

LORD HOWE ISLAND BIOSECURITY

WALKING TRACK HYGIENE PROTOCOLS



Welcome to paradise! To help protect Lord Howe Island's World Heritage-listed environment, strict biosecurity hygiene protocols are in place.

Lord Howe is on alert for the highly infectious exotic plant pathogens myrtle rust and phytophthora.

Myrtle rust is a yellow fungus that can be easily spread by human activity. Phytophthora can live in soil and plant material. Both are known to have contributed to the death of large areas of native forest on mainland Australia.

As you unpack your suitcase and gather your hiking gear, you are required to follow these simple steps before you set out from your lodge and while walking in the Permanent Park Preserve.

SPRAY BEFORE YOU PLAY

- Sanitisation solution is available at lodges and at the Lord Howe Island Board office. As a first line of defence, while at your accommodation, use the spray to sanitise hats, jackets, backpacks, phones, hiking equipment, clothing, and tops and bottoms of shoes.
- Ensure all items are free of soil, plant material, and other debris before use on LHI.
- Ensure there is complete coverage of the items with the spray. The solution is a 70% ethanol and water mix (similar to hand sanitiser) and will dry quickly.

USE THE BOOT SCRUB BAYS

- Use the boot scrub bays every time you enter or leave the Permanent Park Preserve. This will ensure any soil-based pathogens are not spread to or around the Island.

WHILE ON THE TRACK, STAY ON PATH AND DON'T TOUCH

- Keeping on the marked path will help prevent the spread of concealed spores.
- If you think you see a plant with signs of myrtle rust, DO NOT touch or disturb the plant.

SNAP A PICTURE

- Take a photo and record the location if you find a suspected plant infection.
- Disinfect yourself ASAP to prevent further spread.
- Report the discovery immediately to the Lord Howe Island Board Office on the phone or in person, located on Bowker Avenue.