

# Aboriginal Cultural Ways East Ballina Aboriginal Place Coastal Recreational Path



Map of Aboriginal Cultural Ways at East Ballina  
Aboriginal Place on the Coastal Recreational Path



Discover more about our  
local Aboriginal heritage at the  
East Ballina Aboriginal Place

# *Aboriginal Cultural Ways Interpretive Signage at the East Ballina Aboriginal Place on the Coastal Recreational Path*

## *Preparing for your visit*

### **COASTAL RECREATIONAL PATH**

The Coastal Recreational Path runs along the Ballina Shire coastline from Ballina to Skennars Head. This path crosses Country that is of special significance for Aboriginal people.

This area is important to Aboriginal people for learning about traditional Aboriginal culture and maintaining a connection to Country.

Local keepers of cultural knowledge have shared some stories and memories through interpretive signage that can be viewed when visiting the East Ballina Aboriginal Place.

The material gathered and presented is a result of a collaboration between the local Aboriginal community, Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council, Ballina Shire Council and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

### **EAST BALLINA ABORIGINAL PLACE**

This place contains a landscape of extensive cultural features and natural resources, including wetlands and coastal ecosystems, which provide a continuing teaching resource for current and future generations.

The site is of significance to Aboriginal families of the area who maintain their traditional connection to Country.

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage 2012 declaration of the East Ballina Aboriginal Place formally recognises the historic and contemporary cultural values of this land.

### **CREATING THE SIGNAGE**

Interpreting and understanding Aboriginal belief systems and the unique perspective of belonging to 'Country' requires careful consideration and explanation. A respectful approach is to ask the people who know, the people who have always lived in the place.

This is the process that was followed in developing the content for the Aboriginal Cultural Ways interpretive signage on the Coastal Recreational Path at the East Ballina Aboriginal Place.

### **CONNECTING PEOPLE TO LAND**

There are many layers of meaning connecting Aboriginal people to the land. Some are ancient links, explaining the creation of the landscape and how people were taught to care for their Country. Others are modern connections and memories.

Aboriginal people decided on the information that has been shared and the manner in which this could be communicated. This is reflected in the diversity of material provided on the Cultural Ways signage which helps give some insight into the cultural significance and meanings associated with the landscapes traversed by The Coastal Recreational Path.

### **BEFORE YOU VISIT**

Before you visit the path, we recommend that you download a QR code scanner app. This can be done by visiting your smart phone's app store.

Along the path you will see QR codes displayed on the interpretive signs. When scanned by your smartphone, the QR codes will provide you with additional background information and audio content.



### **ACCESSING THE PATH**

The majority of the signage is located between Flat Rock Tent Park and Angels Beach carpark. See map overleaf.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

For further information about the cultural material please contact Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council, Ballina by telephone on +61 2 66867055.

For directions on the Coastal Recreational Path please telephone the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on 1800 777 666.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that these displays and associated digital links contain images and voices of people who have passed away.