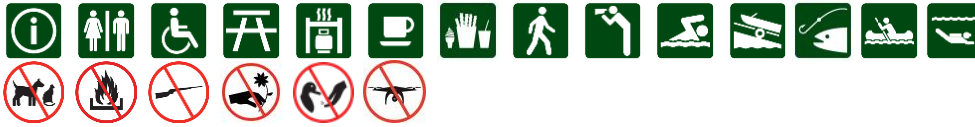


Wilsons Promontory National Park

Visitor Guide



Wilsons Promontory, or the Prom as it is affectionately known, is the southern-most tip of the Australian mainland. From sun-drenched summer beaches to secluded winter walks among rainforest, the Prom has something for everyone.



Opening hours

Wilsons Promontory National Park is open every day, including weekends and public holidays. Please check the website for any changes in park conditions at parks.vic.gov.au.

Camping and accommodation must be booked ahead. Go to parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963.

The Visitor Centre is open 7 days a week. Opening hours vary, please check the website for details parks.vic.gov.au.

The General Store stocks basic supermarket items, as well as a range of souvenirs and camping gear. Opening hours vary, please check the website for details parks.vic.gov.au.

Getting there

Wilsons Promontory National Park is approximately three hours' drive from Melbourne. Follow Monash Freeway (M1) to join South Gippsland Freeway (M420/A440) to Meeniyan. Take the Meeniyan-Promontory Road (C444) to the Wilsons Promontory entrance.

Tidal River is a 30-minute drive from the park's entrance. Please drive carefully and look out for wildlife. Avoid driving between dusk and dawn. There is no fuel at Tidal River. The closest fuel supply is at Yanakie.

Things to see and do

Beach access

Many beaches at Wilsons Promontory National Park have strong undertows, rips and a steep floor. Ocean swells or waves can crash along rocky shorelines catching people unawares. Always keep an eye to the sea. Beaches are generally not supervised by Surf Life Saving patrols. Check marine weather reports and tide predictions before entering the water.

The north and south flanks of Norman Bay and the southern flank of Picnic Bay are popular snorkelling areas. Beaches throughout the park provide a range of surfing conditions for intermediate to experienced surfers.

Threatened Hooded Plovers and other shore birds nest on beaches in the park between August and April each year. To protect nests and chicks, walk along the beach closest to the water's edge.

Boating and fishing

Boat launching off Norman Beach is accessed at First Ramp in Tidal River (a permit is required).

With a valid fishing licence, recreational fishing is permitted in Corner Inlet and Shallow Inlet Marine and Coastal Parks and Wilsons Promontory Marine Park, on beach areas and fishing platforms within Tidal River estuary and in Darby River east of the bridge. Bait collection is prohibited in all areas of the park.

All forms of fishing and shellfish collection are prohibited from the shore or waters in Wilsons Promontory and Corner Inlet Marine National Parks. Refer to *Wilsons Promontory and Corner Inlet Marine National Park Visitor Guides*.

Picnic facilities

Picnic tables and free gas barbecues are located throughout Tidal River. Five Mile and Darby River carparks also have picnic tables.

Access all abilities

An all-terrain *TrailRider* wheelchair and beach access wheelchairs are available free of charge for visitors with a mobility impairment to access some of the beaches and walking tracks at the Prom. For more information, call 13 1963 or ask at Tidal River Visitor Centre.

Walking

Wilsons Promontory National Park is a walker's paradise. A myriad of walks of varied lengths are available for all abilities.

Permits are required for overnight hiking, please see *Wilsons Promontory Overnight Hikes – Southern Circuit* and *Wilsons Promontory Overnight Hikes – Northern Wilderness*.



1. Norman Beach – various access points from Tidal River campground - Grade 2.2

Norman Beach is flanked by Pillar Point to the north and Norman Point to the south and offers stunning views of Mt Oberon. Surfing is only permitted south of Fifth Ramp during peak season.



2. Squeaky Beach – 300m from carpark - Grade 2.2

One of the Prom's iconic locations, the rounded grains of quartz sand makes a 'squeak' when walked on. Squeaky Beach can be accessed from Squeaky Beach carpark, Picnic Bay or Tidal River.



3. Picnic Bay – 400m from carpark - Grade 3

Just a short drive from Tidal River, this beautiful bay offers visitors the opportunity to explore intertidal rock pool habitats to the north. Access is from Picnic Bay carpark, Squeaky Beach or Whisky Bay.



4. Whisky Bay – 400m from carpark - Grade 2.2

A track leads from Whisky Bay carpark through a moist gully, following Whisky Creek before passing over sand dunes to a small sheltered beach.



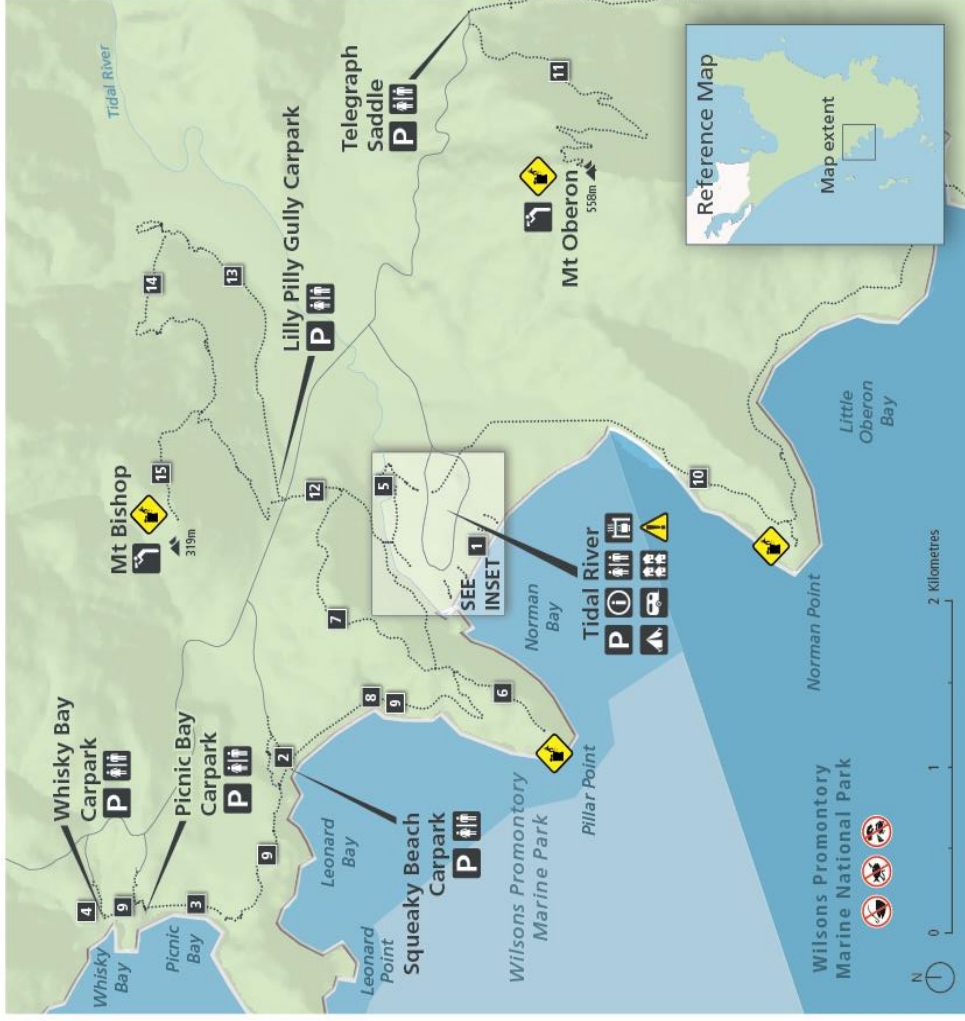
16. Darby Beach – 1.1km from carpark - Grade 2.2

(refer map on page 4: Short walks in the north)

A sandy track follows Darby River as it winds its way to the sea. The small exposed beach is embraced at each end by rocky headlands.

Wilsons Promontory National Park

Short walks around Tidal River



Beach access

- 1 Norman Beach
- 2 Squeaky Beach
- 3 Picnic Bay
- 4 Whisky Bay

Short walks

- 5 Loo-Err Track
- 6 Pillar Point
- 7 Tidal Overlook Circuit
- 8 Squeaky Beach
- 9 Three Bays Walk
- 10 Little Oberon Bay
- 11 Mt Oberon Summit Walk
- 12 Lilly Pilly Link Track
- 13 Lilly Pilly Nature Walk
- 14 Lilly Pilly Circuit
- 15 Mt Bishop Summit Track



- Parking
- Information
- Toilets
- Accessible
- BBQ - Gas
- Accommodation
- Overnight hikers
- Picnic area
- Shower
- Historical monument
- Fishing permitted
- Cafe

- Shuttle bus stop
- Open air cinema
- Caravan camping
- Education centre/ Yiruk Wamoon
- Keeping Place
- No fishing
- No spear fishing
- No taking or damaging
- Emergency assembly area
- Unstable cliffs

- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- Walking track
- Directional arrow
- Gate
- Wilson's Promontory
- National Park
- Camping area
- Marine National Park
- Marine Park and Coastal Reserve
- Accommodation area
- Parks Victoria staff only

Short walks around Tidal River



5. Loo-Ern Track – 1km, 30 minutes one way Grade 2.1

Loo-Ern Track follows the south bank of Tidal River and links to Tidal River footbridge. A boardwalk (with fishing platforms) protects fragile estuarine wetlands.



6. Pillar Point – 3.6km, 1.5 hours return Grade 3

Starting at Tidal River footbridge, walk to an outcrop of granite boulders for breathtaking views of Norman and Squeaky Beaches and the Prom's offshore islands. Beware of unprotected cliffs.



7. Tidal Overlook Circuit – 3.8km, 1.5 hours return Grade 3

Starting at Tidal River footbridge, this walk takes you to the highest point between Norman and Leonard Bays. Stop at the *quiet place*, dedicated to rangers worldwide who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Continue to the Lilly Pilly Link Track junction (**Walk 12**) and turn right to return to the footbridge.



8. Squeaky Beach – 4.2km, 1.5 hours return Grade 3

This walk offers sweeping coastal views as it climbs up and over the headland separating Norman and Leonard Bays before descending to Squeaky Beach. Starting at Tidal River footbridge, the return walk is via the same track. Beware of wave surges on rocky outcrops.



9. Three Bays Walk - Squeaky Beach, Picnic Bay, Whisky Bay – 12.4km, 4 hours return. Grade 3

This spectacular walk connects three beaches, allowing the walker to fully experience the beauty of both land and sea at the Prom. Starting at the Tidal River footbridge, travel alternates between track and beach walking. Arrange a car shuttle for a one way walk.



10. Little Oberon Bay – 8.2km, 3 hours return Grade 3 *Track Closed from Norman Point to Little Oberon Bay

Starting between the Visitor Centre and General Store, this track veers left at the junction and climbs over Tea Tree-shrouded sand dunes to the southern end of Norman Beach (1.5 km), then winds across Norman Point to Little Oberon Bay. The walk provides fantastic views across Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park to the Anser and Glennie Island groups. Norman Point is 300 metres from the main track. Beware of unprotected cliffs.



11. Mt Oberon Summit Walk – 6.8km, 2 hours return Grade 4

From Telegraph Saddle carpark, follow the summit track gradually uphill for the reward of a 360-degree view of the park. During peak periods a free shuttle bus takes visitors to Telegraph Saddle from Tidal River and the Overnight Hikers carpark. Telegraph Saddle carpark is closed at these times.



13. Lilly Pilly Nature Walk – 5.2km, 1.5 hours return

Get a glimpse of the Prom's interior, traversing heathland, eucalypt forest and a boardwalk through stands of warm temperature rainforest. This walk begins and returns to Lilly Pilly carpark. The Lilly Pilly Link Track connects this walk to Tidal River (1km, 20min, refer **Walk 12** on map on page 2: Short walks around Tidal River).



14. Lilly Pilly Circuit – 5.8km, 2 hours return Grade 3

Starting at Lilly Pilly Gully carpark, this walk climbs across the southern face of Mt Bishop through stringybark forest before descending to the lush rainforest of Lilly Pilly Gully. Return to the carpark via Lilly Pilly Nature Walk.



15. Mt Bishop Summit Track – 7.4km, 2.5 hours return - Grade 3

Follow Lilly Pilly Circuit. A side-track leads to the rocky summit of Mt Bishop. Magnificent views are offered of the Prom's west coast and offshore islands. Retrace your steps to the carpark or return via Lilly Pilly Nature Walk. Beware of unprotected cliffs.

Short walks in the north



17. Tongue Point from Darby Saddle – 5.6km, 2.5 hours one way - Grade 4

Enjoy beautiful forest and coastal scenery. At 2.1 km a side-track leads to Sparkes Lookout. The main track climbs to Lookout Rocks before descending steeply to Tongue Point. For your safety, do not cross over to the semi-attached island. Beware of unprotected cliffs.



18. Tongue Point from Darby River – 3.8km, 2 hours one way – Grade 4

Experience magnificent views of Darby Swamp, Vereker Range, Darby and Cotters Beach. Starting at Darby River carpark, climb gently through windswept coastal vegetation. A side-track at 2.4km climbs down to Fairy Cove (access at low tide only). At 2.7km turn off to the coastal headland of Tongue Point. For your safety, do not cross over to the semi-attached island. Beware of unprotected cliffs.



19. Prom Wildlife Walk – 2.3km, 45 minutes return Grade 2.2

This walk takes you across open grasslands to view native wildlife including kangaroos, wallabies, emus and wombats.



20. Cotters Lake and Beach – 2.4km, 1 hour return Grade 2.2

Starting at Cotters Lake carpark, this walk follows a management track through the often dry basin of Cotters Lake to Cotters Beach – a wild, windswept stretch of coast.



21. Millers Landing Nature Walk – 4km, 1.5 hours return – Grade 2.2

From Five Mile carpark turn left after the management gate and walk through open banksia and stringybark woodland to Millers Landing where you will find the southern-most stand of mangroves in the world. A bird watcher's paradise, Corner Inlet is an internationally significant wetland habitat for migratory birds.



22. Vereker Outlook – 6km, 2 hours return Grade 3

Panoramic views to Darby Saddle, Corner Inlet and Cotters Beach are offered as this walk climbs through open banksia and stringybark woodland through a tumble of granite boulders. Start at Five Mile carpark. Beware of unprotected cliffs.



23. Big Drift – 4km, 1.5 hours return – Grade 3

Starting at The Stockyards, follow signs to the northern flank of Big Drift, an expansive landscape of inland sand dunes. It's easy to get lost, so mark your path to return. No beach access from Big Drift.



24. Shallow Inlet – 400 metres, 30 minutes return Grade 2.2

Park at the end of Hourigan Camp Lane. A short walk leads to Shallow Inlet via a sheltered gully of Tea Tree and Swamp Paperbark.

When walking at the Prom

- Let someone know before you go.
- Stay on walking tracks to avoid getting lost or spreading Cinnamon Fungus. This waterborn disease kills native flora and can be carried to new areas on the soles of your shoes.
- Wear sturdy walking shoes and carry a map, first aid kit, sunhat, sunscreen, sufficient drinking water and waterproof clothing.

Wilson's Promontory National Park

Short walks in the north



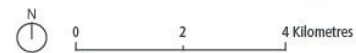
Beach access

- 16 Darby Beach

Short walks

- 17 Tongue Point from Darby Saddle
- 18 Tongue Point from Darby River
- 19 Prom Wildlife Walk
- 20 Cotters Lake and Beach
- 21 Millers Landing Nature Walk
- 22 Vereker Outlook
- 23 Big Drift
- 24 Shallow Inlet

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Parking | Fuel |
| Information | Caravan camping |
| Toilets | Picnic area |
| Accessible toilets | Boat ramp |
| Camping | Cafe |
| Lookout | |
| Unprotected cliffs | |
| Sealed road | Wilson's Promontory National Park |
| Unsealed road | Marine National Park |
| Walking track | Marine Park and Coastal Reserve |



www.parks.vic.gov.au

Disclaimer: Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information. Cartography by Parks Victoria June 2017. For mobile App search for Avenza PDF Maps

Be prepared and stay safe

Health

We recommend all visitors have Ambulance Services membership or insurance covering the cost of ambulance transport.

Park visitors are responsible for their own hygiene. Please bring your own hand sanitiser and soap.

Fire

Wilson's Promontory National Park is in the West and South Gippsland fire district. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions. To check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban visit emergency.vic.gov.au, the VicEmergency smartphone app or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

On **Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating** days, the park will be closed for public safety. Do not enter the park. If you are already in the park, leave the night before or as early as possible in the morning. Visitors located outside of Tidal River should leave the day before.

Check the latest conditions at parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963.

For further information refer to the *Wilson's Promontory National Park Catastrophic Fire Danger Closure fact sheet*.

Fires (including campfires and solid fuel BBQs) are not permitted in Wilson's Promontory National Park at any time. On days of Total Fire Ban, liquid fuel and gas camp stoves are also not permitted, though built-in gas cookers in caravans and built accommodation may be used.

In an emergency

For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). If there is a green emergency marker sign near you, read the information on the marker to the operator.

For park related emergencies only (fire, accident/ injury, injured wildlife, significant campground disturbance or critical maintenance issues), visitors can contact the Tidal River Duty Officer (24 hours) on **1300 247 594** or from the blue emergency phone located at the front entrance of the Visitor Centre in Tidal River.

Mobile phone reception is unreliable in the park. Public phones are located outside Tidal River General Store.

You may be notified of an emergency by Police or Parks Victoria staff. If immediately accessible, collect sunscreen, water, suitable clothing and a torch. Calmly make your way to the nearest Emergency Assembly Area marked on the map. Wait at the Assembly Area for further instructions from Parks Victoria staff or Police.

Help us look after this magnificent park

- All plants, animals, other natural features and cultural sites and features are protected by law and must not be disturbed or removed.
- Feeding wildlife is bad for their health. It is an offence to feed or leave food where it is accessible to wildlife. Penalties apply. Store all food securely and carry out all rubbish, including food scraps.
- Bicycles, motorcycles and trail bikes are not permitted on any walking track or management vehicle track.