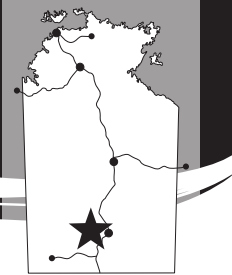


Simpsons Gap

Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park



Located in the Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park, Simpson's Gap is one of the most prominent gaps in the West MacDonnell Ranges. At dawn and dusk it is renowned as a place to see Black-footed Rock-wallabies along the short walking track into the Gap.

The Simpson's Gap area incorporates large areas of Mulga (*Acacia aneura*) and is a major stronghold for over 40 rare and relict plants. The area is an important spiritual site to the Arrernte Aboriginal people, where several dreaming trails and stories cross.


Access

The turn off to Simpson's Gap is 18 km west of Alice Springs along Larapinta Drive. From the turn-off there is a Ranger Station 1 km towards the Gap which provides an introduction to the Park. Simpson's Gap is a further 6 km drive. The Gap can also be reached by cycling along the Simpson's Gap Bike Path from Alice Springs.

When to visit

The Park is accessible all year round. The cooler months (April to September) are the most pleasant.

What to do

 **Walking** - There are numerous walking opportunities within the area, all well marked with directional signs.

Ghost Gum Walk - 15 minutes return. Starting at the Ranger Station, this walk illustrates the native plants of the area including an ancient Ghost Gum (*Corymbia aparrerinja*).

Cassia Hill - 1.8 km, 1 hour return. Gives excellent elevated views of the range and Simpson's Gap area. The walk illustrates local plants and a self-guided walk sheet is available.

Woodland Trail - To Bond Gap, a return distance of 17 km. The Gap has a narrow cleft with icy cold water (seasonal). This walk displays excellent examples of Mulga woodland.



Larapinta Trail - An exciting long distance walking track through the West MacDonnell Ranges. From Simpson's Gap you can walk Sections 1 or 2. The Trail is suitable for fit people with previous bushwalking experience. Careful planning and preparation is required. For more information contact Parks and Wildlife or Tourism Central Australia. Notify a reliable person of your intended walk plans. Ensure they know to contact police if you do not return by the arranged date. Walkers should carry a satellite phone or personal locator beacon.



Picnicking - Free gas barbecues are available in the shady picnic areas near Simpson's Gap and adjacent to the Ranger Station.



Cycling - A sealed bicycle path begins opposite Flynn's Grave (7 km from Alice Springs along Larapinta Drive), providing a pleasant ride suitable for the whole family. Take plenty of water and use the coolest part of the day to complete the 17 km one-way ride to Simpson's Gap.

Safety and Comfort

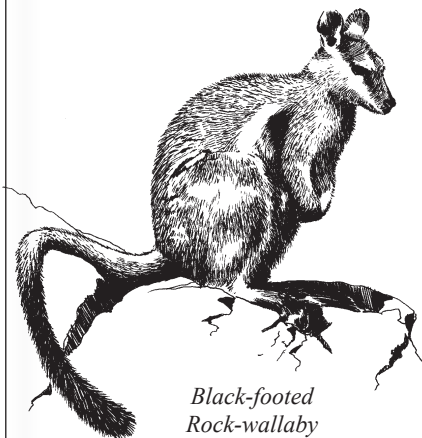
- Observe park safety signs.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, suitable clothing and footwear.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Consider your health and fitness when choosing a walk.

Please Remember

- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All historic, cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Fires are not permitted, use the gas barbecues provided.
- Put your rubbish in the bins provided or take it with you.
- Pets are not permitted.
- Swimming is prohibited in Simpson's Gap.
- A permit is required for Drone use – conditions apply and it must be obtained prior to your arrival in the Park



Camping is not permitted at Simpson's Gap, with the exception of Larapinta Trail walkers in designated campsites only.



Black-footed Rock-wallaby

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

Simpsons Gap Ranger Station
Ph: (08) 8955 0310

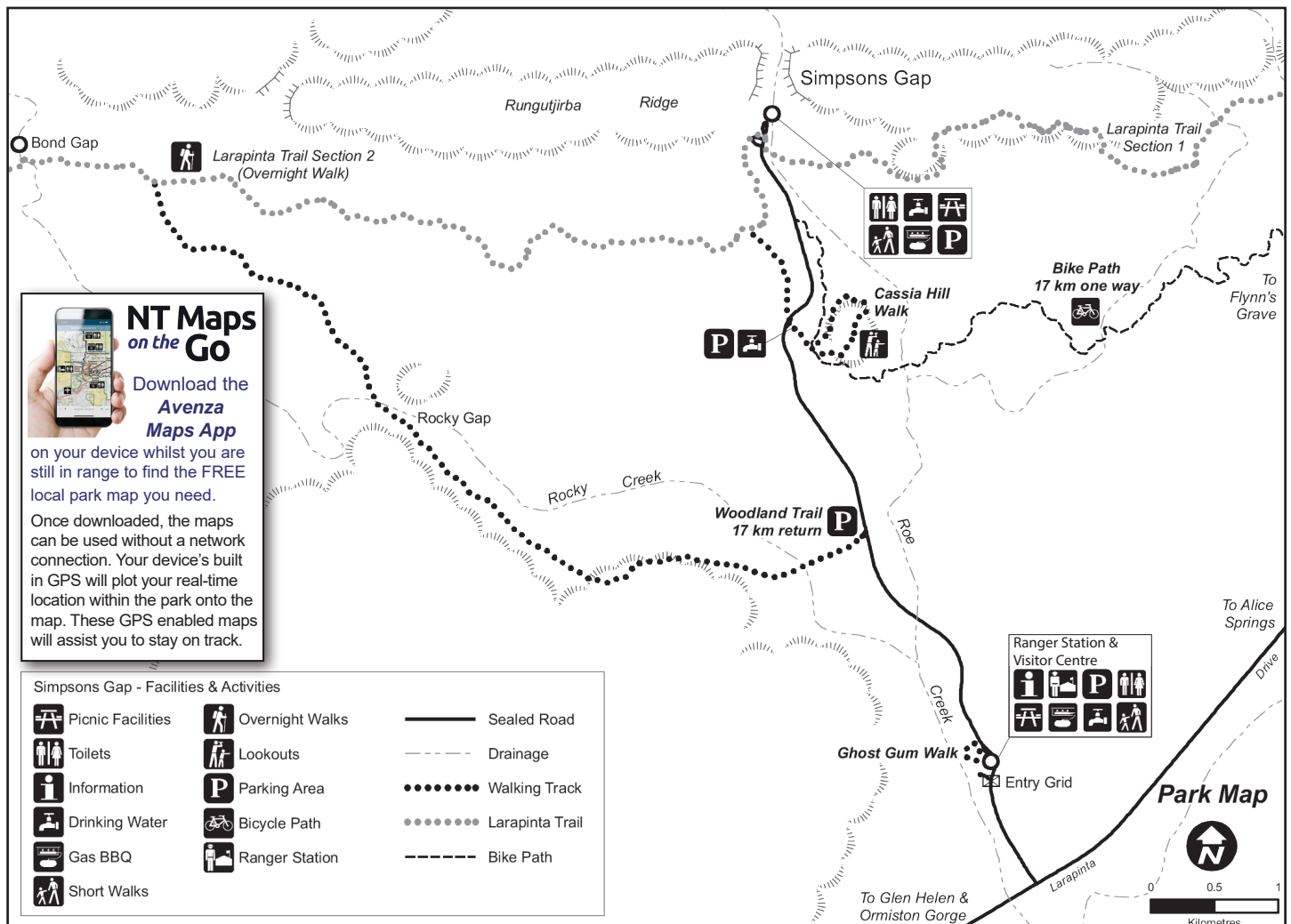
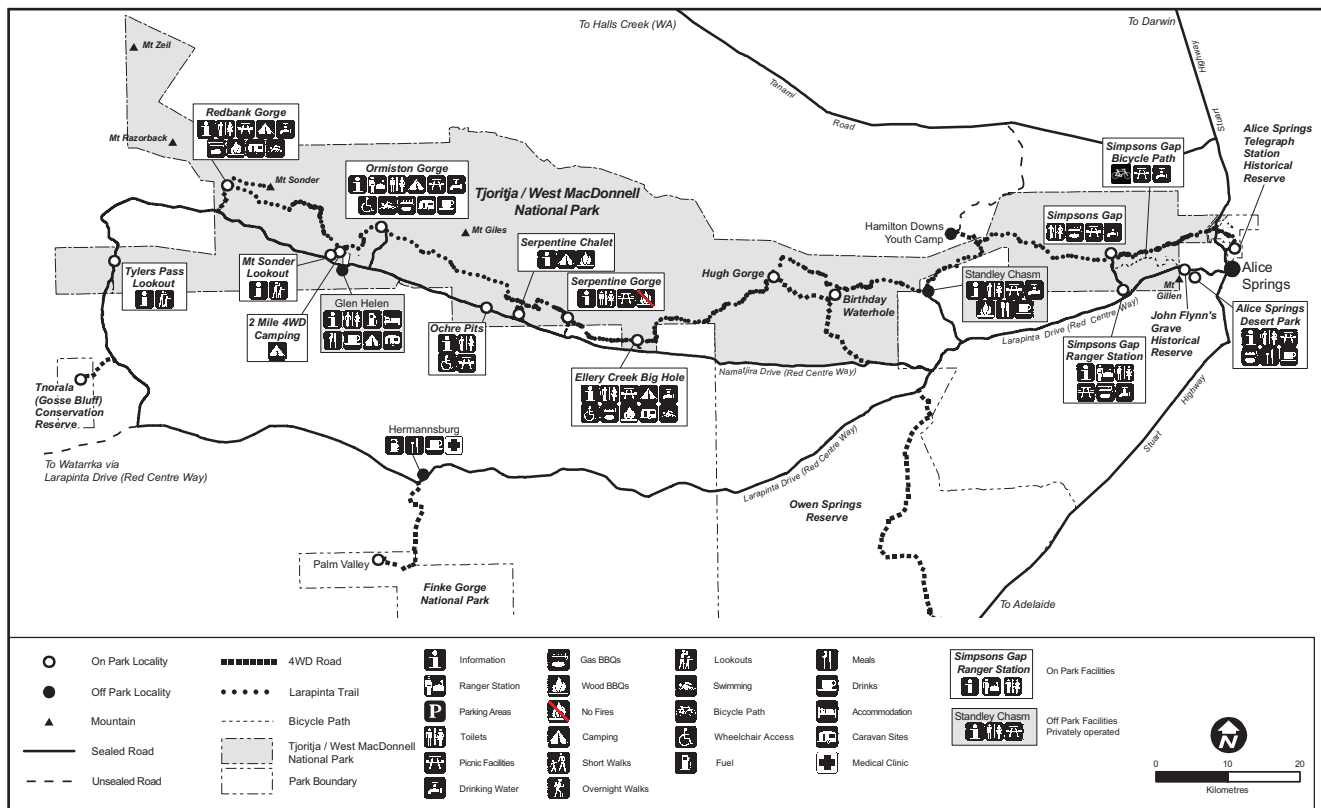
www.nt.gov.au/parks

Regional Office - Arid Zone Research Institute
South Stuart Highway ALICE SPRINGS NT 0870
PO Box 1120 ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871
Ph: (08) 8951 8250 Fax: (08) 8951 8290



Simpsons Gap -

Part of the Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park



NT Maps on the Go

Download the **Avenza Maps App** on your device whilst you are still in range to find the FREE local park map you need.

Once downloaded, the maps can be used without a network connection. Your device's built in GPS will plot your real-time location within the park onto the map. These GPS enabled maps will assist you to stay on track.