

## **Beachwatch**

# Northern Sydney report card 2021–22

This report card provides a long-term assessment of how suitable a site is for swimming in the Northern Sydney region. Monitored locations include ocean beaches from Palm Beach to Shelly Beach, estuarine areas in Pittwater and sites in Narrabeen Lagoon.



Palm Beach, Whale Beach, Avalon Beach, Mona Vale Beach, South Curl Beach, Elvina Bay, The Basin and Great Mackerel Beach.

These sites had excellent water quality and were suitable for swimming almost all of the time.

Estuarine and lagoon swimming sites did not perform as well as ocean beaches due to lower levels of flushing which increase the time needed to disperse and dilute pollution inputs, taking longer to recover from stormwater events.

### Rainfall impacts

Rainfall is the major driver of pollution to recreational waters, generating stormwater runoff and triggering discharges from the wastewater treatment and transport system.

### Monitoring in Sydney

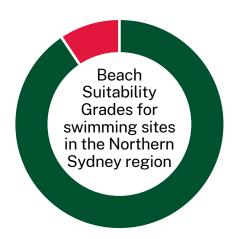
Recreational water quality has been monitored in the Sydney region since 1989 by the Department of Planning and Environment's Beachwatch Program.

Beachwatch issues daily beach pollution forecasts to enable beach goers to make informed decisions about where and when to swim.

For additional information see the *State of the Beaches 2021–22* Report at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/state-of-the-beaches















## G 91 Barrenjoey Beach **№**— Great Mackerel Beach **√G**–**©**– Palm Beach **√c**–98– The Basin **√G**–**@**– Whale Beach G 98 Paradise Beach Baths **G**─**®**─ North Scotland Island G-98- Clareville Beach **√c**—**(**00− Avalon Beach **G**—00— Taylors Point Baths **G**−00− Bilgola Beach **√G**—**©**— Elvina Bay G-98- Newport Beach G 98 South Scotland Island **G**─**@**─ Bungan Beach P-89- Bayview Baths **Northern Beaches** Council **√c** −**0**0− Mona Vale Beach G 96 Warriewood Beach G-98- Turimetta Beach Narrabeen Lagoon (Birdwood Park) G-98- North Narrabeen Beach P-76- Bilarong Reserve **G**→**1**00− Collaroy Beach **G**─**©**─ Long Reef Beach G 98 Dee Why Beach G 96 North Curl Curl Beach **№**— South Curl Curl Beach G 96 Freshwater Beach G 98 Queenscliff Beach G 95 North Steyne Beach **G**—95— South Steyne Beach G 92 Shelly Beach

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#### Beach suitability grade

- VG Very good
- **G** Good
- **F** Fair
- Poor
- VP Very poor

#### Dry weather swimmability

Percentage (%) of dry weather samples within the safe swimming limit