

# Lincoln National Park and Memory Cove Wilderness Protection Area



## Lincoln National Park

Lincoln National Park is a rugged peninsula with spectacular ocean views, sandy beaches and sheltered camping sites. The park is covered in large expanses of coastal mallee with granite outcrops and extensive sand dunes. The sheltered beaches of Boston Bay contrast with the exposed southern coastline where steep limestone cliffs form an impressive buttress to the open ocean.

Lincoln National Park protects coastal vegetation of the Eyre Peninsula and provides a safe refuge for rare fauna. Birds such as stints and sandpipers travel from as far as Siberia and the Arctic Circle to summer here as part of their seasonal migrations.

## Aboriginal heritage

The Barngarla and Nauo people utilised the rich food resources of the lower Eyre Peninsula coast long before the arrival of Matthew Flinders. A wide variety of fish, land mammals, reptiles and plants were utilised. Fish traps made from stone arrangements, stone working sites and middens are still present in the park.

## European history

Cape Donington has an early rural history that includes woodcutting, grazing and guano (seabird manure) mining, and records its first grain crop in 1875. Reflections of this period remain as abandoned farm machinery, cleared land and Donington Cottage.

The Rock Parrot moves in swift and erratic flight along the coast feeding on the seed of grass or low shrubs. Inland, thick mallee scrub protects birds such as wrens, whistlers, robins, honeyeaters, thornbills and the rare Western Whipbird.

## Park fees



Fees apply for entering and camping in Lincoln National Park. Fees collected are used for conservation and to maintain and improve facilities for your ongoing enjoyment. Entry and camping permits can be obtained from the self-registration station located at the main park entrance.

Annual and Holiday Park Passes can be purchased from the Port Lincoln Visitor Information Centre, 3 Adelaide Place, Port Lincoln.

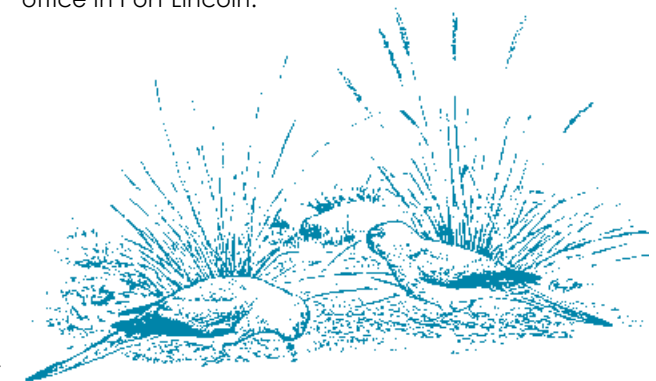
## Protecting flora and fauna

All plants and animals in the park are protected. Please visit and leave the area in its natural state for future visitors to enjoy.

A variety of wildlife monitoring and protection programs are conducted throughout the year. Fox baiting, with 1080 baits (safe to native wildlife) is a regular program. This allows existing populations of native wildlife to recover, and several species to be reintroduced.

You may be lucky to see a Heath Goanna or hear the wailing call of the Bush Stone-curlew, animals that are benefiting from the reduction of foxes. Brush-tailed Bettongs and Malleefowl have been reintroduced into the park in small numbers.

Flora and fauna lists are available from the DEWNR office in Port Lincoln.





## Sleaford – Wanna Dunes

Massive wind-sculpted sand dunes, pounding surf and limestone cliffs characterise the breathtaking Sleaford Bay coastline. When travelling on the Sleaford–Wanna Dunes 4WD track, please follow the route markers. The track is 4WD only. Use caution as it is narrow, with two-way traffic. Visitors entering from Sleaford; please obtain your park entry permit at the main park entrance before commencing your trip.

Traffic over dunes destroys small plants and the fungal crusts that bind sand and prevent erosion. Please keep vehicles to designated tracks, and obey signs. Remember to reduce tyre pressure when driving on sandy tracks or beaches. This will aid traction and reduce track damage.

## Memory Cove Wilderness Protection Area

Surrounded by magnificent wilderness, Memory Cove is a placid, scenic bay with a beautiful sandy beach. Cradled between densely vegetated headlands, it provides a relaxing camping or day-visit experience. Four-wheel drive is recommended.

To maintain the tranquillity and wilderness qualities of this area, visitor numbers are restricted and a Memory Cove Pass and key are required to enter this area. Memory Cove passes are available from the Port Lincoln Visitor Information Centre. For self-guided tour information please see the *Memory Cove Wilderness Protection Area* brochure on the [www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au) website.

Solid fuel fires are prohibited and no facilities exist to launch boats in the Wilderness Area. For campers intending to access Memory Cove by boat purchase a camping permit prior to your visit.

## Walking trails

There are many walking opportunities within the park. Suggested routes are shown on the map. Many of the beaches are also pleasant to wander along. If you choose an extended hike or trek, please let a reliable person know your planned route and expected time of return. Always carry adequate supplies of food and water and be prepared for changing weather conditions.

Family groups should allow 1 hour to walk 3 km. Add plenty of time for rests, lunch and to admire the views.

A separate brochure, *Bushwalking in Lincoln National Park*, describes and shows detail of more than 20 walks in the park.

### Investigator Trail

Take the time to enjoy a walk along some of the most beautiful, refreshing coastline in the state. The Investigator Trail is a long-distance coastal walking trail that takes its name from the *Investigator*, the ship Matthew Flinders commanded while surveying the rugged coastline of Lower Eyre Peninsula in 1802.

The trail, 93 kilometres in the park, can be walked in sections as day hikes or as overnight treks. For further details contact the Port Lincoln Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources office.

### Stamford Hill Hike

An energetic hike up Stamford Hill will reward visitors with spectacular views of Boston Bay, Port Lincoln and Lincoln National Park. A monument commemorating Matthew Flinders' voyage of discovery is located at the top.

1.1 km return, 45 minutes return.

## Walk Safely

### Be prepared when bushwalking:

- Wear sturdy shoes, hat and sunscreen.
- Carry sufficient food and drinking water. Allow two litres of water per person per half day. Do not rely on tanks in the park for drinking water.
- Inform a responsible person of your proposed route and expected time of return.
- Weather conditions can change quickly. Ensure you have appropriate wet-weather clothing.

## Bush camping

Camping is allowed only in areas shown on the map. Small generators may be operated between 9 am and 9 pm – be considerate of other visitors. Toilet facilities and limited rainwater are provided at most camping areas.

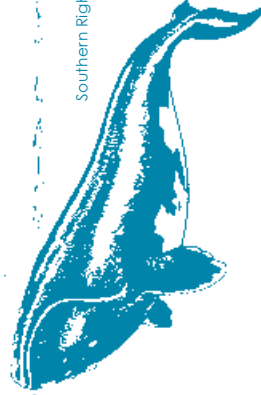
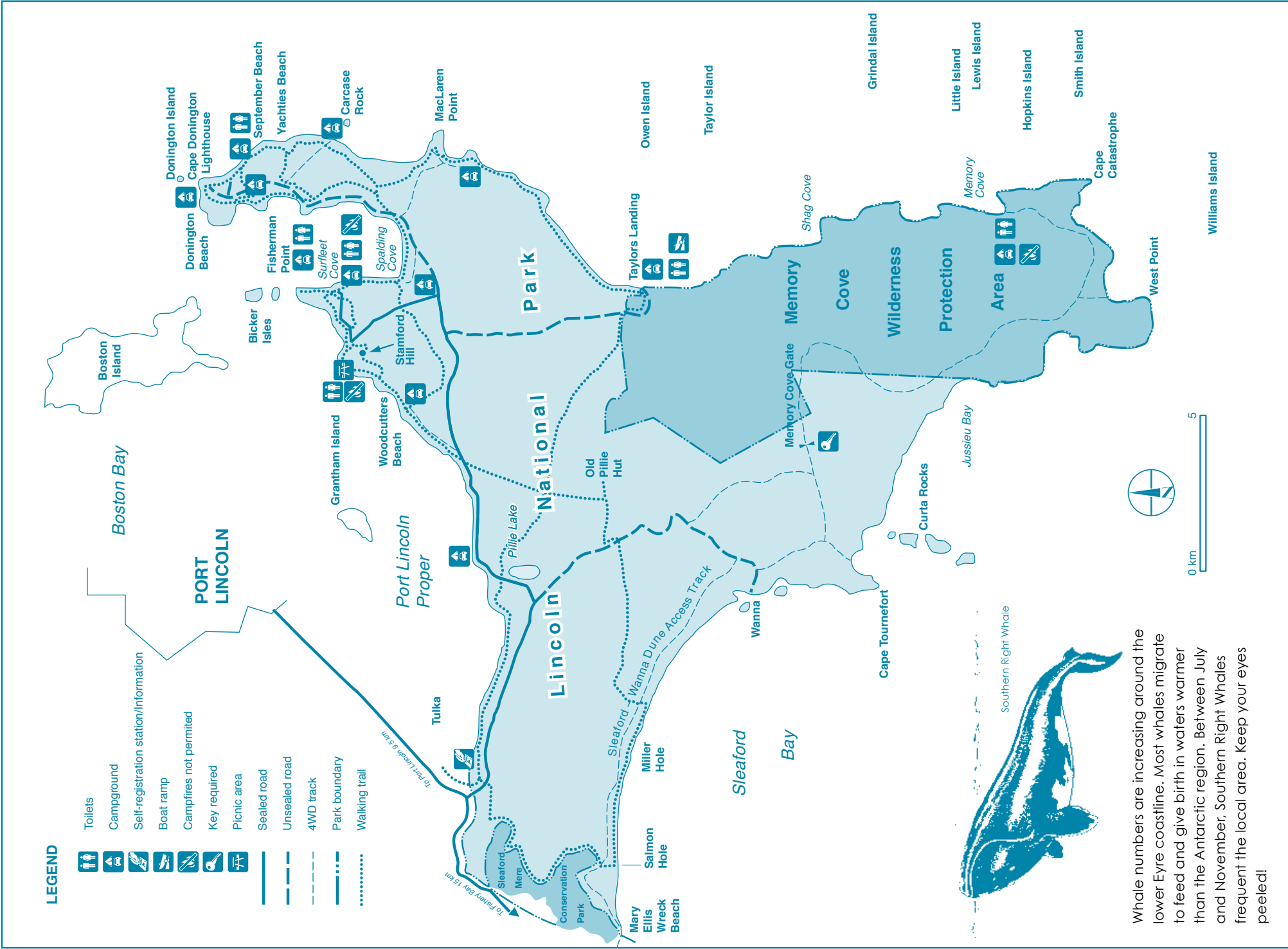
Please don't rely on the water, as supply is seasonal. See Memory Cove Wilderness Protection Area section for details on accessing the Memory Cove campground.

## Donington Cottage

Visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of this area while staying at Donington Cottage. Ideal for a comfortable seaside stay, this restored and fully furnished cottage overlooks a beautiful beach and scenic Spalding Cove. For further information and bookings please contact the Port Lincoln Visitor Information Centre.

**LEGEND**

-  Toilets
-  Campground
-  Self-registration station/Information
-  Boat ramp
-  Campfires not permitted
-  Key required
-  Picnic area
-  Sealed road
-  Unsealed road
-  4WD track
-  Park boundary
-  Walking trail



Southern Right Whale

Whale numbers are increasing around the lower Eyre coastline. Most whales migrate to feed and give birth in waters warmer than the Antarctic region. Between July and November, Southern Right Whales frequent the local area. Keep your eyes peeled!

## Local hazards

### • Unstable cliffs

Many cliffs are crumbling and undercut. Extreme care should be taken when walking, fishing or driving near any coastal area.

### • Seas

The exposed ocean that borders this park creates hazardous sea conditions including strong rips, large swells and freak waves.

### • 4WD tracks

Soft sand may bog 4WD vehicles. Please reduce tyre pressure when driving on sandy tracks or beaches. This will reduce track damage and aid in traction. Reducing tyre pressure even further may assist in retrieving bogged vehicles. The 4WD tracks are two-way access. Take care at track crests and bends. Drive with care at all times.

**Note: The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources does not operate a vehicle recovery service.**

### • 2WD tracks

The speed limit is 40 km/h unless otherwise signposted. Please respect wildlife in the park and drive at or below the limit.

### • Bushfires

Large bushfires have occurred in this area. During a bushfire, avoid driving through thick smoke or flames. Seek refuge in bare areas and await police direction.

### • Bees

Bees seeking water during hot summer weather may frequent camp sites and day visit areas.

Snakes have an unfortunate reputation that they don't deserve! Generally shy creatures, they prefer to keep clear of human contact. A snake will not harm you intentionally. Keep an eye out for them on roads and walking trails. Please let them cross safely.

## The National Parks Code

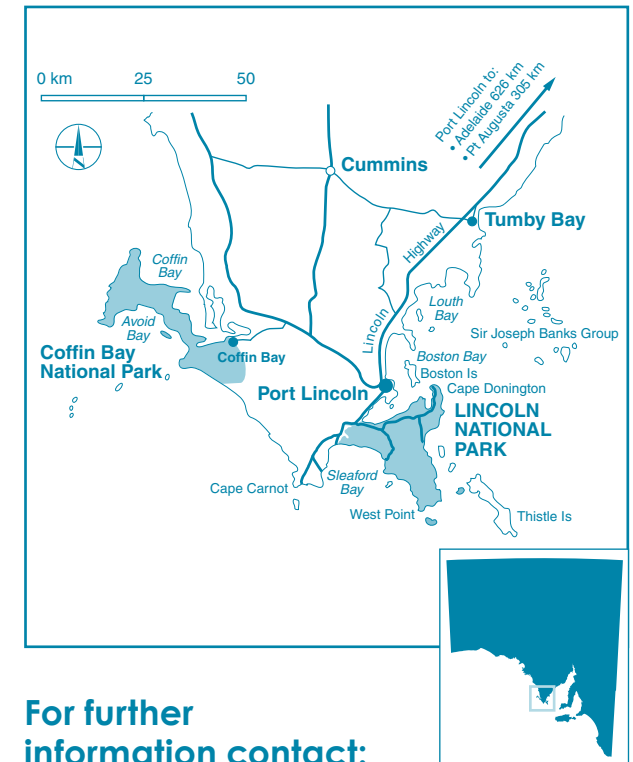
Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

- Leave your pets at home. 1080 poison, lethal to pets, is used in the park to control foxes.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Observe fire restrictions, usually 1 November to 30 April. Check CFS hotline 1300 362 361.
- Bring firewood from home, do not collect firewood from the park. Solid fuel fires are prohibited at Stamford Hill, Surfleet Cove and in Memory Cove Wilderness Area.
- Camp only in designated areas.
- Respect geological and heritage sites.
- Keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails.
- Be considerate of other park users.
- Firearms and hunting are not permitted.
- Sand boarding is prohibited. It causes severe erosion.

**Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state for the enjoyment of others.**



Matthew Flinders surveyed the coastline on his explorations in 1802. Dangerous waters at Cape Catastrophe claimed the lives of two officers and six crew who were sent to search for water in a small cutter. Flinders named offshore islands after these sailors and erected a memorial tablet in a sheltered bay which he named Memory Cove.



## For further information contact:

Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources  
75 Liverpool Street  
PO Box 22, Port Lincoln SA 5606  
Phone (08) 8688 3111 Fax (08) 8688 3110  
[www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/)

Port Lincoln Visitor Information Centre  
3 Adelaide Place, Port Lincoln (opposite Post Office)  
Open 9am - 5pm, 7 days a week  
Phone: (08) 8683 3544 or 1300 788 378  
Email: [info@visitportlincoln.net](mailto:info@visitportlincoln.net)

Phone: (08) 8204 1910  
Email: [dewnrinformation@sa.gov.au](mailto:dewnrinformation@sa.gov.au)  
Website: [www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au)

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