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Conservation and Attractions

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Above Harewood Forest.

Welcome

The Walpole Wilderness area features a vast, natural and wild landscape which embraces the very essence of Western Australia's southern forests and coast. Old majestic jarrah, tingle and karri forests surround imposing granite peaks, peaceful rivers, wetlands and tranquil inlets, and overlook picturesque sandy beaches, sheer coastal cliffs and the Southern Ocean.

Established in 2004, the Walpole Wilderness area is an important component of an international biodiversity hotspot, which recognises biodiversity under threat. The area protects wilderness, tingle forest, old-growth forests, wetlands, threatened ecological communities and threatened, highly endemic and ancient flora and fauna, allowing them to be maintained and enhanced for future generations.

This ancient landscape is recognised for its great visual and aesthetic appeal and for its rich Aboriginal heritage.

The Walpole Wilderness area incorporates Walpole Nornalup, Mount Frankland, Shannon, Mount Frankland South*, Mount Frankland North*, Mount Roe* and Mount Lindesay* national parks, as well as a range of forest conservation areas and nature reserves. Also nearby are William Bay and D'Entrecasteaux national parks.

The declaration of the new Walpole Nornalup and Inlets Marine Park will reflect the unique aesthetic and biodiversity of the marine area. The Walpole Nornalup National Park provides many places to view and access the marine park.

* Unofficial names at time of printing.

Below View from Mount Lindesay. **Below right** Circular Pool.



Above Walpole coastline.

Playing it safe

- Take care on rocks on the coast, as there is a risk of slipping and falling. Large waves can suddenly appear and wash over rocks.
- Don't fish if it is too rough; know the weather forecast and tides before fishing. Always fish with someone else.
- Swimming at beaches and inland water ways can be dangerous. Be aware of strong rips, variable water depths, submerged obstacles and wet slippery surfaces. For your safety, do not dive or jump into water.
- Restricted access and warning signs are placed there for your protection and safety, and to protect the environment.
- Stay alert and supervise children at all times.

Leave No Trace

- When visiting this area, please consider the following:
- Take rubbish with you and dispose of it appropriately.
 - Leave what you find. When we leave rocks, shells, plants, feathers, fossils, artefacts and other objects of interest as we find them, we pass the gift of discovery on to those who follow.
 - Only light fires in fire rings provided. Preferably use your portable stove. Wood for fires is habitat for wildlife.
 - Pets are not permitted within the Walpole Wilderness area except in specially designated areas, as they threaten wildlife and can disturb other visitors. Please ask at a DEC office for more information.
 - Stay on the paths provided to protect plants and avoid erosion of the landscape.



Above Elephant Rocks, William Bay National Park.

Mount Lindesay (map ref O-9) Mount Lindesay National Park

This granite feature is the centrepiece of Mount Lindesay National Park, home to a threatened ecological community. Some species found here grow nowhere else in the world. There is a 10-kilometre return walk to the summit of Mount Lindesay which offers sweeping views of Denmark's coastline, farm land and the Walpole Wilderness area.

Harewood Forest (map ref O-11) Harewood Forest Conservation Area

This regenerated stand of karri forest surrounded by Denmark farm land offers a tranquil place for a picnic as well as a charming 1.2-kilometre bush walk. Trail-side panels provide a historic profile of land use in the area.

Greens Pool and Elephant Rocks (map ref N-12) William Bay National Park

The sheltered swimming beach at Greens Pool is a beautiful place to swim in turquoise waters and is popular for its beach views. Take a loop walk to Elephant Rocks — a unique granite formation which looks like a herd of elephants. It is also a great place for a swim.



Above The Channels.

Entry and camping fees

Park entry fees apply in D'Entrecasteaux National Park.

Daily pass per vehicle — up to eight legally seated people **\$10.00**.
Motorbike and Concession for daily entry **\$5.00**.
Bus passenger on commercial tour or social outing **\$4.00 pp**.
Concession bus passenger (not on commercial tour) **\$1.50 pp**.

Camping fees apply at Banksia Camp, Crystal Springs, Shannon Campground and Fernhook Falls per person, per night.
• Adult **\$6.50**
• School age child under 16 **\$2.00**
• Concession **\$4.50**

Attraction entry fees apply to walk the Tree Top Walk at the Valley of the Giants.

Need more information?

**Department of Environment and Conservation
Frankland District Office**
South Coast Highway
WALPOLE WA 6398
Ph: (08) 9840 0400
Email: walpole@dec.wa.gov.au
Web: www.naturebase.net

Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre
Ph: (08) 9840 1111
Email: wnta@wn.com.au
Web: www.walpole.com.au

Denmark Visitor Centre
Ph: (08) 9848 2055
Email: accommodation@denmark.com.au
Web: www.denmark.com.au



Front cover photo Wildflowers on Mount Lindesay.



Above Conspicuous Cliff Beach.

Conspicuous Cliff Beach (map ref H-13) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Spectacular limestone cliffs, after which this site is named, are a photographer's delight, as is the large surf that pounds the shore at this pristine beach. Easily accessible by two-wheel drive, the walk trails and lookouts provide spectacular views and a chance to witness the antics of migrating whales in season.

Hilltop Lookout (map ref T-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

This vantage point offers spectacular views over the Southern Ocean, Nornalup Inlet, Saddle Island and Goose Island. Stop here on your way to the Giant Tingle Tree or Circular Pool.

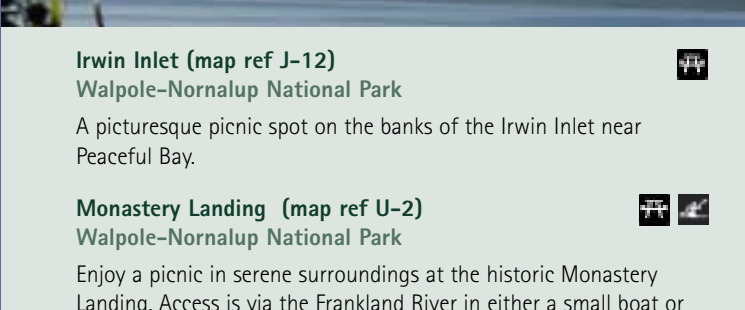
Giant Tingle Tree (map ref T-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Just seven kilometres from Walpole, yet deep in the heart of outstandingly beautiful tingle and karri forest, the Giant Tingle Tree is the site of a huge fire-hollowed red tingle tree, an attractive forest walk and picnic tables.

Circular Pool (map ref U-1) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Circular Pool is a popular picnic spot with rapids in winter and a large, tranquil pool in summer. Universally accessible paths lead to two viewing platforms that allow you to look over the river. A path with steps allows easy access to a boardwalk along the river's edge.

Below Conspicuous Cliffs. **Below right** Tree Top Walk.



Irwin Inlet (map ref J-12) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

A picturesque picnic spot on the banks of the Irwin Inlet near Peaceful Bay.

Monastery Landing (map ref U-2) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Enjoy a picnic in serene surroundings at the historic Monastery Landing. Access is via the Frankland River in either a small boat or canoe, launched at Nornalup.

Giants Picnic area (map ref H-12) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Picnic among the ancient tingle trees on your way to visit the famous Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk and Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre.

Knoll Drive (map ref R-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

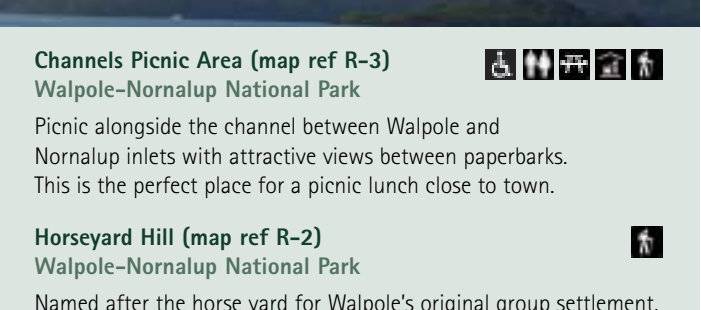
This scenic drive offers you breathtaking views of the forest and inlets. Along the way you can stop at the lookouts, walk down to one of the two inlet rock fishing spots or picnic at either the Coalmine or Channels picnic sites.

Coalmine Beach Caravan Park (map ref S-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

This caravan park is nestled in shady peppermint and sheoak woodland and overlooks the Nornalup Inlet. Accommodation includes self-contained chalets, a camp kitchen and ablution blocks for caravans.



Above Mount Frankland.



Channels Picnic Area (map ref R-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Picnic alongside the channel between Walpole and Nornalup inlets with attractive views between paperbarks. This is the perfect place for a picnic lunch close to town.

Horseyard Hill (map ref R-2) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Named after the horse yard for Walpole's original group settlement, this two-kilometre loop walk starts at the back of the Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre. The trail winds through a pretty stand of karri, yellow tingle and marri forest.

Sandy Beach (map ref R-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Located on the Nornalup Inlet, this is a great place for a family day of fishing, picnicking or barbecuing. Sandy Beach also provides a safe place for children to swim. Hike on a 1.5-kilometre (one way) walk trail from Sandy Beach to Rest Point that follows the inlet through tingle and karri forest.

Rest Point Sawpit (map ref R-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

This heritage sawpit was dug between 1860 and 1865 and is in heritage condition. Park just off Rest Point Road and take a short walk through jarrah and marri forest.

John Rate Lookout (map ref Q-3) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

Named after the first forester in the Walpole district, this is one of the most scenic places in the area for picnics and views over pristine waterways.



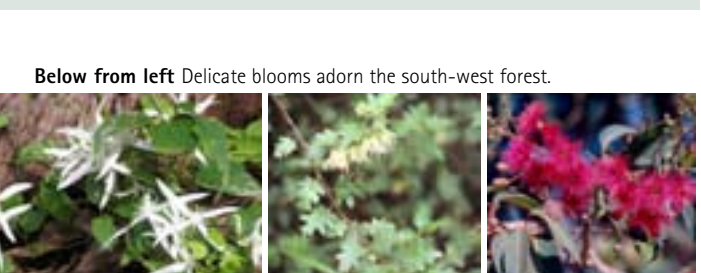
Above Mount Clare.

Mount Burnett (map ref D-10) Mount Frankland South National Park

An attractive bush picnic site and one-kilometre return bush walk around a granite outcrop through jarrah forest to a wilderness lookout. A great place to take a break if travelling between Walpole and Manjimup.

Mount Pingerup Summit Walk (map ref C-10) D'Entrecasteaux National Park

A five-kilometre return hike to the summit of Mount Pingerup where there are spectacular views of Broke Inlet, the Southern Ocean, the national park and the Walpole Wilderness area. Along the way, look out for wildflowers such as orchids during the spring.



Below from left Delicate blooms adorn the south-west forest.



Above Mandalay Beach.

Mandalay Beach (map ref C-12) D'Entrecasteaux National Park

Mandalay Beach is located at the far eastern end of D'Entrecasteaux National Park and takes its name from the Norwegian barque *Mandalay* wrecked there in 1911. Mandalay is popular with fishermen and offers spectacular views of the Southern Ocean and Chatham Island. It is one of a few sites around Walpole where you access the coast in a two-wheel drive vehicle.

Long Point Four-Wheel Drive Track (map ref D-12) D'Entrecasteaux and Walpole Nornalup national parks

Long Point Track is a nine-kilometre four-wheel drive track that provides access to Long Point, Lost Beach, Little Long Point and Hush Hush Beach, which are all spectacular areas for photography and walking. The nearest campsite is at Crystal Springs.

Below Hush Hush Beach.



Shannon Campground (map ref A-5) Shannon National Park

The Shannon recreation site was a once-thriving mill town and is the ideal base for exploring the natural riches of Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux national parks and surrounding attractions. Walkers can enjoy walk trails that range in length from 3.5 to 5.5 kilometres and you can also canoe in the Shannon Dam. You can camp here with caravans or trailers.

Crystal Springs (map ref D-12) D'Entrecasteaux National Park

This camp site is situated beneath a mature peppermint grove and provides attractive opportunities for vehicle-based camping. It is a great base for coastal picnic and fishing opportunities in both Walpole-Nornalup and D'Entrecasteaux national parks.

Fernhook Falls (map ref D-9) Mount Frankland South National Park

This is an isolated campsite in the midst of mixed karri-jarrah forest. You can picnic, walk or explore the attractive Fernhook Falls area on the pristine Deep River. There is a camp kitchen with gas barbecues and camp huts are available that are perfect for camping during wet weather. There are also canoe launching facilities. You can camp with caravans at the Shannon Campground (to the north) or at a caravan park near Walpole.

Banksia Camp (map ref C-12) D'Entrecasteaux National Park

Banksia Camp is a four-wheel drive only camp site situated by the Southern Ocean near Chatham Island. The old beach hut was replaced with a four-bedroom shared camping facility in 2006. There are also numerous tent sites and a group site suitable for four-wheel drive camper trailers.

What is wilderness?

Above Wilderness view from Mount Frankland.

The Walpole Wilderness area is a vast, natural and wild landscape embracing the southern forests and coast of Western Australia. Three discovery sites have been developed which provide inspirational focal points for visitors and advocate the values, appreciation and sustainable management of the Walpole Wilderness area. Together, the three sites are referred to as the Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre. At the wilderness discovery sites you will gain an understanding of the Indigenous, natural and cultural wonders of the Walpole Wilderness area.

Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre

Above Tree Top Walk.



Valley of the Giants — Tree Top Walk (map ref I-12) Walpole-Nornalup National Park

The Valley of the Giants Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre features interpretative displays where you can learn what makes the Walpole Wilderness special. This site is also the home of the famous Tree Top Walk. Experience the excitement of exploring the canopy of the magnificent tingle forest on the 600-metre Tree Top Walk, which has a gentle gradient suitable for children, wheelchairs and the elderly. A walk trail links the area to the Ancient Empire walk, which has protective boardwalks that take you around and through some of the giant tingle trees. There is a shop on site where visitors can purchase souvenirs and local crafts. Activity programs, including the popular Forest by Night, run during school holidays and on request.

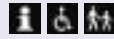
For more information contact the Valley of the Giants. Phone: (08) 9840 8263. Email: ttw@dec.wa.gov.au.



Above Swarbrick Discovery Centre.

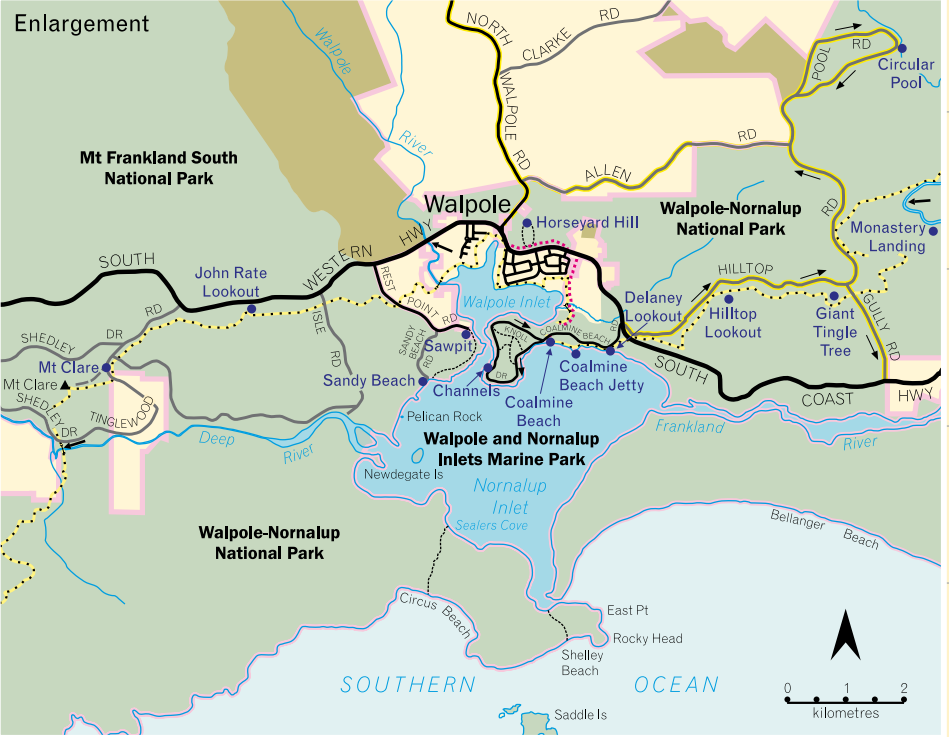
Swarbrick (map ref F-10) Mount Frankland South National Park

The 500-metre loop walk at Swarbrick provides you with spaces for introspective contemplation of the wilderness. It features forest art exhibits and a giant 39-metre long 'Wilderness Wall of Perceptions' which encourages people to explore perspectives of the forest and the wilderness. Swarbrick is home to some fine stands of Western Australia's famous old growth karri forest. Keep an open mind and expect to be challenged!



Mount Frankland (map ref G-9) Mount Frankland National Park

Dominated by an impressive granite peak, Mount Frankland provides a range of walking and viewing opportunities. Follow the Summit Path and be rewarded by expansive vistas over the wilderness to the north-east and forest and farms to the south, or walk around the base of the granite outcrop and enjoy the sights, smells and sounds of the forest. Just remember to dress for the conditions, particularly if climbing to the summit as it is exposed to the cold and sun.



Above Mandalay Beach.

Bibbulmun Track



This world-class long-distance walk trail winds its way through the spectacular landscapes of the south-west for almost 1,000 kilometres from Kalamunda near Perth to Albany on the south coast. It takes in the picturesque towns of Northcliffe, Walpole and Denmark. Campsites are strategically placed in sensational locations between the towns, providing walkers with simple timber sleeping shelters and other facilities including bush toilets, picnic tables and tent sites.

Between Mandalay Beach and Denmark, the Bibbulmun Track is never far from the coast. In many places the track provides the only access to some magnificent beaches and spectacular coastal scenery, particularly in Walpole Nornalup and D'Entrecasteaux national parks and Quarram Nature Reserve.

Many day walk options are available from towns along the track.

For more information see brochures or visit www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au.

Wilderness drive

This drive and associated activities will occupy a whole day if done at a leisurely pace. It features the three sites that make up the Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre, which provide unique insights into the wilderness. This route description assumes you start in Walpole.

Travelling from Walpole: 72 kilometres of sealed road and 26 kilometres of gravel road. Suitable for two-wheel drives.

1. From Walpole, head north on North Walpole Road. Eight kilometres from Walpole you will see signs into the Swarbrick Discovery site.
2. Enjoy a 500-metre, accessible to all, loop walk, the 'Wilderness Wall of Perceptions' and art exhibits at Swarbrick.
3. Continue to head north along North Walpole Road. After 17 kilometres you will see Beardmore Road on your left. This road will take you to Fernhook Falls — a lovely picnic and camping spot, if you have time. You should take the road to your right which continues for eight kilometres to the Mount Frankland car park.
4. At Mount Frankland interpretative panels provide information on the range of walks available. The walk to the summit where you have 360-degree views of the Walpole Wilderness and surrounding area is highly recommended.
5. Return to North Walpole Road and turn left, back the way you came. From the Mount Frankland car park travel for 18 kilometres, past Swarbrick, until you reach Bridge Road, the first bitumen road to your left.
6. Follow Bridge Road for 19 kilometres crossing the Frankland River and continuing until you reach a T-junction.
7. Turn right onto the Valley of the Giants Road which you follow to another T-junction (also the Valley of the Giants Road) where you turn left. You will see the big silver gates of the Valley of the Giants in front of you.
8. At the Valley of the Giants you can walk the Tree Top Walk (admission fees apply). Ancient Empire, or learn more about the wilderness at the Discovery Centre.
9. When you leave the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk car park, continue straight ahead for six kilometres until you reach the South Coast Highway. Turning left, Denmark is 53 kilometres. Turning right, Walpole is 14 kilometres via Nornalup.



Far left Frankland River Nornalup.
Left Tingle tree, Valley of the Giants.
Below Fernhook Falls.
Bottom The Walpole Wilderness area is home to a variety of plant and fungi life.