



Rocky Cape

NATIONAL PARK

Experience sweeping views of Bass Strait from the Rocky Cape Lighthouse, banksia dotted hillsides, and dramatic cliffs and coastal caves, combined with cultural history, as Rocky Cape has strong links to the Aboriginal community.

Many of the bays along the coast are sheltered and tranquil, while the headlands experience the full force of the sea and wind.

Much of the vegetation in the park is low lying, wind and salt tolerant coastal heath. These heathlands flower during spring and summer, giving colour to the surrounding hills, which run down to the water where there are caves with a history of Aboriginal occupation.

Getting there

Rocky Cape National Park is situated on the north-west coast of Tasmania about 2 hours drive west of Launceston. Take Route 1 then A2 to Burnie and on past Wynyard. The park can then be accessed in two ways. The western entrance to the park is reached by turning onto the C227 (Rocky Cape Road) about 2.5km west of the Rocky Cape township. After about 3km turn right to Burgess Cove boat ramp and toilets or take the second turn to the right leading to Rocky Cape Lighthouse and the walking track to North Cave. About 12 km west of Wynyard the eastern end of the park is reached by taking the C232 for about 1.5 km then the C233 (Irby's Road) to Sisters Beach. The beginning of the Postmans Track is passed on the way. From the western end of Sisters Beach a number of other walking tracks can be accessed



National Parks Fees apply and can be purchased from Service Tasmania Shops in Smithton and statewide. **Pets and firearms are prohibited within all national parks** and camping is prohibited in the Rocky Cape National Park.

Things to do

Rocky Cape National Park, although small, offers visitors a varied experience on Tasmania's coast. Here you can learn about Aboriginal life on the north-west coast. Swimming, fishing, boating and walking are popular activities. The park has a variety of walks, ranging from less than 20 minutes to a full day. These take in Aboriginal rock shelters and caves, hillsides of wildflowers birdlife, tranquil beaches, bays and rocky headlands.

Note: Aboriginal sites such as caves and middens are fully protected by law. Please respect the historic and spiritual values they represent by leaving them as you found them.

Rocky Cape is an ideal place for rock pool rambling. The rocky coastline features pools with multicoloured seaweeds and delicately patterned starfish. Swimming spots can be found at Sisters Beach, Forwards Beach and Anniversary Bay.

Boats can be launched at Mary Ann Cove, Burgess Cove (both in Rocky Cape National Park) and also Sisters Beach. Check tide and weather conditions. It is also possible to scuba dive around Rocky Cape. However, conditions can be treacherous and diving is recommended only for experienced divers. Below is a brief list of some walks available in the Rocky Cape National Park. For further details please read the *Rocky Cape National Park Map & Notes*.

It is possible to combine the coastal and inland routes to make a full-day circuit walk of the park. This 25km walk showcases the best of the park.

Walks	Time
Short walks	
North Cave/Lighthouse	10-20 min return
Banksia Grove/Caves Circuit	Up to 1 hour return
South Cave	Up to 1 hour return
Longer walks	
The Postmans Track	1 - 2.5 hours
Rocky Cape Circuit	2.5 hours return
The Inland Track	8 hours return
Coastal Route	8 hours return
Full Circuit Walk	6 - 8 hours return

Important

If undertaking walks for any more than a few minutes duration please advise someone of your expected return time. Aboriginal sites such as caves and middens are fully protected by law. Please respect the historical and spiritual values they represent by leaving them as you found them. Pets and firearms are not permitted in national parks, even in vehicles.



Rocky Cape National Park

Image: Joe Shemesh

Facilities

Within the park there is a picnic area with tables and a wood barbecue at Mary Ann Cove. Camping is prohibited within the Rocky Cape National Park. Toilet facilities are available at Burgess Cove near Rocky Cape. Drinking water is not available in the park. The Sisters Beach holiday area has electric barbecues, toilets and drinking water provided by the local council. The nearest caravan and camping facilities are located at Rocky Cape and Wynyard. These townships are the closest for supplies of food and fuel. Peggs Beach Conservation Area has a camping area. There are toilets and drinking water however it is recommended to boil water for three minutes prior to drinking.

Weather

For coastal waters boating forecasts phone 6376 0555. or visit the Bureau of Meteorology website at www.bom.gov.au.

Further information

Maps are available online at www.tasmap.tas.gov.au, from Service Tasmania and outdoor shops.

Contact

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