




### Overview

A challenging walk, Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walking track offers scenic coastal views and birdwatching in Murramarang National Park.

Where	<a href="#">Murramarang National Park</a>
Distance	10km return
Time suggested	3 - 5hrs
Grade	 <a href="#">Grade 4</a>
Price	Free
Entry fees	Park entry fees apply
What to bring	Hat, sunscreen, drinking water
Please note	Remember to take your binoculars if you want to birdwatch or whale watch.

If the scenic coastal views don't take your breath away, the steep climb to the top of the mountain will. Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walking track highlights the beautiful coastal forests of Murramarang National Park, near [Pretty Beach campground](#).

Following the track from the campground, make your way past the lazing kangaroos. The path climbs steadily through coachwood and unique coastal rainforest. At the top of Durras Mountain, you'll be rewarded with coastal and scenic mountain views. You're likely to hear eastern whipbirds and wonga pigeons any time of year.

From the mountain top, retrace your steps, or if you've still got energy to burn, continue on the longer walk to [Pebbly Beach picnic area](#). If you're smitten with this beautiful region, be sure to check out the cosy [cabins](#) available at Pretty Beach.


### Local alerts

For the latest updates on fires, closures and other alerts in this area, see

<http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/walking-tracks/pretty-beach-to-durras-mountain-walking-track/local-alerts>

## Park info


 in [Murramarang National Park](#) in the [South Coast](#) region


 Murramarang National Park is always open but may have to close at times due to poor weather or fire danger.


### Park entry fees:


\$8 per vehicle per day. The park has coin-operated pay and display machines - please bring correct coins.


Buy an annual pass (<http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/visit-a-park/parks/Murramarang-National-Park/visitor-info#Fees-and-passes>).

 Ulladulla  
(02) 4454 9500  
Contact hours: 9am-4pm Monday to Friday  
Blackburn Industrial Estate, Lot 9 Collier Road, Ulladulla NSW  
Fax: (02) 4455 1850

 Depot Beach  
(02) 4478 6582  
1 Depot Beach Road, Depot Beach NSW  
Email: [depot.beach@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:depot.beach@environment.nsw.gov.au)

 Pebbly Beach  
(02) 4478 6582

 Pretty Beach  
(02) 4457 2019

 Nowra  
(02) 4423 2170  
Contact hours: 8.30am-4.30pm Monday to Friday  
55 Graham Street, Nowra NSW  
Fax: (02) 4422 7041

## Visitor info

All the practical information you need to know about Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walking track.

## Track grading

 **Grade 4** [Learn more about the grading system](#)

Features of this track

Time	Quality of markings	Gradient
3 - 5hrs	Sign posted	Very steep

Distance	Steps	Quality of path	Experience required
10km return	Occasional steps	Rough track, many obstacles	Some bushwalking experience recommended

## Getting there and parking

Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walking track is in the northern precinct of Murramarang National Park. To get there:

- Turn off of Princes Highway at Termeil
- Take the Bawley Point/Kioloa turn-off
- Drive past Kioloa and follow the signs to Pretty Beach

### Park entry points

- Pretty Beach carpark

### Parking

Parking is available at Pretty Beach picnic area.

## Best times to visit

There are lots of great things waiting for you in Murramarang National Park. Here are some of the highlights.

### Spring

Spring is a great time to dust off your hiking boots and take to the park's tracks. Try the Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walk for spectacular views of the coast and ranges.

### Summer

There's no better time to head down the coast and catch some sunshine. With crystal clear waters for swimming and snorkelling, a beach camping trip is the ideal way to enjoy the Aussie summer.

### Winter

Birdwatching opportunities abound at this time of year, see if you can catch the courting displays of lyrebirds in the park's rainforest areas.

## Weather, temperature and rainfall

### Summer temperature

Average	Highest recorded
16°C and 25°C	43.3°C

### Winter temperature

Average	Lowest recorded
7°C and 16°C	0°C

### Rainfall

Wettest month	Driest month	The area's highest recorded rainfall in one day
March	August	275.3mm

## Facilities

Toilets and picnic facilities are located at Pretty Beach and Pebbly Beach picnic areas.

## Maps and downloads



Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walking track factsheet

## Safety messages



### Beach safety

Beaches in this park are not patrolled, and can sometimes have strong rips and currents. These [beach safety tips](#) will help you and your family stay safe in the water.



### Bushwalking safety

If you're keen to head out on a longer walk or a backpack camp, always be prepared. Read these [bushwalking safety tips](#) before you set off on a walking adventure in national parks.



### Mobile safety

Dial Triple Zero (000) in an emergency. Download the [Emergency +](#) app before you visit, it helps emergency services locate you using your smartphone's GPS. Please note there is limited mobile phone reception in this park and you'll need mobile reception to call Triple Zero (000).

## Prohibited



### Fishing

Fishing is not permitted in the Murramarang Coast Special Purpose Zone within Batemans Marine Park. Visit the [Batemans Marine Park](#) webpage for information.



### Pets

Pets and domestic animals (other than certified assistance animals) are not permitted. Find out which [regional parks allow dog walking](#) and see the [OEH pets in parks policy](#) for more information.



### Smoking

NSW national parks are [no smoking areas](#).

## Learn more

Pretty Beach to Durras Mountain walking track is in Murramarang National Park. Here are just some of the reasons why this park is special:

## Bird watching



Birdwatchers are in for a treat; the park boasts more than 90 species of birdlife including three owl species, peregrine falcons, sea eagles, gannets, shearwaters, white-faced storm petrels, sooty oystercatchers, eastern yellow robins, satin bowerbirds, the rufous fantail and even a penguin colony. Look for the sea eagles and peregrine falcons soaring above the park's cliffs and headlands and the rufous fantails and eastern yellow robins in rainforest gullies around Durras Mountain. You're most likely to see sooty oystercatchers wading around the edges of lake areas.

## Native animals



There's an abundance of wildlife living in Murramarang National Park, but by far one of the highlights is seeing eastern grey kangaroos that spend their days dozing near the beaches and by campgrounds until dusk when they gather to feed. In the moist forests of the park you might see lyrebirds fossicking in leaf litter. Look for the stately, strutting wonga pigeon with its pastel blue-grey back feathers and black dotted stomach. If you don't see it, you may well hear its repetitive, deep 'whoop, whoop' call that carries through the forest.



**Burrawang walking track** Burrawang walking track, across Depot Beach Headland, features scenic coastal views, forests and birdwatching in Murramarang National Park, near Batemans Bay.



**Richmond Beach** Richmond Beach is one of Murramarang's hidden treasures. Just 50m from the carpark on an easy walking track you can enjoy picnicking, swimming, snorkelling, fishing and paddling.



**WilderQuest RAD day: Coastal** Do you enjoy caring for the environment and animals? These school holidays, experience the WilderQuest fun and find out what it's like to be an NPWS ranger.

## Native vegetation



One of the really special things in Murramarang is the forest of majestic spotted gums; it's one of the biggest continuous stands in NSW. With an understorey of burrawang palms, the forest stretches right down to the ocean and is truly a sight to see. You'll easily recognise the spotted gums – they have a



smooth, dimpled bark which is shed in summer to produce a mottled cream and grey 'spotted' appearance.



**Dark Beach walking track** Dark Beach walking track leads to a secluded beach with unique rock formations in Murramarang National Park. Ideal for fishing, swimming and snorkelling.



**Depot Beach Rainforest walk** Depot Beach marks the start and end of this easy walk through lush littoral rainforest. Go for a swim, surf, snorkel or paddle in the clear waters when you return.



**Rock Platform walk - Depot Beach** Rock Platform walk near Depot Beach is a short walk to fascinating rockpools offering excellent birdwatching and scenic ocean views of the South Coast, just north of Batemans Bay.



**WilderQuest RAD day: Coastal** Do you enjoy caring for the environment and animals? These school holidays, experience the WilderQuest fun and find out what it's like to be an NPWS ranger.

## Rich Aboriginal cultural heritage



Aboriginal people have a long connection with the Country of Murramarang National Park, and this continues to the present day. The south coast headlands have long been a focus for economic life, giving easy access to the food resources of both the sea and the land, and plants within the park provided medicines and shelter. There is much evidence of the past today, including shell middens, tool manufacturing sites and indications of a specialised industry producing bone points and fishing hooks. Take a walk around Murramarang Aboriginal Area, near Bawley Point - there's a complex of middens that are of great cultural value.



**Then and now: Aboriginal culture** This school excursion in Murramarang National Park focuses on HSIE. It gives students the opportunity to experience Aboriginal culture with Aboriginal Discovery rangers, and to develop an understanding of the importance of protecting and respecting culture.



**Then and now: Aboriginal culture** Then and now: Aboriginal culture is a school excursion in Murramarang National Park for Stage 4 (Years 7-8) students focusing on history. This excursion gives students the opportunity to experience Aboriginal culture with Aboriginal Discovery rangers, and to develop an understanding of the importance of protecting and respecting culture.



**Then and now: Aboriginal culture** This school excursion for Stage 1 (Years 1-2) students in Murramarang National Park focuses on HSIE. It gives students the opportunity to experience Aboriginal culture with Aboriginal Discovery rangers, and to develop an understanding of the importance of protecting and respecting culture.



**Wasp Head walk** This short walk leads to a spectacular view of Wasp Island and passes through historic Aboriginal sites of the area.

## Plants and animals you may see

### Animals



#### **Satin bowerbird** (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*)

With vibrant blue-violet eyes and curious antics, the satin bowerbird is a favourite for bird watching and easy to spot as it forages for food in open forest. Relatively common across eastern Australia, in NSW they're found in coastal rainforests and adjacent woodlands and mountain ranges.

### Plants



#### **Blueberry ash** (*Elaeocarpus reticulatus*)

The blueberry ash is a rainforest shrub which produces blue olive-shaped berries and spectacular bell-shaped flowers, which often appear on the plant together. It is a tall slender shrub or small tree found in rainforest, tall eucalypt forest and coastal bushland in eastern NSW, south-east Queensland and Victoria.



#### **Black sheoak** (*Allocasuarina littoralis*)

The black sheoak is one of a number of casuarina species found across the east coast of Australia and nearby tablelands. Growing to a height of 5-15m, these hardy Australian native plants can survive in poor or sandy soils. The barrel-shaped cone of the black sheoak grows to 10-30mm long.



#### **Cabbage palm** (*Livistona australis*)

With glossy green leaves spanning 3-4m in length and a trunk reaching a height of up to 30m, the cabbage tree palm, or fan palm, is one of the tallest Australian native plants. Thriving in rainforest margins along the east coast of NSW, in summer this giant palm produces striking spikes of cream flowers which resemble cabbages.



#### **Wonga wonga vine** (*Pandorea pandorana*)

The wonga wonga vine is a widespread vigorous climber usually found along eastern Australia. A variation of the plant occurs in the central desert, where it resembles a sprawling shrub. One of the more common Australian native plants, the wonga wonga vine produces bell-shaped white or yellow flowers in the spring, followed by a large oblong-shaped seed pod.

## Environments in this park



Coastal environments



Eucalypt forest environments

## Education resources (1)



What is a national park?, Stage 2 (Years 3-4), HSIE

## School excursions (3)



Then and now: Aboriginal culture, Stage 2 (Years 3-4), HSIE



Then and now: Aboriginal culture, Stage 4 (Years 7-8), History



Then and now: Aboriginal culture, Stage 1 (Years 1-2), HSIE