



Enjoy this incredible journey of discovery but remember...

YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

- You should be a competent swimmer and confident in your ability to handle the conditions.
- Always snorkel with a buddy and have an observer on the shore.
- Don't snorkel in large waves, windy conditions or when visibility is poor.
- It is recommended that you wear a wetsuit and gloves.
- The best time to snorkel is at high tide.
- Be aware of motor boats and jet skis.
- Keep within the pylons at all times.

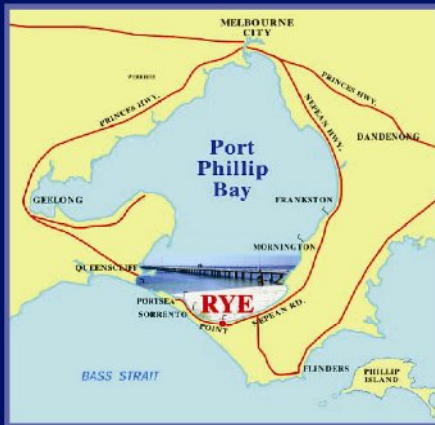
Whilst we can enjoy the beauty of this spectacular area, our marine environment is incredibly unique and fragile, so please look but don't touch!



If you see the Blue-ringed Octopus - but be careful not to touch, it's venomous!

AVOID CONTACT WITH PYLONS.

- If you need to hold onto something, please use the signs rather than pylons.
- When you snorkel try to float above the sand, your fins can cause damage to the sea floor.



HOW TO GET THERE!...

Rye is located on the Mornington Peninsula, approximately 90 minutes drive south of the City. Finding The Octopuses Garden is easy, just follow the Nepean Highway to Rye. The pier is opposite the shops - you'll see the sign directing you to the start of the trail. There is plenty of parking and visitor facilities on the shore adjacent to the pier. Why not make a day of it - bring the whole family and enjoy a BBQ after your underwater adventures!



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Concept and project management by:



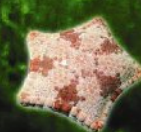
For more information log on to www.transfieldservices.com.au or www.visionsofblue.com

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The Octopuses Garden



Rye Pier snorkelling trail, Port Phillip Bay

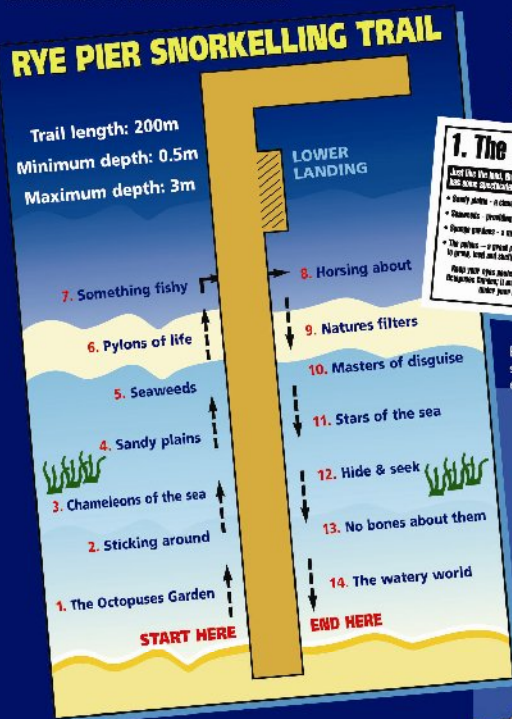


Your guide to Victoria's first underwater marine trail

The Octopuses Garden at Rye Pier is Victoria's first marine snorkel trail. It will take you on a journey of discovery where you will experience some of Victoria's incredible marine life. The trail provides a safe, fun and informative attraction for all Victorians as well as interstate and international visitors.

Rye Pier is one of the most frequently dived locations in Victoria. It is particularly popular with snorkellers and scuba divers. The pier is sheltered from southerly winds and visibility is almost always between 5 and 10 metres. For this reason, visitors can dive or snorkel in easy, calm conditions for most of the year.

Access to the trail is easy - just walk in from the beach. The trail is 200 metres long and follows the pier away from the shore and then back to the beach. Underwater signs will guide you along and provide information on the marine life in the area.



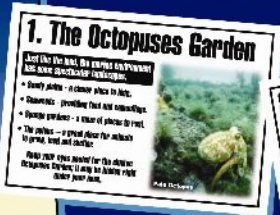
While exploring The Octopuses Garden, you will come across brightly coloured seaweeds and sponge gardens. You'll also see the sandy plains and an amazing array of life living on the pier structures.

The area around Rye Pier boasts a vast array of sponges, fish and invertebrates. Sea stars, rays and elusive pipefish are some of the fascinating creatures that can be found. You might also spot Pygmy Seahorses hiding amongst the seaweed, schools of fish darting between pylons or even an octopus hiding in the sand, betrayed only by its eyes. This exciting underwater world is yours to explore!

WHAT ARE YOU LIKELY TO SEE?...

The Octopuses Garden is unique to Victoria's marine environment, especially for the many species of creatures that live here and are not found in many other areas throughout Victoria.

Seahorses thrive in certain areas under the pier, while small sponge dwellers such as the Blenny can be seen poking their heads out inquisitively but make a quick retreat when spotted.



Bright and bold underwater signs guide you on your exciting journey of discovery.

Rye Pier boasts an amazing array of fish including:



Sea slugs gliding around on their sticky foot.



Red bait crabs scampering along the pylons.



Mussels that form dense mats on the pylons.



A variety of red and green seaweeds.



Tube worms with their feathery feeding crowns.



Pipefish camouflage amongst seagrass beds.