

Pre-arrival information about “Wildwood” at Pearl Beach NSW

Overview of house & conditions of booking

The following information is intended to help you enjoy your stay and is a condition of booking the property.

Wildwood is a privately-owned and much-loved home: it would be very much appreciated if you would treat the property with care, especially as it underwent a major renovation in 2013, with further updates and improvements done in 2020.

Managing your expectations – Wildwood sits in a natural setting amidst the bush

Wildwood is in a natural bush setting - hence the name. It is quiet and reasonably secluded and set well back from the road on ½ an acre which has been planted with hundreds of natives and exotics (which the local kangaroos and possums enjoy eating....) There is a very deliberate lack of concrete paths, concrete driveways and other very suburban things! The driveway is a natural bush track – there is no concrete, however a regular 2WD car is fine to access Wildwood; you do not need a 4WD.

Television reception

Wildwood’s natural setting is why many people love staying and keep coming back, but please be advised that the surrounding trees do play havoc with the TV reception (Wildwood is not alone on that matter).

Wildwood does have a digital flat screen TV and reception for all the ABC and SBS channels is generally good (except it it’s raining or windy!), **but reception for channels 7, 9 + 10 etc can be very patchy/unreliable and there is no pay TV.** So if you are keen to watch lots of free-to-air TV involving channels 7, 9 + 10, unfortunately, Wildwood is not probably suitable for you.

There is a DVD player and CD player/Ipod docking station to make up for the lack of TV reception; or you can just enjoy the garden, the sounds of the ocean, the magazines, CDs and DVDs supplied, the sounds of the bush, the stars....

Wi-Fi

Wildwood has Wi-Fi; the password details are on a magnet on the front of the fridge, as well as in the compendium in the house, and also in the arrival pack provided by Beach Retreats.

The Ipod Docking Station

The stereo has an Ipod docking station however, it has a ‘wide’ fitting for connecting to the base of your smart phone: if the base of your smart phone has a ‘narrow’ fitting for your charger, you will need to bring an adapter.

The radio only works through using the Ipod docking station.

Telephone

There is no phone at Wildwood.

Conditions of staying

- No pets are permitted at Wildwood (even those well behaved, cute, adorable, potty trained et al).
- Wildwood is not suitable for children aged under 5 years.
- The house sleeps a maximum of 5 people, with the third bedroom small and best suited to a child or small adult.
- The house is strictly not to be used for big parties, weddings, functions, caterers. At no time can more than 5 people be on the premises.
- Any breakages or damage (including to furniture such as stains on sofas) must be reported and paid for by the guest.
- Cleaning is on an honour system; please leave the premises ready for the next people, exactly as you would wish to find it.
- Wildwood is strictly a non smoking house.
- Tariffs are subject to change without notice.
- All bookings are subject to owner confirmation.

What to bring

- Beach towels!
- Paper products (e.g. serviettes) – loo paper is provided
- Your favourite CDs, DVDs and board games (there are loads of DVDs and CDs at Wildwood but you may wish to bring your own)
- Sunscreen, extra personal insect repellent (mozzie candles + mozzie spray are supplied with compliments, but you might want to bring extra if “mozzies love you”!)
- Food and drinks (there’s usually the basics comprising pepper and salt, olive oil, balsamic vinegar, sugar, tea bags, some dried spices/herbs etc at the house).

Tips and info to help you relax and rejuvenate at Wildwood

Parking

You can safely drive one car down to the back of the house. There are instructions in the compendium in the house about tips for getting back out again.

If there’s more than one car in your booking, it’s strongly recommended that you don’t drive the second car down the driveway – it can be very tricky for more than 2 cars to get out of the property without causing damage to the house, garden and/or vehicles (one guest took the entire deck of the back of the house – which made for an expensive weekend away for him). It’s best to park additional cars at the top of the driveway or along the street.

Supplies to get you started

“**Pearl Beach General Store**” has some supplies – from takeaway coffee, snacks, milk, lollies/chocolate, ice creams, burgers, fish and chips and sunscreen. Their café is also open for breakfast, lunch and dinner but the times/days change in winter, so best to check ahead.

Tel 43 43 1222 or www.pearlbeachgeneralstore.com.au; email is info.pearlbeachcafe@gmail.com

It’s located in the “CBD” (!) of Pearl Beach at 1 Pearl Parade, about a 6 min walk or a 2 min drive from Wildwood.

“**Pearls on the Beach**” is an up-market restaurant, sitting right on the sand at Pearl Beach and is open for lunch and dinner (although, operating hours do vary in summer and winter).

Bookings are strongly recommended, especially in summer. As of December 2021, it is under new management. The new head chef has been sous chef at Pearls for six years.

1 Tourmaline Ave, Pearl Beach.

Tel 43 42 4400 or www.pearlsonthebeach.com.au email is info@pearlsonthebeach.com.au

If you are arriving on a Friday and wish to book dinner here for Friday night, it's recommended you book before you leave for Pearl Beach.

In Patonga, the next beach south from Pearl Beach, about an 8 min drive away, there is a takeaway fish and chip shop and a stylish, renovated pub, "**The Boathouse**", located under beautiful Norfolk Pine trees and overlooking Broken Bay. The pub is VERY popular and is generally packed on summer weekends, so get in early! It's an upmarket pub run by the same company that have The Boathouse cafes/restaurants in Palm Beach, Balmoral etc. (A great thing to do, is walk from Pearl Beach via Brisbane Water National Park to Patonga, have a snack or meal and replenishing drink at The Boathouse, then walk off the calories by walking back to Pearl Beach, the way you came. It's a spectacular walk – the scenery is stunning. The start of the walk from Pearl Beach is about 200 m from Wildwood. Come out of Wildwood's driveway, turn right and you will see National Parks' signage on your left, about 200 m along from Wildwood. Be warned – it's an energetic work out – but worth the sweat!).

You can also catch the ferry from Patonga to Sydney's Palm Beach (you can even go to The Boathouse restaurant here, overlooking Pittwater at Palm Beach) or do the ferry's mail run around the Hawkesbury River, which makes for a great day out.

There's also an array of supermarkets (Woolies, Coles and Aldi) and a range of restaurants and takeaway places in Umina Beach, which is about a 6 minute drive from Pearl Beach.

Lots of people seem to like going to eateries "**Jasmine Greens**" at Umina Beach (near the surf club + opposite a secure kids' playground), "**Coast**" and "**Lords of Pour**" at Ettalong Beach (where you can also catch the ferry from Ettalong to Palm Beach). The funky, quirky movie cinema, "**Cinema Paradiso**" is also at Ettalong.

I hope you have a wonderful, relaxing and enjoyable stay at Wildwood.

