



# Stay safe and visit with care

## Welcome to our Sea Country

We, the Mandubarra people, welcome you to our Sea Country and ask that you please take care and respect our special place.

Sea Country looks after our people; therefore, we must look after Sea Country.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to our Ancestors, to our Elders past, present and future emerging, and to all Mandubarra families and Traditional Owners.




We are a clan group of the Mamu speaking people. Our connections extend from *jabun* (the coast) out across *wajali* (the sea).

Our ancestral links to Country extend to our relationships to *garri* (the sun), *gagalum* (the moon), *girnyja* (the stars), *girribirr* (wind), *gambal* (rain) and *yugan* (the sky).

In the name of our Old People, we are custodians of Mandubarra Land and Sea Country, and hold obligations for the ongoing care of the places, animals and plants on Country.



## Further info

-  [mandubarra.com.au](http://mandubarra.com.au)
-  [Mandubarra Aboriginal Land & Sea Inc](#)
-  [info@mandubarra.com.au](mailto:info@mandubarra.com.au)

This brochure is also available on our website.

Mandubarra Aboriginal Land and Sea Incorporated proudly facilitates projects and programs that involve education about our customary lore, our Land and Sea Country and the importance of environmental sustainability.

We entered into a Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreement (TUMRA) in 2018. Our TUMRA area is a no-take for dugong and *bajigal* (turtle). Our rangers are working with the Queensland and Australian governments to manage and protect Land and Sea Country *janyja* (now) and *muguy* (for a long time).

This guide has been printed with funding support from the Reef Joint Field Management Program — a partnership between the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Department of Environment and Science through the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.

For marine parks and national parks information visit [gbrmpa.gov.au](http://gbrmpa.gov.au) or [qld.gov.au/NationalParks](http://qld.gov.au/NationalParks)

## Discover our Sea Country

Our Sea Country runs from Mouriyan Harbour to the mouth of Maria Creek at Kurrimine Beach and includes the Barnard Islands group, and coastal and outer reefs including Sisters-Stephens Reef and the King Reefs.


Kurrimine Beach and King Reefs are places of particular significance to us.

### Kurrimine Beach's reefs

The reefs are situated just off Kurrimine Beach on the Cassowary Coast and are part of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area.

They support delicate corals, abundant fish life and a wide range of other marine life — many which are traditional food resources and cultural indicators for our people. During the lowest spring tides when the intertidal area is exposed, this site is a popular place to go reef walking — a great way to interact closely with the marine environment and discover a variety of plants and animals.

### Reef walk

 2.6km+ return, allow 2hrs

The safest and best time to reef walk is during the lowest spring tides when the intertidal area is exposed. Don't leave late. Start your walk while the tide is still outgoing to allow enough time to do the walk safely. From Kurrimine Beach, walk out to the reef flats. As you explore, try to find the different marine life pictured in this guide. Snap some photos and savour the fresh, salty air before returning the way you came. Remember to stay safe and visit with care during this walk.

### Explore safely

Make your visit memorable for the right reasons. Although reef walking is fun, special care is required to ensure your safety and reduce negative impacts on the reef.

#### Ranger tips

- Check your local tide times and seek local advice on the best times to visit. Feel free to contact us!
- Advise someone of your plans before your walk.
- Keep watch on the incoming tide. The water can rise rapidly and can sweep you away.
- The reefs are further than you think. Be mindful that soft sand and wading through water will impact your speed.
- Be SunSmart. Wear sun-safe clothing, sunscreen, a hat and sunnies.
- Stay hydrated. Carry and drink plenty of water.



#### Dangerous wildlife

Some dangerous animals live on the reef and intertidal area. Cone shells, stonefish, stingrays and marine stingrays cause serious injury and can be potentially fatal. Corals can be extremely sharp, easily causing cuts or grazes.

### Care for Country

- Protect yourself:
  - Wear protective footwear and long pants or a stinger suit.
  - Watch your step and avoid touching marine life.
- Crocodiles are a common occurrence in northern Queensland waterways and are known to live in the creeks and estuaries surrounding Kurrimine Beach. Be Crocwise:
  - Keep a lookout and do not approach these animals.
  - Report all crocodile sightings as soon as possible by using the QWildlife app or calling CrocWatch 1300 130 372.
- Marine animals and plants found in our Sea Country hold special cultural significance to us. Sea Country looks after us, therefore, we must look after Sea Country. Please follow these guidelines to reduce your impact and protect the reef and its inhabitants:
  - Take only photos and memories back with you.
  - Look but please don't touch!
  - A balance stick/pole can be useful — but please don't poke or probe marine life.
  - Stick to sand channels to avoid stepping on marine life.
  - Don't stand on the edges of coral pools as this area is fragile and easily damaged.
  - Be aware of marine park collecting restrictions. Collecting coral, whether dead or alive, is totally prohibited in the marine park without a permit.
  - Take your rubbish with you.

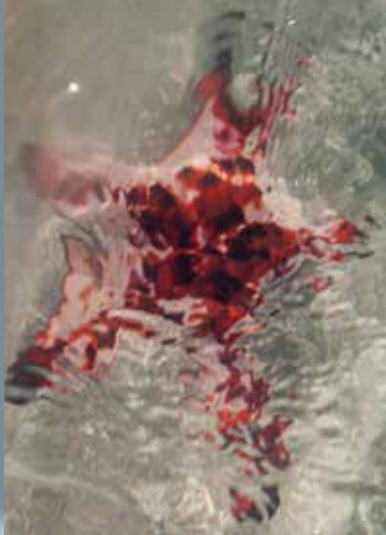


# Discover the marine life

These species are important cultural food resources and cultural indicators for our people.



Red algae (*Nematoma cyclocolpum*)



Horned sea star (*Protoreaster nodosus*)



Lettered circe (*Circe scripta*)



Green algae (*Halimeda cylindracea*)



Sea cucumber (*Strichopus hermani*)



Left-handed hermit crab (*Diogenidae*)



Feather mouth sea cucumber (*Synapta maculata*)



Boulder coral (*Goniastrea*)



Encrusting coral (*Turbinaria*)



Giant clam (*Tridacnidae*)



Cone shell (*Conidae*)



Mitre shell (*Muricidae*)



Giant clam (*Tridacnidae*)



Giant clam (*Tridacnidae*)



Branching coral (*Montipora*)



Swimming crab (*Thalamita danae*)



Sand crab



Coral crab (*Etisus utilis*)



Coral shell (*Strombidae*)



Striped puffer fish (*Arothron maniensis*)



Common spider shell (*Strombidae*)



Cowrie shell (*Cypraea lynx*)