

Bass Coast Marine and Coastal Park

The Victorian Government is investing \$19.6 million to establish a Marine and Coastal Park on Victoria's rugged and beautiful Bass Coast.

As part of Victoria's Great Outdoors program, a Marine and Coastal Park will be created on Victoria's stunning Bass Coast to improve access to pristine beaches, upgrade walking trails and enhance the region's camping opportunities.

The Bass Coast Marine and Coastal Park will amalgamate existing parks and reserves along 40km of coastline between San Remo and Inverloch.

This spectacular part of Victoria includes numerous Aboriginal cultural heritage sites such as shell deposits, artefact scatters and a grinding stone site. It is also host to a wide range of flora and fauna, including several threatened species.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Parks Victoria are working closely with Traditional Owners, and consulting stakeholders and the wider community, to ensure they are engaged in the decisions that will shape this new park asset for the Bass Coast region.

The following parks and reserves will be amalgamated under schedule 3 of the National Parks Act (1975) which also ensures a higher level of environmental protection:

- Bunurong Marine Park
- Bunurong Coastal Reserve
- Punchbowl Coastal Reserve
- Kilcunda-Harmers Haven Coastal Reserve

KEY POINTS

- Amalgamate existing parks and reserves into a new Marine and Coastal Park along the Bass Coast
- The park will cover 40km of coastline between San Remo and Inverloch
- Enhanced conservation programs consolidated in a wider area provides increased environmental benefits and sustainability for future generations
- More people will be encouraged to explore and enjoy the outdoors
- New walking tourism product aims to increase visitation boosting jobs and the local economy.

The George Bass Coastal Walk, which is already a key drawcard for the area, is planned to be extended to showcase the natural and cultural values of the area to visitors and locals alike. Through improved access to beaches and other points of interest, interpretive and wayfinding signage, and upgraded facilities, DELWP and Parks Victoria aim to create an iconic walk as impressive as those found along the Great Ocean Road, the Grampians National Park, and the Alpine National Park.

Extension and routing of this walking trail, and a proposed new campground and associated facilities will form part of the public consultation process.

Further information

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