Queensland National Parks

Atherton and Evelyn Tablelands parks



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Parks at a glance					a leash	area		ilk sss)	lk an 3hr)	n biking	g/ g	ing
	Page	Camping	Camp fires	Toilets	Dogs on a leash	Day-use area	Fishing	Short walk (3hr or less)	Long walk (more than 3hr)	Mountain biking	Canoeing/ Kayaking	Horseriding
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Curtain Fig NP	12-13					1.00		✓				
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NP = National Park

CP = Conservation Park

SF = State Forest

FR = Forest Reserve

* Access and facilities from the Tablelands only. For information about the coastal reaches of these parks, see the Tropical Coast national parks journey guide.

At some locations, conditions may apply.

♦ Nearby

For all the world

Many of the parks and forests on the Tablelands are part of the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area—an area so special that it is valued worldwide for its exceptional diversity, its evolutionary history and its superb scenic beauty. The Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area covers nearly 900,000ha and stretches along the north-east coast of Queensland for about 450km between Townsville and Cooktown.





Experience a cultural landscape, interwoven with significant places, traditional stories and spiritual connections.

Delight

in awe-inspiring views and rugged scenery from a whisper-quiet kayak or atop 2 wheels.

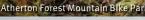


Unwind

Delve

with family and friends as you soak up a sunset and disconnect from the pace and bustle of everyday life.

deeply into the mining, forestry and farming history that has shaped and influenced the colourful landscape.







Discover

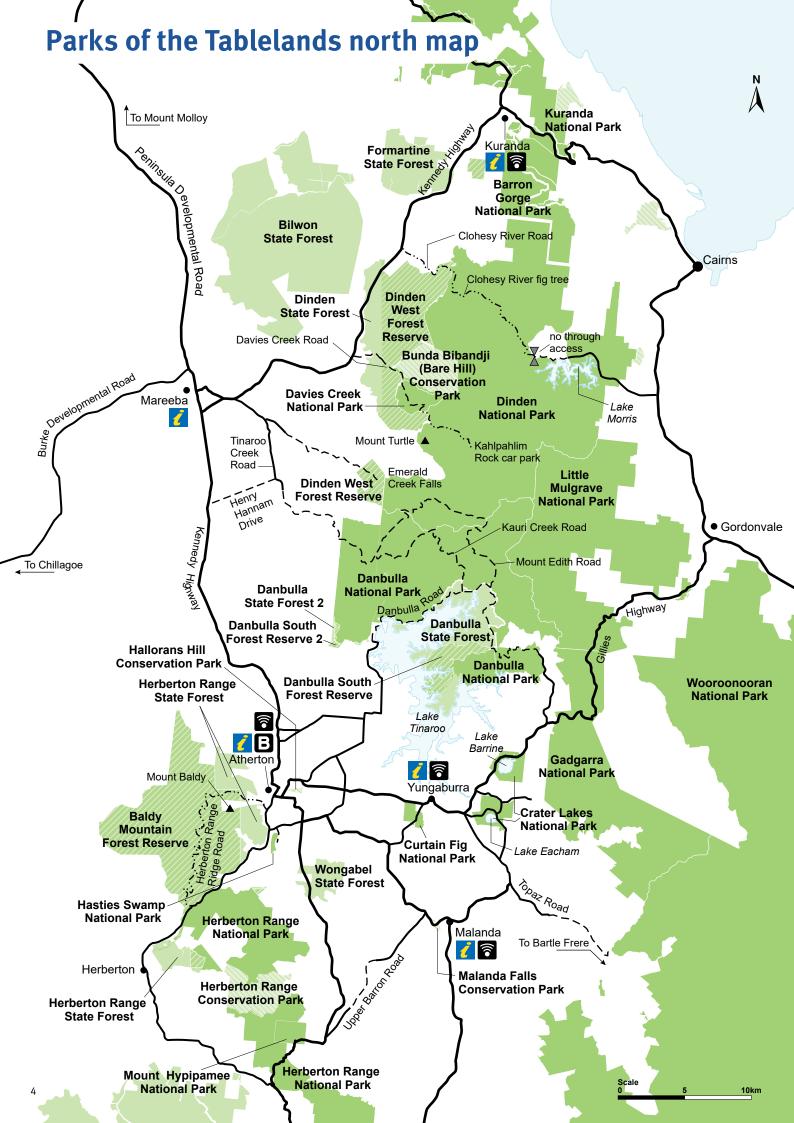
a diverse landscape peppered with astounding volcanic features, World Heritage-listed forests and exceptional animals and plants.

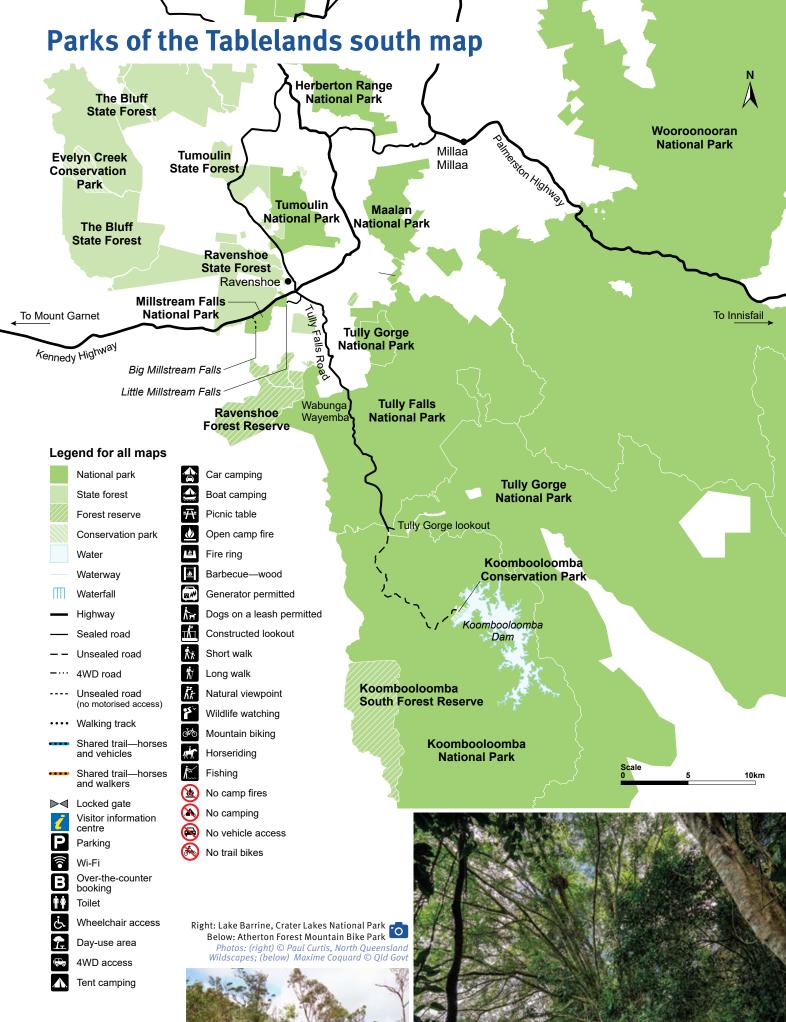


Photos (clockwise from top right): Maxime Coquard © Qld Govt; Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt; © Wet Tropics Management Authority; © Damien Bleach Photography; Yabbaday © Daniel Joseph

Welcome to the Tablelands' parks

Welcome to the Atherton and Evelyn tablelands. A lush, fertile region of rainforest, wetland and savannah, full of walking tracks, mountain-bike trails, camping areas, craters, lakes, waterfalls and wildlife. The endless variety of attractions and activities means the tablelands have something for everyone to enjoy! As a ranger I like being able to work on Country, to look after Country. On behalf of all my fellow rangers, we ask that you respect the places you visit and help us preserve our precious parks for future generations. *Ranger Brittney*







Plan your journey

Venture into a tapestry of colourful landscapes and spectacular views. Breathe in the mountain air and feel the spray as waterfalls plunge into crystal-clear pools. Get out and enjoy a mountain-bike adventure or glide through waterways on a canoe or kayak. Wander through forests interwoven with history and ancient connections and discover wondrous wildlife.

Living cultural landscape

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service acknowledges the First Nations peoples of Queensland's parks and forests. Rich with spiritual meaning, traditional knowledge and cultural sites, the Tablelands are the traditional country of a number of Aboriginal clan groups. The First Nations peoples continue caring for their country today, assisting with management of parks and keeping their culture strong.

Below: Jungaljungal track, Danbulla National Park and State Forest Far right: Yungaburra markets Photos: (below) Roger James © Qld Govt; (far right) Tamara Vallance © Qld Govt

Visit anytime

Escape to the hills! Enjoy cooler and less humid weather thanks to the elevation of the Tablelands (500–1,200m). Summer days can be hot but temperatures cool significantly in the evenings. It can get surprisingly cold in winter, especially at night, with frosts in open areas. Rainfall is seasonal, with most falling between December and April.

Best way to visit

Explore the Tablelands by car, travelling a network of sealed and unsealed routes to discover hidden treasures and memorable experiences. Choose one of our recommended scenic access routes and the itinerary suggestions on page 8 to help plan your self-drive adventure.

Local events

Consider planning your journey to coincide with some of the many events and festivals on the Tablelands. Immerse yourself in the local culture, vivid history and tasty produce of this fertile area. Choose from town markets, country shows, rodeos, music festivals, fishing tournaments and sporting events. Find all the details at **athertontablelands.com.au**

Guided tours

Consider immersing yourself in ancient cultural traditions with Aboriginal guides, or explore the Tablelands on a guided tour with an experienced local.

Visit athertontablelands.com.au, tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au and queensland.com for details of tour providers.







Getting there

Wind your way to the Tablelands on a meandering range road or dusty outback track. Choose from 6 main access routes—consider taking a different route on your way home.

Via the Kuranda Range

At Smithfield, 14km north of Cairns, turn west onto the Kennedy Highway and drive the winding 11.5km route up the coastal range to Kuranda. From here, it's a relatively flat 37km trip to Mareeba, on the northern Tablelands.

Via the Gillies Highway

At Gordonvale, 35km south of Cairns, take the Gillies Range Road west to the historic township of Yungaburra, on the eastern Tablelands. Famed for its 263 corners, the road climbs 800m in only 19 short kilometres.

Via the Rex Range

From Mossman, drive 4km south, turn onto the Mossman-Mount Molloy Road and travel 28.5km up the winding Rex Range to the Mulligan Highway. Turn left and drive about 40km to Mareeba, on the northern Tablelands.

Via the Cassowary Coast

About 5km north of Innisfail, turn onto the Palmerston Highway and wind your way uphill for 76km to Millaa Millaa, at a lofty 1,050m, on the southern Tablelands.

Via the Gulf Savannah

Nearing the end of your adventure drive across Australia's tropical savannas, the Savannah Way joins the southern end of the Tablelands, at Ravenshoe.



Via Cooktown and Cape York Peninsula

From Cooktown it's a 265km trip along the sealed Mulligan Highway to Mareeba, on the northern Tablelands. If you are coming from the Cape, stop for refreshments at Lakeland and then travel 185km to Mareeba, on the northern Tablelands.





Above: Mareeba rock wallaby Left: Scarlet honeyeater Photos: (above) © Tamara Vallance; (left) Roger James © Old Govt



Choose your adventure

Explore magnificent national parks and picturesque towns and villages with friendly locals and a tempting array of cafes, restaurants, galleries and museums. Why not stay longer than a day and explore all this region has to offer. Accommodation options are plentiful, including bed and breakfasts, motels, farm stays, camping areas and secluded cabins.

If you've only got a day

Enjoy a day on the Tablelands jam-packed with sights, sounds and experiences! Visit one or more of the rainforest giants-the Clohesy River (Dinden National Park), Cathedral (Danbulla National Park and State Forest) or Curtain (Curtain Fig National Park) fig trees. Take a dip in a volcanic crater at Lake Eacham or Lake Barrine (Crater Lakes National Park) and marvel at the massive diatreme (volcanic pipe) at Mount Hypipamee National Park. Tick off at least one waterfall, perhaps Millstream Falls, where you can also delve into some World War II history. If you've still got time, search the canopy for a green possum or tree-kangaroo in the forest at Malanda Falls Conservation Park or spend some quiet time in the bird hide at Hasties Swamp National Park.

The Tablelands in two

If you've got 2 days to explore the Tablelands then you're going to enjoy a more leisurely visit. Divide the area into two—see the maps on pages 4–5—and spend a day in each 'half'. Check out the parks in the north, centre and around Lake Tinaroo and Atherton on day one. Then head south and explore the more southerly parks on the second day.

> Right: Remember your fishing permit Far right: Dogs on a leash are welcome in some forests Photos: (right) © Finn Vallance; (far right) Jodie Eden © Qld Govt

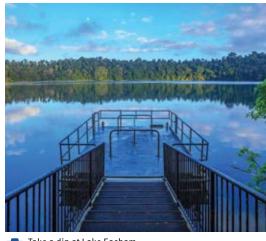
Three is better!

Three days on the Tablelands—now you're talking! Set aside a day to explore the Danbulla forest around Lake Tinaroo and the handful of parks around Atherton. Parks in the centre and the parks south of Atherton could easily take a second day. Walks and drives in the drier, northern part of the Tablelands will fill a third day and maybe leave you with enough time to return to your favourite gem or something you've missed.

Fishing

You can fish in some parks and forests on the Tablelands (see page 2 for locations). Bag and size limits, restricted species and seasonal closures apply. Fisheries Queensland (**daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries**) provides all the details. If you want to 'wet a line' in Lake Tinaroo or Koombooloomba Dam, you'll need to buy a stocked impoundment permit (SIP). Visit **qld.gov. au/recreation/activities/boating-fishing/ rec-fishing/dams** for details.





Take a dip at Lake Eacham Photo: © Tourism Tropical North Qld

Visiting with dogs

If you are travelling with a dog, you'll need to make other arrangements for your pet when you visit a park or reserve, as domestic animals aren't generally allowed. You can take a dog (on a leash) into areas of some State forests and Forest reserves, including Dinden West, Tumoulin, Wongabel, Herberton and Baldy.





Adventurous by nature

Paddle your kayak or canoe in the tranquil waters of a volcanic crater lake or pedal your way around purpose-built mountain bike trails. The Tablelands' parks and forests offer great adventure experiences that showcase the area's dramatic scenery and diverse landscape.

Kayaking and canoeing

Slip into a canoe or kayak to explore the forest-fringed lakes—Eacham and Barrine—of Crater Lakes National Park. Enjoy a refreshing paddle or leisurely float around these World Heritagelisted volcanic craters. For something more adventurous, slide onto the water from your lakeside camp site on the shores of Lake Tinaroo (Danbulla) or Koomboolomba Dam to explore their intricate shorelines. Even better, for peace and seclusion, pack your tent into the canoe and set out for Danbulla's boat-access only camp sites!

Mountain biking

Atherton Forest Mountain Bike Park

Criss-cross the lower slopes of the Herberton Range on around 60km of award-winning, purpose-built single mountain-bike trails. Dip into rocky gullies and clear creeks, climb forestclad valleys and ridgelines, and pause at awe-inspiring views of the surrounding landscape. Whether you are a novice or more experienced, don't miss this exciting mountain biking opportunity.



Davies Creek Mountain Bike Park

Navigate 6, gently flowing, single trails through granite outcrops, clear streams, and open forests of bloodwoods, stringybarks, she-oaks, cycads and grass trees. Hidden in the rain-shadowed slopes of the Lamb Range, this park has trails suitable for riders of all abilities. Remember to bring your swimmers for a refreshing dip in Davies Creek afterwards!

Just down the road ...

- Smithfield Mountain Bike Park in Smithfield Conservation Park
- Black Mountain Road, the Twin Bridges Trail and the Bump Track in Kuranda and Mowbray national parks
- part of the Goldfield trail in Wooroonooran National Park
- Musgravea trail in Djiru National Park
- some of the Misty Mountains wilderness tracks.

Ride safely and responsibly

The trails have different grades to match riders' abilities. Check the signs for details, and know your limits. Plan your ride carefully and take care of the environment.





In the north

Parks to visit

- Davies Creek National Park
- Dinden National Park
- Bunda Bibandji (Bare Hill) Conservation Park
- Dinden West Forest Reserve

Must dos

- Enjoy crystal clear water, rushing over granite boulders at both Davies Creek (2) and Emerald Creek falls (6)
- Camp and picnic beside placid pools lined with smooth-barked watergums in Davies Creek 8 and Dinden 9 national parks.
- Climb up to Kalphahlim Rock 4 in Dinden National Park and be rewarded with endless views.
- Discover clear-flowing creeks, long-lost timber history and towering giants along the Clohesy River Road 1 through Dinden National Park.

Getting there

Davies Creek and Dinden national parks, Bunda Bibandji (Bare Hill) Conservation Park and Dinden West Forest Reserve are between Kuranda and Mareeba on the northern Tablelands. For most of the year you can reach Lower Davies Creek camping area, Davies Creek Falls and Emerald Creek Falls by conventional vehicle. You need a 4WD to access all other areas of these parks. Explore granite outcrops and towering forests, discover spectacular views and enjoy boulder-strewn creeks and rushing waterfalls.

Did you know?

Southern brown bandicoots are found in these parks—a long way from the nearest known population on Cape York Peninsula.

About the parks

These parks straddle the Lamb Range the string of mountains behind Cairns. Rainforest cloaks the wetter, eastern side of the range while contrasting, drier forests flank the rain-shadowed western slopes. Lush ribbons of rainforest fringe the many creeks that tumble from the ranges above.

Places to go

(1) A Clohesy River Road (including Clohesy River fig tree boardwalk) Dinden National Park

33km return (allow 2hr driving time) 300m return (allow 20min walking time)

Venture deep into the heart of World Heritage-listed forests of the Shoteel Creek and Clohesy River valleys. Stop and stretch your legs on the short track to the Clohesy River fig tree and stand in the shadow of this impressive tree.



2 Davies Creek Falls circuit Davies Creek National Park

1.1km return (allow 20min walking time)

Enjoy views of Davies Creek valley and the spectacular falls from lookouts then follow a tranquil creek, lined with paperbarks, pandanus and banksias. Stay behind the barriers at the lookouts.

Iurtle Rock circuit trail Dinden National Park

8km return (allow 3–4hr walking time)

Take in spectacular views in all directions on this challenging walk to the summit of Mount Turtle. Wind around massive boulders and climb to 936m, then descend along a ridge line and over Davies Creek.

(4) Kahlpahlim Rock circuit (Kahlpahlim Rock and Kahlpahlim Ridge trails) Dinden National Park

Dillueli National Park

12.3km return (allow 6–7hr walking time)

Walk these steep challenging trails in either direction. From the first trail head, pass through towering rose gum, turpentine and casuarina forests, and then climb steeply to the 1km side track to Kahlphalim Rock. At 1,300m above sea level, the enormous boulders of this rock are the highest point on the Lamb Range and hold a commanding position over the surrounding landscape. On the alternate return track follow old logging tracks through cool rainforest and over small creeks. It is 2.3km between the 2 trail heads on Davies Creek Road.

5 🔊 Bunda Bibandji (Bare Hill) Bunda Bibandji (Bare Hill) Conservation Park

1.9km return (allow 1hr walking time)

Walk to 2 rock art galleries depicting figures in red and yellow ochre and sense the ancient connections the Buluwandji people, the Traditional Owners of this land, have with this landscape.



6 Emerald Creek Falls track Dinden West Forest Reserve

1.9km return (allow 1hr walking time)

Climb to a lookout and soak up views of the falls, the valley below and across the northern tableland. Cool down after your walk with a swim in Emerald Creek. Take care on slippery rocks in and near the creek.

7 Davies Creek Mountain Bike Park Dinden West Forest Reserve and Dinden State Forest

Don't miss the chance to explore the rain-shadowed slopes of the Lamb Range on your bike. This park has gently flowing trails, suitable for riders of all abilities.

Places to camp

Camp sites must be booked and camping permits purchased before you arrive. See page 23 for details.

8 Lower Davies Creek camping area Davies Creek National Park

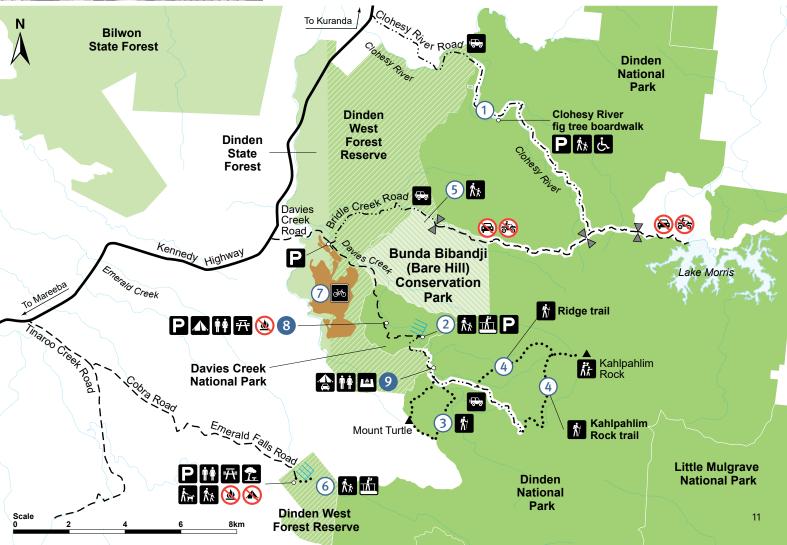
Camp beside the gurgling waters of Davies Creek. There is a short walk from the car park to the camp sites so tents are best suited to this camping area. Small campervans can stay overnight in the car park.

9 Upper Davies Creek camping area Dinden National Park

Camp along a stretch of Davies Creek shaded by tall forest. Toilets are shared between 2 camp sites.

Just down the road

Experience more of Queensland's beautiful parks and forests such as Barron Gorge National Park, Speewah Conservation Park, Jumrum Conservation Park and Kuranda and Mowbray national parks. Find out more at visitor information centres and **qld.gov.au/NationalParks**





In the centre

Parks to visit

- Crater Lakes National Park
- Curtain Fig National Park
- Malanda Falls Conservation Park
- Wooroonooran National Park

Must dos

- Glide your canoe or kayak over the tranquil waters of Lake Eacham

 and Lake Barrine (2).
- Marvel at the majesty of the towering Curtain Fig Tree 3 and try to fit it all into your camera lens.
- Search for tree-kangaroos while immersing yourself in Ngadjon-Jii culture on the Birrarr (red tulip oak) walk 4.
- Climb Bartle Frere—Queensland's highest peak!

Getting there

- Lake Eacham is on the eastern Atherton Tableland. Follow the signs from the Gillies Range Road or Lake Barrine-Malanda Road.
- Near the top of the Gillies Range, follow the signs from the Gillies Range Road to **Lake Barrine**, on the eastern Atherton Tableland.
- The **Curtain Fig Tree** is on the western outskirts of Yungaburra. Turn onto Curtain Fig Tree Road from the Gillies Highway (just outside Yungaburra) and travel 1km to the car park.

Immerse yourself in clear crater lakes fringed by lush rainforests and giant kauri pines, or sit by tumbling waterfalls. Marvel at towering mountains and magnificent fig trees.

About the park

Delight in this richly volcanic part of the Tablelands, dotted with crater lakes, statuesque mountains and rainforest giants. The parks protect a very rare rainforest type and many plants and animals are found nowhere else in the world.

Did you know?

Lake Eacham and Lake Barrine are volcanic maars—broad, low-relief volcanic craters formed when lava came into contact with the water table.



- **Malanda Falls** is on the outskirts of Malanda. Head down the Malanda-Atherton Road and turn into the signposted car park near the bridge.
- To reach the western trail head for the Bartle Frere trail, turn onto Topaz Road from the Malanda-Lake Barrine Road and travel 2km past Butchers Creek School. Turn left to Lamins Hill lookout—this gravel road can be slippery when wet—and follow the signs for 7km to the end of Gourka Road and the national park boundary. Junction camp, 2km along the track, marks the start of the walk.



Places to go

(1) Lake Eacham Crater Lakes National Park

Lake circuit track

3km circuit (allow 1hr walking time)

Stroll around the crater for forest-fringed views of the lake and see the landscape through the eyes of the Aboriginal Traditional Owners. Look for musky rat-kangaroos—these small, chocolatecoloured macropods are often seen here during the day.

🖄 Lake Eacham children's walk

1.4km return (allow 1hr playing time)

Learn about the rainforest and animals as you wriggle like a snake, stamp on pests and search for dragons and create amazing creatures on this fun walk for kids (and adults!).

2 Lake Barrine Crater Lakes National Park

🏂 Twin kauris walk

160m return (allow 10min walking time)

Admire these 2 magnificent bull kauri pine trees that tower 45m over you and the rest of the forest. They are thought to be more than 1,000 years old but no one really knows for sure.



600m one way (allow 15min walking time)

Discover epiphyte-laden branches, look for musky rat-kangaroos in the undergrowth and listen for chowchillas as they forage on the forest floor in this World Heritage-listed rainforest.

🗴 Lake circuit track

5km circuit (allow 2hr walking time)

Explore lush rainforest, typical of the fertile basalt (red) soils and high rainfall of this area, as you circumnavigate this high altitude crater lake.

Curtain Fig National Park

180m circuit (allow 10min walking time)

Gaze up at this unique tree, decorated with epiphytic ferns, amid endangered mabi forest. From the boardwalk, search the reaching branches for Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos, green possums and birds of all types.

(4) Malanda Falls Conservation Park

📶 Birrarr (red tulip oak) walk

1km return (allow 35min walking time)

Ngadjon-Jii culture is rich in this area. Venture into the forest to experience the culture, history and lifestyle that is sacred to this landscape and its Aboriginal people.



1.5km return (allow 1hr walking time)

Learn to identify trees of the rainforest and look for saw-shelled turtles and rainbowfish in the North Johnstone River as it rushes towards the coast.

Bartle Frere trail Wooroonooran National Park

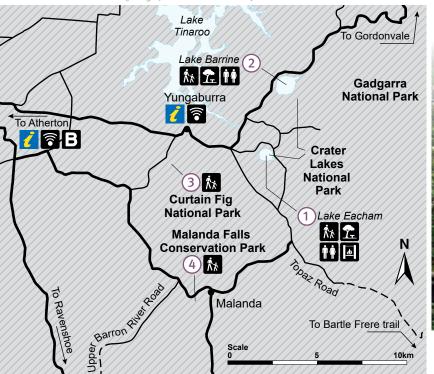
Challenge yourself and climb Queensland's highest peak! Not for the faint-hearted, this gruelling Grade 5 trek climbs to the State's summit at 1,622m where, on a clear day, you can enjoy stunning views all the way to the coast. Find out all you need to know at **qld.gov.au/NationalParks**

Ranger's tip

I walk the rainforest trails in awe of the skill, cleverness, and beauty of 'natures' architects' at work. Discovering an Aboriginal artefact now and again reminds me of my grandmother, who walked, lived and gathered food on these trails. She may have even used the artefact which makes me realise how close of a connection I have to this land. *Ranger Flynn*









Around Lake Tinaroo

Parks to visit

- Danbulla National Park
- Danbulla State Forest

Go boating, throw in a fishing line, enjoy a night under the stars or take a scenic drive. This area has rich Aboriginal connections and a fascinating history, so take the time to discover more. There's something for everyone at Danbulla!

Must dos

- Channel your inner geologist to form your own theory on how the Mobo Creek Crater (5) was formed.
- Relax in a waterside camp site
 12–17 that ticks all your camping boxes.
- Take a 4WD to explore cool, misty upland rainforest and towering rose gums on the Mount Edith-Kauri Creek Road circuit (7), and maybe hear the metallic call of the golden bowerbird.
- Be blessed by the dawn chorus at the aptly named Cathedral Fig Tree 6.
- Get wet and active on the waters of Lake Tinaroo—go swimming, paddling, skiing, fishing or boating. Fish year-round from the bank or boat, or throw in a pot for a feed of redclaw. Lake Tinaroo is a stocked impoundment so you need a permit if you are line fishing. Visit qld.gov. au/recreation/activities/boatingfishing/rec-fishing/dams for details.

Getting there

Danbulla Road extends 28km along the northern shore of Lake Tinaroo. The eastern entrance to Danbulla Road is Boar Pocket Road, near the top of the Gillies Range Road. The western entrance is via the township of Kairi. The regional council advises this road is unsuitable for caravans. You can also reach all of the camping areas and the Platypus day-use area by boat. The nearest boat ramps are in Tinaroo township.



About the park

Set aside at least a day to explore this spectacular part of the Tablelands. With forests, plantations and World Heritagelisted rainforest, this 12,000ha park is nestled between the Tinaroo and Lamb ranges and stretches along the banks of picturesque Lake Tinaroo.

Places to go

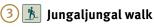
1 Platypus Rock

Climb the steps onto a huge granite boulder for a unique view of the plantation and forest canopy.



2.3km one way (allow 1hr walking time)

Grab your binoculars and enjoy this walk through land used for dairy farming before the dam was built. The land was then planted with pines, or left to naturally regenerate.



8.2km return (allow 3.5hr walking time)

Explore World Heritage-listed rainforests partly along the remains of old forestry roads on this sometimes steep walk. Look for colourful but well-camouflaged Boyd's forest dragons. Be prepared for wet feet on the creek crossings!

> Pitch your tent or camper trailer at Kauri Creek camping area Photo: Maxime Coquard © Qld Govt

(4) i Lake Euramoo lookout and track

500m circuit (allow 10min walking time)

Wind through the shadowy rainforest along this track and snatch occasional glimpses of the dumbbell shaped lake through the trees.

5 🗴 Mobo Creek Crater walk

630m circuit (allow 15min walking time)

The geology of this crater has perplexed scientists for many years. Draw your own conclusions as you walk through upland rainforest to the crater.

6 📶 Cathedral Fig Tree

300m return (allow 10min walking time)

This is one of the most impressive fig trees you will ever see. Bring your binoculars and greet the sun to experience a dawn chorus like no other.

(7) Mount Edith and Kauri Creek roads

43km return (allow 2hr driving time and 3–6hr riding time)

Drive (4WD only) or pedal through the rugged Lamb Range beneath everchanging forests and along graceful mountain streams.

8 Gillies lookout

8km return (allow 45min driving time)

You'll need a high clearance 4WD vehicle to tackle this unsealed road through farmland to a lookout with spectacular views.



Places to picnic

9 Platypus day-use area Relax in this sheltered picnic area near the dam wall.

Wauri Creek day-use area Enjoy a picnic lunch in this intimate day-use area on the banks of the sandy-bottomed Kauri Creek.

1 The Chimneys day-use area This large grassy area lies in the shadow of 2 lofty chimneys.

Places to camp

Explore all that Danbulla has to offer from 1 of the 6 lakeside camping areas. Camp fires are allowed at all camping areas and, except for Curri Curri, all camping areas have shower cubicles (BYO shower). Camp sites must be booked and camping permits purchased before you arrive. See page 23 for details.

😰 Platypus camping area

Set up camp under a towering hoop pine plantation. This camping area is popular with water skiers and fishers.



Downfall Creek camping area This popular area has open, grassy sites with uninterrupted water views and is popular for boating.

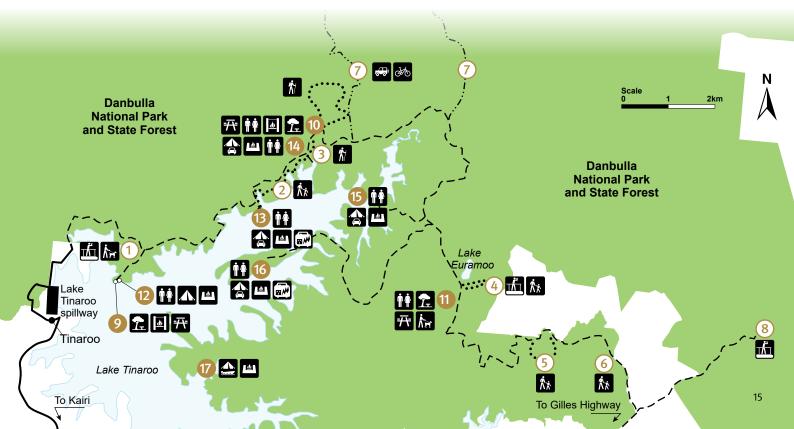
\phantom Kauri Creek camping area

On the edge of an inlet, this camping area is perfect for canoeing, kayaking and swimming.

(b) School Point camping area Today's peaceful camp sites, with expansive views, contrast with the bustle and hubbub of the Euramoo State School, which stood here until 1958.

16 Fong-On Bay camping area This large and open camping area is popular with water skiers and can accommodate large groups.

Curri Curri camping area These separate camp sites, with no facilities apart from fire rings, are accessible only by boat. The closest boat ramp is at Tinaroo township.





Around Atherton

Parks to visit

- Hallorans Hill Conservation Park
- Hasties Swamp National Park
- Herberton Range State Forest
- Baldy Mountain Forest Reserve
- Wongabel State Forest

Must dos

- Walk through endangered rainforest atop a volcanic cone– Hallorans Hill 1–high above the surrounding landscape.
- Jump on your bike and explore the trails at the Atherton Forest Mountain Bike Park 6.
- Immerse yourself in the history and culture of the area along the Wongabel Heritage walk (5).
- Grab your binoculars and search Hasties Swamp (2) for some of the 220 resident and migratory bird species.

Getting there

- Hallorans Hill is within Atherton township. Start your walk from the park on Louise Street and walk to the summit or, if downhill is more your style, drive to the summit and walk down (follow the signs from Robert Street or Dalziel Avenue).
- Hasties Swamp is on Hastie Road, 4km south of Atherton on the Atherton-Herberton Road.

Greet the colourful dawn from a sheltered bird hide or feel the sun's first rays as they hit your face high on a mountain summit. Venture deep into the heart of endangered rainforest and discover a fascinating past.



- The Atherton Forest Mountain Bike Park, Baldy Yabi circuit and the northern entrance of the Herberton Range Ridge Road are on Rifle Range Road. Follow the signs 1.6km south of Atherton on the Atherton-Herberton Road.
- The southern entrance of the Herberton Range Ridge Road is 12km south of Atherton on the Atherton-Herberton Road.
- Wongabel is 8km south of Atherton on the Kennedy Highway.

About the parks

Volcanic cones, signficant wetlands, endangered forests and awe-inspiring walks feature in the parks near Atherton. Hasties Swamp, a renowned wetland, attracts migratory birds from as far away as Japan, Siberia and New Guinea. Wongabel and Hallorans Hill protect endangered rainforest—home to Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos. Mount Baldy and the Herberton Range, cloaked in high-altitude rainforest, endangered wet sclerophyll forest and drier open forests, contain an extensive network of shared trails and lookouts with unrivalled views.

Places to go

(1) **b** Hallorans Hill walking track Hallorans Hill Conservation Park

1.4km one way (allow 40min walking time)

Walk through eucalypt forest and endangered rainforest to the summit of this volcanic cone for stunning views over the Tablelands. If you're quiet enough, you'll see eastern water dragons along Priors Creek.

2 Hasties Swamp bird hide Hasties Swamp National Park

From the comfort of this two-storey hide enjoy a wildlife spectacle with many kinds of resident and migratory birds feeding on this scenic seasonal wetland.

(3) **Baldy Yabi circuit** Baldy Mountain Forest Reserve and Herberton Range State Forest

8.4km circuit (allow 2.5hr walking time)

Your steep climb to the peaks of Mount Baldy and Yabi Mountain are more than rewarded with expansive views of Atherton and Lake Tinaroo. The walk is less strenuous in the clockwise direction. Dogs are permitted on this walk but they must be on a leash at all times.



17.5km one way (1.5hr driving time)

Four-wheel drive your way from 780m to 1,200m elevation through sun-dappled forests of bloodwoods and ironbarks, lush high-altitude rainforest and dry forests of turpentine, red mahogany and she-oak.

5 Mongabel Forest walk Wongabel State Forest

750m return (allow 15min walking time)

Delve into the heart of endangered mabi forest and learn what makes it so special. Search the treetops for Lumholtz's treekangaroos—the best way to find them is to spot their pendulous tails.

5 🗴 Wongabel Heritage walk Wongabel State Forest

2.5km return (allow 1hr walking time)

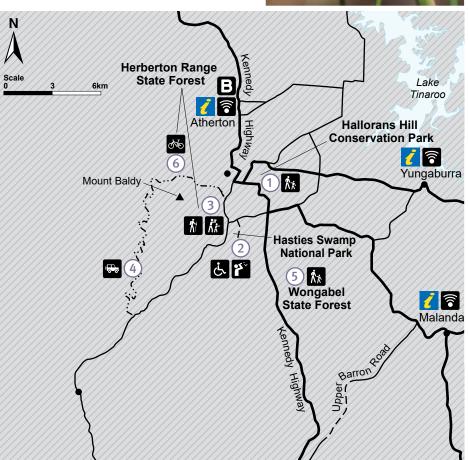
Wongabel has a rich timber history and is considered the birthplace of reforestation in Queensland. Find out more along this track flanked by endangered rainforest and plantation trees.

6 Atherton Forest Mountain Bike Park

Criss-cross the lower slopes of the Herberton Range on around 60km of award-winning, purpose-built singletrack trails.



(Clockwise from top left): Fringe lily; Whistling ducks at Hasties Swamp; View from Mount Baldy on the Baldy Yabi circuit; Legless lizard Photos (clockwise from top left): Roger James © Qld Govt; Roger James © Qld Govt; © Tamara Vallance; Roger James © Qld Govt





Heading south

Parks to visit

- Mount Hypipamee National Park
- Herberton Range Conservation Park
- Tumoulin State Forest and National Park
- Millstream Falls National Park

Must dos

- Step back in time and see how the Australian Army soldiers lived, trained and played at Millstream Falls (5).
- Spotlight for possums, treekangaroos, spiders and insects at Mount Hypipamee (1).
- Cool off in the spray from McKenzie Falls in Tumoulin State Forest 4.

Getting there

- Mount Hypipamee National Park is on the Kennedy Highway, 25km south of Atherton.
- Find your way to Herberton Range Conservation Park via E Hill Road or Plath Road. You will need a 4WD to explore the park.
- To reach **Tumoulin State Forest** and National Park, via McKenzie, Smith or Allen Roads, you will need a 4WD.
- **Big Millstream Falls** and the **World War II Heritage walk** are 3.5km south-west of Ravenshoe on the Kennedy Highway.
- To get to Little Millstream Falls, from Ravenshoe take the Tully Falls Road and drive for 3km to Wooroora Road. Turn right and drive 1.5km to the signposted turn off.

Hit the waterfall trail! High and narrow, wide and tiered, trickling or tumbling—be amazed by waterfalls of every size and shape, set among a kaleidoscope of forests and ancient geological features.

Did you know?

No-one is really sure how Dinner

Falls got its name but the story we

like the most is that it was named for

its 3 tiers-entree, main and dessert.

About the parks

Highlights here include a deep volcanic pipe, tumbling waterfalls, ancient lava flows and wide variety of forest types. The forests protect endemic (found only here) birds like Victoria's riflebird, bridled honeyeater and golden and toothbilled bowerbirds. The night is alive with threatened species like Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos, yellow-bellied gliders, magnificent broodfrogs and rufous owls.

> Right: Victoria's riflebird; Below: Big Millstream Falls; Bottom: Mount Hypipamee crater Photos: (right) © Qld Govt; (below) © Jodie Bray; (bottom) Maxime Coquard © Qld Govt



Places to go

Mount Hypipamee National Park

1 the Crater track

800m one way (allow 15min walking time)

Emerge from high-altitude rainforest to the surprising sight of a diatreme (volcanic pipe) and try to imagine the sounds and sights of the massive explosion that formed this crater. Return along the same track or via the Dinner Falls track.

1 binner Falls track

600m one way (allow 25min walking time)

View the cascades forming Dinner Falls from these humble beginnings, the Barron River picks up speed and size as it travels to Lake Tinaroo, through the hydroelectric station at Kuranda, over the Barron Falls and to the coast just north of Cairns.

Herberton Range Conservation Park

2 📂 Halls Falls track

520m return (allow 15min walking time)

Under a forest of brushbox, watch the cool, clear water of Halls Falls tumble gently over polished granite walls.

3 M Drovers lookout track

250m return (allow 10min walking time)

Walk or horseride along a 4WD track, to this amazing lookout with sprawling easterly views over the southern Tablelands and beyond. Remember to take your camera!

Tumoulin State Forest and National Park

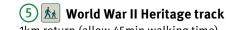
(4) **McKenzie Falls track** 600m return (allow 15min walking time)

Watch the Millstream River cascade over the falls and down the valley beyond. Look for the subtle mauve colour of delicate fringe lilies hidden among the grey-green grasses.

Millstream Falls National Park

5 Big Millstream Falls lookout 680m return (allow 15min walking time)

A sealed track through forests of pinktrunked, lemon-scented gums leads to a lookout over Millstream Falls—reputedly the widest, single-drop waterfall in Australia.

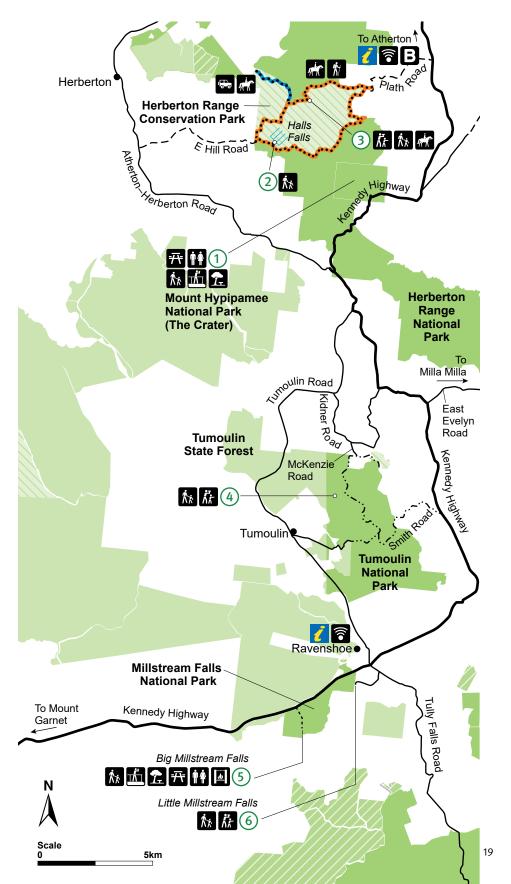


1km return (allow 45min walking time)

Imagine the early 1940s when the Tablelands were dotted with training areas for up to 100,000 Australian troops. See the remains of tent sites, corduroy roads, training and parade grounds, trenches and other reminders of their time spent here.

6 Little Millstream Falls track 700m return (allow 25min walking time)

Peek at the falls from the car park or descend down the walking track to take a closer look. These slender falls spill gracefully through and around massive boulders and rock faces. Look for platypus in the pools at its base.





Southern Tablelands

Parks to visit

- Tully Gorge National Park
- Tully Falls National Park
- Koombooloomba National Park and Conservation Park

Must dos

- Unplug from your routine and spend a couple of days exploring the Misty Mountains wilderness tracks (2).
- Marvel at the Tully Falls as they thunder past on their way down the gorge (but only in the wet season!) (3).
- Set up camp beside Koombooloomba Dam and watch the fog roll in as the sun sets 5.

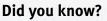
Getting there

- The Tully Gorge lookout and River walk are 24km south of Ravenshoe on Tully Falls Road.
- The **Wabunga Wayemba walk** has 2 trail heads on Tully Falls Road. The first is 11.5km from Ravenshoe and the second is a further 1.7km along the road.
- Koombooloomba is 20km south of Ravenshoe on Tully Falls Road. You can get there in a conventional vehicle with high clearance in dry conditions. The Nitchaga Creek and Wall Creek roads can only be accessed by 4WD.

Immerse yourself in the scenic, cloud-swathed landscape of the southern Tablelands where the interlaced drives, walks, lookouts and camping areas will leave you awestruck by this corner of the world. This is one of the wettest areas in Queensland.

About the park

The Tully River captured the headwaters of several creeks and rivers, harnessed their power and combined with an ancient fault line to create the sharp and deep Tully Gorge. Koombooloomba Dam was built on the Tully River in the 1950s to meet the increased electricity needs of north Queensland. These parks are the heart of the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area.



The small town of Koombooloomba, complete with a school, police barracks, store and cricket club, housed workers and their families during the dam's construction.



Places to go Tully Falls National Park

1 🔥 Wabunga Wayemba rainforest track

5.5km return (allow 2.5hr walking time)

Walk through rainforest to a waterfall where clear mountain water flows over moss-coated rocks and collects in a shallow pool. Keep an eye out for cassowaries and look for huge tadpoles and tiny crayfish in the pools.

2 Misty Mountains wilderness tracks

Explore 130km of roads and trails as you ride or walk your way through lush high-altitude rainforest, along clear mountain streams, and to thundering waterfalls, endless views and secluded camping areas. Be aware that fallen trees can obstruct roads and tracks in this area. Find out more at **qld.gov.au**/ **MistyMountains**

Tablelands section, Tully Gorge National Park

3 **Tully Gorge lookout** 100m return (5min walking time)

On top of the gorge, enjoy sprawling views over the falls and deeply carved valley. The dam upstream usually restricts the water to just a trickle but, during the wet season, when the whole system floods, the falls can become a thundering spectacle.



4 🔥 River walk

1.3km return (allow 45min walking time)

After taking in the views from the lookout, follow the river upstream through open woodland and upland rainforest. At the end of the trail, relax beside the Tully River before heading back to your car.

Places to camp

There's no mobile service at Koombooloomba so make sure you book and pay for your camp site before you leave home.

5 Koombooloomba National Park bush camping

Set up your camp site on the shoreline of Koombooloomba Dam nestled among shady trees. Bring wood for the fire and a spotlight to explore the forest at night.

6 Koombooloomba Conservation Park camping area

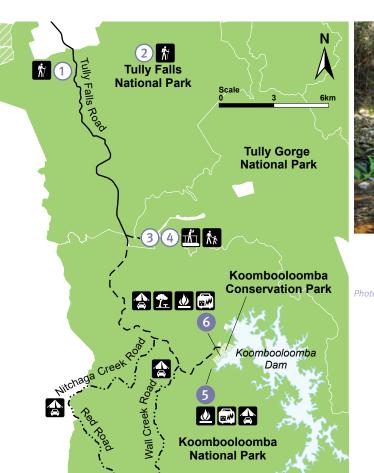
Set back from the dam, this large, open and flat camping area has separate sites lining what used to be the town's cricket oval. Pack the bats and balls—the concrete pitch is still there!

Bush camping on Nitchaga Creek and Wall Creek roads

Accessible by 4WD, choose a private camp site from several along these roads.

Visit with care

- Skiing and fishing are popular in Koombooloomba Dam but you need to be careful of submerged trees and other hazards. Fog and storms can also roll in quickly and without warning.
- Maritime Safety Queensland places restrictions on the dam when water levels are low. Make sure you visit qld.gov.au/transport/boating/notices before you hook up your trailer.



Above: Waterfall on the Wabunga Wayemba rainforest track Right: Whispey Falls, Misty Mountains wilderness tracks Photos: (above) © Tamara Vallance; (right) © Steven Nowakowski

Just down the road

Experience more of Queensland's beautiful parks and forests at nearby Girringun, Undara and Forty Mile Scrub national parks. You can find out more at **qld.gov.au/NationalParks** and also at some visitor information centres.



Visit with care

Make your visit to the Tablelands memorable for all the right reasons.

Stay informed

Regularly check:

- park alerts at **qld.gov.au/ParkAlerts** for conditions and closures
- bushfire alerts at **qfes.qld.gov.au** for fire danger and fire bans
- current and forecast weather conditions at **bom.gov.au**
- traffic and travel information at qldtraffic.qld.gov.au for road conditions.

Be responsible

- Avoid disturbing animals and plants and don't feed them or leave food scraps around camp sites or picnic areas.
- All rubbish (including food scraps, cigarette butts and sanitary and hygiene items) must be taken with you if bins aren't provided.



- Where toilets aren't provided, bury faecal waste and toilet paper at least 15cm deep and at least 100m from waterways, tracks and camping areas.
- If having an open fire is important, check they are allowed before you book your camp site. Bring clean firewood as you can't collect it from the park. Use fire rings where provided and always make sure your camp fire is properly extinguished with water before you leave. Take any unburnt material with you.
- Wash away from streams, gullies and watercourses and minimise the use of soap and detergents.
- Be pest free! Check that your vehicle, boat, clothing, footwear, camping gear and equipment is free of soil, seeds, parts of plants, rodents, lizards, toads, insects and eggs before visiting a park. Pests love to live in stored gear, and to hitch a ride on your clothing, equipment or vehicles. Regularly check your clothing and gear for seeds and bits of plants. Remove and wrap any seeds and plant material, and place them in your rubbish.



Be safe

- In an emergency, call Triple Zero (000).
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Take a first-aid kit and know how to use it.
- Keep to walking tracks. Stay back from cliff edges and take care on uneven and slippery track surfaces. Obey all directional, safety and regulatory signs.
- Bring your own drinking water.
- Wear sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and a long-sleeved shirt, even on cloudy days.
- Beware of stinging trees. The heartshaped leaves, stems and red fruits of these shrubby plants are covered with tiny silica hairs which inject toxins when touched. The very painful sting can persist for months. If stung, and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.
- Wear sturdy footwear, protective clothing and insect repellent to avoid bites, scratches and stings.
- Be aware of other track users and follow the give-way code—cyclists give way to horses and walkers; walkers give way to horses.
- When in and around water, check the conditions and stay out of the water if hazardous. Never dive or jump into creeks, waterholes and lakes, and always swim with others. Never swim when a creek is flooded.

Left to right: Use the fire rings provided; Always wear sturdy footwear; Beware of stinging trees

Photos: (left to right) Roger James © Qld Govt; Tamara Vallance © Qld Govt; Roger James © Qld Govt



Be cass-o-wary

The Tablelands are home to the cassowary—Australia's largest rainforest animal. Cassowary behaviour is unpredictable and they can inflict serious injuries by kicking with their large clawed feet.

- Never approach cassowaries, including chicks—male cassowaries will defend them.
- Never feed cassowaries—it is illegal and dangerous and has caused cassowary deaths.
- Always discard food scraps in closed bins.
- Always slow down when driving in cassowary territory.
- Never stop your vehicle on the road to look at cassowaries.

Know your limits

When walking and riding, be realistic about your physical condition, knowledge, experience and skills. Check individual track classifications on our website at **qld.gov.au/NationalParks** to help you decide which tracks are right for you.

Walking track classification

Grade	Symbol	Track description	
1	<u>Å5</u>	No bushwalking experience required. Flat, even surface with no steps or steep sections. Suitable for wheelchair users who have someone to assist them.	
2	Ŕĸ	No bushwalking experience required. The track is a hardened or compacted surface and may have a gentle hill section or sections and occasional steps.	
3	Ŕ	Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface and many steps.	
4	<u>*</u>	Bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may be long, rough and very steep. Directional signs may be limited.	
5	<u>K</u>	Very experienced bushwalkers with specialised skills, including navigation and emergency first aid. Tracks are likely to be very rough, very steep and unmarked.	

Camping in parks and forests

To camp in parks and forests you need to book your camp sites and purchase camping permits before you arrive mobile reception may not be available. It's best to book well in advance as camp sites in popular parks are in high demand during peak periods, such as long weekends and school holidays. Not all parks allow camping so visit **qld.gov.au**/ **NationalParks** to check arrangements.

To book a camp site:

- go to qld.gov.au/Camping and book online using a payment card or online gift card.
- visit an over-the-counter permit booking office accepting cash, eftpos and payment card. Locations are listed at qld.gov.au/CampingBookingOffices.

Using generators

In some camping areas you can use generators that operate at a noise level less than 65dB(A) when measured at a distance of 7m from the generator. When booking your camp site, check whether generators are permitted in your selected camp area and note specified operating times.

Other places to stay

For accommodation options outside national parks visit athertontablelands.com.au and tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au

Know your limits before setting out on walking tracks like the Misty Mountains wilderness tracks. Photo: © Steven Nowakowski

Further information



🔥 qld.gov.au/Camping

qld.gov.au/ParkAlerts (access, closures and conditions)

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This brochure is also available online at qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures

Useful contacts For help planning your holiday, visit **queensland.com**

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