

VISITOR INFORMATION



# Narawntapu

NATIONAL PARK



Department of Primary Industries,  
Parks, Water and Environment



Narawntapu National Park is a place of peace for people and wildlife alike. It stretches from the low coastal Asbestos Range to the long Bass Strait beaches. The park includes a complex of inlets, small islands, headlands, dunes and lagoon and an old historic farm; all with a wide diversity of plants and animals. It is an ancient place, which has provided for the needs of human inhabitants for many thousands of years. Whether you are visiting for a picnic, to see the wildlife, to bushwalk or enjoy water activities, you will find that Narawntapu is a special place.

## Day visitor facilities

A visitor centre, park office and day-use area with full picnic facilities, barbecues and toilets are found at Springlawn inside the main park entrance. The visitor centre provides information displays about the park, including its geology plant and animal life. Picnic facilities, including tables and toilets are also found at Bakers Point.

## Water

Water is available from tanks and bores at the four main campgrounds. The water varies in quality but, except where otherwise marked, it is drinkable. It is best to bring a container for carrying water. Visitors should note that there is no drinking water at either Badger Beach or West Head picnic sites.

## Camping

There are four main camping grounds within the park, one at Springlawn, another on the way to Bakers Point, at Bakers Point itself and the Horse Yards (see map). A self-registration system for campers operates from the Springlawn Visitor Centre, and except for large school groups and campers bringing horses, bookings are not taken. Not all campsites have a fireplaces or tables. Toilets are located within each campground. Token operated hot showers are available at the powered sites located near

the Visitor Centre. Tokens can be obtained from the Visitor Centre during opening hours.

## Nature study

At dusk the park comes alive with wildlife and this is the best time to observe the park's many native marsupials. Commonly seen, especially around Springlawn, are Forester kangaroos, Bennetts wallabies, pademelons and wombats.

The Springlawn area has a rich diversity of birdlife, especially around the wetlands. Around the lagoon several species of ducks, as well as herons, swans, cormorants, coots, bitterns and grebes can be found at certain times of the year. A bird hide in the paperbark forest at the lagoon offers an ideal spot for birdwatching and photography. The beaches nearby provide a contrasting habitat for a variety of coastal birds including oystercatchers, gulls and terns, while overhead you may see brown falcons, swamp harriers or white-bellied sea eagles searching for prey.

## Group activities

Narawntapu National Park is a popular reserve for organised events, training and other group activities including bushwalking, orienteering, horse riding, running event and nature based activities. If you are planning an activity in this park that involves more than 13 people and the activity involves using walking tracks, horse trails or going off track then please contact the visitors centre at Narawntapu for further information regarding the process for seeking approval for group activities.

## Horseriding

Holding yards and a riding trail are provided for horse enthusiasts. The riding trail winds through open plains and coastal vegetation providing an alternative way of experiencing the park. Permission is needed to bring horses into the park. This can be obtained by ringing the office ph: (03) 6428 6277 at least 48 hours prior to the planned visit. You will also need to book the horse yards, if required. This can be done at the same time as gaining permission. A park pass is required, and camping fees apply if staying overnight.



Photo: common wombat, Clair Turvey

## Water activities

Bakers Beach and Badger Beach are suitable for swimming, though not patrolled. They are also popular for line fishing. Take care swimming near the rocks at Griffiths Point and in the Port Sorell estuary, particularly when the tide is going out. Springlawn campsite and day-use areas have good facilities for both overnight and day-use.

## Campfires

Fireplaces, and some firewood, are provided in the campsites. As there is heavy demand for wood and fire restrictions might apply, visitors are encouraged to use a portable cooking stove. Electric barbecues operate at Springlawn.

**Be a volunteer** – there are many community groups whose members volunteer in national parks; the Parks and Wildlife Service also has volunteer projects on offer each year. Check [www.parks.tas.gov.au](http://www.parks.tas.gov.au) for a list of groups and activities, or talk to the local ranger about volunteering opportunities.

**Make a tax deductible donation to support reserve management** – complete a WILDCARE Giving Form available from park visitor centres and Service Tasmania shops or donate on-line at [www.wildcaredonations.org.au](http://www.wildcaredonations.org.au)

## Walk safely

**Plan to walk safely** – know your way and walk within your capabilities.

**Be prepared** – take clothing and equipment to suit changeable weather and track conditions.

**Avoid walking alone** – walk with friends.

**Let a reliable person know your plans before you go** – be sure to advise them of your safe return.

**Be prepared to turn back, or change your plans, if the weather deteriorates or the walk is more difficult than expected.**

## What to bring

- drinking water: Note: we recommend treating water from streams within the park.
- hat, sunscreen and sunglasses
- sturdy walking shoes or boots
- warm jacket



This symbol indicates one of Tasmania's '60 Great Short Walks'!



Photo: podemelon, Clair Turvey

## Short walks



**Springlawn Nature Walk** – 2 hour circuit. This circuit offers a tranquil introduction to the park. Starting at the Springlawn Visitor Centre, this moderate walk takes you onto the flat grassy plain and around the lagoon. It joins the Archers Knob track at the rear of the lagoon and returns via the bird hide.

**Archers Knob** – 1.5 hour return or 2 hour circuit. The track commences near the main car park and takes you past the bird hide, then climbs steadily through coastal trees to the top of Archers Knob. From the summit there are superb views over Bakers Beach, Badger Head and beyond. An easy return walk via Bakers Beach makes a pleasant 2 hour round trip. If your time is limited, drive to the Beach Access Track car park. This will take approximately 30 mins off the total walking time. This is one spot that is easily reached and shouldn't be missed.

**Fire trail walks** inland from Springlawn provide easy walking through a variety of bushland. Views over Bass Strait and inland to the Western Tiers are obtained from the higher points.

## Longer day walks

**Copper Cover/Badger Head** – 6 to 8 hour return.

This coastal walk features superb views and a variety of wildflowers. From the eastern end of Bakers Beach a marked track zigzags up to Little Badger Head before descending to Copper Cove where there is a picnic spot with fresh water from Windred Creek. In the early 19th century copper ore was mined in this area. From the cove the track continues around the headland to the tiny settlement of Badger Head. From the eastern end of Bakers Beach to Badger Head is approximately 5 km.

**Coastal Traverse** – 7 to 9 hours one way. A coastal traverse of the park is possible between Bakers Beach and Greens Beach, walking in either direction. Walking from

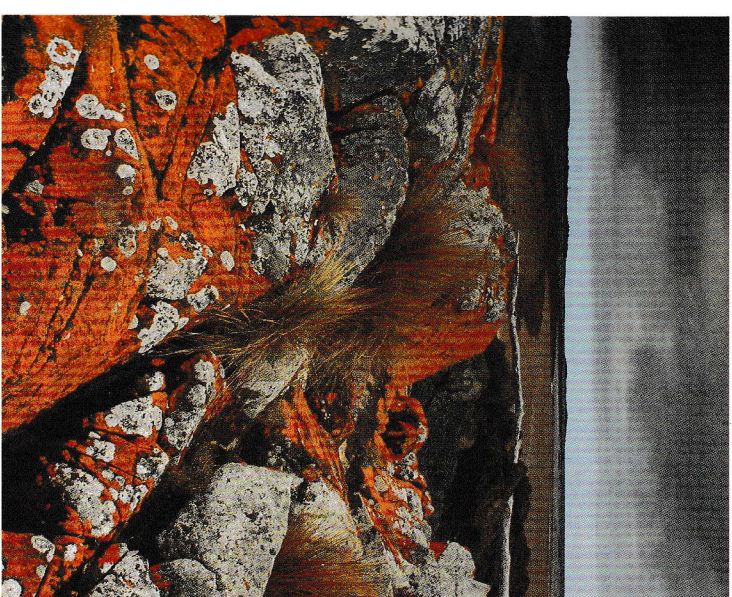


Photo: Griffith Point, Michael Zender

west to east, follow the above directions for the Badger Head walk. From Badger Head follow Bakers Beach towards West Head. The detour to the top of West Head leads to an excellent viewing platform atop the cliffs. Follow the cliff-top track around West Head until you pick up the unsealed road that leads past Pebbly Beach onto Greens Beach township. If a car is left at each end, the walk can be done one way as a day walk. Alternatively you could walk from east to west and take advantage of the camping facilities at Springlawn.

**Point Vision Track** – 6 to 8 hours return. The most accessible summit is Point Vision (370m), which can be reached via a track from Springlawn Visitor Centre. The first section is mostly open and easy walking, especially in fine weather. Mt Asbestos at 400m is the highest point in the Asbestos Range. This ancient, worn spire is part of a once higher range.

# Narawntapu National Park

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	Boat Ramp		Information		Fire Trails
	Bushwalking		Picnic Area		Walking Tracks
	Camping		Ranger		Horse Trail
	Toilets		Swimming		Park Boundary
	Fishing		Disabled Access		Lookouts

