

# D'Entrecasteaux National Park



## Visitor guide



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



**PARKS AND  
WILDLIFE**  
SERVICE

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**Photos courtesy** Wendy Eiby, Tim Foley/DBCA and Bron Anderson/DBCA  
**Above** Mount Chudalup.

## Welcome to D'Entrecasteaux National Park

D'Entrecasteaux National Park stretches 130km along the coast between Augusta and Walpole in the far south-west of Western Australia.

It was named after French Admiral Bruny D'Entrecasteaux who sighted and named Point D'Entrecasteaux in 1792.

The 118,779 hectare park has long, white beaches and rugged limestone cliffs backed by extensive coastal wetlands and islands of karri forest and granite. Its diversity and size make it one of the most remote and pristine natural areas of the region.

A wide range of recreational opportunities that can be enjoyed include fishing, surfing, diving, whale watching, four-wheel driving, camping, bush walking and canoeing.

Visitors to the park can experience the coast in two-wheel-drive vehicles at Point D'Entrecasteaux, Salmon Beach and Mandalay Beach. Four-wheel-drive vehicles enable visitors to explore even further.

D'Entrecasteaux is a special place with many secrets to discover and enjoy.



**Above** Broke Inlet.

## Responsible four-wheel driving

D'Entrecasteaux National Park is a great place to go four-wheel driving, however be aware it is remote and isolated.

Coastal ecosystems are fragile so be considerate if you take your four-wheel drive into the park. Driving off the track destroys native vegetation and disturbs wildlife, so please drive carefully and responsibly.

Here are some tips on how to be a careful driver, enjoy your four-wheel driving experience and protect the parks sensitive coastal environment:

- Let someone know where you are going.
- Normal road traffic rules apply in national parks.
- Engage four-wheel drive and select the correct gear.
- Reduce your tyre pressure to suit the conditions.
- Drive slowly along narrow tracks and expect to encounter oncoming vehicles, wildlife and other track hazards.
- When on the beach, drive on the high tide mark.
- River crossings can be hazardous. If in doubt, do not cross.
- Trailers (including caravans, camper trailers and boat trailers) are not permitted on the Yeagarup Dunes or beach, Warren Beach or the Yeagarup and Warren beach tracks due to the soft sand and steep terrain.



## Aboriginal cultural heritage

Wandjoo ngaalang kwoba/moorditj boodjar

Welcome to our good/strong country

Nyoondool djinang ngaalang kwobidak Wardan, balyongar, bilya, worl wer djinda kada werda ngaalang miya

You will see our beautiful sea, sand, rivers, sky and stars across our place

Ngaalang koort kalyakoorl nidja

Our heart always here

Since time immemorial, the Noongar people have inhabited lands in the south-west of Western Australia. The Noongar people have a living cultural, spiritual, familial and social relationship with this area.

The park is an important place for Piblemen Noongar people and features a significant number of culturally significant sites including quarry sites, burial and mythological sites as well as stone artefacts and fish traps.

You can help preserve our valuable heritage by:

- keeping to designated tracks and access routes and being aware of potential sites that may be exposed; and
- reporting any objects or sites to the department that may be of Aboriginal origin.

**Remember** *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* protects all places and objects used by Aboriginal people. It is an offence under the act for anyone to alter an Aboriginal site or object without lawful authority in any way.



**Above** Mouth of Warren River.

## Camping in D'Entrecasteaux National Park

- D'Entrecasteaux National Park provides you with a range of excellent campgrounds to stay at. Choose from coastal camping at Banksia Camp, Coodamurrup or Black Point to more sheltered inland sites at Carey Brook, Crystal Springs or Leaning Marri at Yeagarup Lake.
- Camp in established areas only and practice minimal impact camping.
- Take your rubbish with you and dispose of it appropriately.
- Secure your campsite – keep your valuables with you.
- Leaning Marri and the Carey Brook campgrounds can accommodate small caravans. No other campgrounds within the park are suitable for caravans. Please contact local visitor centres for more information.
- Please consider other campers and refrain from running your generator late in the evening or early in the morning.

## Campfires

Campfires are permitted in department provided fire rings only, except during bushfire season when no fires are allowed. No ground fires are permitted within the park, including on the beach, at any time.

Please bring your own firewood. Logs and branches within the surrounding national park provide habitat for native wildlife and should not be used as firewood. It's a good idea to bring a portable gas stove with you.



**Above** *Philotheca spicata*.

## Help stop dieback

Dieback is a plant disease caused by a fungus called *Phytophthora*. It is microscopic and lives in the soil. *Phytophthora* attacks the roots of plants causing them to rot so the plant cannot take up water or nutrients.

Vehicles can spread *Phytophthora* so it is essential to observe and obey signs and road closures, keep to designated tracks and avoid muddy and inundated areas.

## Visitor fees

Park entry fees apply in D'Entrecasteaux National Park. For current information about fees, please see the Park fees and passes brochure or visit [exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au/fees](https://exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au/fees).

Camping fees apply at most designated camping areas and can be paid at the self registration stations.

Annual Local, Holiday, Annual All Parks and Gold Star passes are available at Parks and Wildlife Service offices, selected tourist outlets, visitor centres in Western Australia and online at [shop.dbca.wa.gov.au](https://shop.dbca.wa.gov.au)

These fees assist in conservation and management of parks including the improvement of visitor facilities and services.

## Rock fishing – coastal safety code

Rock and reef fishing are popular but can be dangerous. Play it safe and observe the code.

- Tell someone where you are going, when you'll be back and if your plans change.
- Always fish with a buddy; if you get into any trouble, they can help.
- Read all safety signage – it's been placed there for a reason.
- Make sure you are aware of the latest weather, swell and tidal predictions before going fishing. Be aware that conditions may change quickly.
- Light clothing will allow you to swim more freely if you are washed in to the water off the rocks. Wear footwear appropriate to the surface you plan to fish from.
- Wear a life jacket or buoyancy vest at all times.
- Spend time observing your intended fishing spot to get an idea of the conditions over a full swell/wave cycle. Be prepared for waves twice the height of those observed during this period.
- Scan the area and look for the safest place to come ashore should you be swept in.
- Don't ever turn your back on the ocean – sea surges and king waves occur silently and without warning.

If you fall into the water, stay calm:

- Swim away from the surf and rocks.
- Remove your shoes and clothing.
- Let go of your fishing gear.
- Float to conserve energy and heat until help arrives.

People who are onshore should send for help, keep the person in the water in sight and throw buoyant objects into the water.

Fatalities have occurred in D'Entrecasteaux National Park. Remember, your safety is our concern but your responsibility.

Check out at [recfishwest.org.au](http://recfishwest.org.au) for more information on fishing safety.



**Above** Point D'Entrecasteaux Tookulup.

## Communication and phone coverage

Mobile phone communication coverage in the park is generally poor and should not be relied upon. Be aware that you need mobile coverage to contact emergency services on 000. Park visitors should monitor mobile phone signal strength within the park and seek high points in the landscape to aid communication.

Consider carrying a personal locator beacon in areas of poor or unreliable mobile coverage.

## Leave your pets at home

National parks protect what is uniquely Australian: our flora and fauna. These are a special part of the outdoor lifestyle that we love so much.

Please leave your dogs, cats and other domestic animals at home because they can potentially harm our native wildlife and annoy other park users.

European foxes and feral cats are predators to native animals within the park, so the park is baited regularly with 1080 poison. Native animals are naturally resistant to 1080 but the baits are lethal to domestic animals including dogs.

**Below** Pygmy Possum.

**Below right** Motorbike Frog.





**Above** Salmon Beach at Point D'Entrecasteaux.

## Places to visit

### Black Point



Black Point is named for its spectacular black basalt columns. They are best seen at Stepping Stones where the rocks fit together like a mosaic. Lookouts at Surfers Cove and Breakfast Holes provide you with great views over the Southern Ocean and you may be lucky enough to see a whale cruising past or seals playing in the water off the point.

There are 30 campsites tucked into the peppermint trees at Black Point. It's a great place to base yourself to explore this coastline.

### Lake Jasper



Lake Jasper is the largest freshwater lake in the south-west of WA. With pristine water, white sandy beaches, abundant birdlife and colourful wildflowers in spring, it is a nature lover's paradise. The calm waters of the lake are ideal for swimming and canoeing and the surrounding wetlands are perfect for bird watching.

There are three campsites at Lake Jasper and they are regularly full in the warmer months. Black Point and Carey Brook offer camping nearby if Lake Jasper is full.

### Donnelly Boat Landing



Launch your boat or canoe at Donnelly Boat Landing for an 11km trip down the Donnelly River to the mouth. Enjoy the spectacular scenery or throw a line in for some fish.

## Yeagarup Lake



Take a stroll on the boardwalk at Yeagarup Lake and discover the magnificent views of the lake and nearby dunes. Look for the changing colours in the landscape as the sun moves behind the clouds and trees. This is a great place for a picnic with tables, a shelter and shady trees.

## Leaning Marri



Close to Yeagarup Lake, Leaning Marri Campground offers shady single campsites and one group campsite with a shared shelter. These campsites are suitable for tents and camper trailers.

## Yeagarup Dunes



The Yeagarup Dunes are a massive land-locked mobile dune system that is moving slowly inland, swallowing the forests and wetlands in its path. The journey across the dunes is challenging, yet rewarding, with a fantastic landscape awaiting you on the other side. The track over the dunes is through soft sand so you will need to reduce your tyre pressure. Please follow the posts that mark the designated route across the dunes. Camper trailers are not permitted on the dunes due to the steep ascent through soft sand.

## Yeagarup Hut



Yeagarup Hut is a spacious shelter with enclosed sleeping areas, picnic tables and toilets. The Hut and surrounding camping area provide a great range of camping opportunities for groups, families and couples. Managed by Pemberton Discovery Tours, the Hut and camping area are able to be booked for year-round access. Visit [wawilderness.com.au](http://wawilderness.com.au) for more information.

## Mount Chudalup



The granite monadnock of Mount Chudalup is a significant landmark amid the surrounding heathlands and wetlands. Fringed by karri and marri forest, the summit is 187m above sea level and offers stunning 360 degree views of the park, sand dunes and coast beyond.

## Coodamurrup Hut



Coodamurrup Hut is a relic from the pastoral era. It was constructed in 1911 using native bush timbers and salvaged oak from the coast. The hut provides a rustic and basic shelter option close to Coodamurrup Beach. Camping is provided in a peppermint woodland setting close to the Hut.

## D'Entrecasteaux Beaches



**Jasper, Yeagarup, Warren, Malimup,  
Gardner, Coodamurrup**

Visitors to D'Entrecasteaux National Park are spoiled for choices of beaches to discover along its 130km coastline. Backed by limestone cliffs, large dunes and pounded by waves from the mighty Southern Ocean, these beaches are well worth the visit. They are accessible by four-wheel drive only and you will need to let your tyre pressure down and drive carefully. Trailers (including caravans, camper trailers and boat trailers) are not permitted on the Yeagarup Dunes or beach, Warren Beach or the Yeagarup and Warren beach tracks due to the soft sand and steep terrain. River crossings and tide conditions need to be considered.

## Broke Inlet



Broke Inlet is a large, shallow estuary which is seasonally open to the Southern Ocean. This pristine area is a haven for birdlife and can be accessed via the gravel Broke Inlet Road or the four-wheel-drive only Fisherman's Track from Banksia Camp during the drier months of the year.

## Gardner Campground



Nestled under the peppermint trees, Gardner Campground is the perfect place to base yourself for a few days to explore the surrounding area. There are several camp sites on offer and East's Hut provides great shelter from the weather. A short four-wheel drive track leads to Gardner Beach where you can enjoy the coastal scenery or try your luck at fishing.

## Crystal Springs



Base yourself at this pretty campground under a grove of peppermint trees and explore the southern end of D'Entrecasteaux National Park and the nearby Walpole-Nornalup National Park. It was once a stop on the stockman's route to the coast where they grazed their cattle.

## Banksia Camp



Banksia Camp offers a great place to go camping or fishing and has fantastic coastal views across to Chatham Island. There are seven campsites, one of which is suitable for group camping and camper trailers. Banksia Hut is a roomy shelter that can accommodate up to 12 people comfortably. The hut cannot be pre-booked so visitors are advised to carry a tent in case it is fully occupied on arrival.

## Mandalay Beach



Accessible by two-wheel-drive vehicles along an unsealed road, Mandalay Beach offers spectacular views of the Southern Ocean and Chatham Island. It takes its name from the Norwegian barque Mandalay wrecked there in 1911. The wreck is usually buried but occasionally parts of it are visible above the shifting sands.

## Carey Brook



These quiet campgrounds at Carey Brook offer a secluded camping experience close to the crystal clear Carey Brook. With 11 campsites at Snottygobble Loop including a group camping site with picnic shelter and seven at Grasstree Hollow, it's an ideal place to stop for a night, a weekend or even longer. Take a short walk through the marri and jarrah forest to the mysterious Goblin Swamp.

## D'Entrecasteaux Drive



Point D'Entrecasteaux is one of the few places you can access this wild and windswept coast by two-wheel-drive vehicle. It offers something for everyone – beaches, a choice of interpretive walk trails, a scenic drive and several spectacular lookout points.

Salmon Beach, Gardner and Sunset lookouts all provide different views of the coastline and surrounding landscape. The cliff top lookout at Tookulup is a great place to see whales, pods of dolphins and shoals of salmon.

Point D'Entrecasteaux is a hub for walking opportunities as well as an exhilarating clifftop lookout.



### Coastal Survivors Walk – Class 3, 2.8km one way

This trail links Point D'Entrecasteaux with Cathedral Rock and Windy Harbour. Learn about the coastal survivors you will encounter along the way and how they thrive in this harsh environment.



### Cliff Top Walk – Class 2, 1.3km one way

Experience the rugged limestone sea cliffs that tower about the Southern Ocean between Point D'Entrecasteaux and Tookulup.



### Pupalong Look Walk – Class 1, 400m loop walk

Learn about how important country is to the Noongar custodians of the south-west along this short, universally accessible loop trail.



Above The Windows, Point D'Entrecasteaux.



## Coast and cliff risk area

This coast can be hazardous due to strong winds, large unpredictable waves, strong currents, slippery and unstable rocks and cliffs.

### For your safety:

- Avoid slippery rocks, limestone cliffs and overhangs.
- Always pay attention to the ocean and stay well clear of the sea
- Supervise children at all times
- Notify someone of your expected time of return.

**Your safety is our concern but your responsibility**



**Save the  
app that  
could save  
your life**



triplezero.gov.au

[emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au](https://emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au)

Download the free Emergency+ app before your visit. Use the app in an emergency to call for assistance. If there is no mobile phone coverage you **WILL NOT** be able to call **000** but the app will provide you with your GPS location.



**Above** Carey Brook.

## Further information

### Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Donnelly District Office

Kennedy Street, Pemberton, WA, 6260

Phone: (08) 9776 1207

Email: [donnellyd@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:donnellyd@dbca.wa.gov.au)

Frankland District Office

South West Highway, Walpole, WA, 6398

Phone: (08) 9840 0400

Email: [frankland.district@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:frankland.district@dbca.wa.gov.au)

[dbca.wa.gov.au](http://dbca.wa.gov.au)

More information about fishing rules and regulations, licence requirements and bag limits can be found on the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development website at [fish.wa.gov.au](http://fish.wa.gov.au)

For more information on four-wheel driving, check out the WA 4WD Association website [wa4wda.com.au](http://wa4wda.com.au)

Check for alerts and updates directly related to parks and major trails at [alerts.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://alerts.dbca.wa.gov.au) and for all emergency information in Western Australia at [emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au).

Find more park visitor information, book campsites and share your experiences at [exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au).

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