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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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The Dampier Archipelago

Things to See and Do ...



Boating

Public Boat Ramps are located at Dampier, Nickol Bay, Johns Creek-Point Samson and Cossack. The Archipelago offers excellent boating opportunities. Be sure to check the weather and tides prior to launching.



Bush Walking

The plants of the Dampier Archipelago can best be seen on foot. Spotlighting at night can reveal shy rock wallabies, quolls and echidna's. Be careful where you step as rocks can be slippery and loose and always carry plenty of water.



Camping

Camping for up to five nights is permitted on beaches zoned for recreation. To conserve coastal vegetation do not camp more than 100m inland of the high water mark and do not set up camp on vegetated areas. Camping is not permitted in conservation or special conservation zones at any time.

WARNING There is sparse shade and no freshwater available on the islands.



Diving

Excellent coral reefs exist in the Archipelago which are home for an abundant variety of marine life. Licenses are required for the capture of crayfish. Check with the Department of Fisheries for details



Fishing

There are many good fishing spots within the Archipelago. Check with the Department of Fisheries for bag and size limits



Swimming There are several sheltered beaches and bays suitable for swimming

WARNING Some marine creatures harmful to humans such as sharks and jellyfish can be found in the Archipelago. Look out for these if in the water.

Historic Sites

There are many historic sites on the islands. Contact the CALM Karratha office for more details on these sites.

Whale Watching

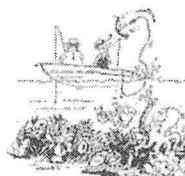
Humpback whales are often seen between July and September as they make their way to temperate and subtropical waters to mate and give birth. Boats should not approach closer than 100m. Swimming with whales is dangerous and can cause them stress. Guidelines for whale watching are available from CALM's Karratha office.

Caring for ...



No Open Fires

Escaped campfires can cause irreparable damage to the ecology of islands. All open fires are banned. Please use a portable gas stove.



No Pets

Pets are not allowed on any of the Reserves within the Dampier Archipelago. These extend to the low water mark.



Caring for Corals

Corals are easily damaged. Anchor away from coral reef areas and avoid breaking corals when diving or reef walking.

No Taking

The removal or disturbance of any native flora and fauna including live shells is not permitted in the Archipelago. Please help maintain the natural ecosystem by leaving things as you find them.



Do Not Litter

Please take all rubbish home with you or place it in the bins at the boat ramp. Rubbish as well as being unsightly can cause damage and even death to native wildlife.

No Firearms

Firearms are not permitted on any of the reserves.



Quarantine





The isolation of the Dampier Archipelago islands means that they have not been exposed to many of the introduced species that have caused environmental damage on the mainland and are close to their natural state. However, they are still vulnerable and all care must be taken to ensure this delicate balance is maintained.

Quarantine relies on the visual inspection of material transported from the mainland, and the destruction or removal of problem plants, animals and materials before they reach the islands. Please check all belongings prior to launching boat for any signs of vermin and weeds.

ACCESS ZONINGS FOR ISLAND RESERVES IN THE DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO



Legend

-  Special Conservation Zone - No access at any time
-  Conservation Zone - Day access only
-  Recreation Zone - Day trip and camping areas
(camping permitted only up to 100m inland of the high-water mark)
-  Conservation & Recreation Reserves - Day trip and camping areas

