

# Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

## Visitor Guide



The Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is a narrow coastal reserve covering 17,600 hectares along a portion of the Ninety Mile Beach, from Seaspray to Lakes Entrance. This unique and picturesque park consists of lakes, wetlands, marine and terrestrial environments and offers visitors a wide range of recreational opportunities. The park also includes the internationally significant Lake Reeve and Bunga Arm, several islands and the Boole Poole Peninsula.



### Welcome to Country

The Gunaikurnai people are the Traditional Owners of the Country featured in this visitor guide.

Through a new way of managing public land called Joint Management, the State has created an equal partnership with the Gunaikurnai people. The benefits of this partnership are many and include: the knowledge and culture of traditional owners incorporated into natural resources (land) management, cultural awareness and knowledge of local history, improved park management through knowledge-sharing and increased opportunities for new initiatives.

By conserving and protecting the natural environment and cultural values, the education and enjoyment experience is enhanced for all community members and visitors.

Gippsland Lakes National Park is one of the jointly managed parks within Gippsland. This agreement recognises the fact that the Gunaikurnai people have always been connected to their land and are the rightful people who speak for that Country. These parks and reserves are cultural landscapes which are part of our living culture.

### Getting there

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is located in East Gippsland. The western section of the park is accessible by road via Seaspray and Golden Beach. From Melbourne, take M1 to Rosedale, then take Rosedale-Longford Rd and Longford-Loch Sport Rd.

The eastern section of the park is accessible only by boat.

### Things to see and do

#### Camping

Designated campsites are situated between Paradise Beach and The Honeysuckles along Shoreline Drive at Golden Beach. Boat based bush campsites are available at Bunga Arm east of Steamer Landing. Bush campsites are available at Red Bluff and Spoon Bay.

Bookings are required year-round and fees apply to Paradise Beach and Bunga Arm. Book your site at [www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay)

#### Picnicking

There are many picnic areas throughout the park. Toilets, water, picnic tables and fireplaces are provided at some sites, with barbecues available at Nyerimilang Heritage Park. Drinking water and firewood are not always available- we advise you to bring your own supply.

#### Swimming

There are swimming sites along the sheltered lake shores. Take great care when swimming along the Ninety Mile Beach. It is recommended that swimming be contained within flagged areas patrolled by surf life saving clubs.

#### Fishing

Surf fishing along Ninety Mile Beach, or lake fishing from a boat, bank or jetty is popular throughout the park. Bream, Flathead, Skip Jack, Luderick and Mullet are the main fish caught. Please note that a recreational fishing licence is required for all coastal and inland waters.

#### Boating

The Lakes offer excellent opportunities for boating and water skiing in designated areas. Boat ramps are situated at Seacombe, Wattle Point, Paynesville, Metung, Nungurner, Loch Sport and Lakes Entrance.

Jetties for access to the park are provided at Barrier Landing, Drews Jetty, Ocean Grange, Silver Shot Landing and Steamer Landing. Boat operators are encouraged to use the sewage pump or hopper facilities situated around the lakes for disposal of sewage.

#### Horse riding

Horse riding is permitted along formed tracks within the park west of Loch Sport. Horse riding is not permitted elsewhere in the park including the Ninety Mile Beach.

Beach riding is permitted nearby the Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park west of Seaspray.

#### Hunting

Licensed hunting of game duck, Stubble Quail and Hog Deer is only permitted in accordance with hunting regulations during the designated game seasons and in the nominated areas for each of these species. Hunting is not permitted on private property without permission from the landowner. Firearms are not permitted within the park outside of the nominated game seasons.

#### Walking

Management tracks are closed to private vehicles, enabling easy access for walkers to explore the more secluded areas of the park.

# Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

West



# Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

East



- Campsites
- 1

Gannet

2

Pelican

3

Egret

4

Albatross

5


Shearwater

6

Cormorant

7

Dotterel



P

Parking

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Information

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Toilets

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Disabled access

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Picnic table

🔥

Electric barbecue

🔥

Fireplace

🚤

Boat ramp

🚤

Jetty

⛽

Fuel

🏠

Store

👁

Lookout

🚶

Walking track

🐕

Dogs permitted on lead

🏊

Water skiing

🏕

Camping

🚐

Caravan park

🛏

Accommodation

🏠

Parks Victoria office

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Bird hide

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Highway

—

Main road

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Sealed road

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Unsealed road

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4WD

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Walking track

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Management vehicles/  
walking track only

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Seasonal road closure

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Beach access

🌳

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

🌳

Other park/reserve

🌳

Area subject to inundation

🌳

Wetland

🌳

Ocean

www.parks.vic.gov.au

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6

12 Kilometres

## Plants and animals

The diverse range of plant habitats within the park enables plenty of opportunity for viewing a wide range of wildlife including Eastern Grey Kangaroos, Black Wallabies and the Common Brush-tailed and Ring-tailed Possums.

Ninety Mile Beach is a good place to observe shore and ocean birds such as shearwaters.

## Dogs

Dogs are permitted (on a leash at all times) at the following locations:

- Barrier Landing - 300m east of the jetty
- Ocean Grange - within 100m of the residential zone
- Paradise Beach
- Loch Sport Causeway
- Flamingo Beach
- The Honeysuckles
- Golden Beach - between campsites one to six on Shoreline Drive
- Nyerimilang Heritage Park homestead precinct.

The dogs are also permitted in the Nyerimilang Heritage Park homestead precinct.

Dogs are not permitted in other areas of the park nor between campsites seven to twenty along Shoreline Drive, Golden Beach. Dogs are also not permitted on boats or on land in Bunga Arm.

Owners are required to clean up after their dogs. Dogs used for the flushing or retrieval of game birds are permitted in the hunting zones of the park, during and 24 hours prior to the commencement of the open season.

## Caring for the park

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

- Please take rubbish away with you for recycling and disposal.
- All native plants and animals are protected by law.
- Fires are not permitted on the Ninety Mile Beach.
- Camping is only permitted in designated areas on the map.
- Fires may only be lit in fireplaces provided and must be completely extinguished with water before leaving.
- Vehicles must stay on formed tracks and are not permitted 'off road' including Lake Reeve and the Ninety Mile Beach.
- Firearms are only permitted in the park in accordance with Hunting Regulations.

## Be prepared and stay safe

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. Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is across the West and South Gippsland fire districts. Bushfire safety is a personal responsibility. Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions.

Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au), on the VicEmergency smartphone app or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

**No fires may be lit on Total Fire Ban days.**

On Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating days this park will be closed for public safety. Warnings signs may be erected, but do not expect a personal warning.

Check the latest conditions at [parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au) or by calling 13 1963.

## Nyerimilang Heritage Park

Nyerimilang Heritage Park boasts magnificent views and a rich variety of plant and birdlife. The highlight is Nyerimilang Homestead, in a delightful garden setting on a cliff top above the beautiful Gippsland Lakes. Perfect picnic spots are surrounded by gardens with plants from different environments, historic farm buildings and pastoral surrounds. Scenic walks meander along bush and farm tracks, past Kurrajong trees, wetland areas and through the East Gippsland Indigenous Plant Garden.

## Finding your way

Access to Nyerimilang Heritage Park is from the Princes Highway via the Kalimna West Road 10km north-west of Lakes Entrance.

The park is open daily from 8:30am until sunset. Public homestead openings are managed by the Friends of Nyerimilang. Enquiries regarding homestead opening can be made via the Friends of Nyerimilang website, [www.nyerimilang.org.au](http://www.nyerimilang.org.au).

## Step back in time

The land that is now Nyerimilang Heritage Park was a homestead, holiday home, Boys Training Farm and cattle stud before being purchased by the Victorian Government in 1976. A display featuring the history of Nyerimilang and the natural resources and history of the Gippsland Lakes is located inside the homestead.

## Walking

**Whistling Kite Track: 750 metres, 10 minutes one way.**

This short walk passes through grasslands and a variety of forest types. The Whistling Kite, a large brown bird of prey with a distinctive underwing pattern and long tail, nests in the tall Blue Gums nearby.

**Homestead Track: 1.1 km, 25 minutes one way**

The original entrance to Nyerimilang Homestead was via this track from the Maringa Creek crossing. The track gently descends through gully vegetation to swamplands and a salt marsh area.

**Cliff Top Walk: 1.7 km, 30 minutes one way**

Panoramic views of the nearby lake system and Bass Strait beyond can be enjoyed on this walk.

**Kurrajong Track: 750 metres, 10 minutes one way.**

This track links Cliff Top and Homestead Tracks. Kurrajongs and other native trees can be seen at the northern end of this track.

**Salt Marsh Track: 1.2 km, 25 minutes one way**

From Kalimna West Road to Reeve Channel; the salt marsh environment surrounding Maringa Creek gives way to the sandy shorelines of the lakes system.