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Crooked Brook Forest

'A forest for all people'



Visitor guide



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



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Crooked Brook Forest

Crooked Brook Forest is a beautiful recreation site situated just 25km from the centre of Bunbury, in the Shire of Dardanup and adjacent to the beautiful Ferguson Valley.

This popular forest destination lies within State forest managed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife and has been developed by the local community into 'a forest for all people'. It provides access for elderly and disabled visitors as well as challenges for the more energetic walker.

What you'll find...

- four walk trails ranging from a 600m wheelchair-accessible path to a scenic 10km trail with views to the coast
- nature playground
- parking to suit all vehicles, including buses and caravans
- free gas barbecues
- a picnic shelter and tables suitable for wheelchairs
- wheelchair-accessible toilet facilities
- information on local wildlife and plants, including life in the billabong
- a series of plaques depicting the history of the forest.

A forest for all seasons

Come and experience the changes in the forest from season to season. In winter, see the creek overflow the billabong to create a sparkling crystal waterfall. Throughout the year admire the wildflowers, which are particularly spectacular in spring.



Walk trails



Forest Path

Class 1 (Easy walking, wheelchair access)
allow 20-min return



A 600m scenic, wheelchair-accessible path along a gentle winter brook leading to the billabong, where you'll find seating, a footbridge and the Jarrah Walk. Forest Path is listed by Trails WA as one of WA's Top Trails.



Jarrah Walk

Class 2 (Easy walking) allow 45-min return

A 1.5km circuit from the car park, alongside the winter brook, past the billabong and through the magnificent jarrah forest. This walk is beautiful all year round and superb in spring when the wildflowers are in bloom.



Wildflower Walk

Class 3 (Moderate walking) allow 1.5hr return

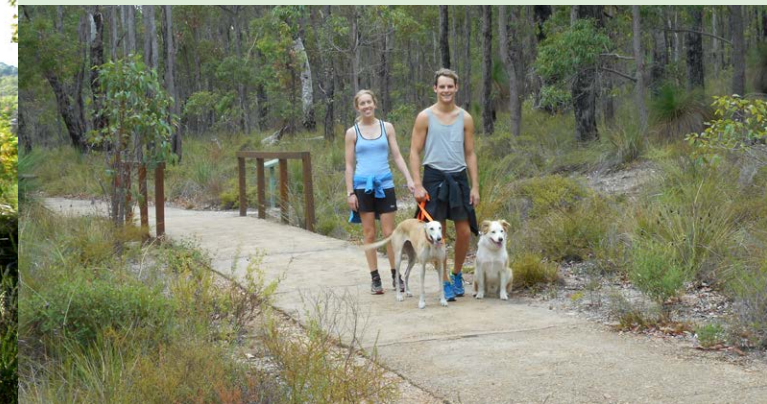
A 3km, moderate walking circuit through Crooked Brook Forest's magnificent wildflower display. The higher section is an undulating forest walk to a beautiful lookout over the Crooked Brook valley and into Bunbury, while the lower section offers an easier walk. The lower section is also used by cyclists following the Munda Biddi Trail.

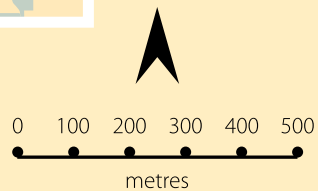
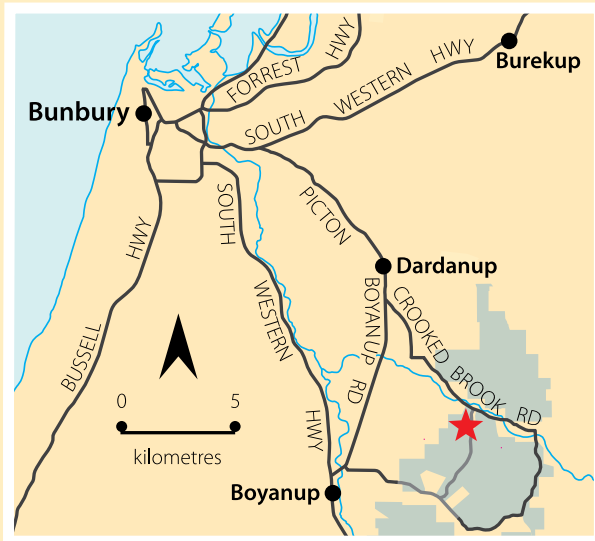


Marri Walk

Class 3 (Moderate walking) allow 3hrs

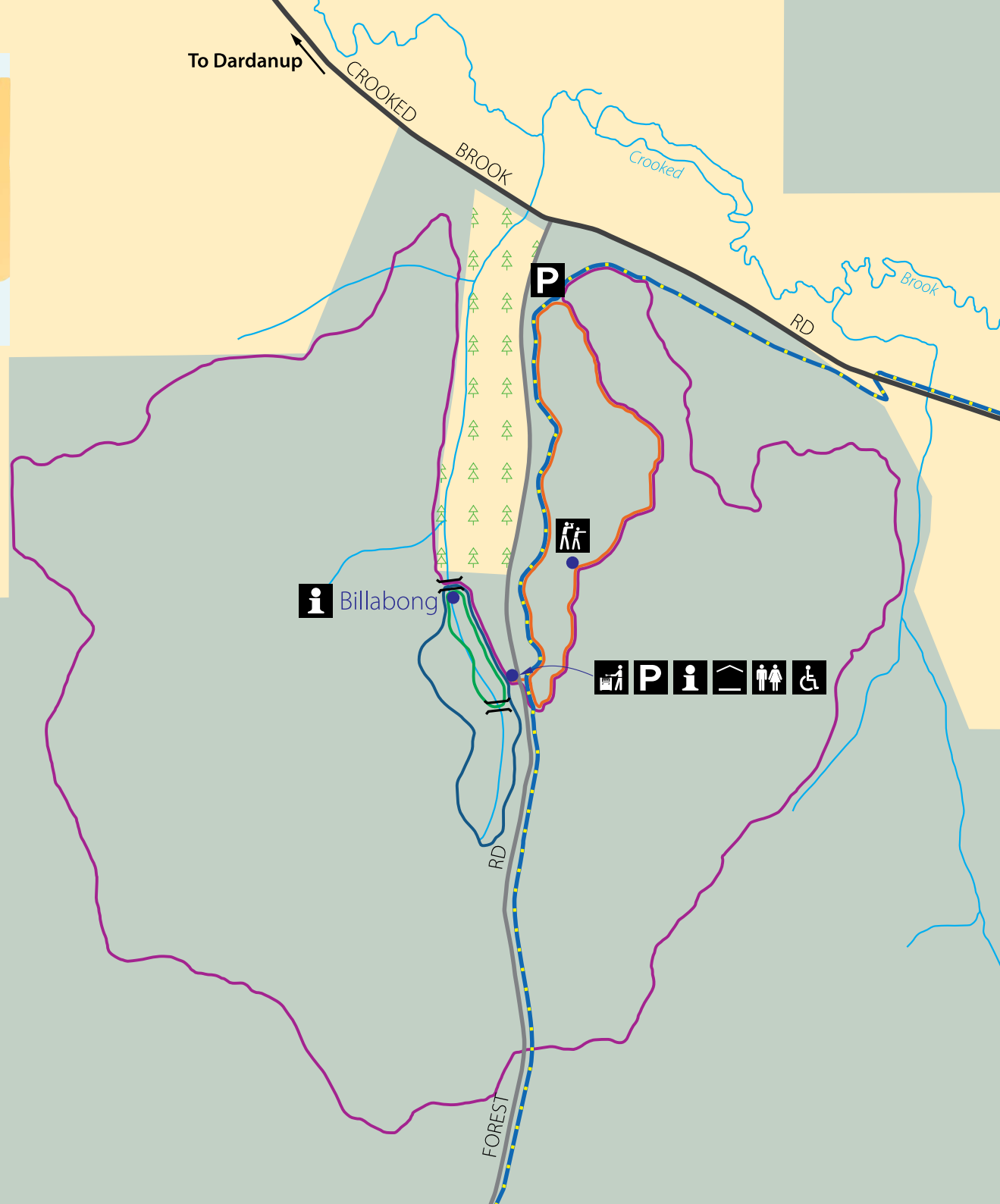
A 10km circuit for those conditioned to walking longer trails. An undulating walk through typical redgum and jarrah forest. Please carry drinking water. A short section of the trail is also shared by cyclists following the Munda Biddi Trail.





Legend

-  Sealed road
-  Unsealed road
-  Bridge
-  Forest Path
-  Jarrah Walk
-  Wildflower Walk
-  Marri Walk
-  Munda Biddi Trail
-  Boyanup pine plantation
-  Freehold land
-  State forest
-  Barbecue - gas
-  Information
-  Parking
-  Scenic lookout
-  Shelter
-  Toilets
-  Universal access



Walk trail classifications

Parks and Wildlife walk trails are assigned a 'class' to indicate degree of difficulty. The walk classes range from Class 1 (universal access), which is suitable for wheelchairs, to Class 5, which require walkers to be fit, experienced and suitably equipped. Check trailhead signs at the start of walks for specific information. There are four walk trails within Crooked Brook Forest ranging from Class 1 to Class 3.

Class 1 This symbol indicates a well-defined walk trail with a firm, even surface and no steep sections or steps. It is suitable for all levels of experience and fitness.



Class 2 This symbol indicates an easy, well-defined walk trail with a firm surface. You may encounter gentle hill sections and occasional steps. It is suitable for all levels of experience and fitness but may present difficulties for people with mobility impairments.



Class 3 This symbol indicates a moderate walk trail with clear directional signage. You may encounter minor natural hazards such as short, steep sections; steps; shallow water crossings; and unstable or slippery surfaces. A good level of fitness is recommended.



Walking tips

- Wear sturdy but comfortable footwear.
- Wear suitable clothing to protect you from the sun and other elements.
- Carry adequate water, especially on longer walks, and remember to drink it, particularly in hot weather.
- It's safest to walk with another person or in a group.
- Let someone know about your plans and when you expect to return.



An ongoing community project

The Crooked Brook Forest Association of volunteers has worked tirelessly since 1994 and continues to develop this forest area in collaboration with the Parks and Wildlife. Members are proud to see the forest being regularly used by a wide range of people including senior citizens, school groups, people with disabilities and families.

Since 1994, the association's efforts have been facilitated and supported by the department through funding and provision of materials, as well as undertaking conceptual planning and design work for the tracks and facilities developed by the association.

Caring for Crooked Brook

Plan ahead and prepare Always carry plenty of fresh water, as there is no reliable drinking water supplies along the trails.

Stay on paths Follow trail markers and keep to paths to protect the flora in the area.

Dispose of waste properly Rubbish bins are not provided, please take your rubbish with you.

Don't light fires Gas barbecues are provided free of charge near the picnic shelter.

Respect wildlife Do not disturb animals and plants. No firearms are permitted in State forest.



More information

Crooked Brook Forest Association

If you would like to become part of the volunteer group working to develop and maintain facilities in this special forest, or if you would like to support the project financially, please contact the Crooked Brook Forest Association.

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Photos throughout: Crooked Brook Forest Association and Parks and Wildlife.



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Department of
Parks and Wildlife



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This publication is available in alternative formats on request.