

Mornington Peninsula National Park

Greens Bush - Visitor Guide



Situated between Arthurs Seat and Cape Schanck on the Mornington Peninsula and only 90 kilometres from Melbourne, Greens Bush is the largest remnant of bushland on the Peninsula. Surrounded by farmland, the area contains a variety of vegetation communities, making it a wildlife haven and an excellent place for nature walking.



Mornington Peninsula National Park is part of an Aboriginal cultural landscape in the traditional Country of the Bunurong People. Parks Victoria respects the deep and continuing connection that Bunurong Traditional Owners have to these lands, waters and we recognise their ongoing role in caring for Country.

Getting there

The national park is 90 kilometres south of Melbourne. It includes all of the ocean coast between London Bridge and Bushrangers Bay, plus a stretch from Stockyard Creek to Flinders and also an area north of Cape Schanck called Greens Bush. The northern section of Greens Bush can be accessed from Baldrys Road, Main Ridge, Patterson Road, Boneo on the west, Gwenmarlin Road, Flinders on the east and the southern section from Boneo Road, Flinders.

Things to see and do

Walking

Walking tracks are located along much of the coastline and through Greens Bush. Arrow markers outline tracks; orange markers indicate longer 'through tracks' and blue markers indicate 'circuit walks'.

Greens Bush walks can be linked to a network of existing tracks across the Peninsula, forming a 100km walk along wild ocean coastlines, peaceful bay beaches and tranquil bushland.

Baldrys Circuit Walk

Starting at Baldry's Crossing, a short 1.6km and longer 3.6km circuit walk meanders along Main Creek before passing through the peaceful eucalypt woodlands and cool, moist fern gullies of northern Greens Bush.

Long Point Circuit

Accessed from the Two Bays Walking Track or from Long Point Road, this 4km circuit passes through eucalypt woodlands with views across open grasslands and shady gullies.

Two Bays Walking Track Section

Two Bays Walking Track is a 26km walk through a bush corridor from Dromana to Cape Schanck. This 8.9km section of the walk takes visitors through the heart of Greens Bush, passing through

eucalypt forests, stands of grasstrees, pockets of melaleuca swamp, fern gullies, coastal heathlands and open grasslands.

The track is identified on signage by a circular symbol displaying the Blue Wren, a stunning bird which can often be seen along the walk.

Bushrangers Bay

A 2.6km track from Boneo Road to Bushrangers Bay provides spectacular coastal scenery, finishing at a sandy beach surrounded by striking basalt cliffs. Swimming and rockpooling are hazardous at this unpatrolled beach due to strong rips and large waves. The walk can be extended on to Cape Schanck Lighthouse via the Two Bays Walking Track, a further 2.5km.

Camping

Lightwood Creek Camping Area is located mid-way between Baldry Crossing and Boneo Road on the Two Bays Walking Track. It is a picturesque, open, grassy area in a bush setting near Lightwood Creek, accessible only by foot. The nearest vehicle access is 1km away at Rogers Road Gate 3 or from the Baldry's Crossing and Boneo Road trailheads.

The camping area has facilities for up to 20 people across 5 campsites, with a pit toilet and tables for cooking. Tank water is available however it's not recommended for drinking without boiling first and fires are not permitted.

Visitors can stay a maximum of two nights and while formal bookings or fees are not required, campers are advised to call 13 1963 to check with rangers on campground availability as sites are limited and can be fully occupied by scout or school groups.

Plants and animals

Mornington Peninsula National Park is home to a diversity of plants and animals, a number of which are listed as threatened in Victoria.

Greens Bush is rich in birdlife, mammals and reptiles which live among the native plant communities. At dawn and dusk, Eastern Grey Kangaroos can be seen grazing at Highfield and shy Koalas can occasionally be seen along Main Creek. Echidnas, Swamp Wallabies and reptiles are a regular sight along the walking tracks. As light fades, listen for the calls of Ringtail Possums, Sugar Gliders and Powerful Owls.

Parks Victoria

Phone 13 1963

www.parks.vic.gov.au



History

Indigenous history

The Bunurong People have been caring for their Country for thousands of years. You may observe evidence of their ancestors through the exposure of shell middens in the delicate sand dunes. The middens are found in a highly vulnerable landscape, where vegetation is easily disturbed leading to erosion. Always stay on formed walking tracks to avoid disturbing these protected significant cultural sites.

Early settlement

In 1926 the Green family purchased 900 hectares of land for farming but retained much of the natural bushland. After extensive clearing across the Peninsula, the National Trust listed the Green property as classified landscape in 1974.

In 1975 the State government purchased 500 hectares from the Greens with the intention of creating a park. Funds were limited, and in 1986 a public appeal was launched by the Victorian Conservation Trust to buy the remaining area. Over \$1.3 million was raised and following purchase, Greens Bush is now part of Mornington Peninsula National Park.

Caring for the park

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

- Dogs, cats, horses and bicycles are not permitted in Greens Bush. Shared horse riding and cycling trails are available outside the park boundary along the north and western perimetres.
- Please take your rubbish home for recycling and disposal.
- Keep to formed walking tracks to avoid spreading Cinnamon Fungus. This waterborne disease kills native flora and can be spread by walkers, horses and bicycles.
- Firearms and fires are not permitted in the park.
- All native plants and animals are protected. Please leave the park as you found it.
- Feeding wildlife is bad for their health and is an offence.

Be prepared and stay safe

Snakes live in this park and sometimes sunbake on the tracks.

All wildlife is protected and should not be approached.

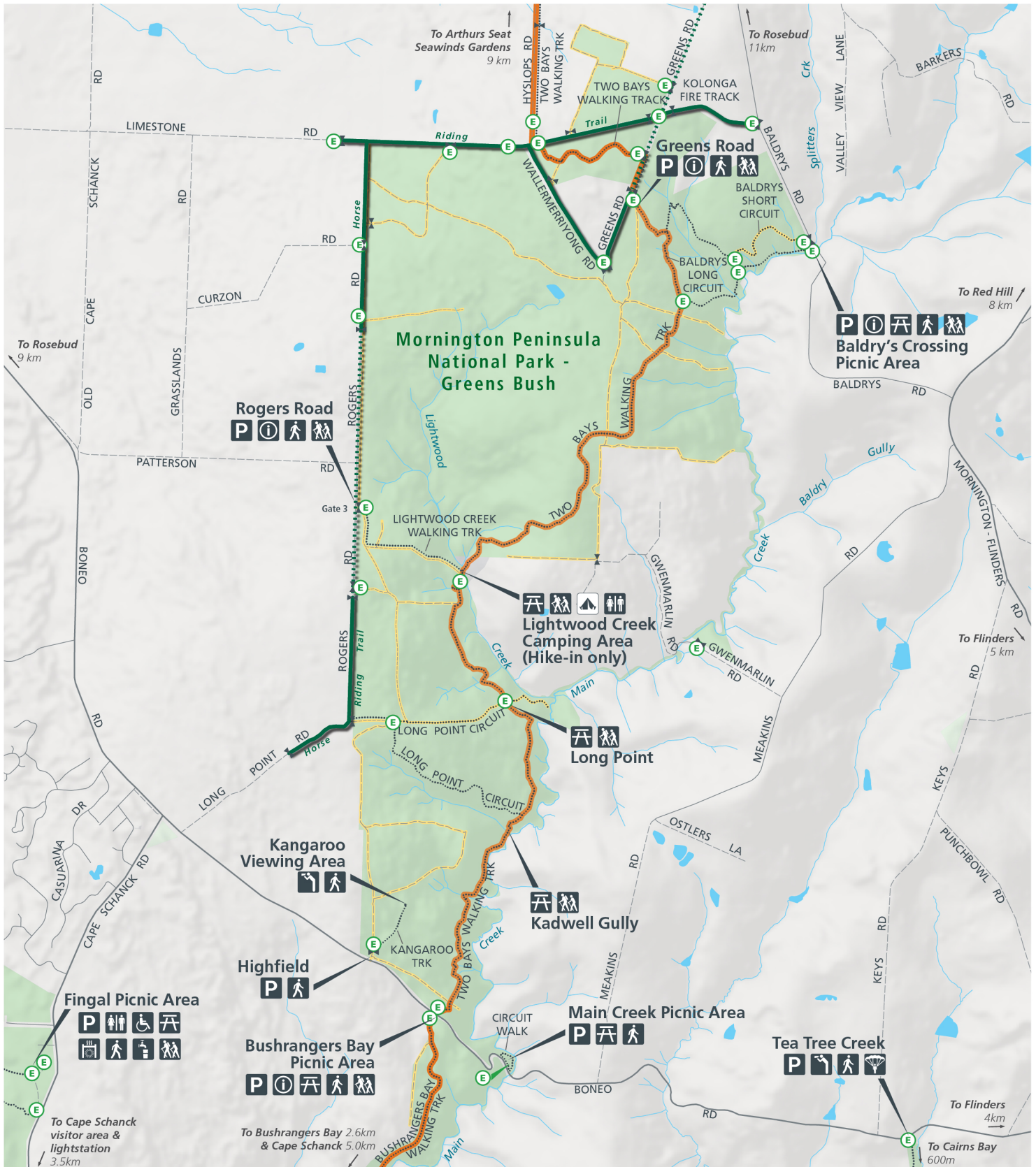
For emergency assistance call Triple Zero (000). If there is a green emergency marker sign near you, read the information on the marker to the operator. Mornington Peninsula National Park is in the Central fire district.

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, 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 or by calling 13 1963.

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Greens Bush



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|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Parking | Walking track | Camping (Hike-in only) | Emergency marker |
| Information | Hiking | Sealed road | Two Bays Walking Track |
| Toilets | Disabled access | Unsealed road | Horse riding trail |
| Picnic area | Lookout | 4WD track | Horse riding on shared public road |
| BBQ - Electric | Paragliding | Walking track | Mornignton Peninsula National Park |
| Drinking water | | Management vehicles only | Other park/reserve |



www.parks.vic.gov.au

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