

# Welcome to the Shoreham Foreshore Reserve Camping ground.

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# ABOUT SHOREHAM FORESHORE RESERVE

Shoreham Foreshore Reserve is a narrow 2.5km strip of Crown Land on Western Port Bay in the coastal village of Shoreham. Shoreham is approximately 75km south of Melbourne on the Mornington Peninsula.

The Camping ground consists of ninety-five non-powered sites. There are two amenity blocks which include male and female toilets, each with showers and an adjoining laundry. The Camping ground area has three tracks leading down to the beach. The beach is used for a variety of recreational purposes such as surfing, fishing, swimming, beachcombing, kayaking, etc. This stretch of beach is home to many migratory birds who fly thousands of kilometers to breed here each year. The Shoreham main beach can be located via Beach Road. Strict dog regulations apply throughout the Reserve and it's beaches. (see DOG section below)

# **MANAGEMENT**

The Reserve is managed by a Committee of Management appointed by the Minister for Environment for the landowner, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The committee manages the area under the Crown Lands Reserve Act 1978, various relevant strategies, and its own management plan, including an Emergency Management plan. A Manager is employed full time and other Rangers for the busy holiday periods. Both the Manager and Rangers are enforcement officers who are appointed by the Minister via the committee. Officers are authorized by law to undertake compliance and enforcement activities under the Wildlife Act 1975, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986, Domestic Dog Act 1994 and other relevant Victorian Laws.

# NATURAL VALUES\_ FLORA, FAUNA and BEACHES

Significant money and time have been invested in retaining and regenerating the Reserve's natural values. The Reserve consists of one of the few areas of original remnant indigenous vegetation remaining on the Peninsula. The Reserve's wide range of biodiversity provides a home to over one hundred and thirty local indigenous plants, eighty species of birds and thirty-five species of other mammals, reptiles and frogs. Honeysuckle Point is one of the most diverse marine ecosystems in Victoria. Over one hundred marine and inter-tidal species have been identified in the coastal waters around Shoreham. Many of these species are endemic to Western Port Bay. The local Burrunan dolphins are one of the most popular visitors, as is the tiny Weedy Sea-dragon, Victoria's Marine emblem. Migratory birds are common along our shoreline. These include the Ruddy Turnstone from Siberia, Double-banded Plover from New Zealand, Curlews and resident Redcapped Plover, Cormorant and Pacific Gull, amongst many others. Many nest just above the high-tide line along the sandy stretches of Shoreham beach, others roost on the larger exposed rocks. It is important to stay away from fenced nesting areas and front dune lines, the birds need to fatten themselves up for their long flights back home. The rock platforms exposed at low tide are an important part of the beach ecosystem and need to be treated carefully. The rocks provide shelter to small marine invertebrates and should remain untouched. Two venomous creatures live under the rocks and in shallow tidal areas. They are the cone shell, and deadly blue ringed octopus. To avoid these creatures, leave rocks as they are, never put your hands into crevices or under rock shelves and ensure to wear shoes that cover your feet. Animals in the Reserve include many bird species such as the fairy wren, powerful owl, tawny frogmouth, pardalotes etc. Other animals include the koala, sugar gliders, possums, swamp wallaby, antechinus, native rats, frogs, skinks, blue tongue lizard and copperhead snake. If you see a snake stop, move away and contact the manager. It is illegal to kill indigenous fauna. Wandering into the bushy areas will greatly increase your chance of tick exposure. Ticks, including the paralysis tick are becoming more prevalent southwards of The Great Dividing Range, all campers

and visitors are encouraged to stay on set pathways and tracks. If your child or you have a tick bite, medical attention is required.







## **DOGS**

All dogs are banned from entering the Reserve camping area. The scent of dogs stresses the native wildlife and unleashed dogs pose a risk to campers. Dog restrictions within the Reserve and it's beaches state that dogs must be always on a leash. During Daylight Savings times dogs are prohibited in the Reserve and it's beaches from 9am to 7pm daily. From 7pm to 9am dogs are allowed on a leash. The Reserve is regularly patrolled, and penalties apply for users who breach dog regulations. Mornington Peninsula Shire manages all breaches of dog regulations under the Domestic Dog Act 1994.

Note: Feral and domestic cats pose a risk to wildlife and are handed over to the Shire council if captured.

### **BOOKINGS**

Bookings are essential from Cup Day to Easter and for any long weekends. Bookings can be made by phone 5989 8325 or by email <a href="mailto:office.shoreham@gmail.com">office.shoreham@gmail.com</a> at any time. All bookings require payment to confirm your site. Site allocation requests are not 100% guaranteed. A condition of payment is that you accept the possibility your site allocation may be changed. Payment can be made via eftpos over the phone or by funds transfer into our bank account. Office hours are from 10am to 3pm during busy periods and weekends. CAMPING: <a href="mailto:Check In:">Check In:</a> Arrive between 12 noon and 7p.m. <a href="mailto:Check Out">Check Out</a>: Leave the Reserve before 10:30a.m. Arrangements can be made with the Manager if you cannot make the check in times.

An automated boom gate provides access into the camping area. A key pass is provided from the office upon arrival to the Reserve. This pass is for your vehicle use only. Visitors must park outside the Reserve (see map 1 below) Visitor access must be arranged through the Manager.

**BOOMGATE:** A boom gate fob key is required to access the Reserve. This fob key allows access for only one car and van/trailer per lift. One fob key per site. (Extra fobs, if available, can be supplied for a second vehicle) If the boom gate is up, ensure to wait on the blue line until the boom gate is fully down. When the boom gate is down, drive up to the yellow post, pass the back of the fob past the keypad. The boom will go up, it will stay up until you pass through.

CAMPERS VEHICLES: Strictly two cars per site. (see map 1 below for outside parking availability)

Due to the Reserve roads now being used for both rubbish and fire truck access, Camper's need to ensure that their vehicles are always parked on their site area or in approved parking bay.

NO CAMPFIRES: during CFA fire period. (December to May)

At other times, all fires must comply with the Reserve regulations. (refer to pamphlet or website) You will need to supply your own fire pit and all wood, including kindling.

Due to the unique habitat values for animals in the Reserve, no wood of any size is to be moved. Anyone caught burning any sized wood collected from the Reserve will have their site forfeit, no refund.

VISITORS: Are welcome in the Reserve and are required to report to the office on arrival. ALL visitors must park outside of the Reserve in Fisher St, Blake St, or the northern end of Marine Parade. (refer to Map 1 below) Of course, persons who have mobility issues are welcome to drive in once they have contacted the office.

ALL VISITOR VEHICULAR ACCESS INTO THE CAMPING GROUND AREA MUST BE ARRANGED THROUGH
THE MANAGER.... Thankyou



# RESERVE DO's and DON'Ts

Please read and become familiar with the Reserve's EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN. Located in the laundry, toilet and shower area and the office

Due to the CoVid\_19 pandemic ALL CHILDREN UNDER 10 years of age MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT to the TOILET & SHOWER FACILITIES.



In compliance with CFA regulations Campers are to have

- dry chemical fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 1A:5B(E)
- 1m X 1m fire blanket installed in their moveable dwellings (excluding tents).



PLEASE WASH DISHES on site. The LAUNDRY basin is off limits.

CAMPERS PLEASE BE AWARE THAT BIKE RIDING IS BANNED IN THE RESERVE.

ANY QUERIES CONTACT OFFICE on 59898325

- · Adults on bikes may ride through the Reserve
- There are many safe areas around Shoreham to ride bikes with your children.
  - ONLY ONE WARNING WILL BE GIVEN.
  - IF YOUR CHILD IS PULLED UP A SECOND TIMI THEN YOUR SITE CAN BE FORFEITED

Ticks are a part of the natural ecosystem of the Reserve. All camping areas and paths are mown, and designated tracks kept clear of vegetation to reduce tick exposure. Please ensure to stay out of the bush areas of the Reserve to minimize tick contact. People venturing into the 'out of bounds' grassy and bushy areas are most at risk. If you or your family have a tick on you **seek medical help immediately.** 



Watch out for the two drainage ditches across the road near Fisher St. access

Failure to comply with the Reserve's rules will result in site forfeit, no refund

Remember the Reserve and it's beautiful beaches are primarily for conservation. Our regulations do not allow collection of rocks, plants or animals, particularly marine creatures. Alive or dead, please leave them where they are. You are welcome to beachcomb and pick up flotsam and shells but put them back please.





PLEASE leave shells for me to live in

Another feature of the Reserves beaches is our resident shorebirds. They are vulnerable to off leash dogs and visitors who are unaware that they are close to their nests. It is extremely difficult to see a nest, but the Red capped plover usually acts injured to lure people away. Make sure you sit at least two metres away from the small sand dunes that run along the beach. Plover nests are always in this area. (See pictures below)

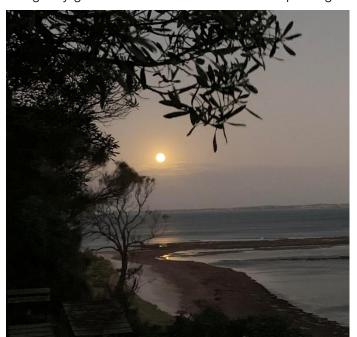






THE ARROW POINTS TO A PLOVERS NEST WITH EGG. SHOWING HOW VULNERABLE THEY ARE

Make sure to take the time to sit and reflect, watch and listen to the numerous birds that will appear flittering through the trees and bushes. The delightful Blue wren, Striated thornbill, Pardalote, Flycatcher and Grey Shrike thrush are amongst our smaller birds. Larger birds such as the Kookaburra, Butcherbird, Noisy minor, Wattlebird, Crimson rosella, Lorikeet, and Tawny Frogmouth also live here. Raptors soar along the cliff edge hunting lizards, frogs and small mammals in the grassland below. If you sit outside at night and turn down the lights you may hear the chatter of ringtail possums and if lucky enough watch sugar gliders leap out into the air and gently glide to other trees. Bats will swoop along the treetops catching flying insects and perhaps one of



our resident Powerful Owls may come and sit in a nearby tree or swoop past you to catch a ringtail possum. The Reserve is often host to numerous Koalas, they become active at night, especially through mating season when they can be heard growling and screeching at each other. Their noise can be unnerving to some people so make sure you are familiar with the sound so when you hear the deep throated growl of a male Koala you know it's just a Koala and will cause no harm. Be sure to

.....ENJOY SHOREHAM.....

HONEYSUCKLE MOON