surf coast walk



TORQUAY | ANGLESEA | AIREYS INLET

VICTORIA State Government

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA)

Surf Coast Shire



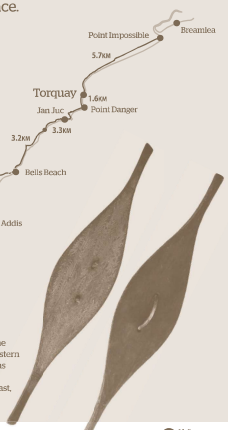
Fishermans beach, Torquay.
Credit: Romy Photography

Coast through living landscapes

Offering natural beauty and easy access, the 44km Surf Coast Walk lets you relax and enjoy a world-class walking destination at your own pace. Explore inspiring landscapes on foot or bike beyond the edge of Victoria's beautiful Great Ocean Road.

Relish the rich ochre of the Bells Beach cliffs, the deep blue of Bass Strait and the leafy green of eucalypt forests. Discover the beauty and abundance of Country that sustained the First Peoples of this land for millennia. Observe fascinating surf culture and abundant wildlife as the Walk connects you with the coastal town comforts of Torquay, Anglesea and Aireys Inlet.

Whether you're a nature lover or a fun lover, whether you take an hour, a day or a week, the Surf Coast Walk puts a stunning and unique coastal environment within easy reach.



The Surf Coast Walk spans the traditional lands of the Wadawurrung People and the Gadubanud People of the Eastern Maar. We acknowlege them as the Traditional Owners and pay respect to their Elders: past, present and emerging.



Split Point Lighthouse, Aireys Inlet.
Credit: Gavin Quest



Towns along the way

TORQUAY

The official start of the Great Ocean Road and Home of Australian Surfing. It is the largest town along the walk with many cafés and restaurants close to the coast providing an ideal meeting point for your Surf Coast Walk adventure. The walk starts at Point Impossible, five kilometres northeast of Torquay and takes you through windswept dunes to the Torquay promenade and its many creature comforts.

ANGLESEA

This mid point of the Surf Coast Walk has the best of beach and bush. Surrounded by the Great Otway National Park, Anglesea heath and high coastal cliffs with great views. Caravan Parks, B&B's and cafés line the Anglesea River overlooking many an opportunity for adventure.

AIREYS INLET

The Split Point Lighthouse guides visitors to the western end of the Walk past Aireys Inlet, a small coastal village with soul. The pub and local eateries have great views of the local terrain and the western end of the Walk at Fairhaven.



Eat & Drink along the way

Find places to eat and drink along the way, whether it's a pre-walk breakfast, a well-earned stop for lunch or a post-walk cocktail.

Scan the QR code.





Where to stay

Whether you want to sleep at a camp ground or go for comfort – Surf Coast Walk accommodation ranges from budget to boutique and is available in each of the towns to suit your needs. Bed and breakfast, self-contained, motels, hotels, homes and camping are all on offer.

Scan the QR code for accommodation options or contact the Torquay Visitor Information Centre on 1300 614 219 for advice.

Torquay



Anglesea



Aireys Inlet





Making the most of your stay

The Surf Coast Visitor Centres are the best place to start planning your journey. Our trained staff and volunteers will provide detailed visitor information, maps, accommodation and tour advice to ensure you get the most out of your Surf Coast adventure.

Torquay Visitor Centre
Surf City Plaza,
Beach Road, Torquay
Phone 1300 614 219

Lorne Visitor Centre
15 Mountjoy Parade,
Lorne
Phone 1300 891 152

Open 9am - 5pm, 7 days a week

#Surfcoastwalk

www.exploresurfcoast.com.au





Stay safe on the coast

Dress for variable weather: consider sun and rain protection. Sturdy closed shoes are recommended.

Tread carefully: watch out for natural hazards and variable track surfaces. Stay well clear of cliffs and check tide times for on-beach sections of the walk.

Fire danger: avoid the Surf Coast Walk on Total Fire Ban and Catastrophic days. Check www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667. Download the VIC emergency app to stay up to date with emergency warnings and information in the area.

Emergency: call 000 for emergency assistance. Street names or emergency location markers may assist you to identify your location.

Care for the coast

Coastal vegetation is fragile. Keep to tracks and beaches. Picking native wildflowers is illegal.

Be clean. Take your rubbish away with you (other litter too if you can). See the map for toilet locations.

Leave wildlife alone. Give beach-nesting birds, resting seals and other native animals space.

Leave everything as you find it for future walkers to enjoy.

For more information call the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) on (03) 5220 5055 or visit: www.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au

Plan your trip

The Surf Coast Walk starts near Torquay, 100km southwest of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.



Travel time via car is only 75 minutes from Melbourne to Torquay via the Geelong Ring Road.

VLine train services operate daily from Melbourne to Geelong.

VLine coaches operate daily from Geelong to Torquay, Anglesea, Aireys Inlet, Fairhaven and further down the Great Ocean Road. McHarrys Local Bus Service operates daily between Geelong and Torquay.

Airport transfers are available to Torquay, Anglesea, Aireys Inlet from Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine) and Avalon Airport.

Walking the walk. Numerous easily accessible walk trailheads can be accessed by car as shown on the map. Sections of the walk can be combined with a low tide shoreline walk to make a loop. For longer self guided walks, consider a pre-arranged car shuttle, Vline coach or taxi. Tour operators can provide a professional, guided walk experience.

Shared Use. Over half the walk is open to cyclists. See map for details. There are several sections suitable for wheelchair access.

Accommodation is available in each of the towns, ranging from budget to boutique. Sleeping in vehicles and camping in public places is prohibited. Contact the Torquay or Lorne Visitor Centre for advice.

What to carry: Always take a mobile phone. Coverage may vary, check with your provider. Carry snacks and drinks.

Dogs are welcome check signs for details or go to: www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au and download the Surf Coast Shire's Dog Regulations map

Track standards vary. Check maps and signs for details.

Accessibility: Only concrete paths in central Torquay and Anglesea meet wheelchair standards, but most Grade 2 tracks are flat, smooth and step free. An All Terrain Wheelchair is available for hire. (See reverse for details).



Features of the Walk

LOOKOUTS

The many vantage points along the Walk excite the senses any time of the year. Capture a perfect sunrise in Spring and Autumn, escape the heat in dappled shade, thrill at the awe inspiring power of nature in Winter. Some of the best lookouts found along the way are Point Danger, Bird Rock, Point Addis, Anglesea cliffs and at the Aireys lighthouse.

WILDFLOWERS

From wild orchids to flowering shrubs, native grasses and forest species, our coast is a plant-lover's delight. Springtime, in particular, brings an abundance of wildflowers to the coast offering up a spectacular show.

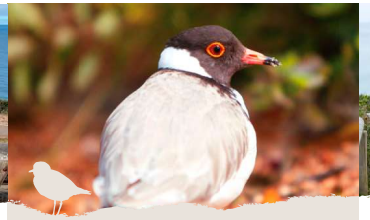
BELLS BEACH

Follow the walk along the original track daring surfing pioneers carved to Bells Beach, an internationally recognised destination for surfers. A status that has been created through surfing culture and folklore as well as the hosting of an annual international surfing event every Easter.

NATIONAL & MARINE PARKS

The Great Otway National Park covers 103,000 hectares and represents all that is special about the region: the sandy beaches, rock platforms and windswept heathland fringed by rugged coastline.

Three significant Marine Parks and Sanctuaries feature along the Walk including Point Danger Marine Sanctuary, Point Addis Marine National Park and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary.



Hooded Plovers nest on the upper beach in summer. Look out for them and give them space.

WILDLIFE

Discover the array of lovely locals that call the Surf Coast Walk home. Spot the vulnerable Hooded Plover or near threatened Rufous Bristlebird or meet one of our more common natives, including Echidnas and Kangaroos.

Marvel at the marine life nearby on the seashore. From the fascinating Decorator Crab to Victoria's marine emblem, the Weedy Seadragon, there's a huge array of wildlife living just off the track.

WHALES

Winter brings one of the world's most majestic creatures to the Surf Coast. Between June and October each year look out for Southern Right Whales as they migrate from sub-Antarctic waters to breed. View these magnificent mammals from one of the walk's many perfect viewing vantage points as they cruise within 100m of the coast.

for whale sighting information go to: visitgreatoceanroad.org.au/whale-sightings





SURF COAST EVENTS

Surf Coast Events

"Get amongst it"

Time your walk experience to coincide with some of the great events along the Surf Coast.

Ranging from small community gatherings and markets, to large scale festivals and internationally renowned sporting events, Surf Coast Events, deliver unique, authentic and exciting experiences against stunning natural backdrops. Through our events, we build connections and inspire people to embrace their passions, challenge their limits and make lasting memories.

Scan the QR code or go to surfcoastevents.com.au

Shopping

Shop Surf Coast and discover the local makers, creators and innovators.

Scan the QR code to find places to shop during your stay.



surf coast walk

10 Sunnymead
Urquhart Bluff – Sunnymead

Take a walk on the wild side through rugged coastal bushland in Great Otway National Park. Rediscover remnants of the original Great Ocean Road and find yourself in a secluded cove at Sunnymead.

3KM

GRADE 4
ROUGH TRACK / RUGGED STEPS / BEACH SAND

8 Point Roadknight
Anglesea – Point Roadknight

From the convenience of the Anglesea township, rise up to the bluff and back down to idyllic Point Roadknight Beach. Panoramic views back across the township, river and ocean make the climb worth your effort. Anglesea, at the mid-point of the Surf Coast Walk, is an ideal overnight stay.

3.1KM

GRADE 2
WELL FORMED TRACK / NO STEPS

6 Anglesea Heath
Point Addis – Anglesea

This rugged trail takes in all the colours of the coast – vivid ochre cliffs, brilliant blue ocean and dappled green heathland. See kangaroos, wallabies and spring wildflowers amongst low, wind-stunted forest.

7.3KM

GRADE 3
BEACH WALKING & FORMED TRACK / SHORT STEEP HILLS / RUGGED STEPS

11 Aireys Clifftops
Sunnymead – Aireys Lighthouse

This easy walk, on a well-made track, is a favourite of locals. Treat yourself to stunning land's edge views as you transition between beach, bush and the Aireys Inlet township. Listen for the song of Rufous Bristlebirds and look for tiny marsupials as they scurry in the low coastal scrubland.

2.8KM

GRADE 2
WELL FORMED / NARROW TRACK / GENTLE HILLS / NO STEPS

9 Beach Combing
Point Roadknight – Urquhart Bluff

Relax, slip off your shoes and get some sand between your toes on this long, uncrowded beach walk. Keep an eye out for beach-nesting birds and curiosities washed up on the sand by relentless waves.

4.5KM

GRADE 3
BEACH WALKING / BEST AT LOW TIDE

7 Anglesea Riverbanks
Anglesea Visitor Centre

This easy and accessible riverside stroll keeps you handy to the Anglesea Visitor Centre, BBQs and café/dining options. It's a great way to access Anglesea's paddleboats, canoes and public art.

1.6KM

GRADE 1
FLAT / EASY PATHS / NO STEPS

12 Lighthouse Discovery
Aireys Lighthouse – Fairhaven

Discovery stroll from the Split Point Lighthouse and lookouts, past whale sighting spots. Cross an ancient tribal boundary, from Wadawurrung Country to Gadubanud Country, the western reach of the Surf Coast Walk. Learn as you go with the insights of the Lighthouse Discovery Trail and several well-signed viewing platforms.

2.1KM

GRADE 2
WELL FORMED TRACK / FEW STEPS / GENTLE HILLS



Explanation of Symbols

- Parking
- Caravan Park
- Toilets
- Picnic Area
- Bus Stop
- BBQ Facility
- Accommodation
- Airfield
- Torquay Visitor Centre
- Anglesea Visitor Centre
- Town Centre
- Information Shelter
- Scenic Lookout
- Lighthouse
- Eastern & Western End
- Shared Track
- Walkers only

SHARE YOUR SURF COAST WALK EXPERIENCE

Walking is a social pursuit, and we'd love to hear, share and see what's happened on your Surf Coast Walk adventure. Share, enjoy and reflect on your Surf Coast Walk through social media. Keep up-to-date with track information, photos, upgrades and other local events, through a dedicated Facebook page.
Connect with us today on Facebook • Inspired by Surf Coast

#Surfcoastwalk

1 Wadawurrung Country
Point Impossible – Yellow Bluff

Explore traditional Wadawurrung Country, windswept sand dunes, and coastal vegetation on this easy walk near Torquay. Tread where the Wadawurrung people camped each season for thousands of years, leaving behind clues to their culture and lifestyle.

5.7KM

GRADE 2
MOSTLY FLAT / NO STEPS / WELL FORMED PATH

4 The Bells Track
Bird Rock – Bells Beach

Tread the track that daring pioneer surfers carved through coastal scrub to reach the fearsome waves of Bells Beach. Walk or cycle high along clifftops where peregrine falcons glide. At every lookout a stunning panorama: the "golden mile" of surfing with its reef breaks and brilliant surf relentlessly rolling in.

3.2KM

GRADE 2
GENTLE HILLS / NO STEPS / WELL FORMED TRACK

2 Torquay Promenade
Yellow Bluff – Point Danger

Enjoy this perfect flat, kid-friendly, easy shared path. Contrast the creature comforts of Torquay with the wildness of treacherous offshore reefs and the ships' graveyard off Point Danger. Connect to the history of this vibrant holiday town via the Torquay Historical Walk.

1.6KM

GRADE 1
FLAT / NO STEPS / CONCRETE PATH

5 Ironbark Basin
Bells Beach – Point Addis

Venture to the inland sheltered forest of the Ironbark Basin in the Great Otway National Park. Tramp past grasstrees and search for hidden treasures like rare orchids, echidnas and reptiles. Discover more about the lifestyle of the the Wadawurrung People, the First People of this land and behold spectacular views from one of three Point Addis lookouts.

8.2KM

GRADE 3
WELL FORMED TRACK / SHORT STEEP HILLS / STEPS / SAND

3 Surf Coasting
Point Danger – Bird Rock

Explore surfing evolution and surf culture origins on this walk or cycle past Torquay and Jan Juc surf beaches; the "classroom" for the next generation of surfers. Peer out from Rocky Point over the many surf breaks, sheltered bays and wild headlands that gave the Surf Coast its name.

3.3KM

GRADE 2
MOSTLY FLAT / SOME STEPS / WELL FORMED TRACK / SOME SAND

TRAILRIDER ALL-TERRAIN WHEELCHAIR

Available for hire from:
Wurdi Baierr Stadium
Ph: 03 5264 9200
www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au

Explore more Surf Coast tracks and trails. Contact the Surf Coast Visitor Centres:

Torquay Visitor Centre
Surf City Plaza,
Beach Road, Torquay
Phone 1300 614 219

Lorne Visitor Centre
15 Mountjoy Parade,
Lorne
Phone 1300 891 152

Open 9am - 5pm, 7 days a week

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