



Sunrises to the left, sunsets to the right, here I am, stuck in the middle with you

Secret Spaces Hidden Places

Start or end your day on Curl Curl's rock ledge lookouts

The coastline of the Northern Beaches boasts some of the best sunrises, but it's rare to get sunset from the same vantage point - except from this rock ledge.

Dotted along the rocky north headland of Curl Curl, you'll find unmarked but well-trodden paths to rock lodges overlooking the beach. These obvious (once you reach them) but secluded spots start about 100 metres into the Dee Why Headland walk from the Curl Curl end.

At the top of the stairs, heading towards Dee Why or the Curl Curl ocean pool, you'll first pass an obelisk to know you're heading in the right direction. This obelisk, first erected in 1917, is inscribed with 10 names of men who died during World War I, who originally from Randwick, had

been regular campers on this spot prior to 1914, according to Warringah Council.

While camping is less encouraged these days, the spot remains a local favourite for those in the know to revel in the views.

As we headed there at sunset, a few groups already had their picnic setup for the evening. Settling into our spot, picnic in hand, we lay down the blanket and relaxed as the sky started to become awash in pastel pink and orange.

The main view you get is the obvious one, the 1.2-kilometre long beachfront and rolling waves stretching to the southern tip of Curl Curl. But as you look west, the lack of buildings and green space, like the Curl Curl lagoon, means less obstructions for the western setting sun - making it the

perfect spot for both sunrise and sunset.

As we munch on our picnic, we're greeted by a few local mice, who, curious about the food, otherwise leave us alone, disappearing into the Hawkesbury heath vegetation surrounding us. And while no dolphin sightings happened on this particular evening, you can be surprised by marine sightings from this vantage point as well as seabirds with the headland acting as a wild-life corridor between Curl Curl and Dee Why.

Our picnic done, and the golden sunlight gone, we soak up one last look as the sky glows in the moonlight. We know we'll continue to find reasons to come back here on the regular.

Did you know...

One of the key features as you look westerly is the Curl Curl lagoon extending into Greendale Creek. Now an extensive recreation area and pristine waterway, this area required extensive restoration after succumbing to landfill in the 1950s.

How to get there

Drive, walk, run or bike to the carpark at the northern end of Curl Curl beach. If you drive, your Northern Beaches parking permit allows you to park for free or you can pay the hourly rate. Start the walk up the stairs on the north side of the surf life saving club. Sadly, no doggos allowed on this route.

Have a great spot you think should be featured?
Email us at mail@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au

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