

# KING ISLAND - DOWN SOUTH



HEAD DOWN SOUTH TO EXPERIENCE KING ISLAND'S NATURAL WONDERS

## THE CALCIFIED FOREST

7000 years ago a forest on King Island's south-west coast was rapidly consumed by sand. The remains of that forest became visible when the sand receded leaving a ghostly reminder of this millennia old event. The forest is a short 15 minute walk from the parking area 30 minutes south of Currie.

FASCINATING LIMESTONE FEATURES

## PENGUIN PARADE

There are between 17 and 20 species of penguin found worldwide with the smallest of them, the aptly named Little Penguin being found in great abundance at the end of the Grassy breakwater. Less than 40cm tall these penguins are best viewed at dusk as they return from a day foraging at sea. The sight of them leaping from the ocean and waddling back their nests is unforgettable...and free. Please take care when approaching the colony **and do not shine bright lights towards them.**

ONE OF NATURE'S MARVELS

## SEAL ROCKS

King Island tends to be quite flat but the spectacular Seal Rocks Reserve features the tallest cliffs found on the island, rising to 60 metres. The 80m boardwalk to the viewing platform allows visitors a stunning view of the Southern Ocean with the boiling sea a reminder of King Island's terrible shipwreck history.

NEXT STOP SOUTH AMERICA!

## SURPRISE BAY & SEALER'S WALL

On the way to Stoke's Point, King Island's southern tip, the track is narrow but easy to drive with caution. Stop off at stunning Surprise Bay for a picnic lunch and a swim before heading further along to the mysterious **Sealer's Wall.**

Please remember to close all gates behind you as this is a working beef farm run by one of King Island's oldest families.

FAVOURITE LOCAL SWIMMING SPOT

# GRASSY & SURROUNDS

THERE'S PLENTY TO SEE AROUND THIS OLD MINING TOWN

1. **King Island Tours** rightly claim to *take you where others can't* thanks to their all terrain Oka vehicles and the expert knowledge of their guides. The **Hidden Experience** is one of the most popular tours and focuses on the island's south. All tours are fully catered and feature a white **tablecloth Paddock to Plate** experience.

2. If seeing the penguins in Grassy has piqued your interest then contact **King Island Field Naturalists** to join in on one of their monthly walks.

3. **Grassy club** - now run by volunteers with limited opening hours, this old establishment has kept going even when everything else around it was closing down.

If you want to have a drink and hear stories of the Grassy club when the town had a couple of thousand people, drop into the petrol station in Grassy and talk to one of the volunteers called Ernie.

4. King Island has no shortage of beautiful beaches but if you can face the bumpy road then we recommend **Red Hut** as one of the best. Otherwise **City of Melbourne Bay** is easier to access and well worth a look.

5. Look from above - The **Grassy Sheelite mine** can be seen from the lookout in Grassy



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"KING ISLAND IS BOTH FAMILIAR AND STRANGE. EVERYONE IS FRIENDLY EVEN THE OTHER TOURISTS "  
- ANNETTE

## FOOD ETC.

### PETIT FOURS, PASTIES & PICNICS

Clearly, an area of such desolate, natural beauty with a tiny population is unlikely to be overwhelmed with food options but, all things considered, Grassy punches well above its weight.

If you take Old Grassy rd between Grassy and Currie, you will see the banner for **Cafe Brewer** waving in the wind. You can stop in here for a takeaway coffee.

Grassy township is home to **Wild Harvest Restaurant**. It opened in 2016 to rave reviews for the food, the view and the level of service. Operating a *Paddock to Plate* experience they showcase the best locally sourced products with style and adventure.

Lancaster rd is the home of the **King Island Brewhouse**. Taste some locally brewed ale with a view across lush green farming land.

Alternatively, with an abundance of beautiful locations you may prefer to shop in Currie and prepare your own delicious produce or ask Foodworks to make up a hamper of local products to enjoy al fresco.

Not every establishment is open every day so we strongly **recommend that you phone ahead** before setting out.

