

Gondwana Rainforests of Australia

World Heritage Area

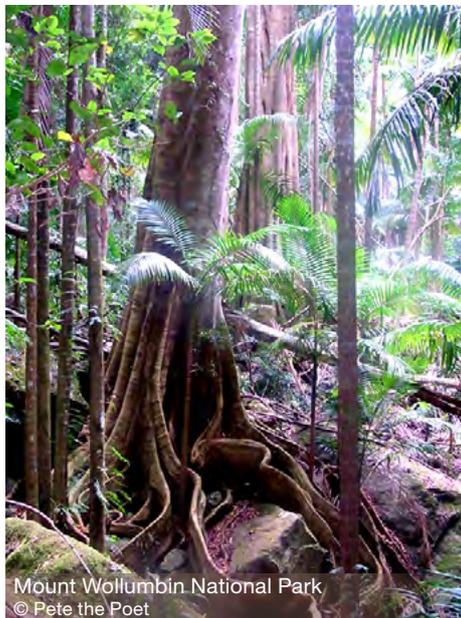
New England National Park
© State Running



OUR NATURAL TREASURES

Explore the amazing Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area (Gondwana Rainforests WHA) within north-east NSW and south-east Queensland. It's a true pilgrimage to see these magnificent rainforests – places of towering ancient trees, plunging waterfalls, craggy gorges and splendid rainbows.

These rich and beautiful forests form some of the most extensive areas of diverse rainforest found anywhere in the world and their importance is recognised with World Heritage listing. These natural treasures are yours to visit, explore and appreciate.



Mount Wollumbin National Park
© Pete the Poet

WHY WORLD HERITAGE?

A RECORD OF THE PAST

The Gondwana Rainforests WHA reveals major stages of Earth's history. Sheltering in the high rainfall and rich soils of the Great Escarpment lie remnants of the once vast rainforests that covered the southern supercontinent of Gondwana.

Few places on Earth contain so many plants and animals that are so closely related to their ancestors in the fossil record.

Spectacular remnant landforms within the Gondwana Rainforests WHA provide fascinating insights into a prehistoric world of dramatic volcanic eruptions and massive continental uplift.

A WINDOW TO THE FUTURE

These amazing areas show us how plants and animals are continuing to evolve.

Rainforest occurs in New South Wales and south-east Queensland as a series of 'islands' separated by eucalypt forest and agricultural lands. Many plants and animals occur in widely separated populations and this separation leads to genetic divergence and the evolution of new species.

HOT SPOTS OF BIODIVERSITY

Some of the most important and significant habitats for threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science and conservation are contained within the Gondwana Rainforests WHA.

Of the thousands of different native plant species in Australia, half occur in rainforests. More than 200 of the plant species found in the Gondwana Rainforests WHA are rare or threatened with extinction.



Southern Sassafras © Pete the Poet

CONSERVING THE WORLD'S HERITAGE

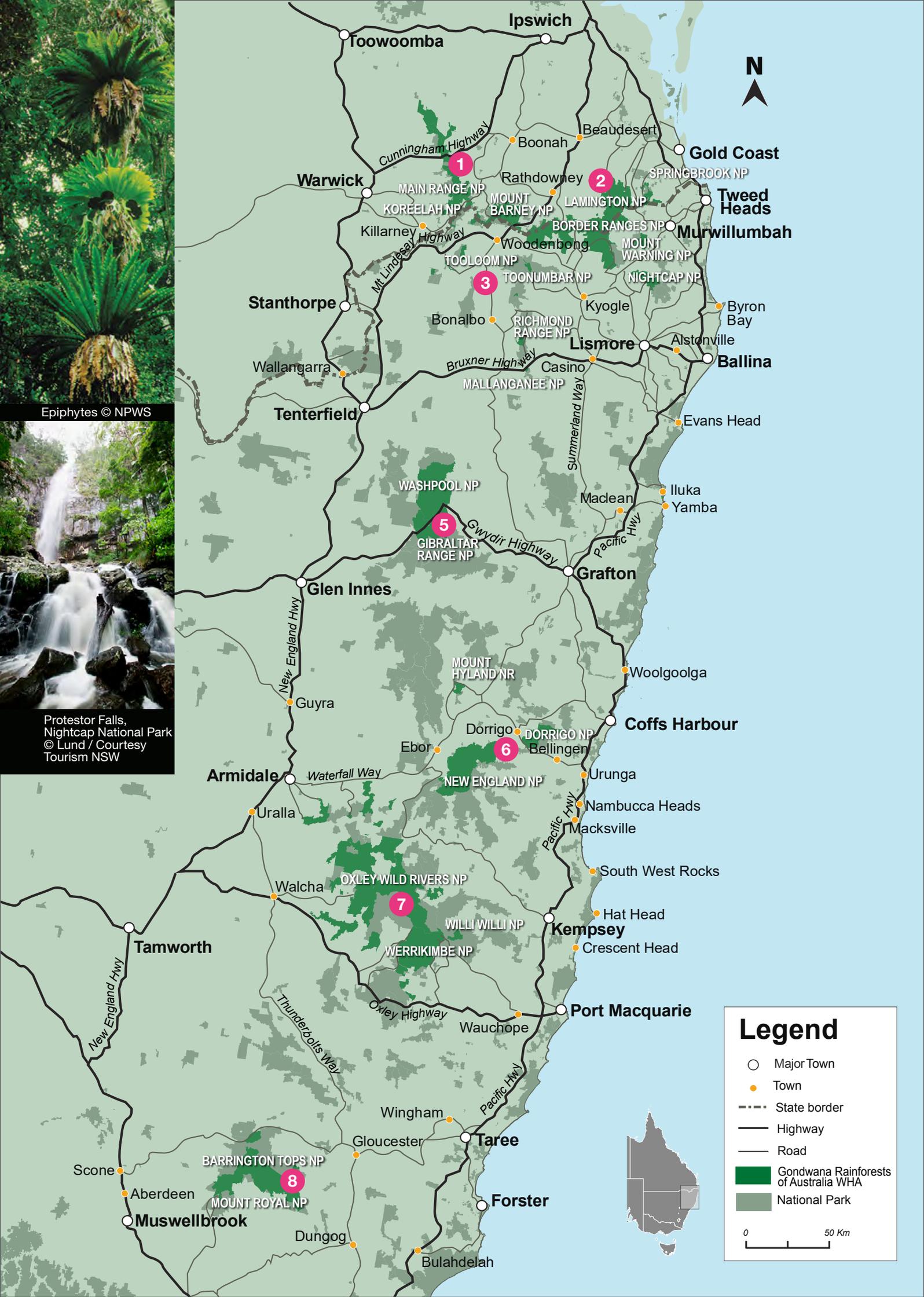
World Heritage Areas are irreplaceable sources of life and inspiration—places of such value that the international community has agreed they must be conserved for all time. We inherit World Heritage from the past, look after it today and pass it on to future generations.



Epiphytes © NPWS



Protestor Falls, Nightcap National Park © Lund / Courtesy Tourism NSW



EXPLORE THE GONDWANA RAINFORESTS OF AUSTRALIA WORLD HERITAGE AREA

1 MAIN RANGE

Main Range National Park, on the spectacular rim of the long-extinct Main Range volcano, contains unusual forms of subtropical rainforest that provide habitat for rare ground-dwelling birds such as Albert's Lyrebird. Take a break and a short walk from Cunningham's Gap or take a few days and stay to explore the longer walking trails through the park. Facilities and walking tracks are provided at Cunningham's Gap, Spicer's Gap, Queen Mary Falls and at the head of the Goomburra Valley.

2 TWEED CALDERA

Situated on the remnants of the once-massive Tweed Shield volcano, this group contains magnificent mountain views and lush rainforests. Explore the forest on the extensive walking tracks in Lamington National Park; take in panoramic views of the Tweed Valley and Mount Wollumbin from Springbrook National Park or the Tweed Range Scenic Drive in Border Ranges National Park.

3 FOCAL PEAK

From the rugged volcanic peaks of Mount Barney National Park, which attract experienced, self-reliant bushwalkers, to the lush subtropical rainforest of the Murray Scrub in Toonumbar National Park, there are many landscapes to discover in this group. Facilities and walking tracks are also provided in Tooloom National Park and Richmond Range National Park.

4 ILUKA

Visit the coastal town of Iluka and take a wander through the largest remaining stand of littoral rainforest in NSW in Iluka Nature Reserve. Take the self-guided tour to learn about the importance and fragile nature of this rainforest by the sea.

5 GIBRALTAR RANGE

Washpool National Park is the largest rainforest wilderness in NSW, renowned for tall trees and clear waters. Spring-time wildflower displays and granite outcrops are a highlight of Gibraltar Range National Park. Visitor facilities and a network of marked walking tracks on the wilderness edge have been established in both parks.

6 DORRIGO/NEW ENGLAND

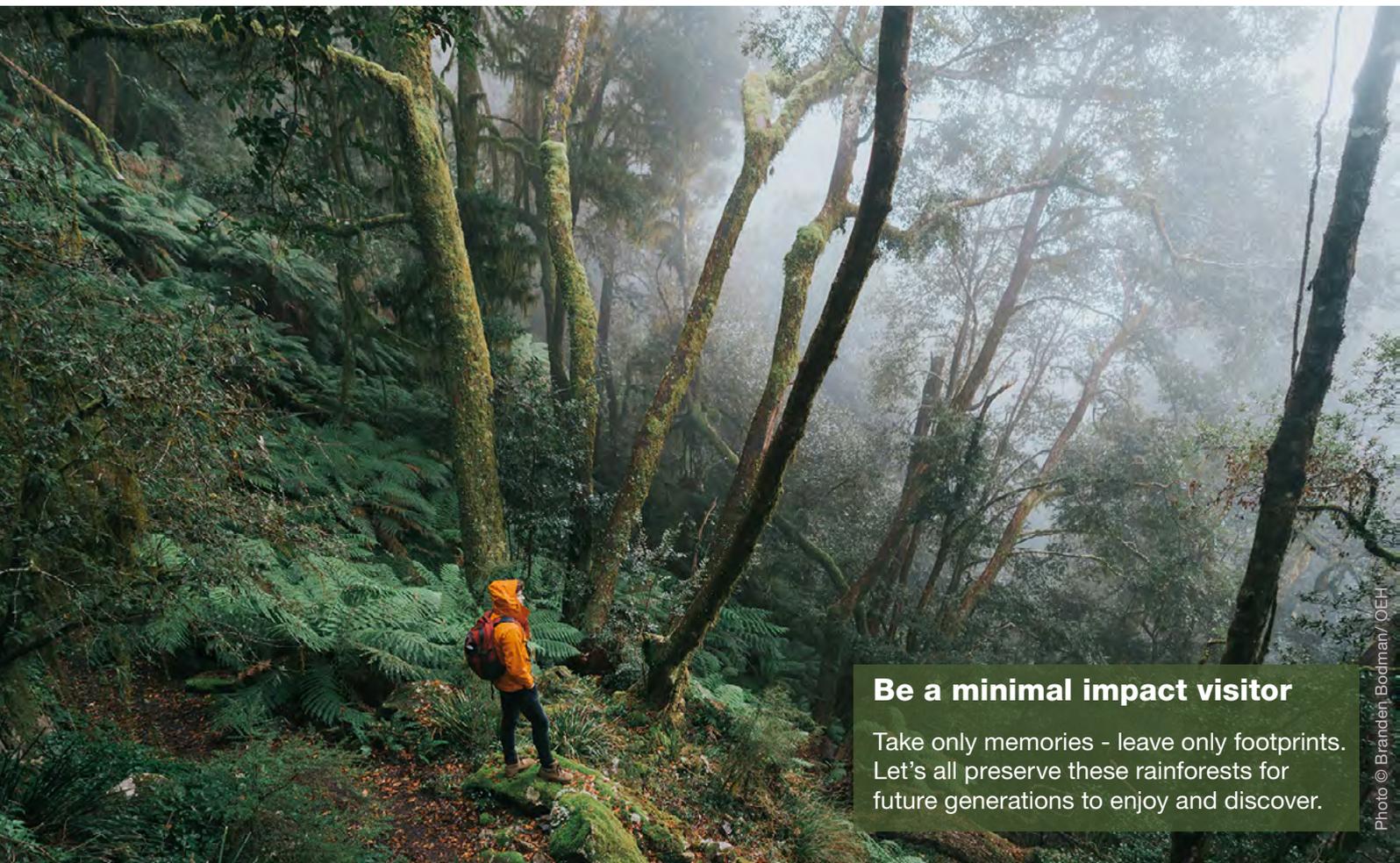
Dorrigo Rainforest Centre is a major interpretation centre for the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia WHA. Explore the exhibits and the adjoining majestic subtropical rainforest of Dorrigo National Park. For unforgettable panoramas over forested wilderness, visit Point Lookout in New England National Park.

7 HASTINGS-MACLEAY

The spectacular gorges of Oxley Wild Rivers National Park can be viewed from many lookouts located on the edge of the New England Tablelands. Werrikimbe National Park provides opportunities to explore ancient Antarctic Beech cool temperate rainforest.

8 BARRINGTON TOPS

Barrington Tops National Park contains a mosaic of eucalypt forests and rainforest types, sub-alpine woodlands, swamps and grasslands. Easy short walks are provided in the Gloucester Tops, Williams River and Barrington Plateau sections of the park.



Be a minimal impact visitor

Take only memories - leave only footprints. Let's all preserve these rainforests for future generations to enjoy and discover.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE
GONDWANA RAINFORESTS OF AUSTRALIA**

NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service
13000 PARKS (13000 72757)

www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/conservation-and-heritage/gondwana-rainforest-world-heritage-parks



**Office of
Environment & Heritage**
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service
13 QGOV (13 74 68)

www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/world-heritage-areas/gondwana_rainforests_of_australia.html



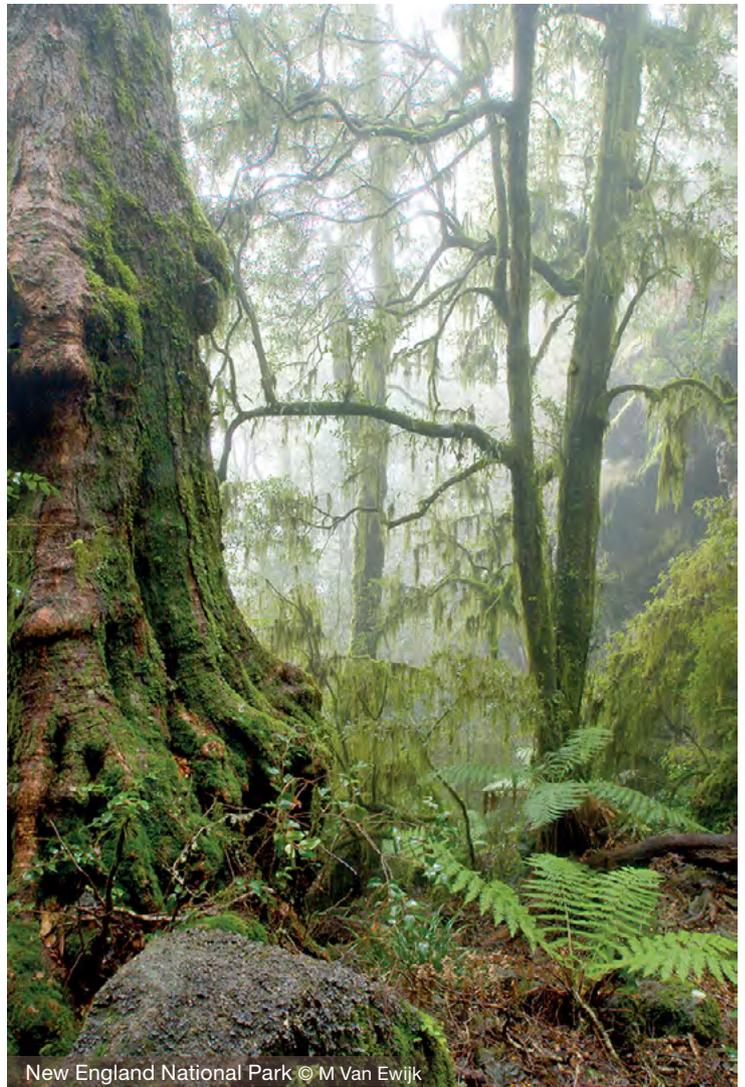
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NATIONAL parks**
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
AUSTRALIA'S WORLD HERITAGE AREA**

Department of Environment and Energy
1800 803 772

www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world-heritage-list



New England National Park © M Van Ewijk



Barrington Tops National Park © Deb Etheredge



Loveridge's Frog
(*Kyarranus loveridgei*) © H B Hines



Barrington Tops National Park © NPWS