



MEDIA RELEASE

John Robertson MLC

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment
Minister for Energy
Minister for Corrective Services
Minister for Public Sector Reform
Special Minister of State

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Free entry to NSW national parks this Saturday

Entry to New South Wales National Parks will be free this Saturday 19 September as the State Government celebrates World Parks Day.

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment John Robertson said the fee free day is a perfect opportunity to get outdoors and explore one of the State's 790 world class national parks and reserves.

"World Parks Day is a great excuse to pack a picnic and visit your closest national park," Mr Robertson said.

"Each of our national parks is home to native wildlife and natural wonders – from the unique alpine environments of the south to the rainforest of the north and the landscapes of the outback.

"On Sydney's doorstep, we have the Royal National Park which is the world's second oldest National Park; Lane Cove National Park; Ku-ring-gai National Park on the Hawkesbury River and of course the magnificent Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

"The NSW Government is committed to the growth of the reserve system and has added more than 466 reserves covering more than 2.69 million hectares since coming to office in March 1995.

"There are now more than 790 national parks and reserves covering some 6.7 million hectares across NSW.

"Spring is a great time to visit a park and go for a walk, swim at the beach or one of the many waterholes or simply get together with friends and family for a BBQ or picnic.

"Camping is also available in many of the parks, for those who want to make a weekend of it.

"I encourage everyone to get into the great outdoors and visit a national park to help celebrate World Parks Day."

Organised by the International Urban Parks and Green Space Alliance (IUPGSA) and now in its second year, World Parks Day is an initiative to communicate the importance of parks on a global level, while encouraging everyone to enjoy their own local reserves and appreciate the importance of green space.

Entry will be free for the day in all national parks, except Kosciuszko National Park and parks co-managed with traditional people or managed by Trusts. Visitors to Kosciuszko will instead receive a free entry voucher for a future visit before the end of the year.

For more information on NSW national parks visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nationalparks or phone 1300 361 967.

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