

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

The tranquil Gippsland Lakes are a system of coastal lagoons separated from the Tasman Sea by the coastal dunes of the Ninety Mile Beach. A favourite holiday destination for many Victorians, days can easily be filled with a range of activities on the water or on land.



Lakes Entrance is a great place to base yourself when exploring the Gippsland Lakes.

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

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.

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.

The eastern section of the park is accessible only by boat. Boat ramps are situated at Seacombe, Wattle Point, Paynesville, Metung, Nungurner, Loch Sport and Lakes Entrance for those travelling by boat.

Barrier Landing and Entrance Bay

The entrance to the Gippsland Lakes was constructed in the 1880s. Before that time, the lakes were generally closed to the sea, with the barrier being breached only on rare occasions.

Take a walk across the ocean beach to The Entrance for some

fishing, watch the boats come in, or spot some seals or dolphins searching for food.

Water skiing is also permitted between Entrance Bay and the Barrier Landing. Please observe the regulation signs.

Barrier Landing and Entrance Bay feature a number of rare shorebirds including the Little Tern, Fairy Tern and Hooded Plover which breed on Rigby Island and on the Ninety Mile Beach. You can enjoy these birds from a distance, but please keep well clear of them during the warmer months, and where possible walk on the wet sand to avoid accidentally stepping on their nests.

Boating

The Lakes provide 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.

Camping

There are a number of options for camping in the park. Sites are unpowered and most will accommodate up to six people

and one vehicle. Most sites will fit a large tent with adjacent vehicle parking and some sites are suitable for camper trailers or caravans.

The western section of the park has two distinct types of camping – coastal camping with ready access to the beach (Shoreline Drive Campgrounds 1-19 and Paradise Beach Campground), and bush camping a short drive to Lake Victoria and Lake Wellington (Red Bluff and Spoon Bay).

Boat based bush campsites are available at Bunga Arm east of Steamer Landing.

Advance bookings and payment required year round for Bunga Arm and Paradise Beach.

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.

Horse riding

Horse riding is permitted along formed tracks within the park west of Loch Sport and west of Merrimans Creek within the Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park boundary. Horse riding is not permitted on the Ninety Mile Beach.

Be prepared and stay safe

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is in the West & South Gippsland and East Gippsland Total Fire Ban Districts. Be aware of forecast Fire Danger Ratings for this fire district. No fires may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban.

On days of Code Red Fire Danger this park will be closed for public safety. Closure signs will be erected and rangers will patrol when possible, however you may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed. Check the latest conditions by calling 13 1963 or visiting www.parks.vic.gov.au

For more information

please visit the Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park page on: www.parks.vic.gov.au