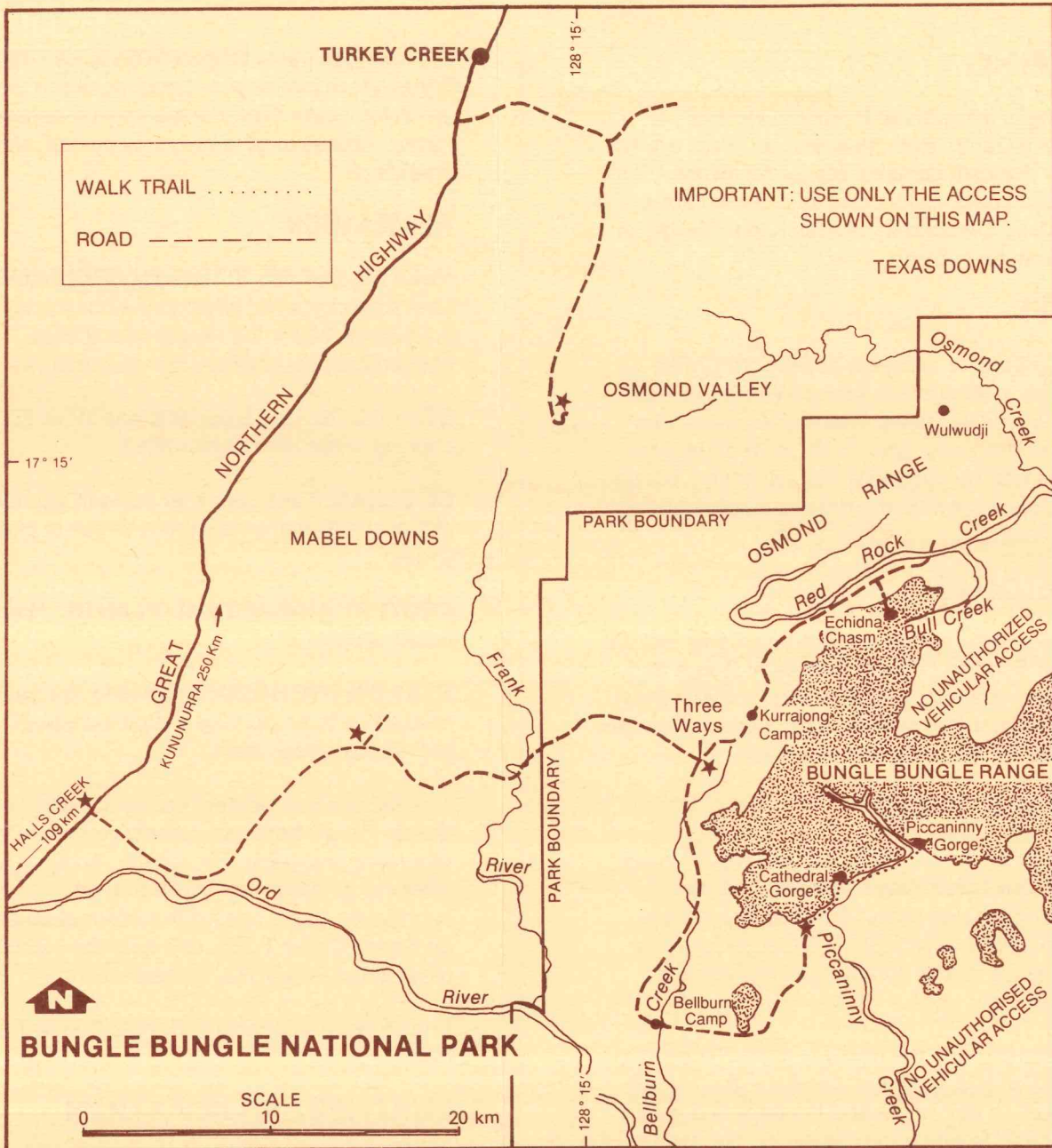


LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Driving Distances And Times

From Three-Ways intersection		
To Bellburn Creek Campsite	15km	30-45 min
To Echidna Chasm Car Park	20km	45 min
To Kurrajong Campsite	5km	15 min
From Bellburn Creek Campsite		
To Piccaninny Creek Carpark	15km	45 min

Walk Distances And Times (Roundtrip)

From Piccaninny Creek Carpark		
To Cathedral Gorge	2.5km	1 hour (easy)
To Piccaninny Gorge	18 km	8-10 hours (difficult)
From Echidna Chasm Carpark		
To Echidna Chasm	1.5km	45 min walk.

BUNGLE BUNGLE

NATIONAL PARK



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

BUNGLE BUNGLE National Park, in the Kimberley region at W.A.'s northernmost end, is known best for its tiger-striped, beehive-shaped domes. The Park is home to plants so newly discovered they are still unnamed, and to wildlife such as the agile wallaby and the green tree frog.

GEOLOGY

The rounded rock towers of the Bungle Bungle massif are delicate sandstone formations encased by a 'skin' of silica and lichen. The massif is 350 million years old, and over time the heavy rains of the wet season have carved its deep gorges and steep-sided chasms.

The sandstone is fragile and crumbles easily under hand and foot, so access at the massif is restricted to the stream beds. Climbing the beehives is prohibited because the encasing bands of orange (silica) and black (lichen) can be broken, exposing the sandstone underneath to damage by rain and wind.

HISTORY

The Bungle Bungle massif and surrounding areas have been home to Aboriginal people for millennia. Please do not touch any artwork or take any artefacts you may find as these are still of great significance to the Aboriginal people of the area and are an important heritage.

The area was opened up to cattle grazing at the turn of the century. In 1967, a large area along the Ord River catchment was declared a reserve for the revegetation of badly eroded lands. Bungle Bungle National Park, in the northwest corner of the reserve, was declared in March, 1987. It covers an area of almost 320 000 ha: 110 000 ha is conservation reserve and 210 000 ha is national park.

CAMPING

Camping is available at Bellburn Creek or Kurrajong Camp. Both have toilets. There are no rubbish disposal facilities: please follow the example of past visitors and take out whatever you take in. Campfires are prohibited - bring gas equipment for cooking.

WATER

Drinking water is available at Bellburn Creek Campsite, although it is advisable to bring in all the water you will need. The many creeks, and even the Ord River, are dry for most of the year. There is little running water for swimming, but you may find pools where the ground is rocky enough to trap water.

THE SIGHTS

Explore Bungle Bungle on foot. Highlights include walks to Echidna Chasm, Cathedral Gorge and, for the adventurous and fit, a walk to Piccaninny Gorge. Remember to wear a hat, apply sunscreen and take drinking water on any walk.

GETTING THERE

Spring Creek Track, off Great Northern Highway, leads to the Three-Ways intersection in the National Park (see map). The first 30 km runs through Mabel Downs Station. Camping on the station lease is only by arrangement with the manager.

The distance from the highway to the Three-Ways intersection is only 55 km, however, the trip will take three to four hours and the track is suitable only for 4WDs with good clearance. Caravans will not survive the trip in.

Note: It is not advisable to attempt to tow standard trailers into the Park. Specially constructed, robust off-road trailers may be more suitable, but we recommend you leave your trailer elsewhere.

Approximate travel times and distances from the Three-Ways intersection to points within the Park are in the guide over. Please stay on approved tracks. Access to gorges is only by foot, along creekbeds.

REMEMBER

HELP US PROTECT THIS ENVIRONMENT:

Leave aboriginal art sites undisturbed and untouched. Notify the ranger of any sites encountered so that they can be protected.

STAY COOL: Use a portable gas stove for cooking. Fires are not permitted.

BE CLEAN: Take your litter out with you for disposal at Kununurra, Turkey Creek or Halls Creek.

PROTECT ANIMALS AND PLANTS: No pets or firearms please.

STAY ON THE ROAD: Only follow the tracks marked on the map. If you want to inspect something please walk.

The Ranger is at present based at Bellburn Creek Camp. He will be happy to help you make your visit more enjoyable. He can tell you what to see, where to go, track conditions and offer other information. Also, consult the information shelters on Spring Creek Track: one near the highway, the other at the Three-Ways intersection.

Entry fees are payable in Bungle Bungle National Park.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Department of Conservation and Land Management, Kimberley Regional Office, Government Building, Cnr Konkerberry Drive and Messmate Way, P.O. Box 942, Kununurra 6743. Telephone (091) 68 0200