

lonely planet

# Walking in Australia

60  
GREAT  
WALKS



## NEAREST TOWNS & FACILITIES

### Mallacoota

☎ 03 / pop 1040

Abutting the NSW border, and completely surrounded by Croajingolong, Mallacoota is a one-road-in, one-road-out town with great access to remote ocean beaches, an extensive estuarine waterway system, an abundance of bird life, surf and, of course, the national park. **Mallacoota Information Shed** (☎ 5158 0800; Main Wharf, cnr Allan & Buckland Drs) is operated by friendly volunteers, while **Parks Victoria** (☎ 5161 9500; cnr Allan & Buckland Drs) has excellent outdoor displays and information on Croajingolong. **Mallacoota Bait & Tackle** (☎ 5158 0050; 14 Allan Dr) has some very basic camping gear.

### SLEEPING & EATING

All prices here are off-peak; work some overtime if you are coming in Christmas holidays, because prices shoot up.

**Mallacoota Foreshore Camp Park** (☎ 5158 0300; camppark@bigpond.com; unpowered/powered sites for 2 \$14/17.50, on-site caravans \$35) has hundreds of grassy sites extending along the foreshore, with sublime views of the lake and its resident black swans and pelicans.

At **Mallacoota Hotel Motel & Backpackers** (☎ 5158 0455; inncoota@speedlink.com.au; 51-55 Maurice Ave; dm \$22, motel s/d from \$55/66; 🍷 🍺) the backpacker rooms are a bit shabby but there is a good shared kitchen and it is conveniently located next to the pub (and you get use of the motel pool). Simple motel rooms overlook the lawn and pool.

The eco-friendly, creative and comfortable **Adobe Mudbrick Holiday Flats** (☎ 5159 0329; www.adobeholidayflats.com.au; 17-19 Karbeethong Ave; cabins \$55-135) are about 5km from town, with plentiful wildlife and gorgeous inlet views. Linen costs extra and kayaks are available for hire.

The early-1900s timber **Karbeethong Lodge** (☎ 5158 0411; www.karbeethonglodge.com.au; d \$75-180) has small bedrooms but wonderful serenity on the broad verandas overlooking the inlet. Rates include continental breakfast.

There are two supermarkets on Maurice Ave in the centre of town for any last-minute supplies. **Croajingolong Cafe** (Allan Dr; mains \$6.50-11; ☺ breakfast & lunch Tue-Sun) overlooks the inlet and is a perfect place to linger and settle into walking speed. Great smoothies; no credit cards.

**Tide Restaurant** (☎ 5158 0100; 70 Maurice Ave; mains \$15-25; ☺ dinner) has a prime lakeside location, and serves quality food and wine. The sunny outdoor deck is deservedly popular.

### GETTING THERE & AWAY

Mallacoota is 23km off the Princes Hwy. **V/Line** (☎ 13 61 96; www.vline.com.au) services travel to/from Melbourne (\$68, eight hours) on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Be sure to inform V/Line that you are going to Mallacoota, as a shuttle bus meets passengers at Genoa, on the highway, for the transfer into town.