**TITLE PAGE:**

**Accessible Nature**

**Kalbarri National Park**

**Before We Go**

We recognise and acknowledge the Nanda people as the traditional custodians of Kalbarri National Park.

**Getting There**

Kalbarri National Park is located in Kalbarri, Western Australia. The entry station is located on Ajana-Kalbarri Road.

Entry Station GPS: -27.6799, 114.26801

See Google Map reference [here.](https://goo.gl/maps/EwLU7sNzf7qvm4Pr8)

**Public Transport**

There is no public transport available in Kalbarri, and as such, a private vehicle will be required. If you do not have a vehicle, there are multiple tour providers operating within the national park. We suggest visiting the [Kalbarri Visitor Centre](http://www.kalbarri.org.au) on Grey Street to find out more about the national park, surrounding accommodation, and upcoming tours and events.

**Parking**

Parking is available at each of the key attractions within the park. The following locations feature at least one (1) designated accessible parking bay:

* Island Rock
* Kalbarri Skywalk
* The Loop and Nature’s Window
* Natural Bridge (Castle Cove)
* Red Bluff (one accessible parking bay)
* Shell House and Grandstand Rock(one (1) accessible parking bay)
* Z Bend

Other attractions do not feature designated accessible parking bays however parking options are generally accessible and available. Kalbarri National Park is a very popular tourist destination, especially during school holidays. We suggest you keep this in mind, as parking may be limited during this time.

**What's There**

Kalbarri National Park is located in the Mid West region of Western Australia, approximately 485 kilometres north of Perth. The park covers an area of 1,794 square kilometres and was established in 1963. The park features stunning coastal cliffs, deep gorges, and colourful wildflowers, making it a popular destination for hiking, sightseeing, and outdoor activities. One of the park's most famous attractions is the Kalbarri Skywalk, which offers visitors stunning views of the Murchison River Gorge.

The park is also home to a variety of wildlife, including emus, kangaroos, wallabies, and several species of birds. In addition to hiking and sightseeing, visitors can enjoy swimming, fishing, and canoeing in the park's many rivers and streams.

*Entry Fees*

**Private vehicle with up to 12 occupants**

* $15 per vehicle
* $8 per vehicle (concession)

**Private vehicle with more than 12 occupants**

* $7 per occupant 6 years or older
* $2.50 per occupant (concession)

**Motorcycle**

* $8 per vehicle

All revenue collected from park entry fees and Parks and Wildlife managed businesses is invested in biodiversity conservation, maintenance and improvement of Kalbarri National Park facilities and services, and the protection of park values.

*Opening Times*

Kalbarri National Park is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

**Scan to download Every Kid in a Park App**

**Google Play Store:** [**https://www.dropbox.com/s/ysxyqurgaluwkg3/EKIP%20Android.png?dl=0**](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ysxyqurgaluwkg3/EKIP%20Android.png?dl=0)

**Apple App Store:** [**https://www.dropbox.com/s/4yh0pdbz5jeq9jq/EKIP%20iOS.png?dl=0**](https://www.dropbox.com/s/4yh0pdbz5jeq9jq/EKIP%20iOS.png?dl=0)

**Web App:** [**https://www.dropbox.com/s/1igeyfci5keq99i/EKIP%20Web%20App.png?dl=0**](https://www.dropbox.com/s/1igeyfci5keq99i/EKIP%20Web%20App.png?dl=0)

**Accessibility and Inclusion**

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| **Sensory Guide**  **Feel:** Change in ground surface. Increased body temperature. Increased heart rate. Nature. Shared personal space. Uneven terrain. Weather.  **Sounds:** Nature. People. Trees rustling. Traffic. Wildlife. Weather.  **Sights:** Glare. Nature. People. Varied natural light. Wildlife.  **Smells:** Dust. Nature. Sunscreen. |

* Some natural attractions and trails are not accessible, including the Loop and Nature’s Window, Mushroom Rock, Pot Alley and Rainbow Valley.
* The main picnic shelters at Hawks Head, Ross Graham Lookout, Z Bend, and the Loop and Nature’s Window are close to the parking bays and can be accessed over a hardened path.
* Hawks Head Lookout features a wheelchair accessible viewing platform with a one (1) metre-high safety railing.
* Meanarra Hill features a wheelchair-accessible trail and interpretive signage.
* Island Rock features a wide compacted gravel path leading to viewing platforms, a short distance from the parking area.
* Kalbarri Skywalk is fully accessible with sealed pathways, ramps and accessible toilets.
* Shell House and Grandstand Rock Gorge features an accessible path which leads from the parking area to the lookouts. The initial 30 metres of the path to the lookouts is sealed with the remaining length compacted gravel.
* Key elements of the park are signposted, however there are no Braille translations.
* Seating and rest areas are available throughout Kalbarri National Park. Picnic facilities are available at Hawks Head, the Loop and Nature’s Window, Natural Bridge, and Ross Graham Lookout.
* Food and drinks can be purchased at the kiosk located at Kalbarri Skywalk, open seven (7) days a week from 8:00am to 2:00pm. There are also a variety of local restaurants within the town of Kalbarri.
* Drinking water is not available in Kalbarri National Park. Please carry your own supply and ensure you drink at least three (3) to four (4) litres per person, per day.
* Kalbarri National Park is a popular attraction. Be mindful of crowds and plan your visit around school holidays. During peak times, parking at most attractions is busy and there may be a wait time to explore.
* Dogs and other pets are not allowed on site. Guide dogs and assistance animals are exempt from this.

A communication board has been placed at the end of this document for your use in Kalbarri National Park.

**When We Get There**

A map of Kalbarri National Park is located in the PDF version of this document.

**Nature Engagement and Recreational Activities**

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| **Sensory Guide** **Feel:** Change in ground surface. Cool water. Increased body temperature. Increased heart rate. Nature. Shared personal space. Uneven terrain. Water resistance. Weather.  **Sounds:** Nature. People. Traffic. Water running. Wildlife. Weather.  **Sights:** Glare. Nature. People. Varied natural light. Wildlife.  **Smells:** Earth. Forest. Ocean. Pollen. Soil. Woodlands. |

* Kalbarri National Park is home to spectacular coastal cliffs that provide a unique habitat for a wide range of bird species including the white-bellied sea eagle, osprey, and peregrine falcon.
* Kalbarri is known for its wildflowers, which bloom from late July to early October. The park is home to over 800 species of wildflowers including everlastings, which create a stunning carpet of pink and white flowers.
* The Murchison River flows through the park and is home to a range of fish species including the western minnow and the western pygmy perch.
* The park contains eucalyptus forests which are home to a range of marsupials including the western grey kangaroo and the red-necked wallaby.
* There are a wide variety of bushwalking opportunities with trails ranging from 700 metres to 38 kilometres. For more information, visit the [Trails WA website.](https://trailswa.com.au/)
* There are several guided walk tours and hikes exploring the park’s gorges and pristine coast. Local businesses operate within the national park and provide opportunities for families to experience scenic boat tours along the Murchison River, and wildlife and cultural tours to learn more about the local area. Tours can be booked through the [Kalbarri Visitor Centre.](https://www.kalbarri.org.au/)
* Adventure tours are also available for visitors seeking a more active experience including abseiling, rock climbing, and canoeing and kayaking tours.
* Murchison River and local beaches provide the opportunity for water-based activities including canoeing, kayaking, fishing, scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing and swimming.
* There are a variety of textures for children to interact with including plants, trees, grass, sand and water.
* Wildlife can be viewed and heard throughout the park, including accessible areas.
* There are several lookouts in the park that offer stunning panoramic views of the park’s landscape and natural features including Island Rock, Nature’s Window, Ross Graham Lookout, Red Bluff and Z Bend.

**Kalbarri Skywalk**

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| **Sensory guide**  **Feel:** Change in ground surface. Increased body temperature. Increased heart rate. Perspiration. Shared personal space. Uneven terrain. Weather.  **Sounds:** Nature. People. Trees rustling. Wildlife. Weather.  **Sights:** Glare. Nature. People. Varied natural light. Wildlife.  **Smells:** Dust. Nature. |

The Kalbarri Skywalk, or Kaju Yatka, offers incredible views of the Murchison River Gorge and its surrounding landscape. The Skywalk is located on the edge of a steep cliff and consists of two (2) platforms that extend out from the cliff face.

Sealed pathways, ramps and handrails provide wheelchair users with full access to enjoy the spectacular views. Interpretive signage and traditional art details the rich Aboriginal history in this area and provides acknowledgement of the Nanda people.   
  
The kiosk at Kalbarri National Park is open from 8:00am to 3:00pm each day.

Visitors are advised to wear sturdy footwear and bring plenty of water, especially during the hotter months of the year.  
  
The Kalbarri Skywalk can be busy during peak periods, so visitors may need to allow extra time to find parking or to avoid crowds

**The Loop and Nature’s Window**

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| **Sensory guide**  **Feel:** Change in ground surface. Increased body temperature. Increased heart rate. Perspiration. Shared personal space. Uneven terrain. Weather.  **Sounds:** Nature. People. Trees rustling. Wildlife. Weather.  **Sights:** Glare. Nature. People. Varied natural light. Wildlife.  **Smells:** Dust. Nature. |

The Loop and Nature's Window are two (2) popular attractions located in Kalbarri National Park’s inland gorges region.

The Loop is a rock formation that is situated on the banks of the Murchison River. It is named for its circular shape, which resembles a loop, and can be accessed following a walk trail that leads from the car park.

Nature's Window is another rock formation located nearby that has been eroded over time to form a natural archway in the rock. Visitors can walk through the archway to take in the stunning views of the surrounding landscape.

Visitors are advised to wear sturdy footwear and to bring plenty of water, especially during the hotter months of the year.

This attraction can be busy during peak periods, so visitors may need to allow extra time to find parking or to avoid crowds.

**Walk Trails**

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| **Sensory guide (w icons)**  **Feel:** Change in ground surface. Increased body temperature. Increased heart rate. Perspiration. Shared personal space. Uneven terrain. Weather.  **Sounds:** Trees rustling. Waves. Wildlife. Weather.  **Sights:** Dust. Glare. People. Splashing. Varied national light. Wildlife.  **Smells:** Dust. Nature. Ocean. Pollen. |

There are several walk trails in Kalbarri National Park, ranging from short, accessible walks to more challenging, overnight hikes. Some of the most popular walk trails include:

**Nature's Window (500 metres)**

Nature's Window is a wind-eroded opening in the layered sandstone that frames a view of the river. It is a moderate, one-kilometre return walk beginning with a flight of stairs from the lookout at the parking area. Views of the gorge are available from the sealed path and lookouts before the final rocky section.

**The Loop Trail (9 kilometres)**

Well-prepared walkers can continue further into the gorge system and complete the Loop Trail – a challenging but spectacular walk over both rocky and sandy terrain. Along the way you’ll pass vantage points that provide different perspectives on the switchback course of the Murchison River. There is no drinking water, and limited shade, along the trail.

**Z Bend Lookout (1 kilometre)**   
Follow this trail to admire spectacular views of the Murchison River Gorge from an overhanging rock formation. This trail follows a pathway of uneven terrain with rocky patches, natural debris and stairs. For the more adventurous hikers, continue down into the gorge along the Z Bend River Trail.

**Meanarra Hill Lookout (300 metres)**

This is a short, accessible walk featuring panoramic views over the town of Kalbarri, the mouth of the Murchison River, and inland across Kalbarri National Park. The wheelchair-friendly path offers an opportunity to learn about the Nanda people through interpretive signage.

Temperatures can be extreme in the summer months. It is recommended that you plan your hikes for the cooler months (May to October). We suggest you hike early in the morning and carry your own supply of drinking water, as none is provided within the park.

**Public Toilets**

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| **Sensory Guide**  **Feel:** Change in ground surface. Shared personal space.  **Sounds:** Door creaking. Echo. Toilet flushing. Traffic. Water running. Wildlife.  **Sights:** Dim lighting. Mirror/reflection.  **Smells:** Bathroom smells. Disinfectant. |

Public toilets are located throughout Kalbarri National Park at most major attractions including Hawks Head, the Loop and Nature’s Window, Red Bluff Beach, and Z Bend.

Wheelchair-accessible toilets are located at Kalbarri Skywalk, Natural Bridge and Ross Graham Lookout.

**Communication Board**

A communication board is located in the PDF version of this document.

**About Every Kid in a Park**

This Accessible Nature guide has been developed for Kalbarri National Park. This document is available online to help you plan your visit.

Download the Every Kid in the Park app for more information on Kalbarri National Park. The App is free to download and use, and is a tool developed for families to plan their visit and navigate their way through the park.

**[QR codes:]**

**Google Play Store:** [**https://www.dropbox.com/s/ysxyqurgaluwkg3/EKIP%20Android.png?dl=0**](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ysxyqurgaluwkg3/EKIP%20Android.png?dl=0)

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Every Kid in a Park is a project to support families of children of all abilities in accessing and enjoying the outdoors (like local parks, nature reserves, beaches, and national parks) around Western Australia.

**Statement of Language**

Nature Play WA supports the Social Model of Disability. We are proud to work with families and industry professionals within the disability community, who continue to assist us in our approach to access and inclusion.

For more information about the Social Model of Disability, visit [People With Disability Australia](http://pwd.org.au/resources/disability-info/social-model-of-disability/).

**About Nature Play WA**

Nature Play WA is an incorporated not-for-profit association and a registered charity, dedicated to supporting the mental and physical health of Western Australian children by growing their connection to nature and community through outdoor play.

For more information on what we do and who we are, visit the [Nature Play WA website.](http://www.natureplaywa.org.au)