

Thanks for choosing to
stay at YHA Pittwater Eco



YHA Pittwater Eco | Information Pack



Welcome

We look forward to having you stay at the secret gem that is YHA Pittwater Eco, located in Morning Bay, Pittwater. We're sure that if you're looking for rest and rejuvenation, or a dose of adventure, this is the place for you.

Whether your dream break is to lie in a hammock with a book and listen to the birds or take a stand-up paddle board for a cruise to some secret waterfalls, you can find what you're looking for here.

About the property

This property is located inside the Ku-ring-gai Chase National park, found by boat access and walking only. One of the reasons it is so peaceful here is that there are no motorised vehicles anywhere in sight! You are sure to see plenty of wildlife right at your doorstep, from swamp wallabies to goannas, to echidnas and a huge variety of birdlife.

We ask you to respect the native friends whilst you're here by keeping excessive noise to a minimum and never feeding the wildlife or leaving food out that they could access.

We provide simple accommodation for groups of friends and families, retreats and corporate groups, as well as individuals and travellers, who love to be immersed in nature. There is plenty to explore by both land and water.





What makes us Eco?

Due to its remoteness, our unique location and our drive for environmental sustainability, the property works alongside nature in as many ways as possible.

Help support sustainability efforts by switching off lights when not in use, keeping showers short, recycling everything possible, and using water thoughtfully during your stay.

- All water used at the property is sourced from a local stream or collected rainwater.
- All fruit and veggie scraps are composted here on the property.
- We choose sustainable products to run the property and even takeaway coffee cups are reusable and returnable to ensure they don't
- end up in landfill.

What this means for you and how you can help

Our location means that reception and Wi-Fi can be hindered by bad weather or local issues. If you are totally dependent on Internet, we encourage you to bring a personal hotspot.

Water is precious, which is why we ask you to have brief showers. Unfortunately for hygiene reasons, **we do not allow sleeping bags.**

As you can imagine, removing waste without vehicles is no mean feat, so please be mindful of the amount of packaging and disposables you bring.

We encourage you to bring fresh fruit and veg (which you can compost the scraps of here at the property), reusable bags, and reusable containers for food preparation whenever possible and practicable. You will need to take all left over food with you so have a plan for your meals to limit waste.

We are inside a very special National Park. Please do not litter, and if you can, please collect and dispose of any rubbish you find on your walks or paddles to help protect our amazing flora and fauna.



What we provide

- Towels for hire* (linen, doona and mattress protector provided free of charge),
- Spare blankets
- Fridge, bowls, plates, cutlery, utensils, oven
- Tea, sugar, cooking oil, salt and pepper
- Espresso coffee*
- Cold drinks*
- Double kayaks and Stand-up paddle boards*
- Lawn games*
- Yoga mats*
- Board games and a collection of books

Keep in mind that we don't have:

- Freezer
- Vehicle to help your group up the hill
- TV

Activities available

- Kayaks and Stand Up Paddle Boards for guest use
- Local bushwalks
- Wildlife spotting
- Swimming
- Watch sunrise and sunset

*** costs may apply**



What we expect from guests

Respect the community & environment

Despite the feeling of remoteness here, we do have neighbours who love their peace and quiet! We also live on the property full-time (in a separate premises) and want to ensure that we share this amazing place with others, whilst also protecting and respecting our neighbours, the native wildlife and ourselves.

Please ensure you do not use any amplified sound, that all sound is ceased, or you move inside by 10pm, and that your group is kind and respectful of the community and the wildlife.

Drink alcohol only in moderation

Not only does loud noise cause a lot of disturbance at this property, but it is not safe to be intoxicated here. We are in a remote location surrounded by water and bush, which can make it easier to get lost and more difficult for emergency services to get to.

Drugs are strictly prohibited.

Assign a 'head of the group'

We will ask you to assign one person from your group to act on behalf of your group. This makes your and our lives a lot easier and ensures no communications are lost. We will ask this person to communicate important information to the rest of their party, as well as sort out any issues or missed payments.

All balances must be settled before checkout and any damages covered. Any remaining amounts will be charged to the head of the group or deducted from the cleaning deposit.

Leave the property in the condition that you find it

Please ensure you treat the property respectfully and clean up after yourself.

Let us know where you're going and what time to expect you back

This is as simple as writing your name and plans on the noticeboard when you're going kayaking or bushwalking or sending us a quick text.

This ensures that we will be able to provide the best care if anything happens whilst you are away and know when something may have gone wrong. Chances of this are very low, but we believe it's always better to be prepared and safe!

Always Act with Minimal impact & Safety in mind

Limit your waste, particularly plastics which can get into our waterways and wreak havoc, recycle all paper, cardboard and containers and soft plastics. Do not leave any litter when you go exploring and do not bring anything back with you.

Ensure that any fires in firepit are completely extinguished, ovens and stoves are off when not in use and no open flames, incense or candles are used indoors



Reception hours

Reception hours are between 8am and 5pm, including the service of coffee. Please feel free to call, text or organise activities at any point during these hours.

Please organise everything you need for the evening or the next day within these hours. This number should only be used out of hours for emergencies or urgent matters. Please only knock on our door in emergencies.

Feel free to text through any coffee orders the evening before or just before 8am and we will start making them from 8am.

If you have plans to head out early but would like a coffee before you go, feel free to ask the night before and we may be able to help out.

We also use the Green Caffeine program if you would like a takeaway coffee.

Checking in and out

Checking in

Check-in time is from 1pm to 8pm.

No early check-ins unless with prior approval. Please let reception know what time to expect you so they can ensure they are close by when you arrive to brief you or your group, show you around, and help you with any questions or concerns.

We don't recommend arriving after dark as it is a 15 minute walk through the bush to get here, and the last mode of transport to arrive is 8pm as we are boat access only.

Please refer to our 'Getting here' document for details on how to get to the accommodation

For any additional information, please send an email through to **pittwater@yha.com.au**

or call +61 492 253 108

Checking out

Check out time is 10:30am.

Only pre-approved requests for late checkout will be able to stay beyond this time.

When checking out please ensure that:

- You leave adequate time to clean and tidy. We ask you to leave your room/the property clean and as you found it.
- You place all linen in the orange bags outside of reception.
- You have settled all payments owed at reception at least 1 hour before departure.
- You have disposed of all rubbish and taken all your belongings with you. Any left property needing to be sent to the owner will incur a fee of the postage paid.
- You have completely emptied your things from the fridge. Do not leave anything (even if you think it's still good and someone might like it) unless approved by reception.
- Put the red flag up at Hall's wharf so the ferry will stop for you.