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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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 Do not dive or jump into water. September, and hypothermia can occur.

 The water can be very cold, especially between April and exposed to the sun, may be pleasant places for a quick dip. Gorge pools are often deep, shaded and very cold. Others,

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protection, and take plenty of water. BE PREPARED: Wear sturdy walking shoes, use good sun

gorges, please leave promptly. gorges if there is heavy rain in the area. If you are already in the

WARNING! Flash floods can occur in the gorges. Do not enter the

particularly when wet.

 Please take care in the gorges. Rocks are smooth and slippery, the department before being undertaken. areas, abseiling and canyoning may require permission from rangers. Some activities such as camping in non-designated

 If hiking overnight, please contact the visitor centre or park cliffs, and cliff edges can be loose and unstable. edges. Karijini's impressive gorges have very high vertical

Stay on established trails and stand well back from cliff

help you to explore the park. Choose an appropriate trail presented in the guide overleaf to

Malking Marking

may be walking below.

behind the barriers. Never throw rocks into the gorges, as people on the park map. Supervise children at all times and please stay Lookout platforms are provided at various locations indicated

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other activities.

Carry plenty of water at all times when undertaking walks and on the map. Boiling or chemical treatment is recommended. Untreated water is available from tanks located at sites indicated

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and Fortescue Falls carpark. gorges. There are emergency radios located at Weano Day Use area for use in other areas, although reception may be unreliable in the and close to mining operations. Satellite phones are recommended Visitor Centre. Mobile phone reception is possible in elevated areas Public telephones are located at Karijini Eco Retreat and the Karijini

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Set in the Hamersley Range in the heart of the Pilbara, the expansive Karijini National Park offers spectacular, rugged scenery, ancient geological formations, a variety of arid-land ecosystems and a range of recreational experiences.

This is Western Australia's second largest national park, encompassing some 627,442 hectares.

Massive mountains and escarpments rise out of the flat valleys. The high plateau is dissected by breathtaking gorges, and stony, tree-lined watercourses wind their way over the dusty plain.

This is an ancient part of the Earth. The slow process of erosion has carved the shape of the land out of rocks that are 2,000 million years old, to form this intriguing landscape and complex ecology.

A variety of ecosystems are represented in the park. These range from precipitous gorges that shelter a remarkable range of plants and animals, to hills, ridges and plateaux covered with spinifex hummocks and scattered eucalypts. Low mulga woodlands and blankets of seasonal wildflowers bloom on lower slopes, valley plains and drainage lines.

Much of the southern half of the park is inaccessible. Visitors concentrate on the spectacular gorges in the north, with their rock pools, waterfalls and unique wildlife. Lookouts, walk trails, camping areas and information shelters are provided to make your visit safe, enjoyable and informative.

Visitor fees

Park visitor fees apply in Karijini National Park. They help maintain and enhance the park. Please pay your entry fees at the entrance stations, or the Karijini Visitor Centre. If staying at Karijini Eco Retreat, visitors are still required to pay a park entry fee. A range of park passes are available at DPaW offices, regional visitor centres and the Karijini Visitor Centre. At Dales Camping area, please stop at the entry point and see camp hosts to pay your fees. Otherwise, deposit your camping fees in the collection box provided if the area is unattended.

not provided at Dales Camping area. Please take your rubbish with you out of the park, as bins are

based at Dales Camping area May-September to assist visitors. iceboxes in your vehicle or off the ground. Camp hosts are your children at all times, and store your food, rubbish and and can become aggressive. Never feed any wildlife, supervise Wild dogs can be seen at Karijini. They may scavenge for food

some sites. Please observe generator operation times. gas barbecues and picnic tables. Generators are permitted in Camping area and Karijini Eco Retreat. Facilities include toilets, map. Caravan, bus, and generator sites are available at Dales Camp sites are available at designated areas indicated on the

A Camping

Seasonal closures may be in effect December-February. October with reduced hours over the remaining months. (eastern section). It is open from 9am to 4pm from April to The Karijini Visitor Centre is located just off Banjima Drive

Karijini Visitor Centre

Facilities

found on stony slopes, but please do not disturb them. the rock piles of the pebble mound mouse. Mounds can be mounds, scattered throughout the hummock grasslands, and Two interesting wildlife homes to look for are the large termite

au) to find out more about the flora and fauna of the area. within the park. Visit the Atlas of Living Australia (www.ala.org. dragons, legless lizards, pythons and other snakes abound shy. Reptiles and amphibians such as frogs, geckoes, goannas, such as the Pilbara ningaui are resident, but nocturnal and Many species of native rodents and marsupial carnivores

country), Rothschild's rock wallabies, bats and wild dogs. red kangaroos, euros (kangaroos that are common to the rocky pools and streams. If you are observant, you may encounter Birds are many and varied, especially in fringing vegetation along

purpie mulia mulias. flowering sennas (cassias) and acacias, northern bluebells and the cooler months the land is covered with numerous yellow flower. Many plants in the park bloom profusely after rains. In year to year but there is always something interesting in Wildflowers vary in abundance with the seasons and from

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Visitor centre

The Karijini Visitor Centre provides information and interpretation on the natural and cultural history of the park. Souvenirs, cool drinks, ice, hot showers, toilets and a public telephone are available. Contact the centre on (08) 9189 8121 for more information.

Access in the park

Universal access is available to a range of recreation sites and camping facilities in the park. Please enquire at the visitor centre for further information.

Care for the park

Please drive, walk and camp only on designated roads, tracks and camping areas. Follow the Leave No Trace principles www.lnt.org.au.

BE CAUTIOUS: Stay on roads and tracks to protect the park. Wet roads can be hazardous and may be damaged by vehicles. Washouts can occur during heavy rain, resulting in road closures at short notice. Check travel conditions with DPaW on (08) 9182 2000 or the Shire of Ashburton on (08) 9188 4444

BE KIND: Do not disturb or take any animals, plants or rocks. Pets and firearms are not permitted.

BE WISE: Do not contaminate pools with soap, detergents or sunscreen, as they can affect aquatic life.

BE CAREFUL: Avoid the risk of bushfire. Use the gas barbecues provided, or your own portable cooking appliance. Ground fires and solid fuel fires are not permitted in the park.

BE CLEAN: Go to the toilet before entering the gorges. Carry a rubbish bag and leave nothing but your footprints.





scenery, dramatic waterfalls and clear, fresh pools. Take one of the many walk trails and experience the spectacular The gorges provide a refreshing retreat from the arid plains above.

rock. Finally the drainage systems emerge as alluvial fans into the and their sides change from sheer cliffs to steep slopes of loose 100-metre chasms. Further downstream the gorges become wider hillsides and dry for most of the year, suddenly plunge down In the north of the park, small creek beds, hidden in the rolling

The gorges

present landscape.

with millions of years of erosion, has sculptured the rocks into the through the land, creating sheer-sided gorges. This, combined A sharp drop in sea level caused the rivers to cut down rapidly

developing numerous vertical cracks, before lifting to the surface Horizontal compression later caused the rocks to buckle,

turning the sediments into tough, well-bedded rock. over them, forcing trapped water to be driven out and gradually transformed by the pressure of further sediments laid down an ancient sea floor. Over millions of years these deposits were ago as iron and silica-rich sediment deposits accumulated on and around the gorges originated more than 2,500 million years The banded iron formations exposed in many of the rocks in

Geology

warm and clear but nights are cold and sometimes frosty. conditions for swimming in the gorge pools. Winter days are temperatures frequently exceed 40 degrees Celsius, ideal spectacular water flows in the gorges. During summer is often associated with thunderstorms and cyclones producing highly variable, mainly summer rainfall of 250-350 millimeters its climate can best be described as tropical semi-desert. A The park is situated just north of the Tropic of Capricorn and

Climate

Relax quietly and enjoy these unique areas. or jump from this waterfall or ledges surrounding Circular Pool. the area above Fern Pool is not permitted. Please do not climb enter the water quietly and avoid making loud noises. Access to environmental values of these areas, visitors are encouraged to local Aboriginal people. To protect the heritage, cultural and Fern Pool and Circular Pool are among many special places to

determine the range of plants and animals found in the park of vegetation types and states of succession, have helped practices such as 'fire stick farming', resulting in a diversity 30,000 years. During that period, Aboriginal land management Evidence of their ancestors' occupation dates back more than

to these people, and their involvement in park management. recognises the historic and continuing significance of the area know the Hamersley Range as Karijini. The name of the park The Banyjima, Yinhawangka and Kurrama Aboriginal people

Traditional owners

National Park



Karijini

Many toilets in national parks use a composting or biolytic system which are destroyed by chemicals. Please use sullage points provided in the park, nearby towns or at some 24-hour roadside stops.



WARNING **BLUE ASBESTOS PRESENT** IN YAMPIRE GORGE

Asbestos dust may cause cancer when inhaled

MORE INFORMATION

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

Karijini National Park Visitor Centre

Telephone: (08) 9189 8121 Fax: (08) 9189 8113 Karijini National Park PO Box 29, Tom Price WA 6751

Ranger (emergency only) Telephone: (08) 9189 8147 Pilbara Regional Office

Mardie Road, Karratha Industrial Estate PO Box 835, Karratha WA 6714 Telephone: (08) 9182 2000 Fax: (08) 9144 1118

State Headquarters

17 Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington WA 6151 Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre Bentley WA 6983 Telephone: (08) 9219 9000

www.dpaw.wa.gov.au

Photos - DPaW, Tourism Western Australia and Samille Mitchell

This document is available in alternative formats on request.





Department of Parks and Wildlif

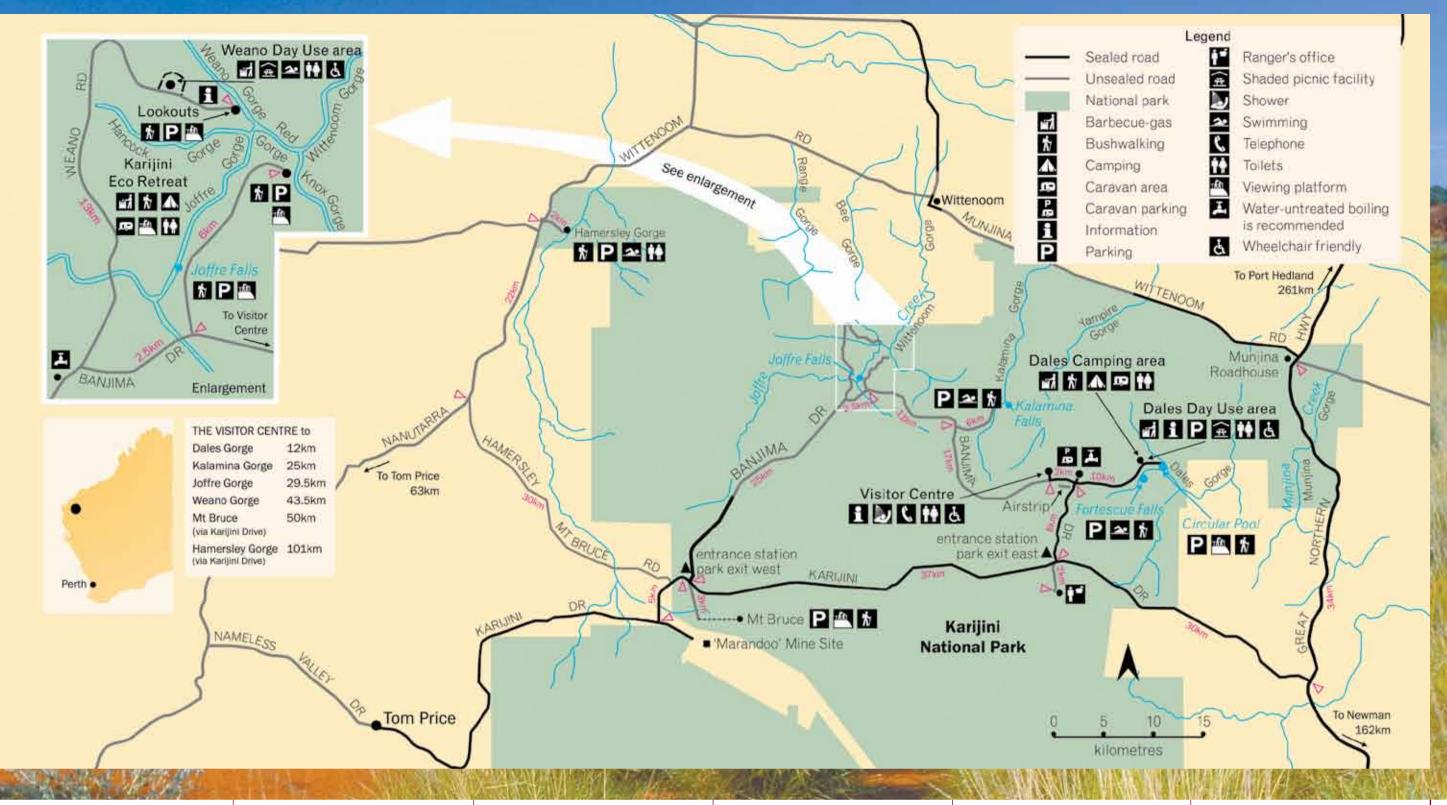


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Information and walk trail quide



Information current at September 2013











TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS



These walks are well defined with some steps and generally gradients are gentle.



These trails are defined and may include steps; loose surfaces; uneven ground; and short, steep sections.



good level of fitness. Expect steep gradients



These trails are difficult and a high level of fitness is required. Trail markings are minimal, and steep sections with vertical drops are common. Expect to encounter natural hazards including large boulders; pools of water; slippery, wet rocks; and narrow, high ledges.



Warning!

Flash floods can occur at Karijini. If it rains while you are in the gorges, please leave gorges safely and promptly.

MOUNT BRUCE (Punurrunha)

The second-tallest peak in WA lies about 36 kilometres west of the park office. Here is a great opportunity to view the Marandoo Mine Site.

Marandoo View 500 metres -

30 minutes return

Follow the path from the Mount Bruce car park to view the Marandoo Mine Site. Excavation of ore for overseas markets began in July 1994.

Honey Hakea Track 4.6 kilometres -3 hours return

From the car park at the base of Mount Bruce, take the path to Marandoo View. From here, follow the track to another vantage point further up the mountain. See the vegetation patterns of the mulga on the flats surrounding Mount Bruce.



Mount Bruce Summit

9 kilometres – 6 hours return Use the early morning hours to take the route that leads up the western face of the mountain, past Marandoo View. This challenging walk will reward you with

spectacular views of the landscape.

DALES GORGE

See the tranquil sunken gardens, deep sedgefringed pools, and permanently cascading waterfalls.

Gorge Rim

2 kilometres – 1.5 hours return

Follow the rim of the gorge between Circular Pool Lookout and the beginning of the Fortescue Falls Track. White-barked snappy gums grow in the car park around the edge of the gorge and shady groves of native cypress shelter on the cliff face beneath the track. Enjoy the wonderful views into Dales Gorge.

Fortescue Falls 800 metres – 1 hour return Reach the waterfall by following the trail

from the car park, negotiating steps and a narrow section of the trail.

Fern Pool

800 metres – 2 hours return

the bottom of the gorge. Ramble along the gorge floor to the fern-framed pool. Take a dip before retracing your steps.

Dales Gorge

2 kilometres – 3 hours return Experience gorge wildlife at close quarters from this creek-side trail between Fortescue



JOFFRE AND KNOX GORGES

Appreciate the power of water shaping the landscape. There are impressive waterfalls, and deep, cold pools. See for yourself how the gorges were formed.

Joffre Lookout

100 metres - 10 minutes return

Rock steps take you down to the lookout to view this spectacular curved waterfall forming a natural amphitheatre, which is especially impressive after rain.

Knox Lookout

300 metres - 15 minutes return

As you take the steps down to the lookout, watch the view spread out in the distance. It's spectacular in the early morning or late afternoon light.

Knox Gorge

2 kilometres – 3 hours return

As you climb down and scramble along the gorge, notice the fig trees clinging to the richly coloured walls. Skirt several pools and return from the 'Gorge Risk Area' sign.

Joffre Falls 3 kilometres – 2 hours return Most of the trail is class 4, but the last 150 metres (descent into the bottom of the gorge) is class 5. Follow the marked route into the bottom of the gorge to the first pool downstream of the waterfall.

HANCOCK AND WEANO GORGES

Experience the spectacular views, precipitous cliffs and narrow passages. Banded iron rock formations tower over the valleys far

Oxer and Junction Pool lookouts 800 metres - 30 minutes return

At Junction Pool Lookout enjoy breathtaking views of Hancock Gorge. If continuing to Oxer Lookout, please see below.

Oxer Lookout

From Junction Pool Lookout to Oxer Lookout the trail is narrow with loose rocks in patches. Please take great care.

Jpper Weano

I kilometre - 45 minutes return

From the information shelter, take the trail north towards the top of Weano Gorge.

Lower Weano 1 kilometre -

1 hour return

Hancock Gorge

400 metres - 80 minutes return

From the trailhead sign, follow the trail to the edge of the gorge then negotiate the ladder to the bottom. Walk downstream to Kermitts Pool. The trail ends here.

Handrail Pool, Weano Gorge

150 metres – 30 minutes return

Access to Handrail Pool begins at the end of the lower Weano Gorge Trail. Use the handrai

KALAMINA GORGE

This is a great introduction to the gorge system with its delightful trail and picnicking area.

HAMERSLEY GORGE

This gorge has dramatic colours, textures and reflections.

Hamersley Waterfall 400 metres -1 hour return

This track begins as steps, allowing access for most visitors. Ever-changing light and astonishing colours and reflections highlight the complex geological forces in this spectacular landscape.

Kalamina Gorge 3 kilometres – 3 hours return

' see fish in the rock pools. The trail ends

