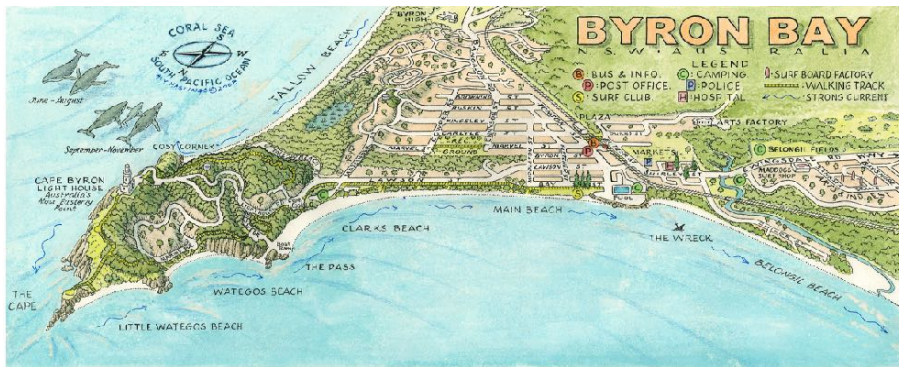


Byron Bay Surf Safety



@guyssurfarmaps

TALLOW BEACH @ COSY CORNER

Tallow Beach is NOT SAFE for Swimming. Experienced Surfers ONLY:

LifeGuards here only during school holidays.

Tallow Beach is the long open beach on the south side of the Lighthouse.

This beach will pick up any swell coming in and it's always solid.

We always get waves here no matter how small the surf is.

Only to be surfed by very experienced surfers, unless the surf is only 1 foot.

Waves are mostly fast & hollow but when it is small it can have spilling waves.

Best winds are from the North East, North West to South Westerly winds.

Both Left & Right Handed Beach Breaks.

There are always Big Rips and Strong Currents along this beach.

We have a permanent Rip beside the rocks at all times.

The South swell is always to be avoided. This will push you onto the rocks into the corner & around under the Cliff / Headland.

If you cannot get back to the sand, you must paddle all the way around the Headland to Watergoss Beach & go with the flow of the current. You cannot climb up the Headland / Cliff anyway..

DO NOT GO NEAR THE ROCKS.

The strong south current will carry you northwards anyway.

DO NOT FIGHT THE CURRENT.

STAY WITH YOUR BOARD OR FLOAT ON YOUR BACK.



Above: Small Spilling Wave.



Above: Big Fast & Hollow.

WATEGOS BEACH:

Wategos Beach & Little Wategos are the most Easterly beaches in The Bay. These beaches are on the North Side of the Lighthouse.

Wategos is a famous Longboard wave & Family beach.

The waves are mostly spilling & will break all the way to the outside of The Pass.

Best winds from the South to South East. Best swell from the East to North East.

There is always a Sweeping, Side Shore current here. Strong at Times.

This will flow from Right to Left when U stand on the shore & look out to sea.

This will carry you towards the rocks and then to The Pass.

You must be on the beach before the public toilets to avoid being carried along past the rocks.

If you miss this exit point, stay away from the rocks and go around the point of The Pass.

Then you can exit the surf at Clarkes Beach, inside The Pass & walk back.

NEVER GO NEAR THE ROCKS & STAY WITH YOUR BOARD.

THE PASS:

From the Take Off Rock past The Point is where the wave is Fast & Hollow past the Boat Ramp. Only for Experienced Surfers Here.

Intermediate & Beginners stay at Tommos Rock in front of the cottages, not past the Boat Ramp.

On the Inside there are smaller spilling waves for Longboards, Kids & Learners.

Best winds are from the South to South East to East.

We always get waves to surf here even in the North Winds. Windy but Worthy.

Most swells will get here as the south swell will wrap in around Cape Byron Headland.

Always a sweeping current here. Always Crowded. Surfing must be tolerated.

Boats coming off the Boat Ramp / Beach & Sounding a horn when coming in or out.

Keep Clear of Boats at All Times.

CLARKES TO MAIN BEACH:

This beach runs from Tommos Rock to the Byron Bay Surf Life Saving Club, SLSC.

Clarkes Beach is the Best & Safest place for learning to surf in Byron Bay.

Style Surfing Byron Bay has been teaching surfing here full time since 1999.

We can get rocks from the bottom of the Captain Cook Carpark steps to the SLSC.

NEVER GO NEAR THE ROCKS.

Waves are often fast & hollow but can get small spilling waves depending on the size of the surf.

Mainly Right hand waves but also the occasional Left hander too.

Best winds are from the South West to South East.

All swells will get in here. The sweeping current is always here & strong with big surf.

Once you get down towards the SLSC you must have an exit point before the rocks.

If you miss the exit point, you must keep going to The Wreck Beach and exit past the rocks.

NEVER GO NEAR THE ROCKS.

THE WRECK TO BELONGIL BEACH:

At the western side of the Main Beach Carpark heading away from the Lighthouse.

Another great wave in Byron Bay that was formed when a ship "SS Wollongbar" was washed from the old Byron Bay Jetty in 1921. This ship was used to transport all the tourists coming from Sydney to visit The Bay. You can still see parts of the Wreck, the "Rudder & Boilers" sticking out of the sand & surf at low tide. Learning to surf at the wreck is only suitable in small surf at high tide, otherwise it's too shallow. You must take care surfing here as you can hit The Wreck.

Further west along Belongil Beach heading north there are always sandbanks producing waves for both the experienced when its big & the novice when its small.

The wave shape changes to fast & hollow when big. Slow & spilling when it's small.

Best winds are from the south west to south east. Best swell is from the south east to the north.

The sweep is always here if the swell is here.

RIP CURRENTS:

A rip is a current that flows directly out to sea.

Rips are formed when the waves break towards the beach then the water must make its way back out to sea. Either a sweeping current, running parallel along with the beach. Or the rip current that goes directly back out to sea.

Surfers use these rips to get out the back & through the waves more easily. Swimmers think that they are going to drown as that's what usually happens.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DROWN, JUST GO WITH THE FLOW & KEEP AFLOAT.

Because swimmers fight against the currents, that's when they get too tired and into trouble. Just float with it. Stay with your surfboard. Float on your back if you don't have a surfboard. Use your landmark to see which way you are going in the waves. Always stay away from rocks. U will always find your way back to shore. Don't Panic.

Please watch my Rip video..

https://youtu.be/gfx_iHiV0g

U can see the rip with the discoloured water, sand or seaweed moving..

The waves each side of the rip are more solid

Permanent Rips are always at the end of the open beach where the rocks start.

Always at Cosy Corner at Tallow Beach.

Signals used by Surf Life Saving Australia

<https://www.surflifesaving.com.au>



Attract attention



Assistance required

To Attract Attention:

Both arms waved to and fro high above your head.

Assistance Required:

One arm waved too and fro high above your head from your ear to the horizontal position.

All Australian Surf Lifeguards use these 2 signals.

They are used because they don't look like you are waving to another person to say hello...

Always swim between the flags.. Never surf between the flags..

Always observe the surf conditions. The size of the waves. The Rocks. Reefs. Shipwrecks. The Currents, both sweeping and rips. Watch the other surfers as well before you head out.

Check the beach and the surrounding landscape. Always have landmarks so you know where you are in the surf at all times..

Basic Rules:

Please watch the rules of surfing video.

<https://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/Things-to-do/Gold-Coast-beaches/Surfing>

- * When learning to surf please keep clear of the good surfers until you are good yourself.
- * Stay away from where the experienced surfers go.
- * Always surf with a surfing buddy or a mate.
- * Tell your Mates where you are going surfing.
- * Do Not catch a wave when there is someone else already on it.
- * The first person to catch the wave, owns the wave.
- * Always paddle wide of the surfer riding on the wave.
- * If you are too late to get past the surfer, then paddle into the white water to keep clear.
- * Land flat when you fall off.
- * Cover your head for protection.
- * Watch out for other surfers & swimmers.
- * Always wear a legrope / leash. Never hold your leash in the wave zone.
- * Never throw your board away to go under a wave.
- * Stay with your surfboard, it is the first thing that floats.
- * Never Panic the Oceans Organic.
- * Talk to other surfers in the line up. Give respect to gain respect.
- * Help others in trouble if you can.
- * Keep smiling & don't get frustrated.
- * When learning to surf, have a surfing lesson with a reputable & local surfing school.
- * This is a guide only & any questions please text Gaz at Style Surfing Byron Bay.

www.stylesurfingbyronbay.com

@stylesurfingbyronbay

