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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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REMEMBER

BE CAREFUL: Your safety in natural environments is our concern, but your responsibility.

BE CLEAN: Put your litter in bins, or better still, take it with you.

BE COOL: Because of the fire risk, no fires are permitted in the park. Please bring your own portable gas stove if you wish to barbeque, or use the barbecues provided.

PROTECT ANIMALS AND PLANTS: Dogs, cats and firearms are not permitted in national parks.

STAY ON THE ROAD: Public vehicle access is only on the sealed roads leading off Great Eastern Highway. By staying on these roads you will be making an important contribution towards stopping the spread of dieback disease. Normal road rules apply.



FURTHER INFORMATION

National park rangers are always pleased to help make your visit more enjoyable and informative. Do not hesitate to contact them if you need information or assistance.



John Forrest National Park
Great Eastern Highway
GLEN FORREST WA 6071
Tel: (08) 9298 8344
Fax: (08) 9298 9426

Mundaring District
Mundaring Weir Road
MUNDARING WA 6073
Tel: (08) 9295 1955
Fax: (08) 9295 2404

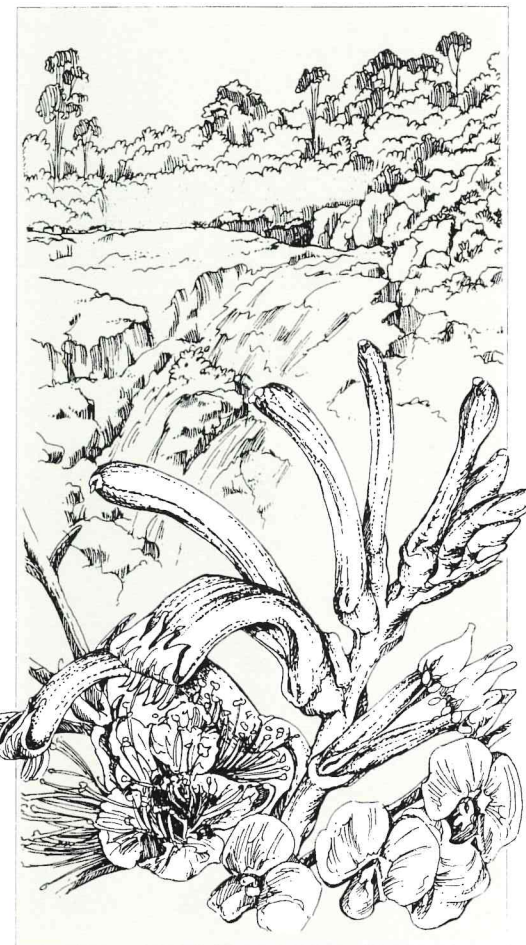
State Headquarters
17 Dick Perry Avenue
KENSINGTON WA 6151
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Fax: (08) 9334 0466

Visit NatureBase at <http://www.naturebase.net>

4130-0301-5M



National Park



PAM03638



John Forrest National Park lies on the crest of the Darling Range escarpment, about 26 kilometres east of Perth and about seven kilometres from Midland. Covering approximately 2 676 hectares, the park is easily accessible over good bitumen roads and may be entered through one of three entrances leading off Great Eastern Highway.

HISTORY AND GENERAL INTEREST

In 1898, the park was established on the recommendation of a past Surveyor General, H.F. Johnston. It was declared an 'A' class reserve in 1900. Known initially as Greenmount National Park, the name has since been changed twice—first to Forrest National Park and finally to John Forrest National Park in 1947. Lord Forrest was one of Western Australia's eminent political leaders and explorers. He was premier between 1890 and 1901.



Swan View Tunnel

FACILITIES

There are outstanding views of Perth and the coastal plain from the lookout point on the scenic drive, which winds from the No.1 entrance to the tea rooms. Apart from scenic views of the city, the park offers a wide variety of attractions and facilities that make it a popular venue for all the family.

Surrounding the centrally located tea rooms are rock gardens, built by sustenance workers during the Great Depression of the 1930s, that lead down to Jane Brook. The brook has been dammed to create a pleasant pool area, but the water is untreated and visitors swim in it at their own risk. Picnic areas and barbecue facilities are provided near by. Shelters are also provided to allow picnickers to enjoy the surroundings all year round.

WALK TRAILS

There are a number of pleasant walk trails that lead to attractive features such as Hovea Falls and National Park Falls (they normally run in winter and spring only). A trail continues along the northern side of Jane Brook to Rocky Pool, where the brook can be crossed and the return journey made along the John Forrest Heritage Trail.

The Heritage Trail retraces a section of the old Eastern Railway, including Swan View Tunnel, to give a historical aspect to your walk. A popular walk is the trail from the picnic area up the Glen Brook valley and around Glen Brook Dam. For the more adventurous, there is a network of management tracks throughout the park that double as walk trails, giving walkers more of a wilderness experience. (You are advised to check with the rangers before heading out on these trails.)

EAGLE'S VIEW WALKTRAIL

This 15 kilometre purposely designed walktrail was constructed by the Perth Bushwalkers Club. The trail is a bushwalkers delight covering a variety of relatively pristine habitats along with some magnificent views over the coastal plain and into the heart of the park.

Maps of the walk are available at a registration point on the verandah of the rangers office in the main picnic area. Walkers are asked to register both outward bound and on return for their safety and protection. The walk takes between 4 and 7 hours, depending on fitness and the amount of time spent enjoying the scenery and wildflowers.

MOUNTAIN BIKES

The park is popular with bike riders and provides some good challenges for the keen and fit among them. While competitive riding is not allowed, casual riders are welcome. Cyclists are asked to stay on trails, such as the management tracks, and not to ride across granite outcrops or along single specific walktrails. Safety is a concern and cyclists must give way to walkers and horse riders.

HORSE TRAILS

Some trails have been set aside for horse use. Horse riders are required to hold an annual pass or daily entrance ticket; both obtainable from the rangers on duty. Horses must keep to the designated tracks and must not eat or trample vegetation.

PLANTS

John Forrest National Park is set in jarrah forest still largely in its natural state. Trees to be seen on trails include jarrah, bull banksia, marri (red gum) and wandoo. Paperbarks occur along many of the creeks, and balgas (blackboys) and zamias are sprinkled throughout the bush. In late winter and spring, wildflowers are profuse and colourful, displaying the wide variety of the northern jarrah forest.



Balgas

ANIMALS

A wander through the forest areas gives visitors a chance to experience the nature of the park, and if you are careful and quiet you may see and hear some of its inhabitants.

The area abounds with birds. More than a hundred different species have been recorded in the park from the tiny splendid wren to the magnificent wedge-tailed eagle.

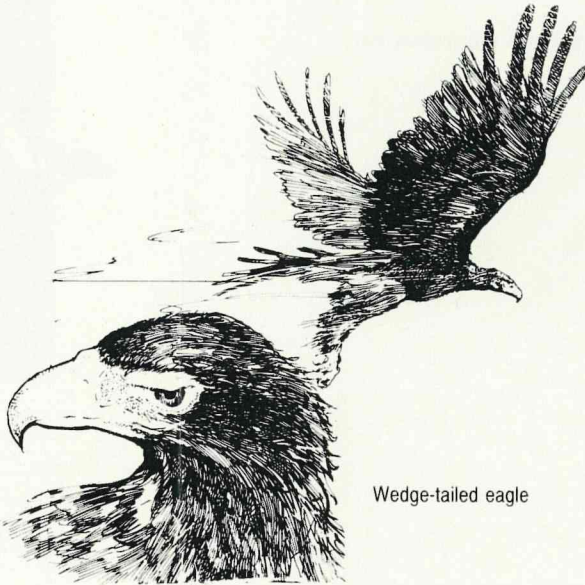
Twenty-three native mammal species also live within the park boundary. The most obvious is the western grey kangaroo, but others such brush wallabies, bandicoots or echidnas may be seen occasionally.

More than 20 reptile species are known to inhabit the park. Lizards are particularly evident when sunning themselves on granite outcrops.

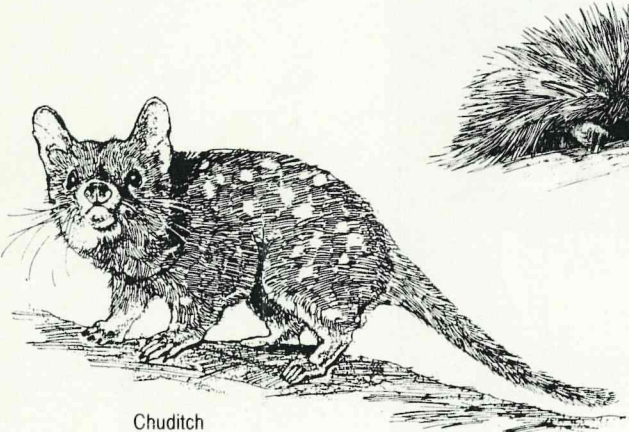
The plants and animals of John Forrest National Park are so varied and abundant that each time you visit, you'll find something new to delight your senses.



Western grey kangaroo



Wedge-tailed eagle



Chuditch



Echidna

