

Welcome

to Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park

The land
is the
Heart of
Waanyi

“ We the Waanyi People, Traditional Owners of Boodjamulla National Park, welcome you to our country and ask that you respect our special place.

When we come into the gorge we feel at home; we feel so safe; we are visiting our old people.

Waanyi Elders

Boodjamulla National Park acknowledges the **Waanyi People as the First Australians and the Custodians of Boodjamulla**. We pay respect to Elders of the past, present, and emerging in maintaining the culture, country and spiritual connection to the land.

The Waanyi People know this region as their spiritual and sacred *Budjimala* (Rainbow Serpent) country. This sacred Ancestral Being created many of the region's striking landscape features.

Archaeological deposits and artefacts in this area have established that First Nations people have lived here for 30,000 years, and today the Waanyi People continue to feel a deep sense of personal responsibility for the safekeeping of the place. Their connection to the landscape is maintained through cultural practice on their traditional homeland.



Your Boodjamulla journey starts here

Situated in the remote north-west highlands of Queensland, Boodjamulla National Park encompasses **Lawn Hill Gorge** and the **Riversleigh World Heritage Area**. Your best way to travel in this expansive country is with a well-prepared and equipped 4WD.

Start your visit walking the **Rainbow Serpent track** ① which leads to informative displays and maps to help you learn everything you need to know before exploring Boodjamulla. All of Lawn Hill Gorge's walking tracks start from here, so take some time to plan your perfect day by checking out the helpful information panels.

If it's canoeing you have in mind, continue towards the creek to the **canoe launching area** ② to begin your adventure on water.



Bushwalking



Explore the gorge and surrounding landscapes on one of the park's many walking tracks. Some careful planning will ensure you experience the best sites at the best time of day. See over to plan your journey.

Make an early start and walk the short but strenuous **Island Stack** to welcome first light over the gorge. In the afternoon, hike the **Constance Range track** for sunset views that stretch over the rolling hills.

Follow *Budjimala* (Rainbow Serpent) on the **Rainbow Serpent track** and learn Lawn Hill Gorge's creation story, as told by the Waanyi People. Marvel at rock art and engravings on the **Wild Dog Dreaming track**.

Take the easy **Botanical walk** to discover extraordinary tufa (limestone) formations, shaped by creek water over thousands of years. Be rewarded with bird's eye views over Lawn Hill Gorge from one of many vantage points along the **Duwardarri lookout**, **Indarri Falls** and **Upper Gorge lookout tracks**.

Canoeing



Experience the true magnificence of the gorge by canoe or kayak. Dip a paddle into the emerald-green waters on the **Lawn Hill Gorge canoe trail** ⑤ and explore the Middle and Upper gorges.

Camping



Pitch a tent and fall asleep under the starry outback skies at one of two camping areas in the park.

Set up your camp at **Lawn Hill Gorge camping area** ③. This camping area is very popular during peak season (April to October) so make sure you book well in advance. Or stay at peaceful **Miyumba camping area**, ④ approximately 55km south-east of Lawn Hill Gorge near the Riversleigh World Heritage Area. This is camping in the rough, so you'll need to bring everything you need to make sure your stay is comfortable. Fires and generators are not permitted at either of these camping areas.

You'll need to obtain your camping permit before you arrive. You can book and pay for your camping permit at qld.gov.au/Camping

Camping and other accommodation are also available at nearby **Adels Grove**, 10km from the park entrance. Find out more at adelsgrove.com.au

Camping at a glance

Lawn Hill Gorge camping area



Camping area beside Lawn Hill Creek. Twenty separate unnumbered sites with separate areas for tents and trailers. Cold showers. Flushing toilets.

Miyumba camping area



Bush camping area. Six separate unnumbered sites. Non-flush toilets.

Discover

Riversleigh

World Heritage Area



Unearth Australia's prehistoric past at Riversleigh—part of the Australian Fossil Mammal Sites World Heritage Area.

Riversleigh is one of the most important fossil sites in the world and contains fossils dating back 25 million years.

Imagine a time when this area was a lush rainforest filled with mineral lime-rich freshwater pools and the diversity of animals and plants in Australia was at its peak. Marvel at the rich record of life that palaeontologists have revealed at D Site ④, including giant snakes, tree-climbing crocodiles and carnivorous kangaroos that met their doom in a muddy lake and are now fossilised in limestone rock.

Riversleigh fossil trail

800m return, allow 1 hour.

Immerse yourself in an ancient landscape and experience part of the record of life—see fossilised limb bones of towering flightless birds and the remains of turtles and the largest known freshwater crocodile. The self-guided interpretive trail has many steps, is steep in places and has a small interpretive shelter along the way.

Wakeleo oldfieldi was a tree-climbing carnivore.
© Jane Jehne—JungleNook Studio

Further Info

-  qld.gov.au/NationalParks
-  qld.gov.au/Camping
-  qld.gov.au/ParkAlerts
(access, closures and conditions)
-  [qldnationalparks](https://www.facebook.com/qldnationalparks)
-  [@QldParks](https://www.instagram.com/QldParks); [#QldParks](https://www.instagram.com/QldParks)

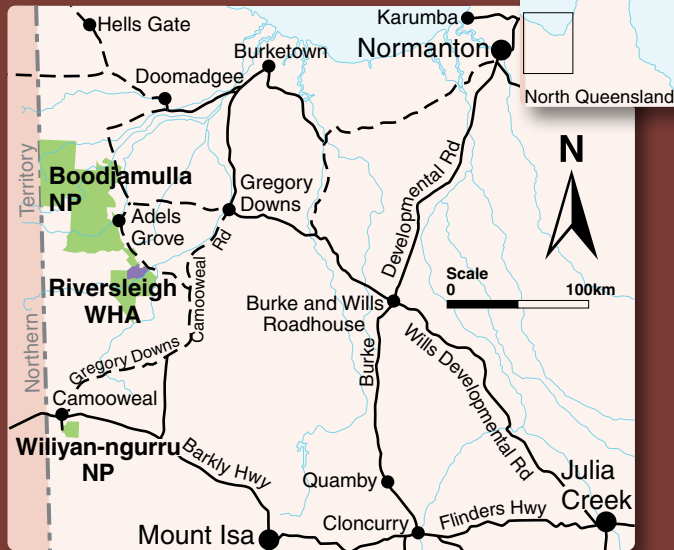


This brochure is also available online at qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures

Check road conditions before you visit at qldtraffic.qld.gov.au or phone 13 19 40.

For information about the nearby Adel's Grove Camping Park visit adelsgrove.com.au

Locality map



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Department of Environment and Science.
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Explore a natural oasis

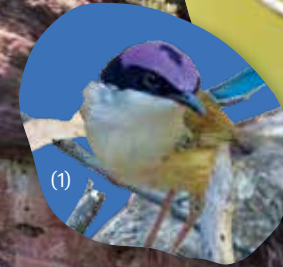
Once covered in wet tropical rainforest dotted with freshwater pools, the landscape of Boodjamulla has eroded over millions of years, leaving behind rugged escarpments, deep gorges and sheer sandstone walls.

Spinifex and Mitchell grass now stretch across the dry plains and eucalypts, acacias and grevilleas cling to rugged red sandstone hills. Cabbage palm, pandanus and fig trees grow along the river and creek—a remaining oasis of lush green in a semi-arid landscape.

Lawn Hill Creek and the Gregory and O'Shanassy rivers flow all year round, providing a sanctuary for resident and migratory wildlife and making Boodjamulla a birdwatchers' paradise. Listen out for the raucous call of channel-billed cuckoos. The gorge is one of the few places in Australia where these birds live year-round, attracted by the warm winters and the bountiful supply of figs. Watch the lively antics of purple-crowned fairy-wrens building nests in the thick vegetation lining the creek. In the camping areas, spot crimson finches and listen for distinctive barking owls calling to one another in the night.

The rocky escarpments are home to olive pythons, ring-tailed dragons, wallaroos and the little arm-waving Gilberts or 'ta-ta' lizard.

Along the creek, spy freshwater crocodiles lazing on the banks and fish and turtles bubbling inquisitively to the surface. You may be lucky to spot the vulnerable Gulf snapping turtle, as well as more common barramundi, sleepy cod and catfish.

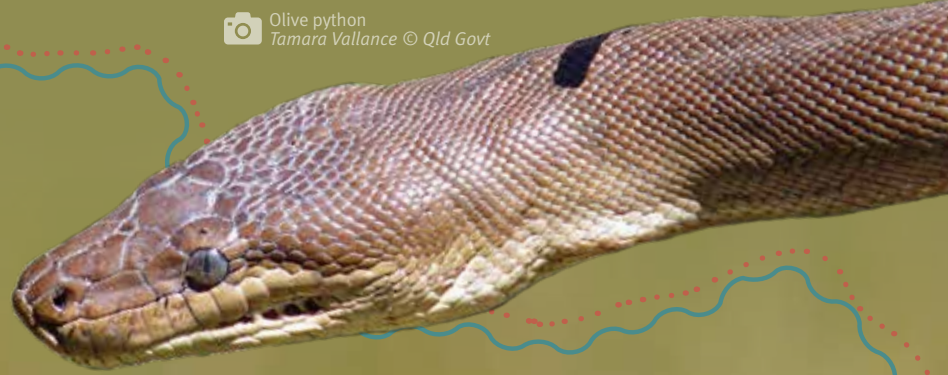


(1) Purple-crowned fairy-wren; (2) Crimson finch; (3) Gulf snapping turtle; (4) Freshwater crocodile.
(1) © Coral Ross; (2) © Bruce Thomson; (3-4) © Qld Govt

(4)

Welcome to Waanyi Country

Olive python
Tamara Vallance © Qld Govt



Elders customary rules on Waanyi country

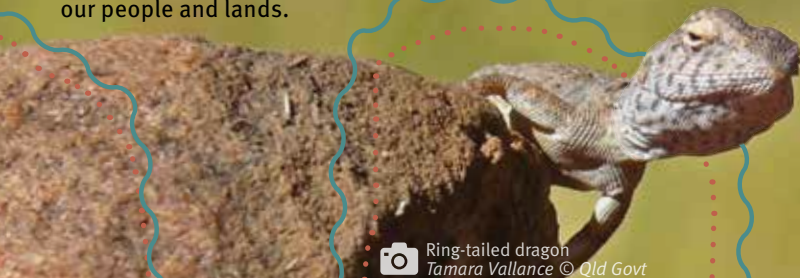
The Waanyi People welcome you to Boodjamulla and encourage visitors to observe and enjoy this amazing country. Our connections to this country are richly layered and have been interconnected for thousands of years. Physically and spiritually Boodjamulla is important; you are in the presence of significant dreamings—Rainbow Serpent (Boojimula), Eagle Hawk (Jurrbigula) and Storm bird (Doowadurri).

Protection of country is all of our responsibility. To ensure the preservation of country and culture, Waanyi People have identified important customary protocols for visitors that we suggest you follow:

- Acknowledge Waanyi traditional connection with the land.
- Strangers must obtain permission to enter and use resources on Waanyi country.
- Let the spirits smell you by putting water on you—you are no longer a stranger.
- Cooking water foods (fish) and land foods (kangaroo, beef) together is not allowed.

We encourage visitors to take the time to understand the richness of Waanyi culture and country on your visit and enjoy the deep connections between our people and lands.

Ring-tailed dragon
Tamara Vallance © Qld Govt



Tips & tricks from the Rangers

Despite having worked here for 2 decades or more, I have only seen about 2% of the park—it really is a big place. While the focus tends to be on Lawn Hill Gorge, there is so much more that makes this place the awe-inspiring area that it is. There's no shade in the middle of the creek. So take your own. You're in snake country now! So, stick to the tracks and wear boots.

Ranger Gaf

Boodjamulla National Park is better known as “Mumbaleeya Country” (rainbow serpent country) by our proud Waanyi People, past and present. Whether enjoyed by canoe or foot, be captivated by the fiery-red sandstone gorges and emerald-green healing water (Boulgi waters). The walking tracks and land features hold many mesmerising relics of the past that will transport you back in time.

Waanyi man and former Boodjamulla Ranger Jarrod

When you are here exploring, remember you are in the Aussie outback. Though spectacular, it can also be harsh. You can really enhance your visit with a little preparation and planning, so sturdy footwear, a good hat and plenty of water is a necessity.

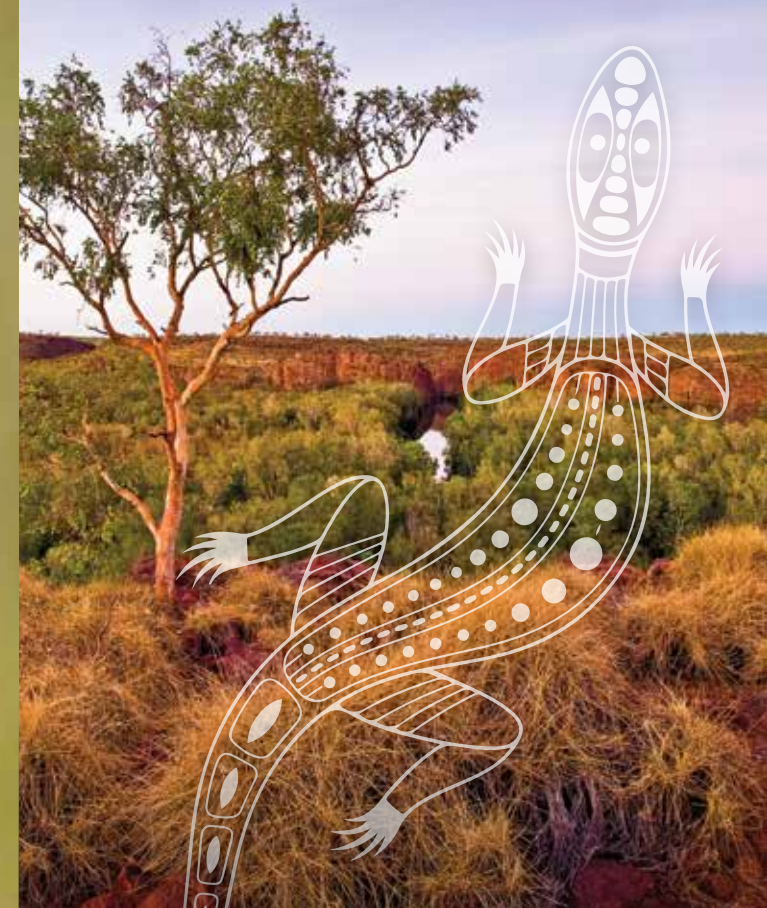
Some things here at Boodjamulla make you feel part of something iconic and exceptional. Watch the sun rise from Duwadarri lookout as the rays hit the crystal green water and bounce off the red rock in the gorge. And feel captivated and amused by the antics of our ‘Boodjamulla pixies’—the purple-crowned fairy-wrens flitting along the water's edge.

Ranger Jason

Queensland National Parks

Boodjamulla National Park


Lawn Hill Gorge
Riversleigh World Heritage Area



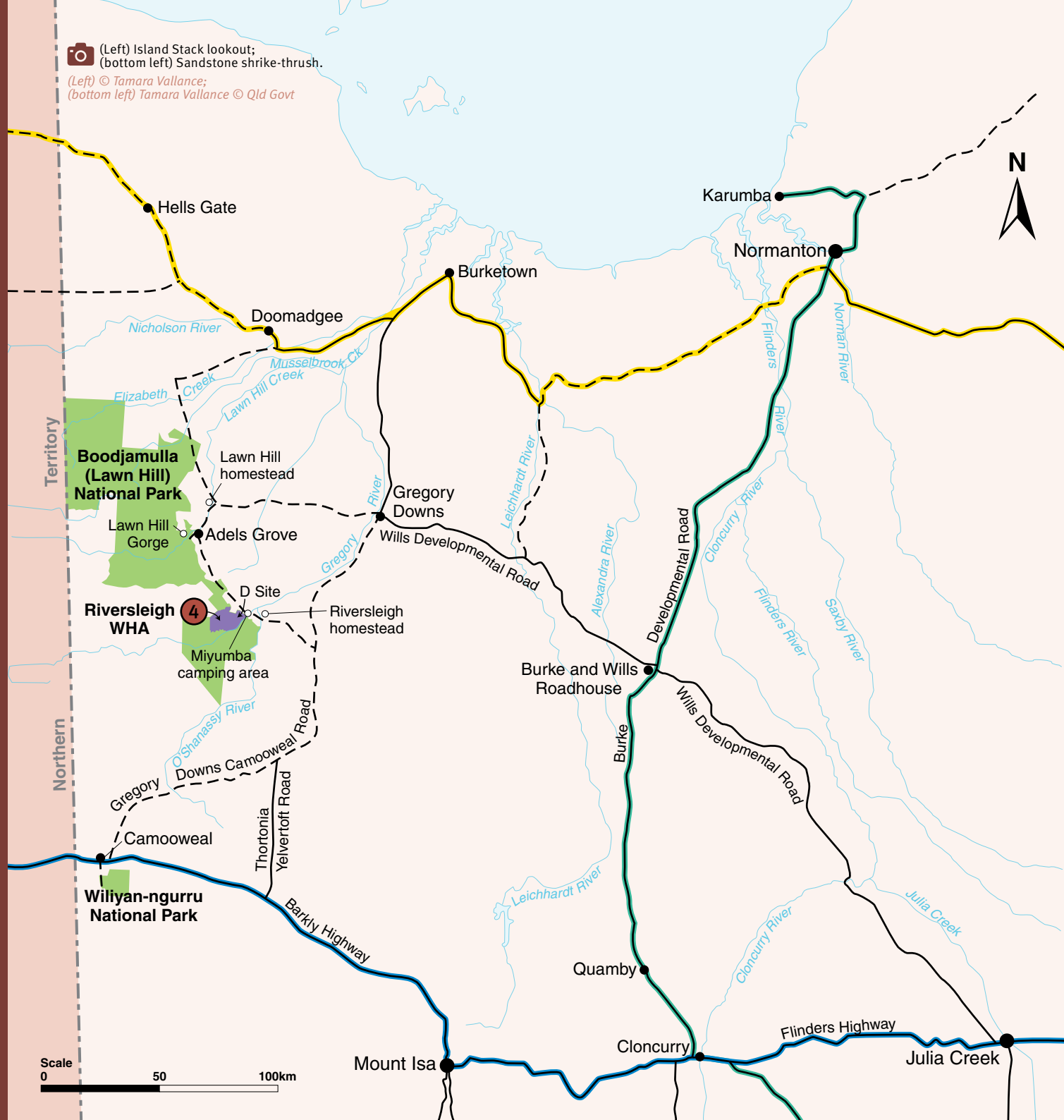


Caring for Boodjamulla

- Everything in the park is protected. Please leave everything as you find it.
- Fires are not permitted. Use a fuel or gas stove for cooking.
- The use of generators is not permitted.
- Fishing is prohibited in Lawn Hill Creek.
- Do not feed the wildlife, including fish. It can affect their health and alter the natural population balance.
- For cultural reasons, the Lower Gorge is not accessible by water.
- To ensure that the waterways are kept unspoilt, motorised boats are not permitted in the park.
- Take your rubbish with you when you leave—what you bring in, you take out.
- Please help us preserve the fossils in the World Heritage Area. Visitors to D Site are not permitted to traverse beyond the walking trail due to the sensitive values of the fossils. The area is under periodic surveillance to help protect the fossils.

 (Left) Island Stack lookout;
(bottom left) Sandstone shrike-thrush.

(Left) © Tamara Vallance;
(bottom left) Tamara Vallance © Qld Govt



Arrive and Explore Safely

Make your visit to Boodjamulla memorable for the right reasons.

Before you leave home:

- make sure you have packed ample fresh water and food in case of delays caused by bad weather, flat tyres or breakdowns
- pack a minimum of 2 spare tyres in good condition
- make sure someone knows your destination and route and never leave your vehicle if it breaks down
- travel with a UHF radio (channels 1 and 6 are local repeaters), or satellite phone
- check with your service provider where mobile phone reception is available. Depending on your provider, some coverage may be available at sites within the national park.

At Boodjamulla:

- wear sunscreen, particularly when walking and canoeing, as the sun's reflection off the water can cause sunburn
- keep to the walking tracks at all times, take note of safety signs, walking distances, return times and track grades
- rest often in the shade as heat exhaustion can affect even the fit and experienced
- stay clear of cliff edges and steep rock faces and take care on uneven slippery track surfaces, especially when wet
- carry plenty of drinking water to avoid dehydration—drinking water straight from Lawn Hill Creek can make you very thirsty because of the high levels of calcium carbonate
- freshwater crocodiles live in the park and are often seen in Lawn Hill Creek. They can become aggressive if disturbed and can cause injury. Do not approach or interfere with these animals and take care if swimming.



Getting there

Boodjamulla National Park lies on ancient sandstone of the Constance Range, between Barkly Tablelands to the south-west and the black soils of the Gulf Savanna Plains to the east. The Lawn Hill Gorge section of the park is 340km north-west of Mount Isa. Riversleigh World Heritage Area is 285km north-west of Mount Isa.

You can access the park from the south, via Mount Isa or Camooweal, from the east via Gregory Downs, or from the north via Hell's Gate or Doomadgee.

The road from Mount Isa is only sealed part of the way and is unsuitable for conventional vehicles and caravans. All routes from the north are via rough, unsealed roads suitable for 4WD only.

The road from Gregory Downs is unsealed and 4WDs are recommended; however, this is the only route suitable for conventional vehicles and off-road caravans (dependent on road conditions).





























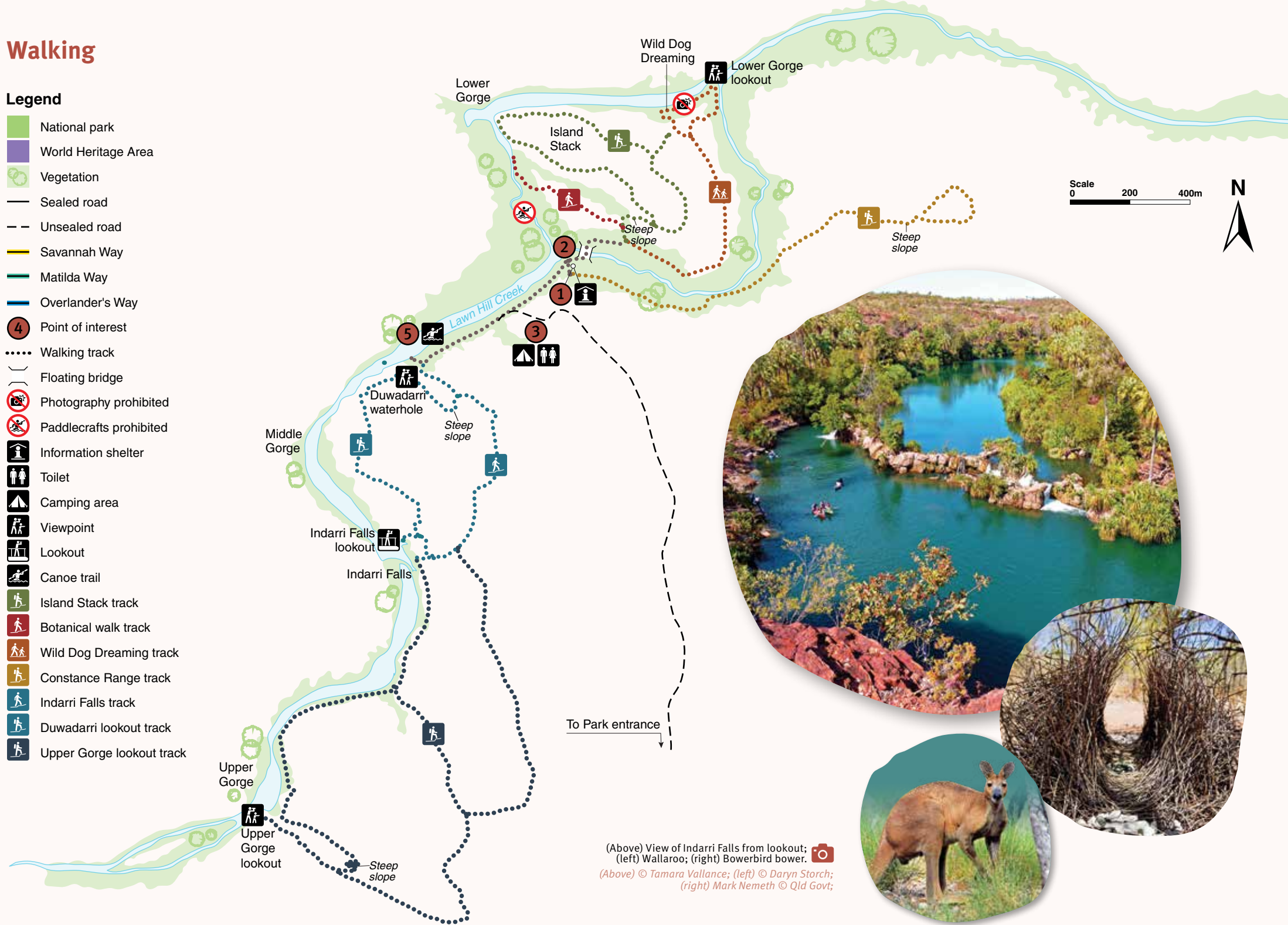
Be aware that unsealed sections of road can be rough, with patches of bulldust and corrugations. Sections of the roads can also be impassable for extended periods after rain. Always check road conditions before travelling to the area.

During the wet season (October–April), we recommend visitors travel by 4WD and carry an over-supply of food. Creek levels rise dramatically within a short time and with little warning, cutting off road access and leaving you stranded.

Walking

Legend

-  National park
-  World Heritage Area
-  Vegetation
-  Sealed road
-  Unsealed road
-  Savannah Way
-  Matilda Way
-  Overlander's Way
-  Point of interest
-  Walking track
-  Floating bridge
-  Photography prohibited
-  Paddlecrafts prohibited
-  Information shelter
-  Toilet
-  Camping area
-  Viewpoint
-  Lookout
-  Canoe trail
-  Island Stack track
-  Botanical walk track
-  Wild Dog Dreaming track
-  Constance Range track
-  Indarri Falls track
-  Duwadarri lookout track
-  Upper Gorge lookout track




(Above) View of Indarri Falls from lookout; (left) Wallaroo; (right) Bowerbird bower.
 (Above) © Tamara Vallance; (left) © Daryn Storch; (right) Mark Nemeth © Qld Govt;

Plan your adventure

Plan your walk


Island Stack

 2.6km, 2hr return

Start with an easy creek-side stroll then take a deep breath and prepare to tackle the steep climb up the sandstone 'stack'. Follow the circuit around the top of the stack to enjoy panoramic views.


The best time to walk is early morning, before the heat of the day starts. Alternatively, walk in the late afternoon, when you can watch the changing red hues of the gorge as the sun sinks into the horizon (bring a torch for the return trip).

Botanical walk

 1.6km, 1hr return

Take an easy walk below the Island Stack and then continue along the Botanical walk. Where the track ends, snap photos of the imposing Lower Gorge sandstone cliffs and fascinating tufa (limestone) formations shaped by lime-laden creek waters. Return the way you came.

Wild Dog Dreaming


 2.2km, 1.5hr return

For a fascinating insight into Waanyi culture, follow this partly-shaded walking track alongside Lawn Hill Creek, to this important cultural site. Discover ancient rock engravings known as 'peckings', extensive rock art in a rock shelter and a large midden—remnants of long-ago meals. As you explore the Wild Dog Dreaming site and witness tangible evidence of its past inhabitants, feel a strong sense of the connection between the Waanyi People and their land.

The Waanyi People ask that you respect their culture by not taking photographs at this site. Remember not to touch the rock paintings or engravings.

Continue on to the Lower Gorge lookout (575m, 30min return) and rest beside the creek before returning.


Constance Range track

 3.7km, 3hr return

Your reward after climbing up the ancient sandstone ridge and onto the ridge top of the Constance Range is spectacular, panoramic views. Sit down to catch your breath, enjoy the silence and gaze at dramatic views over the black soils of the Gulf Savanna Plains.

This challenging walk is suited to experienced bushwalkers and best at sunrise, or sunset when you can also watch the moon rise (bring a torch for the return trip).


Indarri Falls track

 1.5km*, 1hr one way

Walk alongside Lawn Hill Creek and past the camping area before heading inland. A short climb gets the blood pumping just a little, before descending down to Indarri Falls. Take a cooling dip in the creek at the base of the tufa-formed falls and rejuvenate before continuing to Indarri lookout and then Duwadarri lookout.

Capture a bird's eye view of Indarri Falls from Indarri Falls lookout (340m from Indarri Falls).




Duwadarri lookout

 2.5km* one way (long way), 1.5hr,
OR 920m* one way (steep way), 1hr


To reach Duwadarri lookout, it is recommended to take the long way and walk the tracks in a clockwise direction, visiting Indarri Falls and Indarri Falls lookout before continuing along the rim of the gorge to Duwadarri lookout. Savour views over Middle Gorge along the way before stopping to take a well-earned rest and take in the views over Duwadarri waterhole contrasting with the dry savanna landscape.

Alternatively, you can take the steep way and tackle the track to Duwadarri lookout in an anti-clockwise direction. This route includes a very steep 100m climb up an uneven surface.

Track classifications

| Grade | Symbol | Suits | Track description |
|-------|---|---|---|
| 2 |  | Families with young children | No bushwalking experience required. Track has a compacted surface with gentle incline sections. |
| 3 |  | People with some bushwalking experience | Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Tracks may have short steep hill sections and many steps. Caution is needed at lookouts and ankle-supporting footwear is required. |
| 4 |  | Experienced bushwalkers | Tracks may be rough and very steep. Caution is needed on loose surfaces, at cliff edges and exposed naturally-occurring outlooks. Ankle-supporting footwear required. |

Upper Gorge lookout

 3.6km* one way, 2hr

Be rewarded with splendid views over the Upper and Middle gorges after completing this challenging walk. You can choose to visit Indarri Falls first, then walk alongside the creek to reach the Upper Gorge lookout. This option involves walking up steep switchbacks prior to reaching the lookout.

Alternatively, take the less strenuous 'back' track through changing outback landscapes and return along Lawn Hill Creek stopping at Indarri Falls for a refreshing swim.

This challenging walk is suited to experienced bushwalkers and best walked in the early morning.

**Track distances are dependent on the route taken.*

Plan your paddle

5 Lawn Hill Creek canoe trail

Glide along Lawn Hill Creek in your canoe, kayak or stand up paddle board to experience the Middle and Upper gorges in a very different way. Canoe hire may be seasonably available at the launching area **2**. For cultural reasons, canoeing is not permitted in the Lower Gorge.

Indarri Falls

3km return, allow 1hr paddling time

Paddle upstream and let the spectacular orange sandstone walls of the Middle Gorge guide you to Indarri Falls. Here you can stop, rest and swim before returning.

Upper Gorge

6km return, allow 3hr paddling time

From Indarri Falls, use the canoe portage track to carry your canoe around the falls to continue upstream. Paddle a further 1.3km to reach the Upper Gorge. Here the creek starts to dwindle into a series of channels and rapids, thick with pandanus and not suitable for canoes. Return the way you came.