# Judbarra / Gregory National Park



Judbarra / Gregory National Park features spectacular range and gorge scenery and significant traces of Aboriginal culture, European exploration and pastoral history.

The Ngarinyman, Karrangpurru, Nungali, Malngin, Wardaman, Ngaliwurru and Bilinara, Aboriginal people are the traditional owners and joint managers of this land; and they welcome you to Judbarra.

The Park covers a huge area (13 000 km<sup>2</sup>) in the transition zone between tropical and semi-arid regions of the Northern Territory.

## Access (see map overleaf)

The Park can be reached via the Victoria Highway from Katherine and Kununurra, or via the unsealed Buntine and Buchanan Highways. There are a number of 4WD tracks for suitablyprepared visitors to explore (dry season only). All roads including the Victoria Highway may be impassable at times between December and April.

Check Park road conditions by phoning the Parks and Wildlife offices listed below. Check other road conditions by phoning 1800 246 199, or visiting the NT Road Report website: www.roadreport.nt.gov.au

## When to Visit

The most comfortable months to visit the Park are May to August when temperatures range between 10°C and 35°C. However, while the weather is warmer and wetter between November and April, the woodlands become lush and the campgrounds are quiet.

## Visitor Facilities

Fuel, provisions, public telephones and accommodation are available at Timber Creek, Top Springs, Kalkarindji and the Victoria River Roadhouse. Police, banking facilities, vehicle repairs, boat hire and emergency medical care are available at Timber Creek.

A number of tours operate within the Park. Contact the Katherine Visitor Information Centre on 8972 2650 for further information.

## **Camping Fees**

A standard fee applies at Sullivans Creek, Big Horse Creek and Bullita campgrounds. Envelopes are provided at the fee deposit box near the entrance of the campgrounds. Campgrounds along the 4WD tracks are free. Please dispose of toilet waste thoughtfully.

## Pets in the Park

Pets are prohibited, except at facilities located along the Victoria Highway, where pets must be retained on a leash at all times.

## Things to See and Do

The Park abounds with walking tracks, fishing spots, 4WD tracks and camping areas. See the map overleaf and information on the back page for details.

Refer to the 'Judbarra / Gregory National Park 4WD Tracks' Information Sheet for more 4WD tracks information.

## Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

Judbarra / Gregory National Park Timber Creek - Ph: (08) 8975 0888 Bullita - Ph: (08) 8975 0833 www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au/

Regional Office 32 Giles St KATHERINE NT 0850 PO Box 344 KATHERINE NT 0850

## Safety and Comfort

- Carry and drink plenty of water
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear
- Carry a first aid kit
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day
- Ensure your vehicle is well maintained and equipped.
- If using a 4WD track, notify a reliable person of your intended route and expected return time. A satellite phone or emergency beacon is also recommended.
- Do not swim Saltwater Crocodiles may inhabit waterways, observe warning signs

## Please Remember

- Take you rubbish away with you
- Keep to designated roads and tracks
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected
- Do not deface boab trees, doing so harms the tree and looks unsightly. Fines apply
- Pets are only permitted along the Victoria Highway and must be kept on a leash
- Drone use is not permitted in this park
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted
- Light fires only in fireplaces provided
- Only use soaps and detergent 50 m from waterways
- Camp only in designated camping areas
- Collect firewood before arriving at your picnic area or campsite
- Observe all fishing regulations
- Generators only allowed between 8 am and 8.30 pm
- Treat water from waterways before drinking.

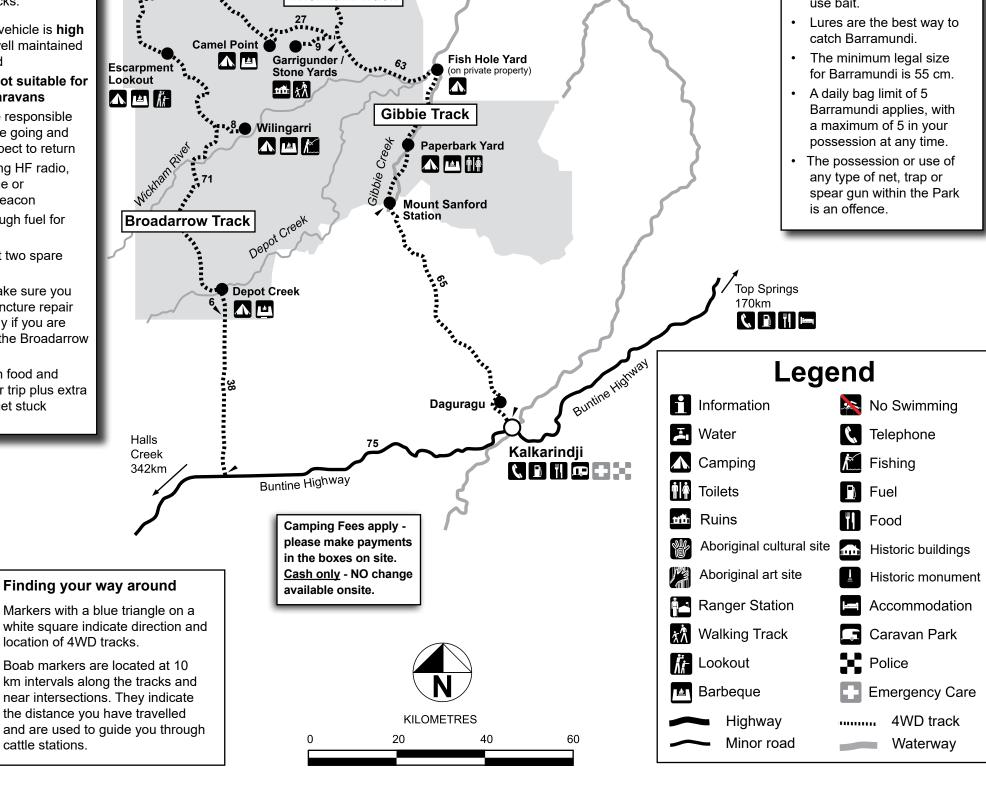






- Ensure your vehicle is high clearance, well maintained and equipped
- Tracks are not suitable for trailers or caravans
- Tell someone responsible where you are going and when you expect to return
- Take a working HF radio, satellite phone or emergency beacon
- · Carrying enough fuel for your trip
- · Carry at least two spare tyres
- Carry and make sure you can use a puncture repair kit, particularly if you are travelling on the Broadarrow Track
- · Carry enough food and water for your trip plus extra in case you get stuck

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## Judbarra / Gregory **National Park**

## The Eastern Section

If the Victoria Highway is open, walks and campgrounds in section of Park are usually accessible. However, the Old Victoria River Crossing and Victoria River Access can only be reached during the dry season.

### Sullivan Creek Campground

Located on the banks of a permanent waterhole, 17 km east of the Victoria River Roadhouse. It is easily accessed from the Victoria Highway. Camping facilities are basic - pit toilet, fire places and picnic tables.

## Victoria River Roadhouse

A commercial business situated on the Victoria River. It has camping, accommodation, meals, telephones, fuel and limited supplies.

Victoria River Access

2WD all year round. Road can close due to seasonal flooding.



**Escarpment Walk** 

Distance: 3 km return **Time:** 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> h Grade: 3 - moderate walk with

some steep sections. Situated on the Victoria Highway, 2 km west of Victoria River Roadhouse. Follow stories of the Nungali and Wardaman people as you meander up this rocky path with spectacular views of the Victoria River and surrounding escarpment. The walk is steep in places, but you can avoid the more strenuous sections by stopping at the Garrarnawun Lookout and returning to the carpark from there (1 km, 40 minutes return).



Old Victoria River Crossing 4WD access only. Stunning views

Joe Creek Picnic Area and



Nawulbinbin Walk Distance: 1.7 km loop Time: 1 h

and road relics.

Grade: 4 - moderate to difficult. Situated off the Victoria Highway, 10 km west of Victoria River Roadhouse, access via 2 km of unsealed 2WD road, (may be closed during the wet season).

Nestled in a valley below Livistonacrowded scree slopes, just being at the Joe Creek picnic area is awe-inspiring. The Nawulbinbin Walk leads up a steep

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rocky slope to the base of the escarpment wall. By following this wall you can see Aboriginal paintings and enjoy fabulous views of the surrounding escarpment and valley below.

## The Western Section

Fishing and four wheel driving are the most popular activities in the western section of the Park. But there are also walks and historic features to explore.

## **Timber Creek**

A range of camping and other accommodation is available along with medical assistance, police, meals, telephones, fuel and supplies.

## Along the Victoria Highway ...

**Big Horse Creek Campground** On the Victoria Highway, 10 km west of Timber Creek. It is open all year and is a popular base for anglers who launch their boats using the sealed boat ramp. The only facilities are toilets, fire places, picnic tables and limited drinking water.



**Gregory's Tree** 

Distance: 500 m return Time: 30 minutes

Grade: 1 - short easy walk with wheelchair access.

Situated off the Victoria Highway, 9 km west of Big Horse Creek Campground. Access is via a 3 km unsealed 2WD road that may have corrugations.

Gregory's Tree is an Aboriginal sacred site and a registered heritage site. Here you can enjoy views of the Victoria River while reading accounts of the early explorers. A boardwalk surrounds the magnificent boab where Baines, the expedition artist, marked the arrival and departure dates of Gregory's North Australia Expedition from the base camp here.

## Down the Bullita Access Road ...

Turning south off the Victoria Highway, 10 km east of Timber Creek, the unsealed Bullita Access Road leads to campgrounds, walks and a historic site. A 4WD with high clearance is recommended and access is unsuitable for caravans. The Bullita Access Road may close at times from December to April.

The Park's 4WD network can also be reached via the Buchanan and Buntine Highways. The 4WD



tracks close due to seasonal flooding from late November to May. Information about the 4WD network is provided in the 'Judbarra / Gregory National Park 4WD Tracks' Information Sheet.



**Calcite Flow Walk Distance:** 600 m return

Time: 30 minutes Grade: 2 - short, easy walk. Situated 14 km from Bullita Homestead along the Limestone Gorge access road. Stromatolites (fossilised prehistoric life forms) feature on this walk with spectacular views of interesting



limestone formations.

**Limestone Gorge Campground** 2 km from the Calcite Flow

Walk carpark (see above), along a 4WD track on a large boulder creek bed, is the campground. From here you can easily access Limestone Creek Billabong, fish the East Baines River, and enjoy spectacular views along Limestone Ridge Loop Walk.



Limestone Ridge Loop Walk **Distance:** 1.8 km loop Time: 1 h

Grade: 3 - moderate walk. Starting from the Limestone Gorge campground, this walk winds through a karst (limestone) landscape and offers views of the East Baines River valley from the ridges.



**Bullita Campground** 

On the banks of the East Baines River, 60 km south of Timber Creek, near the historic Bullita Homestead and stockyard. From the campground it is a short walk to the East Baines River where you can catch dinner.

## **Bullita Homestead**

The old Bullita Homestead is a reminder of the Park's pastoral past and is an interesting place to beat the heat for a while. Back in the sunshine, wander around the stockyards, made and still maintained, with local Lancewood and Bloodwood trees.

