

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park



Bunga Arm

The Bunga Arm section of Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park was formed over many thousands of years when sand, deposited by the sea, built up by a barrier between the original bay (now Lake Victoria) and the ocean. Abundant opportunities for recreational activities exist in the waterways, and along the many kilometres of sandy beach of the Ninety Mile Beach.

How to get there

Access to Bunga Arm is only by boat. Jetties are located at Ocean Grange and Steamer Landing. Boats can be landed on the beach along the length of the arm. Please use the mooring posts provided or anchor boats to the sand, rather than tying boats to the trees.

Enjoying the coastal park

Picnicking

Picnic facilities and toilets for day visitors and boat based campers are provided at Ocean Grange, Steamer Landing and the First Blowhole.

Walking

A walk along this stunning stretch of coastline can be most rewarding.

Swimming

There are safe swimming sites along the sheltered shores of Bunga Arm. The ocean beach is only suitable for experienced swimmers who need to take great care because of the strong rips and currents.

Fishing

Surf fishing is popular on the Ninety Mile Beach, where you can catch salmon and snapper. Bream, flathead, skipjack and mullet can be caught in the Bunga Arm.

Boating

Bunga Arm offers excellent boating, yachting and water skiing opportunities. Water skiing is permitted between Steamer Landing and the First Blowhole. Boats can traverse the entire length of the arm. From Steamer Landing it is 14 km to the end. Boating in Bunga Arm is regulated under the Marine Act 1992. A 5 knot speed limit applies to the section of Bunga Arm east of the First Blowhole.

Camping

Camping is permitted on marked campsites, advance bookings are required. There are seven camping areas located in the Bunga Arm, each containing ten to twelve marked sites. Toilet facilities are provided at each camp area. Book online at www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay or call the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963.

Birdwatching

The Bunga Arm abounds with birdlife. Many shorebirds, including the Little Tern, Fairy Tern and Hooded Plover breed and roost in the area.

Water supplies

No matter what activities you intend to enjoy during your stay on Bunga Arm, make sure you bring plenty of water as there is no fresh water available on the arm.

The changing dunes

Approximately 250 metres divides the tranquil waters of Bunga Arm from the pounding surf of Bass Strait. The sand barrier between these waters varies from only a few metres to some ten metres high. The actions of the lakes system, wind, and the tides along Ninety Mile Beach erode and deposit sand, constantly changing the size and shape of the dunes.

The first dunes were formed as a sand barrier after the last ice age. The first plants to colonise the area - Hairy Spinifex (*Spinifex hirsutus*) and Coast Groundsel (*Senecio spathulatus*) - trapped sand in their leaves and roots. As the dunes grew, other vegetation established including the low spreading shrubs of Cushion Bush (*Leucophyta brownii*) and Coast Wattle (*Acacia sophorae*). These assisted in the formation of more soil which enabled larger trees such as Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) and Coast Teatree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) to thrive.

For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre
Call 13 1963
or visit our website at
www.parks.vic.gov.au

Park Office
574 Main Street
Bairnsdale VIC 3875
Ph 13 1963

Bairnsdale
Visitor Information Centre
240 Main Street
Bairnsdale VIC 3875
Ph (03) 5152 3444

Lakes Entrance
Visitor Information Centre
Cnr Marine Pde & Esplanade
Lakes Entrance VIC 3909
Ph (03) 5155 1966

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish away with you for recycling and disposal

Dogs and other pets are not permitted within Bunga Arm

Fires are permitted at campsites only. No fires including barbeques may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban

This park is located in the East Gippsland Total Fire Ban District.

Please bring firewood with you

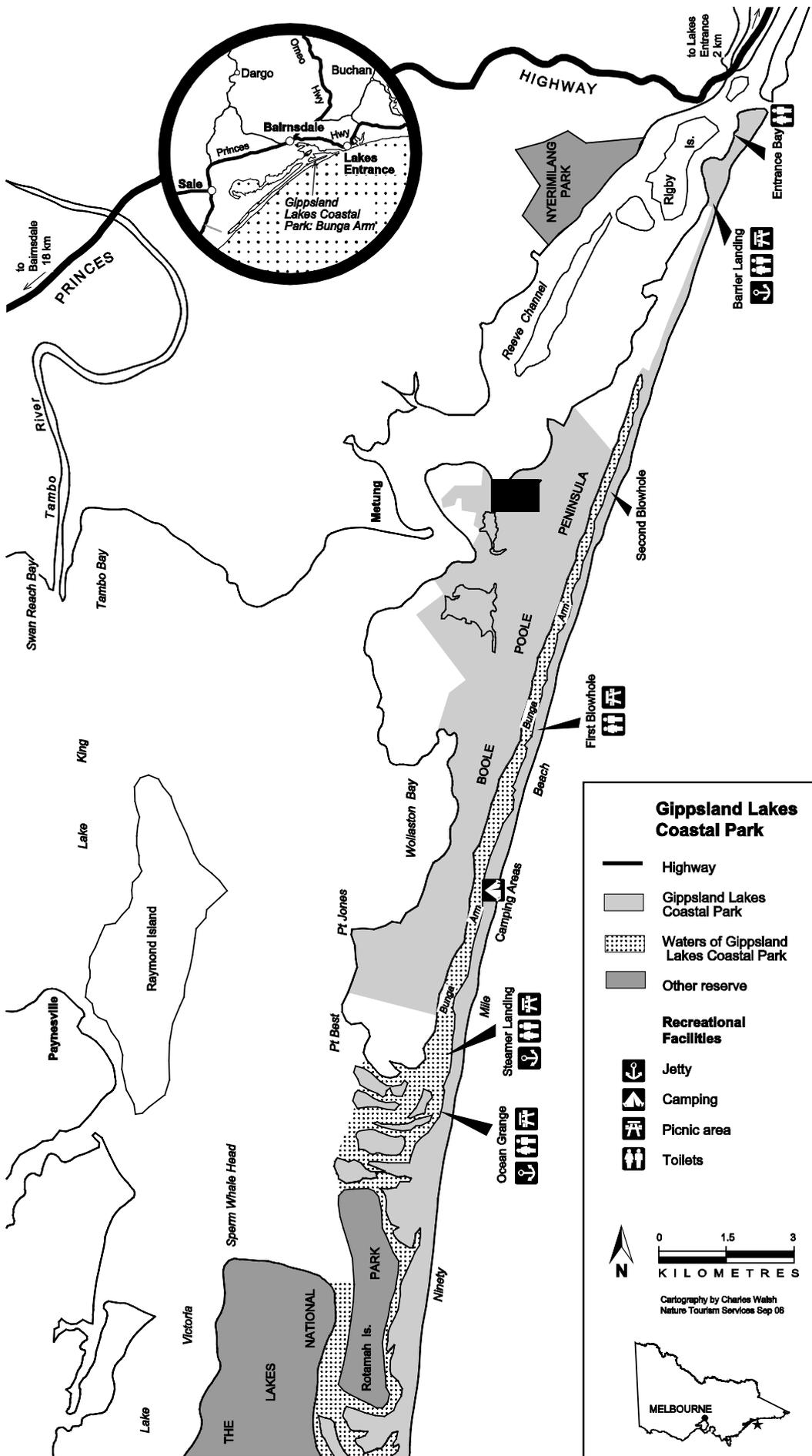
Firearms are not permitted

All native plants and animals are protected by law

Please don't throw this park note away. Keep it, return it for others to use, or recycle it

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