

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. The park sustained extensive damage after a one in 300 year flood event on 22 March 2011. Nature's ability to heal has already been demonstrated at the Prom after the 2005 and 2009 fires and again, the park is healing after our flood event.

2011 flood recovery advisory

- Tidal River reopened to the public on Friday 23 September 2011.
- Many parts of the Prom remain closed due to extensive flood damage. For your safety and to help the Prom recover, please abide by these closures.
- Parks Victoria are taking a staged approach to reopening flood affected areas of the park. We anticipate reopening walking tracks (including overnight hiking tracks) as soon as it is deemed safe to do so.

A changing landscape

As a natural environment, Wilsons Promontory National Park is in a state of constant, often subtle, natural change. These changes have been accelerated by the 2011 March flood event.

You will see some of the flood affected areas as well as notice the extraordinary flood recovery efforts that Parks Victoria and VicRoads have implemented in order to reinstate access and reopen visitor facilities as promptly as possible.

A rich, cultural heritage

For Indigenous people, Wilsons Promontory is part of a spiritually significant land called *Yiruk* or *Wamoom*. Shell middens (shell deposits) behind many beaches date back thousands of years, demonstrating a deep time connection between Indigenous people and the Prom's land and sea.

Things to do and see

Walking, camping, swimming, snorkelling, surfing, scuba diving, photography, nature study and simply relaxing are among the many things to do in this beautiful national park.

Visiting for the day?

Day visitor entry to the park is free. The main visitor facilities are located at Tidal River. Please exit the park before sunset.

Tidal River facilities

Campground facilities include amenity blocks, a playground, picnic areas with tables and free gas barbecues. Fresh drinking water is available.

Parks Victoria staff are happy to answer any questions you may have. Call in to the Visitor Centre at Tidal River during open hours (8.30am - 4.30pm) or phone (03) 5680 9555.

Tidal River General Store stocks milk, bread, ice, gas refills and souvenir items along with a basic range of supermarket and emergency items. Basic takeaway food is available to eat in or takeaway.

There is no fuel at Tidal River. The closest shop for fuel is the Yanakie Store, 30 minutes drive from Tidal River. Fuel is also available from the townships of Fish Creek and Foster.

Staying at the Prom?

Tidal River offers a wide range of camping and accommodation options. Fees apply.

Camping

There are currently 484 campsites available at Tidal River campground, all beautifully situated near the beach. 20 of these sites are powered and pre-booking is advisable. Toilets, hot showers, dishwashing stations and laundry facilities are provided.

Accommodation

Looking for a few more home luxuries, or enough beds for a large group? Choose from one of the Prom's Wilderness Retreats, self-contained cabins, group lodges or huts. Advance booking of roofed accommodation is essential at all times.

Due to major flood damage, the Lorikeet units are unavailable for accommodation bookings.

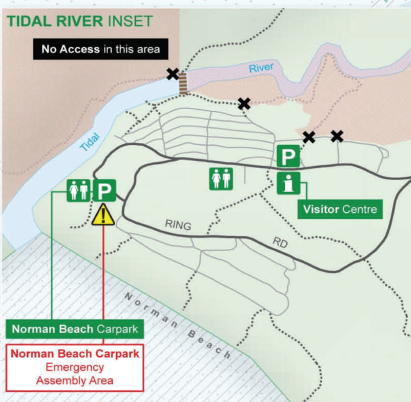
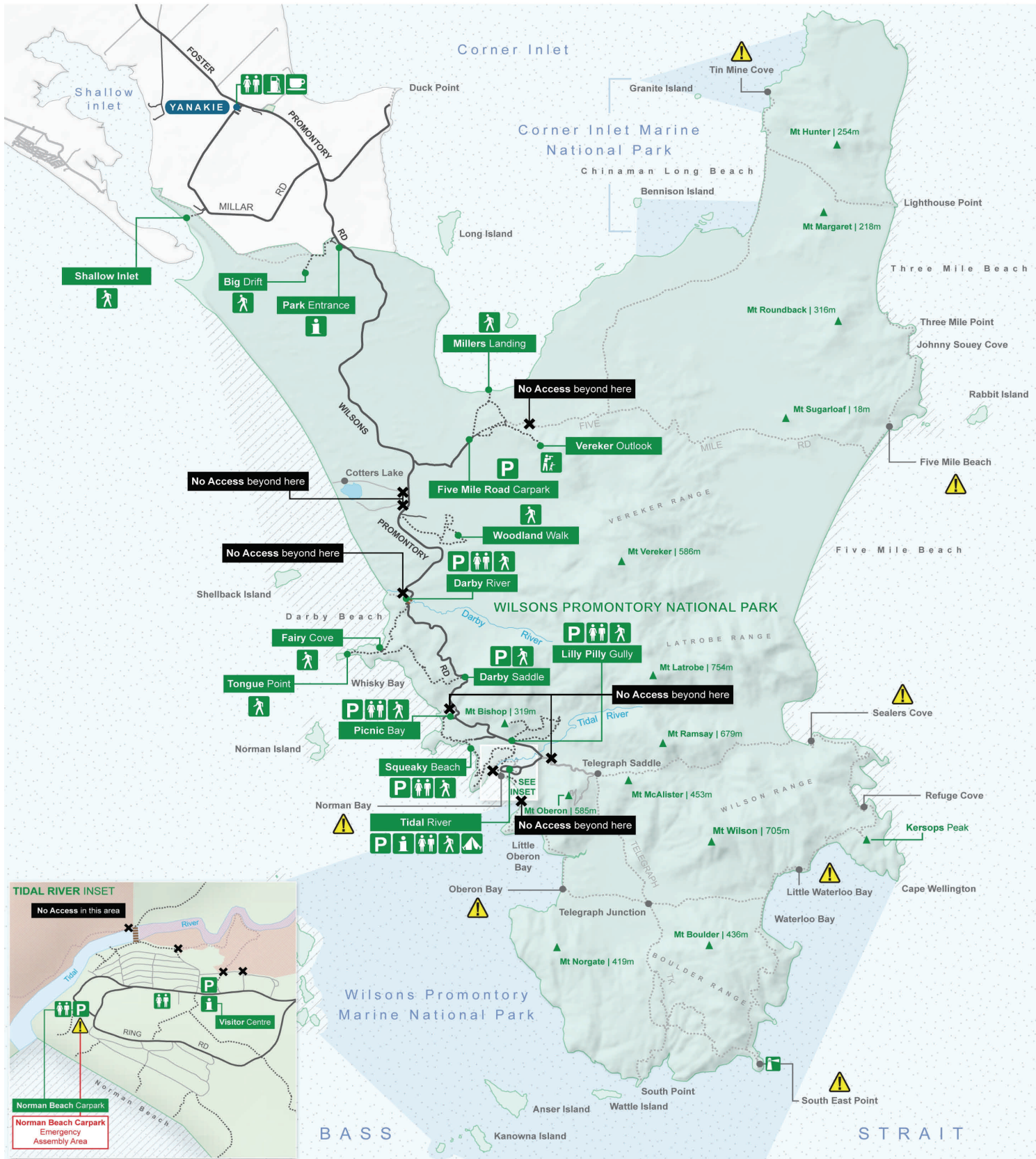
Bookings

For bookings and enquiries phone: 13 1963 or (03) 5680 9555.

Wilsons Promontory National Park



Healthy Parks
Healthy People®



Recreational Facilities

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| Parking | Lighthouse |
| Park Information | Cafe |
| Toilets | Fuel |
| Walking Track | |
| Lookout | |
| Camping | |

Open Roads/Tracks

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Sealed Road | Unsealed Road |
| Walking Track | |
| Closed Roads/Tracks | |
| Sealed Road | Unsealed Road |
| Walking Track | |

Wilsons Promontory National Park

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Marine Park | No access at Tidal River |
| Emergency Assembly Area | Bridge |
| No access beyond this point | |

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.

Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA 94) Zone 55. Map produced by Parks Victoria. This map supersedes all previous editions. Data source acknowledgements: State Digital Mapbase. The State of Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Cartography by Parks Victoria 2011

Making the most of your visit

Walking

The Prom offers wonderful walking opportunities for visitors of all ages and fitness levels. From short walks to day walks, pristine beaches to temperate rainforest, towering sand dunes to lookouts offering spectacular panoramic views, Wilsons Promontory has it all. There are also ample opportunities to spot wildflowers and view wildlife in their natural environment. For further information please refer to the *Walking at Wilsons Promontory* park note, available from the Tidal River Visitor Centre.

There is no currently no access to Mt Oberon.

Viewing Wildlife at the Prom

While travelling the 30km from the park entrance to Tidal River, you may see wombats, emus, kangaroos and other wildlife.

- Animals are unpredictable. To protect yourself, wildlife and your vehicle, *slow down* when passing animals on the road edge.
- Pull off the road before stopping to look at wildlife. Do not stop on bends or where double lines are marked.
- Report injured wildlife 1300 094 535.
- It is an offence to feed wildlife. It can encourage aggressive behaviour in animals and is bad for their health.

Beach access

Many beaches at Wilsons Promontory are generally unsuitable for children. For example, Squeaky beach has a strong undertow, a rip and a steep, sandy bottom.

Ocean swells or waves can crash along rocky shorelines catching people unaware. If fishing or walking along a rocky shoreline, always keep an eye to the sea.

- **Norman Beach** Close to Tidal River campground, the beautiful Norman beach is flanked by Pillar Point in the north and Norman Point in the south and offers stunning views of Mt Oberon. Surfing is only permitted south of 5th ramp. The beach can be accessed from 2nd ramp at the Norman beach carpark or from 3rd, 4th or 5th ramp along 34th Avenue.
- **Squeaky Beach** One of the Prom's iconic locations, the rounded grains of quartz sand make a 'squeak' when walked on. Squeaky Beach can be accessed from the Squeaky Beach and Lilly Pilly Gully carparks, Picnic Bay or Tidal River. For further information please refer to the *Walking at Wilsons Prom* park note, available from the Tidal River Visitor Centre.
- **Picnic Bay** Just a short drive from Tidal River, this beautiful beach has rock formations at both ends of the beach offering a range of intertidal rock pool habitats to explore. A viewing platform is near the carpark. Access from the Picnic Bay carpark or from the Lilly Pilly Gully carpark via Squeaky Beach.
There is currently no access to Whisky Bay or Picnic Point.

Overnight hiking

Overnight hiking is currently not permitted in the park due to extensive flood damage on hiking tracks.

Temporary Closures at the Prom

The following roads, tracks (including all overnight hiking tracks), visitor facilities and natural features at Wilsons Promontory National Park remain closed until necessary flood repair works are completed.

Around Tidal River

- Loo-Ern Boardwalk and fishing platforms
- Tidal River boat ramp
- Tidal Overlook West Track from Tidal River Bridge to Pillar Point turnoff track
- Norman Beach to Oberon Bay track
- Mt Oberon Road
- Mt Oberon Summit track
- Telegraph Saddle carpark
- Whisky Bay carpark and beach access track

Southern Prom

- Telegraph Saddle to Sealers Cove track
- Sealers Cove campsite
- Sealers Cove to Refuge Cove track
- Refuge Cove campsite
- Refuge Cove to Little Waterloo Bay track
- Little Waterloo Bay campsite
- Little Waterloo Bay to Telegraph Saddle track
- Telegraph Track to Oberon Bay track
- Telegraph Saddle carpark to the Lighthouse track
- Roaring Meg campsite
- Halfway Hut campsite
- Little Waterloo Bay to the Lighthouse track
- South Point track

Northern Prom

- Cotters Lake and Cotters Lake track
- Darby River beach access track
- Five Mile Road beyond Five Mile Road carpark
- Five Mile Road carpark to Barry Creek Camp track
- Barry Creek Camp
- Barry Creek Camp to Five Mile Beach Camp track
- Five Mile Beach Camp
- Five Mile Beach Camp to Johnny Souey Cove track
- Johnny Souey Camp
- Johnny Souey Cove to Lighthouse Point track
- Lighthouse Point to Tin Mine Cove track
- Tin Mine Cove Camp
- Tin Mine Cove to Lower Barry Creek Camp track
- Lower Barry Creek Camp
- Lower Barry Creek to Five Mile Road track

Park notes available:

- *Walking at Wilsons Prom*
- *Tidal River Camping and Accommodation Guide*
- *Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park – Victoria's Blue Wilderness*

For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre

Call **13 1963**

or visit the

Parks Victoria website

www.parks.vic.gov.au

Tidal River Visitor Centre

(03) 5680 9555

7 days, 8.30am - 4.30pm

Visitor Information Centres

To find out about other attractions in South Gippsland or to book accommodation

outside the Prom, visit

www.visitpromcountry.com.au

or contact the Prom Country

Information Centre

1800 630 704 or

(03) 5655 2233

7 days, 9am - 5pm

*Please do not throw
this park note away.*

*Keep it, return it
for others to use,
or recycle it*

Healthy Parks Healthy People

Visiting a park can improve your health, mind, body and soul. So, with over four million hectares of parkland available to Victorians, why not escape to a park today!



Safety and Emergency Information

For your safety and that of others, please read this information and carry it with you.

Be prepared

- We recommend all visitors have Ambulance Services membership or insurance that covers the cost of ambulance transport.
- Camp fires (including solid fuel 'heat beads') are not permitted. Use a gas or fuel stove for cooking.
- Always check fire danger and weather forecasts. No fires (including gas or fuel stoves) may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban.
- This park will close on declared Code Red Fire Danger days for the West & South Gippsland Total Fire Ban District. For more information refer to the Wilsons Promontory National Park Code Red Fire Danger Closure fact sheet or call 13 1963.

Living lightly at the Prom

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines.

- Use water wisely at the Prom.
- Firearms, dogs, cats and other pets are prohibited within the park.
- Store all food securely (in your vehicle if camping) and properly dispose of all rubbish, including food scraps.
- All plants, animals, other natural features and cultural sites in the park are protected by law and must not be disturbed or removed.
- Stay on formed walking tracks at all times.

Boating and Fishing at the Prom

- Due to changed river conditions, powered boat launching is not permitted from Norman Beach or Tidal River.
- All methods of fishing, from the shore or at sea, are prohibited in the Wilsons Promontory and Corner Inlet Marine National Parks.
- Recreational fishing is permitted in the Wilsons Promontory Marine Park: A valid fishing licence is required. Please check Marine Park boundaries before you go.
- *Seasonal restrictions apply to watercraft around Kanowna Island.* To protect seal populations, all watercraft must not approach within 200m from November to January and within 50 metres from February to October.

In an emergency

If you require emergency assistance phone **000** for Police, Fire or Ambulance Services.

Mobile phone coverage cannot be relied upon. Public phones are located beside the Tidal River Store.

In an out of hours emergency, park visitors can contact local Parks Victoria staff on **03 5680 9525**. This number can also be accessed from the blue emergency phone located at the front entrance of the Tidal River Visitor Centre.

At Tidal River

In the event of a significant emergency threatening Tidal River, visitors may be alerted in a number of ways.

- An emergency siren will sound continuously. Please collect sunscreen, water, suitable clothing and a torch and calmly make your way on foot to the Norman Beach day visitor carpark (*refer map over page*).
- Once at the beach you will be advised by Police or Parks Victoria staff on any further action to take.
- Information will be communicated through the Public Address System, located throughout the Tidal River Campground.
- Police or Parks Victoria staff will alert visitors.

In no circumstances should you attempt to leave Tidal River, unless advised by Police or Parks Victoria staff.

An emergency siren in Tidal River is tested every Friday afternoon at 4 pm.

Away from Tidal River

You may become aware of an emergency away from Tidal River, or be notified of an emergency situation 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 (*refer map over page*).

Wait at the Assembly Area for further instructions from Parks Victoria staff or Police.

November 2011

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