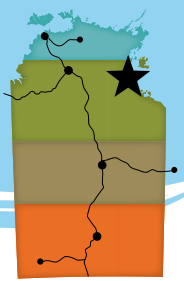


Limmen Bight Marine Park



Limmen Bight Marine Park is home to an astonishing array of marine animals, from threatened pipefish to part of the largest density of dugongs in the Northern Territory.

The Park has a rich and active Aboriginal culture. The *Marra*, *Yanyuwa*, *Alawa* and *Wandarang* peoples have strong cultural affiliation with this saltwater country.

The Park protects 884 km² of relatively pristine and diverse marine habitats including extensive seagrass beds or meadows. These seagrass beds are important for maintaining marine turtles, listed pipefish and dugongs.

The area also includes important commercial quantities of prawn, mud crab and barramundi. These populations are important for both the commercial and recreational fishers of the region.

Access (see map)

The Park is located approximately 340 km south-east of Katherine and 100 km north-west of Borroloola. Access is via the surrounding Gulf of Carpentaria or the boat ramps listed on the map overleaf.

When to Visit

Open all year. The dry season (May-Sept) are the most pleasant months to visit. Tropical cyclones can affect this area during the wet season.

What to See and Do

Fishing - enjoy the extensive fishing opportunities of the region. Remember that the area is remote and reliable communications and safety

equipment is essential.

Marine Wildlife - At least three species of pipefish (*Hippichthys cyanospilos*, *H. parvicarinatus* and *H. penicillus*) live in the seagrass meadows of the Park. Pipefish are closely related to seahorses and these species are listed marine species under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*.



Blue-spotted Pipefish
Hippichthys cyanospilos

Marine sea turtles also live throughout the Park and nest on the adjacent islands. The Park is an important feeding and resting area for a range of turtles including Flatbacks, Greens, Hawksbills and Olive Ridleys.



Swimming - is not advised as Saltwater Crocodiles live and travel throughout the Marine Park.

History - Dutch explorer Abel Tasman named the area in 1644 after one of his ships, *Limmen*. It is suspected that the ship was named after the town/province of Limmen in Holland. From the mid-17th century to the early 20th century, Macassan fishermen have harvested Trepanng from the area.



Safety and Comfort

- Ensure that your boat is properly equipped for remote area boating.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- Carry a comprehensive first aid kit suitable for remote areas.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Beware of theft, lock vehicles and secure valuables at boatramps.

Please Remember

- Take all your rubbish away with you.
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Check that your vehicle/boat is not transporting pests like weeds and cane toads.



Dugong
Dugong dugon

Green Turtle
Chelonia mydas

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

Limmen Ranger Station
Ph: (08) 8975 9940
Fax: (08) 8975 9761
www.nt.gov.au/parks

Regional Office
32 Giles St KATHERINE NT 0850
PO Box 344 KATHERINE NT 0851
Ph: (08) 8973 8888



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