



Swan View Tunnel

Visitors can walk through the only historic railway tunnel in WA. Designed by C.Y. O'Connor, the tunnel was constructed in 1894, and took more than a year to build. It was dangerous work for the 300 workers who only had picks, shovels and dynamite to work with. The roof was sealed with over 330,000 bricks. It is 340m long and was considered a major engineering achievement in its day. The bypass around the tunnel was built in 1945 and was used until the line was closed in 1966.

Swan View Tunnel

Please note: the falls are seasonal and are dependent on rainfall.

- main picnic area to National Park Falls is an easy 2km return walk or cycle
- main picnic area to Hovea Falls is an easy 2km return walk or cycle
- main picnic area to Swan View Tunnel is an easy 5km return walk or cycle

The Railway Reserves Heritage Trail, a 41km loop trail, retraces the old Eastern Railway that formerly linked Fremantle to York in the late 1880s. 6km of the trail passes through the park and can be enjoyed by walkers and cyclists. Major features that can be seen from the trail include:

Railway Reserves Heritage Trail



Above Picnic area. Below Vista from Park Road entry.

Caring for John Forrest



Protect our environment

- Please do not feed any native animals or birds.
- Dogs are not permitted in the park.
- Picking wildflowers is prohibited.
- Leave the natural area as you find it.

Be clean

- Take your rubbish with you or put it in the bins provided.
- Remember, cigarette butts are litter too.

Be cool

- Fires and camping are not permitted anywhere in the park.

Be careful

- Tread lightly on slippery gravel and wet surfaces.
- The park contains waterfalls and rock areas. Extreme caution must be undertaken to avoid slippage and falling in such areas.
- Remember, that your safety in natural areas is our concern but your responsibility.



Above Spider orchid. Top right Slendid fairy-wren. Photo - Carol Strang. Above right Mahogany Creek.



Above Vista from Park Road entry.



Above left Wedge-tailed eagle. Photo - Rick Dawson Above right Track along Mahogany Creek.

Want to return to John Forrest or go to another national park?

Do you visit national parks often? An extended Park Pass may be the answer. Day entry passes can be used towards the purchase of an annual or holiday park pass for Western Australia. An annual local park pass provides 12 month's unlimited entry for Perth residents to John Forrest National Park, Walyunga National Park and Avon Valley National Park. Please see a ranger or visit parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/know/park-entry-fees for more information.

More information

John Forrest National Park

Park Road, Hovea
Ph: (08) 9298 8344

Department of Parks and Wildlife

Perth Hills District
275 Allen Road
Mundaring WA 6073
Ph: (08) 9290 6100

dpaw.wa.gov.au

Police: 13 14 44

In the event of an emergency, call 000

The nearest emergency hospital is located in Midland.

Information current at January 2017.

This document is available in alternative formats on request.



Department of Parks and Wildlife



Front cover Swan View Tunnel.

John Forrest National Park



Visitor guide



Department of Parks and Wildlife



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The park is home to a variety of plants and wildlife. Towards the end of winter and during spring are the best times to view the profusion of wildflowers throughout the park. However the park can be accessed at all times from the entrance which is located 2.3km further east along the Great Eastern Highway opposite the Glen Forrest Shopping Centre. The park is open at all times. The first entrance to the park, across the road from Bilgoman Pool, is locked daily at 4pm.

Opening hours

Heritage Trail for walkers and cyclists. In 1966 and has been converted into the Railway Reserves train for the people of Perth. The rail line was discontinued in the early 1930s making the park a popular day trip by and 1901. The first recreation facilities were constructed in honour of the famous explorer and statesman, Sir John Forrest, who was premier of Western Australia between 1890 and 1901. The first recreation facilities were constructed in 1947 National Park, it became John Forrest National Park in 1947. Park is WA's oldest national park. Formerly Greenmount proclaimed a national park in 1900, John Forrest National Originally declared as a conservation reserve in 1898, and

Western Australia's first national park

Flora and fauna

While most of the mammal life is secretive and nocturnal, western grey kangaroos are commonly seen around the picnic areas during the early morning and late afternoon. You may also be lucky enough to see an echinida or quenda. Birdwatching is a favourite activity in the park which is home to over 90 species of birds. Twenty-eight parrots, splendid fairy-wrens and magpies are common visitors to the picnic area, while wedge-tail eagles can be seen soaring in the skies.

Walk trails

Half hour strolls to an all-day hike, all walks start at the main picnic area. Choose a walk that suits your ability and fitness level.

Walking safely

- Take 3-4 litres of water per person.
- Wear sturdy footwear, a hat and sunscreen.
- Tell someone responsible where you are going and let them know when you return.
- Bushwalking is not recommended in hot or other extreme weather conditions due to the risk of bushfires or winter storms.
- Loose and uneven surfaces may be encountered.



Trail summary

Jane Brook Promenade 1

Class 1 (Easy ~ 300m loop) – allow 30 minutes

Stroll along the quaint rock lined paths around the Jane Brook Weir to find a quiet seating nook constructed during the 1930's Depression by sustenance workers. This trail is paved and is suitable for prams and wheelchairs with assistance.

National Park Falls Walk 2

Class 2 (Easy ~ 2.5km loop in anti-clockwise direction) – allow 1 hour

A lovely trail that runs along the Jane Brook to National Park Falls and follows the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail back to the picnic area.

Glen Brook Trail 3

Class 3 (Moderate difficulty ~ 2.2km loop in anti-clockwise direction) – allow 1 hour

Follow the path up the valley to the Glen Brook Dam discovering wildflowers, birds and possibly a kangaroo heading in for a refreshing drink. Expect some steps and slippery surfaces.

Wildflower Walk 4

Class 3 (Moderate difficulty ~ 4.5km loop in clockwise direction) – allow 2 hours

A popular walk in spring that highlights the diversity and colour of the many wildflowers in the park. Expect some short steep sections and slippery surfaces.

Christmas Tree Creek Walk 5

Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 10.5km loop in clockwise direction) – allow 4 hours

Explore a section of the Eagle View Walk Trail before traversing through the middle of the park with a shorter walk option.

Caution: A good level of fitness is required. Expect uneven, loose and slippery surfaces with some steep sections. Allow at least 4 hours to complete the walk.

Eagle View Walk Trail 6

Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 16km loop in clockwise direction) – allow 5 hours

Discover the serene, less explored areas of the park. A lookout with spectacular views over the coastal plain and city may reveal soaring wedge-tail eagles. In spring, walkers can experience a profusion of wildflowers.

Caution: A good level of fitness is required. Expect uneven, loose and slippery surfaces with some steep sections. Allow at least 5 hours to complete the walk.

John Forrest Bridle Trail 7

(15km loop) – allow 3 hours

The Bridle Trail can be accessed from the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail on the eastern side of the park. There is parking for horse floats on Victoria Road. The trail traverses through the southern section of the park and joins the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail to create a loop. Horses are only to be ridden on the marked bridle trail and the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail and are not permitted within the main recreation area.

Far left Jane Brook. **Left** Western grey kangaroos. **Above** Glen Brook picnic area. **Above right** National Park Falls.

