

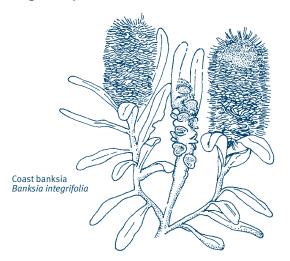
**Welcome to South Stradbroke Island Conservation Park** 

South Stradbroke Island Conservation Park boasts 22km of pristine white surf beach on one side and the calm waterways of The Broadwater on the other.

Just a short boat ride from the Gold Coast, you'll feel like you've left the rest of the world behind. Choose from a range of short bushwalks, cool off with a swim or throw in a line from the beach.

The secret is out, South Stradbroke Island Conservation Park is a second-to-none place to visit! The island offers short walks connecting The Broadwater on the west to the Pacific Ocean, where coastal she-oaks and spinifex-covered dunes fringe pristine beaches. I could go on about the livistona forests, or the moving dunes, or the thousands of migratory birds, or the whales, or the remoteness of the place, but it doesn't compare to seeing it with your own eyes. Enjoy your visit, respect the area, and remember to keep it a secret.

Ranger Cheryn





# Not your typical sand island

South Stradbroke Island offers a level of remoteness that's hard to find on the more well-known sand islands in the region. Come for a day visit and enjoy the short walks through the conservation park, followed by some lunch and a cooling splash in the shallows. Or, if you really want to soak up the serenity, book into one of the City of Gold Coast campgrounds or Couran Cove Resort and stay a little longer. Either way, you'll go home refreshed and rejuvenated.

'South Straddie' isn't just a haven for nature-lovers, it's of international importance for its wildlife. Forest groves of cabbage palm *Livistona australis* thrive on the island's moist sandy soils, while migratory shorebirds rely on the precious intertidal habitat for their ongoing survival. Agile wallabies *Macropus agilis* and the golden form of the swamp wallaby *Wallabia bicolor*—found only on Peel Island and North and South Stradbroke islands—flourish on this secluded island.

If you're looking for a unique getaway, you've found it!

# **Getting there**

South Stradbroke Island is a short 20 to 30 minute boat ride across The Broadwater from the northern suburbs of the Gold Coast. Take a water taxi or moor your vessel along the western coast.

## Find out more

Before you go, check the **South Stradbroke Island Conservation Park**web page for park alerts, important
safety information, maps, access
details, things to do and the wildlife
that make this park special.



Scan for South Stradbroke Islan Conservation Pai

# Walks to explore

Immerse yourself in South Stradbroke Island's natural beauty with any one of these short walks. For your comfort and safety we recommend you take a map, snacks and drinking water, plus sun protection and insect repellent. Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

All walking tracks in the conservation park are Grade 3:

Formed tracks with short, steep hills and a soft sand surface. Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended.

#### Dux Hut walk

800m return. Allow 20min.

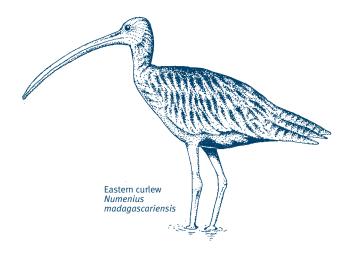
Linking Dux Anchorage to the eastern beach, this track was named after the heritage listed Dux Hut—built around 1930 by Augie Dux, a former oyster farmer that lived and worked on the island. Low, sparse vegetation provides little shade so it's best walked in early morning or late afternoon. To access the track, walk 1.4km north from Tipplers Licensed Cafe along Tipplers Road or from the eastern beach at emergency marker SSI 1.

### Tipplers walking trail

1.7km return. Allow 45min.

Wind your way through a dense forest of bloodwood, brush box and cypress pine layered with an understorey of banksias. The track entrance is located 50m off Tipplers Road, opposite Tipplers Licensed Cafe, and ends at emergency marker sign SSI 2 on the eastern beach. You can return via the same track or head south along the beach for 400m to emergency marker sign SSI 3 and return via the Surf Beach walk. Both tracks will take you back to Tipplers Licensed Cafe.





#### **Surf Beach walk**

1.6km return. Allow 45min.

The Surf Beach walk takes you through a dense forest of bloodwood and brush box trees before opening out to coastal dunes with spinifex, casuarina, acacia, banksia and pandanus. Located off Tipplers Road, 300m north of Tipplers campground, or from the eastern beach at emergency marker sign SSI 3.

#### **Broadwater trail**

2.5km return. Allow 1.5hr.

Take a stroll along the waterfront and take in the views over The Broadwater. Watch shorebirds feeding on the tidal mud flats, building up their reserves for the long migration ahead of them. Starting at the northern point of Couran Cove Resort, the track heads northwards for 1.25km. Return to Couran Cove along the same track.

## **South Currigee walk**

600m return. Allow 20min.

Wander through sparse, low coastal dunes dominated by casuarina, acacia, banksia and spinifex, with a small pocket of forest at the eastern end. This short track crosses the island east to west. Starting at the South Currigee campground, it is the only walking track at the southern end of the park. To access the track from the eastern beach, use emergency marker sign SSI 8.

# **Staying safe**

### There are no patrolled swimming areas

- Take care if you choose to swim in the ocean. Rips—strong, fast currents—and sharks are common and the beach is not patrolled by surf lifeguards.
- Never dive into the water. Water depth can vary and submerged objects may be present.

### When walking, keep your wits about you

- Stay alert on the beach. It's difficult to hear approaching vehicles over the sounds of the surf and wind.
- If you're exiting a walking track out on to the eastern beach, take note of the emergency positioning sign number (SSI 1 to 9). This will help you locate the track entrance for your return journey.

### Caring for the park

- Dogs are not permitted in the conservation park.
- South Stradbroke Island is surrounded by Moreton Bay Marine Park, so know the zoning rules before fishing or boating. Find them at parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/ moreton-bay
- If fishing, be aware that seasonal restrictions, size, gender and in-possession limits apply to some fish species. Check the Fisheries Queensland website for rules and guidelines before heading out.

## **Further information**



qld.gov.au/NationalParks



qld.gov.au/ParkAlerts (access, closures and conditions)



qldnationalparks



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This brochure is also available online at qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures



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