

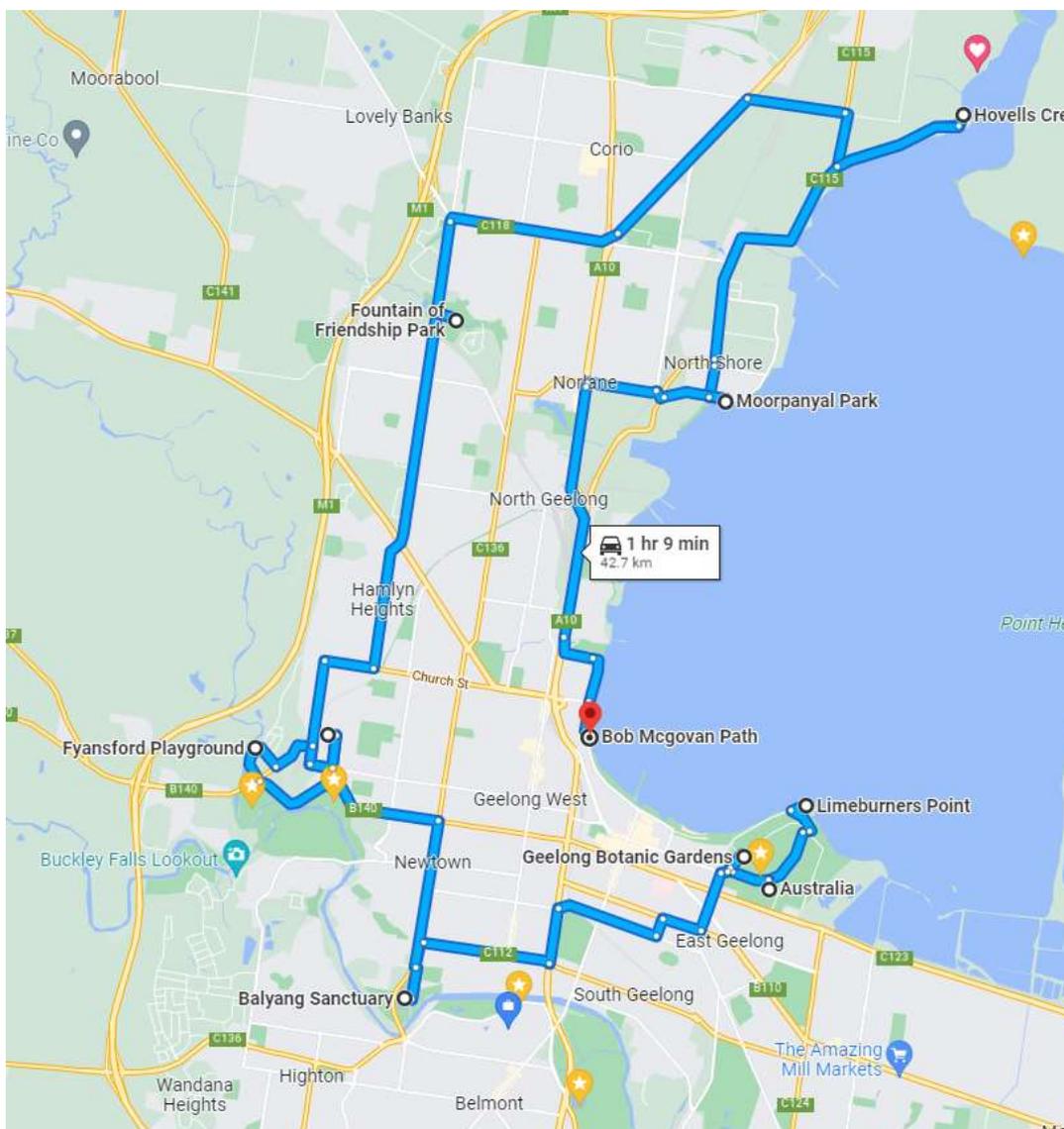


Great Southern BioBlitz

Trip Planner No 1

Geelong and Corio Bay

Geelong and Corio route has some interesting sites to visit to see where the natural world coexists with urban and marine port environments. If you live in the area, start by doing a survey at home photographing bird and insects within your home limits. Head off to the city loop and start recording observations along the way.





Limeburners Point	Spot an Australian Gannet and other coastal birds. If water clear try to photo a few fish, while you can also note the coastal plants around the area. A small walk along the shoreline towards Eastern Beach might give a few sea creatures.
Eastern Gardens and water collection ponds	Look for the Rufus Night Herons and the Grey-headed Flying-fox before walking around the water retention basins.
Geelong Botanic Gardens.	On a good day, the botanic garden will have insect species such as Leaf Hoppers, Katydid, Aphids. Butterflies, Dragonflies, and other nectar loving creatures will be plentiful. A few bird surprises may arise so be alert in all directions.
Balyang Sanctuary	Well known location for birds and generally relatively easy to photograph makes this a good stop for the person new to bio blitzing to get their eye in!
Fyansford Reserve and Moorabool River Reserve	The river habitat and recent revegetation can make this a surprising location. A good spot for seeing Black-fronted Dotterels at the new water retention dams near Lewis Bandt Bridge.
Friendship Park and Cowie Creek	On the way to this location, consider stopping off at Kevin Kirby Reserve. The dense small plants can have a few small, interesting birds. At Cowie Creek, visit the pond and walk towards the ring road.
Limeburners Lagoon and Hovells Creek Trail	Worth a good walk to the coastal reserve, it has a rich coastal wetland plant community including mangroves. This is a site for some unique air breathing gastropods as well as normal bay species.
Moorpanyal Park	On the way to Moorpanyal, considering stopping off at a couple of places and see the bird life around the bay. The refinery cooling water outlet is a prized location with its warmer water temperature for sea birds to gather. At Moorpanyal, enjoy a hot drink, take in the view of Geelong, and consider a walk along the shoreline to make some nature observations.
Seagull Paddock	This is an alternative short stop off to Moorpanyal. This lake can have some interesting species. While a 10-minute stroll might also reveal some invertebrates depending on what shrubs are flowering.
Bob McGovan Path and Western Beach	Another look at our beautiful bay and walk along path toward city centre. At times, a bit smelly but interesting seaweed and marine creatures can be washed up here.

Bring: Take along refreshment for the trip plus your camera/ phone with spare battery, hat, binoculars, strong footwear, and sunscreen.

Recommendation: This journey lends itself for doing if conditions are not ideal, although insect life at the Botanic Gardens is best suited when temperature above 20 Deg C. if sufficient time allows the walk at Limeburners Lagoon can be extended to include the COGG coastal Reserve.

Supporting Information:

- Over 1250 species have been seen in our urban environment. List the following link for the list [Observations · iNaturalist](#)