

Seaford Foreshore Reserve

Seaford Foreshore is one of the oldest reserves in the Frankston area. It has a five kilometre stretch of parallel dunes with remnant indigenous coastal vegetation – creating an important habitat for many birds and reptiles. It shelters one of the best beaches on Port Phillip Bay and has the finest example of Coast Banksia Woodland in Melbourne.

Because of its great natural beauty, it is an extremely popular area of recreation for the local community. However it is vital to recognise the fragility of the indigenous bushland and dunes; they form an important and precious wildlife corridor that provides safe haven for many native birds and reptiles.

History

The foreshore was set aside for public use in 1873 and re-reserved in 1987 for the purposes of conservation and recreation. In 1909 a small pier with a large pipe was built to pump seawater into Kananook Creek to flush through the polluted waters. The pipe was dismantled in 1953 but the pier still remains, a relic of times gone by. The Friends of Seaford Foreshore worked in the reserve for many years regenerating and replanting indigenous species and removing environmental weeds.



It is important to protect the indigenous bushland and dunes at Seaford Foreshore as it is a wildlife corridor and safe haven for native fauna.

Things to see

Indigenous plants

Only very resilient grasses such as Hairy Spinifex and Blue Tussock-grass survive on the coastal fore dunes, which are exposed to the wind and salt spray. Their roots help bind the fragile dunes together, enabling other plants like Coast Tea-tree, White Correa and Coast Daisy-bush to survive. On the secondary dunes closer to the road we find a delightful Banksia Woodland, dominated by Coast Banksia and Coast Beard Heath.

Native animals

Seaford Foreshore is rich in birdlife, with over 100 species either living in or using the reserve on their way to Kananook Creek or Seaford Wetlands. Fourteen species, including the Eastern Yellow Robin and Yellow Thornbill, have been observed to breed in the coastal vegetation, while Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos having been absent for decades have returned to regularly feed on seeds and hunt for grubs. More lizards can be found here than in many other regions in Victoria. Of particular interest is White's Skink which is no longer found in the inner urban areas of Melbourne, having once been common.



Things to do

A five kilometre walking track runs parallel to the beach through the coastal dune vegetation from Keast Park to Mile Bridge.

A return walk is possible through Kananook Creek Reserve which runs parallel to the foreshore on the other side of Nepean Highway. Swimming, fishing, walking and birdwatching are popular activities at the beach. Picnic tables, toilets, natural play spaces and barbecues are available at the pier car park and Keast Park.

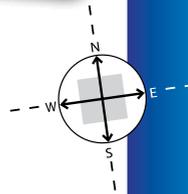


FACT BOX

Location: Seaford
 Melway Ref: 99 D3
 Area: 57 ha
 Special features: Remnant Coast Banksia woodland, beach, birdlife
 Birds: 110+ species
 Walking tracks: 5 km
 Walking time: 1¼ hours
 Pets: Dogs on lead permitted; restrictions apply between December 1 and March 31
 Managed by: Frankston City Council
 Information: ☎ 1300 322 322



Please make sure you keep off the dunes and keep your dog on a lead at all times, to help protect this fragile and beautiful area.



-  Bridge
-  Playground
-  Public toilets
-  Public barbecues
-  Public transport
-  Parking
-  Lookout
-  Information
-  Pedestrian crossing
-  Walking Trail
-  Boardwalk

