



## A South East NSW guide for cyclists, campers

Hopefully these pages will provide additional local information for travellers wanting to explore the New South Wales South Coast by camping, Couchsurfing, cycling or vanning



## From the south to the north

This is a beautiful journey along some great coastline with fabulous beaches and national parks.

The Princes Highway from Melbourne goes through eastern Victoria (known as Gippsland) and then up the NSW south coast. There are lots of pretty spots along the NSW coast but for most of the way the highway goes a little way inland so using public transport makes it very difficult to appreciate the beaches and coastal scenery.

While the road up the NSW south coast highway goes through pleasant scenery unless you can get to the coastal routes it's not what I would call spectacular as it is mainly through forests. You really do need to take the coastal scenic routes.

The Gippsland drive is through open farming country to Lakes Entrance from Melbourne and then largely typical southern Australian timbered country to the NSW border. The only place you touch the coast is at Lakes Entrance or taking a detour at Orbost to Cape Conran and also visiting Marlo.

If you are coming by bus along the Princes Highway without access to car/campervan travel it won't be such a scenic journey.

There are many opportunities to camp along the way - below in the details you will find suggestions and you might also look at this link as well (<http://tinyurl.com/kpjztsr>)

- There are free tourist maps available at the Visitor Centres along the route. Easy to pick up, easy to use. The free maps are detailed enough to use them as a routemap for cyclist. The free maps are free because of the advertisements surrounding the map. They are actually quite handy if you don't have a guide with camping sites with you. It is not one big map but split into the different regions of NSW. There is also a free map of East-Gippsland in Victoria.(Dirk-Jaap and Veerle)
- There are various apps for on your mobile device. We used the 'Campin Australia' app which can also be used offline.(Dirk-Jaap and Veerle)

## Coming from the Victorian Border:



[www.southcoasttravelguide.com.au](http://www.southcoasttravelguide.com.au)

## Mallacoota to Merimbula

This area is called the Sapphire Coast - they have a good website here <http://tinyurl.com/mq8t4a3>

Between Eden and Cann River there is no place to pick up fresh water so make sure you stock enough drinking water. (Dirk-Jaap and Veerle)

**Mallacoota** is a nice town and worthy of a visit

<http://www.visitmallacoota.com.au/>

Mallacoota has a beautiful shared trail which meanders along the shore of the magnificent lake from the centre of the village all the way to beginning of the walking track into the Narrows. The trail is flat and wide and has many benches on the way for a restful break (bird watching, taking pictures and watching the sun set). It is suitable for walking and cycling for people of all ages and fitness levels. This is an experience not to be missed.

**Cycling:** From Mallacoota to Eden there are a few hills on the way here which you won't mind as you get some relief on the downhill. There isn't any real excitement and the picnic spots are unexciting.. Average speed :17.2 km per hr

max speed 44.5

ride time 5hr 1 min

day distance 86.98 km

source ( <http://tinyurl.com/q4lqtw6> )

## On the way to Eden you can turn off to go to Edrom

<http://www.edromlodge.com.au/>

To get to Edrom is a pain in the arse - the road goes on forever up and down so if you are cycling don't bother

If you are driving then when you arrive you will find a little cove that is beside a very UGLY wharf - i recommend NOT going to the Edrom cove and waiting until you get to Quarantine Bay a little north

There are however some excellent walks in this area if you want to camp nearby.

<http://www.edromlodge.com.au/Edrom Lodge Flyer Bushwalkers.pdf>

Just before Eden you will see Quarantine Bay - this is an absolute MUST stopping place and is a good place for toilets, a shower, water, a stroll on the beach, a swim and you could camp overnight here if you are very discreet.

**Eden** ( <http://www.visiteden.com.au/> )

Eden a boring port town and not worth a stay however there are things to see and do there before moving on.

Instead of staying in Eden move a little further along to Merimbula which has a great ocean swimming/surfing beach, and is also a major holiday town with plenty of accommodation and places to see nearby. Just make sure at Merimbula you get off the main highway and instead follow the coastal road to Tathra and Bermagui (which are also very good places to stop, if you don't fancy Merimbula - both have accommodation, and Tathra has a great beach and good places to eat).

In Eden:

There is a great walk called the Light To Light Walk

Green Cape Light station provides an important insight into local maritime history. Take a full day walk or two hour stroll along the 30km Light to Light Walk between Boyd's Tower and Green Cape Lightstation. Nearby Boyd's Tower is historic Davidson Whaling Station where relics and plaques recapture the atmosphere of that bygone era. Access to the northern section of the park is via Haycock Road which leaves the Princes Highway, 8km north of Eden. Access to the southern section is via Edrom Road, turning off the Princes Highway, 18km south of Eden. Enquire at the Eden Visitors' Centre for comprehensive information and maps.



[www.southcoasttravelguide.com.au](http://www.southcoasttravelguide.com.au)

## Pambula to Tathra

Leave highway at Pambula and cycle towards Merimbula

Links:

Merimbula Visitor Information Centre,  
<http://www.merimbulatourism.com.au/>

Youth Hostel  
<http://tinyurl.com/o8umb7x>

**From Merimbula travel the coast road via Tathra**

**Tathra Visitor centre**  
<http://www.tathra-beach.com.au/>

**Cyclists:** Bike shop,  
<http://www.cyclensurf.com.au/>

Click here ( <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/573121> ) for a Google map and elevations of the route from Tathra to Bermagui and Wallaga Lake



## Tathra to Bermagui

**Tathra:** <http://www.tathra-beach.com.au/>

**Tathra Wildlife Reserve** - The small parking area is on the western side of the road at the entrance to Tathra (Bega side). This 60 hectare wildlife corridor has prolific birdlife and an abundance of native flora. The Blueberry Ash Trail is particularly entrancing, leading through coastal forest then under a canopy of oaks where leaves and pine needles carpet the forest floor. Across a small bridge and up to a viewing platform which overlooks a timbered ravine where the only sound is the wind in the treetops and the crack of a Whip Bird. An easy walk (3/4 hour) on a well constructed trail. A map is located at the carpark

**Tathra Wharf** - A top fishing and scuba diving spot. Parking can be a problem and a popular alternative is to continue past the Wharf Road turnoff and park on the Tathra Headland with its spectacular views. To the north, views embrace the majority of the Mimosa Rocks National Park, and yes, that sign at the end of the road is correct! Heavy seas washed away the original road down to the Wharf during the 1950's and two men were drowned. The road can be used as a walking track to the Wharf although it is rough. Stairs are located on the headland directly above the Wharf. The Tathra Wharf has a small maritime museum upstairs, in the original cargo sheds.

From Tathra take the coast road to **Bermagui** <http://www.bermagui.net/>

Road is fully sealed, easily accessible. Please note that most bridges are single lane. Be prepared to give way to south-bound traffic

Next to Tathra, about 5 km, lies Kalaru. It has a nice camping (<http://www.countrysidepark.com.au/>) with an onsite shop. It is also a bit cheaper than the sites in Tathra (Dirk-Jaap and Veerle)

The 44 kilometre coast road from Tathra to Bermagui is one of the great coastal drives. The road passes between a continuous stretch of national parks, state forests and magnificent sandy beaches. Immediately north of Tathra the drive takes you through the Mimosa Rocks National Park past five turn-offs to the beaches and bush camping grounds.

The northern-most campground is at Aragunnu which features the Mimosa Rocks, a formation of massive blocks of volcanic rock named after the SS Mimosa which was wrecked there in 1863.

The beach is superb for walking, swimming, and surfing.

There's a boardwalk from the parking and camping areas to the Mimosa Rocks.

It crosses an Aboriginal midden that overlooks the beach.

The area was important for Aboriginal people because of the fresh water creeks running through the coastal bush, the diversity of plants and animals, and the plentiful seafood.

Middens are built up from the remains of meals discarded over thousands of years. They comprise mostly shellfish remains as well as the bones of fish, birds, and land and sea mammals.

They are usually near a supply of fresh water and where there is plenty of shellfish - and on a good spot to sit down for a meal.

**Aragunnu has plenty of good spots that are a part of thousands of years of Aboriginal history.**

It's estimated that Aboriginal people have occupied the area for around 25,000 years, and that the sea level has been at its current point for around 6,000 years.

Sitting there in the peace of the coastal vegetation while listening to the sounds of the birds and the surf and contemplating that extraordinary history provides a powerful connection with Aboriginal culture.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service maintains 50 camping sites spread out among the trees.

The sites are good for tent camping or in vans, but not suitable for caravans, motorhomes, or buses.

Be prepared for a possible visit from a goanna, and remember to store your food away.

You need to bring your own water and also firewood if you want to use the provided fireplaces.

Note that it is illegal to gather firewood from a National Park.

However, a gas barbecue is provided in the picnic area.

Non-flush toilets are provided.

NPWS categorise disability access as easy, but the beach is not accessible for wheelchairs.



Aragunnu is generally regarded as a magical place and well worth a visit.

## Mimosa Rocks National Park <http://tinyurl.com/lm4lcr>

Remember to take your own drinking water and \$1 coins for the gas BBQ's. Much of the area was originally State Forest as can be seen by the stand of beautiful Spotted Gums. The National Park was named after the 'SS Mimosa' which was wrecked on rocks which can be seen from Aragunnu, an Aboriginal sacred site inside the park. Inside Mimosa Rocks National Park are some stunning beaches:

- **Nelsons Beach** - Have a BBQ or picnic amongst the Spotted Gums and Burrawong Palms. The lagoon offers excellent snorkelling.
- **Middle Beach** - Popular picnic spot with good shallow swimming. Remember, these beaches are not patrolled. There is a pleasant walk south along the sandspit which closes off Middle Lagoon from the sea.

### **The unknown shipwreck**

A mysterious wrecked sailing ship can still be seen occasionally after heavy seas on Nelsons Beach. The schooner of about 70 tons was discovered in 1859 by the captain of the SS Mimosa bottom up and loaded with cedar logs. No survivors or owners were ever discovered.

## Tathra to Bermagui (continued)

Big George Nelson, the pistol-carrying drover... The area from the Bega River to Wapengo and inland to near Bega was originally known as Nelsons. George Nelson was a drover who came to the area in 1846. He was a big man who wore a brace of pistols at all times and was much feared by the Aborigines. He disappeared and it was local belief that he was murdered.

- **Gillards Beach** - Popular as a camping and picnic spot, Gillards also offers excellent fishing.
- **Bithry Inlet** - The beach and foreshore walk between Bithry Inlet and Middle Beach includes striking blades and shafts of secondary ironstone which have been exposed by erosion, leaving bizarre vertical rock sculptures.
- **Aragunnu** - Camping and picnic area. Park under the shady trees and walk along the boardwalk to the sea to view the massive rounded stones of volcanic rock.
- **Moon Bay** - A small, secluded beach only a short walk from the carpark.

How Moon Bay got its name... The first white child born in the Bega Valley, Caroline Moon, was born here when her parents landed with a flock of sheep en-route from Camden near Sydney, to Kameruka Estate inland at Candelo.

### Cuttagee Beach

Just south of Bermagui is Cuttagee Beach. At the northern end of the beach Cuttagee Lake, adjacent to the bridge, provides shallow water for swimming.

### Pick handles for the troops...

Although the river mouth is now silted up, in the 1800's sailing vessels of up to 90ft sailed up the river for loading. The southern end of Cuttagee Beach was the site of a steam powered sawmill which, during World War I, produced pick handles from Spotted Gum. The troops at Gallipoli used these for digging their trenches.

### Michael Lerner Lookout

A BBQ area with picnic tables and small viewing platform with great coastal views. Photographers will particularly enjoy this spot.

### A record holder...

Michael Lerner was a friend of Zane Grey, and is renowned as the only person to have hooked and landed two Blue Marlin simultaneously

**Cyclists: Araganu Beach**, Mimosa Rocks National Park to Bermagui - [http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/ride\\_14.html](http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/ride_14.html)

Click here for map [http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/map\\_14.pdf](http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/map_14.pdf)

Lake Wapengo and Picnic Point, Mimosa Rocks National Park to Bermagui

[http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/ride\\_15.html](http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/ride_15.html)

Click here for map

[http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/map\\_15.pdf](http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/map_15.pdf)

**Bermagui** - Spend some time investigating the natural wonders of this small coastal township: Blue Pool

The entrance to the carpark is right opposite the water tower and the pool is reached via a staircase from the parking area. This large spectacular swimming pool, plus the small pool for the children, has been a favourite with locals for many years. On a clear day the reflecting sapphire blue sky accounts for the name.

Originally called the Blue Hole and only half its present size, locals enlarged and improved it to its present standard in the 1940's, rock being blasted and then removed by wheelbarrow to be dumped in the sea. The small pool was constructed and dressing sheds built at the top of the stairs at the same time.

Bermagui has a bike shop. Nice guy, originally from Hungary, running a bikeshop from his garage. It is not in the center of town so you better ask a local where it is.(Dirk-Jaap and Veerle)

## From Bermagui take the coast road towards Narooma via Wallaga Lake

**Cyclists:** <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/2105666>

See also Bermagui to Camel Rock and Wallaga Lake [http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/ride\\_12.html](http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/ride_12.html)

for map see [http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/map\\_12.pdf](http://www.cyclingnarooma.com.au/map_12.pdf)

### **Dickinson Park**

Dickinson Park was known as Zane Grey Park, for the American author who camped on the headland and enjoyed the Australian country life between his fishing trips. Zane Grey's magazine articles put Bermagui on the map as a big game fishing venue and the Caravan Park still carries his name.

The park however was re-named for philanthropist Bill Dickinson. He came to Bermagui in 1935 on a one day trip. It is said he walked around the township and visited the cemetery where he noticed that most people had lived until their eighties. He always said this was the reason he decided to live in Bermagui. He resided at the Horseshoe Bay Hotel for 15 years. Community fundraising always received pound for pound donations from Mr Dickinson. He assisted in the building of many local facilities, and is credited with having had the many Norfolk Pines planted. He died in 1950 aged 82.

Dickinson Park is an ideal spot to sit and watch the fishing boats return to harbour, savour a feast of Bermagui's famous fish'n'chips, or just enjoy the spectacular view.

### **The Freshwater Lagoon**

Opposite Coluga Street on the northern entrance to Bermagui, this was once a deep salt water lagoon. It sealed itself from the sea following dredging of the mouth for gravel. The lagoon then dried up completely during the 1980's drought but has refilled with fresh rainwater since. It is now a habitat for native birds.

### **Mount Dromedary**

Mount Dromedary dominates the scene across Horseshoe Bay, and it was from a spring on its heights that the first water was piped to Bermagui in 1952. Prior to this tank water was supplemented by ballast water brought by ships calling to take on produce. You can climb Mt Dromedary - this is an excellent climb - leave your bike at Pam's Store Tilba Tilba and grab a copy of the national Parks guide to this strenuous climb to the summit.

**The Tilba Region** nestles beneath the majestic Gulaga (Mt Dromedary). This mountain is a site of great spiritual significance to the local Yuin people and in May 2006 the NSW Government formally handed back Gulaga National Park ownership and management to the Aboriginal communities on the Far South Coast. • Gulaga has been described by Aboriginal people as the place of ancestral origin for all Yuin people, while Gulaga itself symbolises the mother and provides a basis for Aboriginal spiritual identity, for Aboriginal women and men.

It is possible to walk up the mountain (Length: 14km return) on most days with a track leaving from behind Pam's Store in Tilba Tilba. Visitors should allow half a day to enjoy the walk and experience the wonderful rainforest near the summit. The track is only really steep in several areas and doesn't require any special hiking equipment, just a strong pair of shoes. It is also a good idea to take some water and snacks to enjoy at the summit while taking in the views.

### **Montague Island**

From either headland, Montague Island and the lighthouse can be seen to the north, although visibility varies according to the prevailing weather conditions. Granite from Montague Island was used in the building of the Sydney G.P.O.

### **Scenic Forest Drive**

A short detour through a forest of Spotted Gums and Burrawongs on a well maintained gravel road will take you around the southern shore of Wallaga Lake to discover a very pretty picnic spot with BBQ's and fresh water. From the BBQ area a short bushwalk is signposted. Worth the effort. Leaving Bermagui you head north, passing the turnoff that goes west to Cobargo and continue north along the coast road.

### **Old Goldfields' Lookout**

Turn right opposite the Wallaga Lake Caravan Park. Gold was discovered along this coastal stretch in 1880. Within two weeks, 2,500 miners were in the area. There were three hotels, stores and a newspaper all established within five weeks. Today there is little evidence of this frantic activity, just a few unused mine shafts, and a story of mystery and murder. Check at the

## From Bermagui towards Narooma via Wallaga Lake continued

### Camel rock

The entrance is opposite the Beauty Point turnoff. Facilities are minimal (just pit toilets, a picnic table and a shady tree to park under), but the short path to the beach takes you through to this fascinating rock. Yes, it can be seen from the road, but you will miss the rock pools around the base and the amazing variety of tiny coloured stones that shimmer in the clear water. The area is a popular snorkelling and fishing spot. Just a short stroll along the beach to the north and you will discover Horse Head Rock.

### Wallaga Lake Bridge

A single lane bridge (give way to south-bound traffic). A small picnic area can be enjoyed south of the bridge and virtually right in the middle of the lake. A special spot for birdwatchers. This extensive lake, actually a drowned river valley, created hardship for residents of Tilba prior to the building of the bridge in 1894. They experienced difficulty reaching the Bermagui Wharf to ship produce or receive stores. If the lake was closed they travelled along the beach, where deep soft sand made travel difficult with horse and cart heavily loaded, but when the lake mouth was open to the sea travel was almost impossible

### .The story of Emily Wintle...

Emily Wintle was the only freight carrier willing to freight goods across the water when the Wallaga Lake mouth was open to the sea. Emily was one of eight children and when she was just five years old she was bound-over to a farmer at Cobargo where she worked for 13 years both in the household and at heavy farmwork. She married Robert Wintle and they acquired a farm near Camel Rock. When her husband died in 1887 (she was then 37) she had six boys and five girls to support. Emily decided there was more money to be made being a carrier than a farmer. She carted stores from Bermagui to Tilba and backloaded railway sleepers, using a team of eight horses. When the lake mouth was open this necessitated unloading the wagon and taking the goods across on a punt, then swimming the horses over with the empty dray and reloading.

### Central Tilba <http://www.tilba.com.au/centraltilba.html>

Upon reaching the intersection with the Princes Highway, you may choose to turn right and continue a few kilometres to the National Trust Classified township of Central Tilba, for a leisurely cup of tea and a stroll through the many craft shops. Alternatively a left turn will take you back via the Princes Highway to continue north. Take a diversion onto the Old Highway. Lonely Planet, Google Maps and other cyclist blogs all take the Princess Highway, but looking on the map you will see the Old



Highway. This alternate route does take you away from being able to stay at the primitive campsite at Mystery Bay or to visit Handkerchief Beach which is just south of Narooma on the highway. Both locations are recommended stops. But for those in a hurry the alternate detour is better.

## Cycling: You are now in the shire known as Eurobodalla

Eurobodalla is the perfect place to explore on a bike. With an extensive range of paths connecting villages and towns to areas of interest, you can immerse yourself in the natural beauty and enjoy the stunning vistas and historic settlements at your own pace.

An excellent webpage <http://www.eurobodalla.com.au/cycling/>

has been set up by Eurobodalla Tourism and EuroBUG with different cycle adventures and info you might enjoy while in the Shire. Various rides within Eurobodalla have also been logged with GPS and you can find the following scenic mostly off highway routes at the following links:

Narooma Tilba, Mystery Bay Loop:

Narooma - Wagonga Inlet Route

South Durras Scenic tour

Batehaven to Moruya Cycle Route

Narooma to Dalmeny via Narooma Cemetery

Moruya to Congo

Durras Loop

Bermagui to Narooma via Wallaga Lake

Narooma to Congo via highway



Dont miss **Central Tilba** <http://www.tilba.com.au/centraltilba.html>

(cycle via Tilba Tilba loop road) and then further on Mystery Bay and the Mystery Bay Camping Ground

<http://mysterybaycampground.com.au/>



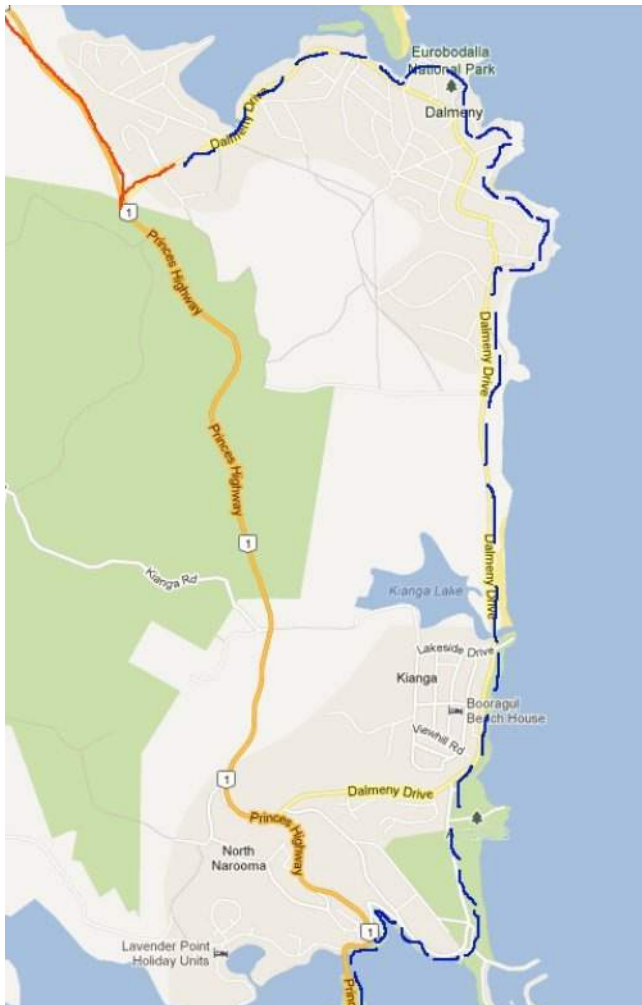
**Narooma** <http://www.narooma.org.au/>

In Narooma stay on highway (red) however this is steep from north to south - left is a very steep shortcut (red dash) so be careful both ways - up or down - don't go down if you don't trust your brakes or take Pink Dash that connects with the blue dash and circles the town by the sea via a stunning view over the golf course and the beach

There is a Youth Hostel on the south side of town on the highway (near where the red line starts) and there is free Internet at Narooma Library

In Narooma explore Bluewater Drive and the cycleway that starts at the swimming pool (next to the blue dash)

If you are visiting in Narooma be sure to go to the cemetery that is at the end of the Industrial Area drive (Glass House Rocks Drive) as you enter the town from the south. It really is a fabulous view and you can access the Glass House Rocks



Follow Narooma to Dalmeny cyclway (Blue Dash) across Narooma Bridge and then down into Mill Bay the cycleway becomes a timber walkway at Mill Bay stop at the Apex boatramp and look for huge sting rays and seals follow the concrete cycleway all the way to Dalmeny and then return to highway

A detailed map with elevations of the ride from Narooma to Dalmeny including a spur to Narooma cemetery can be found here:

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/2102617>

Above: Narooma Bridge to Dalmeny



**Cyclists:** Find elevations of the highway route between Narooma and the Congo turnoff 32kms here: <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/573121>

You can find a highspeed Youtube video showing the highway from Narooma to the Tuross Head turn off and into Tuross Head - this video is a good way to see the shoulders of the highway [http://youtu.be/NvZ1UjZ\\_5f4](http://youtu.be/NvZ1UjZ_5f4)

From Dalmeny there is a rest area to the north Bodalla Park Forest Rest Area—It has toilets and fireplaces

If you have time consider going to Brou Lake and staying at the primitive Brou Lake camp site (blue dash)

Facilities: non-flush toilets, fire rings (bring your own firewood) Water supply: No drinking water

At **Bodalla** look for Potato Point Road

At the intersection of the highway and Potato Point Road is an exceptional cafe called Blue Earth

At **Potato Point** is an excellent National Park camp ground (there is a short section of dirt road)

<http://www.beachcomberpark.com.au/>

Further north be sure to turn off the highway to **Tuross Head**

<http://www.turosshead.org>

Once you arrive at the houses make your way to the cycleway at the end of Lake Street and then follow the path along the shoreline

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1039080>

**North of Tuross** is the turnoff to **Bingie** - visit Mullimburrah Point which is in National Park

**Mullimburra Point** is composed of resilient 400 million-year-old granite. It is 20 m high and protrudes 1 km out to sea surrounded by steep rocky slopes. In amongst its crenulations are four beaches, one on the north side and three south, all located in the national park. It can be reached via the Bingie and Mullimburra Point roads, the latter terminating at the point with parking areas above the southern three beaches, and a track off the point road leading to the southern end of the northern beach. There are no facilities out here other than a national park picnic area on the point.

You can also bypass the highway by going to Moruya via **Congo** over a small section of gravel road and stay at the well equipped but still primitive Congo camping reserve—**Cyclists:** <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1148926>

In this area is the Bingie Dreaming Track [http://www.bingie.com/docs/BingieDreaming\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.bingie.com/docs/BingieDreaming_brochure.pdf)

**Cyclists:** In Moruya you will find an excellent bike shop (right at first roundabout)

Note that there is a free Internet at Moruya Library

At Moruya again turn off the highway and follow the coastal route to Broulee and all the way round to Bateman's Bay. Batemans Bay is the biggest tourist town on the south coast. In its own right it's not that attractive, but just before the town are plenty of fabulous beaches like Malua, Lilli Pilli and Denhams.

Cross over Moruya Bridge and then turn right towards the sea - if you follow the highway it is boring and has many steep sections (for cyclists)

At North Head Moruya turn right towards the Airport for a primitive camping area behind the sand dunes

<http://www.moruya-airport-campground.com/index.html>

**Cyclists:** You can find a detailed map with elevations of the ride from Moruya to Batemans Bay here:

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1039222>

Be sure to detour via **Broulee** and visit Broulee island



Broulee nature reserve is joined to the mainland by a sandbar so is always accessible.

Walking Length: 4km

Time: 2 hours

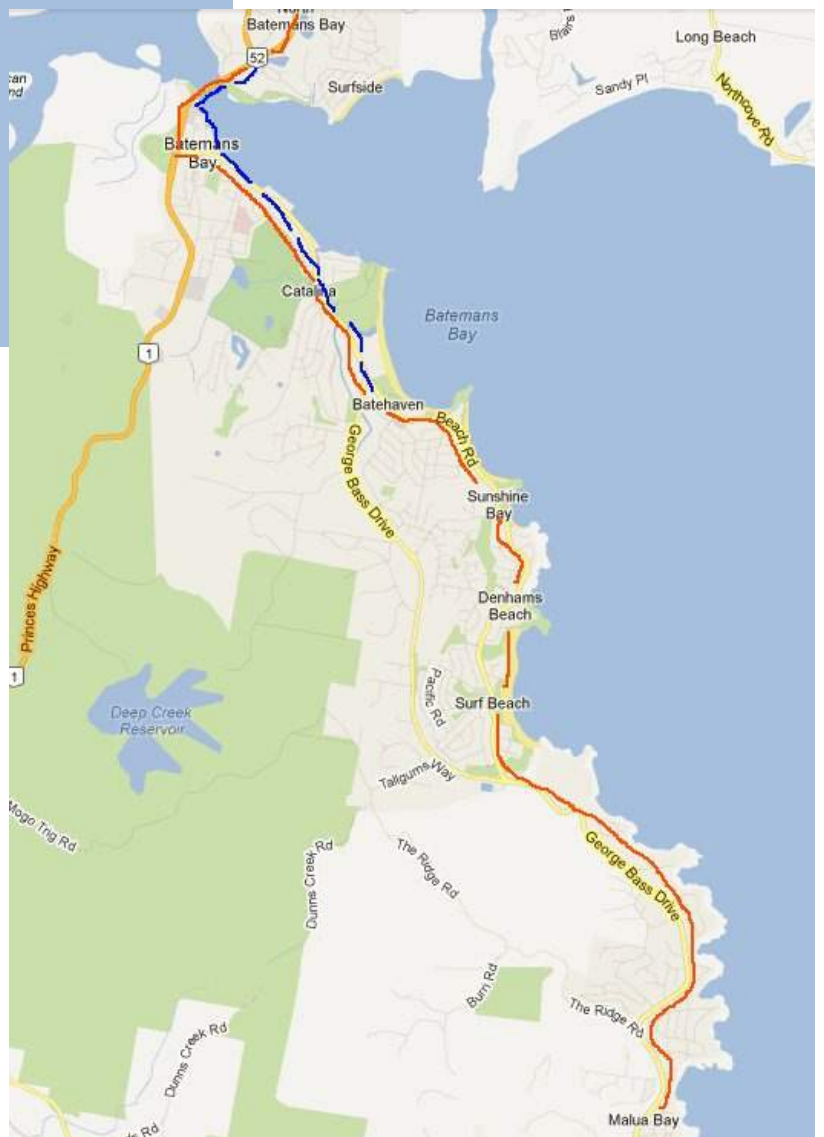
Walking Grade: Moderate

Access: South of the main beach road called Heath Street, left into Bayside Street and then into Harbour Drive at Broulee, a short push over the sandy track will take you to a beach that has more solid sand.

North of Broulee and Mossy Point is the Tomakin Road that goes to the most excellent Mogo Zoo

<http://www.mogozoo.com.au/>

**Cyclists Note that Mogo to Batemans Bay via the Princes Highway is VERY hilly and dangerous**



**Batemans Bay** has a short length of cycleway that starts at Batehaven takes you along the foreshore and in the front of the main section of town before you arrive at the bridge and cross over in the pedestrian lane

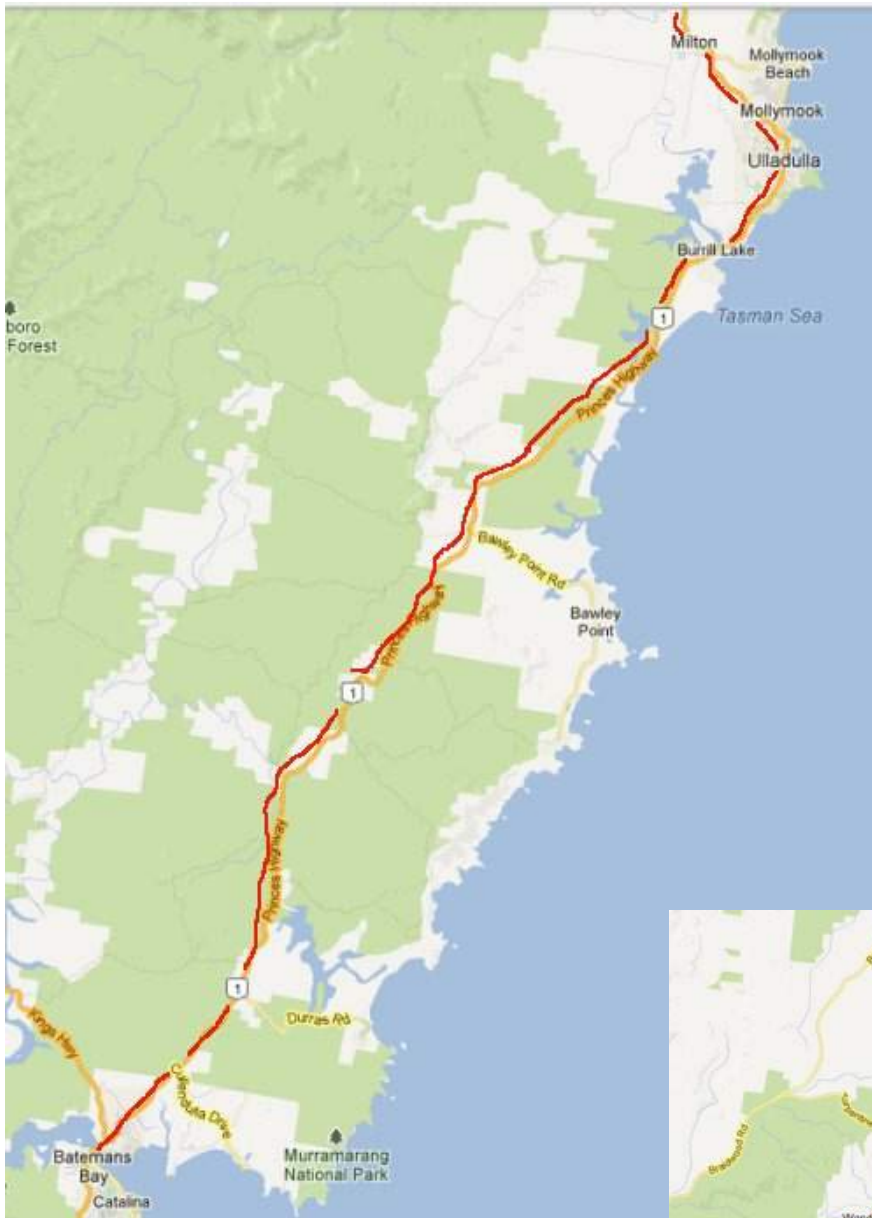
Note that there is free Internet at Batemans Bay McDonalds

There is a Youth Hostel and

<http://www3.yha.com.au/Hostels/NSW/South-Coast/Batemans-Bay/>

**Cyclists:** Bike shop

<http://www.batemansbaycycles.com.au/>



You are now in the region or shire known as Shoalhaven

There is a Free & Low Cost Camping in the Shoalhaven website here:

<http://tinyurl.com/m4p43pj>

It's worth taking some diversions off the highway north of Batemans Bay to Durras and especially to Pebbly Beach a little further north . In the busy season the campgrounds will be booked out, but there are fabulous beaches with great forests, and kangaroos everywhere.



Just before Tomerong turn right to Jervis Bay and head out to the southern shore to Hyams Beach, Green Patch and Murrays. Some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, though if you want to stay here you'll need to head back up to the town of Huskisson which is a big holiday town with lots of places to stay and great places to eat, especially at the Huskisson (Husky) Pub

There is a detailed google map of Bawley Point to Sanctuary Point via the highway here:

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1845419>

**Jervis Bay** <http://www.jervisbaytourism.asn.au/>

Jervis Bay's famous white-sand beaches and clear turquoise waters are amongst the safest and most beautiful in the world.

Coastal, marine and hinterland National Parks offer fantastic bushwalking, cycling tracks, Indigenous culture, camping spots, cliff-top lookouts and maritime heritage. Teeming with native Australian wildlife, our resident dolphins play in the bay all year round. See kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, wombats, and many rare bird and animal species in the wild.

One of the best places in Australia to witness whales on their annual migrations, humpbacks and southern right whales can be seen both offshore and inside the calmer waters of the bay from June through to November. The many bay and ocean beaches, lagoons, secret coves and hidden creeks are perfect for swimming, kayaking, boating, fishing, standup paddle boarding and surfing.

**South Durras** - Lakesea caravan park in the middle and Murramarang Resort (also camping) right hand side



**Pebbly Beach** is already known widely as the home of the "surfing kangaroos" (a myth arising from a photograph of a kangaroo in the low surf - probably chased there by a dog). Although they will not be surfing when you visit, you will find a large resident kangaroo population at Pebbly quite happy to be patted or to pose for a photograph.

The Pebbly Beach turn-off is about 10 kilometres south of Termeil and it is about seven kilometres over a gravel road to Pebbly itself.

**Pebbly Beach** is a nice drive out through the forest on a good gravel road when it is DRY. You are supposed to pay and display a ticket . The beach and surrounds are lovely and it is a great place to camp.

**Bawley Point** has some interesting rocks to climb over by the coast

Bawley Point is a secluded South Coast town, located between bush and beach just 27 km south of Ulladulla. This sublime stretch of coast is a perfect holiday spot that has great beaches, plenty of cafes and pubs, and good accommodation options. At Bawley Point, you'll settle into holiday mode quickly with bushwalks, watching local birdlife, fishing, surfing, swimming and snorkelling.

Nearby attractions include Pigeon House Mountain, in Morton National Park, about 30 minutes' drive south west from Ulladulla. You'll be rewarded with spectacular coast and mountain views from the summit.

<http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/Morton-National-Park/Pigeon-House-Mountain-Didthul-track/walking>

Just south of Ulladulla you'll find **Lake Tabourie Tourist Park** located on the foreshores of the Lake Tabourie with the park situated between the lake and the beach, They offer beachfront cabins and camp sites with sweeping views across to Crampton Island. Unpowered sites are pretty affordable.

**Ulladulla** has some big stores to restock your grocery supplies. Just to the north is **Milton** that is a nice old town to explore. Don't bother with Mollymook Beach - instead go to Narrawallee beach just to the north - Narrawallee has a gorgeous beach with the most inviting white sand. You can see the colour of the water change at different times of the day and due to weather conditions.

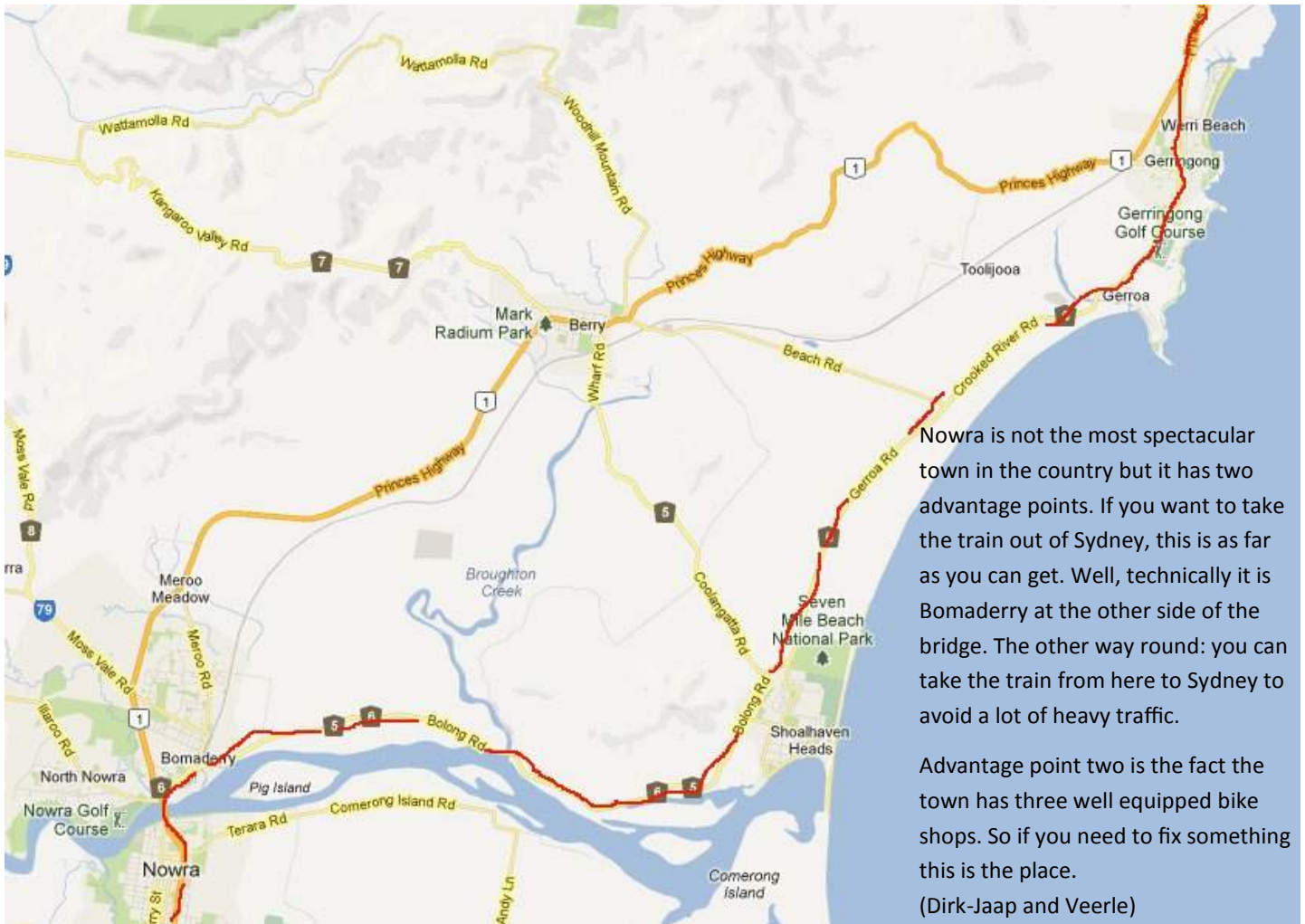
**Narrawallee Beach** is patrolled from October to April off season during weekends and the busy season daily. The patrols take place down at the southern end of the beach. It is possible to find overnight camping if you are very careful and select a quiet place to park.

Look at the northern end of Matron Porter Drive where there is a carpark and access to the beach and to the beautiful creek there.



**Nowra** is a big town, very unattractive, but might provide accommodation if all else fails.

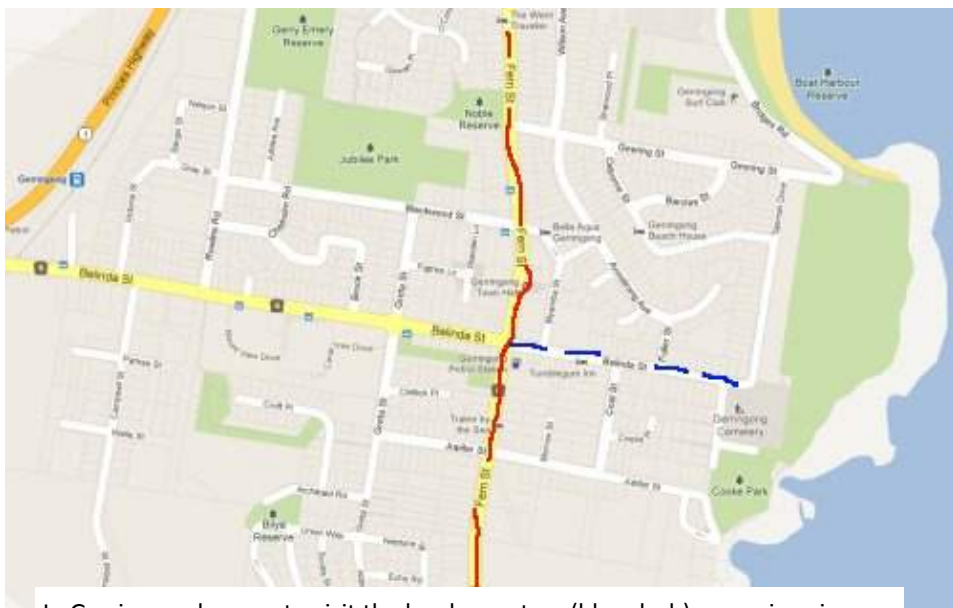
Through the town and across the river either head up the mountain to Kangaroo Valley, or follow the highway to the lovely old town of Berry that is filled with shops, galleries and cafes, or, best, turn right for Seven Mile Beach and follow the coast road. There are great beaches all along here and some fabulous towns - Seven Mile Beach, Gerroa, Gerringong.



Nowra is not the most spectacular town in the country but it has two advantage points. If you want to take the train out of Sydney, this is as far as you can get. Well, technically it is Bomaderry at the other side of the bridge. The other way round: you can take the train from here to Sydney to avoid a lot of heavy traffic.

Advantage point two is the fact the town has three well equipped bike shops. So if you need to fix something this is the place.

(Dirk-Jaap and Veerle)

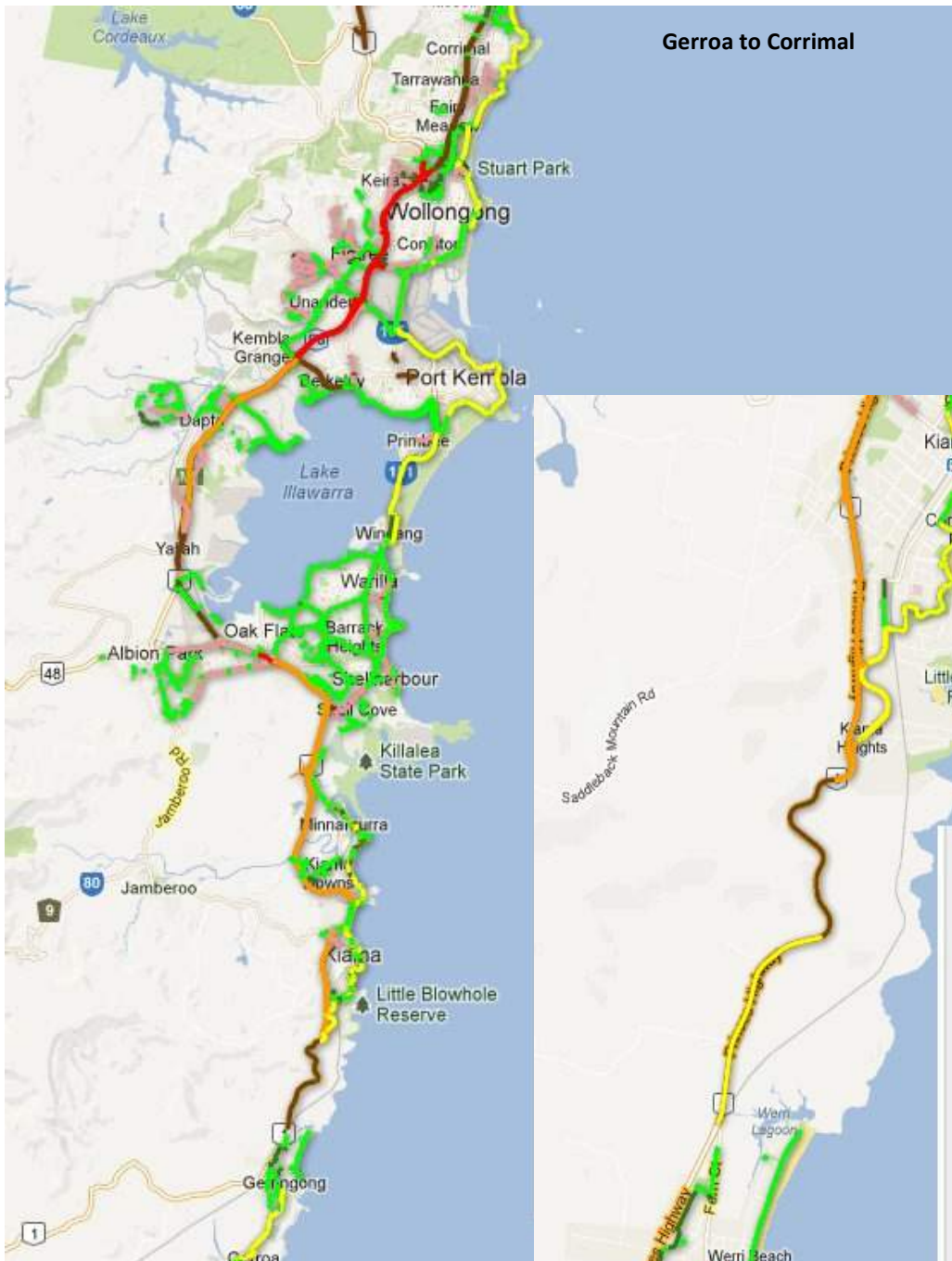


In Gerringong be sure to visit the local cemetery (blue dash) - amazing views

North of Gerringong is **Kiama**, another major tourist town with plenty of accommodation and services, and quite a nice place to stop to see the blowhole.

Just north of here it's well worth cutting inland to Jamberoo to see Minamurra Falls, a fabulous patch of rainforest. Stick with the highway to Wollongong, then head into the city and beyond to follow the Grand Pacific Drive into Sydney. This is a spectacular road with great cliff hugging views, and ends up coming through the Royal National Park

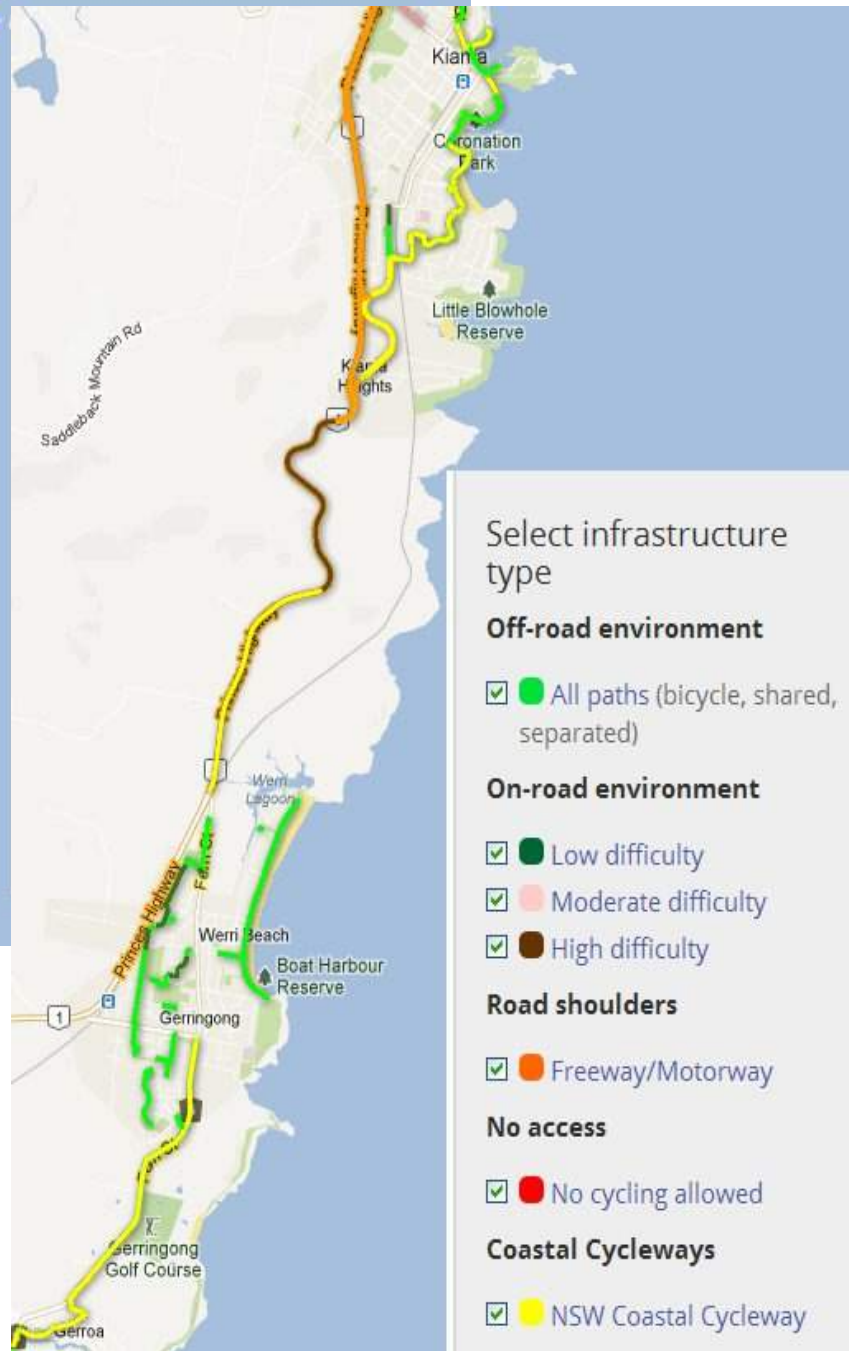
## Cycling : The route from Gerringong to the North



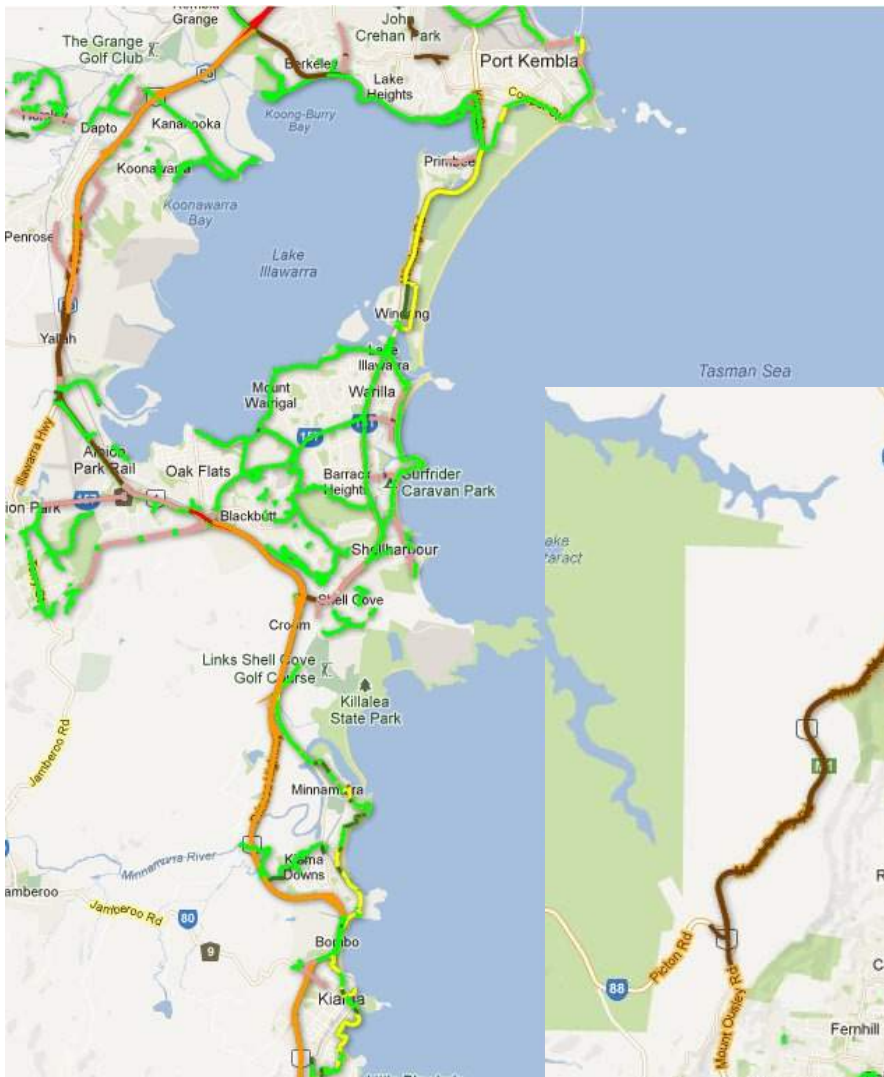
### Gerringong

This hilltop village overlooks a great swathe of blue ocean that promises long days of sport and sunshine. Stay around town a while and you'll discover this atmospheric town also has a taste for the finer things in life, including wines, great fishing and golf. There are seven courses in close proximity to Gerringong.

**Kiama** is a classic seaside town with great beaches surrounded by pastures and forests. Take in the area's stunning coastline along the Kiama Coast Walk and visit the Kiama Blowhole and Lighthouse.



Gerroa to Kiama detail



This isn't the best bike track in the world but the area around the factories are quiet and the route is easy to follow, hugging the coast for much of the way.

The busiest bit is going from the track to Wollongong and also through Shellharbour.



Wollongong lies on the narrow coastal strip between the Illawarra Escarpment and the Pacific Ocean, 82 kilometres (51 miles) south of Sydney.

Wollongong is noted for its heavy industry, its port activity and the quality of its physical setting, occupying a narrow coastal plain between an almost continuous chain of surf beaches and the cliffline of the rainforest-covered Illawarra escarpment. It has two cathedrals, churches of many denominations and the Nan Tien Temple, the largest Buddhist temple in the southern hemisphere.

**Nan Tien Temple** (Chinese: 南天寺; pinyin: *Nántiān Sì*; literally: "Southern Heaven Temple") is a Buddhist temple complex located in the industrial suburb of Berkeley

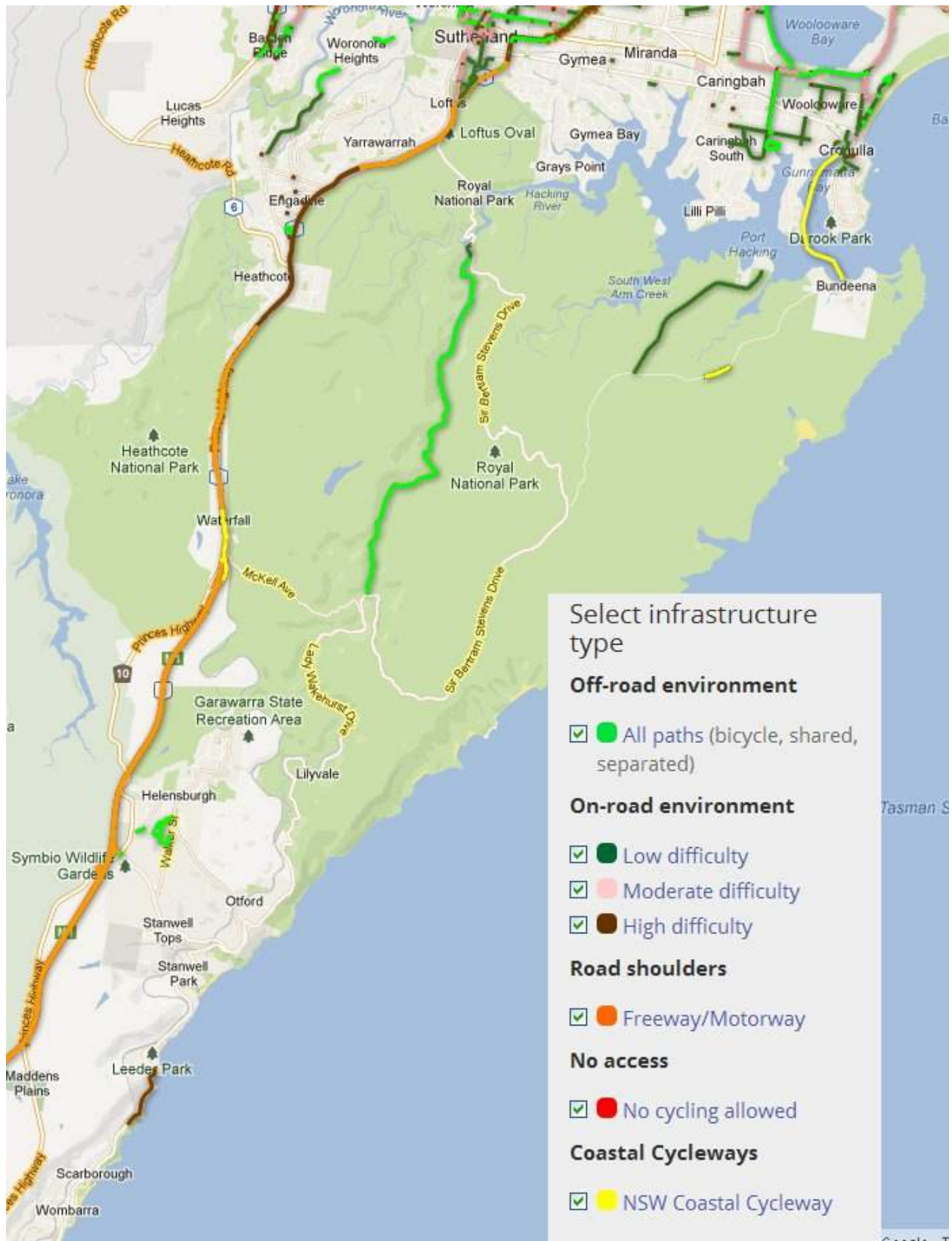
The Nan Tien complex was built using traditional techniques and materials by Chinese craftsmen, but with numerous modern features. Occupying a semi-rural hillside site several square kilometres in size, and set amidst landscaped gardens.

[www.southcoasttravelguide.com.au](http://www.southcoasttravelguide.com.au)

The **Sea Cliff Bridge** is a balanced cantilever bridge located in the northern Illawarra region of New South Wales, Australia. The \$52 million bridge links the coastal villages of Coalcliff and Clifton. Featuring two lanes of traffic, a cycleway and a walkway, the Sea Cliff Bridge boasts spectacular views and is a feature of the scenic Lawrence Hargrave Drive.







For more detail of this cycleway link visit the very detailed NSW COASTLINE CYCLEWAY 2010 ILLAWARRA SURVEY <http://healthycitiesill.org.au/healthypeople/docs/coastlineaudit.pdf>

2.2 Thirroul to Wollongong

2.3 Wollongong to Windang

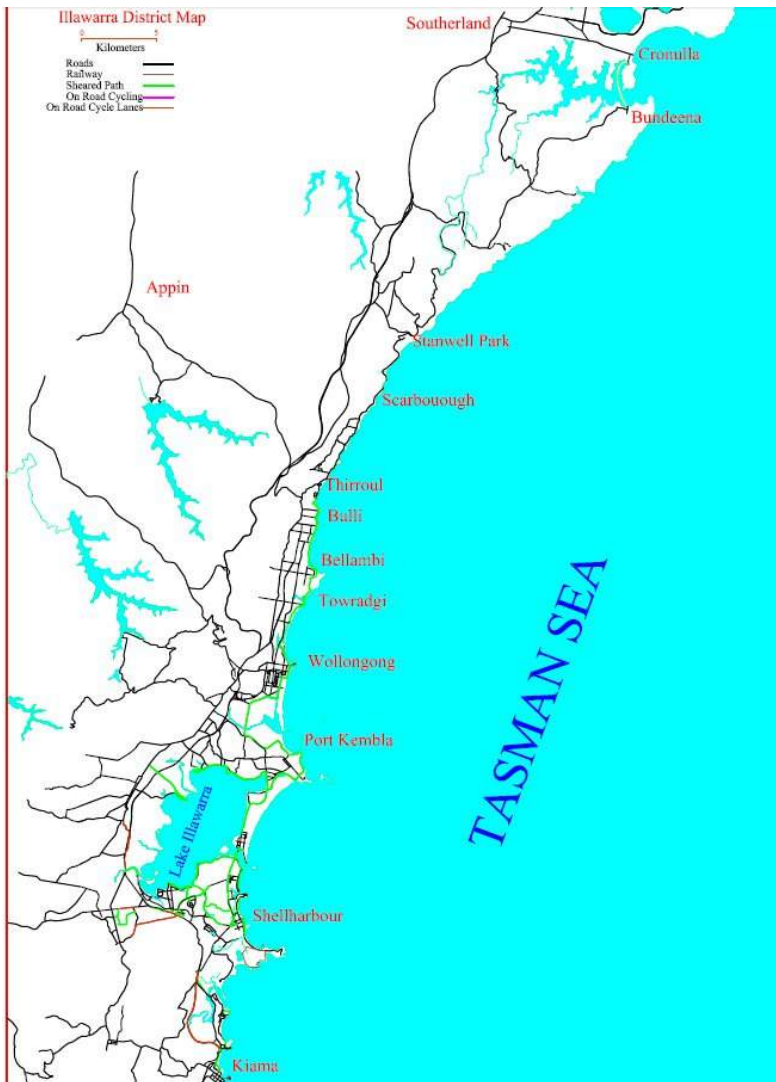
2.4 Windang to Shellharbour Village

2.5 Shellharbour Village to Dunmore

2.6 Dunmore to Kiama Heights

and also the very detailed Illawarra Bicycle Users Group iBUG Tour de Illawarra Guide

<http://ibug.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Tour-De-Illawarra-rev4.pdf>



### Cycling: Thirroul to Stanwell Park

Grade: Hard

Distance: 17 Kilometres source

The ride follows the coast north from Thirroul along Lawrence Hargrave Drive. This is a road ride and involves sections on multi-lane roads, fast traffic and numerous hills.

Some choose to catch the train from Thirroul to Sydney and bypass this section north into Sydney via the Royal national park all together

Remember to check that the trains are running as busses used to replace trains during trackwork don't accept bicycles.

**Cautions:** Areas of fast moving multi-laned traffic associated with this ride and riders need to ride defensively and carefully at all times

From the end of the shared path at Thirroul follow Hamilton Road, turning right into Tasman Crescent, left into Craig Street, right into Surfers Parade, left into Cliff Parade and onto The Esplanade to get to Lawrence Hargrave Drive. Alternately you can start from Thirroul Station if you intend to return by train.

From here the ride is simply a matter of following Lawrence Hargrave Drive north through Austinmer, Coledale, Wombarra, Clifton, then over the Sea Cliff Bridge to Coalcliff and Stanwell Park.

### Cycling: Stanwell Park to Bundeena and Cronulla

Grade: Hard

Distance: 32 Kilometres source

Ride summary: The ride follows the coast north from Stanwell Park to Bundeena and the ferry to Cronulla.

Cautions: The ride involves several long steep hills on narrow roads with poor edges and is suitable for experienced road riders only. This ride is also a favourite ride for motorcyclists and people need to remain on the correct side of the road and watch for motorcyclists on Lady Wakehurst Drive. Take plenty of food and water as there are no services on this ride

More Cycling through the Royal National Park info can be found here:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nationalparks/parkCycling.aspx?id=N0030>

**Important Notice** - Public Liability Insurance Cycling can be an enjoyable and exciting activity. However, like many recreational activities that require physical exertion, cycling carries with it the risk of physical injury.

The risks associated with cycling include the risk that:

- you may be involved in a collision with people, animals, objects and/or vehicles;
  - you may lose your balance;
  - you may suffer from the effects of heat, cold, wind, rain and other weather conditions;
  - you may suffer from physical exertion;
  - you may fall from your bicycle;
- and these risks may result in death, bodily injury, disability, property damage and economic loss to yourself and others.

There are other risks to which you may be exposed. You should ensure that you wear appropriate clothing and safety equipment, including a helmet.

In NSW a negligent cyclist can be litigated by a seriously injured cyclist, or third party (ie. a woman pushing a pram on a footpath or a car driver) under common law.

Hence, cycling without Public Liability cover is not recommended. Join Bicycle NSW <http://www.bicyclensw.org.au> or a similar organisation for Public Liability insurance.

If you have travel insurance make sure it covers your activity.