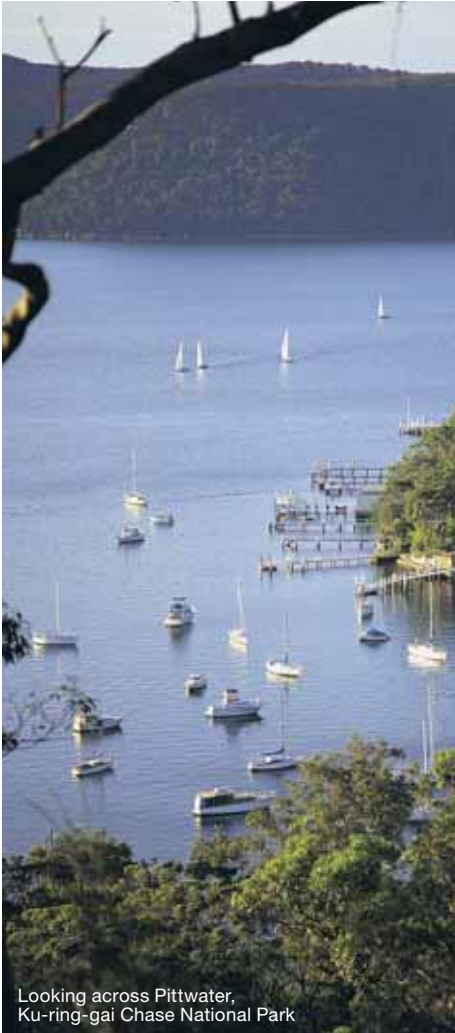




*Aboriginal, colonial and natural history... waiting for you to explore*



Looking across Pittwater,  
Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park

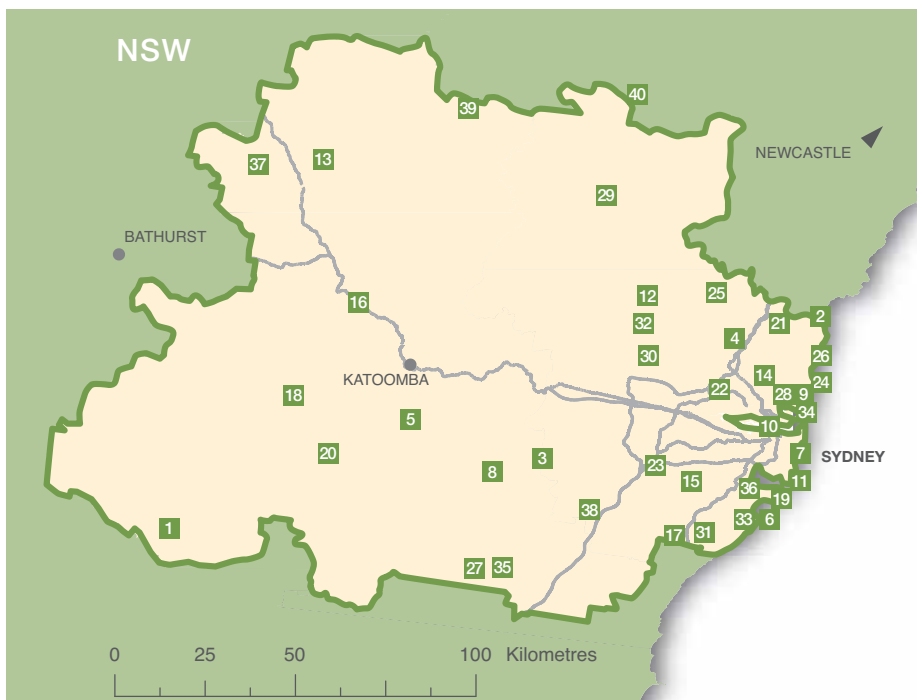
## Sydney and Surrounds

Australia's largest city and its surrounding area embrace an astonishing selection of national parks, including the wilderness of the Blue Mountains National Park. Native bushland thrives within minutes of the centre of Australia's largest city, small and large parks and reserves also protect Aboriginal and European heritage and the marine environment.

The Royal National Park, the oldest in Australia and second oldest in the world, has long provided recreation and rejuvenation to Sydneysiders, and is a definite must-see. Or explore the hidden gems of Sydney Harbour National Park with its boundless walking and swimming opportunities, be amazed at the natural wonders so close to a bustling metropolis.



Bush walking in Royal National Park





Sandstone tunnel walls in the 1801 Fort at Middle Head, Sydney Harbour National Park

1	Abercrombie River NP	pg 36	21	Ku-ring-gai Chase NP	pg 42
2	Barrenjoey Head AR	pg 36	22	Lane Cove NP	pg 43
3	Bents Basin SCA	pg 36	23	Leacock RP	pg 43
4	Berowra Valley RP	pg 36	24	Long Reef AR	pg 43
5	Blue Mountains NP	pg 37	25	Marramarra NP	pg 44
6	Boat Harbour AR	pg 38	26	Narrabeen Head AR	pg 44
7	Bronte-Coogee AR	pg 38	27	Nattai NP	pg 44
8	Burragorang SCA	pg 38	28	North (Sydney) Harbour AR	pg 45
9	Cabbage Tree Bay AR	pg 38	29	Parr SCA	pg 45
10	Cadmans Cottage HS	pg 38	30	Rouse Hill RP	pg 45
11	Cape Banks AR	pg 39	31	Royal NP	pg 48
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14	Garigal NP	pg 40	34	Sydney Harbour NP	pg 49
15	Georges River NP	pg 40	35	Thirlmere Lakes NP	pg 49
16	Hartley HS	pg 40	36	Towra Point AR and NR	pg 50
17	Heathcote NP	pg 40	37	Turon NP	pg 50
18	Jenolan KCR	pg 41	38	William Howe RP	pg 50
19	Kamay Botany Bay NP	pg 41	39	Wollemi NP	pg 50
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## HIGHLIGHTS

### WALK THE HARBOUR

Explore one of the greatest and most scenic harbours in the world on these two fabulous harbour-side bushwalks.

### BRADLEYS HEAD AND CHOWDER HEAD WALK

Where else can you go on a gentle stroll in the bush and also see the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge? This 5 km easy-graded walk starts near the Taronga Zoo wharf and follows the shoreline around to Chowder Head. As well as spectacular views, it gives you a chance to see historic cannons that once defended Sydney. You can also have a refreshment at Athol Hall, which once served the soldiers operating the fortifications. The walk continues on to Chowder Bay, Middle Head and Balmoral Beach, and also to The Spit. For information on this and other walks visit [www.wildwalks.com](http://www.wildwalks.com).

### MANLY SCENIC WALKWAY

This classic Sydney walk hugs the harbour shoreline, taking in beaches, Aboriginal sites, community parks, forests, scrublands and even pockets of subtropical rainforest. You can enjoy the full 9.5 km, medium-graded walk from The Spit to Manly or vice versa, or you can start at various points. Take a detour, visiting historic Grotto Point Lighthouse, before continuing along to Arabanoo Lookout to admire sweeping harbour views. The track passes Reef Beach and Forty Baskets Beach before returning to residential areas, in the suburbs around Manly.

### BE ADVENTUROUS

Walk, swim, fish, surf, sail, dive – there's no end to the activities on offer in Sydney Harbour and Surrounding national parks.



Delightful views from the Manly Scenic walkway

Take the family to a harbourside park for a picnic. Head somewhere new for a walk or cycle. Some of the best beaches you'll find anywhere are protected in our parks, perfect for an active swim or simply to sit and relax.

Head out of the city and you'll find the most remarkable bushwalks, from gentle strolls to challenging hikes.

It's wonderful just to get out and explore, and marvel in the delights on offer so close to the international city of Sydney.



## 1 ABERCROMBIE RIVER

NATIONAL PARK 19,000 HA



Camping fee level 1

**Highlights** Deep waterholes beneath towering casuarinas are threaded along three waterways as they run through the largest remaining patch of low, open forest in the south-west central tablelands area.

**Activities** Fish for trout in the streams (licence required) or enjoy swimming and canoeing in the waterholes when water is high. Car-based camping is available at Silent Creek, The Sink (Retreat River), The Beach (Abercrombie River) and Bummaroo Ford (Abercrombie River). A 4WD is needed for all parts of the park except Bummaroo Ford.

**Access** 120 km west of Sydney, 40 km south of Oberon along Abercrombie Road (Oberon - Goulburn Road).

**Oberon office:** 6336 1972

**Blue Mountains Heritage Centre:** 4787 8877

## 2 BARRENJOEY HEAD

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 29 HA



**Highlights** The reserve includes the entire rocky platform around Barrenjoey Head – from the northern end of Station Beach to the northern end of Palm Beach – and extends 100m seaward from the mean low water mark. Barrenjoey Head, which is part of Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, provides a degree of protection and contributes to the natural beauty of the reserve.

**Activities** For lightstation tours, contact the Kalkari Discovery Centre (9472 9300). You can line fish and spearfish (subject to normal restrictions) and collect rock lobster, sea lettuce and baitweed only. To protect a range of marine species, the collection of cunjevoi, commonly used as bait, and all invertebrates

(dead or alive) is not allowed. This includes anemones, barnacles, chitons, cockles, crabs, mussels, octopus, pipis, sea urchins, starfish, snails, worms and empty shells. Recreational fishing competitions within the reserve require a permit.

**Access** North of the Sydney CBD via Mona Vale Road then Pittwater Road.

**Northern Beaches Office:**  
9451 3479

## 3 BENTS BASIN

STATE CONSERVATION AREA 48 HA



Camping fee level 4

**Highlights** Bents Basin forms a deep waterhole, part of the Gulguer Gorge on the Nepean River between Camden and Penrith, and is a popular picnic spot.

**Activities** Enjoy water-based activities such as swimming and canoeing. There are picnic areas with barbecues, fireplaces and accessible toilet facilities (though the Basin itself is not wheelchair accessible). Car-based and caravan camping are available in the camping area (bookings required). Facilities include hot showers, camp kitchen and dining shelter. Hire the function centre with commercial kitchen for your wedding or event.

**Access** 60 km west of Sydney, 8 km south of Wallacia and 25 km south west of Penrith. Via Bents Basin Road, follow Silverdale Road from the roundabout at Wallacia; Via Wolstenholme Avenue from the north, follow Greendale Road from Wallacia; or from the south, follow Greendale Road from Bringelly.

**Note** Access to the campground is via Wolstenholme Avenue only.

Vehicle entry fee is \$7 per day.

**Bents Basin office:** 4774 8662

## 4 BEROWRA VALLEY

REGIONAL PARK 3,870 HA



Camping fee level 3

**Highlights** An area of natural bushland along the Berowra Creek Valley, one of the deep and scenic gorges that dissect the Hornsby Plateau. This is a bushwalker's paradise, with the Great North Walk and other interesting tracks and fire trails. Ideal for a quiet picnic or to visit spectacular lookouts, with vehicle access to facilities in various locations including two rest areas at Galston Gorge.

**Activities** The Great North Walk from Sydney to the Hunter Valley passes through the park, following Berowra Creek. In the south the track enters from Bellamy Street Thornleigh, travels north to Galston Gorge, then 7 km on to the Crosslands Reserve picnic area. From Crosslands Reserve you can walk a further 7 km north to Berowra Waters, where the track continues on to Cowan railway station and beyond.

Barnetts Lookout, tucked away in the suburban streets of Berowra, features a spectacular view of the scenic gorges that lead in to Berowra Creek and Crosslands Reserve. The lookout has wheelchair access, a children's play area and nearby access to the Great North Walk. For a scenic day out, Crosslands Reserve offers waterfront picnic and barbeque facilities, toilets and short walks.

Backpack camping is permitted at approved locations along the Great North Walk and there are campsites available at Crosslands Reserve. For bookings phone Hornsby Shire Council Parks Booking Officer on 9847 6791. Only gas fires are permitted throughout the park.

**Access** 24 km north-west of Sydney. The main access point is Crosslands Reserve at the end of Sommerville Road, Hornsby Heights.

**Metro North East Region Information Centre:** 9472 8949

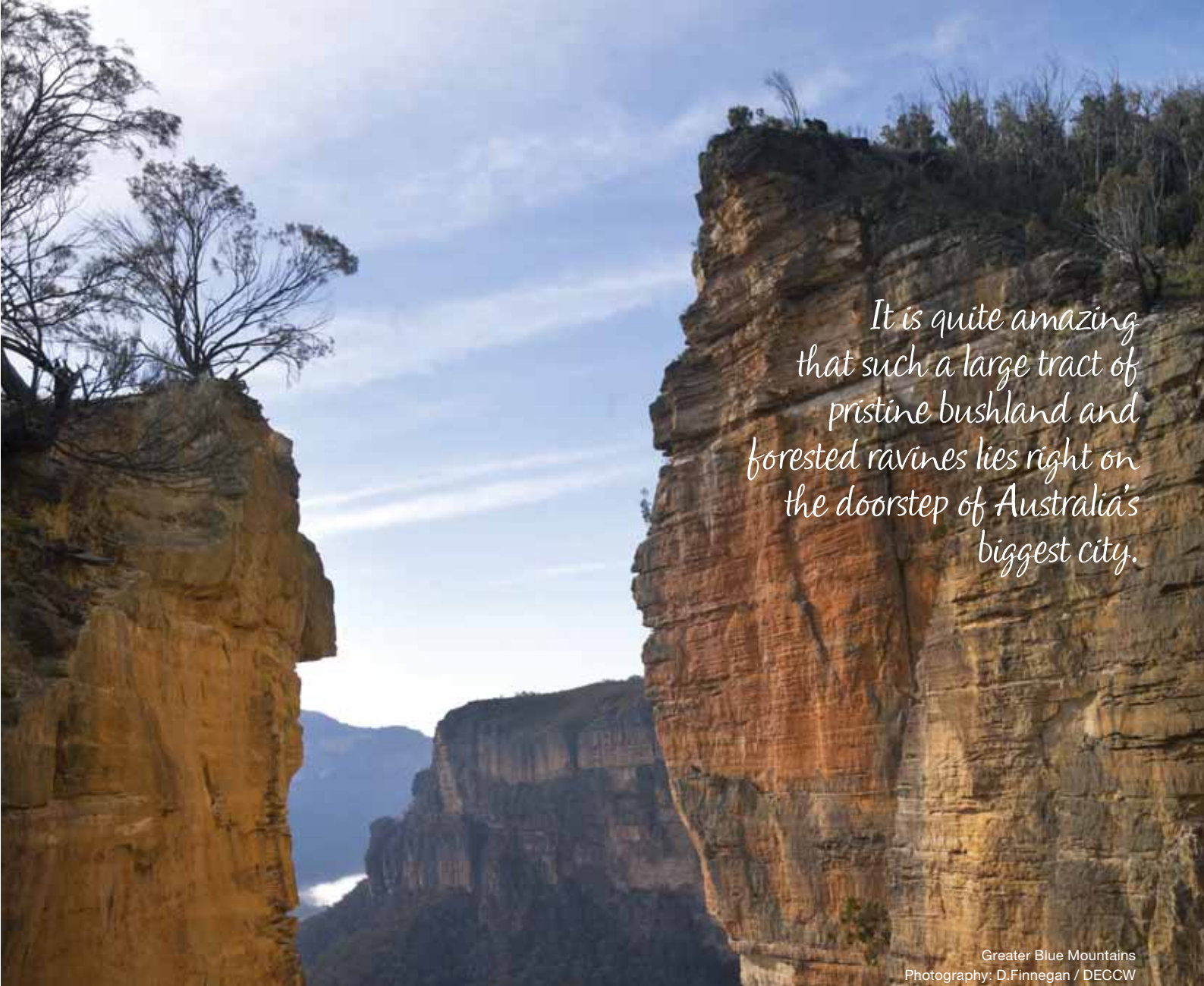
## STAYING SAFE AT THE BEACH

Many of our most beautiful beaches are protected in national parks, and it sure can be tempting to jump in for a dip. However, please keep beach safety top of mind, looking out for yourself and others. Here are some safety tips:

- At patrolled beaches always swim between the flags; if the beach is unpatrolled take extra care. Watch out for rips (undertows) and currents which can occur even on still days. If the surf looks too daunting, there may be a quieter bay or lagoon nearby.
- Don't swim or go to isolated beaches alone.
- Only swim during daylight hours.
- Be very careful when walking on rocks – they can be slippery, and rogue waves can be unpredictable.
- Be aware of marine stingers – if you see bluebottles avoid the water, and leave octopuses alone. The venomous blue-ringed octopus is harmless unless provoked.
- Remember – protect your skin. Wear sunscreen and a hat.
- Rock fishing can be a dangerous activity and is not encouraged in our parks.
- The Department of Primary Industries operates a shark meshing program at selected beaches in Sydney, the Illawarra and Central Coast over the swimming season. Some of these beaches are near national parks – for more information visit [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au).

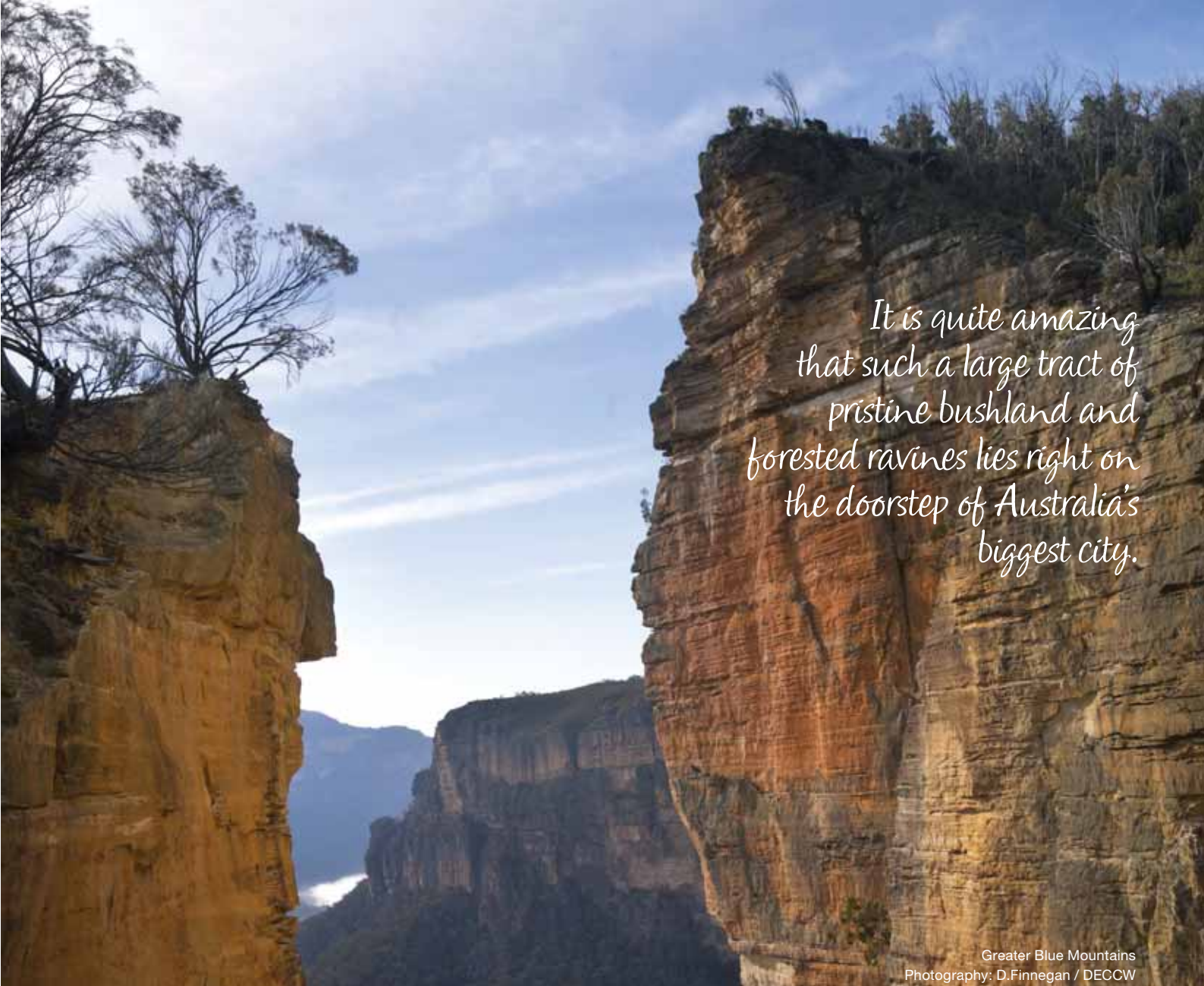
For further information visit [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/parksafety](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/parksafety) or [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries).





*It is quite amazing  
that such a large tract of  
pristine bushland and  
forested ravines lies right on  
the doorstep of Australia's  
biggest city.*

Greater Blue Mountains  
Photography: D.Finnegan / DECCW



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Greater Blue Mountains  
Photography: D.Finnegan / DECCW

**NATIONAL PARK 267,183 HA**



### Camping fee levels 1, 3

37





## 6 BOAT HARBOUR

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 72 HA



**Highlights** The reserve includes the southern part of the Kurnell peninsula, incorporating most of Merries Reef and extending east to three green 'Waterboard' vents at Potter Point, and extends 100m seaward from the mean low water mark.

**Activities** People can line fish and spearfish (subject to normal restrictions) and collect rock lobster, sea lettuce and baitweed, but not cunjevoi, commonly used as bait, and all invertebrates (dead or alive), including abalone, anemones, barnacles, chitons, cockles, crabs, mussels, octopus, pipis, sea urchins, starfish, snails, worms and empty shells. Recreational fishing competitions within the reserve require a permit.

**Access** Through Kamay Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell, via the Cape Baily Track. Also by boat or by walking from Green Hills along Cronulla beach and the private 4WD park.

**Kamay Botany Bay Visitor Centre:**  
9668 2000

## 7 BRONTE-COOGEE

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 42 HA



The reserve includes the whole foreshore from the southern end of Bronte Beach to the rock baths at Coogee Beach, and extends 100 m seaward from the mean low water mark. Fishing is not permitted in the proper enclosure, which runs from the northern end of Clovelly to the southern end of Gordons Bay.

**Harbour South Office: 9337 5511**

## 8 BURRAGORANG

STATE CONSERVATION AREA 17,642 HA



**Highlights** The newly-upgraded Burragorang Lookout is a window on the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and provides breathtaking views of Lake Burragorang and the Nattai wilderness.

**Activities** Shaded tables and barbecues are ideal for picnics. Viewing points provide scenic vistas unparalleled in the district and open areas provide play opportunities for the kids.



Stokes Creek in Dharawal State Conservation Area

**Access** 80 km south-west of Sydney, 20 km west of Camden along Burragorang Road. The lookout is open during daylight hours and is the only part of the park accessible by vehicle.

**Picton office: 4677 0859**

## 9 CABBAGE TREE BAY

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 20 HA



**Highlights** The reserve includes the whole foreshore of the bay from Manly Surf Life Saving Club to the northern end of Shelly Beach Headland, and includes the whole of Cabbage Tree Bay. There are several types of rocky shores in this area, from wave exposed to moderately sheltered. Cabbage Tree Bay also includes sub-tidal reef habitat, seagrass beds and offshore kelp communities.

**Activities** Within the reserve you can enjoy many forms of recreation such as swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving. Observe the marine plants and animals with care. Fishing by any method is prohibited in the area, as is collecting cunjevoi, commonly used as bait, any baitweed species and all invertebrates (dead or alive), including anemones, barnacles, chitons, cockles, crabs, mussels, octopus, pipis, sea urchins, starfish, snails, worms and empty shells throughout the reserve.

**Access** Follow South Steyne Street along the Manly Beach foreshore. Turn into Bower Street to a parking area above Shelly Beach. Walk down the stairs onto Shelly Beach and Shelly Beach Headland.

**Harbour North Office: 9960 6266**



Cadmans Cottage

## 10 CADMANS COTTAGE

HISTORIC SITE



**Highlights** Built in 1816, Cadmans Cottage is one of only a handful of Sydney buildings that remain from the first 30 years of the colony. Over the years this sandstone cottage has been, among other things, a water transport headquarters, a sailors' home and a water police station. It used to be beside the water, but since the construction and reclaiming of land at Circular Quay the cottage has 'moved' 100 m away.

**Activities** The cottage now houses the Sydney Harbour National Park Information Centre. On the lower level there's a fascinating (free) exhibition on the building's history, its relationship to Sydney Cove, and life in early Sydney.

**Access** Located in Sydney, at 110 George Street, The Rocks. Walk from Circular Quay Railway Station or catch any bus headed for Circular Quay or The Rocks.

**Cadmans Cottage: 9247 5033**

## 11 CAPE BANKS

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 22 HA



Includes the whole foreshore from the bridge at Cape Banks to the Endeavour Light at Henry Head, and extends 100 m seaward from the mean low water mark. The reserve is surrounded by the Kamay Botany Bay National Park and is a world-recognised site for marine research.

Harbour South Office: 9337 5511

## 12 CATTAI

NATIONAL PARK 424 HA



Camping fee level 3

**Highlights** The Cattai Farm area, originally a land grant to First Fleet assistant surgeon Thomas Arndell, features Arndell's 1821 cottage, historic grain silos and ruins of a windmill believed to be the oldest industrial building in NSW. In a separate section, nearby Mitchell Park features a variety of plant communities, including rare dry rainforest.

**Activities** Cattai Farm has grassy picnic areas, barbecues and shelter sheds beside the Hawkesbury River, and car-based camping is available year round (bookings essential). Mitchell Park has an extensive network of walking tracks, and there are picnic areas beside scenic Cattai Creek.

**Access** 55 km north-west of Sydney, 13 km north of Windsor off the Cattai-Wisemans Ferry road. Vehicle entry fee is \$7 per day.

Scheyville office: 4572 3100

## 13 GARDENS OF STONE

NATIONAL PARK 15,130 HA



**Highlights** This park, part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, features prominent 'pagoda' rock formations that cluster near sandstone escarpments where erosion has sculpted beehive-shaped domes and other forms. Banksias, dwarf casuarinas and other wind-pruned heathland plants give the area its garden-like appearance.

**Activities** There are no established walking tracks but you'll find plenty of scope for hard bushwalks. Baal Bone Gap has basic picnic facilities (4WD necessary). Backpack camping more than 200 m from roads is permitted in most areas of the park, though camping is not permitted in caves or within 200 m of limestone, and only fuel stoves may be used. There are no designated camping areas, but you can camp outside the park at Capertee or Glen Davis, or at Newnes in Wollemi National Park.

**Access** 160-175 km north-west of Sydney, 30 km north of Lithgow off the Mudgee Road via unsealed roads from Lidsdale to the south (4WD) or via Capertee to the north.

Blue Mountains Heritage Centre:  
4787 8877

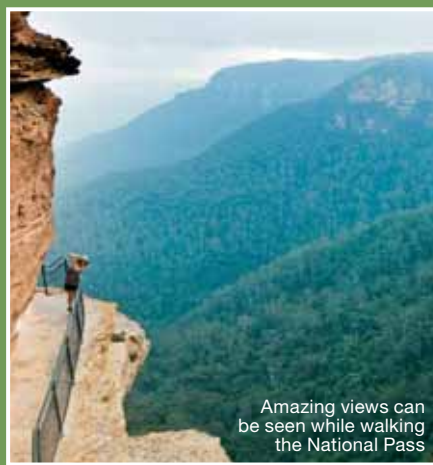
## HIGHLIGHTS

### OLD GREAT NORTH ROAD

The Great North Road, surveyed in 1825 and completed in 1836, was constructed using convict labour. Up to 720 convicts – some in chains – worked on the road, which spanned 264 km, connecting Sydney to the settlements of the Hunter Valley. It features spectacular and beautifully preserved examples of stonework, including buttresses, culverts, bridges and twelve metre high retaining walls.

Only 43 km of the road remains undeveloped and relatively intact. Running through and alongside Dharug National Park and Yengo National Park, this section has been named the Old Great North Road and was recently inscribed as one of Australia's World Heritage convict sites. It goes from Wisemans Ferry in the south to Mount Manning (near Bucketty) in the north, and includes the oldest surviving stone bridges in mainland Australia. The Devines Hill and Finches Line sections (7.5 km) in Dharug National Park are included in the World Heritage site. The road is closed to motor vehicles, but makes a great walk over two or three days – or an exhilarating day's cycle.

For more information visit  
[www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nswcultureheritage/TheOldGreatNorthRoad](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nswcultureheritage/TheOldGreatNorthRoad)



### BLUE MOUNTAINS WALKS AND LOOKOUTS

The Greater Blue Mountains area offers hundreds of kilometres of tracks and trails. One of the best is the National Pass, which in 2008 won major heritage conservation awards from UNESCO and the National Trust of Australia. It's a great walk to do over a leisurely day or a more energetic half day – either way, the National Pass features majestic lookouts, spectacular bird life, waterfalls and rainforest canopies.

For more information visit  
[www.nationalpass.com.au](http://www.nationalpass.com.au)



Rock formations in Gardens of Stone National Park





## 14 GARIGAL NATIONAL PARK 2,203 HA



**Highlights** An impressive expanse of diverse bushland in sandstone country with great scenery, water and bush views, waterfalls, significant Aboriginal sites and heritage. Located close to the heart of Sydney, Garigal covers bushland from Middle Harbour Creek north to Mona Vale Road and east to the Wakehurst Parkway.

**Activities** Garigal National Park offers bushwalkers extensive and outstanding walks, plus many kilometres of challenging fire trails for mountain bike riders, horse riders and walkers. A feature is the central corridor of tracks that comprise part of the Harbour to

Bantry Bay is the site of part of Sydney's historic mining and military heritage, the historic Explosives Magazine complex which can be viewed from the water. The Bantry Bay picnic area on the eastern shore has toilets and a wharf access.

Camping is not permitted in Garigal National Park.

**Access** Starts 12 km north of Sydney CBD. Entry to Davidson Park Picnic Area and boat ramp is from the north along Warringah Road just before the Roseville Bridge. The Davidson Park Picnic Area gates are closed from 6.30 pm to 6 am, and 8 pm to 6 am during daylight saving. Other sections of Garigal can be accessed from Forestville, Killarney Heights, Frenchs Forest, Seaforth, Lindfield East, St Ives, Belrose, Davidson and Oxford Falls.

**Metro North East Region Information Centre: 9472 8949**



Explore Hartley's Historical site and the visitor centre

Hawkesbury Walking Track, linking Manly with Berowra.

Mountain bikes and horses are permitted except on single width or walking tracks.

Davidson Park on the north side of Middle Harbour Creek (near Roseville Bridge) is a popular spot for picnicking, boating, paddling and fishing, with the start of several walking tracks, canoe launching ramps and a multiple lane boat ramp. Picnic facilities include barbecues and wheelchair accessible toilets. 'Area 2' in the picnic area can be booked for private functions. Organised groups of 40 or more people planning to visit or use the park also require prior written approval. Call the Forestville office on 9451 3479 for bookings and further information. Vehicle entry fee is \$7 per vehicle per day, with several coin and credit card operated 'pay and display' machines.

## 15 GEORGES RIVER NATIONAL PARK 337 HA



**Highlights** Steep forested hillsides, plateaus and riverside flats conserve some of Sydney's best river habitat for native plants and animals.

**Activities** There are several popular riverside picnic areas, large and small, and a network of walking tracks. Stroll around peaceful Yeramba Lagoon, home to more than 100 bird species, or the Ridge Track, which offers spectacular river views.

**Access** 25 km south-west of Sydney along Henry Lawson Drive. Vehicle entry fee is \$7 per day. Open only during daylight hours.

**Kamay Visitor Centre: 9668 2000**

## 16 HARTLEY HISTORIC SITE 13 HA



**Highlights** This 19th century village sits on the western edge of the Blue Mountains, and features a sandstone courthouse built in the 1830s. Absconding convicts, petty thieves, highway robbers, and the drunk and disorderly all came before the Hartley magistracy. St Bernards Catholic Church (c 1842) is a romantic stone church still used for weddings and baptisms. The Post Office, Royal Hotel and other buildings complete a streetscape of a bygone era, and Farmers Inn includes information and souvenir sales. Guided tours are available.

**Activities** Stroll around the village or join a tour of the courthouse (small fee). Visit the info centre for full list of what's available.

**Access** 120 km west of Sydney, 12 km south of Lithgow on the Great Western Highway,

### HARTLEY HISTORIC SITE VISITOR CENTRE

Based in one of Hartley's historic buildings, the centre stocks a range of heritage-style books, oil lamps, candlesticks, souvenirs and pens, as well as sweets and drinks. Open 10 am to 4:30 pm except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**Farmers Inn, Great Western Highway, Hartley. Phone 6355 2117**

just near the turnoff to Jenolan Caves. Open every day 10 am to 4:30 pm.

**Hartley Historic Site: 6355 2117**

## 17 HEATHCOTE NATIONAL PARK 2,672 HA



Camping fee level 2

Take one of the series of walking tracks to see the beauty and diversity of the park's rocky bushland, stopping for a swim in a hidden pool along Heathcote Creek Valley. Remote camping is permitted at designated sites (permits and bookings essential; phone 9542 0683 between 10.30 am and 1.30 pm Monday to Friday).

**Audley office: 9542 0648**

## 18 JENOLAN

KARST CONSERVATION RESERVE 2,422 HA



**Highlights** These limestone caves are part of an evolutionary 'laboratory' that is exceptional in the world both in its treasures from the past and for the species that are still evolving. Jenolan Caves are the oldest discovered open caves in the world. Apart from the spectacular beauty of the caves, the soil derived from the surrounding limestone rock supports a special part of the biodiversity of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The area is also part of the living culture of the Wiradjuri, Pejar and Gundungurra people; stories associated with this site link Indigenous people across this region. Combine a visit to Jenolan with exploring Kanangra-Boyd National Park and see more of our World Heritage landscape.

Today, Jenolan is one of the most popular tourist destinations in country NSW, with visitors enjoying the wonders of nine Show Caves and an ever-increasing number entering the world of adventure caving. Jenolan Caves House provides comfortable accommodation. Meals can be enjoyed at either Trails Bistro or Chisholm's Dining Room. Cottages are located approximately 8 km from the caves and are ideal for families.

**Activities** Take a guided cave tour, stroll along a choice of scenic bush tracks (from easy to strenuous) or picnic at the Blue Lake. There are not many other places where on almost any day you can spot a shy platypus. Hiking, swimming and wildlife spotting are some of the activities you can enjoy in the area. A journey along the Greater Blue Mountains Drive will bring you to Wombeyan Caves and still more spectacular caves to explore.

**Access** From Sydney, take the M4 Motorway travelling west through the Blue Mountains, Katoomba and Mt Victoria on the Great Western Highway. After Victoria Pass, the Jenolan Caves turnoff is found just past Hartley Historic Site. Turning left, this road passes through Hampton and then down a steep winding road to Jenolan Caves.

**Jenolan Caves: 6359 3911 or visit [www.jenolancaves.org.au](http://www.jenolancaves.org.au)**



The romantic Blue Lake at Jenolan Caves

## 19 KAMAY BOTANY BAY

NATIONAL PARK 456 HA



**Highlights** The two headlands of Botany Bay (La Perouse and Kurnell) are rich in Aboriginal and European history. The Kurnell headland is the site of first contact between Aboriginal people and the crew of the Endeavour in 1770. Eighteen years later the First Fleet entered the Bay followed closely by the French. The La Perouse headland is recognised as the last known port of French explorer La Perouse.

**Activities** At La Perouse you can take a tour of Bare Island Fort, learn about the area at Laperouse Museum and Visitor Centre, or enjoy one of the local beaches (excellent for diving). At Kurnell visit the Kamay Visitor Centre and take the Burrawang Walk. Join an Aboriginal Discovery tour for an insight into living with the land and the significance of this location to Aboriginal Australians. The Banks-Solander Track is a self-guided walk, the Burrawang Walk is self-guided and partially wheelchair-accessible, and Cape Solander provides a superb vantage point for watching the annual Humpback Whale migration during June and July.

**Access** 15-30 km south of Sydney. Entry to La Perouse is from Anzac Parade. Entry to Kurnell is from the end of Captain Cook Drive. Vehicle entry fee of \$7 applies at Kurnell.

**Kamay Visitor Centre: 9668 2000**

**La Perouse Visitor Centre: 9311 3379 or 9337 5511 (tour bookings)**



Cape Solander in Kamay Botany Bay National Park

## 20 KANANGRA-BOYD

NATIONAL PARK 68,661 HA



Camping fee level 1

**Highlights** This park embraces the Kanangra-Boyd Wilderness and is part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Vast gorges, high lookouts and wild and scenic rivers lend Kanangra-Boyd a rugged and dramatic grandeur. Thurat Spires, Kanangra Walls and Mt Cloudmaker provide sandstone scenery on a majestic scale. It is Wiradjuri, Dharawal and Gundungurra Country.

**Activities** For experienced bushwalkers there are plenty of opportunities for extended walks and backpack camping. Most of the park is declared wilderness, so group sizes and activities are restricted. Wildlife abounds at Boyd Crossing, where car based camping is available. A pleasant 10 minute walk from Kanangra Walls carpark takes you to a lookout over the park. The carpark toilets, lookout and Boyd River camping area are all wheelchair accessible. Visit Morong Falls to see granite rock waterfalls, and Dingo Dell camping area for basic bush camping (4WD).

**Access** 180 km west of Sydney near Jenolan Caves on Kanangra Road (unsealed but suitable for 2WD). Vehicle entry fee is \$7 per day.

**Oberon office: 6336 1972**

**Blue Mountains Heritage Centre: 4787 8877**





*Lane Cove, Ku-ring-gai, the Royal... Sydney's bustling suburbs stop where these natural treasures begin. Green spaces that let the city breathe.*



Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park rewards walkers with wonderful view

## METRO NORTH EAST REGION INFORMATION CENTRE

**Ku-ring-gai Chase Road, Bobbin Head, phone 9472 8949**

The centre in historic Bobbin Inn stocks books, maps, gifts, souvenirs, cards, posters and other products. Call or drop in for information on parks and reserves in northern Sydney. Open 7 days, 10 am to 4 pm (extended in peak times; closed Christmas Day).

Located between Mount Colah and Bobbin Head, Kalkari has information on Discovery activities and walks in the surrounding reserves. It offers videos, a 3D slide show and displays on a variety of themes. There's a wheelchair-accessible walking track where you can see a variety of wildlife. Open 7 days, 9 am to 5 pm (closed Christmas Day).

**Kalkari Discovery Centre: 9472 9300**

## 21 KU-RING-GAI CHASE NATIONAL PARK 14,928 HA



Camping fee level 4

**Highlights** Ku-ring-gai Chase offers a rich variety of things to see and do in a natural setting adjacent to Sydney's northern suburbs. West Head, in the park's north-east, has some of Sydney's best water views, while Bobbin Head, on the western side, is well known for its waterways, picnic areas and walking tracks. This park has now been placed on the National Heritage List.

**Activities** Walking tracks reveal rugged scenery, quiet beaches and a wealth of wildflowers and birdlife. There are several picnic areas, some providing gas and electric barbecues, no open fires permitted. Larger picnic shelters at Bobbin Head can be booked through the Sydney North Region Information Centre. You can see Aboriginal rock art on The Basin and Red Hand tracks. Chase Alive volunteers conduct guided walks (phone 9472 9300). Camping is permitted only at The Basin; camping fees apply, bookings essential (phone 9974 1011). Access is via water taxi or ferry from Palm Beach; landing fees apply. There are marinas with cafes at Bobbin Head and Akuna Bay, and boat ramps at Appletree Bay and

Akuna Bay. Historic Barrenjoey Lighthouse at Palm Beach offers stunning views of Broken Bay and the coast (access by uphill walking track; no toilets or drinking water at lighthouse site; for lighthouse tours phone 9472 9300).

The iconic Gibberagong Track at Bobbin Head features a diversity of bushland. Graded easy to moderate, the walk starts at the footbridge and boardwalk built in 1994 to celebrate the centenary of the area being declared a national park. You can watch birds, fish and crabs feeding on the mudflats and amongst the mangroves.

From the boardwalk follow the track up a small climb onto the ridge top and open woodland, where you are likely to spot a wallaby feeding or a waratah in full bloom. Along this rocky open section there's evidence of the park's extensive pre-European history. Two examples of the numerous Aboriginal art sites can be viewed here.

At the intersection with the Rainforest Track (1.5 km from the bridge) you may wish to wander back to Bobbin Head, take a short walk down to the rainforest or for the more energetic, continue up the Gibberagong Track for another 4 km as it follows Gibberagong Creek through tall Turpentine forests and heathlands. You'll eventually emerge at Grosvenor Street, Wahroonga.

Boat ramps at Apple Tree Bay and Akuna Bay offer gateways to the aquatic playgrounds of Cowan Creek and Pittwater

that have attracted people since the 1800s.

The rugged cliff lines and pristine waters make the area ideal for any water activity. Fishing can be outstanding with species including bream, kingfish, taylor, flathead, mudcrabs and enormous jewfish.

Waterskiing and jet skiing are popular activities, allowed in the main channels, or you can kayak through the many quieter bays and creeks.

There are free public moorings in many of the bays around Cowan Creek for use while you swim, cast a line or stay for the night.

For something more remote, the little known Brooklyn Dam is 3 km from the small township of Brooklyn, on the Great North Walk. Access is via Cowan Train Station (8 km) or William St, Brooklyn (3 km). It was originally built in the 1880s to supply water to steam trains heading to and from Sydney, now it's a wildlife haven, a picturesque spot ideal for a swim after the strenuous walk in. There are fire trails, accessible via the Brooklyn entrance, for mountain bikers and walkers.

**Access** 26 km north of the Sydney CBD. Access to the western side is from Bobbin Head Road via the Pacific Highway (from the south), or from Ku-ring-gai Chase Road via the F3 Freeway (from the north). Access to the eastern side (West Head) is via Mona Vale Road. Vehicle entry fee is \$11 per day.

**Metro North East Region Information Centre: 9472 8949**

## 22 LANE COVE

### NATIONAL PARK 670 HA



Camping fee level - special fees

**Highlights** The picturesque Lane Cove River winds through a peaceful bushland valley within easy reach of the city centre, extending from East Ryde to Thornleigh. The Great North Walk from the southern end of the park at East Ryde follows the Lane Cove Valley 17 km north to Thornleigh – a great day walk through varying vegetation communities and vistas. For a shorter 10 km loop walk, try combining the 5 km Riverside Walk from the Delhi Road or Lane Cove Road entrances of the park with 5 km of the Great North Walk on the opposite side of the river. Use De Burghs Bridge and the Lane Cove Weir to cross the river at each end.

The Lane Cove River Tourist Park offers comfortable cabins and campsites on the park's doorstep.

**Activities** Picnicking, boating and bike riding, walking through bushland and along river foreshores. The extensive fire trail network in the Pennant Hills section of the park is great for off-road bike riding, running and walking. Thirty five picnic sites are available most with wood, gas or electric barbecues and some with covered picnic shelters for all weather use (bookings required for large groups, phone 8448 0406). Cabins and camping facilities are available at the Lane Cove River Tourist Park, phone 9888 9133 or visit [www.lcrtp.com.au](http://www.lcrtp.com.au). Rowboats are for hire from the Boatshed on weekends and some school holidays (swimming not advisable). Environmental volunteer experiences for individuals, groups and businesses are available in the park. For those wishing to join the volunteer program call 9415 3998.

**Access** 10 km north-west of Sydney CBD. Enter from Lane Cove Road, Delhi Road or Lady Game Drive. Vehicle entry fee is \$7 per day. Various walking track and service trail entrances in Thornleigh, Pennant Hills, Epping and Ryde for walkers and cyclists. The 545 bus service operates regularly from Chatswood Station and the northern end of the park can be accessed using the closest train station at Thornleigh.

**Lane Cove office: 8448 0400**  
**Metro North East Region Information Centre: 9888 9133**

## 23 LEACOCK

### REGIONAL PARK 34 HA



**Highlights** A welcome area of open space in Sydney's south-west, with bushland views and extensive walking and cycling tracks. Dogs permitted on leash.

**Parramatta office: 9895 7420**

## 24 LONG REEF

### AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 60 HA



**Highlights** This unique rock platform is located on Sydney's Northern Beaches. It includes two main rocky shores and has a wide variety of habitats, including sheltered boulder fields and surf-exposed ledges. The diversity and abundance of marine invertebrates, and some species of plants found here are rarely seen anywhere else. A number of migratory birds visit the reserve. The reserve is of great educational importance and is regularly used by school groups, university students and marine researchers.

**Activities** 'The Cathedral' is a popular site for scuba diving. With the exception of fishing for fin fish (bring your own bait), for conservation reasons you cannot collect or disturb any other marine plant or animal, or collect cunjevoi, commonly used as bait, and all invertebrates (dead or alive), including anemones, barnacles, chitons, cockles, crabs, mussels, octopus, pipis, sea urchins, starfish, snails and worms, and empty shells. It is also prohibited to collect all types of baitweed. Recreational fishing competitions within the reserve require a permit.

**Access** Drive along Anzac Avenue, Collaroy, to its eastern end at Long Reef Golf Course. You can walk to the reserve from Long Reef Surf Club or along Collaroy Beach.

**Northern Beaches Office: 9451 3479**



Lane Cove National Park – an oasis in the suburbs of Sydney



Lane Cove River Tourist Park offers award-winning accommodation



The giant cuttlefish is often seen by Sydney divers

Photography: TOP: I. Brown / DECCW, BOTTOM LEFT: M. Van Ewijk / DECCW, BOTTOM RIGHT: D. Harasti / DECCW





Marramarra National Park offers tranquil spots for fishing and boating

## 25 MARRAMARRA NATIONAL PARK 11,786 HA



Camping fee level 1

**Highlights** A largely natural and undeveloped stretch of bushland overlooking the Hawkesbury River and Berowra Creek. The park features long ridgetop fire trails suitable for walking and cycling, views of the Hawkesbury and excellent examples of mangrove forest – Big Bay, Pumpkin Point and Gentlemans Halt – all on the north-western outskirts of Sydney.

**Activities** Walk the Canoelands Ridge Trail in the spring time to see the diversity of Hawkesbury sandstone, with wildflowers and bird life every step. Follow the 8 km fire trail to the end for a cliff top view over the Hawkesbury, or take the walking track just before the end for an additional 2 km hike down to Gentlemans Halt. Bush camping (minimal facilities) is available at Gentlemans Halt, and the area can also be accessed directly from the Hawkesbury River opposite Spencer.

Try the circuit loop from Bloodwood Road to Marramarra Creek via Marramarra Ridge, returning via Smugglers Ridge. Bush camping (minimal facilities) is available at Marramarra Creek, at the right time of year you may be fortunate enough to pick fresh oranges, a reminder of past orcharding and river communities. Marramarra Creek can

also be accessed by water from Berowra Creek. Paddle in to explore rare coastal saltmarsh and the magnificent mangroves of Big Bay.

**Access** 50 km north-west of Sydney. For walking tracks, enter via Bloodwood Rd, Arcadia or Canoelands Rd, Glenorie. Boat access is available from boat ramps at Berowra Waters, Brooklyn, Mooney Mooney or Spencer. Picnic and camping areas can only be accessed by foot or boat.

**Metro North East Region Information Centre: 9472 8949**

## 26 NARRABEEN HEAD AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 8 HA



**Highlights** The reserve includes the whole foreshore from the south end of Turimetta Beach to the rock baths at Narrabeen Head, and extends 100 m seaward from the mean low water mark. The reserve is regularly visited by school and university groups for educational purposes. The reserve offers line and spearfishing. Collection of conjevoi, commonly used as bait, and all invertebrates (dead or alive) is not allowed. Recreational fishing competitions within the reserve require a permit.

**Northern Beaches Office: 9451 3479**

## 27 NATTAI NATIONAL PARK 48,944 HA



Camping fee level 1

**Highlights** The Warragamba Dam catchment, within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, protects Sydney's water supply, and its wilderness bushland is ideal for experienced bushwalkers. Nattai National Park is within Dharawal Aboriginal Country.

**Activities** Minimum impact bushwalking and backpack camping are permitted, except in the 3 km zone around Lake Burragorang. Wilderness walks require a topographic map and compass, and all walkers need to be experienced and well-equipped. Phone for advice and further information on available walks, camping and the Nattai reserves.

**Access** 100 km south-west of Sydney, 30 km south-west of Camden off Wattle Ridge Road or Wombeyan Caves Road.

**Picton office: 4677 0859**

## 28 NORTH (SYDNEY) HARBOUR

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 260 HA



**Highlights** The boundaries of the reserve are formed by a line between the headlands at North Head and Grotto Point, and a line joining Little Manly Point, Manly Point, and Forty Baskets Beach. The inter-tidal rock pools provide homes for many invertebrates. Sheltered bays and inlets provide seagrass and algal habitats for seahorses and sea dragons. In summer, tropical fish are a common sight, carried from the Great Barrier Reef by the East Australian Current.

**Activities** Within the reserve you can enjoy recreational activities such as swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving. You can also line fish but only for fish that have fins. Note that the collection or disturbance of marine life or habitat is not allowed, including collecting shellfish, pumping for worms, spearfishing and collecting dead or empty shells.

Recreational fishing competitions within the reserve require a permit.

**Access** From the foreshore of North Sydney Harbour/Sydney Harbour National Park.

**Sydney Harbour Information Centre:**  
9247 5033

## 29 PARR

STATE CONSERVATION AREA 38,121 HA



Camping fee level 1

**Highlights** A rugged and little-known area of steep gorges, cliffs and rock outcrops.

**Activities** Join one of the Discovery walks, talks or tours (including 4WD tours) that are conducted throughout the park (phone 4320 4205 for details). Backpack camping is available at Heartbreak Hill, 18 km from the eastern end of the park.

**Access** 35 km north of Windsor via Putty Road at Colo Heights, 8 km west of Wisemans Ferry (take the Webbs Creek ferry at Wisemans Ferry).

**Gosford office: 4320 4200**

## 30 ROUSE HILL

REGIONAL PARK 43 HA



**Highlights** The landscape surrounding historic Rouse Hill House, built between 1813 and 1818, has been gradually transformed from paddock to parkland, retaining existing features such as Second Ponds Creek, farm dams and remnant woodland.

**Activities** Cycling and walking tracks wind through the park, with adventure play equipment for toddlers and teenagers. You can have a picnic or barbecue, and the two Iron Bark Ridge Pavilions can be hired for functions. You can walk your dog on a leash.

**Access** 45 km north-west of the Sydney CBD, 10 km north of Blacktown on Worcester Road off Windsor Road.

**Scheyville office: 4572 3100**



North Head, at the entrance to Sydney Harbour



Parr State Conservation Area supports a wide variety of plant life

Photography: TOP: H. Lund / Courtesy Tourism NSW, BOTTOM: J. Winter / DECCW





Clark Island, one of five islands that are part of Sydney Harbour National Park, can be accessed by private boat  
Photography: Courtesy Tourism NSW









### 31 ROYAL NATIONAL PARK 15,800 HA



Camping fee levels 2, 4

**Highlights** This historic national park – the first in Australia – has now been placed on the National Heritage List and is easily accessible from Sydney. You're welcome to join the many thousands of visitors who come each year, and who care so deeply for the park and what it represents. The Garawarra State Conservation Area borders the Royal National Park.

**Activities** Walk the coast for magnificent views, or experience the variety of habitats, including heath, rainforests, open woodlands and estuarine systems. Over 100 kilometres of walking tracks give access to the park.

The 26 km Coast Track has magnificent cliff-top views, or you can take the Forest Island loop walk through cool, rainforested valleys. The park's Wattamolla, Garie and Burning Palms are among the most beautiful beaches in Australia. Enjoy a picnic in one of many peaceful, shady areas or hire a rowboat at historic Audley and take a paddle up Kangaroo Creek.

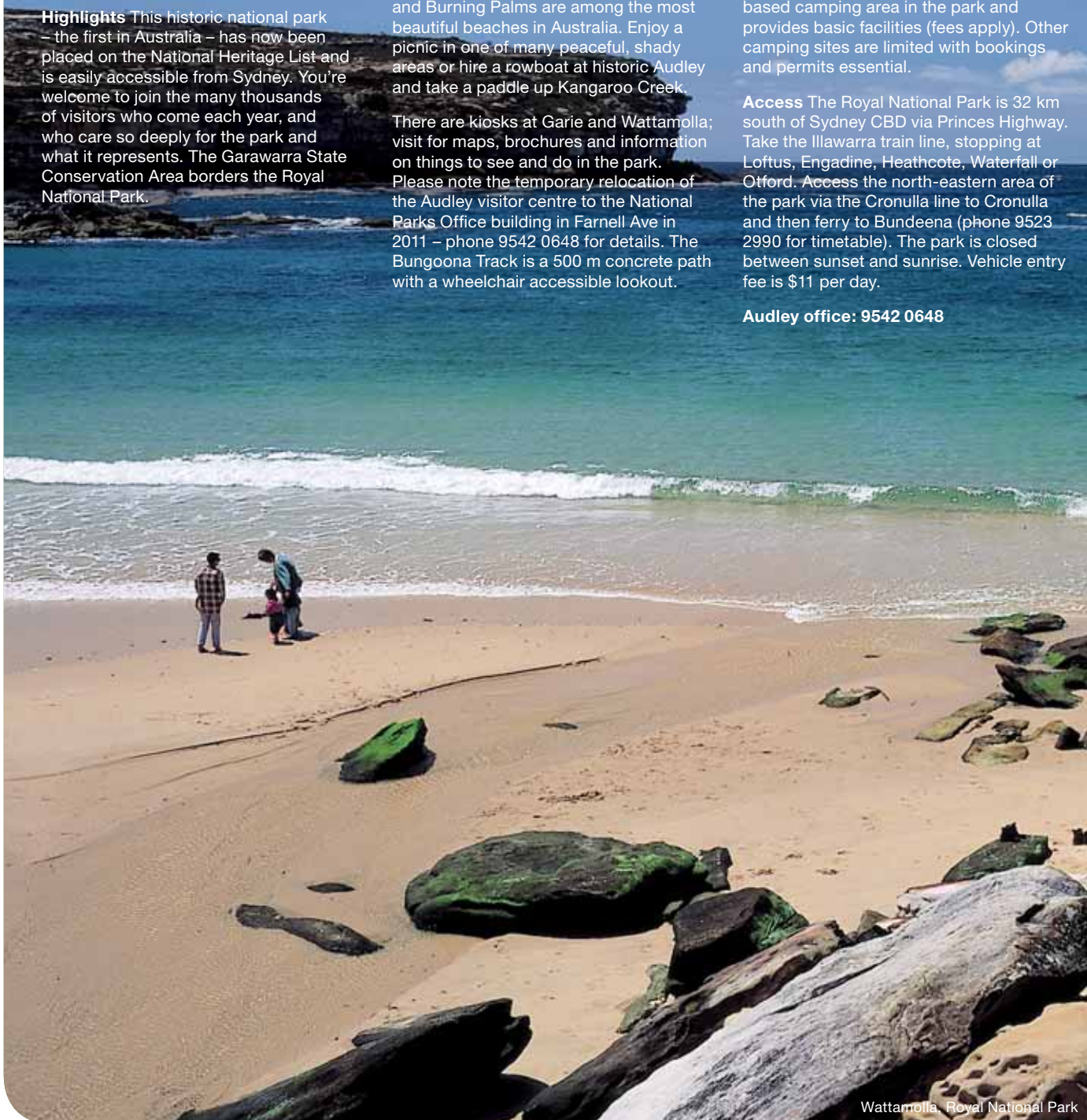
There are kiosks at Garie and Wattamolla; visit for maps, brochures and information on things to see and do in the park. Please note the temporary relocation of the Audley visitor centre to the National Parks Office building in Farnell Ave in 2011 – phone 9542 0648 for details. The Bungoona Track is a 500 m concrete path with a wheelchair accessible lookout.

The regular Discovery guided tours will help you to learn more about the national park. Join an Aboriginal Discovery ranger for an educational insight into the land – phone 9542 0649 for Discovery information and bookings.

Activities range from swimming to surfing, canoeing, beach fishing, bushwalking, bush camping and nature study. Bonnie Vale camping ground is the only car-based camping area in the park and provides basic facilities (fees apply). Other camping sites are limited with bookings and permits essential.

**Access** The Royal National Park is 32 km south of Sydney CBD via Princes Highway. Take the Illawarra train line, stopping at Loftus, Engadine, Heathcote, Waterfall or Otford. Access the north-eastern area of the park via the Cronulla line to Cronulla and then ferry to Bundeena (phone 9523 2990 for timetable). The park is closed between sunset and sunrise. Vehicle entry fee is \$11 per day.

**Audley office: 9542 0648**



Wattamolla, Royal National Park

## 32 SCHEYVILLE

### NATIONAL PARK 920 HA



**Highlights** Evidence of the area's rich history of European occupation can still be seen in the relics of agriculture, immigration and military training. The park also contains one of the largest remaining areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland, which once covered much of what is now western Sydney, but is now threatened mainly due to urban expansion.

**Activities** Walk the history trail and imagine what life was like in the years of the Casual Labour Farm, Agricultural Training Farm, migrant hostel or military occupation. The walking track around Longneck Lagoon provides excellent birdwatching. Picnic facilities and information are available at the Scheyville office.

**Access** 45 km north-west of Sydney, 6 km east of Windsor on Windsor Road via Boundary Road and Old Pitt Town Road (from Parramatta), or on Pitt Town Road and Saunders Road (from Windsor). Access gates on Scheyville Road and Old Pitt Town Road.

**Scheyville office: 4572 3100**

## 33 SHIPROCK

### AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 2 HA



The reserve was named after a prominent ship-like rock which forms the headland between Burraneer and Dolans Bay at Port Hacking. A combination of submarine cliffs, strong currents and oceanic waters provide a diverse environment inhabited by plants, invertebrates and fish. More than 130 species of fish have been recorded within the aquatic reserve. It is a popular scuba diving site.

**Kamay Botany Bay Visitor Centre:**  
**9668 2000**

## 34 SYDNEY HARBOUR

### NATIONAL PARK 393 HA



**Highlights** Sections of park scattered around Sydney Harbour offer views of the majestic harbour entrance, natural bushland, secluded sandy beaches, harbour islands and rugged sandstone cliffs – all with the contrast of cosmopolitan Sydney in the background.

The park boasts some fantastic fortifications including the 1801 Fort, the oldest surviving fort in Australia which dates back to the days of Governor King. This fort, located in Middle Head, complements a host of forts that spanned the period 1801 until the Vietnam war, when they were used to train soldiers to resist torture.

The park is home to a number of threatened species including endangered populations of little penguins and long-nosed bandicoots and endangered bent-wing bats and red-crowned toadlets.

Aboriginal repatriation sites, rock engravings, clothes optional beaches, fantastic kayaking experiences from North Head to Dobroyd taking in Reef Beach are all part of the Sydney Harbour National Park experience.

Why don't you roll your sleeves up and get dirty participating in one of our corporate days or volunteering activities? You could also be a penguin warden.

**Activities** Swim and picnic at Nielsen Park (shark-netted during summer), walk the Hermitage Foreshore Track, Manly Scenic Walkway or Harbour Bridge to Spit walk, taking in Bradleys and Middle heads, or visit North or South head for astonishing views. Take a tour of the harbour islands, such as historic Fort Denison (bookings essential). You can also enjoy a picnic on Shark, Clark and Rodd islands (landing fees apply). All island visits and all tours must be booked and paid for in advance. Swimming at Reef Beach is a must. Great dining opportunities

are also available in Sydney Harbour National Park, including Fort Denison, Nielson Park, Q Station and Athol Hall

**Access** The park has several access points around Sydney Harbour, most of which are accessible by car and public transport (phone 131 500 or visit [www.131500.com.au](http://www.131500.com.au)). For bookings, directions and further details phone or visit the Sydney Harbour National Park Information Centre. Vehicle entry fee applies at most locations.

**Sydney Harbour Information Centre:**  
**9247 5033**

## 35 THIRLMERE LAKES

### NATIONAL PARK 630 HA



**Highlights** This park is part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Its five reed-fringed freshwater lakes, abundant with waterbirds and surrounded by quiet patches of forest, are among the last undisturbed lake systems near Sydney and have enormous scientific value.

**Activities** Only low-impact activities, such as walking, swimming, canoeing and picnicking are encouraged. Camping is not permitted anywhere in the park, and to ensure the lakes remain undisturbed, power boats are prohibited.

**Access** 95 km south-west of Sydney, 35 km south-west of Camden off Remembrance Drive (unsealed). Open during daylight hours.

**Picton office: 4677 0859**



Historic Fort Denison in Sydney Harbour National Park is a fascinating place to explore



Beaches at Watsons Bay can be accessed through Sydney Harbour National Park

Photography: LEFT: K. McGrath / DECCW, RIGHT: M. Van Ewijk / DECCW





*A big city, a sparkling blue harbour and this beautiful, accessible natural bushland - where else in the world but Sydney?*



Sunrise at Dunns Swamp, Wollemi National Park

### 36 TOWRA POINT

AQUATIC RESERVE APPROX 1,400 HA

With the adjacent Towra Point Nature Reserve this aquatic reserve forms the Towra International Wetlands, the largest and most diverse estuarine wetland complex remaining in the Sydney region. Supports migratory wading birds, mangroves, saltmarsh, seagrass, tidal mudflats, and terrestrial vegetation communities. The three permitted access points are Woollooware Wader Lagoon, Quibray Bay bird platform and day use beach.

**Kamay Botany Bay Visitor Centre:**  
9668 2000

### 37 TURON

NATIONAL PARK 2,778 HA



Camping fee level 1

Dominated by Eucalypt forest, with tall Casuarina trees along the rivers and creeks. On the site of one of the state's major goldfields in an area rich in colonial and Aboriginal heritage. Good for birdwatching; species from the western plains mix with more familiar eastern varieties. Trout fishing (licence required). The secluded camping areas at The Diggings and Woolshed Flat require 4WD to access.

**Blue Mountains Heritage Centre: 4787 8877**

### 38 WILLIAM HOWE

REGIONAL PARK 43 HA



A valuable urban refuge for native vegetation, this park offers expansive views and picnic areas. Dogs permitted on leash.

**Parramatta office: 9895 7420**

### 39 WOLLEMI

NATIONAL PARK 501,698 HA



Camping fee levels 1, 2

**Highlights** This park, the largest wilderness area in NSW and part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, is a maze of canyons, cliffs and undisturbed forest. It's home to the Wollemi Pine, a tree whose nearest relative is a 60 million year old fossil!

**Activities** Descend to the Colo River on Bob Turners Track (4 km, 200 m descent, some steep sections) and enjoy the beaches in one of the state's longest and most scenic gorges. There are historic ruins at Newnes, across the Wolgan River from the camping area. The Glow Worm Tunnel is part of the old railway that serviced the area (access from Clarence on the Bells Line of Road). On the western side of the park, Dunns Swamp has easy walks and plenty of opportunities for swimming and canoeing. Car-based and small-caravan camping is available here, camping fees apply. Access is via unsealed roads. Contact Mudgee office for information. For Newnes and Coorongooba contact Blue Mountains Heritage Centre, and in the east at Wheeny Creek contact Richmond. Backpack camping is permitted throughout the park. Bookings and permits for camping are not required. Wollemi Wilderness is not easy to explore unaided; make sure you are well prepared and self reliant.

**Access** 100-250 km north-west of Sydney. Dunns Swamp is 25 km from Rylstone along Narrango Road; Newnes is 47 km north of Lithgow along Wolgan Road; access Coorongooba via Glen Davis, 35 km north of Capertee and Bob Turners Track starts off Putty Road 15 km north-west of Colo. All roads are unsealed.

**North-east: Bulga office: 6574 5555**  
**South-east: Richmond office: 4588 5247**  
**South-west: Blue Mountains Heritage Centre, Blackheath Visitor Centre: 4787 8877**  
**West: Mudgee office: 6372 7199**

### 40 YENGO

NATIONAL PARK 153,115 HA



Camping fee levels 2, 3, 4

**Highlights** A wild area of steep gorges and part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Mt Yengo is of cultural significance to the Wiradjuri, Wanaruah and Darkinjung Aboriginal people, and historic convict transport routes run within and adjacent to the park.

**Activities** Take a guided or self-guided walk along the Old Great North Road from Wisemans Ferry in the south-east. Drive from Wisemans Ferry to St Albans then north along Mogo Creek to Bucketty, the Hunter Valley or return to Sydney via Peats Ridge. Those with a 4WD vehicle can explore the Howes, Yango and Finchley trails, which can be accessed from Wollombi Road near Laguna or the Putty Road near Howes Valley (dry weather access only). There are great views from Finchley Lookout. Discovery walks, talks and tours are available throughout the year. Picnicking and car-based camping are available at Finchley and Mogo camping areas (toilets). Big Yango provides homestead accommodation, remote car-based camping (toilets) and scenic 4WD opportunities near the base of Mt Yengo (entry by permit, phone 4320 4203). There are many opportunities for backpack camping throughout the park.

**Access** 80-180 km north-west of Sydney. Finchley camping area is 12 km west of Laguna along the Finchley Track via Yango Creek Road (unsealed). Mogo camping area is 25 km north-west of St Albans on the unsealed Wollombi (Mogo Creek) Road. Big Yango is 35 km west of Laguna along the Yango Track and 20 km east of Howes Valley along the Howes Trail (unsealed).

**North: Bulga office: 6574 5555**  
**South: Gosford office: 4320 4200**

## HIGHLIGHTS

### LAPEROUSE MUSEUM

This attraction tells the story of Jean François de Galaup, comte de La Pérouse, who arrived at Port Botany very soon after Captain Cook.

The museum contains many hundreds of items relating to his expedition including the Atlas of the Voyage of La Perouse, comprising 72 coloured drawings and maps of places the expedition visited between 1785 and 1788.

Other exhibitions feature Aboriginal, environmental and local historical records. Its picturesque location within Kamay Botany Bay affords spectacular views of the bay and the landscape of Port Botany.

The museum is a feature of the Meeting Place Precinct, a key visitor precinct within a park that is highly culturally significant for Indigenous and European communities.

### VISITOR CENTRE - KAMAY BOTANY BAY NATIONAL PARK

The visitor centre features an art exhibition showcasing the beauty and the history of Botany Bay. View the film "Kamay Botany Bay" in the theatre to learn what really happened when Aboriginal people watched the Endeavour, captained by James Cook, entered the bay in 1770. There is a collection of books on Aboriginal culture, maritime exploration and early settlement, together with a retail area, a cafe, a museum and an Environmental Education Centre for school groups. During June and July, the Kamay visitor centre is the starting point for the Cape Solander Whale Watching experience.

For more information phone 9668 2000

### DISCOVER THE ISLANDS OF SYDNEY HARBOUR

Sydney Harbour National Park comprises Shark Island, Clark Island, Goat Island, Rodd Island and Fort Denison.

Fort Denison has a fascinating place in Sydney's convict past. Regular tours are offered, along with morning tea or lunch at the restaurant. Shark Island is perfect for a picnic with a large grassy area and shady trees. Clark and Rodd islands have good picnic facilities but outside special events

you'll need your own water transport. Group tours can be arranged to Goat Island.

Contact the **Cadmans Cottage Information Centre on 9247 5033** to see what island tours are currently available.

### GREATER BLUE MOUNTAINS DRIVE

The World Heritage listed Greater Blue Mountains offer plenty of opportunities for exploring – and now, the Greater Blue Mountains Drive makes it so easy, with all the planning done for you.

The Blue Mountains truly is one of Australia's great tourism experiences, linking Sydney with its World Heritage backyard, and the delights beyond. The drive features 18 unique Discovery Trails branching off the core loop. So, you can base yourself in a local town and head out to explore the backroads, into the mountains and valleys, the national parks and regional attractions.

You can relax with gentle walks, picnics, bicycle rides, or just go sightseeing. There's always the option of exploring further into the parks on foot; this unique environment that has existed for so long, and that will be there for all who come.

Take your time exploring this land of diversity and contrast – an awesome natural attraction that's right on Sydney's doorstep.

For more information visit [www.greaterbluemountainsdrive.com.au](http://www.greaterbluemountainsdrive.com.au)

### BLUE MOUNTAINS HERITAGE CENTRE AND NATIONAL PARKS SHOP

End of Govetts Leap Road, Blackheath

Providing information on the Blue Mountains National Park and surrounding areas, an interactive educational display, screenings and a gallery. It's a place to buy maps and walking track guides, and books covering the Blue Mountains, Aboriginal heritage and Australian flora and fauna, plus Australian made souvenirs. Open 7 days, 9am to 4:30pm.

Discovery activities are organised throughout the year, mainly during school holidays and weekends.

Phone 4787 8877

## GREAT PLACES TO STAY

### STEELE POINT COTTAGE, GREEN POINT COTTAGE AND CONSTABLES COTTAGE

Sydney Harbour. A blaze of blue water, elegant watercraft gliding by, mansions by the waterfront – you can be part of it,



relaxing in the heritage Constables and Green Point Cottages at Watsons Bay, only metres from Camp Cove beach and Sydney Harbour National Park. Or there's the romantic getaway, Steele Point Cottage, at Nielsen Park.

From Constables and Green Point, walk around the harbour and Gap Bluff, soaking up the history and harbour views. Nielsen Park and Bondi Beach are only a 10-minute drive away. Sydney CBD is just 20 minutes by car, with Watsons Bay Hotel, Doyles Restaurant and the Gap Bluff conference and function centre nearby.

Steele Point Cottage is a charming and intimate romantic getaway, and also gives you the opportunity to stay in a place surrounded by some of the last original native vegetation to be found south of Sydney Harbour. Perched on the edge of a sandstone cliff in Nielsen Park, this historic cottage was built in 1880 as a gunners' barracks, part of the elaborate system of harbour defences. The cottage has been beautifully restored, and is now available for romantic escapes – with just one bedroom, it is the ideal couple's hideaway.

For more information and bookings contact Gap Bluff Centre, phone 9337 2333.

### WEEMALAH COTTAGE

Located on the shores of the Hacking River within the Royal National Park, this three-bedroom cottage offers picturesque views from the deck, surrounded by nature. There is easy water access with plenty of fishing spots, and you can also enjoy bushwalking and birdwatching.

This western cedar cottage was originally built for ranger use, but is now available for rental. It's a great place to get back to basics without really having to rough it – there's the convenience of a television and barbecue, and a hot shower at the end of the day's activities.

Contact Royal National Park, phone 9542 0648



Spectacular views from Pulpit Rock, Blue Mountains National Park