

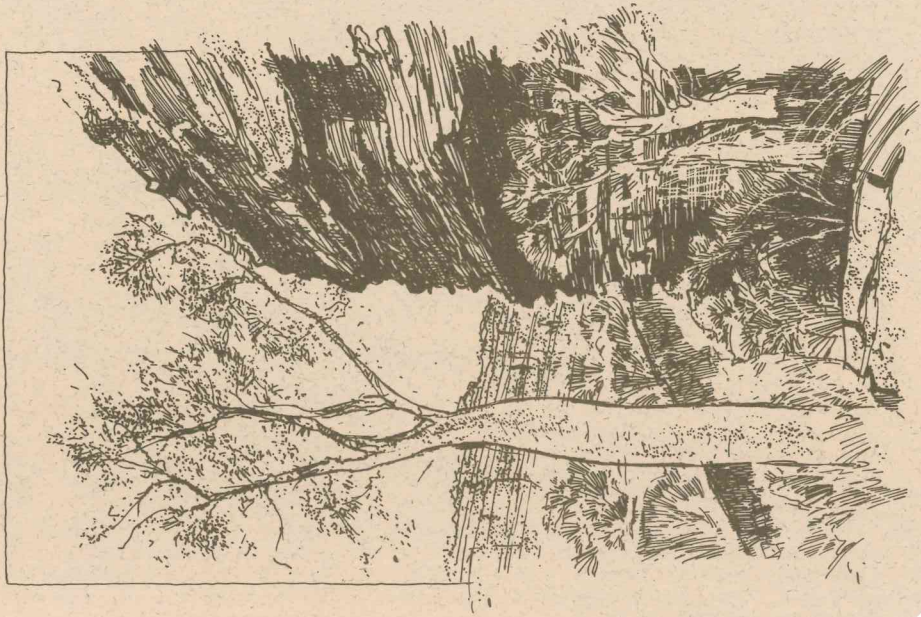
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201528

# WINDJANA GORGE NATIONAL PARK



*A feature of the  
Ibis Aerial Highway*



Department of Conservation and Land Management

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The walls of Windjana Gorge rise abruptly from the wide alluvial floodplain of the Lennard River, reaching about 100 m high in some places. The 3.5 km long gorge cuts through the limestone of the Napier Range: part of an ancient barrier reef which can also be seen at Geikie Gorge and Tunnel Creek national parks. Reef-building marine animals built the limestone range, through which the Gorge is cut, in Devonian times, some 350 million years ago.

The Lennard River runs through the Gorge in the wet season but during the dry season it forms pools that are surrounded by trees and shrubs.

The deep, moist soil of the riverbank supports the tall broad-leaved leichhardt trees, native figs and melaleucas. These trees also provide shelter for many waterbirds, a colony of fruit bats and a large group of corellas. Freshwater crocodiles can often be seen in the pools.

Outside the gorge, savannah woodland species such as the grey box, with its drooping foliage, and the bloodwood, with its rough bark and pairs of opposite leaves, stand out above extensive grasslands.

A trail about 3.5 km long winds through the gorge. This walk is the only way to see the gorge properly. On the 'time walk' you can see primeval marine life forms fossilised within the reef and crocodiles that have descended from the dinosaurs.

The 'savannah walk' describes plants, such as the boab and helicopter tree, and animals that inhabit this gorge.

