



Canberra & South Coast New South Wales

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Best Places to Eat

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Best Places to Sleep

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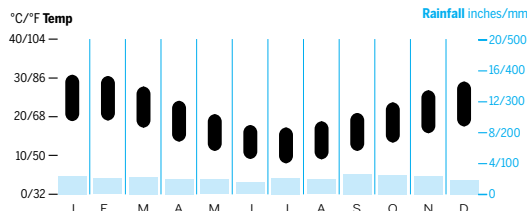
Why Go?

There's something special about the New South Wales coastline south of Sydney, something about the light, about the region's under-the-radar status, about the oysters, about the inlets, estuaries and national parks with marine mammals frolicking offshore.

While it can't compare weather-wise to the more visited North Coast its scenic beauty is staggering. Rough, rustic national parks and traditional fishing towns harbour some of the nation's most idyllic beaches, from the white sands and calm turquoise water of amazing Jervis Bay to big surf strands along the whole stretch from the Royal National Park to Eden.

When to Go

Canberra



Mar

Good kayaking conditions and still a bit of warmth in the sea for swimming.

Oct

Peak whale- and seal-watching season, plus the Whale Festival in Eden.

Nov-Dec

Get down here before the school holidays start and have the beaches to yourself.



Canberra & Southern New South Wales Highlights

- 1 Montague Island** (p193)
Encountering penguins and seals on this marvellous island sanctuary.
- 2 Jervis Bay** (p187) Taking in white sands and crystal-clear waters at this paradisaical bay.
- 3 Whale watching** (p198)
Gasping in admiration at the bulk and grace of whales
- 4 Oyster eating** (p198)
Slurping the tastiest oysters in Merimbula and Pambula.
- 5 Parliament House** (p173)
Marvelling at the architectural splendour of Australia's seat of power.
- 6 Kangaroo Valley** (p184)
Contemplating a pastoral fantasy of rural Australia.
- 7 Ben Boyd National Park** (p199) Hiking and wildlife-spotting in this excellent national park.
- 8 Mystery Bay** (p193)
Camping in rough comfort beside this idyllic beach.
- 9 National Museum of Australia** (p175) Admiring the Australiana on display.