



Kayak Central Coast self-guided tour

Marramarra Creek Camping

Spend a night camping at a secluded campsite in a remote part of the Marramarra National Park. The site can only be accessed by kayak or on foot and is beautifully tranquil. There are two campsites several hundred metres apart: the main site which has some amenities, while the other site is a clear area on which to pitch your tent.

Push off from the boat ramps at Mooney Mooney or Kangaroo Point at Brooklyn. Be prepared for an interesting trip. Paddle around Milsons Island and head south west towards Bar Island and the mouth of Marramarra Creek. As you paddle past Big Bay the creek becomes narrower. It is best to avoid low tide for this part of the paddle, although a narrow channel is navigable. The campsite may be found approximately 3.5 km from the shallow mangrove wetland of Big Bay.

Camping

You will need to be well prepared for this campground. Facilities are limited at the main site to fire rings, picnic tables and a composting toilet. There are no powered sites. The second site, near the orange orchard, has no facilities. You will need to bring water, firewood, tents and food. For more information visit the National Park site – <http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/camping-and-accommodation/campgrounds/Marramarra-Creek-campground>

Things to do

Visit the old orange grove — a remnant of early European settlement. Taste one of the oranges if you dare.

Walk up to the Smugglers Ridge track — south from the main campsite.

Paddle around the mangroves of Big Bay.

Visit historic Bar Island. This island is part of the land of the Dharug and Darkinjung Aboriginal people. Look for a shell midden next to the wharf to the north east of the island. Remnants of early European settlement include a cemetery, and the ruins of a church and school dating from the 1870s. The cemetery gives a fascinating insight into the lives of people living in the district.

Download a guided walk – <http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/recreation-and-facilities/bushwalking/Bar-Island-Walk.pdf>

Visit the wreck on the HMAS Parramatta north of Milson Island. The HMAS Parramatta was a River-Class Torpedo-Boat Destroyer and was the first ship launched by the Australian navy. It saw service in the Pacific Islands, New Guinea, Southeast Asia and the Mediterranean during World War I. During a gale, it ran aground in 1934 on its way to be broken up for scrap. The bow and stern were later salvaged and used on memorials.

Distance

Mooney Mooney to the campsite – 16 km (approximately).

Marramarra Creek

(C)- Campsite (P) HMAS Parramatta

