

SPECIAL OFFER

Crowdy Gap campground

Crowdy Bay National Park



nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

SPECIAL OFFER Stay 3, pay 2

Stay 3 nights, pay only 2 nights. Valid for stays between 29 April and 29 November 2019. Excludes NSW school holidays and public holiday weekends. Subject to availability. Book online.

Overview

A good spot for group camping trips, pitch your tent or park your caravan at Crowdy Gap campground in Crowdy Bay National Park. The beach is just a short walk away.

Number of campsites 10

Camping type Tent, Camper trailer site, Caravan site, Camping beside my vehicle

Facilities Picnic tables, barbecue facilities, carpark, showers, toilets

Price

- Rates and availability are displayed when making an online booking.
- A minimum nightly rate applies, which includes the first 2 occupants.
- \$24 per night (includes 2 people). Additional adults \$12 per night, child (5-15yrs) \$6 per per night. Infants (0-4 yrs) free.

Entry fees Park entry fees are not included in your camping fees.

Bookings Book online or call the National Parks Contact Centre on 1300 072 757.

Please note

- Check in 12pm, check out 11am.
- A maximum of 2 sites can be booked in one customer name. Maximum 6 guests per site (4 guests for vehicle-based sites).
- Each campsite has a fire ring with hot plate.
- School and not-for-profit groups should book directly with the Port Macquarie office.
- Food and supplies can be bought in Harrington, about 7km from the campground.

The only campground at the southern end of Crowdy Bay National Park, Crowdy Gap campground is located behind the sand dunes on the edge of Crowdy Bay on the site of an old dairy farm.

Set up camp among the banksias and pink-barked angophoras, inhale the fresh coastal breeze, and unpack your swimmers for a beachside camping holiday. It's an easy walk through lush rainforest and sand dunes to Crowdy Beach. Spend your days diving into the clear blue waves, fishing, and walking the golden beaches. As the sun sets, gather together and cook up your catch over the barbecue.

A place of significance to the local Birpai Aboriginal people, shell middens are dotted through the dunes, indicating this was an area of plenty for fish, shellfish and wallabies.

Take a virtual tour of Crowdy Gap campground captured with [Google Street View Trekker](#).

Local alerts

For the latest updates on fires, closures and other alerts in this area, see <https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/camping-and-accommodation/campgrounds/crowdy-gap-campground/local-alerts>

Operated by

National Parks Contact Centre

 7am to 7pm daily

 1300 072 757 (13000 PARKS) for the cost of a local call within Australia excluding mobiles

 parks.info@environment.nsw.gov.au

 02 9585 6831

Park info

 in [Crowdy Bay National Park](#) in the [North Coast](#) region

 Crowdy Bay National Park is always open but may have to close at times due to poor weather or fire danger.

Park entry fees:

\$8 per vehicle per day. Pay park entry fees at the Diamond Head campground onsite office.

Buy a pass (<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/visit-a-park/parks/crowdy-bay-national-park/visitor-info#Fees-and-passes>).

 Port Macquarie office
02 6588 5555 for general enquiries only, no bookings.
Contact hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm.
22 Blackbutt Road, Port Macquarie NSW 2444
Email: npws.hastingsmacleay@environment.nsw.gov.au

Visitor info

All the practical information you need to know about Crowdy Gap campground.

Getting there and parking

Crowdy Gap campground is in the southern section of Crowdy Bay National Park. There are 3 routes:

- Via Harrington along Crowdy Head Road and Crowdy Bay Road
- Via Moorland along Coralville Road and Crowdy Bay Road
- Via Laurieton along Diamond Head Road, Coralville Road and Crowdy Bay Road.

Road quality

- Unsealed roads

Vehicle access

- 2WD vehicles

Parking

There is a maximum of 2 vehicles (including caravans and camper trailers for vehicle-based sites) per site. Parking is permitted in the designated parking area adjacent to your campsite. Limited additional parking is available in the campground.

Best times to visit

Crowdy Bay National Park generally enjoys a warm subtropical climate. However outside of winter the temperature can reach above 30C, so be sure to carry sunscreen, a hat and plenty of water. Drinking water is not available within the park. Winter days and nights can be cool to cold, particularly in exposed areas of the park.

Spring

Wildflowers paint the dunes and heath in spectacular colour during spring.

Summer

Swimming, boating and fishing – enjoy the delights of Crowdy Bay's magnificent beaches. Look out for the festive Christmas Bell blooms.

Winter

Remember your binoculars and camera to experience the sight of migrating whales.

Weather, temperature and rainfall

Summer temperature

Average	Highest recorded
19°C and 25°C	43.3°C

Winter temperature

Average	Lowest recorded
10°C and 19°C	-1.7°C

Rainfall

Wettest month	Driest month	The area's highest recorded rainfall in one day
February and March	September	310mm

Facilities

- Campsites are marked and most are suitable for tents only. Limited sites are available for small caravans (under 15ft/4.6m), camper trailers and campervans.
- No powered sites are available.
- Drinking water is not available so you'll need to bring your own supply.
- We encourage you to take your rubbish with you.
- Please be considerate of others and keep noise low. Noise restrictions apply from 10pm.

Toilets

 Non-flush toilets

 Picnic tables

 Barbecue facilities

Each campsite has a fire ring with hot plate. You can buy firewood and ice from the office at [Diamond Head campground](#). Collecting firewood from the park is not permitted.

- Gas/electric barbecues (free)
- Fire rings (bring your own firewood)

 Carpark

 Showers

There's an outside rainwater shower.

- Cold showers

Maps and downloads

 Crowdy Gap campground factsheet

 Crowdy Gap campground map (223.8KB pdf)

Fees and passes

Park entry fees are payable at the campground through the self-registration envelopes (cash only) or at the [Diamond Head campground onsite office](#). Annual passes are available to be purchased at the [Diamond Head campground onsite office](#) or online prior to your arrival.

- All Parks Pass - For all parks in NSW (including Kosciuszko NP) \$190 (1 year) / \$335 (2 years)
- Multi Parks Pass - For all parks in NSW (except Kosciuszko) \$65 (1 year) / \$115 (2 years)
- Country Parks Pass - For all parks in Country NSW (except Kosciuszko) \$45 (1 year) / \$75 (2 years)
- Single Country Park Pass - For entry to a single park in country NSW (except Kosciuszko). \$22 (1 year) / \$40 (2 years)

Safety messages

 Beach safety

Beaches in this park are not patrolled, and can sometimes have strong rips and currents. These [beach safety tips](#) will help you and your family stay safe in the water.

Patrolled beaches are available during summer adjacent to Crowdy Head Surf Life Saving Club, located 2km south of Crowdy Gap campground.

 Camping safety

Whether you're pitching your tent on the coast or up on the mountains, there are many things to consider when camping in NSW national parks. [Find out how to stay safe when camping](#).

 Fire safety

During periods of fire weather, the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service may declare a total fire ban for particular NSW fire areas, or statewide. Learn more about [total fire bans and fire safety](#).

 Mobile safety

Dial Triple Zero (000) in an emergency. Download the [Emergency +](#) app before you visit, it helps emergency services locate you using your smartphone's GPS. Please note there is limited mobile phone reception in this park and you'll need mobile reception to call Triple Zero (000).

There's no public telephone available but there is some mobile phone service in the campground.

Accessibility



Disability access level - medium

- Assistance may be required to access this area
- There is a ramp to access the toilets however the campground is gravel based and uneven in places
- There is no wheelchair access to the beach

Permitted



Camp fires and solid fuel burners

Fires are permitted in the designated fire pits only. All other types of campfires are not permitted.



Fishing

Speare fishing is permitted in designated areas only.

Prohibited

Amplified music is not permitted.

Chemical toilets are not permitted.



Gathering firewood



Generators



Pets

Pets and domestic animals (other than certified assistance animals) are not permitted. Find out which [regional parks allow dog walking](#) and see the [pets in parks policy](#) for more information.



Smoking

NSW national parks are [no smoking areas](#).

Nearby towns

Forster (41 km)

Dominated by water sports Forster is the centre of the Great Lakes area.

www.visitnsw.com

Laurieton (20 km)

Located at the base of North Brother Mountain in Dooragan National Park, Laurieton is one of the villages that make up the Camden Haven area on the North Coast of NSW. Laurieton is 30km south of Port Macquarie and offers an idyllic holiday spot for families, nature-lovers and anyone who enjoys a holiday by the beach.

www.visitnsw.com

Taree (28 km)

Taree is a major mid North Coast city, ringed by superb beaches. It's situated on the Manning River and set against rolling hills.

www.visitnsw.com

Learn more

Crowdy Gap campground is in Crowdy Bay National Park. Here are just some of the reasons why this park is special:

Gifts of nature



The views may grab the headlines, but within the park are more secretive delights that change with the seasons. These include rolling dunes that spring to life with wildflowers and migratory birds that populate the lagoons. There are lots of great lookouts to spot whales from as they migrate along the coast in winter or watch ospreys and falcons circle in the skies. Not to mention, kangaroos, koalas and cockatoos galore. Christmas visitors will receive an extra gift, Crowdy Bay's famous festive season blooms of Christmas bells.



Mermaid lookout track Mermaid lookout track takes you on a tour of Crowdy Bay National Park's secret surprises. Secluded coves, sweeping beaches and mountain views await you on this short hike.



Metcalfes walking track Get up close with nature on Metcalfes walking track, which links Indian Head and Kyllies Beach in Crowdy Bay National Park. It's a family friendly hike and the kids might even spot a koala.

Past present



The Birpai People have climbed the headlands, swum in the rivers, crossed the sand dunes and walked the beaches of Crowdy Bay National Park for thousands of years. The sea and forest areas were a rich food source for the Birpai People, providing fish, shellfish, wallabies and berries. The park protects a number of Aboriginal sites, like shell middens and campsites, the oldest of which are about 6,000 years old. The park continues to be an important place for local Aboriginal people today.

Postcard perfect



This spectacular environment is truly something to write home about. If you can't find the words, try these - panoramic, breathtaking, even gobsmacking. Then again, you'll probably be too busy exploring the tracks, gazing agape at the huge rock arches, communing with wildlife or throwing a line to write lines on a postcard.



Crowdy Gap walking track The short and sweet Crowdy Gap walking track in Crowdy Bay National Park, near Taree, offers a stroll through rainforest with scenic views and the chance to see koalas.



Diamond Head Loop walk Diamond Head loop walk offers scenic coastal views across Crowdy Bay National Park. Expect beaches, lookouts, and glinting rock faces, giving Diamond Head its name.

Writers' retreat



During World War II, the Australian author Kylie Tennant moved to Laurieton where she met the reclusive Ernie Metcalfe, a farmer who grazed cattle on Diamond Head. Ernie built Kylie a timber slab hut to use as a writer's retreat. In return, Kylie portrayed Metcalfe and Crowdy Bay in the book *The Man on the Headland*. Kylie Tennant donated the hut and the surrounding land to Crowdy Bay National Park in 1976. If you're walking along the Metcalfe walk, stop to have a look inside Kylie's hut, or you could set up camp at one of the shady campsites at Kylie's Hut walk-in campground.

Plants and animals you may see

Animals



White-bellied sea eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*)

White-bellied sea eagles can be easily identified by their white tail and dark grey wings. These raptors are often spotted cruising the coastal breezes throughout Australia, and make for some scenic bird watching. Powerful Australian birds of prey, they are known to mate for life, and return each year to the same nest to breed.



Brown-striped frog (*Lymnastes peronii*)

One of the most common frogs found in Australia, the ground-dwelling brown-striped frog lives in ponds, dams and swamps along the east coast. Also known as the striped marsh frog, this amphibian grows to 6.5cm across and has a distinctive 'tok' call that can be heard all year round.



Lace monitor (*Varanus varius*)

One of Australia's largest lizards, the carnivorous tree-dwelling lace monitor, or tree goanna, can grow to 2m in length and is found in forests and coastal tablelands across eastern Australia. These Australian animals are typically dark blue in colour with whitish spots or blotches.

Plants



Black sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*)

The black sheoak is one of a number of casuarina species found across the east coast of Australia and nearby tablelands. Growing to a height of 5-15m, these hardy Australian native plants can survive in poor or sandy soils. The barrel-shaped cone of the black sheoak grows to 10-30mm long.



Grass tree (*Xanthorrea spp.*)

An iconic part of the Australian landscape, the grass tree is widespread across eastern NSW. These Australian native plants have a thick fire-blackened trunk and long spiky leaves. They are found in heath and open forests across eastern NSW. The grass tree grows 1-5m in height and produces striking white-flowered spikes which grow up to 1m long.

Environments in this park



Coastal environments



Wetland environments



Heathland environments

Education resources (1)



What is a national park?, Stage 2 (Years 3-4), HSIE