

LIFFEY VALLEY RESERVES

visitor information



Liffey River. Photo by Peter Morris

No camping, no pets, no firearms

Area: Liffey River – 105 ha; Oura Oura (pronounced Oora Oora) – 25ha

Established: 1991 and 2011

Located: The reserves are located in central-northern Tasmania, near Bracknell.

Conservation value: Liffey Valley reserves provide important foraging habitat for two threatened birds of prey: the endangered Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle and the white goshawk. The reserves also protect endangered manna gum wet forest, and provide sanctuary for significant species, such as the vulnerable spotted-tail quoll and the rare maidenhair spleenwort fern.

In 2013 Liffey River Reserve and Coalmine Creek Reserve were included in a 170,000 hectare expansion of the 1.4 million hectare Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.

When to go: Liffey Valley and Oura Oura reserves are open to the public for day visits all year round. Please avoid visiting during extreme weather conditions, including following or during heavy rainfalls as the creeks and rivers are subject to flooding.

Facilities: There are no toilets on the reserves. At the nearby Lower Liffey picnic area you can find basic picnic facilities and a campground. On Oura Oura, there is no public access to the house, though you are welcome to look around the grounds and outbuildings.

Preparation Your safety is our concern but your responsibility. In an emergency, call 000. Please wear suitable footwear as the ground can be slippery. Leeches are common in this area so you may wish to take repellent with you. Please note that once in the Liffey Valley mobile phone reception is poor, so it's good to tell someone of your trip intentions.

While on the reserve: The ground and tracks can become slippery or unstable, so please take care. Do not attempt to cross flooded creeks or rivers. Please do not disturb or remove plants, animals or cultural items. Remember to leave these areas as you found them and take all rubbish with you.

What to see: While you enjoy the magnificent views and enchanting forests, keep an eye out for forest birds among the trees, birds of prey soaring in the sky, and platypuses diving in the river. It's a great place to bring binoculars or a camera, or just sit and relax.



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Liffey River Reserve walking track – This 3.5 km trail (approx. 90 minutes) will lead you to many of the highlights of this reserve. Wander through magical rainforest, open grassland, river flats and forested ridgelines. You could also enjoy a picnic lunch on the banks of Pages Creek.

Deans Track – This walk begins behind the house at Oura Oura on Bush Heritage land but then crosses over into the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. This 6 to 8 hour return walk is for experienced bushwalkers, as it involves steep inclines and sections of rock climbing. Please be well prepared and seek more information from the Bushwalk Tasmania website.

Human story: The Liffey Falls region was a meeting place for Tasmanian Aboriginal people known as Palawa, including three groups: the Big River, North and North Midlands.

The area's sandstone overhangs provided shelter for Palawa people who have an ongoing association with this area. Walkers making their way up to the Western Tiers still use some of the old Aboriginal pathways .

Europeans first settled here in 1823. You will see evidence of activity by the first settlers in the marked tree stumps, loading ramps, and snig tracks from logging.

The Liffey Valley Reserves have played a pivotal role in Bush Heritage's history. In (1990) with the help of funds from the Goldman Environmental Prize and donations from like-minded people, Bob Brown acquired two blocks of land in the Liffey Valley. These blocks now form the Liffey River and Drys Bluff reserves. In 1991, Bush Heritage was founded and this land was protected in perpetuity.

Oura Oura Reserve was donated to Bush Heritage by Bob Brown and Paul Thomas in 2011 to mark Bush Heritage's 20th anniversary. Over the years, the Oura Oura cottage has played an important role in the Australian conservation movement, hosting formative meetings of Bush Heritage Australia, The Wilderness Society, the Greens, and the Franklin River Campaign.



Liffey River, Photo by Peter Morris.



Oura Oura, Photo by Al Dermer

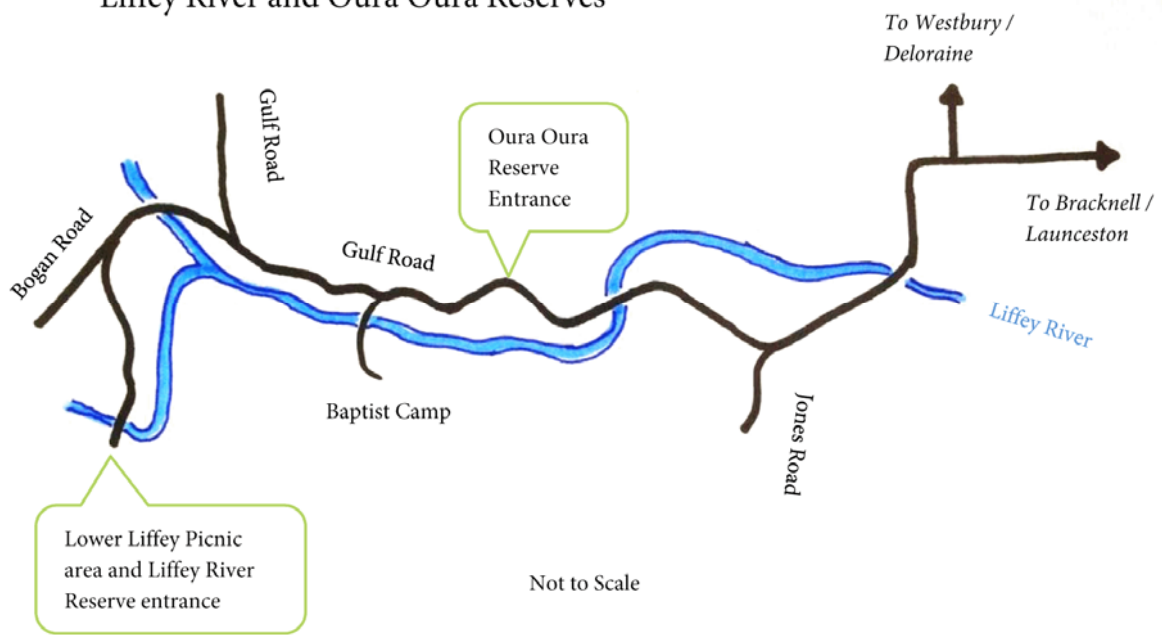
Bush Heritage Australia

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Liffey River and Oura Oura Reserves



Conservation work on Liffey Valley Reserves:

With the support of the Australian public, Bush Heritage protects the natural and cultural values of the Liffey Valley.

Working with our neighbours and other agencies we manage our reserves in accordance with comprehensive management plans. We perform weed control annually with a particular focus on controlling the spread of foxglove and blackberry. We also maintain infrastructure, liaise with the community (on environmental concerns) and protect cultural heritage.

How to get there: The Liffey Valley reserves are approximately 43 km south-west of Launceston and 36 km south-east of Deloraine. You can find visual directions from the town of Bracknell on the following page. Please use a good road map if travelling from other directions.

When you arrive at **Liffey River Reserve**, park at the far end of the Lower Liffey Falls picnic area. This is near the starting point of the Liffey Falls walk, but don't take this track. You will see a track on the left of the road marked by a wooden sign 'BHA Liffey Reserve 150m'. This is the entrance to the reserve and directs you to the beginning of the circuit walk. Detailed

interpretive and reserve signage will guide you from here.

The entrance to **Oura Oura Reserve** and the parking area are on the south side of Gulf Road, Liffey. Look for the Bush Heritage Oura Oura reserve sign as you approach. From here, follow the track on foot down to the river and cross over the foot bridge (keep your eye out for the resident platypus). You have arrived at Oura Oura.

Thank you

Thank you to all our supporters, whose donations fund the day-to-day costs of managing these reserves. We also thank the many dedicated people involved in our work, including volunteers, partners, employees and contractors.

How you can help

Bush Heritage helps protect over 3.5 million hectares of the Australian landscape nationally. You can support us by making a financial donation or assisting as a volunteer,

Donations to Bush Heritage are tax deductible and contribute towards the protection of our unique natural heritage. To donate or for more information please go to www.bushheritage.org.au or call 1300 NATURE (1300 628 873) or 03 8610

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Legend (main map)

- Liffey River Reserve
- Oura Oura Reserve
- Other reserve
- Road
- Track
- Liffey River

Location of Liffey River & Oura Oura Reserves



Kilometers

Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
Scale 1:100,000 @ A3

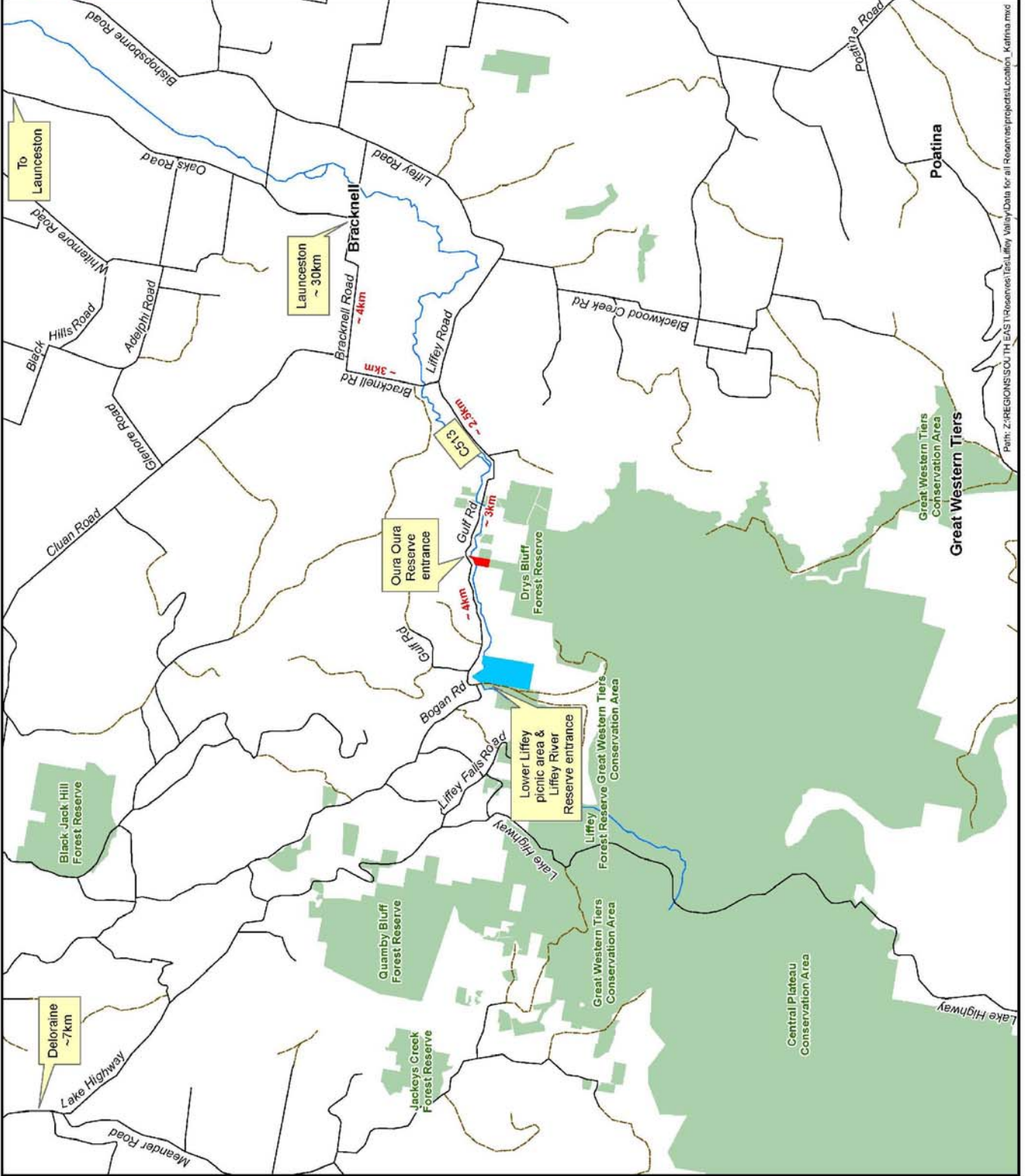


Created by Paul Young
Date: 14/07/2013



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