

Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park

Victoria's blue wilderness



Wilson's Promontory's striking granite headlands, boulders and islands continue underwater, forming sheer walls, caves and pinnacles. The variety of marine life is impressive - 90% of the plants and animals found here occur nowhere else in the world. Numerous shipwrecks are a lasting record of our maritime history. Offshore islands support colonies of Australian Fur Seals and sea birds and mainland intertidal areas connect walkers and snorkelers to this unique wilderness beneath the waves.



Getting there

Access the marine national park by land or boat. The nearest launching points are Tidal River (key and deposit required), Sandy Point or, for larger vessels, Port Welshpool.

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

Tidal River is a further 30 minutes from the entrance. Please drive carefully and look out for wildlife. Avoid driving between dusk and dawn. No fuel at Tidal River. The closest fuel outlet is at Yanakie.

Help us look after this unique marine environment

- Marine pests can wipe out native species by preying upon or out-competing them. Upon entry and exit to any watercourse wash in fresh water and dry all boating, fishing, surfing and swimming equipment, wetsuits, swimwear, towels, footwear and water toys.
- Victoria's intertidal zone is protected – inside and outside marine national parks. Please do not move rocks or disturb organisms.
- Discarded equipment and rubbish harms birds and marine animals – take your rubbish home. Bottles and other glass vessels are not permitted on beaches within marine protected areas.
- If boating, anchor away from fragile areas such as seagrass meadows and reefs. Keep boat noise and wake low in sensitive areas along the shore and near islands to avoid disturbing wildlife. Maintain safe distances around marine mammals. For more information, visit www.dewlp.vic.gov.au.
- You may carry fin-fish on board your boat within the marine national park if you caught the fish outside the park. You may also carry (but not use) a fishing rod. You can have abalone or rock lobster and associated equipment (securely stowed) on board provided you travel straight through the park by the shortest practicable route. Spear guns are not permitted within any of Victoria's marine protected areas, either in a boat or elsewhere.

In an emergency

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

For park related emergencies only (fire, accident/injury, injured wildlife, significant disturbance and critical maintenance issues), contact the Tidal River Duty Officer (24 hours) on **1300 247 594**.

Mobile phone coverage cannot be relied upon in the marine environment. Carry a registered distress beacon for safer boating.

Be prepared and stay safe

Boat users require a permit if camping on land in the park overnight. Book at www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay or call 13 1963.

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

- Check the marine weather report. Beware of sudden changes in weather, especially when boating on open water. Practice safe boating, and follow all signs and markers correctly.
- Wear shoes that grip well when walking on rock platforms. Stay away from cliff edges and bases and beware of large unexpected waves when walking on shore and on rock platforms.
- Never put your hands where you cannot see your fingertips (under seaweed or rocks) to avoid potentially dangerous creatures such as the Blue-ringed Octopus.
- Be aware of strong currents and undertows when swimming and snorkelling. Diving in these waters should only be undertaken by experienced and qualified divers.

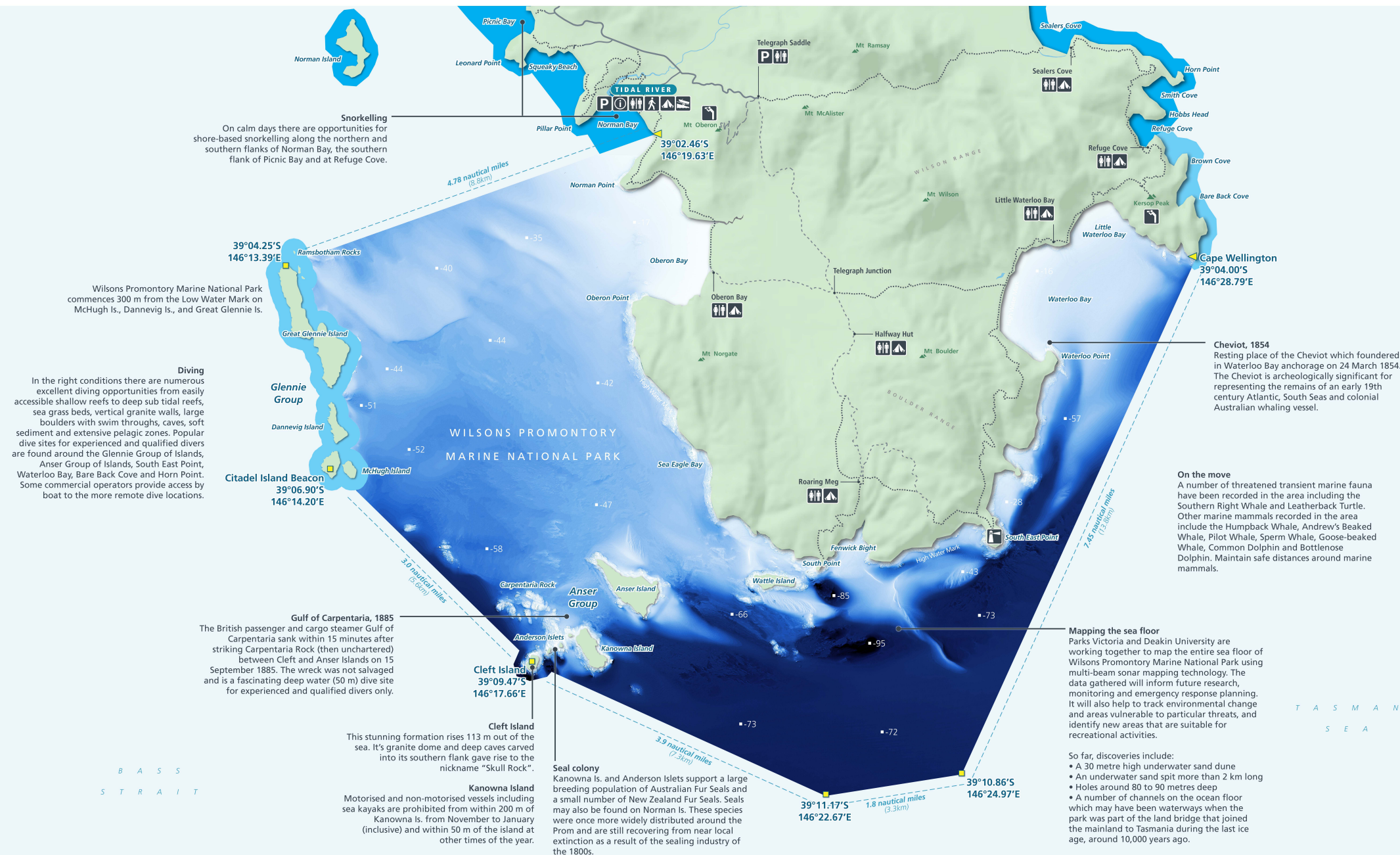
Recreational activities	Is it allowed?
Swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving	✓
Surfing, windsurfing, sailing, sea kayaking, boating	✓ ¹
Filming and photography	✓ ²
Jet skiing	✓ ³
Recreational or commercial fishing and harvesting	
All forms of fishing (line, spear, netting, traps, catch & release) and shellfish collection (including abalone and rock lobster). Report fishing offences to 13 FISH (13 3474) . Penalties apply.	✗
Bait collection	✗
Marine aquaculture	✗
Other uses	
Educational excursions and scientific research (permit required)	✓
Licensed tour operators (permit required)	✓
Removal or disturbance of marine plants or animals	✗
Removal or disturbance of shipwreck artefacts	✗
Activities that disturb the seafloor, eg. dredging & soil dispersal	✗
Discharge of waste, ballast, petrol, oil or other pollutants	✗

¹ Restrictions apply. Call 13 1963 for up-to-date information.

² Permit required for commercial filming and photography.

³ The launching, landing, loading, unloading, mooring, anchoring or operating of Personal Water Craft is prohibited in Norman Bay.

Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park



Snorkelling
On calm days there are opportunities for shore-based snorkelling along the northern and southern flanks of Norman Bay, the southern flank of Picnic Bay and at Refuge Cove.

Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park commences 300 m from the Low Water Mark on McHugh Is., Dannevig Is., and Great Glennie Is.

Diving
In the right conditions there are numerous excellent diving opportunities from easily accessible shallow reefs to deep sub tidal reefs, sea grass beds, vertical granite walls, large boulders with swim throughs, caves, soft sediment and extensive pelagic zones. Popular dive sites for experienced and qualified divers are found around the Glennie Group of Islands, Anser Group of Islands, South East Point, Waterloo Bay, Bare Back Cove and Horn Point. Some commercial operators provide access by boat to the more remote dive locations.

Cheviot, 1854
Resting place of the Cheviot which foundered in Waterloo Bay anchorage on 24 March 1854. The Cheviot is archeologically significant for representing the remains of an early 19th century Atlantic, South Seas and colonial Australian whaling vessel.

On the move
A number of threatened transient marine fauna have been recorded in the area including the Southern Right Whale and Leatherback Turtle. Other marine mammals recorded in the area include the Humpback Whale, Andrew's Beaked Whale, Pilot Whale, Sperm Whale, Goose-beaked Whale, Common Dolphin and Bottlenose Dolphin. Maintain safe distances around marine mammals.

Mapping the sea floor
Parks Victoria and Deakin University are working together to map the entire sea floor of Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park using multi-beam sonar mapping technology. The data gathered will inform future research, monitoring and emergency response planning. It will also help to track environmental change and areas vulnerable to particular threats, and identify new areas that are suitable for recreational activities.

- So far, discoveries include:
- A 30 metre high underwater sand dune
 - An underwater sand spit more than 2 km long
 - Holes around 80 to 90 metres deep
 - A number of channels on the ocean floor which may have been waterways when the park was part of the land bridge that joined the mainland to Tasmania during the last ice age, around 10,000 years ago.

T A S M A N I A
S E A

B A S S S T R A I T

www.parks.vic.gov.au

Latitude and Longitude values are based on WGS84. GPS users must note that coordinates for boundaries are given in the format degrees : minutes : seconds. Alternate formats are available on Parkweb, by calling 13 1963, or from Parks Victoria offices.

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.

Data source acknowledgements: Deakin University, State Digital Mapbase, The State of Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Cartography by Parks Victoria April 2014
For mobile App search for Avenza PDF Maps



Access to islands
Access to all islands in Wilson's Promontory Marine Protected Areas is prohibited. Access is permitted to beach areas only of Great Glennie and Rabbit Islands.

Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park
No fishing No taking

P Parking
i Information
Toilets
Self guided walk

Boat ramp
Lookout
Sealed road
Unsealed road
Walking Track

Wilson's Promontory National Park
Marine Park
Marine Reserve

Onshore boundary marker
Offshore boundary marker (unmarked in water)