WALKS & WATERFALLS

Lorne walks cover a great variety of distances and environments. There are more than 70 bush and coastal walks in the Surf Coast region. Some are only short but, in 10 minutes or so, they can take you to a spectacular coastal lookout, waterfall or forest.

There are also walks of several hours along walkways and trails, through headland and forest. Many of the walks in this area feature waterfalls and lookouts over the rugged coastline. There are waterfalls of all shapes and sizes, and dramatic cliffs and peaceful pools along the river valleys, as well as fascinating geological features like the Canyon.

There are short nature trails, walks to ocean lookouts and along old timber tramways, and longer walks through rocky gullies filled with tree ferns.

Walks Around Lorne

There are 23 walks around Lorne featured in this map. All the walks can be joined together to make longer walks. Some are only short but, in 10 minutes or so, they can take you to a waterfall or forest.

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WALKING FROM LORNE

Lorne Foreshore (South) - Swing Bridge Circuit and Doug Stirling Walk

This easy walk on gravel paths and boardwalks along the Lorne foreshore takes you past a number of plaques commemorating the shipwrecks in Loutit Bay. A separate Shipwreck Plaque Walk of plaques commemorating the shipwrecks is available from the Lorne Visitor Centre. The Doug Stirling Walk is a 3km walk along the foreshore between the Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club and the Lorne Pier.

Start: Lorne Visitor Centre (Town Map ref J14)

Finish: Shelly Beach (Town Map ref L17)

Type: Transport Shuttle or return

Distance: 2km one way

Time: 1.5 hours

Difficulty: Easy - stroller friendly

Swing Bridge Circuit

From the Visitor Centre walk via Top Bank Caravan Park to Swing Bridge. Cross the bridge and turn left along the boardwalk.

Finish: Lorne Visitor Centre (Town Map ref J14)

Type: Circuit

Distance: 1.5km loop

Time: 30 minutes return

Difficulty: Easy - stroller friendly

Lorne Foreshore (North) - Swing Bridge and Bart Alpine Walk

From the Lorne Visitor centre walk through Top Bank Caravan Park to Swing Bridge. Cross the bridge and turn right past the memorial graves and continue along the Malakuna grove, finishing the walk on the beach before the car park. Dependent on the tide, the walk can be returned back along the beach to the river mouth.

Start: Lorne Visitor Centre (Town Map ref J14)

Finish: Car park, corner of George Street and Francis Street

Type: Circuit

Distance: 2km one way

Time: 1 hour

Difficulty: Easy

Five Mile Track

This walk is a HAD track seasonally closed to vehicles. Wildlife and kangaroos frequent the understorey and some rare and threatened plant species may be found along the track.

There are views across the Erskine River to Erskine Falls.

Start: Lorne Visitor Centre (Town Map ref J14)

Finish: Dunes Hard Road, 7km north of Lorne (SC Map ref 155)

Type: Transport Shuttle or return

Distance: 8km one way

Time: 3 hours

Difficulty: Moderate. Slippery when wet.

Teddys Lookout and Queens Park Lookout Loop

Drive to the roundabout at the end of George Street and walk a few hundred metres to Teddys Lookout. The Queens Park Lookout Loop isos you through the bush of Queens Park via three lookouts with panoramic views along the coast and the Otway Ranges.

Start: Forthside Car park, corner of George Street and Francis Street

Type: Circuit

Distance: 1.6km loop

Time: 45 minutes

Difficulty: Moderate

Tromaway Track Stage 1

This clearly marked interpretive trail mostly follows the route of the tramway used by teams of horses to haul timber from the Southern Otways into Lorne. The track is well marked and well maintained.

Start: Pt Grey Car park

Type: Shuttle Circuit

Distance: 2.1km one way

Time: 1 hour

Difficulty: Easy

Tromaway Track Optional Extension (Continuation of Stage 1)

This track runs uphill on the eastern side of the St George River where there are views over the river and the rocky river flats. A steep climb with great views across the valley follows. The track loops back toward the sea via the climb to Teddys Lookout. Before the roundabout take the track to the right down through Queens Park Caravan Park and top Street to Shelly Beach Car Park.

Start: St George River

Finish: Pt Grey Car Park (Shelly Beach) (Town Map ref L17)

Type: Shuttle Circuit

Distance: 8km

Time: 1 hour 30 minute circuit

Difficulty: Moderate

Ocean Walks/Cherry Creek Walk

This track runs uphill on the eastern side of the St George River where there are views over the river and the rocky river flats. A steep climb with great views across the valley follows. The track is well marked and well maintained.

Start: Pt Grey Car Park

Type: Shuttle Circuit

Distance: 2.1km one way

Time: 1 hour

Difficulty: Moderate

St George River Walk

The St George River track follows the river beside rocky pools and shelly fern gullies. It’s mostly flat and there are two river crossings, and spectacular views of towering eucalypts.

Start: St George River

Finish: Alonnaile Mill Car Park

Type: Transport Shuttle or return

Distance: 2.7km one way

Time: 1 hour

Difficulty: Moderate

Note: There is a low river crossing on the St George River that should not be attempted when the river is high. This track can be done in reverse from the St George River mouth and can be joined with the Tromaway walk and coastal walks to complete a loop back to Lorne along the coast or return along Alonnaile Road.

The Event

Every year in early January the Mounties to Surf on. Get into the spirit by joining Lorne to Bass Strait.”

BASS STRAIT
**WALKS & WATERFALLS**

**Accredited Visitor Information Centres**
- Difficulty Grading:
  - Formed tracks, level or and footbridges, and a minimum
  - Moderate: Some climbing over rocks, uphill or downhill sections.
  - Strenuous: Uphill or downhill sections, clambering over rocks, and extended

**Closures**
- from Lorne Visitor Centre or Torquay

**More Information**
- and the Lorne Walks and Waterfalls Map

**Safety**
- Further safety information

**Weather forecast before**

**Tune your radio to ABC 774AM**

**Ph:** 1800 240 667

**WALKS**

**Nature Walk**
- This short walk around the picnic area, taking you through ferny glades with tall manna gums overhead. It is a good walk for stretching legs after a BBQ and for learning something about the features of the forest from the interpretive signs along the way.
- This is also a suitable spot for a night walk, with glow worms2 appearing by the bridge.
- **Start/Finish:** Sheoak Car Park
- **Type:** Circuit
- **Distance:** 3km
- **Time:** 30 minute circuit
- **Difficulty:** Easy - stranger friendly

**Castle Rock**
- This walk starts with a steep climb up from Sheoak Picnic Area before reaching the Sheoak Track and then descending down to Castle Rock is steep and rough with a lot of steps before reaching the track. It is good for the hills and panoramic views over the Cumberland River and Castle Rock.
- For longer walks you can return via Sheoak Falls and Swallow Caves to Sheoak Picnic Area or the Great Ocean Road.
- An even longer walk takes you down into the Cumberland River valley and out to the Great Ocean Road.
- **Start/Finish:** Sheoak Car Park
- **Type:** Return
- **Distance:** 6km return
- **Time:** 2 hours return
- **Difficulty:** Moderate

**Erskine Falls Car Park**
- This walk takes you through tall eucalypts and shady ferns to an open area at the base of stunning cascades, which flow over a series of exposeeed shale ledges and are framed by incised ferns and mosses.
- **Start:** Blanket Leaf Car Park
- **Finish:** Cora Lynn Cascades
- **Type:** Return
- **Distance:** 3km return
- **Time:** 1.5 to 2 hours return
- **Difficulty:** Moderate

**Blanket Leaf Picnic Area to Allenvale Mill**
- This is a strenuous walk, well worth the effort. It combines the Cora Lynn Cascades Walk and the Allenvale Mill to Phantom Falls Walk (this one can be done in reverse). Between the Cascades and the Cora Lynn Crossing, the track crosses the creek more than 20 times and at times it is hard to see the orange-red arns indicating where to cross. The track beyond Cora Lynn Cascades to Phantom Falls is recommended for experienced walkers only.
- **Start:** Blanket Leaf Car Park
- **Finish:** Allenvale Mill Car Park
- **Type:** Shuttle
- **Distance:** 8km
- **Time:** 3 hours 30 minutes
- **Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Note:** This walk is only recommended for experienced walkers. There are many river crossings and this walk should not be attempted when the river is high.

**Lemonade Creek Track**
- The Lemonade Creek Track takes you through open woodland, tall eucalypt forest and fern-filled creeks and gullies. This walking track is relatively steep in places, but you cross the creek on small bridges or boardwalks. There are some excellent views.
- **Start:** Erskine Falls Car Park
- **Finish:** Blanket Leaf Picnic Area
- **Type:** Transport Shuttle or return
- **Distance:** 6km return
- **Time:** 1 hour 30 minutes
- **Difficulty:** Moderate

**Cora Lynn Cascades Walk**
- This is a strenuous walk, well worth the effort. It combines the Cora Lynn Cascades Walk and the Allenvale Mill to Phantom Falls Walk (this one can be done in reverse). Between the Cascades and the Cora Lynn Crossing, the track crosses the creek more than 20 times and at times it is hard to see the orange-red arns indicating where to cross. The walk beyond Cora Lynn Cascades to Phantom Falls is recommended for experienced walkers only.
- **Start:** Blanket Leaf Car Park
- **Finish:** Allenvale Mill Car Park
- **Type:** Shuttle
- **Distance:** 8km
- **Time:** 3 hours 30 minutes
- **Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Note:** This walk is only recommended for experienced walkers. It should only be attempted after heavy rain or when river levels are high.

**Erskine Falls, Lookout 1 and 2**
- Erskine Falls is one of the most popular falls in the Otways. The 30 metre falls are attractive even when there is little water tumbling in the pool below. It is an easy walk to the first lookout, providing a spectacular view over the falls. The steep climb down steps to the second lookout is more strenuous, but worth it for the view from the beautiful fern gully.
- **Start/Finish:** Erskine Falls Car Park
- **Type:** Return
- **Distance:** 1km
- **Time:** 1 hour return
- **Difficulty:** Easy

**Upper and Lower Kimbilla Falls**
- The Kimbilla Falls walk follows the route of a timber tramway used for transporting timber to the Lorne Harmonies between the 1910s and 1920s. Very few trees escaped the logging.
- The Lower falls are not large, but you can get behind them and look out through the falling water to the large pool surrounded by mossy ledge rocks. The Upper falls are a series of cascades viewed from a platform.
- **Start/Finish:** Lower car park at Sheoak
- **Type:** Return
- **Distance:** Lower Falls - 6km return
- **Upper Falls - 8.5km return**
- **Time:** Lower Falls - 2 hours 30 minutes
- **Upper Falls - 3 hours return**
- **Difficulty:** Easy

**Allenvale Mill Car Park to Phantom Falls**
- After reaching Phantom Falls, from above the falls there is a track leading to The Canyon, a fascinating geological feature with sheer walls rising to 10 metres on either side, upwards to Won Wondah Falls and then north down the track distance to Henderson Falls. From here you return towards the Swallow Picnic ground, walking back along the Allenvale road to the Allenvale Mill Site. This is one of the most diverse and spectacular loop walks around Lorne.
- **Start/Finish:** Allenvale Mill Car Park
- **Type:** Circuit
- **Distance:** 6km circuit
- **Time:** 3 to 4 hour circuit
- **Difficulty:** Moderate