

LONG REEF HEADLAND

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

The headland boasts a rich Aboriginal history, as would be expected with such an abundance of sea and land resources. Shell middens provide evidence of past meals, and burials are occasionally exposed in the eroding dunes.

Dogs: Dogs pose a major risk to native birds and animals. There is an offleash dog area at the corner of Anzac and Pittwater Rds. Dogs must be on a lead in all other areas and are not permitted on the beach or rock platform.



Long Reef

The protected areas of Long Reef Headland and surrounds provide an important habitat for native plants and animals.

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Hello LONG REEF HEADLAND





GRADE
Medium

DISTANCE
3km loop

TIME
1 hour

PATH
Formed track,
gentle hills,
occasional steps



Fisherman's Hut

Ocean Views



Long Reef Boardwalk



LONG REEF HEADLAND

The perfect place for whale watching. Gaze across the ocean, north to the Central Coast or south to North Head, or explore the rock platform for all kinds of marine creatures. Long Reef never disappoints!

PROTECTED AREAS

The high conservation value of Long Reef Headland and the adjoining foreshore, beaches and dunes is acknowledged through its status as a **Wildlife Protection Area**. With 63 threatened species, the vegetation provides important habitat for native fauna, including 136 species of birds.

The **Long Reef Aquatic Reserve** protects marine plants, animals and invertebrates on the rock platform. Explore at low tide, but please remember that this is a 'No Take' zone. Intertidal zone species are highly sensitive to disturbance, as are migratory birds that come to feed and nest.

Dee Why Lagoon Wildlife Refuge has high conservation value as an important habitat for native animals, in particular, local and migratory birds. For instance, the Red Necked Stint which travels from Siberia each year.

SCULPTURES

Enjoy the many sculptures near the top lookout. **Dance of the Tides** is a public art installation in the form of rockpool imagery. At the peak is Kiah, the full-sized baby whale sculptured from granite.

FISHERMAN'S HUT

There was once a small village of fisherman's huts, hence the name **Fisherman's Beach**. The first hut was built in the 1870s but today only one remains, along with a row of boat winches.

SHIPWRECKS

Numerous ships have been wrecked or scuttled off Long Reef, with the first official recording in 1816. In 1881, the **paddle-steamer 'Collaroy'** became stranded on the beach to the north, where it remained beached for four years. The suburb and beach were named after this.

GEOLOGY

Formed in the Triassic period **230 million years** ago, Long Reef Headland is unique in Warringah for its chocolate shales, claystones and ironstones. An attempt to mine copper through a 30m long shaft into the southfacing cliff was abandoned after limited success.

Fossils of fish and plants are not uncommon on shale rock platforms. In 1986 the Australian Museum uncovered the bones of a 200 million year old, 2 metres long Labyrinthodont amphibian, similar to an axolotl.

-  TOILETS
-  OFF LEASH AREA
-  LOOKOUT
-  PARKING
-  BUS STOP

