

Gippsland & Wilsons Promontory

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Best Places to Eat

- Koonwarra Store (p237)
- Metung Galley (p245)
- → Ferryman's Seafood Cafe (p248)
- Wildfish (p242)
- The Boathouse (p248)

Best Places to Stay

- Walhalla Star Hotel (p235)
- → Lighthouse Keepers' Cottage (p239)
- Wilderness Retreat (p239)
- Moilong Express (p236)
- → Adobe Mudbrick Flats (p253)

Why Go?

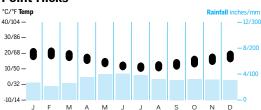
The Great Ocean Road may get the crowds, but Gippsland hides all the secrets. Gippsland is one region where it pays to avoid the cities – the towns along the Princes Hwy are barely worth a traveller's glance. Elsewhere are some of the most absorbing, unspoilt and beautiful wilderness areas and beaches in the state.

Along the coast there's Wilsons Promontory National Park, a fabulous destination for hikers and the less energetic alike. This is only the start when it comes to stirring beaches. Epic Ninety Mile Beach yields to the Cape Conran Coastal Park and Croajingolong National Park. Put them together and it's one of the wildest, most beautiful coastlines on earth.

Inland, Walhalla is an utterly beguiling village, while the national parks at Snowy River and Errinundra are as deeply forested, remote and pristine as any in the country.

When to Go

Point Hicks



Feb-Mar For toe-tapping jazz festivals at Inverloch and Paynesville. **Sep-Nov** Spring is the time for wildflowers and wildlife, as well as bushwalking.

Dec-Jan It gets busy, but there's no better time to hit the oceans and lakes than summer!



Gippsland & Wilsons Promontory Highlights

- 1 Hike from Tidal River to Sealers Cove at spectacular Wilsons Promontory (p238)
- 2 Saddle up for the **East Gippsland Rail Trail** (p251),
 Gippsland's longest cycle path
- 3 Camp in the dunes and fish from the beach at legendary **Ninety Mile Beach** (p243)
- 4 Hike deep into the forest or drive along the remote

tracks of **Snowy River National Park** (p249)

5 Step back in time at **Walhalla** (p234), an authentic gold-mining village