



# THE ULTIMATE VISITORS GUIDE TO UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF JERVIS BAY

***Local knowledge that only the locals know***



## Introduction

Thanks for downloading this book - let's start with, ***“Who is this book intended for?”***

It is for travellers and visitors who understand that accessing some of the secrets that only locals know is the best way to get the most out of their stay...

As you already know, by downloading this book you have subscribed to our email list. Please be assured;

- We're very unobtrusive and don't send many emails, we're about quality over quantity
- We guarantee that we will never share or sell your information - that would be rude!

We've compiled our local secrets into the categories that we regularly get asked about by our guests.

1. Beaches
2. Restaurants
3. Food shopping
4. Things to do
5. Dog beaches

We are constantly adding new content to this book so feel free to let us know if you think we've missed something!

You can send us an email ([seamistjb@gmail.com](mailto:seamistjb@gmail.com)) or send us a message via Instagram or Facebook.

## Tell us about the beaches

It's no secret that Jervis Bay has incredible white sandy beaches. In fact, the most infamous of all (thanks to the amazing work of Shoalhaven City Council tourism team!) is Hyams Beach which allegedly holds the title of the 'whitest sand in the world' as per the Guinness Book of Records.

Now, regardless of whether this is pure folklore or fact, Hyams Beach is indeed a very white sandy beach, the above notoriety has come at some costs. These include receiving huge numbers of visitors each year, particularly during the summer holiday period.

In fact, in recent years the council have had to take the extraordinary step of closing the road into Hyams Beach to all but residents. This kind of takes the fun out of it.

But worry not. You're here to learn about the secrets of Jervis Bay that only the locals know...

There are lots of local beaches that enjoy the same white sand that Hyams does!



And, with that in mind we can tell you this, you don't find many locals chillaxing at Hyams Beach.

Without question, the most frequently asked question we receive from guests is, ***"Which beaches do you recommend?"***.

The answer looks like this...

## Tell us about the beaches

1. If we have some time to kill and want to indulge ourselves we most commonly drive into Booderee National Park and head to either Scottish Rocks beach or Hole in the Wall. They're adjoining beaches on the left as you drive straight through the National Park - well signposted - and just before you reach Murrays Beach (and boat ramp).

This is a snapshot of Scottish Rocks Beach... dreamy stuff.



The below image shows why 'Hole in the Wall Beach' is called such - as you can see the top of the hole has long since collapsed, but the white beach and remaining structure are still perfect!





## Tell us about the beaches

Parking to both of the adjoining beaches is simple and it's just an easy stroll down onto the sand. Whilst we can't guarantee it, we are often the only people on the beach when we head down there (peak summer season may see a handful of others there, but nothing like Hyams!).

**Handy Hint:** If you are only likely to go into the National Park once then the day pass is the way to go. However, if you think you'll go back more than once it would be worth considering a 12-month pass.



2. If we are short on time then we head to a little known gem of a beach in Vincentia, just 2km up the road from Sea Mist... It's called Orions Beach and whilst it's not a large beach, most people don't know it exists.

The best access is by parking where Twyford Street and Minerva Street intersect and then take 30'ish steps along the pedestrian track (away from Huskisson) and you'll see a narrow set of stairs which will take you straight down to Orions beach.

## Where to eat?

With the growing popularity of the South Coast there are more and more cafes and restaurants on offer in Huskisson, Vincentia and the surrounding areas.

Of course, when we're asked, "Where would you recommend to eat?" we're always mindful that this is somewhat subjective as it is biased by our preferences.

With that said... here goes.

### Huskisson



Given our preference for plant based food we are most commonly found at [Pilgrims Cafe](#). They are a great team and have great coffee and a wide range of yummy, vegetarian food that they are happy to adapt for other requirements e.g. vegan, Gluten free etc.

Next, there is a long-standing cafe called '[5 Little Pigs](#)' which has consistently great food and coffee available. Darren, the owner, is a trained chef and has a great crew behind the scenes turning out some delicious meals.

**Locals tip #1:** Make sure you look up towards the ceiling where you'll see a range of specials available. These change regularly and are often pretty creative!

## Where to eat?

**Interesting Fact:** The name 5 Little Pigs is based on the reality that Darren and his wife have five sons 😊.



Next, still in Huskisson high street is [Salty Joes](#). John and Tiff, the owners are Husky locals and have been an active part of the cafe and restaurant scene for a long time. Salty Joes tips it's cap to Southern California and has a great menu with something for everyone.

Salty's are also spreading their wings with world-themed dinner options and a vast selection of cocktails and craft beers. It's never boring with these guys and you will always feel welcome.



## Where to eat?



Now, this next one is very much a 'locals gem'... It's called [Dent Street](#) and is slightly off the beaten track. The two ladies running it, Amanda and Jo, are amazing and have created a menu that offers visitors a range of yumminess this is not available elsewhere!

This is a more relaxed approach to providing a very social way of having some food and coffee. Seating consists of milk crates and wooden benches. What more do we actually need?



**Locals tip:** If you like hot chocolate... ask Amanda to make you a hot chocolate with Macadamia milk. Absolutely divine!



## Where to eat?

### Vincentia

Just 2km up the road from Sea Mist you'll find a small shopping centre that forms the heart of Vincentia. There are a growing number of cafes, but the one that we can recommend is called [Albert 'n Miso](#).

These guys are serious about their food. So much so, they bake their own bread and roast their own coffee beans! The menu is great and the food fresh.



**Locals tip:** Their hot chips could be the best on the planet. That's a massive call but it could in fact be true!

**Interesting Fact:** Vincentia was originally known as South Huskisson... We wish it had kept that name, it just feels a bit more quaint that way.

## Where to eat?

### Hyams Beach

Whilst it is technically the 'only' cafe at Hyams Beach, the team at [Hyams Beach Cafe](#) do a great job. Whilst it (unfortunately) does not provide views of the beach itself, it's cute decor and great food options makes it worth a visit.

**Locals tip:** We often choose from their takeaway menu and go and sit on the beach to eat. It's a cheaper and more fun way to go about life! Other times, we just like to go and kick back on their veranda and have a pot of tea on a sunny afternoon...





## Where to eat?

### *“But what about evening meals?”*

That’s a great question...

As with the cafes, the following is biased towards our preferences but, in saying that, we’ve also included some generally accepted ‘local knowledge’ too.

We’re torn between [Taj Indian](#) restaurant, which is probably where you’d find us most regularly, and Pilgrims Cafe’s (see above) Mexican on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

Taj Indian has been in Huskisson for almost two-decades and is run by a father and son team. The food is fresh, delicious and served with a smile. They are licensed but BYO is possible to. If you mention that we recommended you go there, they’ll look after you...

We’ve mentioned Mexican at Pilgrims already. It’s always a relaxed vibe, reasonably priced and yummy food. It’s not ‘hardcore’ Mexican and, on that basis, there’s something for everyone.

If you’re looking to take things up a notch (or feel a romantic theme is required for the occasion), [The Quarters](#) is a great option. It has an interesting menu that changes regularly, a cool bar area if you fancy a pre-dinner drink and the whole place has a great vibe.



## Where to eat?



For the meat eaters - [Stonegrill](#) in the main street take their meat seriously. Tony, who has owned the restaurant for two-decades or more is very particular about sourcing his beef. You have the chance to cook your own on a 'hot rock' or they have in-house chefs who can prepare other meals.





## Where to eat?

For something more casual, maybe sitting at Husky Wharf watching the world go by, then you have the '[World Famous Fish and Chip](#)' shop on the main street. Whilst this is a massive claim... they certainly serve some pretty awesome fish and chips! Be warned, if it's holiday season you could have a 40-60 minute wait - but they're worth it!



## Food Shopping

We understand that eating out all the time can be expensive and, sometimes a home cooked meal or BBQ is part of the fun of being on holiday anyway.

The **Sea Mist villas** all offer a full kitchen and BBQ so, it makes sense therefore that guests need to know where to do some food shopping!

Thankfully, you do not have to go far...

There is a Coles within the Vincentia shopping centre (3.5km's from Sea Mist) which is the quickest option. However, it's quite a small example of a Coles and it's not aging particularly well.

**Handy Hint:** Just type 'Coles Vincentia' into Google/Apple Maps and it'll get you there in no time.

Alternatively, there is a **full-size** Woolworths and Aldi just an extra 0.7km's beyond Coles which is where we tend to shop. It's called Vincentia Marketplace and is easily found when using Google/Apple Maps.

It also has a BWS, hairdressers, Subway, Thai restaurant and more... You can fill the car up there too.

**Handy Hint:** Just type 'Vincentia Marketplace' into Google/Apple Maps and it'll get you there in no time.





## Things to do

From taking a cruise to see the Dolphins and Whales, to walking in the trails of the National Park to taking a dive with the Seals... the possibilities are almost endless.

### **Here's some ideas and links to some great resources:**

Things To Do

[www.visitnsw.com/destinations/south-coast/jervis-bay-and-shoalhaven](http://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/south-coast/jervis-bay-and-shoalhaven)

Dolphin and Whale cruises [www.dolphinwatch.com.au](http://www.dolphinwatch.com.au)

A definitive guide to the local beaches [www.shoalhaven.com/blog/insiders-guide-hyams-beach](http://www.shoalhaven.com/blog/insiders-guide-hyams-beach)

Take a drive and (short) walk to see the ruined lighthouse [parksaustralia.gov.au/booderee/do/lighthouse/](http://parksaustralia.gov.au/booderee/do/lighthouse/)

Trail walk options [www.visitnsw.com/destinations/south-coast/jervis-bay-and-shoalhaven/walking-trails](http://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/south-coast/jervis-bay-and-shoalhaven/walking-trails)

Snorkelling and SCUBA Diving [www.divejervisbay.com](http://www.divejervisbay.com)

Stand-up Paddle Boarding or Kayak hire [www.jervisbaykayaks.com.au](http://www.jervisbaykayaks.com.au)

This is great for a wet or cold day... [www.jervisbaymaritimemuseum.asn.au](http://www.jervisbaymaritimemuseum.asn.au)

## Dog Beach

We at Sea Mist are pet friendly and ideally located just 400 metres away from one of the local dog beaches of which there are only 2!

Huskisson Beach is close enough that you can hear the waves lapping against the shore when you're lying in bed. Not bad...



This is an off-leash beach but there are designated times and it varies per summer // winter season e.g. off leash before 0900 and after 1600 in the summer, off leash before 1000 and 1500 in the winter.

However, you must check the signs at the beach itself as it's not unheard of for a council to make changes. And be warned, the Rangers are pretty active and seem to be devoid of discretion...

And, we hope it goes without saying but... please clean up after your pooch. Poo bags are not provided at the beach so take some with you and please put them to use.

You can park at this beach but, you can also walk from Sea Mist (less than 3 minutes). To do so, turn right out of Sea Mist's drive and then first left. Follow your nose, cross one road and you'll hit Huskisson Beach. Easy.

**Interesting Fact:** Full credit to Jordan Robbins, a young, local photographer for the above image. He has a massive amount of incredible images at [www.jordanrobbins.com.au](http://www.jordanrobbins.com.au)



## Keep in touch

Well, that's all from us for now.

We hope you find these local secrets useful and that they help you get even more out of your time in the magical Jervis Bay.

We are constantly adding new content to this book so feel free to let us know if you think we've missed something!

Enjoy your stay.

All the best

*Mat & Neridah*

To get in touch with us please send us an email ([seamistjb@gmail.com](mailto:seamistjb@gmail.com)) or message us via [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#)