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Great Ocean Road Virtual Tour Travel Notes

Lorne to Kennett River



Distances (km) Travel Time(minutes)

Lorne to Kennett River 22.4(27)

Lorne to Wye River 17.2(20)

Lorne to Sheoak Falls Car Park 5.7(8)

Lorne to Cumberland River 7.7(10)

Lorne to Mt Defiance lookout 9.8(13)

Distances start Tourist Information Centre



Distances on this section are measured from Tourist Information centre approximately 100 metres past the Erskine River bridge entering Lorne township. This section of the Great Ocean Road has some of the most spectacular views on the whole tour of the road. The road is winding and relatively narrow, with high cliff abutting the road on the land side and steep drops into the ocean on the sea side. At the bottom of the page are distance measurements to numerous car parks along this section. It can be difficult to pull over if you want to stop so these can help you to find an area to stop.

Leaving Lorne it is worth pulling into the pier car park 1.7 km past Lorne and walking to the end of the pier adding approximately 15 minutes to your trip. It provides excellent views of Lorne and the coast back to Torquay. Continuing along the Great Ocean Road for 5.7 km brings you to the Sheoak Falls car park. If touring do not stop here, as it is a long hard walk in (see side trip below).

Cumberland River camping ground is passed 8.7 km past Lorne and the Great Ocean Road begins to climb steeply up towards Mt. Defiance. The road is narrow and there are very few stopping places. Mt Defiance lookout is 9.8 km past Lorne and only has parking for around 4 vehicles. There are two car parks just before Mt Defiance at 9.2 km and 9.4 km from Lorne. If you look ahead from near these you can generally see if the Mt. Defiance car park is full and take an earlier parking spot. There are no suitable car parks after Mt defiance to walk back to the lookout. After Mt Defiance the Great Ocean Road hugs the cliff face high above the ocean until descending back to sea level at the Jamieson River 1.6 km past Mt Defiance. If you are not pushed for time it is worth pulling into the car park here and walking back along the beach towards Lorne. It is generally a remote beach devoid of people. Past the Jamieson River the Great Ocean Road travels close to the water for the remainder of the trip to Kennett River. Around 400 metres past the Jamieson River is the Artillery Rocks car park. Below the car park is a short walk (15 minutes) to an interesting geological feature of round boulder embedded in the rocks that look like old cannon balls. These round boulders are also

found in the Cape Paton Quarry. The 1861 ship wreck site of the W B Godfrey is located 12.8 km past Lorne and includes information about the wreck, a memorial grave (the actual grave was buried under the Great Ocean Road during construction) and a viewing platform where parts of the wreck are visible at low tide. Separation Creek is located 16.1 km past Lorne and comprises only a small number of houses; Wye River is another kilometre further on and has a general store and a hotel. A further 5.2 kilometres on is Kennett River which comprises a general store and camping ground. Between Jamieson River and Kennett River there are numerous places to pull off where you can walk straight onto beaches.

Side Trips

Sheoak Falls

Turn right into the car 5.7 km past Lorne. This is quite a difficult but rewarding walk entailing lots of stairs along rough tracks. You need to allow around 3.5 hours for this walk and need a good level of fitness. You are rewarded by a magnificent water fall at Sheoak Falls and a waterfall and cascade at Swallows caves. It is best done as a day trip if staying nearby.

Cumberland River located 7.7 km past Lorne is worth a short stop to view the high cliff face that has been deeply cut into by the river. Allow around 10 minutes for this stop.

Kennett River Koalas

At Kennett River turn right towards general store and take the dirt road. Keep an eye out for Koala in the trees along this road. Further along the Great Ocean Road at Sausage Gully Koala can also be seen in the gums beside the road.

Parking Spots (Distances km from Lorne)

7.4 , 7.7(Cumberland River), 7.9, 8, 8.8, 9, 9.2, 9.4, 9.8(Mt Defiance Car park), 10.2, 10.3, 10.5, 11.4(Jamieson River), 11.8, 12, 12.5(Slow vehicle turn out), 12.8, 13.7(Slow vehicle turnout), 14.9, 15.2, 15.5, 15.7, 16.1, 17.2, 17.4, 17.6, 18.2, 18.4, 18.6, 19.2, 19.3, 19.6, 19.7, 20.2, 20.6, 21.8, 22.4(Kennett River), 22.6(surf club Kennett River).