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Legend

- AED (Defibrillator)
- Ambulant Toilet
- ATM
- Bus Interchange (V/Line)
- Bus Stop
- Car Park
- Changing Places Facility
- Church
- Designated Accessible Parking
- Designated Accessible Toilet
- Medical Centre
- Memorial
- Park Table
- Pharmacy
- Phone
- Police Station
- Post Office
- Public Toilet
- Seating
- Supermarket
- Taxi Rank
- Footpath
- Road Crossing
- Commercial Area

Gradients

- Ascending gradient up to 1 in 20
- Ascending gradient up to 1 in 14
- Steps / Stairs



# Cowes Mobility Map

Facing the protected waters of Western Port, Cowes provides for a variety of experiences for visitors and locals within the main shopping area of Thompson Avenue.

Ramp access to the beach is available on the east side of the Cowes Pier. A short distance along the foreshore to the east is Erehwon Point reserve with a playground, beautiful bay views and accessible toilets (from the foreshore track only).

Cowes Recreation Reserve is located further east along Chapel Street. Ferry services operate from Cowes Pier to French Island and Stony Point at regular times and to Seal Rocks by charter. Check with the Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre for more information and timetables. Traffic is busy and parking limited in and around Thompson Avenue during the peak of summer. For safety, pedestrians are encouraged to cross roads at suggested crossing points and official pedestrian crossings. The Phillip Island Leisure Centre run by the YMCA is located on Church Street, offering a range of accessible facilities including fitness classes.

## Tips for mobility scooter users

Mobility scooters and electric wheelchairs users should:

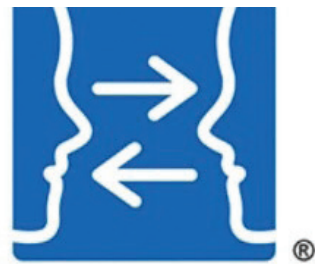
- Obey the same road rules as pedestrians
- Travel on footpaths rather than roads, where possible
- Slow down near other people
- Drive and park so that other people can move along the footpath freely

## National Relay Service (NRS)

People who are deaf, have a hearing impairment or complex communication needs, can access any of the phone numbers in this brochure, via the NRS. For all of the numbers and access points for making a relay call please visit [www.communications.gov.au/accesshub](http://www.communications.gov.au/accesshub)

## Communication Access Symbol

Council's Customer Service and Visitor Information Centres are accredited with Scope's Communication Symbol. The Communication Access Symbol identifies places where people are respectful and responsive to individuals with communication difficulties and where strategies and resources are used to support successful communication.



## Access Resources

For information on local accessible accommodation, attractions, eateries and beaches, please call 1300 366 422 or visit [www.visitbasscoast.com.au/plan-your-trip/accessible-bass-coast](http://www.visitbasscoast.com.au/plan-your-trip/accessible-bass-coast)

## All Terrain Wheelchairs for hire

Two different types of All Terrain Wheelchairs; the Hippocampe and Surf and Turf, are currently available for hire free of charge in Newhaven, Wonthaggi and Inverloch. The Wanderer is currently unavailable but will be back in service once the Cowes Cultural and Community Centre is completed in 2023. A \$50 refundable deposit is required. Designed to navigate sandy beaches and walking tracks, the wheelchairs can be packed or dismantled for easier transportation.

### The Hippocampe

The three wheeled Hippocampe can be towed, pushed or self-propelled. The double tyre set up in the rear helps to travel over a variety of terrains including rock, uneven surfaces and soft sand. It can be packed into a large storage bag for easy transporting. To book either of our Hippocampes contact Inverloch Visitor Information Centre on 1300 762 433 or Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre on 1300 366 422 or [bookings@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:bookings@basscoast.vic.gov.au)



### The Surf and Turf

The Surf and Turf's four large wheels and central steering eliminate bobbing and makes the chair much easier to push. The seating can be adjusted to suit the user's needs without compromising the stability of the chair. To book the Surf and Turf contact the Bass Coast Aquatic and Leisure Centre on (03) 5672 4194 or [wonthaggi@ymca.org.au](mailto:wonthaggi@ymca.org.au)



### The Wanderer - currently unavailable

The Wanderer has large, wide tyres that improve access when travelling over sand, loose gravel and other 'off road' areas. Rear wheel steering helps the person pushing to easily pivot the chair and it can be dismantled for transfer with a large vehicle. The Wanderer is currently unavailable for hire but will be back in service once the Cowes Cultural and Community Centre is completed in 2023.



## Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

An AED is used to help people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. The AED can analyse the person's heart rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock to help their heart re-establish an effective rhythm.



## Changing Places

Changing Places are fully accessible public toilets with additional features and equipment to meet the needs of people with severe or profound disabilities. Many Changing Places facilities require a Master Locksmith Access Key (MLAK) for access. Users must bring their own sling for use with the Changing Places ceiling hoist.

Locations

- Cowes Transit Centre, open 24/7, MLAK required
- Phillip Island Health Hub, open 24/7, located in inside Hub, MLAK not required
- Penguin Parade Visitor Centre, Phillip Island, open every day from 10.00am until late\*, located inside Centre, MLAK not required, shower provided
- Guide Park, Wonthaggi, open 24/7, MLAK required, shower provided

\*Opening hours may vary due to the COVID-19 pandemic and public holidays.

For more information on Changing Places facilities or the MLAK system, visit [www.changingplaces.org.au](http://www.changingplaces.org.au)



Cowes Transit Centre Photo: Teana Kaleopa