

Personal Safety

Wear shoes that grip well when walking on rock platforms

Watch where your hands are going at all times to avoid potentially dangerous creatures

Be aware of large unexpected waves when walking on shore, especially on rock platforms

Diving should only be undertaken by trained and experienced divers

Beware of sudden changes in weather, especially when boating on open water

Beware of strong current and undertows when snorkelling or at the beach

There are no surf lifesaving patrols in Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary. It is recommended that swimming be contained within flagged areas.

Caring for the marine environment

Discarded gear and rubbish can endanger birds and marine animals – please take your rubbish home

Always replace any organisms or rocks you may have turned over

No Dogs are allowed in Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary. Refer to Shire Regulations for the surrounding areas.

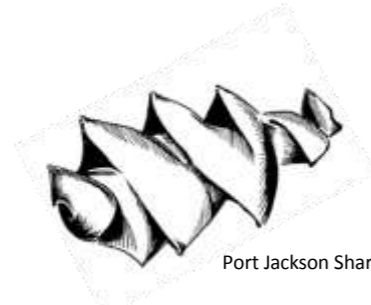
The intertidal zone in Victoria is protected – both inside and outside marine national parks and sanctuaries. Visit www.depi.vic.gov.au for more information.

To report a fishing offence call **13FISH** (133 437)

See and leave our parks in safe hands, visit with a licensed tour operator. See www.parks.vic.gov.au for a list of operators who run activities in this park.

Victoria's unique coastline

The southern coastline of Australia has been isolated for millions of years from other continents due to ocean currents. This has resulted in our marine life evolving in many different ways. Ninety percent (90%) of all marine life here is found nowhere else. Home to over 12,000 species of plants and animals, it is considered one of the most biodiverse and unique marine ecosystems in the world. For this reason, this significant marine environment is protected for the future.



Port Jackson Shark egg case

Protected network

Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary is part of a system of 13 marine national parks and 11 marine sanctuaries in Victoria. By keeping these areas in a natural state we will protect this unique marine environment into the future.

The establishment of marine protected areas was based on scientific research. It followed ten years of community and industry consultation. An ongoing research and monitoring program forms part of Parks Victoria's management of these areas.

Victoria was the first jurisdiction in the world to create an entire system of fully protected marine national parks at the same time.

Parks Victoria is responsible for the day-to-day management of Victoria's marine national parks and marine sanctuaries.

Marine pests

Marine pests are non-native plants or animals that can have a detrimental impact on native marine ecosystems. They are a significant threat to the health of the marine environment. Marine pests can wipe out native species by preying upon or out-competing them.

Pests can arrive in new areas in a variety of ways, and preventing their spread is one way visitors can help protect the marine environment. Park users should wash down all equipment and dry it thoroughly before changing locations to minimise the risk of spreading these pests.

Please report any suspected marine pests to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries on 136 186. For more information on marine pests, visit www.depi.vic.gov.au/marinepests

Education and research

The network of marine national parks and sanctuaries provides excellent sites for research and education opportunities. All research must be approved before commencing. Schools, researchers or other groups visiting Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary need to register their visit with local rangers on **13 1963**.

Restrictions

For the protection of the marine environment, a number of activities are prohibited within the boundaries of Victoria's marine national parks and marine sanctuaries.

Rangers and Fisheries Officers regularly patrol these areas and enforce regulations.



No fishing, netting, spearing, taking or killing of marine life. All methods of fishing, from the shore or at sea, are prohibited



No taking or damaging of animals, plants and objects (artefacts)

You may carry fin-fish on board your boat within park boundaries if you caught the fish outside the parks, and you may also carry (but not use) a fishing rod. Spear guns are not permitted within any of Victoria's marine protected areas, either in a boat or elsewhere.

You may also have abalone or rock lobster and associated equipment (securely stowed) on board the boat provided you are travelling straight through the park by the shortest practicable route.

There are strong penalties under the National Parks Act for fishing in marine national parks and marine sanctuaries. Parks Victoria is serious about compliance. Offenders will be caught.

To report a fishing offence call the Department of Environment and Primary Industries on **13FISH** (133 474).



Cuttlebone – the internal shell of a cuttlefish. These are often found washed up on the beaches in Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary.

If you would like further information about Victoria's marine national parks and marine sanctuaries, contact the Parks Victoria Information Centre on

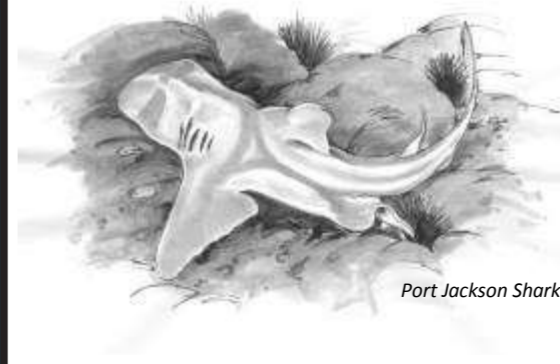
13 1963 or visit the Parks Victoria website at: www.parks.vic.gov.au

PARKNOTES

Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary



Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary is a small sea-haven below the lighthouse at Aireys Inlet. Here, two prominent rock formations rise up out of the ocean. Eagle Rock is the higher of the two, and is visible from the Great Ocean Road. The swirling waters around these rocks are home to marine creatures large and small. Local community members were integral in the establishment of this marine sanctuary as it is home to such abundant marine life.



Port Jackson Shark



Snorkelling and diving

The sanctuary is good for diving and snorkelling when conditions are calm. Most of the park is less than 10m deep. The offshore rocks are fringed by swirling Bull Kelp, which thrives in the breaking waves. Colourful sea-tulips and encrusting sponges grow on the rocks, and Blue-throat Wrasse, Herring Cale and Scalyfin are common fish. Watch for Banjo Sharks, Stingarees and other rays resting on the sand.



Coastal walking

Visit the lookout at the lighthouse or stroll along the adjacent Aireys Inlet Reserve for great views along the coast. Take a walk along the beach and explore the sandy stretch under the lighthouse. *Be aware of the tides when exploring as some sections can become impassable.*



Bird watching

High cliff tops make viewing seabirds along the coast easy for any keen bird watcher. You might see Pacific Gulls, Crested and Caspian Terns, Australasian Gannets, Great Egrets, Nankeen Night Herons, Shy Albatross and Pied Cormorants. White-bellied sea-eagle, Bristle-birds and Hooded Plovers have also been seen here.

Enjoying the park

The lookouts at the lighthouse are a great place to stop for a photo of Eagle Rock and enjoy some fresh air. Stay a while and explore the rockpools or snorkel the reef, there are many things to see and do. Please take care when you visit to ensure our coast remains in a pristine and natural state.

Eagle Rock

Standing at 20m above sea level, Eagle Rock is a spectacular feature of the Surf Coast. To the west of this stack of volcanic rock capped with limestone is Table Rock, a black basalt platform levelled by constant waves. The structure of these unique rock types has developed over millions of years and is of State Geological Significance.

Rockpools

The rockpools are located on the shelf between the beach and Eagle Rock. The pools are home to a multitude of animals including octopuses, decorator crabs, chiton and seastars. *Be aware of incoming tides and breaking waves while visiting the rock platform.*

Port Jackson Sharks

Young Port Jackson Sharks spend time in this area sheltering in rock crevices. Look for their dark brown spiralled egg cases washed up on the beach. They can be up to 15cm long and are an interesting find. Remember to leave these where you find them for the next visitor to enjoy.

Caring for Country

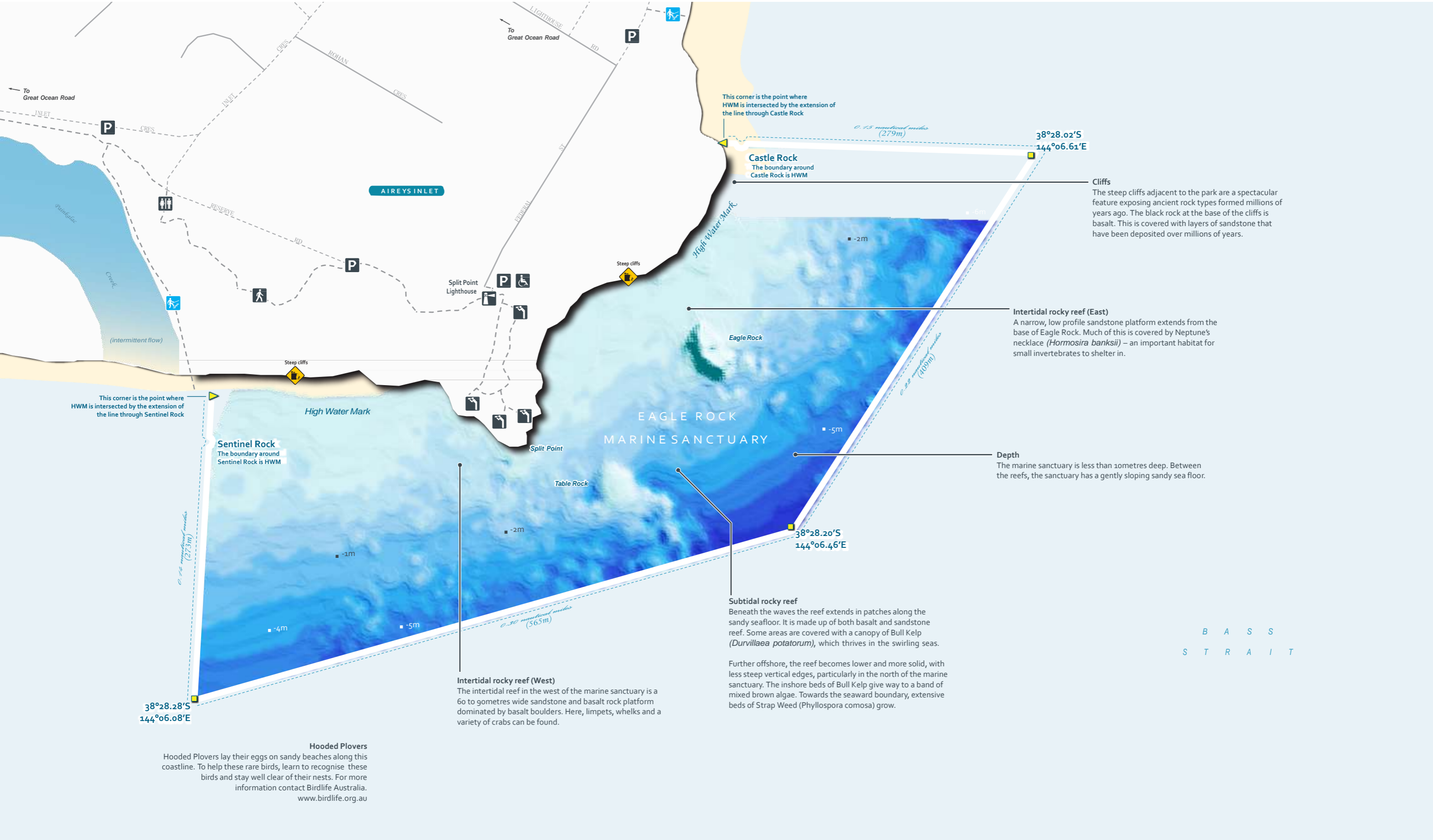
Through their cultural traditions, Aboriginal people maintain their connection to their ancestral lands and waters. Parks Victoria recognises this connection and acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Communities of these areas.

How to get there

Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary is located in Aireys Inlet, a small coastal town on the Great Ocean Road approximately 125km from Melbourne. Access to the cliff top lookouts at the lighthouse is via Federal Street. Access to the beach is via Inlet Crescent or via stairs leading down the cliff from Federal Street.

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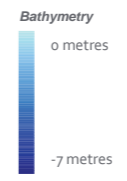
Marine Sanctuary boundaries
The marine sanctuary covers 17.9 hectares. It extends from high water mark around the base of Split Point between Castle Rock and Sentinel Rock. It extends offshore for about 300 metres and includes the 20 metres high Eagle Rock and Table Rock.

- No fishing
- No taking

- Parking
- Toilets
- Disabled access
- Walking track
- Lookout
- Lighthouse
- Beach access

- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- Walking track

- Onshore boundary marker
- Offshore boundary marker (unmarked in water)



www.parks.vic.gov.au
Latitude and Longitude values are based on WGS84. GPS users must note that coordinates for boundaries are given in the format degrees : minutes : decimal minutes. Alternate formats are available on Parkweb, by calling 13 1963, or from Parks Victoria offices.
Disclaimer: Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information.
Data source acknowledgements: State Digital Mapbase. The State of Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment.