

# WHAT TO EXPECT AND HOW TO PREPARE

YOU CAN ASSIST THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENTS WHO COORDINATE ANZAC DAY SERVICES AT GALLIPOLI BY REGISTERING YOUR INTENTION TO ATTEND.

Log onto [www.dva.gov.au/anzac](http://www.dva.gov.au/anzac) or [www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz](http://www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz) and follow the links to register.



## How do I get to Gallipoli?

Most people travel to the Gallipoli Peninsula by coach or minibus as part of a tour group. You will need to organise this in advance – do an online search for a tour operator or see your travel agent.

## What happens when I arrive?

Several kilometres from the Anzac Commemorative Site, coaches and their passengers are welcomed by a member of the Visitor Liaison Team and issued with coach identification information – a Coach Identification number and individual tags for each passenger with their coach number on it. Make sure you remember this number, it will help to identify your coach at the end of the day.

Coaches set down their passengers at Beach Cemetery, which is just over one kilometre (15 minutes walk on a graded dirt road) from the Anzac Commemorative Site where the Dawn Service is held. You will pass through a security screening point before entering the site, then walk approximately 600 meters to the ceremonial area.

When you disembark from your coach you must have everything you will need for the evening and next day, including medication. You cannot return to your coach until after the services have finished on the afternoon

of 25 April. Be prepared to wait several hours for your coach to pick you up: some coaches may not leave until approximately 5:30pm.

The security checkpoint is similar to that at an airport – we suggest that keys, phones and coins are placed in your day pack or bag.

## Isn't Gallipoli in a National Park?

Yes it is. All the commemorative services are held in a National Park that encompasses battlefields, memorials and cemeteries. Please respect the Park and the memory of the soldiers who died here by behaving appropriately at all times.

## What about the weather?

The weather on the peninsula can be bitterly cold at night and hot and sunny during the day so you need to prepare for both, and of course the chance of rain and wind. You can expect to be on site, exposed to the elements, for between 12 and 24 hours. There is no shelter at any of the commemorative sites or within the Anzac area. Warm and wet weather protective clothing, as well as a hat/cap and sunscreen are necessary to ensure your wellbeing and comfort at the ceremonies.



### What should I take with me?

Good question! You can't bring big bags or camping equipment with you but make sure you have a day pack or small bag that contains the following:

- Wet weather jacket and pants
- Warm, thermal clothing, jacket, beanie, hat or cap, gloves, scarf
- Warm blanket
- Comfortable, sturdy walking shoes (must have closed toe shoes)
- Prescription medications (if necessary)
- Food/snacks
- Drinking water – do not open until you are on site
- Sunscreen
- Torch (with batteries)
- Camera (with batteries)

Remember to take what you need with you – you won't be able to return to your coach until after the services have been completed.

### What can't I bring to the services?

There are some things you are not allowed to bring with you onto the commemorative sites:

- large backpacks (eg luggage sized)
- camping equipment
- alcohol\* (Intoxicated persons will be refused entry)
- flammable liquids
- weapons or sharp objects (including metal cutlery)
- opened and partially consumed beverages including water.
- Swimmers – you are not able to swim

These items MUST be left on your coach/minibus. All visitors to the commemorative services should expect to undergo airport like screening at entry. Bags may be searched.

**Need more information? Email [Gallipoli@dva.gov.au](mailto:Gallipoli@dva.gov.au)**

### What to expect at Gallipoli

Each of the commemorative services on 25 April is open to the public and a lot of people travel a long way to attend services. Seating at the commemorative sites is available in the stands around the grassed area, or on the grassed area itself. Seating cannot be reserved. Once open on 24 April, the Anzac Commemorative Site fills quickly. People may end up sitting very close to each other and, if the site reaches capacity, people will be asked to stand. Large groups who arrive after midnight may not be able to find room to be seated as a group and should be prepared to split up to be seated or to stand.

An overnight program of music from the First World War era, documentaries, historical footage and onsite interviews provides you with the opportunity to learn more about the Gallipoli campaign and reflect on the reason you are making your trip to be part of the Anzac Day services.

You should have a moderate level of fitness if you plan to attend the Anzac Day commemorations. In fact, you can expect to walk up to 8km on uneven surfaces. The walk from the Dawn Service to Lone Pine where the Australian service is held is approximately 3km and includes a section of 1.5km of uneven dirt surface with a steep incline. The walk from Lone Pine to Chunuk Bair where the New Zealand service is held is 3.2km up a steep bitumen surfaced road. However, due to the walking distances and terrain between the commemorative sites, and the number of visitors walking to each service, it may not be possible to attend all four services.

### What sort of facilities are there?

Food and refreshments are available for purchase from Turkish food sellers on site. You may bring in your own food. We encourage you to bring water but do not open bottles until you are on site.

Limited basic facilities including toilets, lighting and non-drinking water are brought in to the commemorative sites for the Anzac Day commemorations on 24 and 25 April.

Swimming in the waters off the Anzac area is prohibited.

