

## GERRINGONG CREEK, BUDDEROO NATIONAL PARK

**(Please ensure you are adequately prepared as this is a 19 km return walk).**

Follow Tourist Drive No 9 from Kiama, after passing through Jamberoo turn left on to Jamberoo Mountain Road heading towards Robertson. Travel for approx. 12kms to Budderoo Plateau, turn left at this sign, you will see a locked gate. The walk starts here. Park your car to the side of the locked gate, leaving gate clear. Walk along the track for 6.3 kms to a log gate on your right, climb over the locked low gate between the logs and walk along the track in a westerly direction for 3 kms to the rocky creek. A great variety of vegetation can be seen along the way and also views of Kangaroo Valley.

On reaching the creek, keep on this side of the creek and veer to the left where you can view the falls that descend into the spectacular gorge. The falls are not sign posted and track is not marked; take care as the cliffs are not fenced. Return the same way. This walk is not suitable after heavy rain.

It is advisable to carry a Kangaroo Valley Topographical Map (CMA 9028-4S) available for purchase at the Kiama Visitors Centre

**Start:** At the locked gate – Budderoo Plateau, Jamberoo Mountain Road approx. 22 kms west of Kiama Post Office. follow Tourist Drive 9 from Kiama) **Approximately 19 Km return way**

## MINNAMURRA RAINFOREST IN BUDDEROO NATIONAL PARK

From the Visitors Centre at Minnamurra Rainforest a choice of two walks are available. A one-hour circular board walk with disabled access over the first section for 500 metres

or a two-hour return walk to Minnamurra Falls. The walk to the falls is steep in parts but you are rewarded with a wonderful view of the falls surrounded by magnificent rainforest. Whichever walk you take, observe the various plants and tree species including Red Cedar and Strangler Figs. Listen also for the sound of birds including the Lyrebirds that will often perform their repertoire of birdcalls.

Car park, picnic grounds and kiosk with undercover eating is available. The Rainforest is open daily 9am to 5pm except for Christmas Day. Circular boardwalk can not be started after 4pm and walk to the falls not after 3pm as gates close at 5pm.

Entry fee applies.

Coaches are required to book as coach parking is limited.

**Start:** Visitors Centre Minnamurra Rainforest 15kms west of Kiama Post Office, 5kms west of Jamberoo. (follow Tourist Drive 9 from Kiama)

**Time:** approx. 1hr return boarded walk (1.6kms) or 2hr return (2.6kms) to the falls.

## CARRINGTON FALLS, BUDDEROO NATIONAL PARK

Budderoo National Park offers a series of walks based around a spectacular waterfall dropping 50m into a gorge in Kangaroo Valley. To get there follow Jamberoo Mountain Rd (tourist drive 9) for 18kms before turning onto Carrington Falls Rd (unsealed) veer left, sign posted Carrington Falls Lookout; this takes you to Thomas Place.

From here you will find well developed walks with access to several lookouts including a track suitable for people with disabilities. Thomas Place also has picnic tables, fireplaces, toilets and an information board.

On the northern side of the falls is another car park (found further along Carrington Falls Road) from here you can access Nellies Glen picnic area and a further 50m to a beautiful spot with a natural Blue Pool for an idyllic swimming hole on a warm day.

Please note! Swimming in unpatrolled area is not recommended and is only suitable for experienced swimmers.

**Time:** Walks vary from 25min – 2.5 hours

**Grade:** Easy to Medium



## **History of Kiama's Budderoo National Park**

In the early 1800's the area between Kiama and Jamberoo saw the first tree harvesting of the Minnamurra Rainforest. This caused the destruction of the "Illawarra Bush" which was ever prominent in the area.

The area from Kiama to Jamberoo was particularly prized by foresters. With its north-facing slopes of rich basalt soils, the area was a storehouse of prized cabinet timbers destined for the merchants in Sydney. It held the greatest density of red cedar (*Toona ciliata*), known to foresters as 'red gold'.

In the time of early settlement Kiama also served as an extensive port for Sydney Blue Metal harvesters. With these miners also in need of red cedar they didn't have to venture into the inaccessible woods. This left the beautiful Jamberoo Valley relatively untouched. As a result some of the local area Rainforests escaped the axe. Some 15 km West of Kiama lays the Minnamurra Rainforest, one of the many Forests' to still be standing.

This preservation of the Jamberoo Valley area has led to the beautiful and diverse Budderoo National Park. The walks present today stand as a brilliant natural tourist attraction in the Kiama and Illawarra Area.



Minnamurra Falls at the Minnamurra Rainforest

**For more information regarding Budderoo National Park please contact**

**Minnamurra Rainforest  
02 4236 0469**

**Fitzroy Falls Visitors Centre  
02 4887 7270**

**or**

**Kiama Visitors Centre  
02 4232 3322**

# **Budderoo**

## **National Park**

**Budderoo National Park covers most of a sandstone plateau isolated by the steep cliffs of the Kangaroo Valley and coastal escarpment. Covering an area of 5,700 ha, the park is located 110 km south of Sydney, 25 km south east of Mittagong and 60 km north of Nowra, on the eastern edge of the Southern Highlands Escarpment.**

**Produced by Kiama Tourism 2012**