



Shoalhaven

A majestic coastal area backed by forested hinterland, the Shoalhaven is dotted with appealing villages and rustic country towns.



The lush 160-km arc of the Shoalhaven sweeps from the beaches and bays of a jewel-coloured coast to rich green, almost luminescent valleys inland. Nowra, Jervis Bay, Mollymook and Ulladulla are among the region's coastal delights while Kangaroo Valley and Berry are some of the Shoalhaven's hinterland gems.

Jervis Bay

Located on the southern shores of Jervis Bay, Hyams Beach has a lot going for it – from the caster-sugar whiteness of the sand and the sparkling clarity of the water to the Hyams Beach Store. As well as the vital necessities for a day at the beach – magazines, hats, beach toys – the café side of the store offers stylish and satisfying food and great coffee.

Sociable and playful, the dolphins who live within the sheltered embrace of Jervis Bay can often be seen displaying their 'aquabatic' skills close to shore – or even close to sea kayaks in the bay. Take a dolphin-viewing cruise from Huskisson and, between June and November, you may also see migrating whales.

Huskisson

At Huskisson, the Lady Denman Maritime Museum relates the fascinating history of Jervis Bay from the different perspectives of whalers, timber cutters and the local Aboriginal people. It's all here – shipwrecks, lighthouses, some outstanding examples of the boat-builder's craft and the history of the bay's naval base. The highlight of the museum is

the magnificently restored *Lady Denman*, a Huskisson-built timber ferry that served on Sydney Harbour for many years.

Berry

Surrounded by rich dairy country at the foot of the coastal escarpment, Berry is a delightful village crammed with antique shops and cafés. Over the past decade 'The Town of Trees' – on the Princes Highway, two hours south of Sydney – has become a favourite refuge for Sydneysiders seeking country air and slick cafés. On the first Sunday of each month, Berry hosts a country market – complete with farm animals, toe-tapping music, homemade preserves, and rustic iron and timber furniture.

Just a short drive to the east of Berry, Seven Mile Beach National Park has a pristine arc of sand and a wealth of bird and animal life.

Kangaroo Valley

Surrounded by wonderful scenery, the historic village of Kangaroo Valley is set against the dark curtain of the escarpment. There are more than 20 walking trails in the area, from genteel strolls to rugged rambles through Morton National Park – and there is no more delightful drive than the Kangaroo Valley Road, which leaves Berry on its southern outskirts and spirals into the hills behind the town.

Nowra and surrounds

On the outskirts of Nowra, the Fleet Air Arm Museum has a wonderful display of military

MUST SEE AND DO

Hire a boat and spend the day sailing or fishing on the protected waters of St Georges Basin.

Browse in Milton's craft galleries and antique shops, then head for Mollymook Beach, one of the region's loveliest areas.

Explore the pristine heathlands and beaches of Booderee National Park.

Discover Coolangatta's fascinating convict-built heritage.

Photographs

above left to right: Ulladulla Harbour; Huskisson Beach; Sussex Inlet boatsheds (Hamilton Lund); Mollymook (Hamilton Lund)



aircraft that date back to the early days of naval aviation.

Bundanon, on the Shoalhaven River, inland from Nowra, was the home of the celebrated painter Arthur Boyd for several years. He created some of his most provocative landscapes there, and on Sundays, the house and grounds, Boyd's studio and a collection of his work are open to the public.

Milton and Ulladulla

The town of Milton is strung out along a ridge between the sea and the blue peaks of the Great Dividing Range. Over the past few years Milton has blossomed into a pocket-sized delight, blending smart cafés, boutiques and galleries with its farming roots.

At Ulladulla, the Princes Highway sweeps past the town's pretty harbour, where fishing trawlers shelter behind the breakwater. It's the perfect place to stop and grab some local fish and chips from the fishing co-op.

National parks

Between Ulladulla and Batemans Bay, the wonderful Murrumbidgee National Park offers coastal camping. At Peppy Beach, you can get close to the friendly eastern grey kangaroos.

Straddling the Great Dividing Range inland from Nowra, Morton National Park is one of the State's largest and most spectacular national parks, a wonderland of rust-coloured sandstone cliffs, rainforest gullies, wildflower

heaths and waterfalls. The park is a maze of sandstone plateaus dissected by deep river valleys, the largest of which is the Shoalhaven River and its tributaries.


Despite the rugged terrain, there are some easy walks, but experienced bushwalkers can tackle some of the tougher hikes in places such as Monolith Valley.

At the south-eastern corner of Morton National Park, to the west of Ulladulla, Pigeon House Mountain is a local landmark. It is possible to climb to the top of the 720-m peak, but it's a tough scramble that involves ladders as you approach the summit.

Fresh produce

Oysters, tuna, kingfish and mussels are just some of the local seafood dishes to savour in the Shoalhaven. The area also has an ever-growing number of talented chefs who showcase local produce – anything from olive oils to feta cheese.

The Seagrass Brasserie at Huskisson, the Berry Bakery, Bannisters Restaurant at Mollymook and the Gunyah at Paperbark Camp are among the local restaurants and cafés to try.

 For more information, contact the Shoalhaven Visitor Information Centre, telephone: 1300 662 808, or visit our website: www.shoalhavenholidays.com.au

DID YOU KNOW?

Hyams Beach in Jervis Bay has one of the whitest sand beaches in the world.

Point Perpendicular is the highest sea-cliff on the east coast of Australia.

Lieutenant James Cook named Pigeon House Mountain on 21 April 1770.

On 26 January 1995, Arthur Boyd, one of Australia's most distinguished artists, gave his property Bundanon, just outside Nowra, to the nation.

In 1822 Alexander Berry settled at Coolangatta, the first European settlement on the South Coast.



Jervis Bay

Accommodation

Sandholme Guesthouse

★★★★★

- Relax in this luxury spa suite B&B on Jervis Bay
- Revive with an experience of natural beauty
 - Escape, stroll in pristine parks and beaches
 - Cruise with dolphins and whales
 - www.sandholme.com.au

2 Jervis Street, Huskisson, NSW 2540
 Telephone (02) 4441 8855
 email: guesthouse@sandholme.com.au

Rates: From \$200 per room per night*



Shoalhaven

Accommodation

Ulladulla Guest House

★★★★★

A short stroll from Ulladulla Harbour, this property has won 24 awards for excellence. Its French restaurant Elizans, Art Gallery, library and tropical gardens combine with classical music to provide a relaxed and cultured ambience.

39 Burrill Street, Ulladulla
 Telephone (02) 4455 1796
www.guesthouse.com.au

Rates: From \$148 to \$492



Kangaroo Valley

Attraction / Activities

One of Australia's most beautiful valleys

National Trust-listed landscape and historic village with shops, galleries, restaurants and a Pioneer Museum. This lush valley offers superb accommodations and activities including horseriding, bushwalking, swimming and award winning winery and canoe adventures.

Kangaroo Valley
 Telephone 1300 662 808
www.visitkangaroovalley.com.au



Shoalhaven

Attraction / Activities

Kladis Estate Winery

Kladis Wines is situated on the Princes Highway at Wandandian, just 10 mins from the beautiful beaches of Jervis Bay, Sussex Inlet and the St Georges Basin. It boasts numerous awards, including trophies for the Best Reds in the region, for 4 consecutive years.

The Ironbark and Glass Restaurant and Bar, within our Cellar Door complex, is the newest



contemporary venue in the Shoalhaven. Imaginative, iconic and inspired, it merges old with new and has become a South Coast landmark and the premier venue for food, wine and events.

Visit to try our award winning wines or enjoy a superb lunch or dinner in our restaurant Ironbark and Glass.



The winery is open 7 days a week, 10am to 6pm during the Summer/Spring months, and 10am to 4pm during the autumn/winter months. The Ironbark and Glass Restaurant and Bar is open 7 days for lunch and dinner.

Kladis Wines, Princes Hwy, Wandandian
 Telephone (02) 4443 5606
www.kladisestatewines.com.au



Shoalhaven

Attraction / Activities

Whale-watching

During their northern and southern migration, most whales come very close to the Shoalhaven coastline. The two most commonly seen whales are the humpback and the southern right whale.

The best vantage points for spotting these giants of the sea are usually headlands such as Crookhaven Heads near the lighthouse, Point Perpendicular at Jervis Bay, Red Head at



Bendalong and Warden Head at Ulladulla. During 2005, whales were spotted right in Jervis Bay. The competitors in one sailing event were entertained by three whales 'frolicking' near the course they were sailing on Callala Bay.

In earlier years, mothers with their calves have rested in Jervis Bay and off Warden Head at Ulladulla - much to the delight of all.



Regular whale-watching cruises operate out of Jervis Bay and Ulladulla and can be booked on-line or by phone.

Telephone 1300 662 808
www.shoalhavenholidays.com.au

* Rates valid at date of publication, October 2006. Accommodation prices based on twin/double share (unless otherwise stated) and subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply, please contact the service provider for a complete list of terms and conditions.