

20 THINGS TO DISCOVER

LINCOLN NATIONAL PARK

Spectacular coastal landscapes with rugged cliffs and extensive dune systems provide the backdrop of Lincoln National Park. The park comprises 31,531 hectares of extensive dune systems, pounding surf beaches, high wind-swept cliffs, sheltered bays, hidden coves, large expanses of native vegetation and the Memory Cove Wilderness Protection Area (requiring a special permit and key to enter - available for the Port Lincoln Visitor Information Centre). The waters partially surrounding the Park include Thorny Passage Marine Park and Sleaford Bay Sanctuary Zone (like a national park but to protect marine plants and animals).

There is plenty to see and do in Lincoln National Park including fishing, beachcombing, swimming, bird watching and nature walks. Formal and informal campgrounds in the park offer easy access to the beaches, bays and walking trails, with many accessible by 2WD. There is over 100km of walking trails to pick from, all generously maintained by the Friends of Southern Eyre Parks volunteers.

The Barngarla and Naou people used the rich food resources of the lower Eyre Peninsula coast long before the arrival of Matthew Flinders. They made use of a wide variety of fish, inland mammals, reptiles and plants. They have deep cultural and spiritual connections to the landscape. Fish traps made from stone arrangements, stone working sites and middens are still present in the park. Many locations hold cultural significance for the traditional owners and we ask you to be mindful and respectful to them in your travels through the Park.

The Park is home to goannas, kangaroos, emus, sleepy (stumpy) lizards (local Aboriginal name - Galda) and extensive bird life such as wrens, sea eagles, ospreys, oystercatchers, bushstone curlews and the endangered Hooded Plover. It also has a host of unique marine life that fall within the Thorny Passage Marine Park such as the *bottle-nose dolphin* and *common dolphin*, Long-nosed Fur Seals and Australian Sea Lion, and occasionally between May to October *Southern Right Whales*.

Fees collected are used for conservation and to maintain and improve park facilities for your ongoing enjoyment. For maps and other Park information see environment.sa.gov.au/parks

Nature Play SA AGREEMENT

When playing in nature I agree to:

- 1 Have fun
- 2 Get dirty
- 3 Learn something
- 4 Explore new places
- 5 Discover new things
- 6 Be kind to the plants and animals
- 7 Leave nothing but footprints
- 8 Come back to play again!



JT

1. Wanna Cliffs

One of the many rugged and scenic parts of the Park. The cliffs offer spectacular views of the coastline, which falls within the Sleaford Bay Sanctuary Zone. One of the things you will see is Wedding Cake Island, and if you are lucky birds such as Ospreys and Sea Eagles. Also along the cliff you may see the colourful Rock Parrots. As you look over the ocean you may see large schools of salmon (that look like a bit dark patch of moving seaweed) being chased by sharks.



JT

2. Sleaford to Wanna Sand Dune System

These large sand hills are a highlight for any little adventurer offering a steep climb, a fast tumble, sand filled shoes, and some amazing views. Despite their size they are suitable for all ages to explore. If you keep an eye out you may see some animal tracks.



JT

3. Cape Donington Lighthouse

Built in 1905 and standing at 32 metres, the Cape Donington Lighthouse is a feature of the Park. From the car park area you can picnic on the rocks overlooking Donington Island. See if you can spot the well-camouflaged Long-nosed fur seals and Australian sea lions. On low tide you may see the top of a shipwreck's mast between the island and mainland. You can also follow the Investigator Trail markers to take a short walk to take in all the views.



JT

4. September Beach

A beautiful beach rich in coastal treasure, beautiful turquoise ocean water, bird life, and a camping ground nestled behind sand dunes. Common birds along the shoreline include Pacific Gulls and Pied and/or Sooty Oyster Catchers. On a clear night the campsites come alive with a night sky of thousands of stars.

Visitors travel from overseas just to photograph the stars and comets from this site.



JT

5. Campgrounds

Throughout the Park there are four formal campgrounds: Surfleet Cove; September Beach; Taylors Landing, and Fishermans Point. There are also several informal camping sites that vary in onsite facilities. For more information on camping visit environment.sa.gov.au/parks



JT

6. Stamford Hill Lookout (Loop Hike)

Beginning from the Stamford Hill Day Visit Area, this moderately challenging hike travels through some beautiful examples of the Parks diverse vegetation from mallee trees and paperbarks to climbers, mistletoes, and wildflowers. There are interpretive signs on the way up and panoramic views of Park when you arrive at the Flinders Historic Monument. This locally popular hike is recognised as one of SA's top 40 Great Short Walks.



JT

7. Stamford Hill Day Area and Beach

Located at the Stamford Hill Day Visit area car park, is an ideal place for a picnic with sheltered tables and benches overlooking the bay. A short walk will take you down some stairs onto a sheltered beach – ideal for swimming and beachcombing. On warm days you may see the very active Superb Fairy-wren – a bright blue bird that hangs out in small groups among the fore-dune vegetation.



JT

8. Heath Goanna

Heath Goannas, also known as Rosenberg's Goanna, are locally endangered. When the weather is warm you will see them wondering around the park campgrounds and crossing the roads. Heath Goannas lay their eggs at night in active termite mounds. Once hatched they feed on termites. Park rangers are researching and working to protect the Goanna. You can help by taking note of what the Goanna looks like and jumping online epgoannas.com.au to record where you saw one.



JT

9. Emu

Emus are the second-largest living bird in the world (the first being the Ostrich). Emus are common around the Park. The local Aboriginal word for Emu is warraidy. Often it is male emus who have the striped chicks walking around with them (the stripes help them camouflage). In warmer weather Emu's can be seen bathing to cool off. You may notice some cone-shaped or flat pancake-like deposits along the roads and paths – these are Emu scats. They are full of berries, insects, and seeds. Can you find any emu footprints nearby?



10. Western Grey Kangaroo

Western grey kangaroos are one of the largest kangaroos in Australia and are often seen around campgrounds. Dusk and dawn are the best times to see them. They are also known to eat their own scats up to four times to gain nutrients! See if you can spot a joey in a pouch but please don't feed them as they need to learn to find food themselves.



11. Grey Currawong

A large grey to black bird with distinctive white patches on their tail and wings. The Currawong song can be heard throughout the Park as they fly through the canopies or seen foraging on the ground. They feed on insects, small reptiles, frogs, small birds and even their eggs!



12. Pacific Gull

Australia's largest Gull with a very large red-tipped yellow bill. They like sandy beaches and rocky coastlines making Lincoln National Park the perfect habitat! If you watch them patiently you may see them feeding on the reefs and if they happen to come across a crab or shellfish they will drop them in flight to break them open for a tasty meal. There are over 120 birds to spot in the Park, count how many you find at each place you go.



13. Hooded Plover

A small endangered beach nesting bird, often seen scurrying along the sand on beaches throughout the Park. They have a distinctive black hood (head) and throat with a red ring around their eyes. Their nests are difficult to see, as they are only scrapes in the ground between the high tide line and the sand dunes – so be careful where you walk!



14. Dolphins and Whales

Dolphins (Bottlenose and Common) and Whales (Southern Right) use the waters around the Park. Dolphins can be seen year round catching waves or moving in calm waters in their pods. Occasionally the Southern Right Whale will visit the Parks waters between May and October.



15. Common Correa (*Correa reflexa*)

A small shrub that grows to one metre with distinctive red bell-shaped flowers with yellow tips. If you look closely the leaves and stem have small hairs that you can feel. The Correa flowers in winter and provides ideal nectar for honeyeaters – who have the ideal shaped beak for the flower!



16. Mallee Trees

Mallee trees are Eucalyptus trees that grow multiple stems (instead of a single trunk) and from a swollen woody base known as a lignotuber. The Park has several Mallee Trees offering nectar to insects, birds, and bats. If you have a field guide you can look up *E. diversifolia*, *E. lansdowneana*, *E. angulosa*, *E. oleosa*, and *E. conglobata*. If you have time to call into the Natural Resources Centre in Port Lincoln you can view a library of pressed plants (herbarium).



17. Dryland Tea Tree (*Melaleuca lanceolata*)

This tree has creamy bottlebrush-like flowers that emerge in summer providing an important food source over the drier months. They attract birds and insects. The flowers develop into woody seed capsules staying on the tree for many years. If you look closely at their stems how many seed capsules can you see?



18. Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*)

Sheoaks are common trees throughout the Park. There are male and female trees. The females produce oval-shaped cones and the male tree canopy takes on an orange colour at certain times throughout the year loaded with pollen. If you find a female Drooping Sheoak, see how many cones you can find.



19. Fibre Balls

Fibre balls are one of the many beach treasures you can find washed up on the shoreline. They are tightly woven seagrass leaves. As the ribbon-like seagrass leaves decay they become fibrous and the movement of the waves and currents cause them to form a ball or longer sausage-like shape.



20. Rocks

Through the Park, particularly the coastline, there are a range of rock types that date back millions of years old such as: granite (dark grey and smooth); limestone (white, crumbly, and rough); and other rocks formed by volcanic processes.

Thanks to the passionate staff at Natural Resources Eyre Peninsula for their contribution to this poster and the dedicated Friends of Southern Eyre Peninsula Parks for their ongoing work and support within the Park. This poster is part of the Park of the Month initiative driven by Nature Play SA and supported by Department for Environment Water and Natural Resources. Photography: Jason Tyndall (JT), Robert Lang (RL), Birdlife Australia (BA), and Glenn Ehmke (GE).

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