

## Site: London Bridge

### About London Bridge

London Bridge is located at the Portsea Backbeach which is approximately 3 kilometres south of Portsea. This site provides students with excellent examples of coastal features but also can be used to show examples of the damage done to such environments as a result of tourism/recreational activities (such as surfers accessing the beach). The management strategies that have been put in place to ensure the sustainability of this environment are examined at this site.

The advantage of this site is that students are able to access the beach and closely explore the features and examples of human impact.

This site can be accessed from either Portsea or Sorrento by travelling along Back Beach Road and then turning into London Bridge Road. There are ample parking spaces at the end of this road and toilet facilities are available. There is no charge for entry. From the car park there is a walking track to a viewing area which is accessible for wheelchairs etc. The path down to the beach is steep and may not be accessible for those with disabilities. If possible it is best to visit this site at low tide as more of the features are visible.

Some further information about London Bridge can be found at the Parks Victoria website

<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/mornington-peninsula-national-park/things-to-do/london-bridge-car-park>

Fieldwork Activities.

Please note that not all of these activities need to be undertaken. Select those that suit your needs.

1. With reference to your base map describe the relative location of London Bridge.

OR

Using either the GPS Test or GPS Data apps describe the absolute location of London Bridge.


2. Complete the table below analysing the impact of tourism/recreational activities at this site. Where possible take photos of these impacts.

Hint: When completing this activity first go to the viewing area which can be accessed via the car park. At the end of the viewing area further access has been fenced off. Note there are tracks on the other side which surfers have used to access the beach. At times the fence has been cut to allow easier access. These tracks have contributed to cliff collapses which are quite visible from the beach.

Activity	Potential impacts of human activity on this environment
Surfing	Look at tracks on the other side of fence at the viewing area
Fishing/spear fishing	
Sightseeing	
Beach activities	
Snorkelling	

Hiking/exploring	
Hang Gliding	
Other	

3. Which government department manages this area of the coastline? What factors could make the management of this area difficult?


4. Complete the following table describing and evaluating the management strategies that are present at this site to ensure the sustainability of tourism (this task may be best done in a group scenario once your visit to this site has been completed).

Name of management strategy and purpose	Effectiveness of the management strategy (Consider factors such as the sustainability of the strategy and whether the strategy achieves the goals set). How could this strategy become more effective?
Car park	
Toilet facilities	
Litter control (no bins)	
Pathways (to viewing area and beach access)	
Fencing	
Signage	

Name of management strategy and purpose	Effectiveness of the management strategy (Consider factors such as the sustainability of the strategy and whether the strategy achieves the goals set). How could this strategy become more effective?
Erosion controls (visible on pathway to viewing area or when looking at cliffs from beach)	
Legislative controls ( e.g. bag limits on fish, no dogs on beach)	
Other	

5. As you drive into London Bridge you will notice that this area is surrounded by residential development. Outline the impacts that large tourist numbers during the summer months could have on the residents in this area.
