

KAYAKING

in eurobodalla



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Kayaking In Eurobodalla, Land of Many Waters

There is probably no more personally interactive way of cruising our many waters than by kayak or canoe. Sparkling rivers and crystal streams flow from hills and lush rain forests, filling dozens of lakes and estuaries with their pure waters. The broad expanses of the Pacific Ocean meet them along a hundred kilometres of inlets, bays, rivers and beaches within the sanctuary of the Batemans Marine Park, ensuring their pristine qualities are protected.

With so many options, there is no end to the experiences you can enjoy in these waters.

To book your kayaking experience visit www.eurobodalla.com.au, phone freecall **1800 802 528**,

or drop into any of our visitor centres (details on the back page). Our member kayaking and canoe companies listed below offer guided tours, training and a full range of kayak, canoe and equipment hire. Beginners, children and adults, through to experienced paddlers are all catered for.

→ **Bay and Beyond Sea Kayak Tours**

→ **Fluid Adventures**

→ **RegionX**

→ **Straight Up Kayaks**

The 8 Kayaking Trails featured in this brochure are amongst the best in the region. Detailed information and maps are provided for each trail along with notes on suitable fitness levels for each.

The Kayaking Trails

1. **Durras Lake, Durras**

2. **Durras to Batemans Bay**

3. **Mosquito Bay to Batemans Bay**

4. **Nelligen to Batemans Bay**

5. **Tomaga River. Mossy Point**

6. **Mystery Bay to Narooma**

7. **Lake Corunna, Narooma**

8. **Wagonga Inlet, Narooma**

Notes on Skill and Fitness levels (Skills, Fitness, Wetness Factor)

Skills

Novice paddler

Little or no paddling experience but happy to give it a go

Occasional paddler

Have been on at least one paddle of 90 minutes duration

Regular paddler

At least once a month you take to the water

Skilled paddler

Paddle regularly, happy to paddle constantly for 3 hours, good bracing skills

Highly skilled paddler

Paddle regularly, happy with getting in and out of surf and 20km breezes, able to roll

Fitness

Low fitness

No regular sport or exercise

Reasonable fitness

Regular walker and participate in the odd bit of sport

Good fitness

Competes in competitive sports, good arm/shoulder strength

Athlete

Competes in kayaking or regular sea kayak events

Wetness factor

Dry

Feet may get wet on entry and exit

Splash only

A little splashing but no waves across the deck

Dress for a splashing

you are paddling in an area with waves, expect the odd splash

Dress for swimming

Expect sea or swell and the odd wave right across the deck

1. Durras Lake

Skill level

Novice Paddlers of little to reasonable fitness, this can be a dry paddle (if you hug the shore line) and of any length you desire.

Distance and Time

A circumnavigation of the lake is just over 7Nm (13km) and with exploration of the little bays and creeks can take a relaxed 3-4 hours.

Maps

Department of Lands, Durras 8926-1S 1:25 000

Department of Lands, Kioloa 8926-1N 1:25 000

Safety

There is poor coverage for mobile phones and little VHF radio at lake level. Coastal Patrol Batemans Bay phone (02) 4472 3060 (VHF 16).

Launch Points

There are two main access points at North and South Durras, reached via different exits from the Princes Highway. Neither site has water, toilets or shops.

North Durras

Latitude :-35.6378 Longitude :150.3031

The launch is from a shore front reserve at the end of Boyne Street.

South Durras

Latitude :-35.6454 Longitude :150.2955

The launch is at a boat ramp at the end of Lakeside Drive.

General Description

The lake covers a large area with many bays and tributaries. The lake itself is ideal for novices with little exposed area and many shallow bays and areas to safely explore. Durras is one of the south coast's pristine lakes and has an abundance of birdlife. There are also a large number of kangaroos which make the foreshores their home and can be seen whilst paddling. The entrance to the lake is occasionally open after rain, however at other times there is a large shallow sand flat, great for young families to explore.

History

Durras Lake sits in the middle of Murramarang National Park, created in 1973 from Kioloa State Forest. The park was

initially divided, into two sections north and south of Durras Lake, and included four offshore islands. A group known as the Friends of Durras formed in 1985 and undertook a number of acts including the purchase of land with the state government to increase the size of Murramarang NP and help protect the foreshores of Durras Lake. In 2002 the park was increased to include Durras Lake.

Much of the area around the lake has been both logged and farmed over the years, however due to restoration and conservation activities, little of its human history remains.

Flora

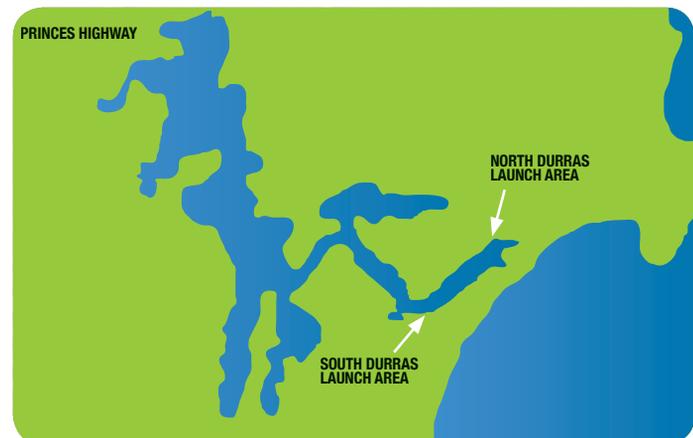
The flora is predominately casuarina forest with some shoreline tea tree with coastal hardwood forest. Some of the higher areas contain abundant Burrawang Palm.

Fauna

The lake has large colonies of cormorants, ducks and in the upper reaches and sheltered bays, black swans. Fish life is abundant with flathead, bream and tailor seen regularly over the shallow areas. Stingrays are not uncommon. The shore contains kangaroos, swamp wallabies and echidnas.

Food Providers and Facilities

There are no toilet facilities at either launching area. Both North and South Durras have small convenience shops.



2. Durras to Batemans Bay

Skill level

Skilled paddlers of Reasonable Fitness, Dress for Splashing (Note this is open SE facing coastline with surf beach landings and is weather dependant)

Distance and Time

9.3Nm (17km) (can be shortened to 6Nm (10.9km) by ending at Maloneys Beach)
Can be done in a fast 90 minutes or a leisurely 3 hours playing along the beaches and headlands.

Maps

Department of Lands, Durras 8926-1S 1:25 000 and Nelligen 8926-4S 1:25 000

Safety

There poor coverage for both mobile phones and VHF radios on this trip until you reach North Head Batemans Bay. Coastal Patrol Batemans Bay phone (02) 4472 3060 (VHF 16)

Launch point

Latitude :-35.6680 Longitude :150.3028
The boat ramp at Cookies Beach off Banyanda Drive South Durras.

Finish point

Latitude :-35.7021 Longitude :150.1805
Boat Ramp at Old Punt Rd Batemans Bay.

General description

An enjoyable sea paddle along a fascinating coast of small beaches and rugged headlands. In general the beaches face SE and have powerful dumping surf. The trip is often alive with birdlife.

History

The area is largely undisturbed having not been heavily logged or habited in the past. There is no fresh water supply in this area of the National Park.

Flora

This area of Murramarang National Park is predominately Burrawang Palm with a canopy of spotted gums. In late winter there are many of the coastal heath wildflowers in bloom giving a spectacular but sparse undergrowth. Many of the small gullies house small rainforest pockets.

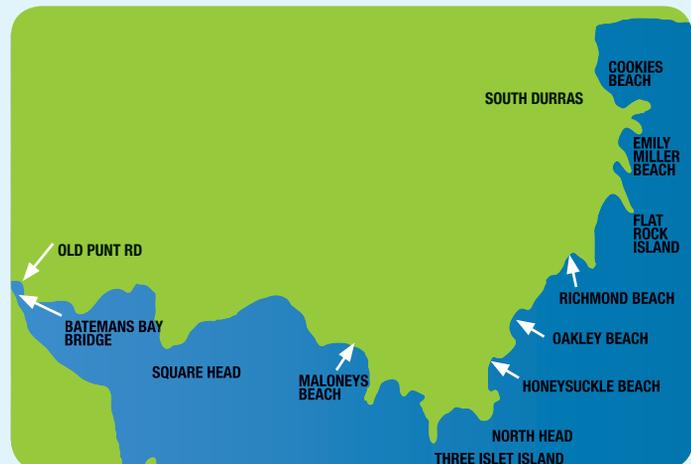
Fauna

Sea Birds are a plenty including Sea Eagles, Albatross, Sheerwaters, Pelicans, Terns and Penguins. Often there will be a large amount of surface fish activity. Look for nesting in the many little caves along the headlands as you go south. Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Swamp Wallabys are often seen and parrots, finches and honey eaters are often seen on shore around dusk and dawn.

Food Providers and Facilities

There a small general store at South Durras and the area is on tank water.

Maloneys Beach has a small general store and once finished at Old Punt Rd it is a short walk or drive across the Batemans bay Bridge to the main shopping centre of Batemans Bay.



3. Mosquito Bay to Batemans Bay

Skill level

Skilled paddlers of Reasonable Fitness, Dress for Splashing (Note this is open coastline and is weather dependant)

Distance and Time

4.5Nm (8km)

Can be done in a fast 90 minutes or a leisurely 3 hours exploring the many coves and islands.

Maps

Department of Lands, Mogo 8926-3N 1:25 000

Safety

There is reasonable coverage for mobile phones and VHF radios with Coastal Patrol Batemans Bay once you get north of Lilli Pilli. Phone (02) 4472 3060 (VHF 16)

Launch point

Latitude :-35.7811 Longitude :150.2328

The boat ramp at Mosquito Bay (Parking area off George Bass Drive).

Finish point

Latitude :-35.7302 Longitude :150.1995

The old boat ramp at Corrigans Beach, Beach Rd Batehaven.

General description

A genuine coastal sea paddle with easy launch and land areas. The trip takes you over an area of coast with a very rocky bottom, and thus varying surface. Views range from high cliff to surf beaches.

Rounding the headlands between Mosquito Bay and Lilli Pilli and Denhams Beach and Sunshine can be quite choppy in any sea due to rebound from the rocky shore.

The islands in the area are all bird sanctuaries and you are not allowed to land on them. However take the time to explore them all, especially Snapper Island with its bird colonies and spectacular folded rock.

History

Though closer to shore, you are tracing Cook's Journey. Cook Named Batemans Bay after Nathaniel Bateman, a former commander of Cook's. Alexander Berry was the first to navigate Batemans Bay and the Clyde and Snapper Island at the entrance to the Bay was named after his vessel.

Flora

The coast provides views of spectacular eucalypt forests gradually turning toward casuarina groves as you enter the Bay. Snapper Island clearly shows the effects of wind and spray on vegetation (note the changes from the south east to the western sides).

Fauna

Sea Birds are in abundance including Albatross, Sheerwaters, Pelicans, Terns and Penguins. Often there will be a large amount of surface fish activity. If you're lucky you may get to see the two fins of a cruising Grey Nurse Shark.

Food Providers

Coffee shop at Mosquito Bay (not open Tuesdays).
Batehaven Bakehouse at Corrigans Beach.

Facilities

There are toilets at the ramp at Mosquito Bay and in the park at Corrigans Bay.

The only fresh water at Mosquito Bay is in toilet taps. There is a water tap in the park at Corrigans Beach.



4. Nelligen to Batemans Bay

Skill level

Occasional paddlers of reasonable fitness, splash only trip

Distance and Time

8 Nm (15km) 2 Hours non-stop, 4 hours for a relaxed cruise with a lunch stop

Maps

Department of Lands, Nelligen 8926-4S 1:25 000

Safety

Reasonable coverage for mobile phones and VHF radios with Coastal Patrol Batemans Bay once you get down stream of Nelligen. Phone (02) 4472 3060 (VHF 16)

Launch point

Latitude :-35.6489 Longitude :150.1424

The boat ramp at Wharf Rd Nelligen (off the Kings Highway) affords the easiest launch. Benny's general store nearby is ideal for last minute provisions and coffee.

Landing point

Latitude -35.7011 Longitude :150.1797

The boat ramp at old punt rd (NW side of the Batemans Bay Bridge) is the ideal end point.

Luncheon spots

Both Little Island (3km from Nelligen) and Big Island (6km from Nelligen) have excellent NPWS landing sites on their Southern shores.

General description

15 km of meandering river, starting in historic Nelligen where you enter Clyde River National Park. The trip passes 2 islands and eventually enters Batemans Bay. The lower reaches have many oyster farms, the upper reaches are primarily pristine National Park. Buckenbowra River is worth a side trip if time allows. Runnyford, 4km upstream, is the site of the first dwelling in the Batemans Bay area. Look out for strong tidal flows near Princes Highway Bridge and the river bar downstream, the bar is dangerous and should be avoided.

Conditions and tide

The river has a strong tide. If paddling on the incoming tide, stay close to shore to avoid the strongest flow. The section from Chinamans Point to Batemans Bay Bridge is exposed to

easterly and westerly winds. It can be a hard slog in stronger easterly winds and the lower reaches can be dangerous in westerly winds above 22 knots.

History

Alexander Berry was the first to navigate the Clyde River beyond shallow crossing. In 1854 Nelligen was officially gazetted and became a port of Braidwood and the track across Clyde Mountain to Braidwood opened. Gold was discovered in 1862 sparking a local gold rush. Large steamers plied the Clyde River to Nelligen from 1853 to pick up timber, wool and other farm products and to deliver supplies for local farmers, gold miners and timber cutters. A punt service across the Clyde River at Nelligen continued until 1964 when the Nelligen Bridge was built.

Flora

The flora is typical south coast old hardwood forest. Grey and River Mangroves grow along the foreshores with casuarina and angophora southern hardwood forests with the odd remnant rainforest gully.

Fauna

Sea Eagles, Whistling Kites and Cormorants are regulars. Dolphins are occasionally seen in the lower reaches and very occasionally seals.

Food Providers and Facilities

Toilets at Nelligen and some tank water available. Benny's Store in Wharf Rd provides food, Nelligen. The road trip from Old Punt Rd Batemans Bay to Nelligen is approximately 15 minutes.



5. Tomaga River Mossy Point

Skill level

Occasional paddlers (Novice if using Tomakin boat ramp) of Reasonable Fitness, this is a Dry trip.

Time

2-3 Hour cruise, strong tides at the Mossy Point end.

Maps

Department of Lands, Mogo 8926-3N 1:25 000.

Safety

There is good coverage for mobile phones and VHF radios with Coastal Patrol Moruya Heads (02) 4474 2770 (VHF 16).

Launch point

Latitude :-35.8384 Longitude :150.1837

The boat ramp at Mossy Point off Annetts Pde is an easy launch, though directly into the river's tidal current. Novices could use the ramp at Tomakin (Kingston Place Latitude :-35.8314 Longitude :150.1879) to avoid strong tides near the river mouth. A coffee shop at Mossy Point (cnr Pacific and Surfside) is ideal for after paddle snacks and coffee.

Alternate Launching point

The boat ramp at Tomakin off Kingston Place.

Luncheon spots

Most of the land behind the foreshore is privately owned. There is a Dept of Water Conservation zone open to the public, however owners may not always like you parking at the bottom of their garden. The Boat ramp at the bottom of the Gold Fields Caravan Park (north side of the river, clearly seen by its dirt road and jetty,) is publicly used. Use normal courtesy, the owners are happy for the public to use the area. The area upstream of the caravan park ramp is a mixture of residential, old state forest and grazing and includes some quaint old architecture such as an old jetty.

General description

A very peaceful, pristine river, just under 7km from the Mossy Point ramp to the junction of Jeramadra and Mogo Creeks, both offering shallow creek exploration. Mogo Creek can be followed behind the zoo or toward Mogo. Jeramadra is smaller but tide dependant and can give 2 kms of paddling before you hit a weir. There are shallow sections above the oyster leases, watch the tides. The river has a strong tide near its mouth, decreasing upstream. When paddling

against the tide stay over shallows to avoid the strongest flow.

The Tomaga Estuary is a coastal plain estuary (permanently opened to the ocean resulting in the waters being well mixed by tidal currents and the estuary having extensive intertidal habitats. The section from Mossy Point to the Tomaga Bridge (George Bass Drive) is clean, clear water with an abundance of marine life to watch.

History

The old port of Tomaga, just inside the mouth of the Tomaga River, catered for five timber mills in the immediate area. Small trading boats were able to enter the river and there was enough room to load and turn them about.

Flora

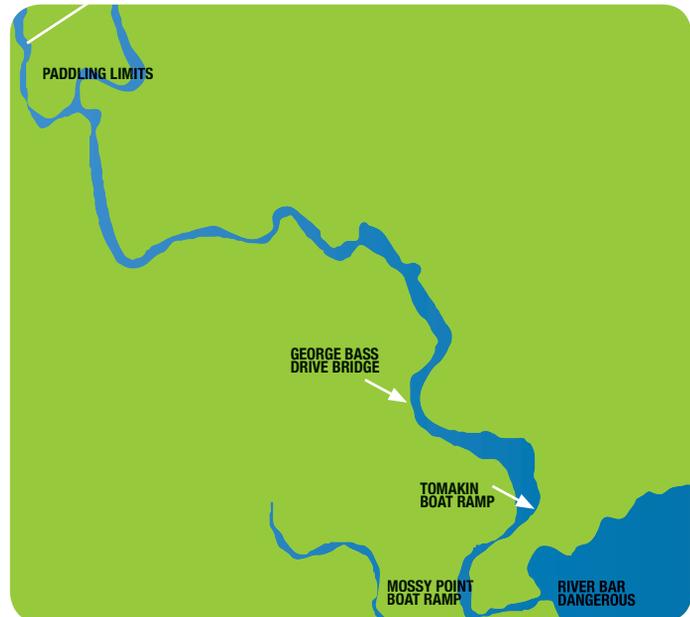
The trip contains a number of interesting areas including low marshes and areas of swamp oak (she oak), part of the casuarina species.

Fauna

Sea Eagles, Whistling Kites and Cormorants are regulars. The upper reaches eucalypts are home to parrot and cockatoo species. The water is abundant with fish including flathead, bream, whiting, tailor, mullet and stingrays.

Food Providers and Facilities

Toilet facilities at both the Mossy Point and Tomakin boat ramps. Coffee shop at Mossy Point (cnr Pacific and Surfside)



6. Mystery Bay to Narooma

Skill level

Skilled paddlers of Reasonable Fitness, Dress for Splashing (Note this is open coastline with surf beach landings and is weather dependent)

Distance and Time

6Nm (11km)

Can be done in a fast 90 minutes or a leisurely 3 hours.

Maps

Department of Lands, Narooma 8925-4S 1:25 000 and Central Tilba 8925-3N 1:25 000

Safety

There is reasonable coverage for mobile phones and VHF radios with Coastal Patrol Narooma. Phone (02) 4476 1443 (VHF 16)

Launch point

Latitude :-36.3042 Longitude :150.1368

The park at the end of Mystery Bay Rd, Mystery Bay.

Finish point

Latitude :-36.2091 Longitude :150.1328

Surf beach immediately north of Narooma Bar. The bar is hazardous and should not be attempted without previous knowledge and low seas with an incoming tide.

General description

A genuine sea paddle with an easy launch and surf beach landing. The trip is exposed to prevailing onshore breezes and can be quite exciting, paddlers should be confident getting on and off surf beaches. From Mystery Bay travel north past a series of small headlands with adjacent beaches until you get to the mouth of Corunna Lake. Paddle up past Loaders Beach and Fullers Beach. These are long beaches facing SE and they tend to have large surf breaks. Around Bogola Head are a large number of rocky outcrops. A fun place to play in gentle seas, but worth avoiding in larger seas. From here the route turns more northerly as you head up to Burunga Point and Handkerchief Beach. Handkerchief Beach becomes more exposed as you head north. Rounding Glasshouse Rocks you come in sight of Narooma Beach and the main Narooma Headland. Once around the headland stay a reasonable distance offshore as you pass the bar of Wagonga Inlet. The landing is immediately north of the breakwater.

History

Mystery Bay was named after the still unsolved disappearance of two mine surveyors and their crew of 3 in a small boat. The boat and equipment was found intact with no sign of the occupants.

The area is of aboriginal significance being looked down upon by Gulaga (named Mt Dromedary by Capt Cook) an extinct volcano.

In 1852 Gold fever struck the area and many prospectors arrived to search for gold.

Flora

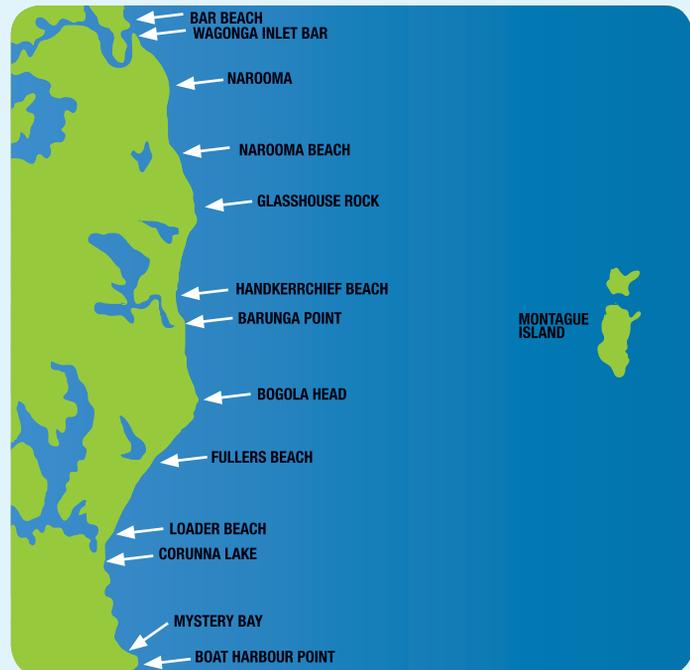
For much of this paddle you are well offshore due to the exposure to prevailing sea swell, however you pass areas of rugged cliff, wetlands, coastal heath and spotted gum forests.

Fauna

Sea Birds are a plenty including Sea Eagles, Albatross, Shearwaters, Pelicans, Terns and Penguins. Often there will be a large amount of surface fish activity.

Food Providers and Facilities

There are no facilities at Mystery Bay. Narooma is a 1.5km walk from the finish point.



7. Lake Corunna

Skill level

Novice Paddlers of Reasonable fitness, this can be a dry paddle (if you hug the shore line).

Distance and Time

A return trip to the Tilba Valley Winery is just over 6Nm (10km).

Maps

Department of Lands, Central Tilba 8925-3N 1:25 000

Safety

There is poor coverage for mobile phones but little VHF radio at lake level. Coastal Patrol Narooma phone (02) 4476 1443 (VHF 16)

Launch point

Latitude :-36.266688 Longitude :150.129137

The picnic facilities and boat ramp at the Northern end of the lake off the Princes Highway.

Alternative launch point

Latitude :-36.283531 Longitude :150.124966

The road side at the bridge, Princes Highway.

General description

An enjoyable paddle on a pristine lake. This is the type of lake where postcards are made. You can fill a few hours just exploring its little bays or make a lunch of it and paddle across to the Tilba Valley Winery for a meal.

History

Corunna has a strong indigenous history. The area is rich in food including fruits, yams, grains and an abundance of bird, seafood and animal life. Indigenous people have gathered in the area for centuries.

The area is close to Mount Dromedary (as named by Capt James Cook), known to the indigenous people as Gulaga. Gulaga is an extinct volcano.

Gold fever struck in 1852 with the discovery of alluvial Gold below Gulaga.

The Corunna Point Recreation Ground hosted cycle and athletic events in the late 19th century.

Flora

The flora ranges from cleared parkland to hardwood forest, casuarina forest, farmland and wetlands

Fauna

Sea Eagles, Whistling Kites and Cormorants are regulars. Fishlife is abundant.

Food Providers and Facilities

The nearest shops are in Narooma.

Lunch can be purchased at the Tilba Valley Winery.

There are toilet facilities at the Boat Ramp.



8. Wagonga Inlet Narooma

Skill level

Occasional Paddler with reasonable fitness

Distance and Time

9.3Nm (17km) round trip, 2 hours racing 3.5 hours comfortable cruising.

Maps

Department of Lands, Narooma 8925-4S 1:25 000
Australian Fishing Network Fishing Map 21

Safety

There is good coverage for mobile phones and VHF radios with Coastal Patrol Narooma. Phone (02) 4476 1443 (VHF 16)

Launch point

Lat: -35.5062 Longitude :150.3940
Mill Bay Boat Ramp
Off Williamson Drive North Narooma

Break spot

At the western extreme of the Inlet try the pontoon at Brices Bay Latitude :-36.217022 Longitude :150.066893 or the Wagonga Picnic Area Latitude :-36.211820 Longitude :150.064620

General description

A fascinating paddle from Narooma with its crystal clear Tasman Sea Water and white sandbanks up into shores bounded by old state forest and with extensive oyster farming. The water is alive with fish with dolphins and seals are regularly seen in the main channel. Bream, tailor and stingrays plentiful in the upper reaches.

From the Princes Highway Bridge to Paradise Point the simplest route is straight across the inlet. It is an open expanse of water and paddlers should expect this to be quite choppy on windy days. Open kayaks and canoes should hug the shore line.

History

Francis Hunt was the first settler to take up land around Wagonga Inlet in 1839. He named his farm 'Noorooma' which later became the name for the town Narooma. The area developed in the 1860s to provide goods and services for the gold town of Neringundah. Timber, fisheries with a fish canning operation and farming were part of further

development. The famous Montague Island lies off the coast of Narooma. In 1880 the 'Lady Darling' was wrecked off Mystery Bay and the lighthouse on Montague Island was established in 1881 to protect coastal shipping.

The Wagonga Wharf (now a pontoon) at Brices Bay was opened in the 1860's to service the Dromedary and Neringundah Goldfields. It was notified as a public wharf and store in 1874 being the closest port for Upper Tilba and surrounds.

Flora

The lower reaches are developed and contain a number of imported species. As you move up the inlet the shores have a line of casuarinas before a typical SE forest of eucalypts. Zamia (Burrawang) palms are common in the drier areas behind the foreshore.

Fauna

The area has abundant wildlife including seals, dolphins, pelicans, sea eagles, cormorants, the endangered little tern, kangaroos, wallabies and endangered mammals including the long nosed potoroo and white footed dunnart.

Facilities

The Boat Ramp at Mill Bay has toilets and a picnic area that includes BBQs, picnic tables and a children's play area. There is a picnic table at Brices Bay but no toilet facilities



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Land of many waters

Nelligen, South Durras, Batemans Bay,
Mogo, Broulee, Moruya, Tuross Head,
Bodalla, Narooma, Montague Island,
Central Tilba and Tilba Tilba.

Batemans Bay Visitor Centre

Princes Highway, Batemans Bay 2536

Phone: 02 4472 6900

Information Service at Moruya Library

Vulcan Street, Moruya 2537

Phone: 02 4474 1333

Narooma Visitor Centre

Princes Highway, Narooma 2546

Phone 02 4476 2881



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our travel consultants on **1800 802 528 (freecall)**

www.eurobodalla.com.au

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