

# Diamond Head campground

## Crowdy Bay National Park



[nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

### Overview

The beachside campground at Diamond Head is one of the most popular places to stay in Crowdy Bay National Park. It includes caravan sites as well as picnic amenities.

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**Number of campsites** 75

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

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**Where** 763 Diamond Head Road, Diamond Head, NSW, 2443 - in [Crowdy Bay National Park](#)

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**Facilities** Amenities block, picnic tables, barbecue facilities, carpark, showers, toilets

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**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.

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**Entry fees** [Park entry fees](#) apply and are not included in your camping fees.

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**Please note**

- Check in 12pm, check out 11am. You must check in to the onsite office on arrival.
- A maximum of 2 sites can be booked in one customer name
- Fires are permitted in off-the-ground braziers only. Hire is available from the onsite office.
- School and not-for-profit groups should book directly with the Port Macquarie office on 02 6588 5555.
- You can buy your food and supplies in Laurieton, about 10km from the campground.

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With its excellent camping and picnic facilities, the beach side campground at Diamond Head is one of the most popular places to stay in Crowdy Bay National Park. It includes campsites for motorhomes, caravans, campervans, camper trailers and tents.

Once you've ogled the ocean and the blackened pillars of Split Rock from the beach, there is lots more to explore. Take your choice from several hiking tracks, including the 4.8km Diamond Head loop walk via Indian Head with its panoramic views of coast, mountains and forest, or the shorter Mermaid Lookout track. And don't forget to pick up your wildflowers identification brochure, bird and fauna lists from the onsite office before you head out.

You'll find gas barbecues, picnic shelters and outdoor showers right next to the beach.

Take a virtual tour of Diamond Head 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/diamond-head-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](mailto: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](mailto:npws.hastingsmacleay@environment.nsw.gov.au)

## Visitor info

All the practical information you need to know about Diamond Head campground.

## Getting there and parking

Diamond Head campground is in the northern section of Crowdy Bay National Park. When you enter the park, follow Diamond Head Road to the campground.

There is 4WD access to the beach from Diamond Head but you'll need to organise a permit from [Port Macquarie-Hastings Council](#) before setting out.

### Road quality

- Unsealed roads

### Vehicle access

- 2WD vehicles

### Weather restrictions

- All weather

### Parking

Parking is permitted within your campsite boundaries only. There is a designated parking area for walk-in camping area bookings.

Parking in the day use area is for visitors only.

## 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

- The main part of the campground has marked sites and is suitable for motorhomes, caravans, campervans, camper trailers and tents. No powered sites are available.
- Campsites in the walk-in camp area are suitable for tents only. All equipment must be carried from vehicles to the camp area (about 150m).
- Drinking water is not available so you'll need to bring your own supply.

- Fires are permitted in off-the-ground braziers only. Hire is available from the onsite office.
- Firewood and ice can be purchased from the onsite office. Collecting firewood from the park is not permitted.
- Rubbish and recycling bins are available near the amenities block.
- There is a Dump-Ezy for chemical toilet waste
- Please be considerate of others and keep noise down. Noise restrictions apply from 10pm.

### Amenities

Outdoor beach showers and cold showers are available.

### Toilets

- Flush toilets

### Picnic tables

### Barbecue facilities

- Gas/electric barbecues (free)

### Carpark

Additional parking onsite is provided for day visitors only.

### Showers

- Cold showers

## Maps and downloads

 [Diamond Head campground factsheet](#)

 [Diamond Head campground map \(719.1KB pdf\)](#)

## Safety messages

### Beach safety

Beaches are not patrolled. Strong rips and currents may be present at the beaches in this area – take care in the water and please supervise children at all times.

### 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.](#)

### Mobile safety

[Download the Emergency + app](#) before you visit, it helps emergency services locate you using your smartphone's GPS. There's no public telephone available but there is mobile phone service in the campground. Dial Triple Zero (000) in an emergency and give this address:

Crowdy Bay National Park, Diamond Head Road, Laurieton NSW 2433.

## Accessibility

### Disability access level - medium

Assistance may be required to access this area. There are wheelchair accessible toilets at the campground.

## Permitted



### Camp fires and solid fuel burners

Fires are permitted in off-the-ground braziers only. Hire is available from the onsite office.



### Fishing

Spear fishing is permitted in designated areas only.

## Prohibited

Amplified music is not permitted.



### Gathering firewood



### Generators

Generators are not permitted.



### 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

### Laurieton (7 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](http://www.visitnsw.com)

### Port Macquarie (31 km)

Vibrant Port Macquarie is surrounded by beautiful waterways - the Hastings River, canals, creeks, bays and the Pacific Ocean. The city also has a five-star collection of golden-sand beaches stretching from [Port Macquarie Beach](#) to Town Beach and north along the 16-km swathe of North Beach.

[www.visitnsw.com](http://www.visitnsw.com)

### Taree (39 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](http://www.visitnsw.com)

## Learn more

Diamond Head 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 Kylies 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