

# Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park



## Visitor Guide

The Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is a narrow coastal reserve covering 17,600 hectares along a portion of the Ninety Mile Beach, from Seaspray to Lakes Entrance. This unique and picturesque park consists of lakes, wetlands, marine and terrestrial environments and offers visitors a wide range of recreational opportunities. The park also includes the internationally significant Lake Reeve and Bunga Arm, several islands and the Boole Poole Peninsula.

### Location and access

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is located in East Gippsland. The western section of the park is accessible by road via Seaspray and Golden Beach. The eastern section of the park is accessible only by boat.

### Welcome to Country

On Friday 22 October 2010 both the Federal and State governments formally recognised the Gunaikurnai people as the Traditional Owners of over 20 per cent of public land within Gippsland and Eastern Victoria. The Victorian Government and the Gunaikurnai people formally signed Victoria's first settlement agreement under the new Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010. This agreement involved the transfer of ten parks and reserves to the Gunaikurnai as "Aboriginal Title" which will be jointly managed in conjunction with Parks Victoria.

Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park is one of the jointly managed parks within Gippsland. This agreement recognises the fact that the Gunaikurnai people have always been connected to their land and are the rightful people who speak for that Country. These parks and reserves are cultural landscapes which are part of our living culture.

### Camping

Designated campsites are situated between Paradise Beach and The Honeysuckles along Shoreline Drive at Golden Beach. Boat based bush campsites are available at Bunga Arm east of Steamer Landing. Bush campsites are available at Red Bluff and Spoon Bay.

Bookings are required year-round and fees apply to Paradise Beach and Bunga Arm. Book your site at [www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au/stay)

### Picnicking

There are many picnic areas throughout the park. Toilets, water, picnic tables and fireplaces are provided at some sites, with BBQs available at Nyerimilang Heritage Park. Drinking water and firewood are NOT always available- we advise you to carry your own supply.

### Swimming

There are swimming sites along the sheltered lake shores. Take great care when swimming along the Ninety Mile Beach. It is recommended that swimming be contained within flagged areas patrolled by surf life saving clubs.

### Fishing

Surf fishing along Ninety Mile Beach, or lake fishing from a boat, bank or jetty is popular throughout the park. Bream, Flathead, Skip Jack, Luderick and Mullet are the main fish caught. Please note that a recreational fishing licence is required for all coastal and inland waters.

### Boating

The Lakes offer excellent opportunities for boating and water skiing in designated areas. Boat ramps are situated at Seacombe, Wattle Point, Paynesville, Metung, Nungurner, Loch Sport and Lakes Entrance. Jetties for access to the park are provided at Barrier Landing, Drews Jetty, Ocean Grange, Silver Shot Landing and Steamer Landing. Boat operators are encouraged to use the sewage pump or hopper facilities situated around the lakes for disposal of sewage.

### Horse riding

Horse riding is permitted along formed tracks within the park west of Loch Sport. Horse riding is not permitted elsewhere in the park including the Ninety Mile Beach. Beach riding is permitted nearby the Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park west of Seaspray.

### Hunting

Licensed hunting of game duck, Stubble Quail and Hog Deer is only permitted in accordance with hunting regulations during the designated game seasons and in the nominated areas for each of these species. Hunting is not permitted on private property without permission from the landowner. Firearms are not permitted within the park outside of the nominated game seasons.

### Walking

Management tracks are closed to private vehicles, enabling easy access for walkers to explore the more secluded areas of the park.



## For further information:

Parks Victoria  
Information Centre

**Call 13 1963**

or visit our website at

**www.parks.vic.gov.au**

Parks Victoria Offices

*Sale Office-*

1 Lacey Street

Sale VIC 3850

Ph 5143 8200

*Bairnsdale Office-*

574 Main Street

Bairnsdale VIC 3875

Ph- 5152 0600

Lakes Entrance

Visitor Information Centre

Cnr Marine Pde &

The Esplanade

Lakes Entrance VIC 3909

**Ph (03) 5155 1966**

Wellington

Visitor Information Centre

8 Foster Street

Sale VIC 3850

**Ph 1800 677 520**

## Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish away with you for recycling and disposal

All native plants and animals are protected by law

Fires are not permitted on the Ninety Mile Beach

Dogs are not permitted except on a leash in the areas indicated on the map

Camping is only permitted in designated areas on the map

Fires may only be lit in fireplaces provided and must be completely extinguished with water before leaving

No fires may be lit on days of Total Fire Ban

This park spreads across 2 Total Fire Ban Districts- the West & South Gippsland as well as East Gippsland Total Fire Ban Districts

Vehicles must stay on formed tracks and are not permitted 'off road' including Lake Reeve and the Ninety Mile Beach

Firearms are only permitted in the park in accordance with Hunting Regulations



## Dogs

In the Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park dogs are only permitted (on a leash at all times) at the following locations: Barrier Landing (300m east of the jetty), Ocean Grange (within 100m of the residential zone), Paradise Beach, Loch Sport Causeway, Flamingo Beach, The Honeysuckles and Golden Beach (between campsites one to six on Shoreline Drive) and the Nyerimilang Heritage Park homestead precinct.

Dogs are NOT permitted in other areas of the park nor between campsites seven to twenty along Shoreline Drive, Golden Beach. Dogs are also NOT permitted on boats or on land in Bunga Arm. Owners are required to clean up their dog's litter. Dogs used for the flushing or retrieval of game birds are permitted in the hunting zones of the park, during and 24 hours prior to the commencement of the open season.

## Rich in plants and animals

The diverse range of plant habitats within the park enables plenty of opportunity for viewing a wide range of wildlife including Eastern Grey Kangaroos, Black Wallabies and the Common Brush-tailed and Ring-tailed Possums.

Ninety Mile Beach is a good place to observe shore and ocean birds such as shearwaters.

## From past to present

The Gippsland Lakes fall within the boundaries of the Tatungaloon clan of the Gunaikurnai people. There is much evidence of their traditional life in numerous midden sites containing shellfish remains, charcoal and burnt pebbles, some dating back 3000 years. For more information about the local Aboriginal history contact the Krowathunkoolong Keeping Place in Bairnsdale on 03 5152 1891.

The first European records of the Gippsland Lakes were by Angus McMillan in 1840 and of the seaward entrance to the lakes by John Reeve in 1842. The wreck of the ship, The Trinculo, which was beached in 1858 is still evident today west of Delray Beach.

## Barrier Landing & Entrance Bay

The entrance to the Gippsland Lakes was constructed in the 1880s. Before that time, the lakes were generally closed to the sea, with the barrier being breached only on rare occasions.

The original construction involved wooden breakwaters extending a short distance out to sea, and some of the old construction equipment can still be seen.

Take a walk across the ocean beach to The Entrance for some fishing, watch the boats come in or spot some seals or dolphins searching for food. Water skiing is also permitted between Entrance Bay and the Barrier Landing. Please observe the regulation signs.

Barrier Landing and Entrance Bay feature a number of rare shorebirds including the Little Tern, Fairy Tern and Hooded Plover which breed on Rigby Island and on the Ninety Mile Beach. You can enjoy these birds from a distance, but please keep well clear of them during the warmer months, and where possible walk on the wet sand to avoid accidentally stepping on their nests.

## Nyerimilang Heritage Park

Nyerimilang Heritage Park boasts magnificent views and a rich variety of plant and birdlife. The highlight is Nyerimilang Homestead, in a delightful garden setting on a cliff top above the beautiful Gippsland Lakes. Perfect picnic spots are surrounded by gardens with plants from different environments, historic farm buildings and pastoral surrounds. Scenic walks meander along bush and farm tracks, past Kurrajong trees, wetland areas and through the East Gippsland Indigenous Plant Garden.

## Finding your way at Nyerimilang

Access to Nyerimilang Heritage Park is from the Princes Highway via the Kalimna West Road 10km north-west of Lakes Entrance.

The park is open daily from 8:30am until sunset and the homestead is usually open from 10:30am to 3pm on weekends and 9:30am to 4pm on weekdays.

## Step back in time at Nyerimilang

The land that is now Nyerimilang Heritage Park was a homestead, holiday home, Boys Training Farm and cattle stud before being purchased by the Victorian Government in 1976. A display featuring the history of Nyerimilang and the natural resources and history of the Gippsland Lakes is located inside the homestead.

## Walks around Nyerimilang

**Whistling Kite Track:** 750 metres, 10 minutes one way.

This short walk passes through grasslands and a variety of forest types. The Whistling Kite, a large brown bird of prey with a distinctive underwing pattern and long tail, nests in the tall Blue Gums nearby.

**Homestead Track:** 1.1 km, 25 minutes one way

The original entrance to Nyerimilang Homestead was via this track from the Maringa Creek crossing. The track gently descends through gully vegetation to swamplands and a salt marsh area.

**Cliff Top Walk:** 1.7 km, 30 minutes one way

Panoramic views of the nearby lake system and Bass Strait beyond can be enjoyed on this walk.

**Kurrajong Track:** 750 metres, 10 minutes one way. This track links Cliff Top and Homestead Tracks. Kurrajongs and other native trees can be seen at the northern end of this track.

**Salt Marsh Track:** 1.2 km, 25 minutes one way

From Kalimna West Road to Reeve Channel; the salt marsh environment surrounding Maringa Creek gives way to the sandy shorelines of the lakes system.

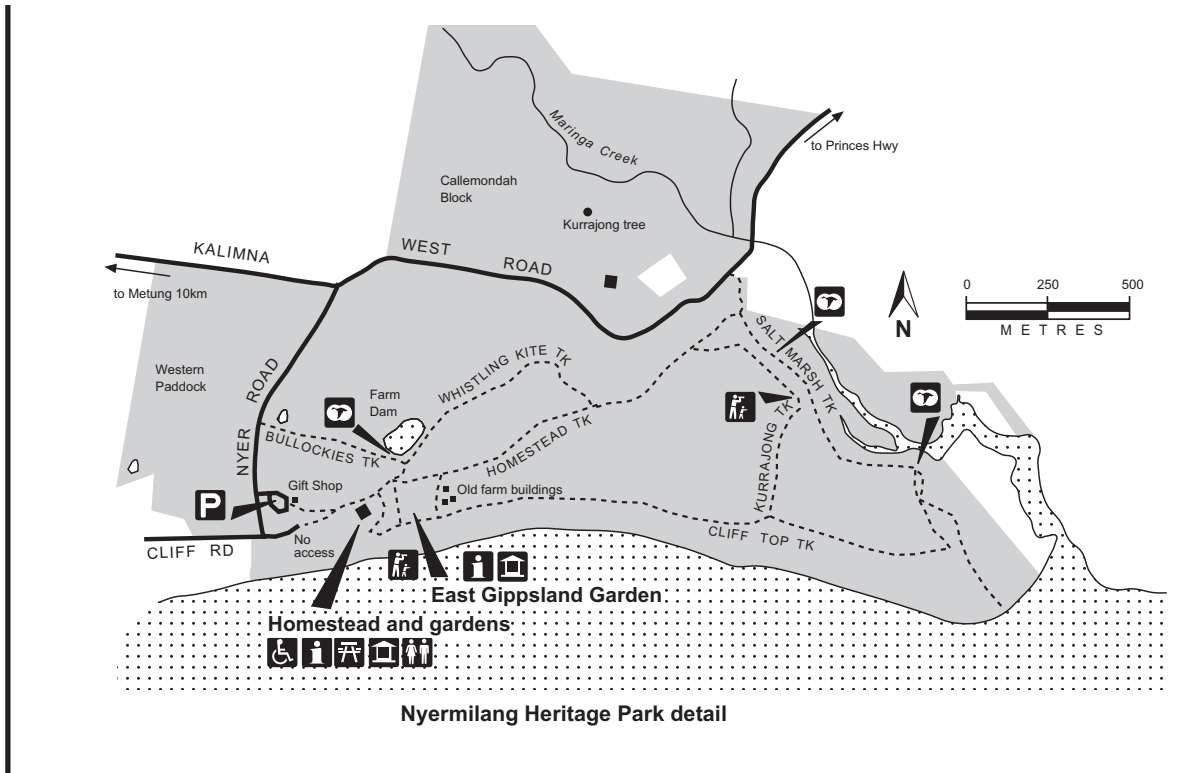
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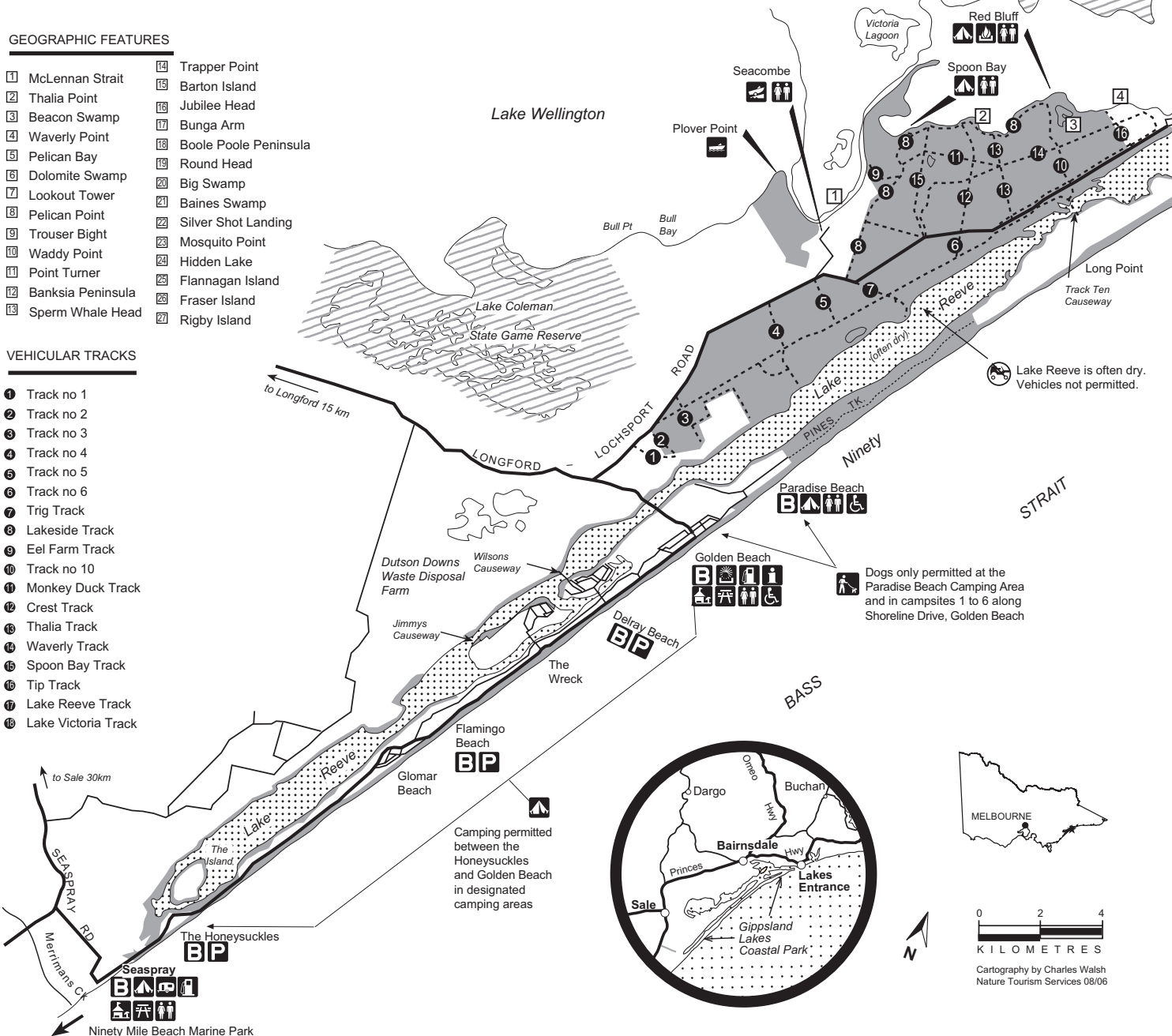


#### GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 McLennan Strait    | 14 Trapper Point         |
| 2 Thalia Point       | 15 Barton Island         |
| 3 Beacon Swamp       | 16 Jubilee Head          |
| 4 Waverly Point      | 17 Bunga Arm             |
| 5 Pelican Bay        | 18 Boole Poole Peninsula |
| 6 Dolomite Swamp     | 19 Round Head            |
| 7 Lookout Tower      | 20 Big Swamp             |
| 8 Pelican Point      | 21 Baines Swamp          |
| 9 Trouser Bight      | 22 Silver Shot Landing   |
| 10 Waddy Point       | 23 Mosquito Point        |
| 11 Point Turner      | 24 Hidden Lake           |
| 12 Banksia Peninsula | 25 Flannagan Island      |
| 13 Sperm Whale Head  | 26 Fraser Island         |
|                      | 27 Rigby Island          |

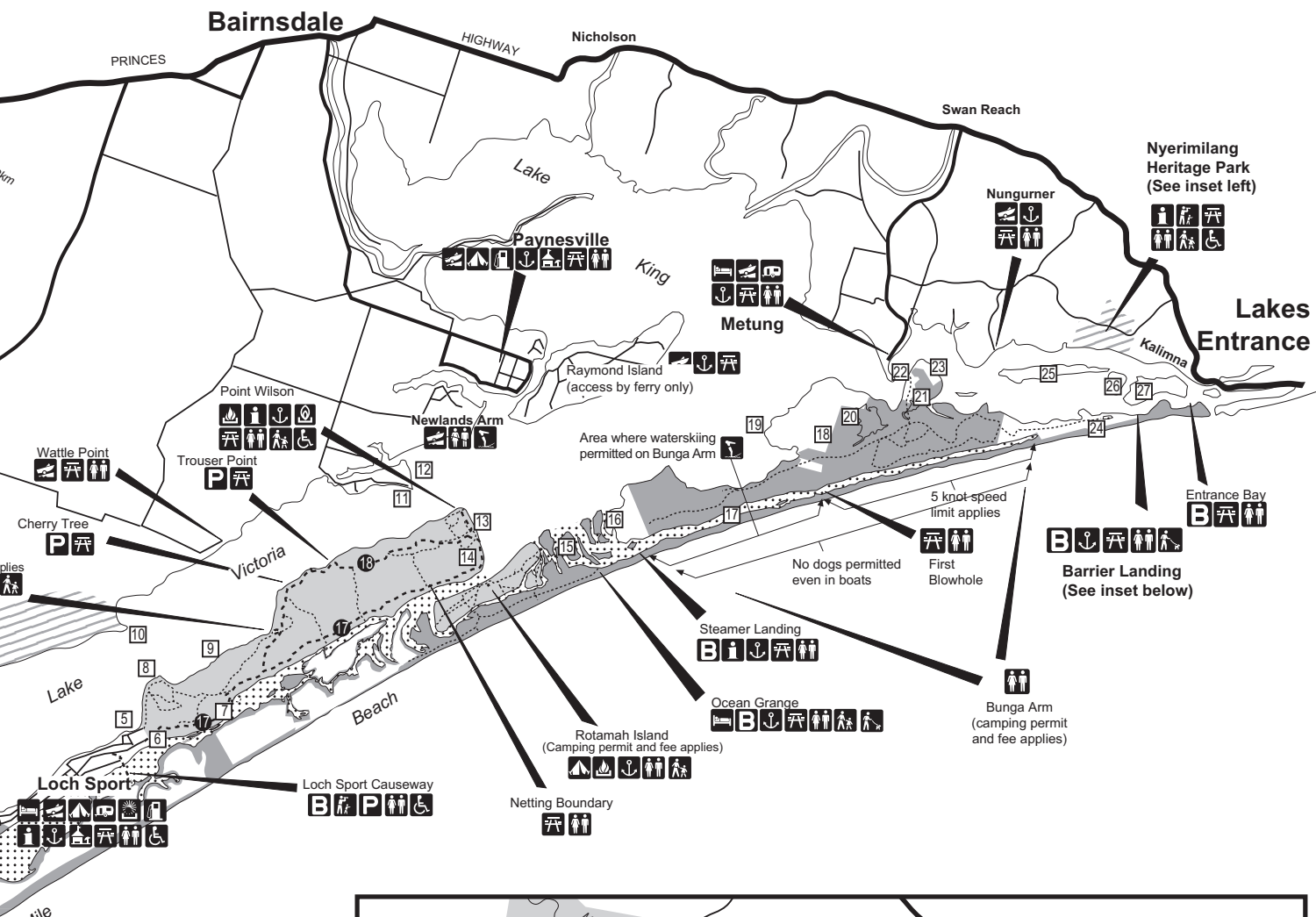
#### VEHICULAR TRACKS

- 1 Track no 1
- 2 Track no 2
- 3 Track no 3
- 4 Track no 4
- 5 Track no 5
- 6 Track no 6
- 7 Trig Track
- 8 Lakeside Track
- 9 Eel Farm Track
- 10 Track no 10
- 11 Monkey Duck Track
- 12 Crest Track
- 13 Thalia Track
- 14 Waverly Track
- 15 Spoon Bay Track
- 16 Tip Track
- 17 Lake Reeve Track
- 18 Lake Victoria Track



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KILOMETRES

Cartography by Charles Walsh  
Nature Tourism Services 08/06



## Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park

- Highway
- Major road
- Minor/unsealed road
- Vehicle track
- Walking track
- The Lakes National Park
- Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park
- Waters of Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park
- Other reserve
- Geographic feature marker
- Track marker

### Recreational Facilities

- Accommodation
- Beach access
- Boat landing
- Boat launching ramp
- Dogs permitted on leash
- Camping
- Caravan park
- Electric barbecue
- Fireplace
- Fuel
- Gas barbecue

### Recreational Facilities (cont'd)

- Information
- Jetty
- Lookout
- Parking

### Recreational Facilities (cont'd)

- Picnic area
- Stores
- Toilets
- Vehicles prohibited

### Recreational Facilities (cont'd)

- Walking tracks
- Waterskiing
- Wheelchair access

