



Accessible Beaches FAQs

WILLIAMSTOWN BEACH

Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club

Corner of Victoria Street and Esplanade, Williamstown

Ph: 0478 416 004

E: info@williamstownslsc.org.au

W: www.williamstownslsc.org.au

ALTONA BEACH

Altona Life Saving Club

127 Esplanade Street, Altona

Ph: 9398 1270

E: admin@altonalsc.com.au

E: president@altonalsc.com.au

W: www.altonalsc.com.au

Do you have a hoist for a wheelchair transfer?

Yes, a hoist is available at Altona Beach. An accessible adult changing facility is available at Weaver Reserve right next to Altona Life Saving Club. It includes a hoist, adult change table, shower and toilet.

To gain access you will need an MLAK key. You will also need to bring your own sling.

There is **no hoist** available at Williamstown Beach.

Contact Hobsons Bay City Council's Metro Access and Inclusion Officer on 9932 1000 or at socialpolicy@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au to discuss any access needs.

You can find more information on MLAK here:

<https://www.masterlocksmiths.com.au/mlak.php>.

What is the difference between the Sandcruiser, Sandpiper, MobiChair and DaVinci beach wheelchairs?

The **Sandcruiser** (adult) and **Sandpiper** (child) beach wheelchairs are designed to get you to the water's edge. You can enter shallow water but only up to the centre of the rear wheels – so you will definitely be able to dip your toes in the sea.

The **MobiChair** has floats built into its arm rests allowing users to enter deeper water (up to waist height of support person) and experience floating in the sea.

The **DaVinci** chair is a manual, self-propelled beach wheelchair designed for use on the and in low water.

Do I need to bring additional support?

If you are hiring the **Sandcruiser** or **Sandpiper** chairs, you will need a friend (or two) to assist with transfer (if needed) and help push across the sand.

If you are hiring the **MobiChair** and wish to enter deeper water you must have a minimum of two supporters.

The **DaVinci** chair is self-propelled and does not require any additional support.

Why is having an accessible beach important?

Hobsons Bay has more than 20 kilometres of beaches and foreshore areas, which are greatly valued by the community. With Council's commitment to access and inclusion, Council would like to ensure that key foreshore locations, such as the beaches, are accessible for all to enjoy.

People with a disability represent approximately 17 per cent (15,656 people) of the total Hobsons Bay population. While disability can impact individuals in many different forms, some of the largest impacts on people with a disability are physical barriers within the built and natural environment, restricting their ability to conduct their lives in a spontaneous and unplanned manner. It is understood that if a community is physically accessible for people with a disability there is increased access for all community members such as older people, children, and pram users.

Where can I find more accessible beaches in Australia?

[Accessible Beaches Directory](#)

[Have wheelchair will travel](#)