

# THE STEPS OF GIRRBA

## Rules and Regulations

Welcome to **The Steps of Girrba**, we love this area and hope that you will too. We are trying to create an authentic camping experience and see this area as a wilderness environment which must be shown due respect. Campers need to be aware of the remote location and take responsibility for their own camping environment.

### Emergency contact numbers:

- **Fire**                               **000**
- **Police**                               **6558 1204**
- **Ambulance**   **000 or 131 233**
- **BOAC 6558 2093 (Bus. hours only)**

- 1. Rules: Care & Respect**
- 2. Regulations and Guidelines**
- 3. Campfires at The Steps**
- 4. Cleaning Up**

### Be aware:

- This campground is not staffed.
- There is no mobile phone coverage at the campground; the closest reliable coverage is at Barrington village.
- The closest medical facility is the Gloucester Hospital located in Gloucester township.
- You are responsible for you and your party's safety at all times.
- Please read the information provided about the Campground and familiarize yourself with the Rules, Regulations and Evacuation Plan.
- We reserve the right to remove any persons that do not adhere to the conditions that are set out below.
- The Steps of Girrba Campground is managed by Barrington Outdoor Adventure Centre Pty Ltd (BOAC).

## 1. Rules: Care and Respect....these are not negotiable.

- **No domestic pets due to proximity of wildlife**
- Drive with caution on Manchester Road which has loose gravel, a slippery surface and livestock may be present.
- All vehicles must keep to designated roads & obey speed limits
- No camping in the riparian zone (within the area 50m from the river bank). You may only camp in designated camping areas.
- Avoid camping under trees as branches may fall without warning.
- No open fires except in designated fire pits – please read below *Section 3 Campfire Policy*
- No motorbikes or loud machinery
- No loud music or obnoxious behavior
- No firearms, hunting or shooting
- No littering
- No excessive alcohol or drugs

## 2. Regulations and Guidelines: Know the rules and you'll all have more fun.

### Water:

- Water at the amenities block is filtered to a potable standard. If you choose to use water direct from the river, health authorities recommend boiling for at least 10 minutes before drinking.
- The water tanks are not large capacity so please conserve water as much as possible.

### Firewood:

- Please read, and comply with, the campfire rules below at *Section 3 Campfire Policy*
- Firewood is not to be scavenged from the property or neighboring properties, this timber forms valuable habitat and is part of our rehabilitation works.
- Firewood can be purchased from BOAC please check our price guide for further information. There's a refundable deposit on the reusable bag.
- You are responsible for knowing the fire danger rating and if a fire ban is in effect. Please water all fires when not in use to prevent embers from spreading.

**Recycling Rubbish:**

- Help us to recycle your recyclables by separating your rubbish according to the labels of the bins provided, no-one wants to go dumpster diving to sort food waste from glass/plastics.
- Read the full details below at *Section 4 Cleaning Up*

**Toilets and Showers:**

- All wastewater is treated onsite in our worm farm system. Please only place organic materials in the system, no bleach, plastics or personal items.
- Cleaning equipment is provided for you to clean the amenities block after use. Please leave this area as you would like to find it. If supplies are running low, please notify a BOAC staff member where possible.
- Please respect others and keep showers to a 3 minute maximum to ensure there is warm water for all.

**Road Safety:**

- All vehicles must keep to designated roads.
- Please drive slowly keeping an eye out for children and mountain bikers.
- Give way and show patience to other road users.

**River safety:**

- Never ever dive into any river water.
- We strongly recommend the use of life jackets to any persons entering the water.
- All children to be supervised at all times near and in the river.
- Be considerate of other river users i.e. swimmers, kayakers

**General Warning and Exclusion of Liability for Mountain Bike Trails:**

- Mountain biking is a potentially hazardous activity carrying a significant risk. Undertaking this activity may result in injury or death to the person and/or property loss or damage. The activity should only be undertaken with a full understanding of all inherent risks. These guidelines must always be used in conjunction with the exercise of your own experience, intuition and careful judgment. Children should be accompanied by an adult at all times and should be monitored for fatigue regularly. Protective clothing and equipment is recommended for all riders. Bike helmets must be worn at all times. Normal road rules apply. These trails are designed for modern mountain bikes only. You must ensure your equipment is suitable for the terrain, is safe and is serviced. BOAC takes no responsibility for failed, lost or damaged equipment.

**Fires and Floods/Evacuation Plan:**

- In the event of an emergency all persons are required to leave the property under the direction of Authorized personnel. (BOAC Staff, Police, RFS)
- If authorized personnel are unavailable please make your way in an orderly manner off the property.
- We reserve the right to relocate campers for their own safety.

**Tracks and walkways:**

- Please be considerate of other users i.e. walkers, bikers.

**Shelters:**

- Shelters must be booked in advance; they are not for general use. Please see our price guide for The Large Shelter and Small Shelter at a per night rate.

**Out of Bounds Areas:**

- Storage sheds are strictly out of bounds to all campers.
- Riverview Cottage may be hired separately and is strictly out of bounds if not booked by a member of your group.
- During wet weather, vehicles are not permitted on the grass areas. Please park your car in a car park and carry your camping equipment to your campground. This will prevent campground being damaged.

**Squatter's policy:**

- Maximum stay is 14 days at any one time.

### 3. Campfires at The Steps

#### Where – Pits and pitfalls

- Each campzone at The Steps has an existing designated fire pit. Use this pit only, do not create new pits without asking our staff for permission. Ensure you orientate your tent and outdoor spaces accordingly.
- If you are sharing a campzone with others then you also are sharing the fire pit.
- If you have a large group and would like a larger fire, then ensure you hire the appropriate campzone (#1 or #3) with a larger fire pit.
- Do not use rocks or stones to enclose fire pits as they are a trip hazard to people and can damage vehicles and mowers. River stones are also likely to shatter when heated, due to water trapped in porous stones.

#### When – Know the fire ban rules

- During your stay at The Steps, you are responsible for knowing the fire danger rating on each day and whether a fire ban is in effect.
- Fire ban rules are often misunderstood, so check out the truth on the attached official summary from the NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Please ensure your campfire is fully extinguished before checking out from The Steps.

#### With what – Wood supplies – please see price guide for costs.

- We sell 20kg bags of ready-to-burn firewood – **see price guide for costs**. Pick-up is from our Gloucester office. In peak times, bags will also be available onsite from staff.
- The price includes a refundable deposit on the reusable bag. To get your refund, simply return the empty bag to a staff member onsite or to our Gloucester office.
- No bag, no refund. Empty bags left behind will forfeit the refund (although enterprising kids will probably see the opportunity for quick pocket money!)
- If you have a large group we can arrange bulk delivery to your site (see price guide for trailer load).
- You are always welcome to bring your own firewood. Supplies are often sold at petrol stations in Gloucester and Barrington but these may sell out quickly in peak periods.

#### Why – Our philosophy

- A campfire is often an essential feature of a camping holiday: teaching your kids about safe use of fire and the potential dangers too; turning your first marshmallow to cinders; telling your first campfire story. But be responsible too: only make small contained fires in designated fire pits. And be prepared to put them out in a hurry if needed.
- Be considerate of the environment. Fallen timber provides valuable habitat for wildlife and is not to be scavenged from the property nor the neighbouring properties. Do not remove dead wood from trees from the same reason, you may be stealing an animal's home or a bug's home that feeds the animals.
- Be considerate of your neighbours at all times.
- Burn responsibly. Only burn what you truly need for your cooking or comfort and extinguish it before going to bed at night.
- Burn dry, well-seasoned wood (not damp or green wood). Burn bright to minimize smoke.
- Be aware of wind direction for smoke drift, it can be much more annoying than cigarette smoke.
- Sharing a fire pit with your neighbours will link you to thousands of years of human tradition, so share a pit, tell a story and make new friends!

## 4. Cleaning Up

The Steps Campground does not have a live-in caretaker, so it's expected that guests take some responsibility for cleaning up after themselves and keeping it clean for fellow campers. If everyone makes a little effort, everyone will have a better time, so with many thanks in advance, here's the deal.....

### **Toilets and showers:**

The amenities block has regular scheduled cleaning but like your mother said "this doesn't mean you can forget about cleaning up after yourself." So after you have used the showers or toilets, it's your responsibility to give them a quick once-over...

- *Muddy foot prints?* Please mop them clean
- *Puddles of water?* Mop them too.
- *Paper towels on floor?* Pick them up before you leave.
- *Skid marks?* The next person doesn't want to see yours, so a quick brush is much appreciated, thank you very much.

The secret to happiness here is: **Leave it as you would like to find it.**

NB. Children should not use the amenities block unsupervised unless you have given them strict instructions about cleaning up after themselves. This may be the perfect opportunity to introduce them to a lifelong appreciation of the mop or toilet brush.

### **Recycling Rubbish:**

Experienced campers who care for the environment (yes, that's you) always bring two garbage bags with their camping kit: one for recyclables and one for non-recyclable general rubbish. Sort your waste as you go (it's so much easier). Please don't leave food scraps out for wildlife as it ruins their foraging instinct and can cause squabbles, just like kids.

At the end of your stay, put the appropriate general rubbish into the general rubbish bin, and empty your recyclables into the appropriate bin *however* put the plastic bag itself into the general rubbish bin. (Read that again if you don't follow.)

There are bins near the amenities block for recyclables and for general rubbish. In peak periods these will be distributed around the campground to save you the walk. If you sort your waste as you go, you won't feel a thing and the world will be a better place too. General rubbish ends up as landfill at the local tip, slowly burying the Gloucester valley and creating methane that chokes the planet. Unsorted waste is worse, because all those bottles, tins and plastics could have found a new home but instead they are buried with all those things you wouldn't show your mother. Recycling will save you a spot in heaven, so be an angel and recycle please.

And if you want an extra golden halo or extra fluffy angel wings, you could help us out by taking all your rubbish with you: the Gloucester tip is located at 385 Thunderbolts Way, halfway between Barrington village and Gloucester. You have to drive past it anyway and while you're there have a snoop around the new **Gloucester Tip Shop** for pre-loved stuff that you didn't know you needed until you saw it.

Dropping recyclables to the tip is free (and yes, they love co-mingled). Tip hours are Tuesday to Friday 8am-5pm, Saturday to Sunday 10am-4pm. Strangely not open on Mondays at all, go figure.