



Below Wetlands Walk Trail.

The trails are graded according to their level of terrain, distance and the time they take to walk. The average walking time is based on 2.5 kilometres per hour.

PLEASE NOTE: The walking times stated above are only a guide. Walking times will vary, depending on your level of fitness and walking experience.

Terrain and surfaces may vary (more than four hours).

- **Easy** — well-formed trails, suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels (up to two hours).
- **Medium** — trails that are suitable for people with a medium level of fitness. Some undulating ground (two to four hours).
- **Challenging** — suitable for regular, well-equipped bushwalkers who are able to walk up to 20 kilometres per day. Terrain and surfaces may vary (more than four hours).

Trail grading

How hard are the walks?

- Short walks (one to two hours)
- Day walks (two to eight hours)
- Overnight hikes.

The trails featured in this guide have been categorised into the following groups:

Trails have been marked and colour-coded so they are easy to find and follow.

'Wild about walking' is an easy-to-follow bushwalking guide designed to help you select the right trail and plan your walk, so you have a safe and enjoyable experience.

Using the trail guide

Above Wetlands Walk Trail.



Above Walk trail shelter.



Below Carnaby's cockatoo and Yanchep Rose.



Happy walking!

Each trail has been selected to showcase the unique biodiversity of the northern Swan Coastal Plain. We hope you enjoy the 'Wild about walking' trails as much as we have enjoyed creating them.

You can start your bushwalking adventures with a 30-minute stroll through Boomerang Gorge or put on a backpack and take a challenging three-day journey from Yanchep National Park to Melaleuca Park.

This trail guide has nine bushwalks to choose from, all designed to suit a variety of age groups, interests and fitness abilities.

Wetlands, woodlands, wildlife and wildflowers

Today you can also discover the wilder, more natural parts of this park by stepping out on one of the many walk trails the park has to offer.

They have come to immerse themselves in rich cultural heritage, limestone caves and a koala colony.

For thousands of years people have been visiting the area now known as Yanchep National Park to experience its natural treasures.

Above Boomerang Gorge, Dwerta Mia Walk Trail.



Wild about walking

Yanchep National Park and beyond



The best seasons to walk in Yanchep and the northern Swan Coastal Plain are autumn, spring and winter. It is not recommended that you walk the medium to challenging trails in summer months unless you are well prepared or are an experienced bushwalker.

Best times to walk

Trails in this guide have been purpose built for walkers only. Horses, mountain bikes and motorcycles are not permitted to use these trails.

Starting points for each walk trail are indicated on the map overleaf.

Trail access and users

Do not solely rely on the trail marking to get you through. Trail markers have been set in both directions so, if you lose sight of the trail, turn back to confirm your last known marker.

Trail marking and maps

Above Coastal Plain Walk Trail.



Above Bushwalkers enjoying the park.

Walker's checklist

- Check with Yanchep National Park or the local Department of Environment and Conservation office about the trail conditions before setting off.
- Leave detailed information about your walking plans with a family member. Alternatively, use the WALKSAFE register at the McNess Visitor Centre.
- Wear sturdy, comfortable footwear and clothing to suit the weather conditions. Take at least two litres of drinking water per day and adequate food supplies.
- **REMEMBER** to notify someone or sign the WALKSAFE register at the McNess Visitor Centre of your safe return.

Emergencies

Illness and injuries

If you or a member of your walking party gets injured or becomes ill:

- Attend to the needs of the casualty.
- Send members of your walking group for help (where possible never leave the casualty alone).
- Find a sheltered place to rest the person.
- Reassure them.
- Apply first aid.

TIP: Always carry a comprehensive first aid kit.



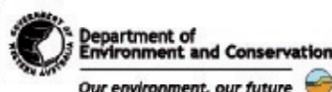
More information

Department of Environment and Conservation
Swan Coastal District Office (08) 9405 1222

Yanchep National Park (08) 9561 1004

Senior Ranger (emergencies only) 0417 186 562

Two Rocks Police Station (08) 9561 2322



Yanchep National Park

Healthy Parks
Healthy People



2007567-0608-



Department of Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future

Walking safely

Bushwalking is an adventure activity that can involve a high degree of exertion and natural hazards. While the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) has made every effort to provide safe, well-defined trails, you are ultimately responsible for your own safety and the members of your walking group.

To ensure your safety, plan your walks carefully and seek advice if you are unsure of the challenges or hazards that you might encounter along the way.

Please register with 'Walk Safe' at McNess House Visitor Centre in Yanchep National Park before starting your walk (phone: 9561 1004).

Planning your walk

Whether it is a two-hour stroll or a demanding three-day hike, your journey will be better with planning and preparation. Follow the basic guidelines:

- Don't overestimate your capabilities. Understand your physical limitations and those of your walking group.
- For longer walks, develop a route plan. Always leave details of your walking plan with a family member.
- Familiarise yourself with the area and the facilities.

Safety in numbers

Don't walk alone! No matter how good your preparation, accidents and incidents can occur.

- Have at least four people in your group so that two can go for help and one can remain to attend to an injured person.
- If you are walking in a group, always accommodate the lowest level of fitness and never leave that person unsupervised.
- Nominate two group leaders, preferably the people with the most bushwalking and map-reading experience.

To protect the environment, we ask you to keep your walking groups small.

Trail facilities

Campsites

Please use campsites to minimise your impact on these conservation areas.

Each overnight campsite marked on the map has the following facilities:

- sleeping shelter (sleeps up to 12 adults)
- rainwater tank
- three tent sites
- picnic tables
- unisex bush toilet
- fire ring

The shelters are available to walkers on a first-come-first-served basis. No guarantees are given that there will be space in the sleeping shelters, so walkers are advised to carry a tent on all overnight hikes. Organised walking groups are asked to be courteous to other walkers and share the sleeping space in the shelters.

Fires—cooking, wild and prescribed

To preserve the environment you are asked to use a camp (fuel) stove. They are less likely to cause a fire and are faster, cleaner and easier to use in wet weather. Lighting fires is forbidden from November to March.

If you must light a fire:

- Use the concrete fire-rings provided.
- Keep the fire small.
- Use only dead wood on the ground for kindling.
- Never leave a fire burning – put it completely out before leaving the campsite.

Each year the DEC carries out a prescribed burning program to reduce the risk of wildfires and enhance biodiversity. When burning is in progress, please use the diverted tracks.

Should a wildfire occur, do not panic. Make your way to an open road or a safe, cleared refuge such as a campsite. Call the park on 9561 1004 or 0417 186 562 and carefully follow instructions given by park staff.

Food and water

Food for bushwalking should be light and easy to prepare. Do not take food that is canned or stored in glass as it can be heavy to carry. Always allow about one kilogram of food per person per day. Suggested meals/snacks:

- Breakfast – muesli/fruit/bread and jam/vegemite
- Snacks for along the trail – dried fruits/muesli bars
- Lunch – cheese/salami/crackers/tuna
- Dinner – rice/noodle/pasta dishes
- Sweets – chocolate/fruit

Take at least two litres of water a day (more if you are walking during summer) in a plastic unbreakable bottle. Do not rely solely on the water tanks along the trails.



Above Walkers should stay on existing tracks.

Tread lightly

To minimise the impact of trampling vegetation, bushfires and trail erosion, we ask you to adopt our 'low impact' codes.

- **Tread lightly**
Stay on the established trails, tracks and roads. Taking short cuts or zig-zagging creates new (unwanted) tracks.
- **Pack it in and pack it out**
Carry out all your rubbish and waste. Do not burn, bash or bury.
- **Stop the deadly spread**
Prevent the spread of the dieback disease *Phytophthora cinnamomi* killing our native plants by brushing your shoes at the designated clean-down points along the trail.
- **Leave No Trace – camping/cooking/toilet**
Choose your campsite carefully, use an existing site or set up in clear, open ground. Always use the toilets provided and where possible use a fuel stove instead of a fire. Always put out the fire before leaving.
- **Let them feed themselves**
Please do not feed the native animals. They do not have the same diets as humans. Feeding them will make them dependant on us and possibly cause them to become sick.
- **Use water wisely**
Use the water in the tanks sparingly. Other walkers rely on it!
- **Quietly, quietly**
If you are quiet and keep your walking groups small, you will have a better chance of seeing and hearing the wildlife. Respect other people and the animals that reside in the area. It's their home too!

What to take

For short day walks you will need a day pack to carry a small supply of food and water. Wear sturdy runners (or boots) and a wide brimmed hat and sunscreen. In winter, spring and autumn, take a waterproof jacket, as weather conditions can change quickly.

Hiking and camping equipment

For longer walks and overnight hikes you will need a backpack with a tent, sleeping bag, cooking equipment and sufficient clothing, food and water.

Clothing and footwear

- Beanie, gloves and thermal underwear for cool evenings and crisp mornings.
- Lightweight rain jacket or cape.
- Polar-fleece or sweater.
- Long-sleeved shirt and long loose cotton trousers to protect legs and arms from ticks and prickly plants.
- Hat to protect your face, head and neck.
- Sturdy footwear and thick socks. Preferably wear boots to help support your ankles and provide greater grip in rocky areas.

First aid and personal items

- Pocket knife, notebook, pen/pencil.
- Sunglasses, sunscreen (30+) and insect repellent.
- First aid kit – blister kit and antiseptic swabs, bandages.
- Small torch, whistle (for emergencies), toothbrush, toilet paper, plastic trowel and water purification tablets.
- Camera.
- Mobile phone.

Camping gear

For short walks take a day pack up to 35 litres and for one day or more a pack of 50-65 litres. Practice packing and carrying a backpack. Poorly loaded and fitted packs can lead to early fatigue.

- Backpack or day pack and a large plastic bag inside pack to protect gear from wet weather
- Sleeping bag and lightweight sleeping mat
- Tent, portable stove and fuel bottle
- Cooking equipment and eating utensils
- Fire starters and waterproof matches

Bushwalking tip: Keep your pack as light as possible.

Pests and dangers

Male emus responsible for rearing chicks become irate and aggressive if you get too close. Stand still, or retreat slowly if confronted.

March flies can be a problem in the drier, warmer months. They will give a painful bite and are particularly attracted to the colour blue. At night, mosquitoes and midges are common. Be sure to bring insect repellent.

Ticks can be avoided by wearing long trousers and tucking them into your socks. Apply insect repellent around your waist, ankles, arms and shirt collar.

Management of a tick bite:

- Remove tick(s)—using fine-tipped forceps or equivalent.
 - Press skin down around the tick's embedded mouth part.
 - Grip the mouth part firmly, lift gently to detach the tick, avoid squeezing the body of the tick during removal.
- Seek medical aid if necessary (if allergic reaction or infection occurs).

Venomous snakes can be encountered almost anywhere, particularly in the warmer months. Remember the snakes are more afraid of you than you are of them. Normally they will sense the thumping of your footsteps and make a hasty retreat well before you can see them. An exception to this can be on unseasonably warm days in late winter and spring when any snakes, having had a long sleep during winter, will be sluggish. In this state they are more likely to feel threatened so, if you encounter one, steer well clear. Tiger snakes, which are highly venomous, are fairly common near swamps and wetlands while dugites occur in drier areas anywhere at Yanchep.

Management of a snake bite (land and sea snakes):

- Check for – Danger, Response, Airway, Breathing, CPR, Defibrillation (DRABCD)
- Rest and reassure – it's important to rest the casualty because panic and movement increase the circulation.
- Pressure immobilisation – place a dressing over the bite site (to localise the bite area) then, using a firm, wide bandage, bandage from the fingers or toes up the limb to the armpit or groin.
- Splint the limb to minimise muscle movement.
- Give oxygen if available.
- Seek urgent medical aid (antivenene).
 - Write down the time the casualty was bitten and when the bandage was applied and supply to paramedics or hospital.
- **Do not** walk or run (movement of all limbs must be minimised to help prevent spread of venom).
- **Do not** wash bitten area (venom may be needed for snake identification).
- **Do not** remove bandage.
- **Do not** elevate.
- **Do not** take the snake with the casualty to medical aid.

NOTE: Do not panic – if any venom has been injected at all, and often none has, it does not work quickly.

SHORT WALKS

Above Dwerta Mia.

Above Spoonbill near Loch McNess

1 DWERTA MIA WALK TRAIL

Discover the dwerta-mia – 'house of the wild dog' (the name Nyoongar people gave the area). History states that Aboriginal guides leading early explorers into this area chose not to enter because they thought it was inhabited by evil spirits.

Here you can also meander through the old collapsed cave system at Boomerang Gorge. This trail features new interpretive signage providing visitors with a better understanding of how the limestone environment has formed over hundreds of thousands of years and also looks at how the park's caves and their formations have been shaped through the ages by the flow of water.

Time: 20 minutes return

Length: 500 metres

Grade: Easy

Start/finish: Boomerang Gorge car park



2 WETLANDS WALK TRAIL

Follow this popular trail that weaves its way around Loch McNess, one of Perth's most pristine coastal wetlands. Take in the natural sights and sounds that surround you and see the Yanget (bullrush) used by local Nyoongar people for food.

Time: 45 minutes return

Length: Two kilometres

Grade: Easy

Start: Lake View Picnic Area

Finish: Yanget Picnic Area

3 WOODLANDS WALK TRAIL

Despite the infertile soils, these coastal woodlands support a diverse range of trees including banksia, tuart, marri, stunted jarrah, sheoak and small pockets of paperbark. During spring, kangaroo paws and cats paws are in flower.

Time: One hour return

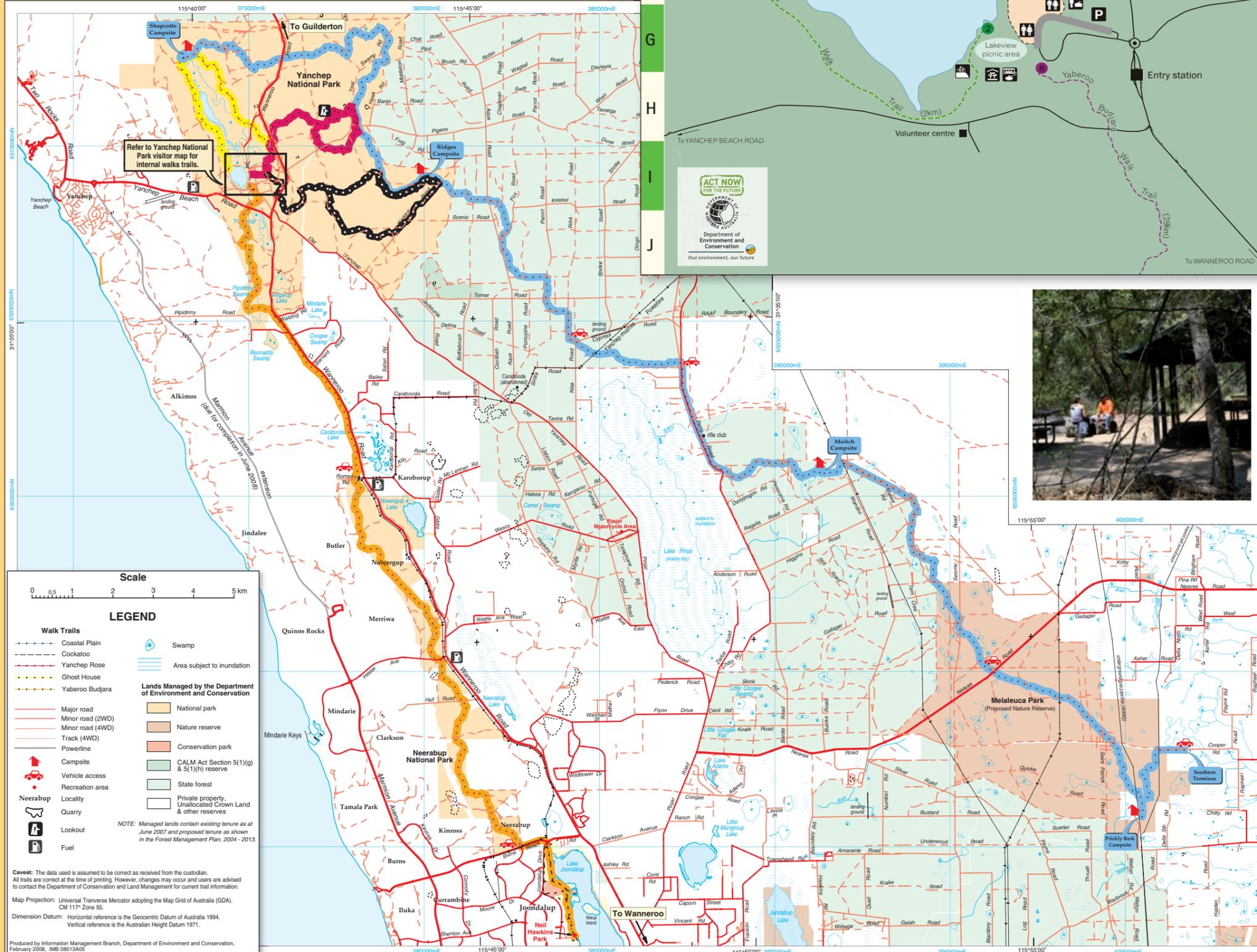
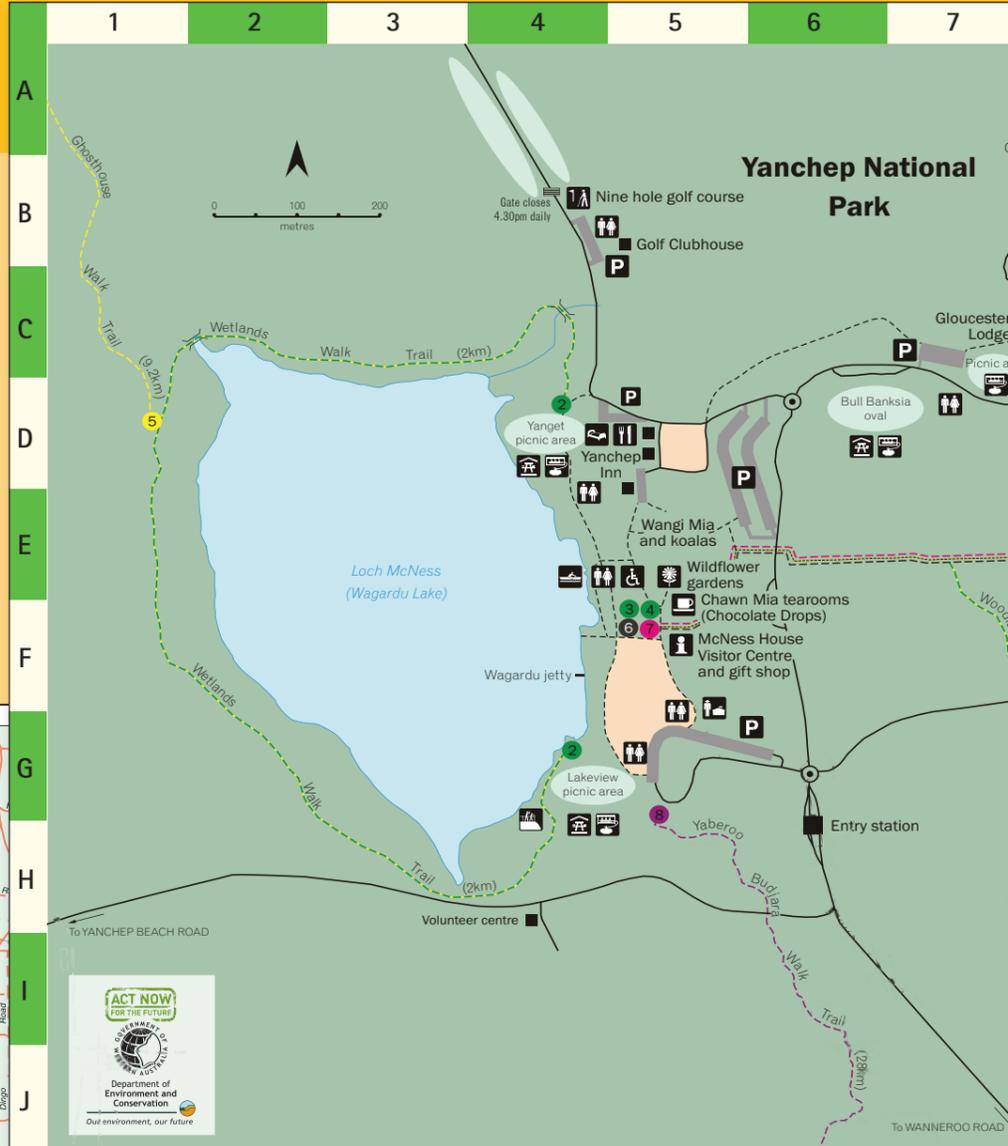
Length: 2.6 kilometres

Grade: Easy

Start/finish: McNess House Visitor Centre

Distance table for Coastal Plain Walk trail				
Northbound (km)		Southbound-read down Northbound-read up		Southbound (km)
Cumulative	Point to Point	McNess Visitors Centre to Ghost House ruins (5km)	Point to Point	Cumulative
55.0	0.3	Ghost House Ruins	0.0	0.0
54.7	4.0	Shapcotts Campsite	0.3	0.3
50.7	3.8	Wanneroo Road (2WD)	4.0	4.3
46.9	4.1	Yeal Swamp Road (4WD)	3.8	8.1
42.8	3.7	Pidgeon Road (4WD)	4.1	12.2
39.1	2.1	Ridges Campsite	3.7	15.9
37.0	3.9	Aqua Road (4WD)	2.1	18.0
33.1	4.3	Tomar Road (4WD)	3.9	21.9
28.8	3.6	Cypress Road (4WD)	4.3	26.2
25.2	6.0	Perry Road (2WD)	3.6	29.8
19.2	10.4	Moitch Campsite	6.0	35.8
8.8	4.1	Neaves Road (2WD)	10.4	46.2
4.7	2.0	Cooper Road (track)	4.1	50.3
2.7	2.7	Prickly Bark Campsite	2.0	52.3
0.0	0.0	Cooper Road (2WD)	2.7	55.0

Distance table for Yaberoo Budjara Walk Trail				
Northbound (km)		Southbound-read down Northbound-read up		Southbound (km)
Cumulative	Point to Point	McNess Visitors Centre to Lake View Picnic Area (0.3km)	Point to Point	Cumulative
29.5	0.7	Lake View Picnic Area (2WD)	0.0	0.0
28.8	6.2	Yanchep Beach Road (2WD)	0.7	0.7
22.6	1.2	Lacey Road (2WD)	6.2	6.9
21.4	4.9	Pipidiny Road (2WD)	1.2	8.1
16.5	6.0	Romeo Road (2WD)	4.9	13.0
10.5	6.7	Quinns Road (2WD)	6.0	19.0
3.8	3.8	Burns Beach Road (2WD)	6.7	25.7
0.0	0.0	Neil Hawkins Park	3.8	29.5



Scale
0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 km

LEGEND

Walk Trails

- Coastal Plain
- Cockatoo
- Yanchep Rose
- Ghost House
- Yaberoo Budjara

Lands Managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation

- Major road
- Minor road (2WD)
- Minor road (4WD)
- Track (4WD)
- Powerline
- Campsite
- Vehicle access
- Recreation area
- Neerabup
- Locality
- Quarry
- Lookout
- Fuel

Swamp

Area subject to inundation

National park

Nature reserve

Conservation park

CALM Act Section 5(1)(g) & 5(1)(h) reserve

State forest

Private property, Unallocated Crown Land & other reserves

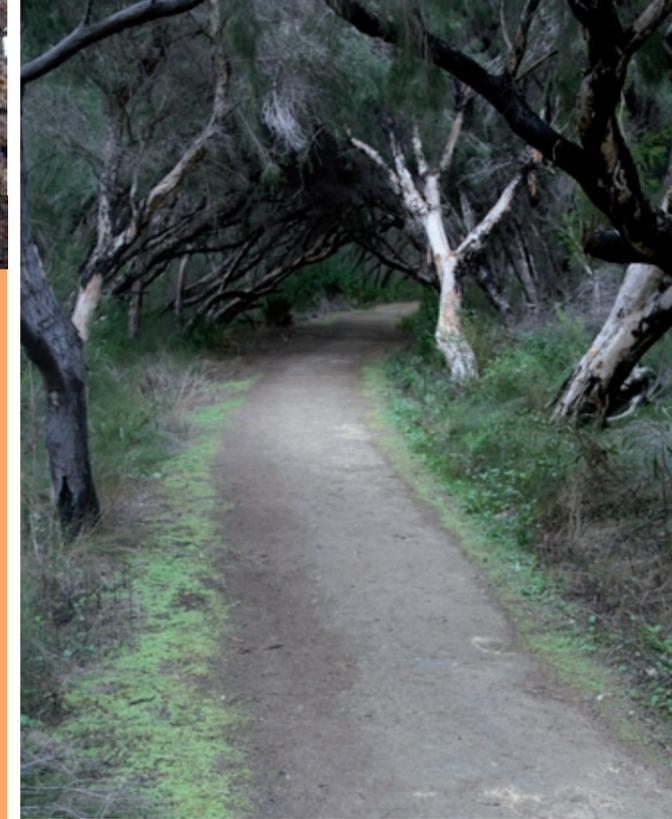
NOTE: Managed lands contain existing tenure as at June 2007 and proposed tenure as shown in the Forest Management Plan, 2004 - 2013.

Caveats: The data used is assumed to be correct as received from the custodian. All trails are correct at the time of printing. However, changes may occur and users are advised to contact the Department of Conservation and Land Management for current trail information.

Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator adopting the Map Grid of Australia (GDA), CM 117° Zone 50.

Dimension Datum: Horizontal reference is the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994. Vertical reference is the Australian Height Datum 1971.

Produced by Information Management Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation, February 2008, MB 0803/08



Above Boomerang Gorge.

DAY WALKS

Above Cockatoo Walk Trail marker. Right Wetlands Walk Trail.

4 CAVES WALK TRAIL

This trail takes you to Crystal Cave where you can discover how limestone caves are formed, and hear about their colourful history on a guided tour. Tours can be booked at the Mc Ness House Visitor Centre before you leave.

Time: Two hours return
Length: 4.5 kilometres return
Grade: Easy
Start/finish: Mc Ness House Visitor Centre

5 GHOST HOUSE WALK TRAIL

This trail takes you on a journey through time into the park's wilderness areas. Along the way you will encounter the sights and sounds of the wetlands and discover the historic remains of the Ghost House. Take your swag and spend a night under the stars at Shapcott's campsite nestled under a grove of grand old tuarts.

Time: 4.5 hours return
Length: 9.2 kilometres return
Grade: Medium
Start: Wetlands Walk Trail (west)
Finish: Cabaret Cave

6 YANCHEP ROSE WALK TRAIL

From Yanchep Rose Lookout, experience the panoramic views from the sea to the scarp. Along the way explore the radar bunkers that were used during World War II to protect our coast from enemy invasion. From July to late August, the Yanchep rose and the parrot bush are in full flower.

Time: Seven hours return
Length: 14 kilometres return
Grade: Medium
Start/finish: Mc Ness House Visitor Centre

Be careful when approaching the edge of the lookout and please stay on paths to preserve the unique Yanchep rose that fringes the trail.

7 COCKATOO WALK TRAIL

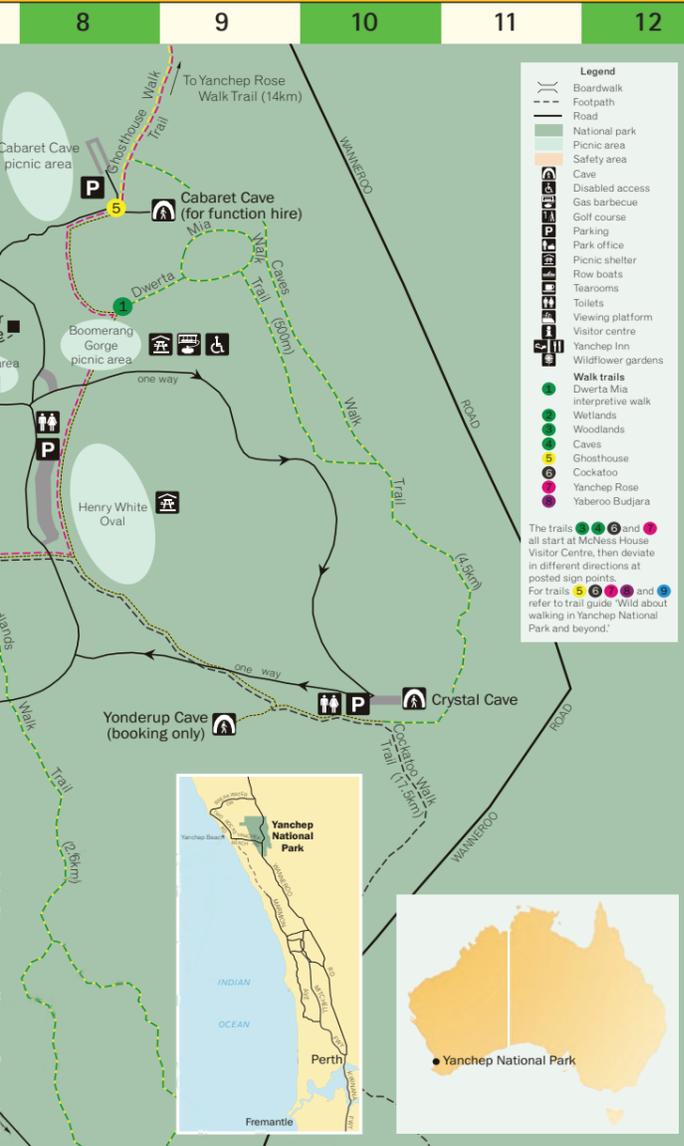
Look out for the endangered Carnaby's black cockatoo on this journey into Gnaragara Park. Experience a variety of landscapes and impressive views from the Ridges campsite. Look out for the black-gloved wallaby and quenda (bandicoots) that live in this area.

Time: Eight hours return
Length: 17.5 kilometres return
Grade: Medium
Start/finish: Mc Ness House Visitor Centre

8 YABEROO BUDJARA WALK TRAIL

Yaberoo Budjara means the 'land of the northern people'. The trail route is based on Yellagonga, (a significant local Nyoongar elder at the time of colonial settlement) and his people's movements between Lake Joondalup, Neerabup and Yanchep.

Time: One day
Length: 28 kilometres return
Grade: Challenging – for experienced walkers only
Start: Lakeview car park, Yanchep National Park
Finish: Neil Hawkins Park, Joondalup



Lost!

If you think you are lost, try this three-step plan.

1. Look at the map and search for features around you that are similar to that on the map such as roads, gullies or peaks.
2. If step one fails, retrace your steps to return to somewhere you recognise and re-plan your route from there.
3. If you're still disorientated and it's getting dark, don't panic. Remain where you are and set up camp. The morning may reveal your location or make your new path much clearer.
4. Call the ranger-in-charge on 0417 186 562.

Proceeds from the sale of this map are invested in biodiversity conservation, maintenance and improvement of Yanchep National Park facilities and services, as well as the protection of park values.

Below (left to right) Kangaroos, Waterbird and echidna.



OVERNIGHT HIKES

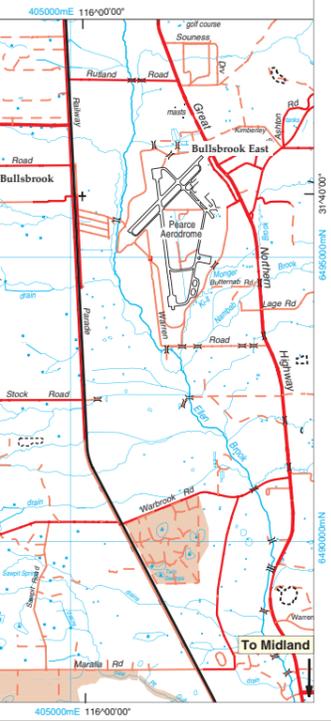
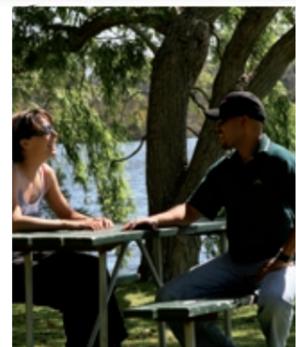
9 COASTAL PLAIN WALK TRAIL

Put on a backpack and set off on this three-day journey across the coastal plain to Melaleuca Park. Be prepared and seek advice before you set out. This trail features four campsites (Shapcott's, Ridges, Moitch and Pricklybark) each with a hikers' hut, water tank and bush toilet. This trail is a true delight in autumn and spring when the coastal smokebush and native buttercups form a carpet of wildflowers.

Time: 3.5 days (one way)
LENGTH: 55 kilometres
GRADE: Challenging
START: Ghost House, Yanchep National Park
FINISH: Cooper Road (Melaleuca Park)



Above Campsite shelter.



No.	Name	Time	Distance	Grade	Environment	Facilities and features
1	Dwerta Mia	20 mins	500m	Easy	Limestone Gorge	Disabled access
2	Wetlands	45 mins	2km	Easy	Wetland and Waterbirds	Boardwalks
3	Woodlands	1 hour	2.6km	Easy	Wildflowers, Woodlands	
4	Caves	2 hours	4.5km	Easy	Limestone Caves	Crystal Cave tours
5	Ghost House	4.5 hours	9.2km	Medium	Ghost House ruins	Campsite/shelter
6	Yanchep Rose	7 hours	14km	Medium	Yanchep Rose, World War II History	Lookout, bunkers
7	Cockatoo	8 hours	17.5km	Medium	Tuart Forests	Campsite/shelter
8	Yaberoo Budjara	1 day	28km	Challenging	Tuart/banksia woodlands	
9	Coastal Plain	3.5 days	55km	Challenging	Swan Coastal Plain	Four campsites/shelters

