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**National Parks  
and Wildlife Service**  
South Australia

## Totness Recreation Park



### About

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**Popular for bushwalking and bird watching, this small park protects a unique patch of remnant vegetation including stringybark, blue gum and manna gum woodlands.**

**Surrounded by agricultural and industrial landscapes, it retains some previous reminders of its previous landuse, including an historic dam that was constructed in 1884 to supply water for steam locomotives travelling to and from Victor Harbor.**

### Opening hours

**Open daily.**

### Closures and safety

**This park is closed on days of Catastrophic Fire Danger and may also be closed on days of Extreme Fire Danger.**

You can determine the current fire danger rating by checking the [Fire Ban District map \(https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans\\_and\\_ratings.jsp\)](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans_and_ratings.jsp) on the CFS website.

Check the [CFS website \(https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/home.jsp\)](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/home.jsp) or call the CFS Bushfire Information Hotline 1800 362 361 for:

- [Information on fire bans and current fire conditions \(https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans\\_and\\_ratings.jsp\)](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans_and_ratings.jsp)
- [Current CFS warnings and incidents \(https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/warnings\\_and\\_incidents.jsp\)](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/warnings_and_incidents.jsp)
- [Information on what to do in the event of a fire \(https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/prepare\\_for\\_a\\_fire.jsp\)](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/prepare_for_a_fire.jsp).

Listen to your [local area radio station \(https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=104478\)](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=104478) for the latest updates and information on fire safety.

## Contact details

Visitor information, bookings and park management:

**Black Hill National Park and Wildlife Service Office**

**Phone: (+61 8) 8336 0901**

**Email: [DEW.NPWSNorthLofty@sa.gov.au](mailto:DEW.NPWSNorthLofty@sa.gov.au) (mailto:DEW.NPWSNorthLofty@sa.gov.au)**

(mailto:DEW.AMLRGawlerOffice@sa.gov.au)Emergency contacts:

**Medical, fire (including bushfire) and police emergency situations**

**Phone: Triple Zero (000)**

**Police Assistance**

**Phone: 131 444 for non-urgent police assistance**

**National Parks and Wildlife Service SA – Duty officer**

**Phone: 0427 556 676**

Injured wildlife:

**Within the park**

**Please contact Black Hill National Park and Wildlife Service Office on (08) 8336 0901 or the duty officer on 0427 556 676**

**Outside of the park**

**Please contact a local wildlife rescue group**

## Getting there

Totness Recreation Park is located near the township of Mount Barker, about 33km south-east of Adelaide. The park consists of two sections on either side of the South Eastern Freeway.

The northern section of the park is accessed from Milne Road, Totness from Mount Barker Road.

The southern section of the park is accessed by Haines Fire Track, Paechtown.

- [Totness Recreation Park map \(https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/docs/totness-recreation-park/totness-recreation-park-map.pdf\)](https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/docs/totness-recreation-park/totness-recreation-park-map.pdf)

## Dogs allowed (on lead)

Dogs are welcome in this park.

Please ensure you:

- Keep your dog under control and on a lead no more than two metres in length.
- Stick to designated walking trails.
- Bring disposable bags to clean up your dog's faeces (please be aware there are no bins in national parks).

Discover other parks you can walk your dog in on our [find a park \(https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/find-a-park\)](https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/find-a-park) tool or read [12 dog-friendly walks in Adelaide Parks \(http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/goodliving/posts/2017/12/dogs-part-2\)](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/goodliving/posts/2017/12/dogs-part-2) by Good Living for inspiration.

## Facilities

There are no facilities in the park. Please ensure you carry sufficient water, food and supplies for your entire visit. It is also a good idea to let a responsible person know of your intended movements and when you expect to return.

## Plants and animals

Flora and fauna species lists

To download flora (plants) and fauna (animals) species lists for this park, use the 'Create Simple Species List' tab under 'Flora Tools' or 'Fauna Tools' in [NatureMaps \(https://data.environment.sa.gov.au/NatureMaps/Pages/default.aspx\)](https://data.environment.sa.gov.au/NatureMaps/Pages/default.aspx).

## Useful information

- **Parks management plans** (<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/park-management/state-wide-park-strategies/park-management-plans>)
- **Trails SA** (<http://www.southaustraliantrails.com/>)
- **SA Marine Parks** (<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/marineparks/home>)
- **Important:** Collection of firewood within National Parks is prohibited. Dead wood plays a vital role in providing shelter for animals and adding nutrients to the soil.

## Traditional owners

Aboriginal peoples have occupied, enjoyed and managed the lands and waters of this State for thousands of generations. For Aboriginal first nations, creation ancestors laid down the laws of the Country and bestowed a range of customary rights and obligations to the many Aboriginal Nations across our state.

There are many places across the State that have great spiritual significance to Aboriginal first nations. At some of these places Aboriginal cultural protocols, such as restricted access, are promoted and visitors are asked to respect the wishes of Traditional Owners.

In places where protocols are not promoted visitors are asked to show respect by not touching or removing anything, and make sure you take all your rubbish with you when you leave.

Aboriginal peoples continue to play an active role in caring for their Country, including in parks across South Australia.

- **DEW Park management** (<https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/park-management>)
- **DEW Aboriginal partnerships** (<https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/park-management/co-management-of-parks>)

# See and do

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## Bushwalking

### Northern section

Enjoy a pleasant stroll around the historic dam that was built in 1884 to provide water to steam locomotives.

### Southern section

Home to a large variety of vegetation communities and hilly terrain, this area is popular with walkers seeking somewhere to connect with nature. Walkers can walk along the perimeter vehicle service track as well as walking trails that pass through the centre of the park. Walkers are required to remain on tracks and trails to avoid disturbing the natural environment.

## Mountain biking

There are no designated mountain biking trails in this park.

- [Which parks can you ride in? \(https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/know-before-you-go/mountain-biking\)](https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/know-before-you-go/mountain-biking)

## Stay in the park

Camping is not permitted within this park.

- Use [Find a Park \(https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/find-a-park\)](https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/find-a-park) to discover which parks you can camp in.

## Volunteering

Want to help?

To find out how you can help in this park or nearby, please visit [Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges – Volunteering. \(https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/get-involved/volunteering\)](https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/get-involved/volunteering)

Want to join others and become a Park Friend?

To find out more about Friends of Parks groups please visit [Friends of Parks South Australia. \(http://www.friendsofparkssa.org.au/members-list\)](http://www.friendsofparkssa.org.au/members-list)

**You could join others to help look after a park. You can take part in working bees, training and other events.**

# Safety

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## Water

Please do not swim or bathe in the dam in the northern section of the park. There may be submerged objects just under the water surface and it can be unsafe.

## Fire

Can I have a fire or barbecue?

- Wood fires, solid fuel, gas fires and liquid fuel fires are prohibited throughout the year.
- Ensure you are familiar with the [fire restrictions](#) ([https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/docs/dew\\_park\\_fire\\_restrictions\\_2020\\_to\\_2021.pdf](https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/docs/dew_park_fire_restrictions_2020_to_2021.pdf)) for this park.

Closures and safety

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- [Current CFS warnings and incidents](#) ([https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/warnings\\_and\\_incidents.jsp](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/warnings_and_incidents.jsp))
- [Information on what to do in the event of a fire](#) ([https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/prepare\\_for\\_a\\_fire.jsp](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/prepare_for_a_fire.jsp)).

Listen to your [local area radio station](#) (<https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=104478>) for the latest updates and information on fire safety.

## Know before you go

Every national park is different, each has its own unique environment, it is important to be responsible while enjoying all the park has to offer.

Please ensure that you:

- **keep your dog on a lead at all times and check if there are areas of the park where dogs are not allowed**
  - **do not feed birds or other animals, it promotes aggressive behaviour and an unbalanced ecology**
  - **do not bring generators (except where permitted), chainsaws or firearms into the park**
  - **leave the park as you found it - there are no bins in national parks, please come prepared to take your rubbish with you.**
  - **abide by the road rules (maintain the speed limit)**
  - **respect geological and heritage sites**
  - **do not remove native plants**
  - **are considerate of other park users.**
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- **Important: Collection of firewood within National Parks is prohibited. Dead wood plays a vital role in providing shelter for animals and adding nutrients to the soil.**



# Maps

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## Parks maps

- **Totness Recreation Park map (<https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/docs/totness-recreation-park/totness-recreation-park-map.pdf>)**

## Maps on your mobile

**If you have a smartphone or tablet you can download the free [Avenza Map app](#) (<https://www.avenzamaps.com/maps/how-it-works.html>) and have interactive national park maps on hand when you need them.**

**The app uses your device's built-in GPS to plot your real-time location within the park onto a map. The app can be used without a network connection and without roaming charges. You can also measure area and distance, plot photos and drop placemark pins.**

How to get it working on your device:

- 1. Download the Avenza Maps app from the app store (iOS (<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/avenza-maps/id388424049>)/Android ([https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.Avenza&hl=en\\_AU](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.Avenza&hl=en_AU))) whilst you are still in range (its free!).**
- 2. Open up the app and click the shopping cart icon.**
- 3. Click 'Find' and type the name of the national park or reserve you are looking for.**
- 4. Click on the map you are after and install it (all our maps are free).**
- 5. You will now find a list of your installed maps on the home page of the Avenza Maps app.**
- 6. Use our maps through the Avenza Mapa app while in the park and never take a wrong turn again.**

# Fees

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## Entry fees

**Come and enjoy this park for free.**

## Park pass

**This park is not included in the park pass system.**

- **Which parks are included in the park pass system? (<https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/book-and-pay/parks-passes>)**

## Camping and accommodation

**There is no camping or accommodation available within this park.**

## Other fees and permits

**There are no other fees or permits associated with this park.**