

Wilson's Promontory National Park

Overnight Hikes – Southern Circuit



The Southern Circuit weaves from the slopes of Mount Oberon to the park's eastern shores and the southern-most point of Australia's mainland. It passes through diverse plant communities and spectacular coastlines. Hikers can spend anywhere between two and seven days exploring this part of the park.



Getting there

Wilson's Promontory National Park is open every day, including weekends and public holidays. Please check the website for any changed park conditions before visiting at parks.vic.gov.au.

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

Shuttle bus

During the summer ballot and on weekends from Melbourne Cup to Easter long weekend, a free shuttle bus takes visitors to Telegraph Saddle from Tidal River and the Overnight Hikers car park. Telegraph Saddle car park is closed to all other vehicles during these times.

Bookings and permits

Advance booking is required for camping and accommodation.

Overnight hikers must obtain a permit at Tidal River Visitor Centre before commencing their walk and carry it with them at all times. Please ensure that you have an emergency contact who has been notified of your trip itinerary.

A maximum of two consecutive nights at each of the camp areas and the Lightstation is permitted. The maximum group size is 12.

The Lightstation offers self-catering accommodation. Refer to *Wilson's Promontory Accommodation & Camping Visitor Guide*. Camping is not allowed at the Lightstation.

Boat users require a permit to camp at Refuge Cove overnight. Go to parks.vic.gov.au/stay or call 13 1963 to book.

When hiking the Southern Circuit

- Wear sturdy walking shoes and be equipped for all weather conditions. Know basic first aid and carry a first aid kit.
- Carry sufficient drinking water and know how to treat water safe for drinking. Untreated creek or tank water is available at some campsites on the Southern Circuit. Supply is not guaranteed.
- Store all food securely and carry out all rubbish, including food scraps.
- Walk completion times may vary significantly depending on weather, fitness and experience.
- Southern Hikes are graded Level 4 under the Australian Walking Track Grading system, based on the most difficult sections.
- Check tide times to avoid deep water crossings at creeks at Sealers Cove and Oberon Bay.

Be prepared and stay safe

Health

We recommend all visitors have Ambulance Services membership or insurance covering the cost of ambulance transport. Park visitors are responsible for their own hygiene. Please bring your own hand sanitiser and soap.

Fire

Wilson's Promontory National Park is in the West and South Gippsland 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. To check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban visit emergency.vic.gov.au, the VicEmergency smartphone app or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

On **Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating** days, the park will be closed for public safety. Do not enter the park. If you are already in the park, leave the night before or as early as possible in the morning. Check the latest conditions at parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963.

For further information refer to the *Wilson's Promontory National Park Catastrophic Fire Danger Closure fact sheet*.

Fires (including campfires and solid fuel BBQs) are not permitted in Wilson's Promontory National Park at any time. On days of Total Fire Ban, liquid fuel and gas camp stoves are also not permitted, though built-in gas cookers in caravans and built accommodation may be used.

In an emergency

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.

For park related emergencies only (fire, accident/ injury, injured wildlife, significant campground disturbance or critical maintenance issues), visitors can contact the Tidal River Duty Officer (24 hours) on **1300 247 594** or from the blue emergency phone located at the front entrance of the Visitor Centre in Tidal River.

Mobile phone reception is unreliable in the park. Public phones are located outside Tidal River General Store.

You may be notified of an emergency by Police or Parks Victoria staff. If immediately accessible, collect sunscreen, water, suitable clothing and a torch. Calmly make your way to the nearest Emergency Assembly Area marked on the map. Wait at the Assembly Area for further instructions from Parks Victoria staff or Police.

Help us look after this magnificent park

- All plants, animals, other natural features and cultural sites are protected by law and must not be disturbed or removed.
- Stay on walking tracks to avoid getting lost or spreading Cinnamon Fungus. This waterborn disease kills native flora and can be carried to new areas on the soles of your shoes.
- Fishing and taking shellfish or crustaceans is not permitted from the shore or waters within Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park. Bait collection is not allowed anywhere in the park.
- Feeding wildlife is bad for their health. It is an offence to feed or leave food where it is accessible to wildlife. Penalties apply.

Parks Victoria

Phone 13 1963
www.parks.vic.gov.au

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Southern Overnight Hikes

Wilson's Promontory National Park experienced widespread damage due to several flood and storm events in 2021. This significantly damaged many tracks including the Sealers Cove Boardwalk. Due to the extent of the damage, and complexity of the work required, Sealers Cove Walking Track will be closed until 2024. Access to Sealers Cove is still achievable via Refuge Cove. You can access more information about Storm Recovery at the Parks Victoria website: www.parks.vic.gov.au



Parking	Camping	Wilson's Promontory National Park
Information	Trailer camping	Marine National Park
Toilets	Cabins	Marine Park and Coastal Reserve
Walking track	Picnic area	Sealed road
Lookout	Lighthouse	Unsealed road
	Emergency assembly area	Walking track
	No fishing	Distance marker
	No spearfishing	
	No shell/crab collecting	

0 2 4 6 8 Kilometres

www.parks.vic.gov.au
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