

Northcliffe to Walpole Track

Distance: end to end -148km Duration: 9 days/ 8 Nights



This section of the Bibbulmun Track offers one of the most diverse walking experiences in Australia. It has it all – towering Karri forest, pristine rivers, grasslands, wetlands, beaches and dramatic coastal cliffs.

Visit one of the most inaccessible parts of the South West of Western Australia without compromising on comfort. Each evening we return to 'off track' accommodation so you can enjoy all of the sights and smells of the Bibbulmun Track, without carrying a heavy pack or sleeping rough.

Level: *Moderate/Challenging*

Most people do need to do some training before hand, but you do not need to be an elite athlete or anything. It is a good amount of challenge, with mostly moderate terrain, but a couple of long days.

This walk is of a "moderate to challenging" level and walkers should be fit before they begin. There are some long days, steep hills and some beach stretches. However, the walk has been designed to make it achievable to those of reasonable fitness, by the fact that you are only carrying a daypack and you start with short distances. You will be surprised how much fitter you are by day four!

What our guests say:

"Excellent accommodation and shuttle bus provision. Well done Inspiration Outdoors!"
Patrick G

"Our guides were intelligent, empathetic, knowledgeable, caring and safety conscious."
Barbara E

Give us a call if you have any questions!
08 8 6219 5164 or walk@inspirationoutdoors.com.au

2019 DEPARTURES:

AUTUMN 2019

7-15. March

SPRING 2019

15-23. November



Itinerary

A guide will accompany you on each day's walk. The total distance is approximately 148km. Each day we will resume the walk from where we finished the previous day. The following plan may alter depending on local conditions and weather.

This is a moderately challenging walk completed over nine glorious days, with many highlights. The walk is 148 kilometres total with days ranging from 4.5 – 27km. Preparation walking long distances is essential. Parts of this section can get boggy and wet and may require wading in spring.

Day 1

Drive Perth to Northcliffe + Walk
Distance: 4.2km

With an 8:20am pick up in Perth, we will head down to Northcliffe having lunch along the way. Shortly after lunch we will start with an easy introduction to the track with a 4km walk back to Northcliffe along the Gardner River. Generally flat on firm ground along the river with a little bit of road walking.

Note, as we walk on the first afternoon, please wear your hiking clothes on the bus and bring your day pack ready to go.

Day 2

Wheatley Coast Rd to Chesapeake Rd
Distance: 19.5km

Our first proper walk is through a lovely mix of Jarrah, Marri and Karri forest. Much of the day is by the banks of the beautiful Gardner River. It's an easy to medium walk with mostly flat, firm ground but some undulations through creek crossings and some sandy tracks.



Day 3

Chesapeake Rd to Chesapeake Rd
Distance: 17.2km

Today we reach the magnificent Lake Maringup which will surprise you with its size and beauty. Surrounded by Karri forest, this is a real highlight. Easy to Medium walk with undulations through culverts up to Lake Maringup, then generally flat for the rest of the way. A mix of firm and sandy ground.

Day 4

Chesapeake Rd to Deeside Coast Rd
Distance: 11.7km

Because there is limited access through this section, we have a short easy day today. Walk through flat open sedgeland, mixed with some jarrah and karri sections. In the afternoon we will take the opportunity to visit nearby Broke Inlet – a vast and beautiful estuary with windswept paperbark trees and red granite rocks lining its shore.

Day 5

Deeside Coast Rd to Mt Chance
Distance: 27km

A long day but very interesting and diverse day through the Pingerup Plains broken up by granitic knobs with surrounding karri and jarrah. This area is like nothing else in WA and very reminiscent of African Savannah (so Simon says).

Mostly flat walking with some small undulations around the granite knolls. We will follow an old forestry track for 4 km to get to the nearest vehicle access.



Day 6

Mt Chance trail to Inlet River
Distance: 20.5km

After we walk back into the track from the highway, we will enjoy more walking through the Pingerup Plains. We may have time to climb Mt Pingerup or Mt Chance for views of the surrounding area and the Broke Inlet (optional). Today is mostly flat through low swampy areas with a few ups and downs around Mt Pingerup.

Day 7

Inlet River Trail to Mandalay Beach
Distance: 16.8km

Today we hit the coast. It's a great walk with an amazing view from the top of the peak at Woolbales campsite. We reach the coastline and the Southern Ocean at Mandalay Beach.

It's easy and flat for the first half, with a pretty easy ascent to the top of the granite dome at Woolbales campsite. The second half of the walk becomes more difficult as you approach the coast with some hills and sandy ground.



Day 8

Mandalay Beach to Deep River
Distance: 19.5km

A spectacular day starting on the rugged coastline, walking through dunes and heathland before finishing at the Deep River and in Giant Tingle country.

This is the toughest day of the tour terrain-wise. There are some steep sections on soft sand through the dunes with little shade.

Day 9

Deep River to Walpole. Return to Perth
Distance: 12km

A nice final day with a steep ascent of Mt Clare into magnificent Tingle and Karri forest before finishing in Walpole.

It is very steep start to the day with the climb up Mt Clare then easy to moderate walking on firm ground into Walpole. We should be in Walpole by lunch time and back into Perth around 6pm.

The Fine Details

Cost: \$2,375 per person

(\$400 single supplement)

What's included:

- All transport: private coach transport to and from Perth; as well as transport to and from the track each day
- Professional guiding and support each day
- Emergency support: guides carry satellite phones and a full first aid kit
- 8 night's comfortable accommodation
- 8 healthy breakfasts – cereal, fruit, yogurt, toast
- 9 morning teas, carried by your guide
- 9 lunches – some packed and some delivered picnics

- Pre-dinner nibbles each night
- 8 delicious two course dinners
- Excellent itinerary and planning drawn from 19 yrs experience.

Where do we start from?

The tour starts and finishes in the Perth CBD. We pick up our guests from the Tourist Coach Stand at 490 Wellington Street, near the corner of William Street at 8:20am on the morning of the departure. We can also pick up from Fremantle from the Parry Street car park (just let us know). In the weeks prior to the tour we will provide you with a map to this location.

As we are walking on the first day of the tour, it is not advisable to fly into Perth on the morning of the tour departure. We recommend staying (at least, it's a great city) one night in Perth before the tour. At the end of the tour, we generally return to Perth at around 6pm, and then on to Fremantle at 6:30pm.

If you are looking for accommodation in Perth close to the pick up spot, we recommend;

- The Ibis (on Murray Street)
- The Royal (on Wellington Street)
- Mantra on Murray (on Murray Street)
- Four Points by Sheraton (on Wellington Street).

All are within easy walking distance of the pick up spot.



Where do we stay?

Our first three nights accommodation are at the Northcliffe Hotel in motel style rooms. We will eat dinner together in the hotel restaurant each evening. There are no laundry facilities for guests at the hotel but there is a laundromat in town.

We stay the next five nights at Bayside Villas in Walpole where we will spread out over a number of villas. Each evening we come together in one of the villas for evening meals, cooked by your guides.

Accommodation is allocated on a twin share basis. Solo travellers will be lodged with a fellow solo traveller of the same sex. Rooms are very limited in Northcliffe so there may not be an opportunity to arrange a single room. Please ask though if you're interested in securing a single room for an extra fee and we'll see what we can do.

Dietary Requirements?

From vegetarians to pescatarians to meat loving carnivores with an aversion to cucumbers we cater for all dietary requirements and will make sure you are well fed and looked after on tour.

Average Temperature (degrees):

Departures: **March:** 13 min - 25 max **Nov:** 11 min - 23 max

What's the average age of walkers?

The average age of our guests are between 55-75 years young but we welcome any adult on our tours.

Ready to book?

Your next adventure is two steps away...

- Jump onto our website www.inspirationoutdoors.com.au, find your tour in the menu and click on the orange button in the top right hand corner that states, 'CheckAvailability/Book Now' alternatively call us on **08 6219 5164** (international calls dial **+618 62195164**) or email us at walk@InspirationOutdoors.com.au.
- Pay a \$350pp deposit to secure your booking (full payment is required six weeks prior to departure or at time of booking if booking within six weeks).

Just in case...

All our tours are guaranteed departures.

We hope that you do not need to cancel your booking. However, if you do, our cancellation fee, based on the notice given prior to the departure date, is:

- More than 12 weeks: \$50 administration fee
- 6 to 12 weeks: loss of deposit
- 4 to 6 weeks: 25% of full tour cost
- 2 to 4 weeks: 50% of full tour cost
- less than 2 weeks: 100% of full tour cost, no refund

If you have any concerns about cancelling, please take out travel insurance covering this contingency. This policy will be adhered to despite the most compelling and compassionate circumstances.

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