

MALLACOOTA



Mallacoota is the hub of Australia's Coastal Wilderness. Prior to the bushfire events of 2019/2020, the unique aspects of the un-spoilt wilderness coastline of **Croajingolong National Park** were recognised as **Australia's Coastal Wilderness**. Fire is natural feature of the cycle of habitats in Australia and nature will restore the areas renowned biodiversity of flora and fauna.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to witness nature's miraculous regeneration.

The orchids and herbaceous plants of the heathlands and the lower storey shrubs can be quite spectacular during this stage of succession.

Australia's Coastal Wilderness straddles the Victorian and New South Wales border. It includes the Croajingolong National Park, Nadgee Nature Reserve, Cape Howe Wilderness, Ben Boyd National Park, Bournda National Park and the South East Forests National Park. Other National Landscapes are The Red Centre, Kakadu, Flinders Ranges, Australian Alps, Great Ocean Road, Australia's Green Cauldron, Kangaroo Island and The Greater Blue Mountains. The National Landscapes Program identifies the very best regions of Australia, for promotion to tourists, the uniqueness of Australia's truly iconic natural and cultural landscapes. Mallacoota is surrounded by Croajingolong National Park. It's 87,500ha and 100km of beautiful undeveloped coastline makes it a **genuine wilderness coast**.

Croajingolong is a most scenic park. There are rocky headlands, sandy tidal estuaries, swamp systems, tall sand dunes, land locked freshwater lakes, mountains, temperate rainforest valleys, coastal forests and extensive heath-lands. These relatively unspoilt habitats support rare and significant flora and fauna. Over 1500 plant species (215 being endemic) sustain a very diverse range of animal life. The 306 bird species and 52 mammal species have been recorded indicate the range of suitable habitats which also support many species of reptiles, amphibians, insects and spiders. Whales, dolphins and seals frequent the coastal waters.

Croajingolong National Park surrounds Mallacoota Inlet which consists of two large lakes which form the estuary of the Genoa and Wallagaraugh Rivers. The Inlet's lakes have approximately 320km of shore line most of which is unspoilt National Park.

Croajingolong National Park



Mallacoota Inlet Visitor Guide

The coastal township of Mallacoota is surrounded by Croajingolong National Park, with breathtaking views, sandy beaches, colourful heathlands, tall eucalypt forests and small pockets of ancient rainforest. A popular holiday destination, Mallacoota Inlet provides many opportunities for boating, fishing, walking, picnics and a variety of other outdoor activities.

Location and access

Mallacoota is located in Far East Gippsland and surrounded by Croajingolong National Park. You can access the town and the Inlet from the Princes Hwy at Genoa not far from the NSW border.

Things to see and do

Picnicking

There are picnic facilities at various locations around Mallacoota Inlet, some of which are only accessible by boat. Free gas barbeques are provided at Gravelly Point, Captain Creek and Cape Horn picnic areas. Minimal firewood is provided at other picnic sites around the Inlet. Fresh water is not available at these sites so bring as much as you will need for the day. Picnic areas are also provided on the picturesque Betka River, at Betka Beach and at Double Creek at the commencement of the nature trail. Rubbish bins are not provided at any of these locations so please take your rubbish away with you.

Snorkelling

There are some fantastic opportunities to explore the underwater world around Mallacoota. The rocks off Bastion Point and Quarry Beach feature an amazing array of seaweed that is home to numerous marine creatures.

Camping

Camping is not permitted around the Mallacoota Inlet, but there are campsites in Croajingolong National Park and the Mallacoota Township.

Canoeing

The Mallacoota Inlet and the lower sections of the Betka, Genoa and Wallagaraugh Rivers are ideal for canoeing.

Boating

There are many spectacular areas around the Mallacoota Inlet and along the Wallagaraugh and Genoa Rivers which can be explored by boat. There are launching ramps at Karbeethong, Mallacoota and Gipsy Point, with an effluent disposal facility located at the Karbeethong Public Jetty.



Boating ©MT

When boating, steer clear of sand bars, particularly in the Bottom Lake. It is generally advisable to use the main channels as detailed on the enclosed map. The islands located in the Mallacoota Inlet are utilised as nesting sites by coastal and wading birds. In order to provide safe and undisturbed nesting habitat, please do not land on the islands between October and February.

Make sure your vessel is seaworthy and you are carrying all the required safety gear. Let someone know where you are going.

Fishing

Fishing is permitted within the Croajingolong National Park excluding Marine National Parks. A number of different surf and estuary fish species may be caught. Please note spear fishing is prohibited in the Mallacoota Lakes.

A Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence is required to fish in all Victorian waters.

