

Shack Bay

Site #13 on the Strzelecki Taxonomy Map

Shack Bay is approximately five kilometres west of Cape Paterson along the Cape Paterson/Inverloch coast road. Its name originates from the shacks that were erected by miners and their families during the 1934 Wonthaggi miners strike. The fish they caught fed their families and allowed them to trade for other items.

This is a fairly rugged part of the coast, and care should be taken when visiting this locality. Ensure that your visit coincides with low tide, as the shore platform is completely inundated at high tide.

Only a few fossil bones have been found at this locality, including a well preserved lungfish toothplate. The specimen is from a very large lungfish and clearly shows the individual blades that make up the toothplate. These blades contacted with a similar plate in the upper jaw of the fish and were very effective in slicing through aquatic plants growing in the river.



Image of Shack Bay. Photographer: Lesley Kool.



**Well preserved lungfish toothplate found at Shack Bay in 2007.
Photographer: Paul Chedghey.**