Access

Remember

Don’t light fires. Gas barbecues are provided free of charge to day visitors at Four Mile Beach, Hamersley Inlet and Point Ann picnic areas.

Be clean. Rubbish bins are not provided in the park; please take your rubbish with you.

Save animals and plants. No hunting or wildflower picking is permitted in Fitzgerald River National Park. Drive slowly to avoid killing wildlife on the roads.

Stay on the road. Follow signs in the park and keep vehicles on the roads marked in this map. Observe track closures and speed limits. To drive a four-wheel drive vehicle on sand, engage four-wheel drive and reduce tyre pressure. Don’t forget to re-inflate your tyres when you leave the area. It is recommended that two-wheel drive vehicles are not driven on sand or other soft surfaces.

Be prepared. Always carry plenty of fresh water (at least three or four litres per person per day) as there are no reliable drinking water supplies within the park.

Take care

Keep your personal safety in mind at all times. Caution is required in any natural environment with potentially hazardous terrain. Fitzgerald River National Park is no exception.

Stand back from rocky headlands and cliff edges. Many areas within the park have steep, rocky slopes that can be unstable underfoot.

Choose fishing or swimming sites with great care. The Southern Ocean is unpredictable, making rock fishing and swimming especially dangerous. Huge waves and swells can suddenly occur even on calm days. Rocks become slippery when wet. Rip currents are common along the coastline. Wear a lifejacket at all times when fishing from rocks.

No pets

Pets are not permitted in the park. Please leave your dogs, cats and other domestic animals at home as they can harm native wildlife and environment. Foxes and cats are predators to native animals, so the park is baited with 1080 poison to control the numbers of these introduced predators. Native animals are naturally resistant to 1080, but the baits will kill your pets.

Please heed visitor risk warnings shown on signs that display this symbol.

More information

National park rangers are available to provide information. Don’t hesitate to contact them if you need assistance.

Rangers (West)
Jacup/jerramungup
Tel (08) 9835 5043

Department of Parks and Wildlife Office
13 Morgan Street
Ravensthorpe
Tel (08) 9838 1967

Ranger (East)
Barrens Beach Road
Tel (08) 9838 3060

Department of Parks and Wildlife
Albany District Office
120 Albany Highway, Albany WA 6330
Tel (08) 9842 4500
Fax (08) 9841 7105
Email: Albany@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Visit the Department of Parks and Wildlife’s website www.dpaw.wa.gov.au for more information on the park.

Fitzgerald River National Park

A series of podcasts about the Fitzgerald River National Park and the different walks can be downloaded prior to visiting the park from the same website.

Fitzgerald River National Park

22 mammal species, 41 reptile species and 12 frog species. Fitzgerald River National Park is an internationally recognised Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, providing a unique opportunity to conserve the region’s unique flora and fauna, the central south coast of Western Australia, between the

Information and recreation guide

Access

Remember

Don’t light fires. Gas barbecues are provided free of charge to day visitors at Four Mile Beach, Hamersley Inlet and Point Ann picnic areas.

Be clean. Rubbish bins are not provided in the park; please take your rubbish with you.

Save animals and plants. No hunting or wildflower picking is permitted in Fitzgerald River National Park. Drive slowly to avoid killing wildlife on the roads.

Stay on the road. Follow signs in the park and keep vehicles on the roads marked in this map. Observe track closures and speed limits. To drive a four-wheel drive vehicle on sand, engage four-wheel drive and reduce tyre pressure. Don’t forget to re-inflate your tyres when you leave the area. It is recommended that two-wheel drive vehicles are not driven on sand or other soft surfaces.

Be prepared. Always carry plenty of fresh water (at least three or four litres per person per day) as there are no reliable drinking water supplies within the park.

Take care

Keep your personal safety in mind at all times. Caution is required in any natural environment with potentially hazardous terrain. Fitzgerald River National Park is no exception.

Stand back from rocky headlands and cliff edges. Many areas within the park have steep, rocky slopes that can be unstable underfoot.

Choose fishing or swimming sites with great care. The Southern Ocean is unpredictable, making rock fishing and swimming especially dangerous. Huge waves and swells can suddenly occur even on calm days. Rocks become slippery when wet. Rip currents are common along the coastline. Wear a lifejacket at all times when fishing from rocks.

No pets

Pets are not permitted in the park. Please leave your dogs, cats and other domestic animals at home as they can harm native wildlife and environment. Foxes and cats are predators to native animals, so the park is baited with 1080 poison to control the numbers of these introduced predators. Native animals are naturally resistant to 1080, but the baits will kill your pets.

Please heed visitor risk warnings shown on signs that display this symbol.

More information

National park rangers are available to provide information. Don’t hesitate to contact them if you need assistance.

Rangers (West)
Jacup/jerramungup
Tel (08) 9835 5043

Department of Parks and Wildlife Office
13 Morgan Street
Ravensthorpe
Tel (08) 9838 1967

Ranger (East)
Barrens Beach Road
Tel (08) 9838 3060

Department of Parks and Wildlife
Albany District Office
120 Albany Highway, Albany WA 6330
Tel (08) 9842 4500
Fax (08) 9841 7105
Email: Albany@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Visit the Department of Parks and Wildlife’s website www.dpaw.wa.gov.au for more information on the park.

Fitzgerald River National Park

A series of podcasts about the Fitzgerald River National Park and the different walks can be downloaded prior to visiting the park from the same website.
Basic camp sites are also provided on the long coastal walk trails at Whalebone Beach and Fitzgerald River Inlet. All water, food, toilet paper and camping equipment need to be carried in.

Walking in the Fitzgerald River National Park

Bush walks and beach walks offer scenic vistas of the natural beauty of the park. Please use the boot scrubbers provided at the trailhead boot-cleaning stations and stay on the designated walktrails and footpaths. Carry ample drinking water. Be prepared for unexpected changes in weather. Bush walking is not recommended in hot and windy or other extreme weather conditions.

Always tell someone where you are going and when you will return. Please register using the registration books provided at the trailheads. Note that the Department of Parks and Wildlife is not responsible for checking you have returned safely, however the registration process offers a point of reference should something go wrong.

Check the distance
Please check the scale on the map and plan your travel time carefully. Distances are greater than they appear. Most of the roads in the park are unsealed and conditions vary. The estimates below give the minimum travel time under ideal conditions. Expect to take longer.

Scenic drives

Western Nullarbor Peninsula

This scenic drive from Esperance to Norseman (within the Shire of Ravensthorpe) and St Mary camp site. Caravan camping is only available at Hamersley Inlet camp site. Please check the map for locations. Camping permit fees apply; please pay at the self-registration fee paying stations provided at the camp sites.

Vehicle-based camping is available at Four Mile camp site, Hamersley Inlet camp site (within the Shire of Ravensthorpe), and St Mary camp site. Caravan camping is only available at Hamersley Inlet camp site. Please check the map for locations. Camping permit fees apply; please pay at the self-registration fee paying stations provided at the camp sites.

Short Bush Walks in the West

West Mount Barren Summit Trail

Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 1.7km return) – allow 1–2 hours. This short walk leads to the summit of West Mt Barren and features expansive views over the western region of the park.

Mount Maxwell Lookout

Class 2 (Easy ~ 200m return) – allow 1 hour. A gentle amble up to the Mt Maxwell Lookout provides visitors with landscape views to the western peaks.

Point Ann Heritage Trail

Class 3 (Easy ~ 1km return) – allow 1 hour. A gentle walk with interpretation panels along the trail. It features spectacular views over Point Charles Bay and the park’s rugged central coastline. In winter, you may see southern right whales visiting the bay. Discover the Aboriginal and European heritage of Point Ann and follow a section of the rabbit proof fence.

Short Bush Walks in the East

East Mount Barren Summit Trail

Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 2.6km return) – allow 2–3 hours. This short walk to the summit of East Mt Barren features stunning views over the central park and eastern Barrens Ranges, the Cultram Inlet to Hopetoun, and beyond to Esperance.

Barrens Lookout

Class 3 (Easy ~ 250m return) – allow 2–3 hours. On the short walk from the car park to Barrens lookout, the path winds past a natural rock garden through low coastal heath that is dappled with a wonderful array of colourful wildflowers in spring.

Sepulcralis Hill

Class 3 (Easy ~ 600m return) – allow 2–3 hours. This is a popular walk during wildflower season.

Walk trail classifications

Parks and Wildlife walk trails are assigned a ‘class’ to indicate degree of difficulty. The walk classes range from Class 1 (universal access), which is suitable for wheelchairs to Class 5, which requires walkers to be fit, experienced and suitably equipped. Check trailhead signs at the start of walks for specific information.

Long Coastal Walk in the West

Mamang Walktrail from Point Ann to Point Charles and Fitzgerald River Inlet

Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 31km return) – allow 2–3 hours. The walktrail passes through beautiful bushland country with spectacular views of Lake Nameless and the central mountain ranges and has encounters with historic sites and spectacular views of the Fitzgerald River beach and inlet. There are basic overnight camp facilities at Fitzgerald Inlet. This is a world class walktrail taking you into pristine bushlands, where the unique flora and fauna of the coastal region of the park may be experienced.

Please refer to the Mamang Walktrail brochure for a full explanation of all the walk options for this trail.

Long Coastal Walk in the East

Hakea Walktrail from Cave Point to Quinn Head

Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 48km return) – allow 2–3 hours. The walktrail to Quinn Head passes through an array of the region’s unique landscape, vegetation and flora which also provides habitat for a rich range of fauna species. You may encounter echidnas, sea eagles, osprey, mallee fowl, dolphins and whales (in season). There are basic overnight camp facilities at the Whalebone camp site near Whalebone beach.

Please refer to the Hakea Walktrail brochure for a full explanation of all the walk options for this walktrail.

Things to do and see

Diverse landscapes, sheltered beaches, rugged sea cliffs, steep ranges, extensive plains and sheer river valleys ending in inlets all provide a variety of nature-based recreational opportunities.

Wildflowers and Flora

Wildflowers in the park are a year-round feature of the park’s exceptionally diverse floral landscape, but are truly spectacular and abundant in the spring months, August - November.

Wildflowers in the park are a year-round feature of the park’s exceptionally diverse floral landscape, but are truly spectacular and abundant in the spring months, August - November. Wildflowers in the park are a year-round feature of the park’s exceptionally diverse floral landscape, but are truly spectacular and abundant in the spring months, August - November.

Wildflowers and Flora

Wildflowers and Flora

Wildflowers and Flora

Wildflowers and Flora

Wildflowers and Flora

Whale watching and marine mammals

Southern right whales annually congregate in the shallow bays of the park’s coastline from June - October when they give birth, nurse their young and socialise, before migrating back to Antarctic waters for summer feeding. Pods of dolphins, seals and migrating humpback whales are also regularly seen along the coast.

Fishing

Fitzgerald River National Park has many excellent fishing beaches. Keep safety in mind when choosing a site. Wear a self-inflating vest or life jacket when rock fishing. Normal fishing regulations apply.

Camping

Vehicle-based camping is available at Four Mile camp site, Hamersley Inlet camp site (within the Shire of Ravensthorpe), and St Mary camp site. Caravan camping is only available at Hamersley Inlet camp site. Please check the map for locations. Camping permit fees apply; please pay at the self-registration fee paying stations provided at the camp sites. Basic camp sites are also provided on the long coastal walk trails at Whalebone Beach and Fitzgerald River Inlet. All water, food, toilet paper and camping equipment need to be carried in.