

GREAT OCEAN WALK

Walk Victoria's Icons

PRODUCT UPDATE

- Where the famous Great Ocean Road heads inland at Apollo Bay, the Great Ocean Walk (GOW) hugs the spectacular coastline allowing hikers to experience deserted sandy beaches, isolated cliff tops, abundant wildlife and tall forest gullies.
- The tourism industry has put together a number of packages and services available for walkers. A GOW product brochure is available with details of a variety of accommodation types, equipment hire, guided walks, self guided products and transport options.
- The website www.greatoceanwalk.com.au contains information for walkers including safety and planning information, tour operators and services, maps, regional attractions and camping registration details.
- The Great Ocean Walk (GOW) has seven high quality eco-friendly hike-in campsites located in some of the most dramatic coastline settings in Australia.
- Parks Victoria has allocated five dedicated group camping areas on the GOW at Elliot Ridge, Blanket Bay, Cape Otway, Aire River and Johanna. These sites have access to toilets, a three-sided shelter and park benches.
- Parks Victoria requests hikers to book at least **2 weeks** in advance of their hike start-date. Overnight hikers must book their overnight camping intentions.
- Booking assists in the adoption of minimal impact bushwalking practices, improves the walking experience and maintains the area's remote qualities – sustaining safe experiences for all visitors.
- **All overnight hikers must move in an east west direction.** This is to maximise the availability of tent sites for campers as they move on from one site to another. The walk is also best walked in this direction to maximise views, as well as generally providing the best gradient to walk track sections.
- A limit of one night camping for those staying in each GOW hike-in campsite unless otherwise approved by Parks Victoria.
- Parks Victoria does charge fees for the GOW hike-in campsites and the dedicated group sites. For more information regarding fees please go to www.greatoceanwalk.com.au
- There is no fee for hikers walking the Great Ocean Walk; the fee applies to overnight camping in GOW hike-in and group campsites.

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- The Great Ocean Walk is not a remote wilderness walk. Hikers may encounter surfers, day trippers, fisherman and other campers along the way. It is a coastal walking experience through a variety of environments.
- The first half of the walk experience is in the busier section of the Great Otway National Park coastal area with accommodation hubs and attractions such as the Cape Otway Lightstation.
- As the Walk heads out from Johanna Beach to the Twelve Apostles walkers may encounter more isolated conditions and the experience becomes one of a more remote nature with restricted camping capacity. This section also contains some of the highest coastal cliffs in mainland Australia.
- Currently there are no dedicated secure car parking areas along the GOW except where hikers may be staying in off-walk accommodation. Hikers parking in National Park day visitor areas along the walk do so at their own risk to property.
- Hikers are encouraged to use the services of the GOW marketing co-operative partners for off-walk accommodation, transport options, hiring of equipment, provision of supplies, guided day and overnight hikes and packages. A GOW product brochure outlines these services which are also listed on the dedicated GOW website www.greatoceanwalk.com.au
- The GOW website will be updated to include a media section, image library and an itineraries and specials page.

For more information please contact:

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greatoceanwalk.com.au



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