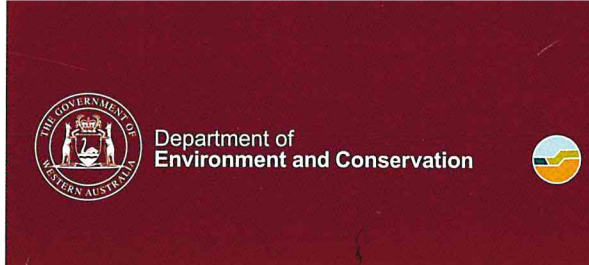


LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Avon Valley National Park

The Avon River can be run by experienced canoeists in winter and is made famous by the Avon Descent each August. In summer the river slows to a trickle, becoming a series of shallow pools, and is unsuitable for swimming.

On-site information

Rangers, information shelter, park guides.

Important note: The park may be closed at short notice due to fire risk or other emergency conditions.

Visitor safety

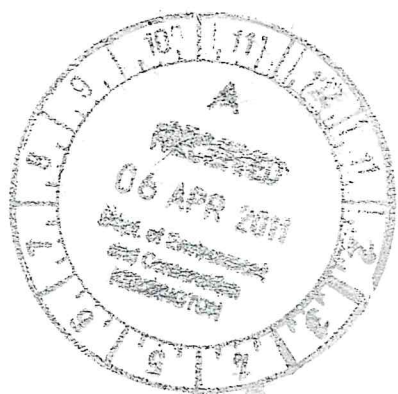
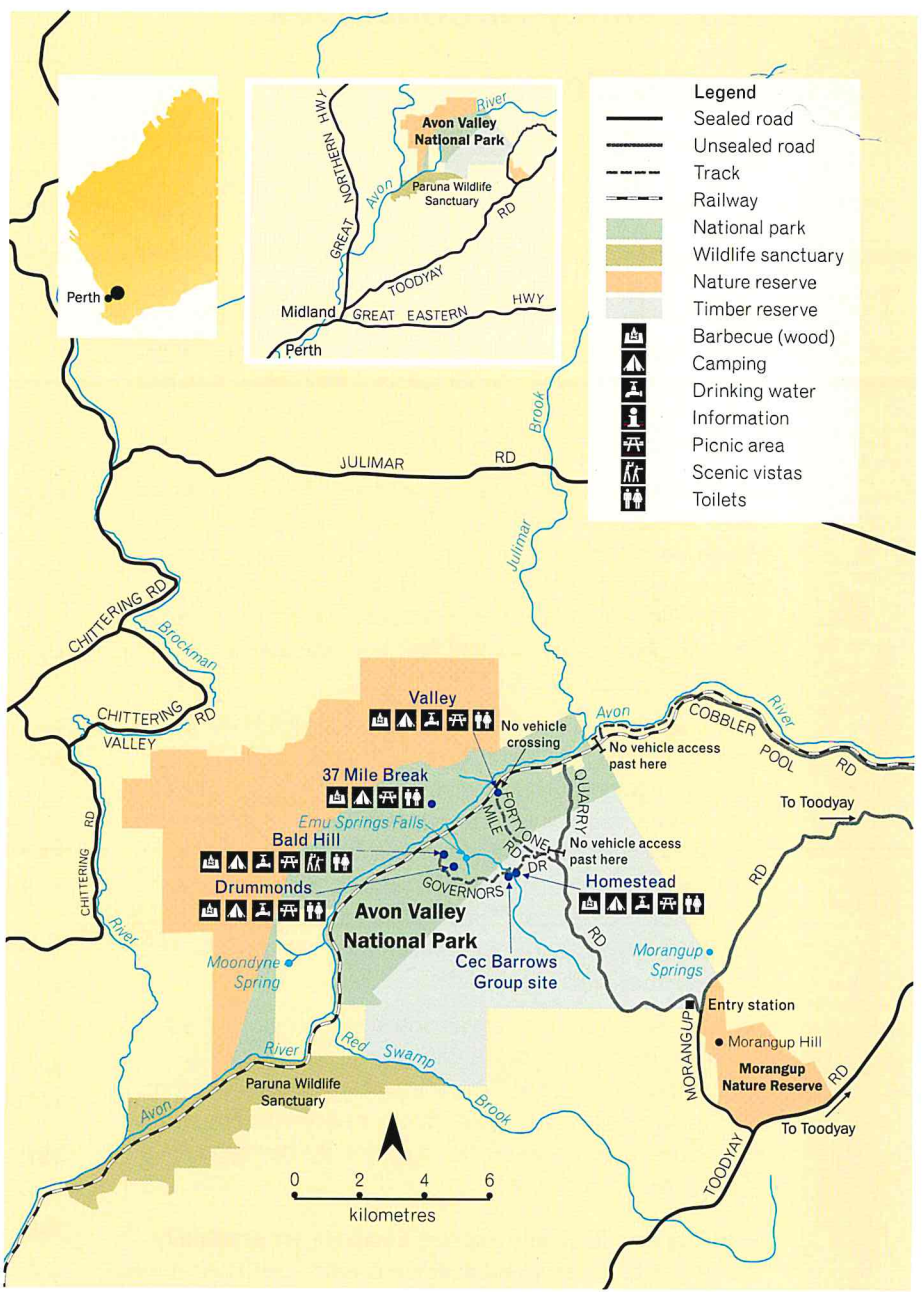
To ensure your safety while in the park:

- stay on tracks and paths
- remember that your safety in natural areas is our concern but your responsibility.

The park contains many rapids and risk areas. Extreme caution must be undertaken to avoid slipping and falling in such areas.

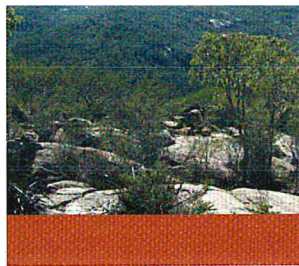
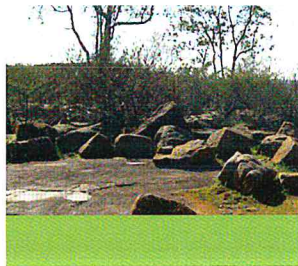
Caring for the park

- Please do not feed the native animals as it interferes with their natural ability to hunt.
- Pets are not allowed in the park.
- The taking of flora and fauna is prohibited.
- Take your rubbish with you when you leave.
- All Aboriginal sites within Western Australia are protected by law. Leave artefacts where you find them.



Avon Valley National Park
 Perth Hills District
 51 Mundaring Weir Road
 Mundaring WA 6073
 Ph: 9295 9100
www.dec.wa.gov.au

Information current at December 2010



Avon Valley National Park

Park guide

The Avon Valley National Park covers approximately 4,800 hectares of bush reserve and lies on the transition between the jarrah forest of the south, and the drier northern country. The upland in the park is forested with jarrah, marri and powderbark; the valleys are forested with wandoo.

The Avon River, which runs through the centre of the park, is named Gulguler by the Nyoongar people of the Darling Range. The river is fringed with flooded gum and becomes a turbulent flood in during the winter months, rushing down to join the Swan River in Walyunga National Park.

Avon Valley National Park was declared in 1970 and is known for being the hide-out of Joseph Bolitho Johns (Moondyne Joe). Moondyne Joe was WA's most infamous bush ranger, whose exploits began after his first escape from the Toodyay lockup in 1861. His cave and corral were located in the north of what is now the Avon Valley National Park, but have been all but destroyed by successive bushfires.

From summer to winter, from north to south, and from high outcrops to deep river and stream valleys, the forests of Avon Valley National Park are constantly changing. The Avon River flows in winter and spring when the river churns over spectacular rapids. During summer and autumn the river diminishes to a series of pools in a bed of granite boulders and tea-tree thickets. The park features forests and granite outcrops, panoramic views over the Avon Valley and the chance to see a wide variety of birds and wildlife.

The roads within the park are all unsealed. The nearest telephone, petrol and food outlets are at Gidgegannup or Toodyay, 30 kilometres from the park. There are some picnic facilities and basic camping sites. The small amount of development means much of the park has wilderness qualities. The best time to visit is during the cooler months.

Note: Sappers Road and Sappers Campsite are seasonally closed due to slippery and dangerous road conditions during wet weather.

Entry fees

Entry fees apply. Camping fees apply.

Facilities

Picnic areas are at Bald Hill, Drummonds Valley and Homestead campsites. Bald Hill is located near the end of Governors Drive and provides views over the valley and park. Drummonds is about one kilometre back from Bald Hill along a short turn-off. Homestead campsite is located on Governors Drive.

There are shaded picnic areas, barbecues and toilets at Bald Hill, Drummonds, and at Valley Campsite on 41 Mile Road.

Camping

Note: No camp fires are allowed during the gazetted fire season (usually 1 December to 31 March).

The camping grounds have wood barbecues, picnic tables and pit toilets. Untreated water is available at Bald Hill, Drummonds, Homestead and Valley Camp. A fee is charged for camping in the park. A self registration station is established at the park entry on Quarry Road at the Junction of Morangup. Visitors are required to pay a single entry fee and camping fees for the number of days they wish to camp.

Cec Barrows Campsite is a group only campsite and bookings are required with the ranger.

Visitors must bring their own firewood – it is not to be collected in the park. Even dead timber is part of the ecosystem.

Universal access

Access at this park is limited and assistance would be required. For more detailed information on access, please visit the Access WA website at www.accesswa.com.au.

How to get there

The park is located approximately 80 kilometres north-east of Perth via Toodyay Road. Turn left into Morangup Road, and left onto Quarry Road. Travelling time from Perth is approximately one hour.

Best time to visit

Autumn, winter and spring.

What to do

Bushwalking, picnicking wildlife observation, photography and camping.

Note: There is no river access in the park. The nearest access is Cobblers Pool.

Walk and cycle trails

If you intend to walk off the marked tracks or camp away from the camping grounds, please let the ranger know beforehand.

It is suggested that you bring plenty of water and avoid strenuous walking on hot days. Make sure you have a topographic map and compass if you plan to go on the longer tracks. Bring binoculars and a camera for the views and wildlife.

