

Eurobodalla Shire Councils Enviro treasure hunt for Broulee Island

Broulee Island sits within a sanctuary zone of the Batemans Marine Park. Marine Parks help conserve our state's marine life for present and future generations, whilst providing a great opportunity to improve public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of our unique marine environment.

The Island also lies within the Aboriginal country of the Yuin people. Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the plant and animal resources of Broulee Island, together with those of the adjoining land and sea, would have been utilised by Aboriginal people for food, clothing, shelter, decoration, ceremonial and medicinal purposes.

The tombolo that currently connects Broulee Island to the mainland is periodically breached by wave action only to be reconnected by sand accumulation. The isthmus was intact when surveyor Thomas Florance prepared a sketch map of the area in 1828. It remained so until 1873 when a severe storm following the clearing of vegetation on the spit resulted in the island being cut off from the mainland. Since then, the connecting isthmus has repeatedly reformed and been breached, with the most recent breaches occurring in 1966, 1969, 1971, 1974, 1981 and 1988.

If your visit is between June and October you might be lucky enough to see visiting Humpback and Southern Right Whales. Check the horizon for breath signs.

Humpback Whales



back.

Has a dorsal fin & is characterised by its 'hump'

Southern Right Whales



shore. It often looks like a floating log.

Has no dorsal fin, moves slowly and close to

The coastal and marine environment is beautiful but can be dangerous. Take care on your walk and remind children to watch out for waves and slippery rocks. Make sure they can recognise venomous creatures (e.g. bluebottles and blue-ringed octopus) and avoid broken glass.

What you need to take with you.

- Your activity sheets
- A pencil or two
- Sun protection – hat, cream and sunnies
- A sense of adventure



Broulee Island Activities

At low tide take a walk from the surf club, head east along the rock platform to the sandy beach of Shark Bay to where you see a sign that says, "Broulee Island Nature Reserve." Continue around the southern side of the Island and see if you can find these listed below.

1



These are closed Waratah Anemone. This photo shows that all its tentacles and mouth region are drawn in, so that it looks like a blob of jelly with a hole on the middle. Anemones do not remain stuck to one spot.

Although unimaginably slow, they do glide over the rock surface towards food or to attack other adult Waratah Anemone.

2



Neptune's
Necklace.



Caulerpa
cactoides

3

Can you find the Marine Park sign on the left, it tells you when you change from a General Use Zone to a Sanctuary Zone.

4

Can you find any Sea birds? Tick (✓) which ones you see.



Little Pied
Cormorant



White Bellied
Sea Eagle



Pied Oyster
Catcher

5

When you start to walk north you can see Burrewarra Point. Sometimes you might find Mutton Birds (Short Tailed Shearwaters)

washed up on the rocks. They die because they are exhausted from flying the incredible 30,000 km journey from the Arctic Region all the way to the southern parts of Australia.
6 How many Chiton shells can you find?



Chitons are very primitive molluscs. They have eight separate protective armour plates. Chitons can live up to twenty years, or more.

7 If you are quiet you might see a swift-footed crab. Yes/no



Draw one if you can



8 On the northern side of the Island you will notice that there is a lot of Coralline algae. (Pink coloured algae with either erect fronds like feathers or encrusting that looks like pink paint.) It is because of this algae that the surf break here is called, 'Pink Rocks'. The feathery kind is a favourite food for adult abalone.



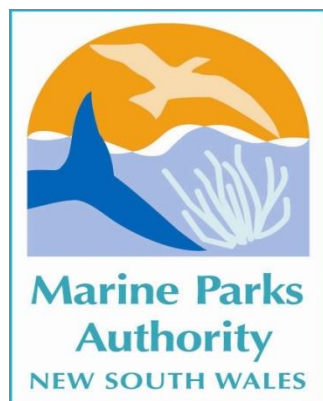
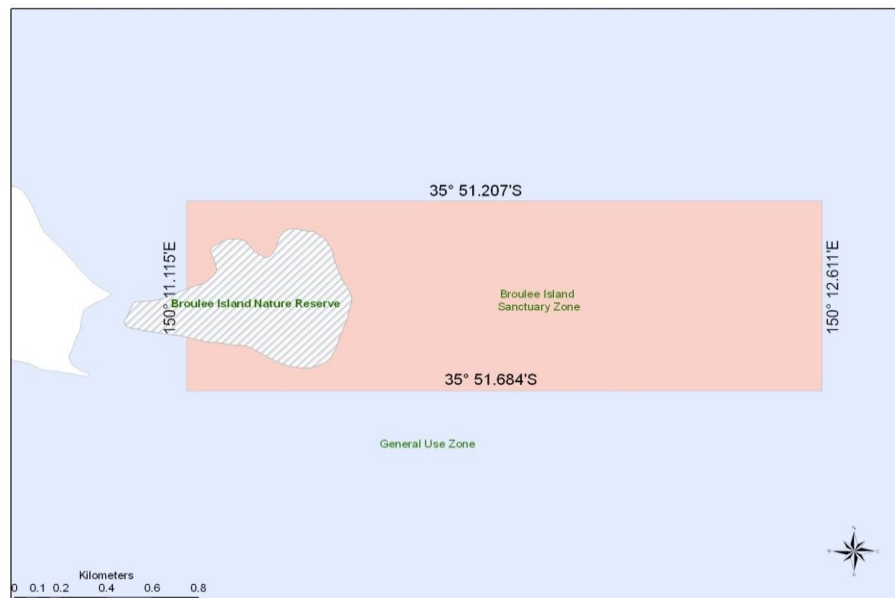
Erect Coralline Algae



Encrusting Coralline Algae

Please remember that in a Sanctuary Zone you cannot fish or collect any species of plant or animal. Sanctuary Zones provide the highest

level of protection for long-term conservation of marine biodiversity.



If you see illegal activity in the marine park please contact the Batemans Marine Park on 02 4476 0800 after hours 1300 361 967.



Phone: 0431282238

This activity was put together by Eurobodalla Shire Council's Environment Team.

