



Loch Ard Gorge Walks

Port Campbell National Park

Three easy walks have been developed to allow you the chance to discover the areas' natural treasures. Loch Ard Gorge was named after the clipper Loch Ard, wrecked here in 1878. The Gorge is one of the many special places in the Port Campbell National Park.

"Stand on the clifftop, smell the salt-laden air, feel the power of the ocean and contemplate this moment in time."
John McInerney,
Ranger.



Three self-guided walks

Interpretive signs along these walks reveal the fascinating stories about the area's history, geology and natural features.

Allow two to three hours to make the most of your visit and *stay on designated walking tracks*.

● **Geology** – Discover the secrets of the forces that shape the coastline on this easy self-guided walk. 900m return, allow 40 minutes.

▲ **The Wreck of the Loch Ard** – Follow the tragic story of the Loch Ard shipwreck site to the cemetery. This easy walk covers **1.4km** and will take you approximately 50 minutes to complete. For more details about this amazing story of courage and survival ensure a visit to the Glenample Historic Homestead and the Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village.

■ **Living on the Edge** – Discover life on the edge of the sheer cliffs. The walk encompasses the Muttonbird Island viewing platform, the majestic Blowhole, Thunder Cave and Broken Head. Return distance for this easy walk is **3.2km**, allow approximately 90 minutes.

Port Campbell VIC

There's no better place to get the right advice to make the most of your visit than at the Port Campbell Visitor Information Centre, drop in or call (03) 5598 6089.

Camping & accommodation

There is no camping within Port Campbell NP and Bay of Islands Coastal Park. There are many camping and caravan options available in Port Campbell, Peterborough, Princetown townships and surrounds.

Sleeping overnight in vehicles in the park or carparks is not permitted.

Wildlife watching

Be patient and you will be rewarded. Penguins, terns and dotterels use the narrow protected beaches. Australasian Gannets, Wandering Albatrosses and Muttonbirds fly huge distances out to sea hunting for food, but return to nest in the area. Watch from the Muttonbird Island viewing platform as these remarkable birds fly ashore each evening from October to April. Look skyward for Peregrine Falcons, sometimes seen swooping above the cliff tops.

By adapting to survive, coastal plants protect the animals and soils of this coast, making it possible for them to live here. Birds like Singing Honeyeaters and the rare Rufous Bristlebird make their homes in the stunted growth. Southern Brown Bandicoots, Short-beaked Echidnas, Swamp Wallabies and other mammal's shelter in the dense vegetation, moving about, mostly at night, to feed.

Nearby attractions

Twelve Apostles, Port Campbell NP

Stop and visit the Twelve Apostles Centre for insightful cultural heritage stories before taking the short walk (500m) through the tunnel, under the Great Ocean Road to various lookouts offering breathtaking views of the famous rock stacks and imposing limestone cliffs.

Twelve Apostles Marine National Park

Spectacular above and breathtakingly beautiful below, the park has some of the most unique underwater scenery in the world. Enjoy a wide range of recreation activities from diving, snorkelling and swimming to nature study in rockpools along the shore. Check separate marine note for more information.

Glenample Historic Homestead

Built in 1869 by pioneer pastoralist Hugh Gibson using locally quarried sandstone, the tranquil homestead is now home to the Loch Ard story and displays on local pastoral history.

Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village

During the day, explore the re-created maritime village; at night, experience the final journey of the *Loch Ard* through the laser and sound show 'Shipwrecked' – bookings are essential. Be sure to visit or call (03) 5559 4600.

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LOCH ARD GORGE

There is a thin line between life and death for the plants and animals that this park shelters – caught between land and sea.

Welcome to Loch Ard Gorge – one of the special places in Port Campbell National Park and Bay of Islands Coastal Park. A separate parknote is available for these two parks.

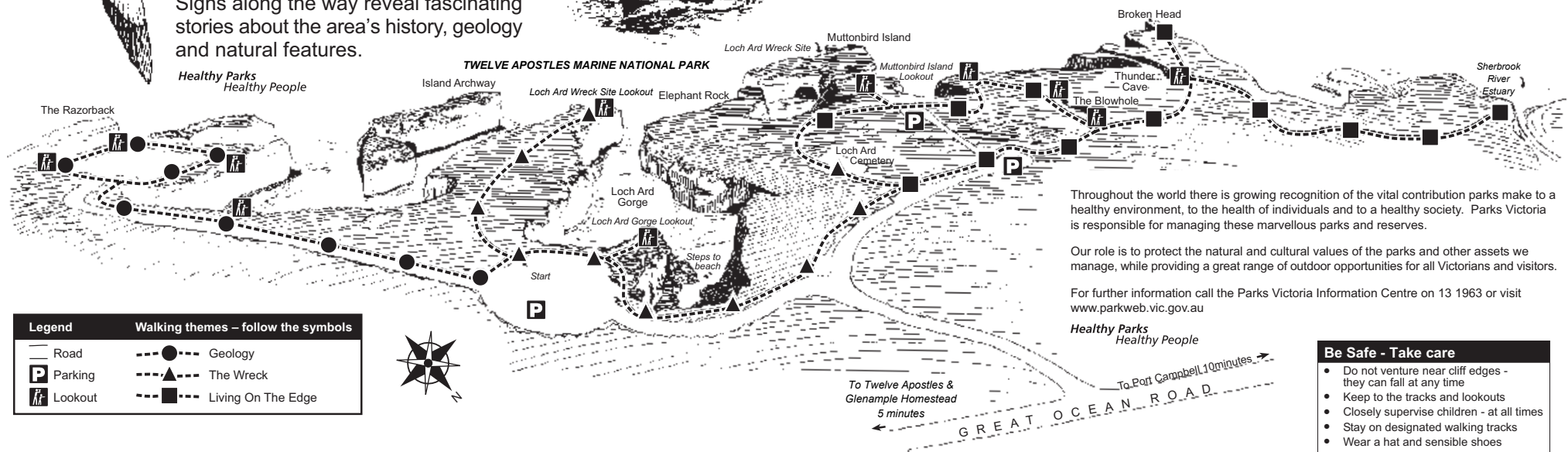
Signs along the way reveal fascinating stories about the area's history, geology and natural features.

Healthy Parks
Healthy People

Three easy walks: take the time to discover some of these areas' natural treasures.

Loch Ard Gorge was named after the clipper *Loch Ard*, wrecked here in 1878. The area has since become famous for its coastal scenery.

Allow 2-3 hours to walk them all, or one hour for each.



Throughout the world there is growing recognition of the vital contribution parks make to a healthy environment, to the health of individuals and to a healthy society. Parks Victoria is responsible for managing these marvellous parks and reserves.

Our role is to protect the natural and cultural values of the parks and other assets we manage, while providing a great range of outdoor opportunities for all Victorians and visitors.

For further information call the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963 or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Healthy Parks
Healthy People

Legend		Walking themes – follow the symbols	
	Road		Geology
	Parking		The Wreck
	Lookout		Living On The Edge

GEOLOGY

Discover the secrets of the forces that shape this coastline
Distance: 900m return
Allow 40 minutes.

THE WRECK OF THE LOCH ARD

Follow the tragic story of the Loch Ard shipwreck site to the cemetery
Distance: 1.4km return
Allow 50 minutes.

LIVING ON THE EDGE

Discover the Blowhole, Thunder Cave, Broken Head
Distance: 3.2km return
Allow 1 hour 30 Min.

Be Safe - Take care

- Do not venture near cliff edges - they can fall at any time
- Keep to the tracks and lookouts
- Closely supervise children - at all times
- Stay on designated walking tracks
- Wear a hat and sensible shoes
- Lock your car and carry valuable items with you
- Please do not feed or handle wildlife
- Report sick or injured wildlife - Call 0500 540 000 24 hours

EMERGENCY CONTACT Call 000

- Fire
- Police
- Ambulance