



South Australia's Marine Parks

Explore marine life like nowhere else on earth.



Australian Government
Parks Australia



Australian
Marine Parks



Government
of South Australia
Department for
Environment and Water

South Australia's Marine Parks

In the waters off South Australia, State and Commonwealth marine parks work together to help safeguard important marine habitats and the incredible plants and animals they support.

Encompassing more than half a million square kilometres of coastal, oceanic and seafloor ecosystems, these 26 marine parks protect important areas along the length of our coastline and out to the edge of Australia's exclusive economic zone, 200 nautical miles from shore.

These marine parks protect a variety of habitats, from sandy beaches and sheltered seagrass beds to mud habitats on the abyssal plain, some 5000 m deep. These habitats are home to many marine species, ranging from stony corals, deep-sea sponges and shellfish to iconic species like the Australian sea lion, leafy sea dragon, bottlenose dolphin, great white shark, little penguin and Australian pelican. The marine parks conserve places with strong cultural heritage associations, including those with special significance to Aboriginal people.

Marine park zoning

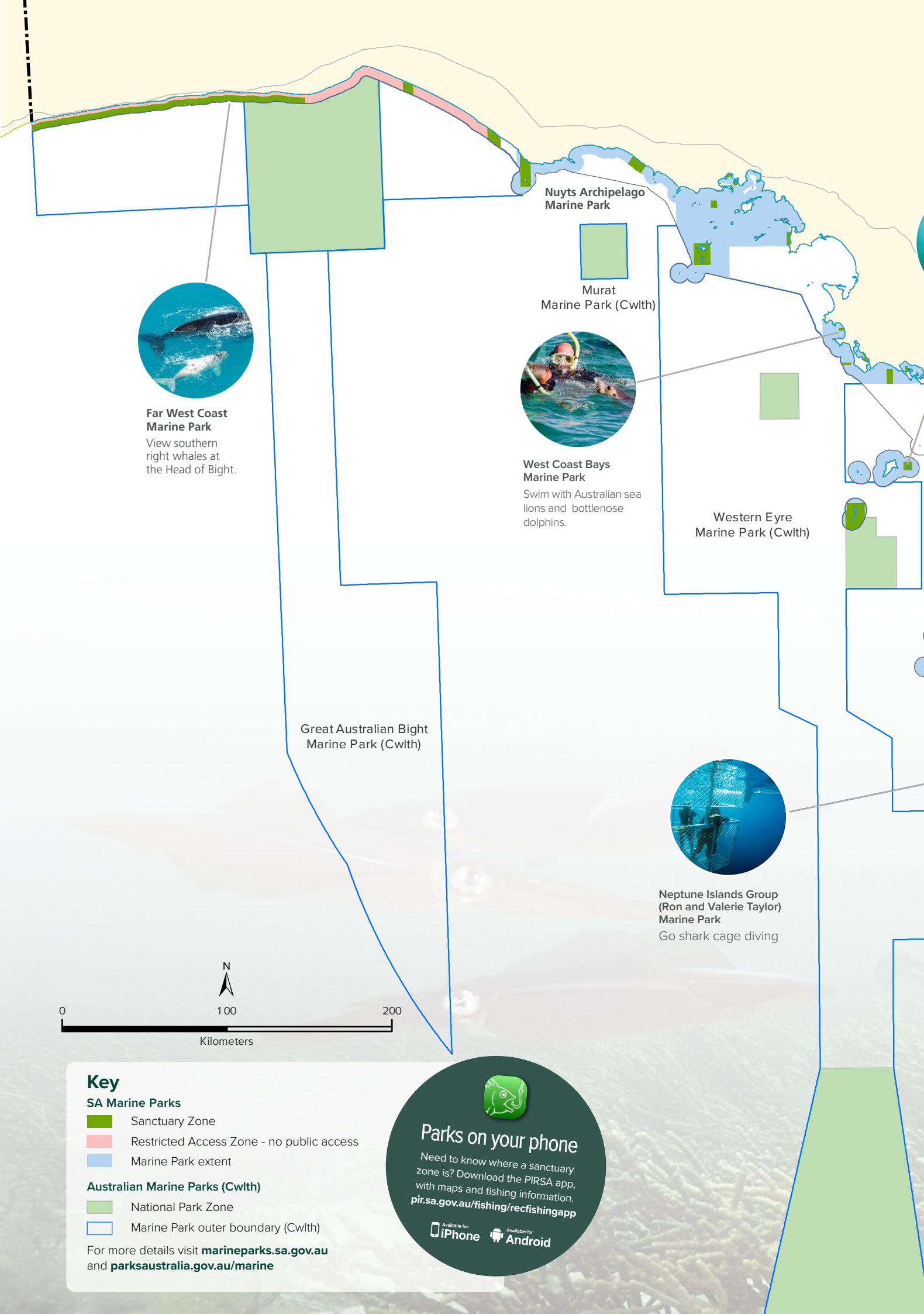
Our marine environment is a shared resource that benefits us all. Marine parks are a great way to conserve marine biodiversity and support sustainable use. Marine park zones play an important role in achieving that balance between conservation and recreational and commercial use.

The marine parks around South Australia are zoned to allow different activities in different areas. These parks are managed by the State (coastal) and Commonwealth (offshore) governments.

High level of protection (Sanctuary Zones and National Park Zones)

Sanctuary Zones in State Marine Parks and National Park Zones in Australian Marine Parks provide very high levels of protection for habitats and the species that live there. These are no-take areas where all plants and animals are protected. In these look but don't take zones, you can get close to nature and enjoy a swim, snorkel or surf but you are not allowed to fish or collect marine life.

Marine parks are regarded internationally as an important tool to conserve examples of our marine ecosystems in as natural a state as possible.



Far West Coast Marine Park

View southern right whales at the Head of Bight.



West Coast Bays Marine Park

Swim with Australian sea lions and bottlenose dolphins.



Neptune Islands Group (Ron and Valerie Taylor) Marine Park

Go shark cage diving

Great Australian Bight Marine Park (Cwth)

Nuyts Archipelago Marine Park

Murat Marine Park (Cwth)

Western Eyre Marine Park (Cwth)



Key

SA Marine Parks

- Sanctuary Zone
- Restricted Access Zone - no public access
- Marine Park extent

Australian Marine Parks (Cwth)

- National Park Zone
- Marine Park outer boundary (Cwth)

For more details visit marineparks.sa.gov.au and parksaustralia.gov.au/marine



Parks on your phone

Need to know where a sanctuary zone is? Download the PIRSA app, with maps and fishing information.
pir.sa.gov.au/fishing/recfishingapp

Available for
 iPhone

Available for
 Android

SA's Marine Parks and Sanctuaries



Investigator Marine Park
Dive the iconic Top Gallant Isles.



Upper Spencer Gulf Marine Park
Dive with cuttlefish in this iconic location.

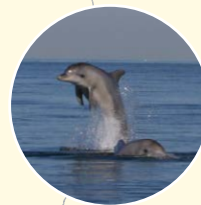


Sir Joseph Banks Group Marine Park
Fish for King George whiting

Franklin Harbor Marine Park

Eastern Spencer Gulf Marine Park

Southern Spencer Gulf Marine Park



Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary
Visit a resident pod of about 30 bottlenose dolphins

Thorny Passage Marine Park

Gambier Islands Group Marine Park

Upper Gulf St Vincent Marine Park

Lower Yorke Peninsula Marine Park

Adelaide



Encounter Marine Park
Immerse yourself snorkelling on Noarlunga Reef.



Encounter Marine Park
Dive and discover leafy sea dragons

Western Kangaroo Island Marine Park (Cwlth)

Southern Kangaroo Island Marine Park (Cwlth)



Western Kangaroo Island Marine Park
Get close to long-nosed fur seals



Southern Kangaroo Island Marine Park
Walk among a colony of Australian sea lions at Seal Bay Conservation Park.

Murray Marine Park (Cwlth)



Encounter Marine Park
Watch southern right whales and their calves from the beach.

Upper South East Marine Park

Lower South East Marine Park

Management of marine parks

A key part of successful marine park management is working in partnership – in South Australia, the State and Commonwealth governments work closely together to make sure the benefits of marine park protection are maximised.

- **Marine park staff** are employed in regional centres to manage the parks.
- **Permit systems** help marine park managers track what is happening in the parks – and provides an opportunity to ensure users meet certain conditions.
- **Patrols by shore, boat and air** ensure marine park users are following the rules.
- A dedicated team of **marine scientists** monitors the parks, collecting information to increase our understanding of the ecological and biodiversity values and allow us to track changes over time. Offshore research in Australian Marine Parks is done in partnership with scientific agencies.
- **Community activities and snorkelling events** help increase visitors understanding and enjoyment of marine parks.
- A growing range of **materials and online resources** provide more detailed marine park information for visitors and residents that want to learn more.

Visiting marine parks

Marine parks are there to be enjoyed – you can dive, surf, snorkel, swim and head out on your boat in all marine park zones! Fishing is allowed in marine parks except in the state Sanctuary Zones and Commonwealth National Park Zones. Removing or harming of plants or animals is also prohibited in the Sanctuary and National Park Zones.

Many coastal marine parks are easily accessible – an hour from Adelaide, you can swim with leafy sea dragons, snorkel rocky reefs, watch southern right whales and bottlenose dolphins, dive historic shipwrecks or visit a dolphin or international bird sanctuary.


Offshore Australian Marine Parks are more remote but they offer fantastic game fishing and opportunities for wildlife watching in areas with incredible aggregations of marine life.

For marine park information, visit marineparks.sa.gov.au and parksaustralia.gov.au/marine.

Fast facts

South Australia's marine parks contain:

UP TO
85% OF SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA'S
MARINE FLORA AND FAUNA SPECIES
are found nowhere else in the world.



80%
OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION
OF **AUSTRALIAN SEA LIONS**
including the largest known breeding colony at Dangerous Reef.



MORE THAN
720
FISH SPECIES
including warm and cold water species.



OVER
1200
SPECIES
OF
MARINE ALGAE



NEPTUNE ISLANDS GROUP MARINE PARK
The only place in Australia where visitors can go shark cage diving.



LEAFY SEA DRAGONS
THESE ARE SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S MARINE EMBLEM and can be seen in Encounter Marine Park near Adelaide.



Important calving and gathering areas for
SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALES



Australian Marine Parks
parksaustralia.gov.au/marine

Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary
(Port Adelaide Visitor Information Centre)
T: (08) 8273 9100
E: adelaidedolphinsanctuary@sa.gov.au

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marineparks.sa.gov.au

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