

## **SURF COAST WALKING TRACKS**

Spectacular coastlines, dense bushland, forests, waterfalls, rural farming areas and native heathlands. The beautiful and diverse Surf Coast Shire has it all and what better way to experience it than on foot!! Breathe in the fresh salty air, get back to nature and see the area from a different perspective.

### **SURF COAST WALK**

Follow the scenic marked trail that stretches over 30km, weaving its way along cliff tops, beaches and coastal bushland tracks between Jan Juc and Moggs Creek.

With numerous access points allowing walkers to choose their distance, anyone from beginners to the experienced trekker, can enjoy the beautiful trail.

For more information regarding the Surf Coast Walk, pick up a detailed brochure from the Surf Coast Shire offices.

### **GREAT OTWAY NATIONAL PARK - ANGAHOOK / LORNE SECTION**

The Great Otway National Park now incorporates the former Otway National Park and Angahook-Lorne, Carlisle and Melba Gully State Parks, as well as areas of State forest and other Crown land. The national park covers 103,000 hectares, an increase in park area of more than 60,000 hectares.

Stretching over 22,000ha, the Angahook - Lorne section has over 100km of walking tracks that cover a diverse landscape that includes fern gullies, waterfalls, heathlands and dramatic coastline with tall cliffs, coves and sandy beaches.

Choose your distance, from a short day trip to one of the many picnic areas or coastal lookouts or take a longer track and camp overnight in one of the bush camping grounds located along five different trails.

The park is rich in fauna, home to over 170 bird species, 32 mammal species, 9 species of freshwater fish and 12 reptile species. The park is also home to 18 threatened species such as the Spot Tailed Quoll, Hooded Plover and Rufous Bristle Bird.

Blue Gum, Mountain Ash, Messmate and Mountain Gum primarily inhabit the area, however, the park is also home to some of the most diverse vegetation in Australia including 46 species of orchids and 23 threatened plant species.

For more information on the Angahook Lorne section of the Great Otway National Park, visit the Parks Victoria at [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

### **CUMBERLAND RIVER - CASTLE ROCK - SHEOAK FALLS**

**Distance:** 11km (4 - 5 hours)

**Start / Finish:** Cumberland River Holiday Park, located along the Great Ocean Road, 5.5km along the Apollo Bay side of Lorne

#### **Tips:**

- This trail is of a medium difficulty, with several river crossings and rock hopping required
- Do not attempt this walk when water levels are high
- Walkers require previous experience

## ERSKINE FALLS WALK

**Distance:** 7km one way (2.5 - 3 hours)

**Start:** This walk begins in the Kia Ora Caravan Park, located west of the bridge over Erskine River as you enter Lorne

**Finish:** Walkers have the option of retracing their steps (5 - 6 hours return trip) or park a car in the Erskine Falls car park

### Tips:

- This trail is of an easy to medium difficulty
- This walk should only be attempted on a low tide with calm seas, as sections along the beach have high and unstable cliffs and there is no easy escape from the beach
- It is strongly advised to carrying drinking water
- This trail includes a section of the Koori Culture Walk, which has a number of signs providing information on Aboriginal cultural practises, food, plants and animals

For more information on walking tracks within the Surf Coast Shire and surrounding areas, pick up a copy of Walking in the Otways, a detailed guide to walking tracks produced by the Geelong Bushwalking Club and available from the Torquay Visitor Information Centre \$24.95 or visit Parks Victoria at [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au).



## PT ADDIS / IRON BARK BASIN WALK

**Distance:** 10km (4 – 5 hours including breaks)

**Start / Finish:** Take the Great Ocean Road past the Bells Beach turn off and turn left into Pt Addis. Follow road for about 500m and turn left into Ironbark Basin.

### Tips:

- This trail is of an easy to medium difficulty
- This walk should only be attempted on a low tide with calm seas, as sections along the beach have high and unstable cliffs and there is no easy escape from the beach
- It is strongly advised to carry drinking water
- This trail includes a section of the Koori Culture Walk, which has a number of signs providing information on Aboriginal cultural practises, food, plants and animals.

For more information walking tracks within the Surf Coast Shire and surrounding areas, pick up a copy of “Walking in the Otways”, a detailed guide to walking tracks produced by the Geelong Bushwalking Club and available from the Torquay Visitor Information Centre. \$24.95 or visit Parks Victoria at [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

## SURF COAST WALK STAGE 1 - JAN JUC TO BELLS BEACH

**Distance:** 4km (1hour)

**Start:** This trail begins at the Jan Juc beach car park. The three tiered car park can be reached by proceeding through Torquay towards Anglesea on the Great Ocean Road and turning left into Hoylake Avenue (past the Torquay Golf Club). Turn left at the roundabout into Caravan Avenue and proceed to the western end (top) of the car park.

**Details:** Follow a spectacular cliff top track that overlooks Jan Juc surf beach, a great way to start your trek with beautiful views and fresh salty air. As the track continues through rough coastal hinterland, head towards a white wave marker, the entrance to Bells Beach Reserve.



## SURF COAST WALK STAGE 2 - BELLS BEACH TO POINT ADDIS

**Distance:** 5km (1 3/4hours)

**Start:** The Bells Beach car park, which can be reached from the Great Ocean Road by proceeding down either Jarosite or Bones Road. Follow the access track from the car park to the beach.

**Details:** This section of the trail passes through the old Jarosite Well, a historical landmark of the area. As the track climbs south, stunning views can be had across Point Addis, down into the Ironbark Basin and across to the Jarosite Headland.



## SURF COAST WALK STAGE 3 – POINT ADDIS TO ANGLESEA

**Distance:** 7km (2 hours)

**Start:** Point Addis can be reached by turning off the Great Ocean Road, into Point Addis Road. Follow the road past the Ironbark Basin car park.

**Details:** The track now leaves the beach and heads inland, through a small section of cleared land and up into thick bushland. Beautiful views along either direction of the coast can be seen from the cliff tops, however some steep tracks can be quite a challenge.



## **SURF COAST WALK STAGE 4 – ANGLESEA TO AIREYS INLET (BOUNDARY ROAD)**

**Distance:** 10km (3 hours)

**Start:** The walking track can be picked up here up entering the parking area immediately after you cross the Anglesea River along the Great Ocean Road coming from Geelong.

**Details:** The beginning of this track follow the river, crossing waterways and swampy areas on boardwalks and bridges. It is well worth exploring this interesting area before continuing along the marked trail. Further along, the track wanders through bushland and above a golf course, where kangaroos are often seen grazing on the fairways. A steep descent into Hutt Gully and ascent up the other side could be quite a challenge for elderly walkers.

From here there are several ways to finish the walk:

Aireys Inlet (Boundary Road) to Distillery Creek Picnic Area

Aireys Inlet (Boundary Road) to Moggs Creek Picnic Area



## **SURF COAST WALK STAGE 5A – AIREYS INLET (BOUNDARY ROAD) TO DISTILLERY CREEK PICNIC AREA**

**Distance:** 2km (30 mins)

**Start:** Boundary Road crosses the Great Ocean Road on the northern limits of Aireys Inlet.

**Details:** Follow Boundary Road west up over the hill and steeply down to the sealed road. Turn right, to the end of sealed road and follow the signs to the Distillery Creek Picnic Area. From here, walks can be done through the Angahook Lorne State Forest Park. This is definitely a highlight of the area, with a diverse range of flora and fauna and over 100km of walking tracks

## **SURF COAST WALK STAGE 5B – AIREYS INLET (BOUNDARY ROAD) TO MOGGS CREEK PICNIC AREA**

**Distance:** 9km (3 hours)

**Start:** Boundary Road crosses the Great Ocean Road on the northern limits of Aireys Inlet.

**Details:** Follow Boundary Road east (left) towards the coast. Cross the Great Ocean Road and continue to the cliff tops. Turn south and pick up the Cliff Walk, a track that makes its way towards the lighthouse. Around the lighthouse and past the historical early settler's gravestone, you will reach a car park.

From here a marked trail can be picked up from the ocean side that winds down the mount of the Painkalac Creek, where a picnic area and toilets are located. The creek mouth is usually blocked by sandbar, however, if the creek is running (and not too violently) cross at the most negotiable point then follow the beach westwards towards Fairhaven.



*From here there are two options:*

### **Ridge Road Option**

Follow the beach towards Fairhaven for about 1 1/2km until you reach the Fairhaven Surf Life Saving Club. From here, turn onto a sealed track next to the Emergency Beach Marker sign (107w). Cross the Great Ocean Road and turn into Yarringa Road. Follow this through Fairhaven for about 250 metres, then turn right into Lialeeta Road. Follow for about 100 metres and turn left into a 'no through road'.

As you emerge through the bushland and onto an open ridge, then right and follow the track across the heathlands to top of the hill and experience breathtaking views. Turn right and descent to the Old Coach Road to meet the Gentle Anne Track. Turn left at the T intersection and downhill, towards the Moggs Creek Picnic Area access road.

### **Eastern View Option**

Stay along the Beach, past the Fairhaven Surf Life Saving Club. Leave the beach at the second beach access track. Cross the Great Ocean Road and follow a well hidden track (straight ahead), through low lying scrub, halfway up the steps and off to the left. Follow this track which winds up the hill to a look out. Then pick up the 'Moggs Creek Picnic Ground' track, which takes around 30 minutes to reach.

For more information about the attractions of our spectacular region, visit the Tourism section of the Surf Coast Shire website – [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au) - or any of the following links.

## **TOURISM DESTINATION SITES**

### **Surf Coast Tourism - [www.visitsurfcoast.com](http://www.visitsurfcoast.com)**

The official site for Surf Coast visitor information. Provides information on things to see and do, accommodation, events, attractions, maps, touring and general information on the Surf Coast region. SCT members are entitled to a free listing on this site.

### **Great Ocean Road - [www.greatoceanroad.org](http://www.greatoceanroad.org)**

The official site for Great Ocean Road visitor information. Provides information on things to see & do, accommodation, events, attractions, maps, touring and general information on the Great Ocean Road region. SCT members are entitled to a free listing on this site.

### **Tourism Victoria - [www.visitvictoria.com](http://www.visitvictoria.com)**

The official site for Victoria visitor information. Provides information on things to see and do, accommodation, events, attractions, maps, touring and general information on all regions of Victoria. For a listing on this site visit the Tourism Victoria Corporate Site (listed below).

### **Tourism Australia - [www.australia.com](http://www.australia.com)**

The official site for Australia visitor information. . Provides information on things to see and do, accommodation, events, attractions, maps, touring and general information on all states of Australia.