**Remember**

Don’t light fires. Gas barbecues are provided free of charge to day visitors at Four Mile Beach picnic area and Hammersley Inlet picnic area.

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. Slow down and give nearby wildlife the right of way.

Stay on the road. Follow signs in the park and keep vehicles on the roads marked in this leaflet. 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. Fossils 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.

**More information**

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

**Rangers (West)**

Jacquil/Jarramup

Tel (08) 9935 5043

**Ranger (East)**

Barrens Beach Road

Tel (08) 9838 3060

**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

Albany District Office

13 Morgan Street

Ravenshorpe

Tel (08) 9838 1967

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.

Other Fitzgerald River National Park brochures include:

- Fitzgerald River National Park information and recreation guide
- Eastern short walks, which includes the short walks to Barrens lookout, East Mount Barren, Septularis Hill and No Tree Hill
- Western short walks, which includes the short walks to Mount Maxwell, West Mount Barren and the Point Ann Heritage Trail
- Mamang Walktrail

For general information about the park, including a park map and details of access roads please refer to the Fitzgerald River National Park information and recreation guide brochure. The brochures are available from park entry stations, walktrail heads or download copies online http://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/park/fitzgerald-river.

Park Podcast series can also be found at this site.

**Hakea walk trail Fitzgerald River National Park**

- Cave Point to West Beach Headland 6.6km return – allow two to three hours
- Cave Point to Quoin Head 4.4km return – allow one to two hours
- Hamersley Inlet Carpark to Hamersley Beach lookout, East Mount Barren, Cave Point and Sepulcralis Hill 4.6km return – allow one to two hours
- Hamersley Inlet Carpark to Whoogarup Range with Hamersley Beach lookout 4.6km return – allow one to two hours
- Hamersley Inlet Carpark to Quoin Head 11.6km return – allow five to six hours
- Hamersley Inlet Carpark to Mount Maxwell 8.1km return – allow four to five hours
- Hamersley Inlet Carpark to Spitfire Point 13.6km return – allow six to seven hours
- Hamersley Inlet Carpark to West Beach Headland with Quoin Head 11.2km return – allow six to seven hours

**Half Day Walks**

Cave Point to West Beach Headland

6.6km return – allow two to three hours

This is an excellent introduction to the Hakea Trail. The trail follows the coast along sandy beaches, across vegetated dunes and rocky ridges. Surfaces may be unstable or slippery. The trail is named after one of the park’s flora families which include the iconic Royal Hakea (Hakea victoria). The Royal Hakea is a spectacular and iconic plant family of Fitzgerald River National Park. This fine group of plants can be found in the vegetation and associated flora and fauna. Whilst the Royal Hakea is a fine sight to behold, it is a species which is at risk of becoming extinct in the wild. The Royal Hakea is a good example of a plant species which is vulnerable to habitat loss and fragmentation. There are no plans to reintroduce this species to the wild.

The trail is well marked by these signs that display this symbol.

Please return unwanted brochures to distribution points.

**Information and walk trail guide for Cave Point to Quoin Head**

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**Full Day Walks**

**Cave Point to Edwards Point Steps**

13.8km return – allow five to six hours

This is a longer class 4 day walk from Cave Point for which you should allow 5-6 hours return. Follow the trail as described for the half day walk to West Beach Headland (3.1km, about 1 hour) continue to Nature’s Rockery Lookout platform, which has one of the best views of the central wilderness peaks and the rugged western coastline.

From here to the Edwards Point Steps takes about 20 minutes. A superb view of the rocky beach shore below opens up from the top of the steps. At the base of the steps, visit the small zawn about 15m to your left. The word zawn is derived from the Cornish word ‘zawn’ meaning chaos and is a deep and narrow sea-inlet cut by erosion, with steep or vertical walls. This zawn is relatively small compared with others along the Fitzgerald River National Park coastline.

Return by the same route to Cave Point.

**Hamersley Inlet to Whalebone Point and Whalebone Creek campground**

17.6km return – allow six to seven hours

This is a longer walk from Hamersley Inlet to Whalebone Creek. Follow the trail as described for the half day walk to Tamala Karst Lookout. It continues along the edge of the limestone scarp and gradually descends to Central Whalebone Point. Walk around the point and pass below a short section of low Melaleuca woodland where the small trees have been blown down by the prevailing winds into an almost horizontal form. Allow 30 minutes from Tamala Karst Lookout.

The trail heads towards Whalebone Point in the distant west. After passing an unusual boomerang-shaped limestone edge the trail skirts inland and then curves around the head of a dry stream valley before swinging back parallel to the coast.

Eventually you will emerge onto the final coastal karst section where the trail parallels the edge of the cliff line with spectacular ocean views in both directions. In windy or gusty conditions you are advised to stay well back from the cliff edge. Another viewing platform (Whalebone Coast Lookout) on the final knoll before you descend towards Whalebone Point - about 2½-3 hours from Hamersley Inlet carpark.

If you are short of time you can go past the Hakea Trail turn off 8km on your right beyond the carpark and continue a further 70m up the hill to visit a fine viewpoint which looks back east - down into Whalebone Cove and along the coast beyond. You can then start your return journey without visiting the campground. Otherwise follow the Hakea Trail turn off, which descends to the Whalebone Creek valley and the Whalebone Creek campground in a few hundred metres (10 minutes) and commence your return walk from there. You will pass a short path on your left as you near the creek and this leads down to the nearby inlet beach. This is the last accessible beach area along the trail all the way to Quoin Head.

To continue walking you will need to be self-sufficient bringing all your own equipment and food and fresh water. Bring your own toilet paper and toilet facilities along the trail.

**Facilities and Campsite**

**Hamersley Inlet Picnic Area and Campground**

There is no potable water at this site. All water, food and camping equipment will need to be carried in. Bring your own toilet paper and please take all your rubbish back with you.

**Quoin Head Beach**

If you have time to visit Quoin Head beach and headland, return about 90m to the small car park then descend the steep four-wheel drive track down to the beach and small recreation area.

Remember before descending that you will need about 2 hours from here to return to Whalebone Creek campground, and from there another 3-4 hours to Hamersley Inlet trail head or another 5-6 hours to Cave Point trail head, longer if you are tired.

**Quoin Head Beach and Hakea Trail terminus above**

About 100m further along the beach this is the last accessible beach area along the trail all the way to Quoin Head.

**Two Day Walk**

**Cave Point to Quoin Head**

46.8km return – allow 12 to 14 hours actual walking

This class 4 walk takes you the entire length of the Hakea Trail. Allow 7-8 hours walking one way from Cave Point and 5-6 hours one way from Hamersley Inlet carpark.

Starting from Cave Point follow the full day walk description to the Edwards Point Steps. The trail now follows the spectacular rocky beach around to the west and in about 20 minutes you will round the point and reach the east end of Hamersley Beach. This area is accessible by 4WD vehicles, so take care as you continue westwards. Also take care if tides are high as there are some places where the broken waves may lap right up to the base of steep dune slopes. After about 30 minutes you will pass the Hamersley Inlet sand bar on your right and the Hamersley Inlet Link Trail entry.

Continue all the way to Whalebone Creek campground as described above for the half day and full day walks from Hamersley Inlet carpark.

On leaving the campground cross over Whalebone Creek using the walkway. Please use the dieback brushdown provided and then climb quite steeply up part of an old 4WD track to the next section of old wave cut platform. The trail now leaves the old track on the left and swings back toward the coast. In a few hundred metres you will reach another resting point where you can sit on the natural rocks and look down across the Whalebone Creek Beach. You can also see distant views of the central wilderness coast and Red Islet just off shore to the south-west. This is an ideal 15 minute (one way) stroll from the campground and a good turn around point if you are not continuing all the way to Quoin Head.

The trail now swings back inland and uphill passing through a stand of the rich crimson coloured Barrens Regelin, eventually returning to the old 4WD track (10 minutes) at which point this is followed west to the Whoogarup lookout point at the foot of the southern outlier peak of the Whoogarup Range about 1.8km ahead (one hour from Whalebone campground). This is the only place on this section of trail where you can see back along the eastern coast as well as ahead toward the central wilderness.

After another 800m you will turn off the old 4WD track and walking gently downhill, you will reach a great vista into a deep valley with a gorge which extends to sea level. The trail then swings back to the west descending steeply into the valley to cross the creek on some large rocks above a

**Dieback**

Dieback is caused by a pathogen, known as *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, which is lethal to hundreds of plant species. This disease kills plants by destroying their root systems, and threatens many of the park’s plant species. The climate of the south coast favours the spread of dieback, which thrives in warm, moist soil and can easily be spread in mud or soil that adheres to vehicle tyres or bush walkers’ footwear.

It is therefore sometimes necessary to close roads and tracks or temporarily restrict access to certain areas.

Fitzgerald River National Park is one of the parks most affected by dieback in south-western Australia. With your help it has a chance of remaining so. Bush walkers can help by cleaning mud off their boots before entering a park or reserve, or at the boot-cleaning stations provided at trailhead sites in the park.

When driving in the park, it is essential to keep to established roads and tracks and obey all ROAD CLOSED signs. By washing the tyres and under-body of your car before and after a trip to a park or reserve, you can help preserve WA’s natural areas.