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Eagle's View Walk Trail

The Eagle's View Walk Trail is a 15-kilometre bushwalking circuit that leads you to several of John Forrest National Park's less explored destinations. The trail is a bushwalker's delight, covering a variety of relatively pristine habitats. It's also more challenging than other trails in the park, but your efforts are well rewarded. Be sensible and allow plenty of time for the walk which, depending on your level of fitness, will take from about four and half to seven hours. This also depends on your interest in your surroundings as you go along.



Above Bushwalkers on Eagle lookout.

Trail history

A trail leading to the less frequented northern parts of John Forrest National Park was first proposed in 1991 by members of the Perth Bushwalkers' Club (Inc). Most visitors rarely saw more than the beautiful Jane Brook area, but the park has so many more attractions to offer. Club members planned a trail route in collaboration with the park rangers and constructed the trail during working bees from 1993 to 1998. Trail signs, markers and an initial brochure were funded and produced by the Perth Bushwalkers' Club. So enjoy the fruits of their labour along with some of John Forrest's best-kept secrets.

The trail name and emblem of the eagle was selected because at the time the trail was built there was a magnificent wedge-tail eagle's nest, which stood nearly two metres high on limbs at the top of a wandoo tree. From a particular point along the trail you could look down into the nest. Sadly, the tree and nest were totally destroyed in a big bushfire during January 1997. However, if you're lucky, you may see wedge-tail eagles soaring high over the park as you make your way along the walk.

Registration

It is a requirement that you register before leaving on your walk and upon your return.

The registration point is on the verandah of the ranger's office. There is a simple outward form for when you are leaving and an inward form for when you return. Instructions are written on the box containing the forms. This is primarily for your protection and safety.

Getting started

The trail head sign is just on the other side of the brook approximately 100 metres from the registration point. You simply head down and over the bridge across Jane Brook directly north of the ranger's office. Originally the trail was designed to be walked in a clockwise direction, but was found to be equally pleasant if walked anti-clockwise. You can now make up your mind at the trail head sign which direction you will take.

In some sections the trail makes use of parts of the management tracks which run throughout the park, while other sections are purpose-built as walking tracks. Through the whole length of the trail you will be guided by the yellow triangle emblem with the silhouette of the eagle on it. Sometimes these are slightly less frequent when the trail coincides with another walk trail, such as along the northern side of Jane Brook. The trail is marked every two kilometres and sign posted with the letters that appear on the map overleaf. All junction and turning points have been well designated, so you shouldn't have too much trouble finding your way.

Below National park falls, John Forrest National Park.



Remember

BE CAREFUL

Your safety in natural environments is our concern, but your responsibility. The trail includes moderately steep and rough sections. While it can be travelled in four hours by very fit people, it is advisable to allow as much as seven hours to cover all reasonable levels of fitness.

BE PREPARED

A daypack to carry your food, water and other personal requirements is recommended. Appropriate footwear like runners or boots are best (no sandals or thongs). And a wide-brimmed hat and sunscreen are also advised.

Because this walk can be strenuous, a minimum of two litres of water per person is required to avoid dehydration (don't rely on creek water along the route; it is not always available and it may be contaminated). In extreme heat conditions, including most of the summer, the walk is not recommended. Take suitable wet weather gear and appropriate winter clothing for cooler weather.

Stay on the trail at all times to minimise the impact on the park's fragile environment. Horses are allowed on the nominated bridal tracks (which are management tracks also) and mountain bikes are allowed on the management tracks, but neither horses nor bikes are allowed on the nominated walk trails within the park. Please inform those you see breaching these rules, and also tell the rangers when you get back.

BE CLEAN

Don't litter. Carry out everything you take on the walk. Place your litter in the bins provided when you get back or, better still, take it home with you.

BE COOL

No ground fires are allowed in the park, what ever the time of year. When total fire bans are in place no flames of any sort, including camp-style fuel stoves, are allowed. Most people find it more convenient to carry a thermos if they require a hot drink during their walk.

PROTECT PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Dogs, cats and firearms are NOT permitted in any national parks.

John Forrest National Park
Mundaring Weir Road
Mundaring WA 6073

For more information contact
the **Department of Environment
and Conservation's Perth Hills
District office on (08) 9295 9100**
or visit www.naturebase.net

Healthy Parks
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Department of
Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future 

Eagle View Walk Trail

John Forrest National Park 



Trail guide

Clockwise: Take the path to your left and head off westward along the north bank of Jane Brooke. Pass the National Park Falls. Do not cross the brook at any time. Stay alongside the brook until the trail turns steeply away from it as you make your way westward.

When the trail leaves the brook and you climb the steep hill northward, keep an eye out for the yellow trail markers with the eagle silhouette. About halfway up the hill the Eagle's View Walk Trail leaves the one heading westward and heads towards the top of the hill.

At the top of the hill you can catch your breath while you enjoy a wonderful view out over the coastal plains and Perth city. When you leave the lookout point you head north following the yellow triangle eagle signs.

In the second valley after leaving the lookout point you will come to a section of maintenance track and shortly afterwards cross a creek over a pipe culvert. This is Christmas Tree Creek, and is approximately four kilometers from your starting point. It is a pretty valley, with a tumbling creek through the winter and spring months, and has a great display of wildflowers during this time.

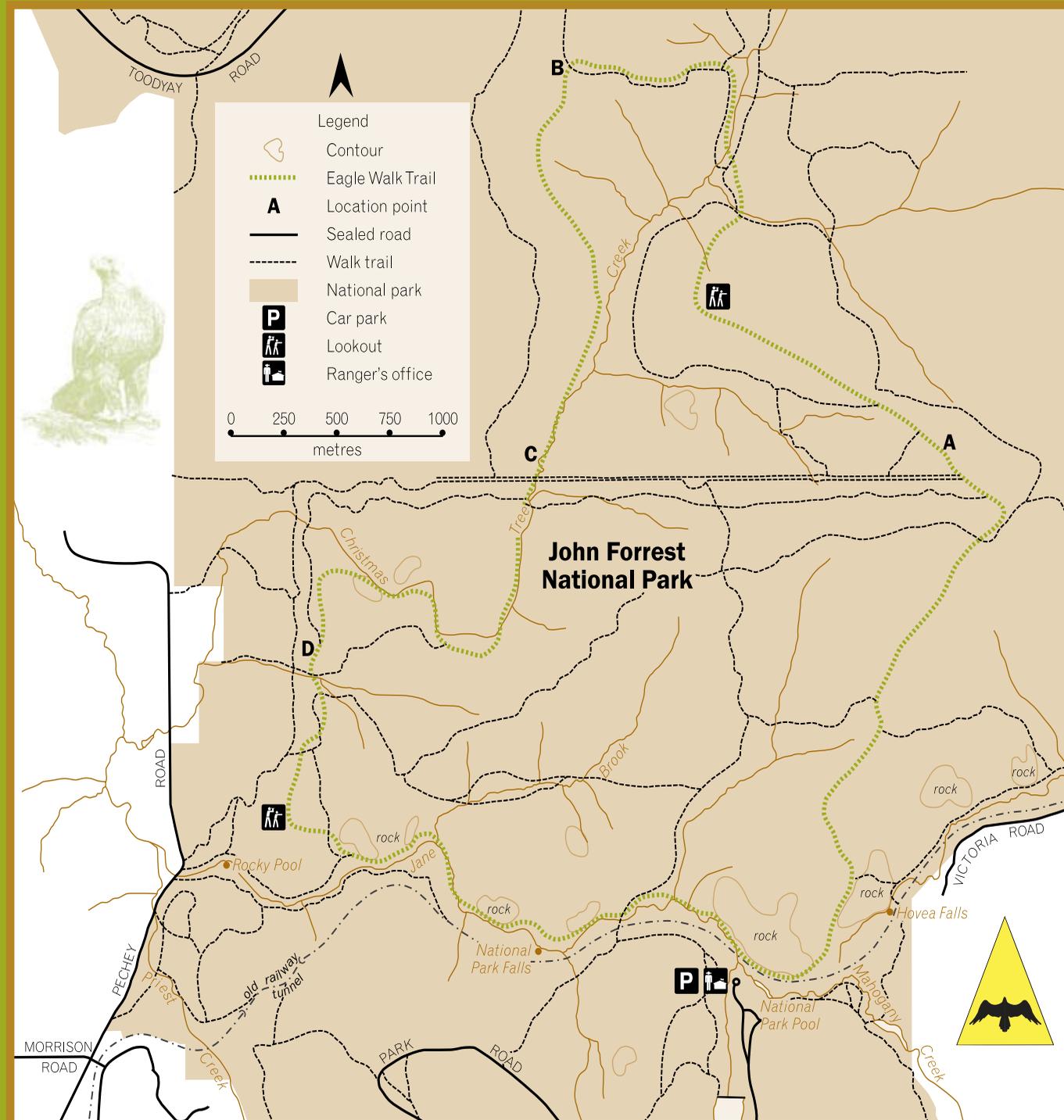
Walking adjacent to the creek for about 300 metres, you leave the management track for the pleasures of the single walk trail, which takes you up a long and rocky ridge with a pretty wandoo valley to your right. When you next come out onto a management track and turn right you have reached the halfway point of your walk.

Follow the management track downhill for about two kilometres. Then, after having crossed two small creeks (which flow into Christmas Tree Creek), you again walk onto the single walk trail and begin a climb. Toward the crest of the hill keep an eye out for the magnificent view across the national park and over the city of Perth. Those with cameras can get a wonderful photo of Perth through the forked limbs of a wandoo tree.

When you next reach a management track you will have about two kilometers to go until you reach the start.

Well done! You've made the distance.
Please remember to sign off at the ranger's office.

John Forrest National Park is popular for bushwalking.



Trail guide

Anti-clockwise: Make your way up onto the heritage trail (old railway alignment) and head to the east (your right). About 300 metres along the heritage trail you take the first turn to the north (your left).

Stay on the management track all the way to the top of the hill (about three kilometres). After walking along a short section of old track, you cross another management track and enter into the first section of the walk trail. After approximately 1.5 kilometres you can enjoy the magnificent view down a valley across the park and out over the Swan Coastal Plain to the city of Perth. A good camera shot of the city is available through the fork of a wandoo tree when you get to the best lookout point. At the bottom of the hill you join a management track. At this point you have covered almost five kilometres of your walk. Crossing over two small creeks (tributaries of Christmas Tree Creek, which you will come to later), make your way up a long slope following the management track. When you come to where the walk trail leaves the management track, you will know that you have travelled approximately half the distance of your walk.

You emerge from the single track walk trail onto another section of management track alongside Christmas Tree Creek. This is a beautiful area. During winter and spring especially, the scenery is enhanced by a wonderful display of wildflowers. Follow the track down and over the creek at a pipe culvert, and shortly afterwards turn off to your right onto the walking trail again. You are now on the last four kilometres of your walk. The track takes you through some pretty heathland, crosses another short section of management track, then climbs to the rocky lookout over the coastal plain and city.

From the lookout you make your way down to Jane Brook at the bottom of the valley and turn eastward (left) along the side of the brook. From here you have about two kilometers to the end of your walk. Simply follow the trail adjacent to Jane Brook all the way until you reach your starting point.

Congratulations! You've made it.
Please remember to sign off at the ranger's office.

