

The Lord Howe Island Check List

Top 10 things to do on Lord Howe – in no particular order...

Feed the fish at Neds Beach

As well as being one of Lord Howe's most postcardperfect beaches and a great spot for snorkelling, in 2005 Neds was voted Australia's cleanest beach. Ned's is also where the Island's fish will come to you.

Be part of a tradition that has enchanted visitors and locals for generations – any time of day make your way to Neds and feed the mullet, wrasse, garfish, silver-drummer, spangled-emperor and of course the royalty of Lord Howe fish, metre-long kingfish.

Climb Malabar Hill

Take the ridge walk to Kim's Lookout

One of Lord Howe's most popular walks starts on Neds Beach Road and offers spectacular views along the spine of the Island's mountain ridge as well as magnificent views over The Lagoon. This 3-hour return walk (class 4-5) takes you through kentia palm groves and shearwater breeding burrows. At Malabar Hill (209 metres) the cliffs plunge dramatically into the ocean below and the crannies in the cliff shelter one of the world's largest colonies of red-tailed tropic-birds.

Between September and May the birds put on a mesmerising ariel display. If you continue to Kim's Lookout (a more challenging climb that extends your trek to a 5-hour return) you'll be rewarded with superb views of Mt Gower and the Island's jewel-coloured reef.

BBQ Islander style

Islander's know how to enjoy themselves and you too can embrace the relaxed Lord Howe way of life with a BBQ at Neds Beach or Cobby's Corner. North Bay is another of the Island's magical BBQ areas. Ask Libby or Mark for picnic forms and the how-to of barbequing Lord Howe Island style.

Board a wave at Blinky Beach

One of Lord Howe's eastern-facing beaches, Blinky's has some of the best breaks on the island and has Australia's least crowded waves – wax up and go narley, body surf or simply swim and enjoy.

Explore our Marine Park

Snorkel, scuba dive, kayak or join a glass-bottom boat tour of the lagoon. The crystal-clear waters of Lord Howe are home to more than 500 species of fish and 90 species of coral. Our pristine reef - the southernmost in the world - is celebrated for its diversity and exceptional natural beauty. All the waters surrounding Lord Howe Island were declared a Marine Park in 1999.

Go Gower

It's not for the faint-hearted, but the one-day hike to Mt Gower (875m) is considered one of the world's best climbs. The guided, 8-hour return, class 5 walk, has a section that is rope-assisted and also includes some narrow ridge walks with nerve-testing sheer drops. However, the 14km walk provides some of the Island's most rewarding experiences including encounters with rare flora and Lord Howe's famous woodhen.

Little Island

A walk to the southern end of Lord Howe takes you to Little Island, home of the woodhen. If you're lucky enough to be here in winter, you'll be able to call down the magnificent providence petrels. Join naturalist Ian Hutton for walking or boat tours.

Goat House

Tackle the challenging climb to the Goat House cave on Mt Lidgbird and as your reward witness spectacular views over the island. Enjoy a picnic lunch in this ancient setting before descending through the rainforest below.

Expedition to Balls Pyramid

Twenty-three kilometres to the south of Lord Howe Island is a spectacular 550-metre spearhead of grey basalt that seemingly explodes from the ocean. The world's largest sea stack is home to extraordinary birdlife and the waters surrounding Balls Pyramid are teeming with marine life. A cruise to Balls Pyramid is astonishing. For experienced divers, Balls is an unparalleled adventure.