Stroll along the main street of the township and poke around the historic buildings, take short bushwalks into the surrounding bushland, or go 4WD touring along the incredible Oberon Colong historic stock route.

Access: 90km from Oberon and 320km from Sydney. No immediate access to/from Sydney, only via Goulburn/Oberon areas.

VISITOR CENTRES

BLUE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
Blue Mountains Heritage Centre
Govetts Leap Road, Blackheath
Ph (02) 4787 8877

BOTANY BAY NATIONAL PARK
Kurnell Visitor Centre
Cape Solander Drive, Kurnell
Ph (02) 9668 2000

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK
Royal National Park Visitor Centre
2 Lady Carrington Drive, Audley
Ph (02) 9542 0648

KU-RING-GAI CHASE NATIONAL PARK
Bobbin Head Information Centre
Bobbin Head Road, Mount Colah
Ph (02) 9472 8949

KU-RING-GAI CHASE NATIONAL PARK
Kalkari Discovery Centre
Ku-ring-gai Chase Road, Mount Colah
Ph (02) 9472 9300

Sydney Harbour National Park. Photo: D Finnegan/OEH
# CAMPING

## CAMPGROUND FACILITIES FEE BOOKINGS

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*All information in this guide was correct at the time of publishing, but it is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or call 13000 PARKS (13000 72757). An explanation of all symbols has been provided on page 9 of this guide.*

Bouddi National Park. Photo: J Spencer/OEH
**GREAT PLACES TO STAY**

**SYDNEY HARBOUR NATIONAL PARK**

**Quarantine Station (Q Station Retreat)**

A visit to Q Station Retreat is a great experience for all ages, offering beautifully restored heritage accommodation, fine dining at the Boilerhouse Restaurant and a range of experiences to suit young and old. All this combines to make Q Station a wonderful place to stay, relax and enjoy the best of what Sydney has to offer. Home to one of Sydney’s premiere conference and wedding venues, Q Station Retreat is the ideal Sydney Harbour escape.

In line with its historical significance – it was established in 1832 to quarantine early immigrants afflicted by disease – the station is said to be one of Australia’s most haunted places. Who’s that knocking at your door?

Take the fun ghost tour, swim or snorkel nearby or walk or kayak to Manly, just minutes away, for entertainment, nightlife and iconic Manly Beach.

For more information and bookings call 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) or visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au.

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**GIFT SHOPS AND MUSEUMS**

**Blue Mountains Heritage Centre**

This centre is conveniently located near the edge of the massive Grose Valley. Our friendly staff provide a wealth of information about the Blue Mountains National Park and surrounding areas. There is an interactive educational display, video screenings and an art gallery. Here you can buy maps, walking track guides, Australian made souvenirs and books about the Blue Mountains, Aboriginal heritage and Australian plants and animals. The Fairfax Heritage track (wheelchair accessible) begins here and ends at Govetts Leap with fantastic waterfall views. Open 7 days, 9am to 4.30pm.

Guided tours are organised throughout the year, mainly during school holidays and weekends.

Govetts Leap Road, Blackheath or call (02) 4787 8877 or visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do.

**La Perouse Museum**

Discover the story of Jean François de Galaup, comte de La Pérouse, who arrived at Port Botany very soon after Captain Cook.

See many hundreds of items relating to his expedition, including the Atlas of the Voyage of La Perouse, comprising 72 coloured drawings and maps of places the expedition visited between 1785 and 1788. Other exhibitions feature Aboriginal, environmental and local historical records.

Botany Bay National Park (North), Cable Station, Anzac Parade, La Perouse call 13000 PARKS (13000 72757) or visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au.