

Mount Frankland National Park

Mount Frankland National Park is located 28 kilometres north-east of Walpole in Australia's south-west. The park covers 31,000 hectares of tingle, jarrah and karri forest as well as the impressive Mount Frankland Wilderness Lookout.

Mount Frankland National Park is one of seven national parks that make up the Walpole Wilderness. Established in 2004, the Walpole Wilderness is an important component of an international biodiversity hotspot.

Above Spectacular views across the Walpole Wilderness.

Photo – Cassidy Newland

Opposite page

Clockwise from top left Carnaby's black cockatoos (*Zanda latirostris*). Photo – Rick Dawson; Rich biodiversity across the landscape. Photo – DBCA; Visitor rest spot among the trees. Photo – DBCA; Caldyanup Trail. Photo – Bron Anderson/DBCA; Bee on a triggerplant (*Stylidium* sp.). Photo – DBCA; Accessible lookout platform at Mount Frankland. Photo – Michael Hemmings

The area protects old-growth karri and jarrah forests, wetlands, threatened ecological communities and endemic flora and fauna.

HISTORY

Mount Frankland and the Walpole Wilderness are the traditional lands of the Minang Aboriginal people of the Noongar Nation. The Aboriginal name for Mount Frankland is Caldyanup, and this ancient land is recognised for its visual and aesthetic appeal and rich Aboriginal heritage.

In the early 1900s, Minister for Lands and Agriculture James Mitchell visited this area with a view towards development in the south-west.

On a trip to Monastery Landing on the Frankland River, he was so impressed by the beauty of the river and the surrounding forest that he made an on-the-spot decision to set aside the area for conservation.

THINGS TO DO

Enjoy the easy, universally accessible walk to the Mount Frankland Wilderness Lookout, or take the more challenging hike to the summit of Mount Frankland for uninterrupted 360-degree views across the Walpole Wilderness.

The Mount Frankland Wilderness Lookout takes in vast areas of karri, tingle and jarrah forest, treeless heathland and distant granite peaks. The path to this lookout curves around the side of Little Mount Frankland and takes visitors to a vantage point high above the forest floor.

The Caldyanup Trail circumnavigates the base of Mount Frankland allowing a closer look at the intricacies of the granite environment. The Caldyanup Lookout provides expansive views of the Walpole Wilderness and a safe way across the granite without disturbing the delicate mosses and lichens that grow there.

Visitors can enjoy a picnic in the forest or explore Mount Frankland by following



one of the various walking trails on offer. Whether climbing to the summit, or enjoying the Mount Frankland Wilderness Lookout, there are many photographic opportunities available.

Mount Frankland is a fantastic place to visit all-year-round. The forest provides a cool, shady picnic spot during the warmer months and the park comes alive with colourful wildflowers in late winter, spring and early summer.

Munda Biddi Trail cyclists can access Mount Frankland via a spur trail. Keen riders may choose to use the Mount Frankland car park as a base to explore other sections of the trail further afield.

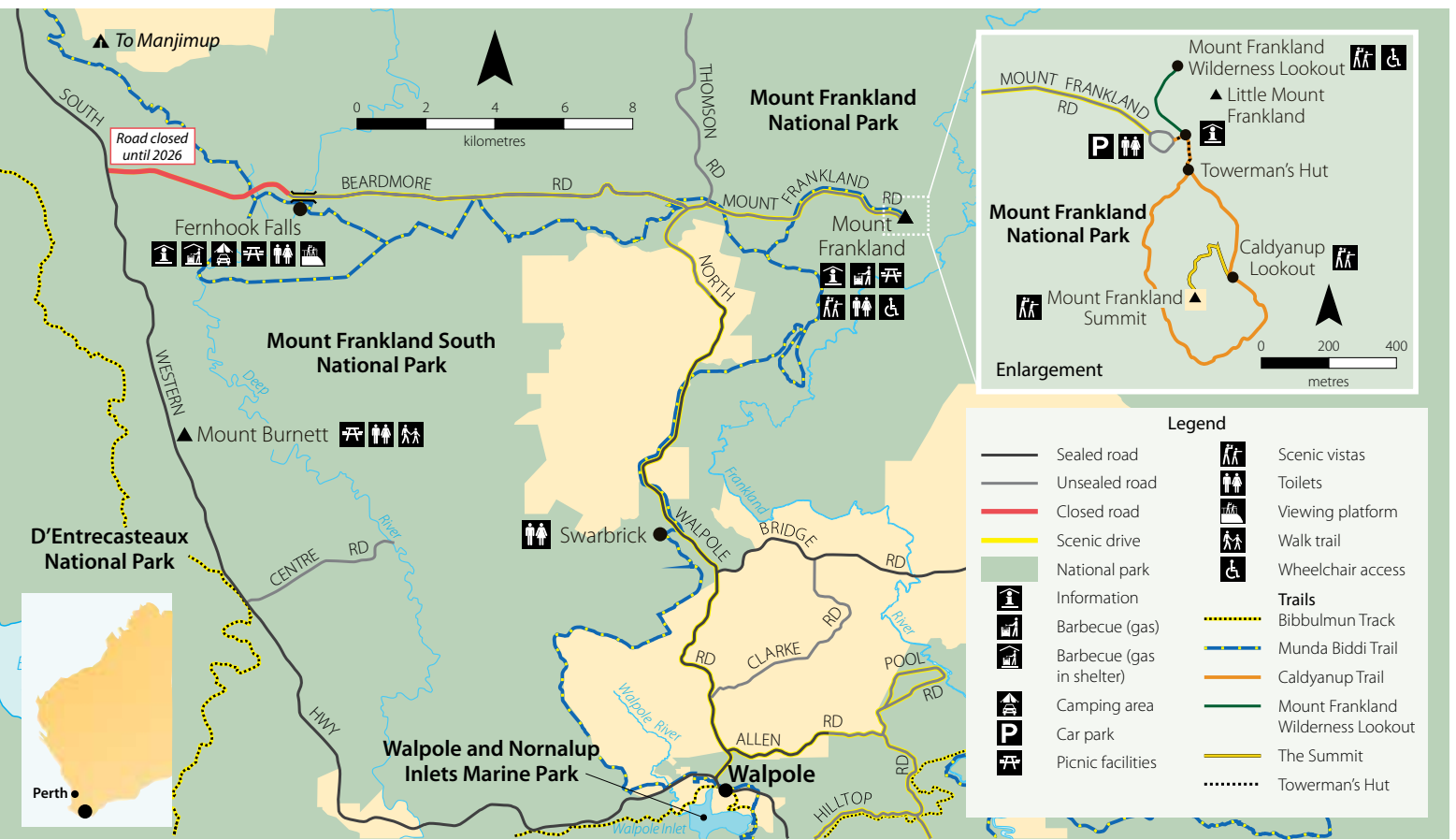
Camping is not permitted at Mount Frankland. The nearest campground is located 20 kilometres west at Fernhook Falls.



Discover more about Mount Frankland National Park

Scan this QR code or visit Parks and Wildlife Service's 'LANDSCOPE' playlist on YouTube.





PARK TRAILS

Mount Frankland Wilderness Lookout



Class 1 – Easiest 600-metre return

This accessible path leads to a lookout offering views across the Walpole Wilderness. The view includes expanses of forest and treeless heathland as well as granite peaks in the distance. This sealed path is suitable for all levels of experience, fitness and ability.

Towerman's Hut



Class 1 – Easiest 200-metre return

Enjoy a short stroll to a shady picnic area with gas barbecues and picnic tables. Here you can look into the old towermen hut. During the fire season, officers climbed from the hut to the summit of Mount Frankland several times a day to monitor the weather. This sealed path is suitable for all levels of experience, fitness and ability.

The Summit



Class 4 – Difficult 1.2-kilometre return

Climb to the summit of Mount Frankland for 360-degree views of the surrounding landscape. This hike is quite difficult and requires you to climb a ladder and a series of steep steps. A good level of fitness and bushwalking experience is required. Please consider weather conditions before proceeding.

Caldyanup Trail



Class 3 – Moderate 1.6-kilometre return

This hike circumnavigates the base of the granite mass through karri forest allowing a closer look at this unique environment. A good level of fitness is recommended. Be aware that the granite sections may be slippery.

Above right Mount Frankland Wilderness Lookout.

Photo – Bron Anderson/DBCA



Do it yourself

Where is it? 300 kilometres south of Perth, 28 kilometres north-east of Walpole

Total area 31,000 hectares

Things to do Hiking, bird watching, cycling, rock climbing, wildflower photography

Nearest Parks and Wildlife Office Walpole District Office, South Coast Highway, Walpole (08) 9840 0400