

Clarendon

FOREST RETREAT

Welcome to “Talawahl Eco Lodge”

Contact

Office: 02 6554 3162

Gatekeepers Cottage: Half way down the main driveway on the left, we do not keep set opening hours however we are always contactable by phone or email.

After Hours or Emergency, call Nick: 0419 881 052

Email: cfr@cfr.com.au

Check out - till 10:00

Please take the key to Gatekeepers Cottage on departure. We are unable to accommodate late check outs as our cleaners travel long distances and have a short window in which to clean the houses.

Spa Pool

The spa pool is there for your enjoyment; please help us maintain the water quality by following a few simple rules to keep the water clean and clear:

- **Always shower before entering**, the water quality will deteriorate quickly if you do not.
- Do not use soap or shampoo
- Do not eat in the spa
- Do not use glassware
- When the spa is not in use, please leave the cover on to maintain the temperature.

As we are on tank water, please help us to conserve this precious resource by following the above rules.

The temperature control is by way of the up and down arrows on the front control panel; the jets can be operated from the control panel on the inside of the spa at the rear.

If we have had to “dump” the spa due to the previous guest’s misuse, the temperature can take a while to come back to 35 degrees. Please be patient as there is nothing we can do to speed this process up.

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Do not leave children unattended in the spa.

If you are staying longer than 2 nights, we suggest adding a scoop of spa sanitiser (located under the kitchen sink) every day after two days.

Combustion heater

To light the fire: Push the lever in to turn the fire up, place one or two bricks of the provided fire lighters under some small pieces of wood, as it catches, add progressively larger pieces. A reasonable amount of firewood is provided over the cooler months. If any extra is required it can be collected from the wood pile around the corner from the Gatekeepers Cottage free of charge (containers provided, please return after use). **On the morning of your departure please refrain from stoking the fire**, hot coals then have to be disposed of and create a fire hazard.

The internal fireplace can get hot. Please take care of your children. Never dry clothes, shoes or place anything on top of the fireplace.

Rubbish

The rubbish and recycling receptacle is a timber box on the balcony outside the laundry door. If you wish to empty these you can do so in the bins at the entrance to the retreat.

Staircase

There is a barrier for the stair case in the cupboard off the laundry to keep young children safe.

Stove top

The gas cook-top needs to be lit with the provided (in the drawer next to the oven) lighter.

BBQ

Talawahl has a wood fired BBQ to the left of the carport.

Please familiarise yourself with the location of the fire extinguisher and do not leave lit BBQ's unattended. Please supervise your children if you are using the BBQ.

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Hot Water

If the hot water stops working, there is a power switch for the hot water heater on the left side of the carport (accessed from near the BBQ). This needs to be turned off for 10 seconds then turned back on. If this doesn't work, the gas bottle on the same side of the house at ground level can be switched over. If assistance is required please don't hesitate to call us.

Smoking

Talawah is a "non-smoking" house. If you must smoke, please keep it contained to outdoor areas and consider the risk of fire when disposing of rubbish.

Towels and Linen

To be kind to the environment, please leave only dirty towels on the floor of the bathroom. Please do not wash sheets or towels in the washing machine prior to your departure; they are washed commercially to conserve water.

Supermarkets

The closest supermarket is the small Foodworks in Nahiack (15 minutes south, on the highway). There is a Woolworths in Tuncurry, Forster and Taree and a Coles in both Forster and Taree. There is also a large Foodworks in Hallidays Point.

Activities

Bushwalking: Please see the attached map for a great bushwalk which will take you around 1:30. This single track contains steep, sometimes slippery sections. If you are not confident, simply turn left outside our white gates down Coates Road which will lead you to some beautiful remnant rainforest. Always take your phone with you if you decide to go out in the bush. There are lots of bush walks which we hope you will enjoy, however please take care. Make sure you know where you are going and how to get home. Keep clear of snakes and check yourself for ticks.

Mountain Biking: Google Maps is a great resource for local area mountain biking if you want to go further afield than the attached mud map. Some of the best mountain bike trails in NSW are around 25

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minutes' drive in Tinonee. For information head to www.tipriders.com . We have found the Trailforks app to be very helpful.

Tennis: The main tennis court next to the pool is available for guests to use, racquets and balls are in the pool shed next to the court, **please return after use**. If you would like to play at night, the light switch is located inside the pool shed (on the far side of the timber pillar). The court at The Summerhouse is for the exclusive use of their guests.

Swimming: The swimming pool is available for the exclusive use of our guests; it is not heated so best used over summer.

Please see the attached property layout for the pool and tennis court location.

There is a collection of board games and DVD's under the TV.

Horse Riding: Please contact the office for available horse riding options.

Dining

The Nabic Hotel: (15 minutes away) does a decent pub meal, they have a courtesy bus that can be booked on 0428 541 242. It operates on Tuesdays from 5:00 and Friday/Saturday from 3:00.

The Point Tavern: (Hallidays Point, 25 Minutes) is recently renovated and has a kid's playground.

Spice Monkey in Forster is an Asian Fusion restaurant which we highly recommend, next door is Reef Bar Grill which is also very good. As you come across the bridge into Forster they are both located in the first building on your right.

Valley View Farm & Co: (Rainbow Flat, 20 minutes away) a gorgeous new café using local produce open Wednesday to Sunday.

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Dogs

We welcome well behaved dogs with prior notice. Thank you for respecting our rules; not allowed on furniture, not allowed on carpeted areas, sleep on own bed, pick up dog poo.

The owners of The Chapel have made a substantial investment into their holiday home. Please treat it as you would your own and keep wear and tear to a minimum. If your dog suffers from separation anxiety please do not leave them unattended. We ask that you maintain the relaxing sanctuary of the retreat and not allow your dog to bark excessively.

There are paralysis ticks in the bush; they are most common in spring and summer. Please make sure your dogs have appropriate protection against ticks.

If you go off the property and take a dog with you, make sure it is under your control.

There have been problems with dogs wandering into the horse pastures in the past, be sure to keep your furry friends close.

General

Please do not climb on or try to use any farm equipment.

Most importantly, if you need anything during your stay please don't hesitate to ask. This is an incredible area which we want you to make the most of!

Emergency Evacuation

In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, you will hear three short bursts from an air horn, followed by ten seconds of silence, then three more bursts. Please immediately proceed to reception where your name can be recorded before you leave the property.

About Clarendon Forest Retreat

The retreat was started in the mid 1990's by dividing 100 acres off the surrounding 1000 acre property (which used to be a dairy farm). Slowly the blocks were sold and built on by individual owners. We are lucky enough to have a German Master builder, Walter Duber living down the road. His wife Giesla

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designed most of the houses and Walter built them with locally sourced materials. Clarendon is unique in that we are surrounded by 16,600 hectares of State Forest and Nature Reserve. The layout is a product of the initial owners desires to create a peaceful, private and relaxing environment.

We are blessed with an abundance of wildlife including various wallaby species, reptiles, and we have even seen the occasional sugar glider. If you are walking in the bush, be sure to keep your eyes up and on the lookout for koalas. The area is a bird lover's paradise with a huge amount of parrot species, kingfishers, owls, tawny frog mouths and wrens to name a few.

The night sky is quite something to behold on a clear night, make sure and take the time to go out after dark and check it out!

We hope your stay affords you the opportunity to relax, recharge and reconnect with nature and one another.

Explore Our Region

Golf

Tallwoods Golf Course: The Boulevard, Tallwoods Village 6559 3366

Located 20 minutes from Clarendon Forest Retreat, Tallwoods Golf Course was designed by Dr Michael Hurdzan, winner of the 2002 Donald A Rossi award by the Golf Course Builders Association of America and Golf World Magazines Architect of the year in 1997. Tom Ramsey, renowned golf writer and judge on US Golf Magazines Top 100 Courses in the World, said of the Course, "a short drive from the glorious beaches of Forster on the NSW holiday coast is a fine championship course weaving through the residential development. It is an interesting design which fits well into the terrain with stunning views from the higher tees.

Forster Golf Cub: Strand St, Forster 6554 6799

One of the friendliest seaside courses on the Mid North Coast, the Forster course attracts a large number of social golfers year round. At 4868 metres, Par 66 for the men and Par 68 for the ladies, it's generous fairways and forgiving rough are major factors in attracting golfers out for an enjoyable experience.

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Tuncurry Golf Club: Northern Parkway, Tuncurry 6554 7622

The Tuncurry course is the hidden gem on the Mid North Coast, and very few players leave this course untouched by its natural beauty. It was designed by Kel Nagle and Mike Cooper and carved out of the seaside bush land in Northern Tuncurry by the members. The championship layout is sure to test golfers of all skill levels.

Harrington Waters Golf Club: 41 Josephine Blvd, Harrington 6556 0404

This outstanding venue is surrounded by picturesque wetlands, immaculate layout conditions and aesthetics will make your golfing experience one to remember. With beautifully manicured couch fairways, 328 couch greens and strategically placed bunkers winding through a course with a wide array of wild life on display, you will be care free as you tackle this challenging layout

Taree Golf Club: 121 Wingham Rd, Taree 6539 4000

Club Taree Golf Course is endowed with twenty-one holes allowing the playing of two courses. Normal competition is staged on the "Full Course" over eighteen holes embracing both sides of Wingham Road with a road underpass for golf traffic.

Wingham Golf Club: Richardson Street, Wingham 6553 4761

Wingham Golf Course is a picturesque 9 hole golf course with open fairways and a great opportunity to hit a driver off most tees. With slightly undulating greens and fairways, the course provides an excellent mix of diverse holes which complement the natural slopes of the terrain, making it a pleasure to play.

Aquatic and Coastal

Fishing is extremely popular in the area, with flathead, leather jacket, whiting and bream being the most common catches.

If you are keen to try some local spots, there is plenty of wharf, beach, break wall, lake, rock or shoreline fishing spots to be found.

You can get your Recreational Fishing License online or by calling 1300 369 365

Surfing: Great Lakes Surf School 0427 823 029

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Paddle Boarding & Diving: Forster Dive Centre 11-13 little St, Forster 0416 168 542

Beaches

Diamond Beach is a gorgeous 6 kilometre-long beach that's ideal for surfing, fishing, walking and watching dolphins frolic offshore. A walking track takes enthusiasts from Diamond Beach through to Shelley Beach in the south.

Black Head Beach is a multi-award winning beach under the Keep Australia Beautiful Program. It is patrolled during summer and regarded as one of the best swimming beaches in the Manning Valley. It features shady Norfolk Island Pines, an ocean pool, excellent fishing opportunities, picnic areas, and barbecues.

Forster Main Beach fronts an area of 563m from Forster Break wall to the Forster Ocean Baths. It is a protected beach, making it ideal for families. There is generally not large surf, but if it does get big it has adjacent Ocean Baths.

Pacific Palms is approximately 50 minutes' drive and has some of the region's best beaches including Elizabeth, Boomerang and Blueys.

Nature and Wildlife

Take a day trip to Gloucester and Barrington Tops to enjoy splendid scenery, rainforest walks, vineyards, river cruises and restaurants.

Follow historic Thunderbolts Way through gorgeous hinterland to the township of Stroud. Founded in 1826, Stroud hogs a walk which takes you to 36 heritage sites.

Take a full-day cruise from Forster into the Great lakes region, where you'll see stunning scenery and the chance of spying playful dolphins.

Ellenborough Falls, the Second highest falls in the southern hemisphere, is located approximately 70 kilometres from the Clarendon Forest Retreat. You can access the falls by travelling on the Tourist Drive 8 to Elands from Taree.

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Whale watching cruises run from June 1st to the end of November each year. Cruises depart every day at 10am (weather permitting), run for 2— 2½ hours, and provide morning tea.

Wingham Brush Nature Reserve can be found on the edge of Wingham and offers a board walk through one of the last remaining floodplain rainforests. The Brush is the home of giant Moreton Bay figs and Grey-Headed Flying Foxes.

Local Produce

Monin Seafoods are the purveyors of the best fresh seafood in the area and are located at 13 Rodmay Street Tuncurry

Burraduc Buffalo The Bungwahl farm where the buffaloes roam. They call the hills and valleys of Bungwahl home and supply milk to owners Elena and Andrei Swegen who transform it into mozzarella, yoghurt, feta and signature fresh cheese Dolcenina. 2014 The Lakes Way, Bungwahl 0416 027 683

Wineries

Villa d' Esta Vineyard: 2884 Wallanbah Rd, Dyers Crossing, 02 6550 2236 (25 minutes away) unique European vineyard, producing high quality wines free of preservatives and pesticides.

Cassegrain Wines is located approximately 50 minutes' drive from Clarendon Forest Retreat, just south of Port Macquarie. Owner John Cassegrain uses French heritage wine making techniques dating from 1643, coupled with Australian technology, to produce a range of superb premium, reserve and limited release wines. 10 Winery Drive, Port Macquarie 02 6582 8324

Great Lakes Paddocks is tucked away just near the highway at Wootton, just south of Coolongolook. Great Lakes Paddocks is a destination offering delicious wine, pasture raised Angus Beef, local produce, music events and private functions. 115 Herivels Rd. Wootton 0419 618 211

Bago Maze & Vineyard In 1985 Jim and Kay Mobbs planted the first Chardonnay wines on the alluvial flats of their extensive property in the Hastings River Region on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales. Bago Vineyards include in excess of 10 hectares of grape varieties as diverse and exotic as Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Verdelho, Viognier, Chanel Paradisa, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot,

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Pinot Noir, Merlot, Tannat and Savagnin Chambourcin. Milligans Road (Off Sago Road) Wauchope 02 6585 7099

Cafes/Restaurants

Spice Monkey: 4 Wharf St, Forster 02 6554 8767

Hamilton Oyster Bar & Restaurant: 1 Palm St, Tuncurry 02 6554 8145

Garden Grub: 99 battle St, Wingham 02 6657 1110

Bent on Food: 95 Isabella St, Wingham 02 6557 0717

Si Senorita: 2-6 Wharf St. Forster 02 6555 7092

All Things Yum: Forster Main Street

Plunge Café: 5-/1 Boundary Street Forster

Galleries

Great lakes Art Society Gallery: 34 Lake St, Forster 02 6557 2880

Manning Regional Art Gallery: 12 Macquarie Street Taree 02 6592 5455

Tobwabba Art: 10 Breckenridge St, Forster 02 6554 5755

Whitewash Gallery: 547 Blackhead Rd, Diamond Beach 0409 618 722

Museums

Great Lakes Historical Museum: Capel St, Tuncurry 02 6554 6275

Manning Valley Historical Society and Museum: 12 Farquhar St, Wingham 02 6553 5823

The National Motorcycle Museum: Open 7 days 9am-4pm 33 Clarkson St, Nabiac 02 6554 1333

Tinonee Historical Museum: 32 Manchester St, Tinonee 02 6553 1571

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Family Entertainment

Big Buzz Fun Park: The Lakes Way, Rainbow Flat 02 6553 6000 www.bigbuzz.com.au
25 acres of adventure and fun. Toboggan run, 3 open waterslides, jumbo slide, laser tag, speed carts, quad bikes, trampolines, target golf, putt putt golf, pool, BMX bikes, undercover seating, free gas BBQ, shaded picnic area.

Kids Spot: Enterprise Court, Forster 02 6557 2767
Children's indoor play centre with mega climbing maze, ball swamps, jumping castle, tunnels, soft play equipment plus more. Onsite café as well.

Forster Tenpin: Strand Street, Forster 02 6554 6155

Taree Tenpin: Muldoon St, Taree 02 6552 4733

Mini Golf and Trampolines: Head St, Forster

Great Lakes Cinema 3: 108 Manning St, Tuncurry

Fays Twin Cinema Taree: Oxley St and Milligan St, Taree

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Did you know when you book through an Online Travel Agent – Booking.com, Expedia, Agoda etc, we have to pay them a large commission, thereby sending money overseas.

For your next visit, book directly with us and deal with friendly knowledgeable, local staff. Support Australia!