



South Bruny National Park

South Bruny National Park lies at the southern tip of Bruny Island off the southeast coast of Tasmania. The park encompasses all of the coastline and some of the hinterland between Fluted Cape and the southern part of Great Taylors Bay.

South Bruny National Park was gazetted in 1997 mainly for its wonderful coastal scenery. Much of the coast is comprised of towering cliffs, muttonbird rookeries, gardens of kelp seaweed and long sandy beaches. In some areas the park extends several kilometres back from the coastline, where lush rainforest may be found containing several endemic plant species (plants unique to Tasmania). The popularity of South Bruny National Park as a tourist destination is enhanced by its abundant birdlife, coastal heathland and its prominent place in the history of Tasmania.

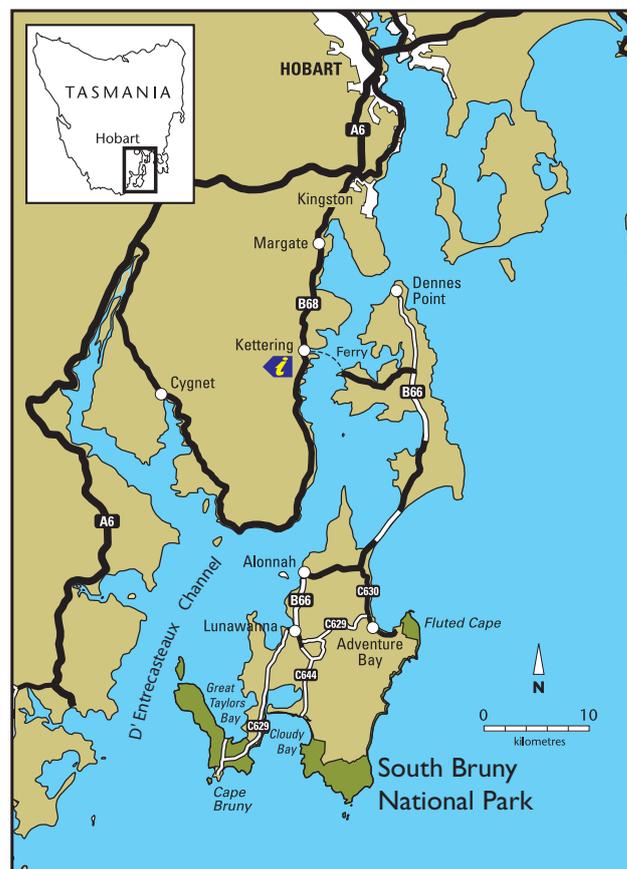
The park offers plenty of opportunities for walking, from the short stroll to the remains of an old whaling station at Grass Point, to the more demanding Labillardiere Peninsula circuit.

Adventure Bay and Jetty Beach provide safe, sheltered areas for swimming, while Cloudy Bay is a popular spot for experienced surfers.

Human History

The Aboriginal people that lived in the area belonged to the South East tribe and their particular band was the Nuenonne band. The Nuenonne band occupied Bruny Island on a permanent basis and their total numbers are estimated to be some 70 people. The Nuenonne people called the island Lunnawannalonna. This name is retained in the names of two settlements on South Bruny, Alonnah and Lunawanna. The park contains a number of important Aboriginal sites, mainly in the form of middens, quarries and artefact scatters.

The safe anchorage of Adventure Bay was located by Captain Tobias Furneaux in 1773. Furneaux named the Bay after his vessel the Adventure. Adventure Bay was then utilised by Captain James Cook in 1777 and by Captain William Bligh in 1788, 1792 and 1808. French Admiral Bruni D'Entrecasteaux anchored in the bay in 1792 and gave his name to both the island and the channel that separates the island from the mainland.



Captain Matthew Flinders also took advantage of the bay's safe anchorage in 1814.

In the early part of the 19th century whaling was carried out in Adventure Bay mainly catching the southern right whales during their annual migration. There were whaling stations at Cloudy Bay and Grass Point in the north of the park where structural remains can still be seen today

Getting there

Bruny Island lies south of Hobart and is separated from the mainland by the D'Entrecasteaux Channel. It can be reached by a vehicular ferry, which operates between Kettering and North Bruny Island. Kettering is 32 km (40 minutes) south of Hobart and can be reached by taking the Southern Outlet (A6) from Hobart. For time tables and information on ferry fares ring Bruny Island Ferry Service phone: 03 6272 3277 or the Bruny/ D'Entrecasteaux Visitor Centre 03 6267 4494.

Activities

Take your time and enjoy the South Bruny National Park as it offers plenty of opportunities for many activities. These include bird watching, bush and coast walking, swimming, surfing and boating

Boating: There are no boat ramps in the park. Boats can be launched from the beaches when necessary. The jetty on Partridge Island should only be used for landing and disembarking - no mooring is permitted. Avoid birds on the beach between the September and March breeding season.

Swimming and surfing: Adventure Bay and Jetty Beach provide safe, sheltered areas for swimming. Cloudy Bay is a popular spot for experienced surfers - watch the rips!

Birdwatching: the coast, bush and open pastures of the park provide a range of habitat for many bird species. Please avoid birds and nests on the beaches.

Cape Bruny Lighthouse

Australia's second oldest and longest continually staffed lighthouse lies at the end of Lighthouse Road (C629). The lighthouse grounds are open for inspection.

Walks

Destination	Time (hours)
Short Walks	
Grass Point	1.5 hours return
Fluted Cape	2.5 hours return
Day walks	
East Cloudy Head	4 hours return
Labillardiere Peninsula	5.5 to 6.5 hours return

Short walks

Grass Point - 1.5 hours return. This walk commences at the Adventure Bay entrance to the park. Parking is available at the end of Adventure Bay road. Start the walk by walking along the short beach next to the carpark and then turn left onto a track. The track is well formed, suitable for families, keeps close to the coast and is mainly flat.

Fluted Cape - 2.5 hours return. Follow the Grass Point track to the open grassland at Penguin Island. The circular route can be taken by following the Fluted Cape circuit sign. The track climbs steeply, staying close to the coastal cliffs providing spectacular views of Fluted Cape and the more distant Tasman Peninsula. Sea eagles may be seen. Follow the signs to begin a gradual descent, returning to Adventure Bay. This walk should not be attempted by young unescorted children.

Internet: www.parks.tas.gov.au

Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment



Cape Bruny Lighthouse

Photo: Joe Shemesh

Day walks

East Cloudy Head - 4 hours return. Park at the end of Cloudy Bay Road and walk to the southern end of the beach. Turn inland along Imlays Creek. The walk follows an old 4WD track with a number of quite steep ascents and descents. Once you reach the headland you can return the way you came.

Labillardiere Peninsula Circuit - 5.5 to 6.5 hours return. The track starts at the Jetty Beach campground and does a circuit around the peninsula. From Mt Bleak you will gain a view of Partridge Island, which protects one of the largest populations of the endangered forty-spotted pardalote. The track descends to Hopwood and Butlers Beaches and finishes at Jetty Beach.

Park entry fees apply. Passes are available from the D'Entrecasteaux Visitor Centre at Kettering and self registration booths are located at the Neck and Lighthouse Road (Mable Bay). The money raised will be used to maintain and develop South Bruny National Park facilities.

Facilities

Food and petrol can be purchased on the island from shops located at Alonnah and Adventure Bay (both on the south island). Camping gas can be refilled at Alonnah. Camping areas are located at Neck Beach, Cloudy Bay and Jetty Beach. All have pit toilets, limited water and fireplaces. Firewood is not supplied so please bring your own or use a fuel stove. Camp grounds have no rubbish collection so please take your rubbish with you.

Important note: - Pets and chainsaws are not permitted in national parks and reserves (even in vehicles).

Further information

TASMAP 1:25,000 series;

Parks and Wildlife Website www.parks.tas.gov.au;

