

on some of
the **MOST**
HISTORIC
waters in the
SOUTH SEAS...

BROKEN BAY - HAWKESBURY RIVER
GOSFORD - BRISBANE WATER

FERRY TOURS

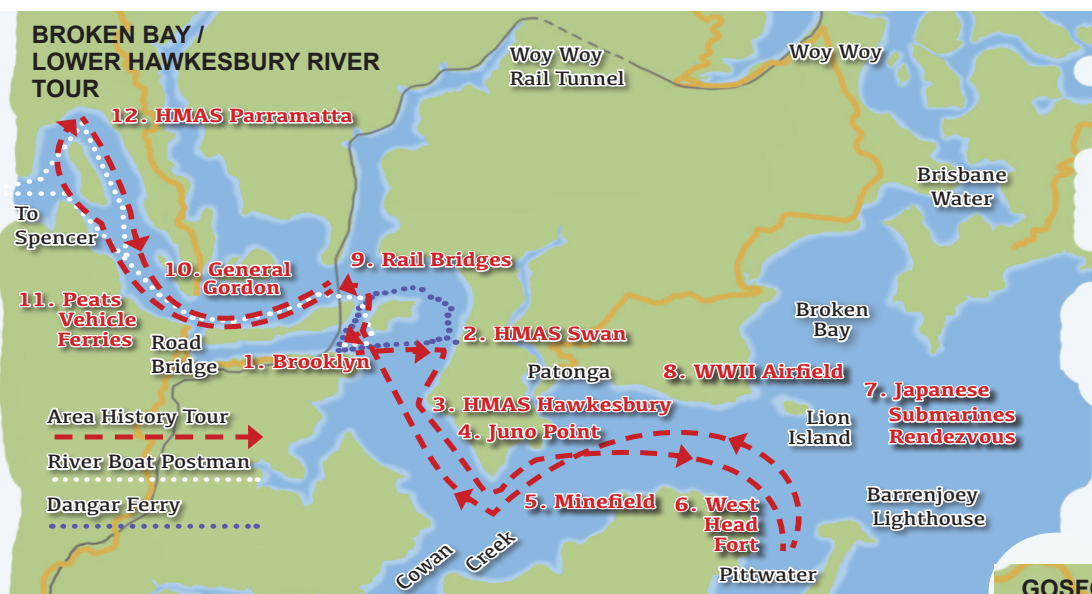
A truly unique presentation
on the history and environment
of these amazing waters



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Where else in the world can you find four major waterways converging into a bay to meet the sea? These waters include the Hawkesbury, one of Australia's great rivers, and geologically one of the planet's oldest. Some of the most pristine salt waters in Australia are stunningly framed by the natural beauty of National Parks. Here thousands of Aboriginal sites testify to the oldest surviving culture in the world. Identified by James Cook in 1770 the area has a recorded history going back to the first weeks of European settlement.



BROKEN BAY and LOWER HAWKESBURY RIVER

- 1886-89, the deepest piers in the world were constructed to support one of the world's longest truss bridges, the First Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge.
- How the bridges were built at this incredibly difficult site.
- Why did the first bridge fail?
- The General Gordon fills the gap, crossing the Bay to Brisbane Water, see the wharf site and old rail platform.
- The wreck of the first warship constructed in Australia, underwater images and the history of HMAS Swan.
- On the river bank, see the wreck of the first warship built for the Australian Navy, the HMAS Parramatta.
- The WWII defences built to protect the bridge, vital to the nation's defence.
- Juno Point; the guns, buildings, river bed minefield and electronic detector loops.
- West Head Fort, 4.7" Guns and its amazing cliff face Inclined Railway, see the site and working models
- WWII Airfield.
- Five of the world's biggest submarines rendezvous, equipped with aircraft and midget submarines preparing to attack Sydney.
- HMAS Hawkesbury..and more

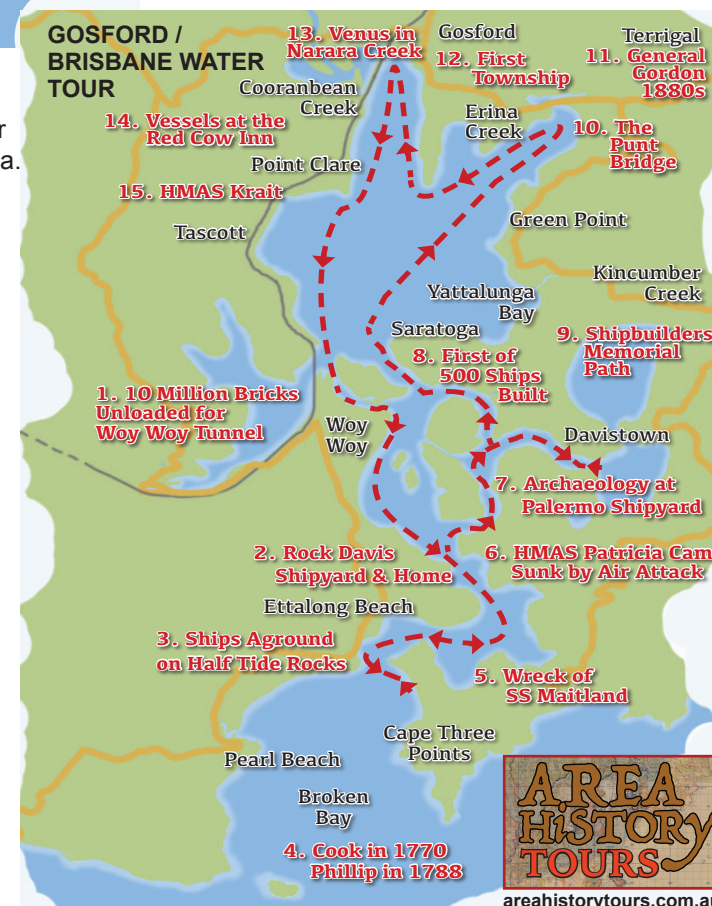
GOSFORD and BRISBANE WATER

- Local Aboriginal, Bungaree, interpreter, guide and negotiator for Matthew Flinders on the first circumnavigation of Australia.
- Beginning in the 1820s and lasting for 125 years, in numerous shipyards, over 500 vessels are built:
 - The Iconic East Coast, 'Coasters'
 - Island Traders
 - Sydney Ferries
- HMAS Patricia Cam, sunk in a Japanese air attack.
- Follow the route of General Gordon, providing the missing link in connecting Australia's east coast Capital Cities.
- Part of the engineering marvel of its age, the Woy Woy Tunnel, the longest tunnel in Australia, linking Eastern Australia.
- Rail connection, creates Sydney's escape playground in hundreds of waterside boarding houses, rental cottages and house boats. What happens here, stays here,
- St. Mary MacKillop's Boys Home, the Nuns become the first ferry entrepreneurs.
- Spike Milligan stops the development of Rileys Island.
- The steam side-wheeler SS Maitland is wrecked in the great storm of 1898.
- HMAS Kraitand more

Two tours available:

Broken Bay / Lower Hawkesbury River and / Gosford / Brisbane Water

While cruising and pausing at the various historic sites along these wondrous waterways, listen to the live commentary and view the fascinating A/V presentation of graphics, site & historic photos, animations, videos of operating models and other works by awarded historian, Peter A.Rea. Most of these sites are very difficult if not impossible to access other than by water. Each tour: 3.15 hrs. Complimentary Morning Tea. Cost: Adults: \$45, Conc. \$40, Children: \$25 Ferry services provided by Central Coast Ferries. Bookings Essential: 0418 631 313 You can contact Peter A.Rea: 0438 417 739



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