

## WIND WARNINGS AND FORECASTS

Always check the latest forecast before you go on the water. Visit [www.bom.gov.au/marine](http://www.bom.gov.au/marine)

## SAFE BOATING

When boating on Victoria's waterways, it is important for all boaters to ensure that they properly plan their trip and are fully equipped for an enjoyable day out on the water.

- Check the weather forecasts. Consider postponing your trip if weather is unfavourable and avoid areas exposed to high wind and waves.
- Ensure your boat is properly maintained, the battery is fully charged and you have enough fuel on board.
- Seek up-to-date local knowledge and obtain a copy of the appropriate chart or map for the area you will be navigating.
- Always let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Ensure you have the correct safety equipment aboard your boat and you know how to wear it correctly.
- Lifejackets save lives – wear a lifejacket.
- Observe speeds and distances.
- Operate at a safe speed and always maintain a good lookout.
- Don't drink alcohol while boating.

For further information about recreational boating safety visit [www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au) or call 1800 223 022 for a copy of the Victorian Recreational Boating Safety Handbook.

## ROCK FISHING

When rock fishing, the following safety tips should be followed.

- ALWAYS inform friends or family of your plans – where you are going and when you will be returning.
- SEEK out local advice on your intended fishing spot – tidal behaviour and accessibility.
- NEVER fish alone. One person should watch the sea at all times as conditions can change dramatically in a short time.
- CHECK water and weather conditions before you go.
- WEAR a personal flotation device and carry safety gear and a first-aid kit.
- DON'T wear waders when rock or ledge fishing – wear light clothing that will allow you to swim easily if you are washed in.
- WEAR appropriate footwear with non-slip soles.
- OBSERVE first and fish later. Take time to judge your intended spot before fishing to get an idea of tidal and sea conditions plus access and escape routes.
- HAVE an escape plan. If the swell threatens your position, leave immediately.
- ALWAYS obey danger signs and never trust access and escape aids such as ropes and makeshift steps.
- NEVER turn your back on the sea.

The Victorian Government's *Play it Safe by the Water* campaign is actively working towards increasing community awareness of water safety. For more information about water safety, visit the *Play it Safe by the Water* website at [www.watersafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.watersafety.vic.gov.au) and click on the Fishing link.

# Discover Victoria's marine life and sustainable fisheries

**The Marine Discovery Centre on the shores of Swan Bay in Queenscliff is an award winning provider of marine education.**

Come and learn about the plants and animals that inhabit our coast.

- Live local marine life on display in aquariums
- Large touch tank
- Hands-on discovery area
- Sea life gift shop

## **Marine Discovery Centre**

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Queenscliff 3225

Melways Map 500 D1

Ph: 03 5258 3344

Email: [marine.discovery@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:marine.discovery@dpi.vic.gov.au)

## **Opening hours and entry fees:**

School term            Monday to Friday  
                                 11am-3pm

School holidays    10am-4pm (daily  
                                 during program)

Adults                         \$8

Children/concession    \$5

Family                         \$25

Visit [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/mdc](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/mdc) for more about our schools education programs, membership, work experience, volunteer program and our new family fishing expeditions to be trialled in 2009.

