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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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Narrina Creek Gorge

## Things to see and do

### Millstream Homestead Visitor Centre

Start your visit by calling in to the Millstream Homestead Visitor Centre (regularly unattended), which features rooms dedicated to the Yindjibarndi people, the early settlers and the natural environment. Other displays provide information about the park's attractions and management challenges. Camp hosts are stationed in the campground during the tourist season (April to September), and can answer further questions, or direct you to the ranger.

### Telephones

The public telephone at the visitor centre can only be used with a phone card. Please purchase pre-paid phone cards before visiting the park. There is no mobile phone reception in the park.

### Camping

Camping is available at Miliyanha and Stargazers campground. Miliyanha has a camp kitchen, toilets and is generator-friendly. It has some shade in the mornings and afternoons. Stargazers is a more open site and generators are not permitted. A gas BBQ and toilets are provided. Both campgrounds are suitable for tent camping up to very large caravans and motorhomes, and can be accessed by 2WD vehicles in good weather.

Camping at George River Gorge has access for 4WDs only. Allow 3 hours to travel from Millstream Homestead to the gorge. Use caution when driving, as water levels are highly variable in the river pools and may pose a safety risk. Dogs and fires are not permitted in the camping area at any time.

### Picnicking

Gas barbecues are available in the day-use areas at the Millstream Homestead and Deep Reach Pool.



Homestead picnic area

### Safe walking tips

Millstream Chichester National Park offers a variety of walk and cycle trails that are classified according to the Australian Standards for walk trails. Please choose trails carefully. Select those that suit your level of ability and fitness.

Your safety is our concern, but your responsibility.

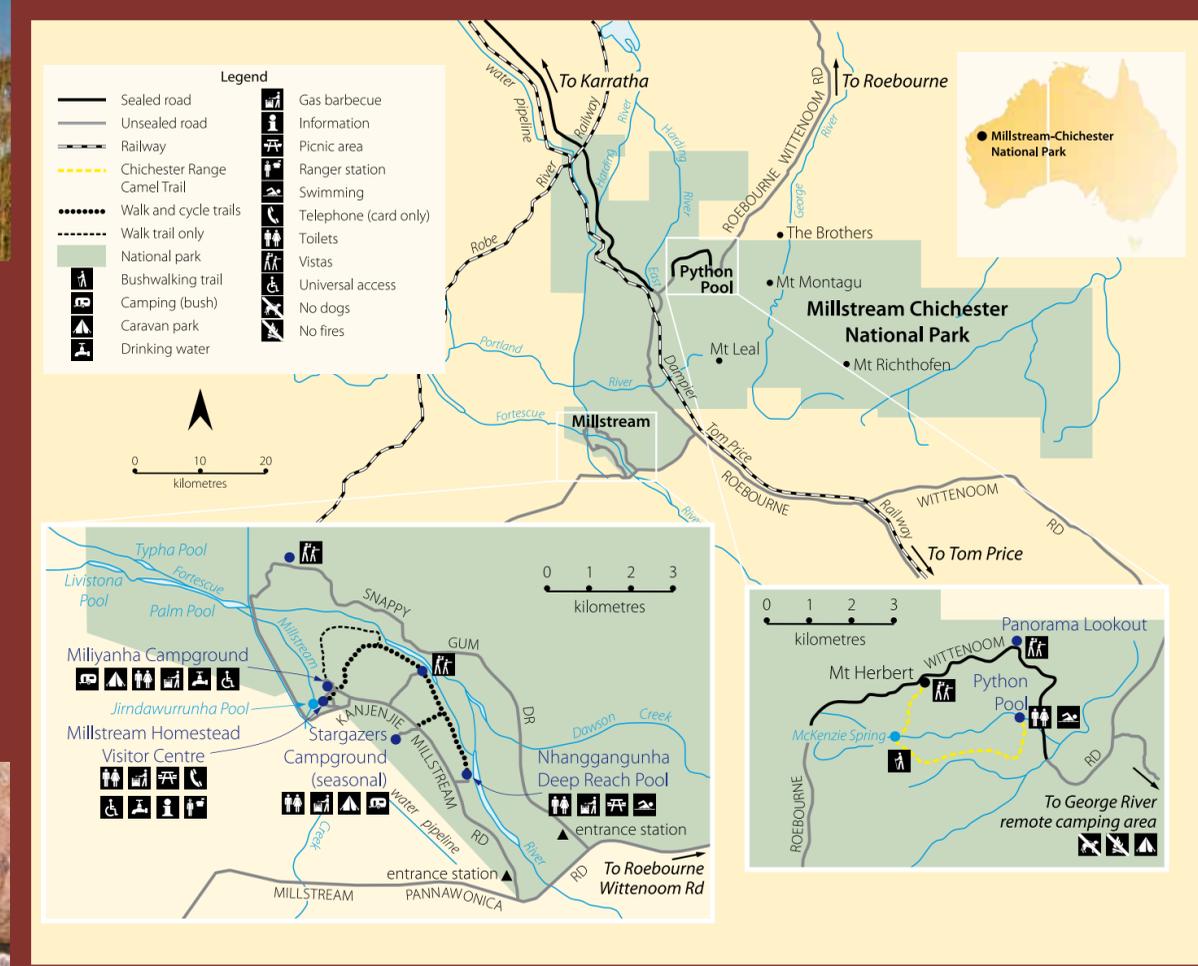
When walking in the park wear a hat, broad spectrum sun screen and sturdy walking shoes. Carry adequate water. To avoid dehydration each person needs to drink plenty of water. Undertaking medium or long walks in summer is not recommended. For your own safety, please remain on existing trails.



Jewelled gecko



Millstream Homestead



### Fees

Park entrance fees and camping fees apply. Please pay entrance fees at the self-registration park entry stations. Alternatively you can purchase a park pass from the department's office in Karratha, or one of the Pilbara visitor centres. Please display entry permits on the dashboard of your vehicle.

### Camping fees

These are payable at the self-registration stations in the campgrounds or via the camphosts. Holders of the following cards are entitled to the specified concession: Senior's Card, Disability Support, Carer Payment, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Age Pension, Disability Support (blind), Carer Allowance and Companion Card.

### Water

Fresh water is available at the visitor centre. The water is untreated and boiling or chemical treatment is recommended. Remember to carry plenty of water with you at all times.

### Swimming

Swimming is provided at Deep Reach Day Use Area. A 200m walk from the carpark brings you to the very large, wide pool. Platforms and steps should be used to enter the water. Toilets are located at the carpark and BBQs are close to the water's edge. The water is very deep and can be cold in winter, so care should be taken especially with children.

Deep Reach is very sacred to the Yindjibarndi people – please respect this unique environment.

Swimming is not permitted at Jirndawurrunha Pool near the Homestead or surrounding streams because of their cultural significance to the traditional Aboriginal custodians.

## Millstream trails

### Homestead Walk

**750m – 30 minutes return – Class 2**

This trail follows a compacted gravel path through the Millstream Wetlands, and is suitable for all fitness levels. A series of interpretive panels tell the story of the Millstream Wetlands. Swimming is not permitted in the pool or channels.

### Warrungunha Trail

**8km – 2.5 hours return – Class 3**

This trail links the Millstream Homestead with Cliff Lookout (Warrungunha) and traverses a number of environments – melaleuca woodland, hummock grassland and riverine woodland. Interpretation panels provide information on these environments. The trail is on compacted gravel for 2.5km before joining the Red Roo dual use walk/cycle trail for the final 1.5km to Cliff Lookout. This section of trail is stony and uneven with some gentle inclines, and is Class 3.

### Red Roo dual-use walk/cycle Trail

**9km one way – 3 hour walk/45 minute cycle – Class 3**

This track begins at Miliyanha Campground and ends at Deep Reach Pool. The surface is slightly undulating, flat to stony ground. Cyclists must dismount at Cliff Lookout and walk 300m, as this section is pedestrian use only. The track is wide but care should be taken when riding. Pedestrians have right of way.

### Stargazers Link Trail to Deep Reach

**5km return – Class 2**

A 500m track links Stargazers Campground to the Red Roo Trail. A further 2km along the Red Roo Trail is Deep Reach.

### Cliff top walk

**600m return, allow 20 minutes – Class 2**

A 300m cliff top walk links three vantage points, from which you can view the Fortescue River and the distant Hamersley Ranges. This trail can be accessed by vehicles from Millstream Road.

## Chichester Range trails

Mount Herbert and Python Pool are two of the main attractions in the Chichester Range. The landscape is dominated by rolling hills, hummocks of spinifex, white-barked snappy gums on the uplands and pale coolabahs along creeklines. Animal and plant diversity is high near permanent pools.

### Python Pool

**100m – 20 minutes return – Class 3**

From the car park, follow the trail along a dry creek bed to Python Pool, a permanent freshwater plunge pool located at the base of a cliff in the Chichester Range escarpment. The water is often fine for swimming but algae growth can be common following periods of low rainfall. The trail is uneven and stony.

### McKenzie Spring

**4.5km – 2.5 hour return – Class 3**

From the Mount Herbert car park, follow the Chichester Range Camel Trail from Mount Herbert to McKenzie Spring. This was once a watering hole for camel and bullock teams and is a pleasant surprise for walkers, contrasting markedly with the surrounding arid hills. The spring is not suitable for swimming. The trail includes short steep sections and the ground can be uneven with loose surfaces. Return along the same route. A moderate level of fitness is required.

### Mount Herbert Summit

**600m – 25 minutes return – Class 3**

From the Mount Herbert car park follow the Chichester Range Camel Trail to the base of Mount Herbert, and then follow the track to the top of the mountain for a panoramic view. There are short steep sections and some steps. The ground is uneven with loose rocks.

### Chichester Range Camel Trail

**8km – 3 hours one way, 16km – 6 hours return – Class 4**

This trail crosses the rugged basalt and sandstone terrain of the Chichester Range. It includes steep gradients, natural obstacles and consists of variable surfaces including loose rocks. A good level of fitness is required. If you are walking both ways, it is recommended to begin at Python Pool. If you are only walking one way, start at Mount Herbert and have a vehicle meet you at Python Pool.

### Cameleers Trail

**4km – 1.5 hours return – Class 4**

Follow the trail towards Python Pool, turn left at the sign and head up the hill along this steep trail. This hill has caused camel and bullock teams some grief over the years. There are natural obstacles including washouts in some spots, and the surface is loose and rocky. Take time to appreciate the work that went into its early construction. Retaining walls and stone culverts hint at the effort involved in maintaining a route like this.

## Through the past

### Yindjibarndi people

The Millstream Chichester area is a very significant Indigenous cultural site in northern Western Australia. Its cultural and mythological importance stems from thousands of years of occupation, with Millstream being the home of the mythological serpent or warlu, whose presence is still strongly felt at Nhanggangunha (Deep Reach Pool). All the pools are significant in this regard and warrant a high level of respect because of their spiritual and mythological importance.

The broad area of land straddling the Fortescue River (Yarnda Nyirranha) from the Hamersley Range through to the Chichester escarpment is the homeland of the Yindjibarndi people. Ngarluma people's lands run from the Chichester escarpment northward to the sea.

Aside from its highly important spiritual significance, Millstream was an important campsite for inter-tribal meetings. The Fortescue River (Yarnda Nyirranha) provided food and water, particularly during drier months. Along the river, Indigenous people had a varied diet of red meat, fish, reptiles, grubs, eggs, honey fruits and root vegetables. Extensive areas were burnt to create natural paddocks and attract kangaroos. The dry climate meant that knowledge of the locations of waterholes was important. The Indigenous people (Ngarlangari) were skilled in land management and were nomadic within their traditional boundaries.

Yindjibarndi and Ngarluma people continue to come to the park to spend time on country and to carry out customary activities. They are also represented on the Jirndawurrunha Park Council which, in association with the Department of Parks and Wildlife, manages the strategic direction of the park.

### Millstream pastoral station

Millstream was named in 1861 by the explorer FT Gregory, who reported its favourable grazing prospects. The pastoral lease, first taken up in 1865, changed hands several times before it was taken over by Les Gordon in 1925. In its heyday the station covered more than 400,000 hectares and ran 55,000 sheep. The present homestead, built in 1920, housed the Gordon family until 1964. It was a tavern between 1975 and 1986, when the lease was purchased by the Department of Conservation and Land Management, now the Department of Parks and Wildlife. The homestead is now a visitor centre.



George River Gorge



Deep Reach Pool