Above right Wedge-tailed eagle. Photo – Rick Dawson.
Above left Spider orchid. Above right Splendid fairy-wren. Photo – Carol Strang.

John Forrest National Park

Opening Hours
Western Australia’s first national park is owned and managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. The park is WA’s oldest national park. Formerly Greenmount Railway Reserves Heritage Trail for walkers and cyclists. Originally declared as a conservation reserve in 1898, and proclaimed a national park in 1900, John Forrest National Park, it became John Forrest National Park in 1947 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 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:

- National Park Falls is an easy 2km return walk or cycle from Vista from Park Road entry.
- Hovea Falls is an easy 2km return walk or cycle from the main picnic area.
- Swan View Tunnel is an easy 5km return walk or cycle from the picnic areas during the early morning and late afternoon. You may also be lucky enough to see an echidna or quenda.

However the park can be accessed at all times from the entrance that is 2.3km further east along the Great Eastern Highway opposite the Glen Forrest Shopping Centre.

The park is open at all times. The western entrance to the park, opposite Bilgoman Pool, is locked daily at 4pm.

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 months’ unlimited entry for Perth residents to John Forrest National Park, Walyunga National Park and Avon Valley National Park. Please see a ranger or visit exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au for more information.

More information

John Forrest National Park
Park Road, Hovea
Ph: (08) 9298 8344

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Parks and Wildlife Service
Perth Hills District
275 Allen Road
Mundaring WA 6073
Ph: (08) 9290 6100
dbca.wa.gov.au
Police: 13 14 44

In the event of an emergency, call 000.

The nearest emergency hospital is located in Midland.

Information correct as at April 2018.

This document is available in alternative formats on request.
Walk trails
All walks start at the main picnic area. Choose a walk that suits your ability and fitness level.

Walking safely
- Take 2-4 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.

Walk trail classifications
Parks and Wildlife Service walk trails are assigned a ‘Class’ to indicate degree of difficulty. Check trailhead signs at the start of walks for classification information.

The walk trails range from Class 1 (universal access), which is suitable for wheelchair users, to Class 5, which requires walkers to be fit, experienced and suitably equipped. The walk trails in this brochure range from Class 1 to Class 4.

Class 1 Well-defined walk trail with a firm, even surface with no steep sections or steps. It is suitable for all levels of experience and fitness.

Class 2 Easy, well-defined walk trail with a firm surface. You may encounter gentle hill sections and occasional steps. It is suitable for all levels of experience and fitness but may present difficulties for people with mobility impairments.

Class 3 Moderate walk trail with clear directional signage. You may encounter minor natural hazards such as short, steep sections; steps; shallow water crossings; and unstable or slippery surfaces. A good level of fitness is recommended.

Class 4 Trails are in relatively undisturbed environments and are often rough with few if any modifications. Expect loose and slippery surfaces with some steep sections. A moderate to high level of fitness is required. You need to be prepared and self-reliant.

Trail summary

Jane Brook Promenade 🌿
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 1930s Depression by sustenance workers. This trail is paved and is suitable for prams and wheelchairs with assistance.

National Park Falls Walk 🌿
Class 2 (Easy ~ 2.5km loop in anti-clockwise direction) – allow 1 hour
A lovely trail that runs along Jane Brook to National Park Falls and follows the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail back to the picnic area.

Glen Brook Trail 🌿
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 🌿
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 🌿
Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 10.5km loop in clockwise direction) – allow 4 hours
Explore a section of the Eagle View Walk Trail before cutting through the middle of the park with a shorter walk option.

Eagle View Walk Trail 🌿
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-tailed eagles. In spring, walkers can experience a profusion of wildflowers.

John Forrest Bridle Trail 🐴
Class 4 (Moderate difficulty ~ 16km loop in clockwise direction) – 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 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.

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Above: Glen Brook picnic area. Above right: National Park Falls.