



# Wheelchair Accessibility on Bondi Beach

## Issue

Bondi Beach has millions of visitors every year. Out of those visitors, 1 in 20 people are likely to have access needs. Therefore thousands of people are missing out on the Bondi Beach experience.



## Outcome

Due to the improvements made by Waverly Council and Bondi Surf Lifesaving Club, Bondi Beach has become more accessible and therefore more beach-goers will be able to enjoy the area.



In addition, the beach showers will also help maintain the wheelchairs and ensure their continuous usage. This case shows how Degrees of Change students could help enact change at a grassroots level.

## Actions

### Petitions

The main drive for accessibility on Bondi Beach was due to a petition on change.org started by Kate Swain, addressing Waverly Council, Destination NSW and Tourism Australia. Kate called for compliant ramps and beach matting, aiming for the tourist site to become accessible 365 days a year.

In response to this petition, 'Access Bondi' has been created in collaboration with Waverly Council and Bondi Surf Lifesaving Club in order for them to work together to make the beach more accessible.

### Beach Wheelchairs

There are three wheelchairs that are free to use: an adult-sized beach wheelchair (The Sandcruiser), a child-sized wheelchair (The Sandpiper), and a Mobi-chair for a reclined flotation. In order to access these wheelchairs, you have to book in advance by emailing or phoning the Waverly Council. They are located in lockers, which can also be used for storing your own wheelchair or mobility aid.



### Beach Matting

There is a portable beach access mat that can be used with your own wheelchair or mobility aid. You can access the mat on the Northern end of the beach, three days a week.

### Accessible Toilets and Showers

There is an accessible toilet located near the accessible ramp. An outdoor shower by the beach lockers and an accessible shower/changing room by the Bondi Surf Club.

## Sources

Change.org. *Make Bondi Beach Wheelchair Accessible* ([www.change.org](http://www.change.org))  
Julie, 2020. *Bondi Beach – Beach Wheelchair, Matting & Accessibility*. ([havewheelchairwilltravel.net](http://havewheelchairwilltravel.net))  
Waverley Council, n.d. *Access Bondi!* ([www.waverley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au))  
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