

EXPLORE BY KAYAK

Sea Kayak Whale Watching Tour Mossy Point to Burrewarra Pt Lighthouse

Great achievable introduction to Ocean Kayaking.



Achievable and Beautiful... Batemans Marine Park Adventure, a perfect opportunity to spot Whales, Sea Birds and ocean life.

Imagine.... gliding effortlessly through glassy waters in stable double sea kayaks.

Watching reflections of yourself, your family, friends and the magical coastline on the surface of the water. Stopping to explore marine life, secluded beaches, maybe even migrating whales, birds, fish and other animals.

This ocean Tour departs from The regionX boatshed at Mossy point, here the crystal waters of the Tomaga river flow into the pacific ocean offering perfect access for our sea kayakers. At our departure location we brief you on the route, our guides will teach you paddling strokes on dry land and coach you once on the water. Your journey takes us past points of interest including Camel Rock guarding the river and Barlings islands, once past Long Nose point we enter a Sanctuary zone where cliffs and unique secluded bays run east out to the lighthouse of Burrewarra Point. We can spot wildlife including sea birds, schools of fish, dolphins, seals, stingrays, sea eagles and whales between July and December.

A brief stop on the beach for snacks before we paddle home to the protected river mouth.

Departure on demand July - December.

The Tour includes:

- Stable Double Sea Kayaks, all paddling equipment and guides
- Tuition / instruction
- 3 hour Tour of the surrounding marine area
- Photo CD

You will need to bring:

- Hat, Sunnies and Suncream
- Drinking Water
- Shirt, Swimmers, Shorts, Warm top or long pants if it is cold
- Shoes that can get wet
- Towel and change of clothes for the car

The Nature of the changeable ocean means our departure location may change, especially if we are spotting whales elsewhere. We may depart from Batemans Bay if the whales are "resting" in the bay or Tuross Lakes if the ocean is menacing!!

You can phone or email for more information, and to book a time.

Kind Regards





Josh & Kate Waterson

0400184034

info@regionxrivers.com



regionX Kayak Options

-  Kayak Hire
-  Sunrise Breakfast Tour
-  Glass Bottom Sanctuary Tour
-  Sea Kayak Teaser Tour



Riders of the storm

February 27, 2010



Open ocean ... the author's kayak enroute to Burrewarra Point Lighthouse. *Photo: Ben Stubbs*
Ben Stubbs is at one with the elements on a bracing ocean paddle from Mossy Point.

We stroke through the estuary, letting the tide pull us out towards the open ocean. My kayaking guide, Josh Waterson, pauses behind me for a moment as a finger of lightning escapes across the hills. It's followed seconds later by a burst of thunder that cracks like a stockman's whip. I was told when I was young that each second between lightning and thunder indicates one kilometre between the storm and where you stand. On the next crack I count to only two.

We are at Mossy Point, hoping to paddle to the Burrewarra Point Lighthouse a few hours north, though Waterson is a little jumpy.

"Lightning will hit the highest thing on the water if it comes this way," he says.

He raises his eyebrows. "Two fellas in a kayak."

If the lighting moves towards us, I'm under instruction to paddle to the nearest beach as quickly as possible.

We move through the mangroves in our two-man expedition kayak as stingrays glide below us. The conditions are calm behind the shelter of Broulee Island to our right. Waterson says this was one of the first places settled on the South Coast and it was the region's first shipping port. It was used to ship granite to Sydney, much of which was used in the buildings on George Street and the pylons of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

We leave the shelter of the bay at Long Nose Point and almost immediately the northerly wind kicks up, knocking us across the waves as we paddle towards the protected area. Beyond Broulee Bay the water is part of an 85,000-hectare sanctuary, allowing the marine life to thrive undisturbed. Once we pull away from the coastline, though, all I can see is the inky black ocean. The sensation of being in the open sea in a thin plastic boat gives me a shiver as I recall that sharks can mistake kayaks for animals and take a nibble. Waterson is a born-and-bred local and he assures me that in all his years of paddling here he's never even seen a fin.

We settle into a rhythm, letting the waves scoop on to our spray skirts as we work across the water, paddling like dual windmills towards Guerilla Bay. In front of the kayak a dark patch of water seems to boil, until a salmon jumps in a feeding frenzy. The school of salmon is crowding in on a group of baitfish and the water resembles an over-stuffed fish tank in Chinatown.

We pause for a moment to let my aching shoulders rest. The water is quiet now, though in September Waterson regularly spots southern right, humpback and killer whales around his kayak on their migrations south.

The wind strengthens and we steer the kayak across the rolling swell out from Guerilla Bay - named for the artillery that once lined the cliffs around Square Head and Observation Point in the 1940s. Even though this sleepy South Coast hamlet seems far removed from trouble, a Japanese submarine slipped into the mouth of nearby Moruya River in 1942 and attacked a fishing trawler, killing three of the crew.

As we concentrate on the task at hand, a jagged channel of rocks blocks our route along the coast, creating a narrow passageway. The swell pushes us towards the channel and waves batter the exit. Like kids timing their jump into a skipping rope, we wait for the channel to drain before entering at the right moment. A lone cormorant watches from the rocks, goading me into action.

The channel empties and we thrash our paddles through the water as the swell rises. We skim past the end of the channel just as a dark blue vein of water lifts up and splinters against the rocks, where we were paddling only moments before. The rocks here have wrecked many ships, one of the reasons the lighthouse was constructed above us on Burrewarra Point.

From the channel we paddle into an isolated gravel cove and drag our kayak up on to the sand. The only way up to the lighthouse is to climb the cliff using the frayed ropes left by fishermen. Tracking through a tangled casuarina forest we disturb the odd wallaby and black cockatoo on our way to the point. The lighthouse isn't the sort of picturesque beacon you'd see on a postcard; it looks like a concrete washing machine - functional rather than beautiful. We scramble out to the furthest sliver of land to see the chewed coastline towards Batemans Bay. Out from Jimmy's Island and Malua Bay are the Tollgates, two humps in the ocean named by Captain Cook during his east-coast voyage.

Back at the cliff, Waterson tells me not to trust the ropes on my descent. I use my common sense and maintain three points of contact on the trail, ensuring that my backside is always firmly attached to the dirt as I slide back to the beach.

Waterson and I attach our spray skirts, watching the clouds cluster like a bruise above us. In the distance I see a flash of lightning on the hills around Mogendoura. I count silently and it's 10 before I hear the thunder. Waterson nods - we're in the clear and we drag our kayak back through the gravel before the weather closes in again.

Ben Stubbs travelled courtesy of Tourism NSW.

Fast Facts

Tuross and Mossy Point are on the Eurobodalla Coast, a four-hour drive south of Sydney on the Princes Highway. Phone 0400 184 034; email info@regionrivers.com.