

Tablelands Region

Parks and forests of the
Atherton and Evelyn tablelands



Visitor Guide

Featuring

Curtain Fig National Park
Danbulla National Park and State Forest
Davies Creek National Park
Dinden National Park
Dinden West Forest Reserve
Hallorans Hill National Park
Herberton Range Conservation Park
Herberton Range State Forest and
Baldy Mountain Forest Reserve
Hasties Swamp National Park
Koombooloomba National Park and
Conservation Park
Lake Barrine, Crater Lakes National Park
Lake Eacham, Crater Lakes National Park
Malanda Falls Conservation Park
Millstream Falls National Park
Mount Hypipamee National Park
Tully Falls National Park
Tully Gorge National Park
Tumoulin State Forest and Forest Reserve
Wongabel State Forest

Also including

Blencoe Falls, Girringun National Park



Tablelands parks and forests (north)

Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.

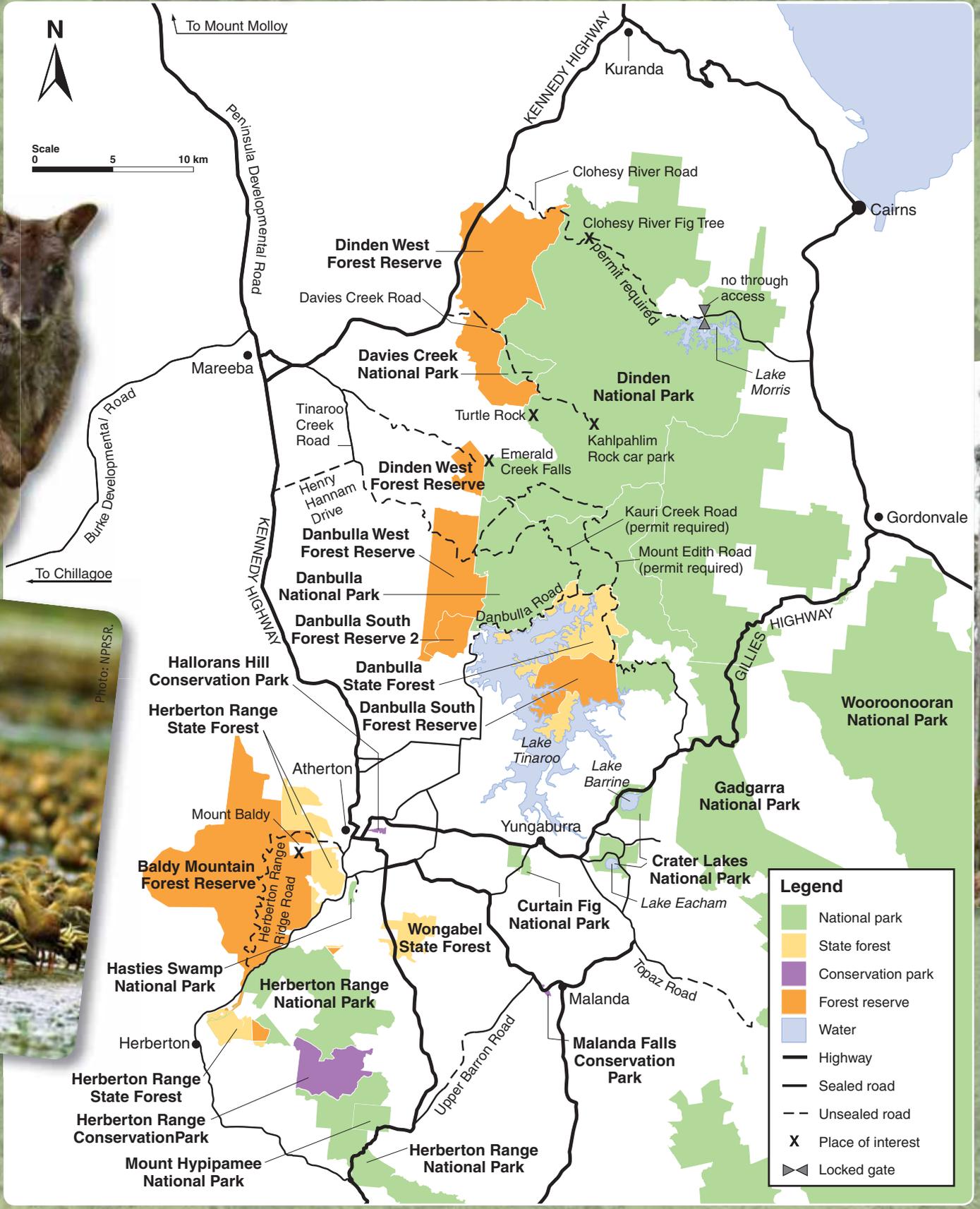


Photo: NPRSR.

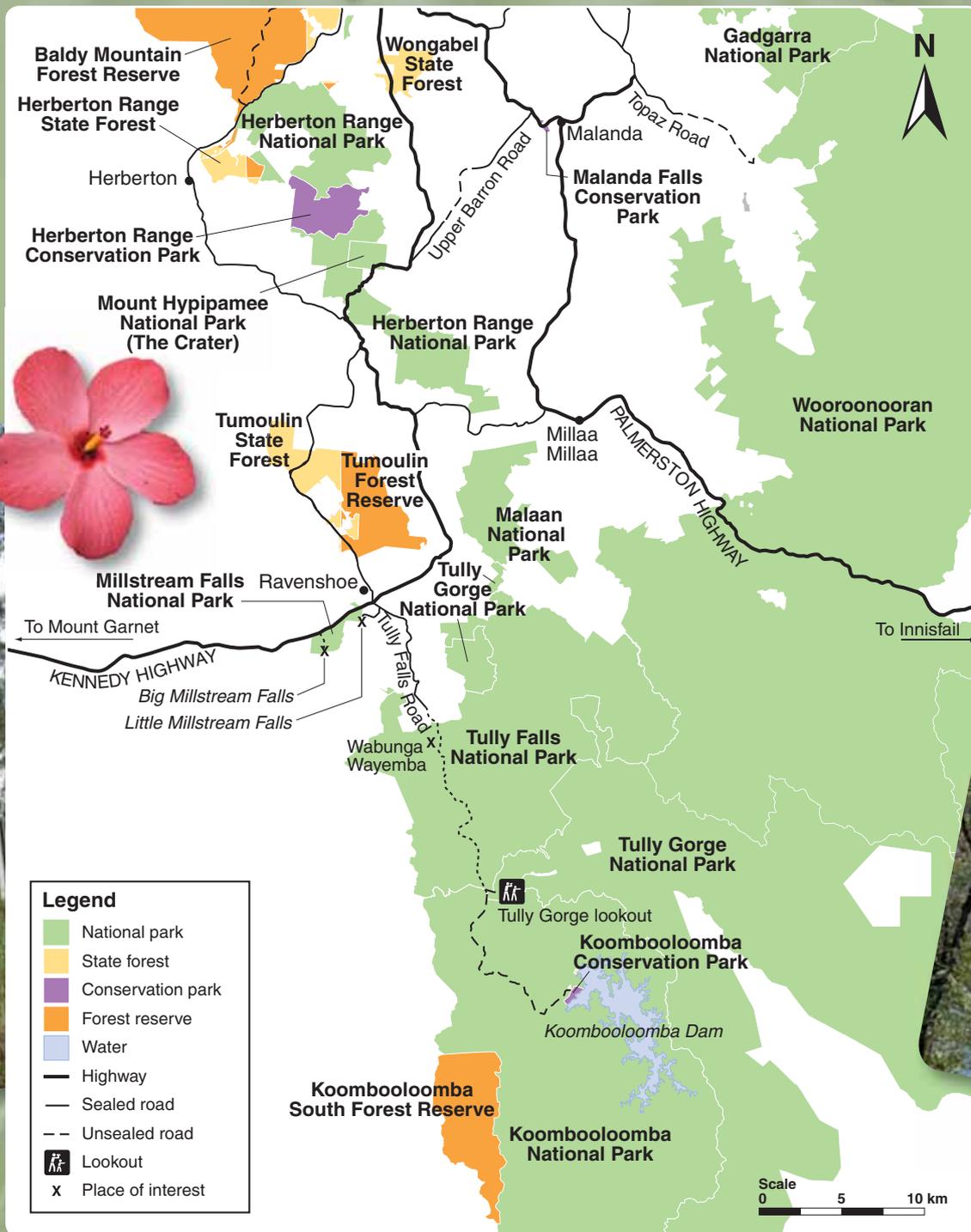


Legend for brochure symbols

These symbols are used throughout the brochure to organise information.

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|---------|--|-----------------|--|------------------|
| | Boating | | Cycling | | Horsingriding | | Walks |
| | Camping | | Driving | | Nature | | Wildlife viewing |
| | Car access | | Fishing | | Places to visit | | Safety |
| | Culture | | | | | | |

Tablelands parks and forests (south)



Legend for parks facilities and recreational opportunities symbols

These symbols are used throughout the brochure to show facilities, recreational opportunities and safety.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Toilet | Wood barbecue | 4WD access | Hiking |
| Wheelchair accessible | Gas barbecue | Camping | Easy or short walks |
| No water provided | Sheltered picnic table | Camping prohibited | Place of interest |
| No rubbish bin | Picnic table | Caravan site | Nature study |
| Campfire permitted | Bicycle permitted | 2WD camper trailer access | Dogs permitted on leash |
| Campfire prohibited | Horses permitted | Camping—boat access | Domestic animals prohibited |
| Open fireplace | Shared zone | Fishing | Generator use permitted |
| | | Fishing prohibited | Generator use prohibited |
| | | Lookout | World Heritage Area |
| | | Viewpoint | |

Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.

Photo: Ian Holloway, NPRSR.

Photo: NPRSR.

Photo: Tamara Vallance.

Enjoying the tablelands region



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

When to visit

The tropical climate of North Queensland is tempered by the elevation of the tablelands (500–1200 m). Winter nights can be very cool with frosts in open areas. Summer days can be hot but temperatures drop significantly in the evenings. Rainfall is seasonal, with most falling between December and April.

How to get there

The Atherton and Evelyn tablelands lie to the west of Cairns. Access is via the Gillies or Kennedy highways from Cairns, the Palmerston Highway from Innisfail or the Mossman–Mount Molloy Road from Port Douglas.

Camping



Camping facilities vary at each area. A camping permit is required and a fee is charged. A permit must be obtained before setting up camp and the tag must be displayed at the camp site.

Camping in Danbulla State Forest, Queensland.



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

To obtain a camping permit:

- book online at <www.qld.gov.au/camping>
- visit a NPRSR business centre or authorised booking agent
- phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68).
Mobile phone charges may apply.

Detailed information about camping areas is available at <www.nprsr.qld.gov.au>.

Where is camping allowed on the tablelands?

Camping is allowed at these parks and forests:

- Blencoe Falls, Girringun National Park
- Danbulla State Forest
- Davies Creek National Park
- Dinden National Park
- Herberton Range State Forest
- Koombooloomba National Park.

Some camping areas are not suitable for caravans and campervans—please check suitability when booking. **Camping, including overnight stays in vehicles and vans, is not permitted in any other parks or forests on the tablelands.**



Photo: Tamara Vallance.

Camping is only permitted in some parks and forests on the tablelands.

The use of generators is permitted at Fong-On Bay and Downfall Creek camping areas in Danbulla State Forest and when bush camping in Koombooloomba National Park. Use is restricted to between 8.00 am and 7.00 pm and noise levels must be less than 65 dB(A) at a distance of 7 m from the generator. **The use of generators is not allowed at any other parks or forests on the tablelands.**

Open fires are permitted in some areas but firewood must be purchased or collected from outside the park or forest. Please check details when booking. Fuel stoves are recommended.

Other accommodation

Accommodation, including hotels, motels, hostels, bed and breakfasts, and caravan parks, is available in all towns on the tablelands. For more information, contact one of the many local visitor information centres.

Permits to traverse

A Wet Tropics Management Authority permit is required for driving on the Mount Edith and Kauri Creek roads in Danbulla National Park and the Clohesy River Road past the fig tree. All vehicles must be road registered. These free permits can be obtained from NPRSR business centres in Atherton and Cairns.

NPRSR Business Centre
25 Mabel Street
Atherton QLD 4883
Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

NPRSR Business Centre
Level 4, Building 2,
William McCormack Place
5B Sheridan St, Cairns QLD 4870
Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Beauty and diversity

The stories of the Atherton and Evelyn tablelands weave a colourful tapestry of ancient connections and poignant experiences.



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Millstream daisy ▶

Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.

World renowned

Declared in 1988, the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA) covers 8990 km² between Townsville and Cooktown, including many parks and forests on the tablelands. It contains many outstanding natural values, including some of the oldest, continuously surviving rainforests on earth, many vulnerable and endangered plants and animals, and areas of spectacular beauty.

Volcanic landscape

The Atherton and Evelyn tablelands contain landform and vegetation patterns that reflect events stretching back millions of years, through times of changing landscape and climate.

As the last Ice Age receded and warmer, moist conditions returned, surviving rainforest communities began to expand until they again covered much of the tablelands. Numerous volcanoes erupted and lava flowed over this landscape, resulting in today's conical hills, flooded craters and rich red soils.

When Europeans came in the 1890s, they began to transform the continuous forest into the rural landscape—a patchwork of farmed land and remnant forest—we see today.

A mosaic of vegetation

Different forest types cover the tablelands, ranging from dry eucalypt woodlands to dense rainforest. This mosaic is the result of many factors—altitude (and its effect on rainfall), prevailing winds, soil type and fire. Rainfall is the most dominant influence on forest type. The southern and eastern tablelands have the highest rainfall and therefore the most lush rainforest.

Animals of the tablelands

The mosaic of vegetation on the tablelands supports a wide variety of different animals—many found nowhere else in the world. From tree-kangaroos and amethystine pythons (Australia's largest snake) to unique native fish, more than 370 species of birds and a myriad of insects and spiders, the tablelands offers a range of wildlife viewing opportunities.

Mining, forestry and farming

The tablelands have a rich colonial history, dating back to the mid 1800s. Many towns were established as gold and tin mining centres or as camps for loggers and timber getters. Others were established as railway and trackside towns.

Below: Cycad fronds.

Inset: Water lilies.

Settlers from Europe and the Middle East came to mine tin or gold, or cut timber. Kauri pine and red cedar were the most prized timbers and the industry thrived for decades. Many Chinese, Malays and Indians came to farm; the Chinese established market gardens in the area.

The construction of the Tinaroo Dam in the 1950s provided irrigation for tobacco farms in the Mareeba–Dimbulah area. The earth and concrete channels brought a guaranteed water supply to almost 40 500 ha of undeveloped land and were a boost to the local economy.

Today, farming is still the major industry on the tablelands. Sugar cane, potatoes, peanuts, maize, strawberries, coffee, beef and dairy cattle, macadamia nuts, avocados and flowers are all farmed here. Tourism is a newer, but flourishing, industry.



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Farming is the major industry on the tablelands, Queensland.

Traditional country

The Aboriginal Traditional Owners of country on the Atherton and Evelyn tablelands have a spiritual link with the land. Their culture is recognised as a unique and irreplaceable part of the tablelands' heritage. The groups share spiritual beliefs on the creation of the landscape and their rights and responsibilities for using and caring for their land and resources. Traditional ceremonial and burial places, as well as camping and hunting sites, are located across the tableland landscape, linked by a network of trails. Many of these trails have now been developed into highways, roads and modern day walking tracks.



Photo: Peter Nieves, NPRSR.

Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Northern tablelands

Granite outcrops, open forest, the impressive Clohesy River fig tree and boulder-strewn creeks and waterfalls are striking features of these parks. Swim, drive, hike, mountain bike, camp or picnic in this beautiful area.

Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Davies Creek and Dinden national parks



Rainforest cloaks the eastern slopes and lush riparian vegetation lines the banks of the creeks and rivers. These forests contrast starkly with the wet sclerophyll and dry open woodland in the rest of the parks. Endangered northern bettongs are found here, as are southern brown bandicoots—a long way from the nearest known population on Cape York Peninsula.



Photo: NPSR.

Northern bettongs are found in Davies Creek National Park.

Davies Creek Falls circuit track 1.1 km return (20 mins) Grade: easy

This circuit track starts 2 km along the road beyond the Davies Creek camping area and leads to lookouts over the valley and the spectacular Davies Creek Falls, before continuing alongside the creek to a picnic and swimming area. The track returns via a slope dotted with grass trees.

Clohesy River fig tree boardwalk 300 m return (20 mins) Grade: easy

This wheelchair-accessible boardwalk encircles the magnificent Clohesy River fig tree. Signs along the walk interpret the local rainforest environment.

Turtle Rock circuit trail 8 km return (3–4 hrs) Grade: difficult

This difficult trail—suitable only for fit and experienced walkers—starts near the toilet block between camp sites three and four in the Dinden camping area and climbs the ridge to the 936 m summit. Here there are impressive boulders and spectacular views in all directions. The trail descends via a different ridge, crossing Davies Creek between camp sites five and six.

Kahlpahlim Rock circuit (Kahlpahlim Rock and Ridge trails)

At around 1300 m above sea level, Kahlpahlim Rock is the highest point on the Lamb Range and boasts impressive views. Two steep but scenic trails lead to the granite boulders of Kahlpahlim Rock. They converge near the top allowing the option to walk the track as a circuit.

Ridge trail 9.2 km return (5 hrs) Grade: difficult

Starting 11 km along Davies Creek Road (1 km beyond the turn-off to Dinden camp sites five and six), this trail travels through open forest of rose gum, turpentine and casuarina trees before climbing steeply to a junction. The left-hand trail continues for 1 km to the enormous granite boulders of Kahlpahlim Rock.

Kahlpahlim Rock trail 10.8 km return (6 hrs) Grade: difficult

This trail, starting 13.3 km along Davies Creek Road (2.3 km past the start of the Ridge trail) ascends steeply along a former logging track before passing through rainforest and crossing two small creeks. It then climbs through dry forest to a junction. The right-hand trail continues for 1 km to the enormous granite boulders of Kahlpahlim Rock.

Kahlpahlim Rock circuit 12.3 km return (6–7 hrs) Grade: difficult

This trail can be walked as a circuit starting at either trail head described above. Walk 2.3 km along Davies Creek Road to return to the car park.

 Davies Creek camping area is among granite boulders beside the crystal clear waters of Davies Creek. **Camping permits** are required and fees apply (see page 4).

The popular Dinden camping area is nestled among tall open forest higher up the hill, close to the clear waters of Davies Creek. **Camping permits** are required and fees apply (see page 4). Camp sites must be booked.

Valley views from the Davies Creek Falls circuit track.



Photo: Julie Dutoit.

Clohesy River Road

33 km return (2 hrs)

Explore the Shoteel Creek and Clohesy River valleys on this scenic drive. The Clohesy River fig tree is 9 km along the road. Four-wheel-drive vehicles are required along with a Wet Tropics Management Authority permit (see page 4) if travelling beyond the fig tree. There is no through access to Cairns and vehicles must return from the way they came.



Photo: Julie Dutoit, NPRSR.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Stay behind the barriers and clear of cliff edges and steep rock faces—deaths have occurred here.
- Take care when walking near the creek—water levels in the creeks can change rapidly and without warning, and creek beds and rock surfaces can be slippery.
- Never jump or dive into the water—the creeks are shallow and there may be submerged objects.



To access Davies Creek National Park camping area and walking track, turn onto Davies Creek Road from the Kennedy Highway, 21 km south of Kuranda. It is 6.2 km along an unsealed road to the camping area. For most of the year the road is accessible to conventional vehicles.

To access Dinden National Park camping area and walking tracks, turn onto Davies Creek Road from the Kennedy Highway, 21 km south of Kuranda and travel 10 km to the camping area.

The ridge trail starts 3.3 km past this camping area and the Kahlpahlim Rock trail head is a further 2.3 km along this road. Access Clohesy River Road from the Kennedy Highway, 10 km south of Kuranda. Four-wheel-drive vehicles are recommended.

Left: Enjoy driving the Clohesy River Road.

Dinden West Forest Reserve



 Emerald Creek rushes out of the rainforest-clad heights of the Lamb Range and down into open eucalypt woodland. Red-flowered bottlebrush trees sprout from between rocks and smooth-barked water gums lean over the creek, their trunks twisted by floodwaters.



Emerald Creek Falls walking track

1.9 km return (50 mins)
Grade: moderate

From the car park, this track winds up the valley through dry sclerophyll forest of eucalypts, acacias and grevilleas to a vantage point offering views over the falls, back along the valley and across the northern tableland.



Near the creek, look out for dragonflies and damselflies. These captivating insects are a common sight around sunlit sections of the creek. The giant petalurid dragonfly, the largest dragonfly in Australia, is occasionally seen here.



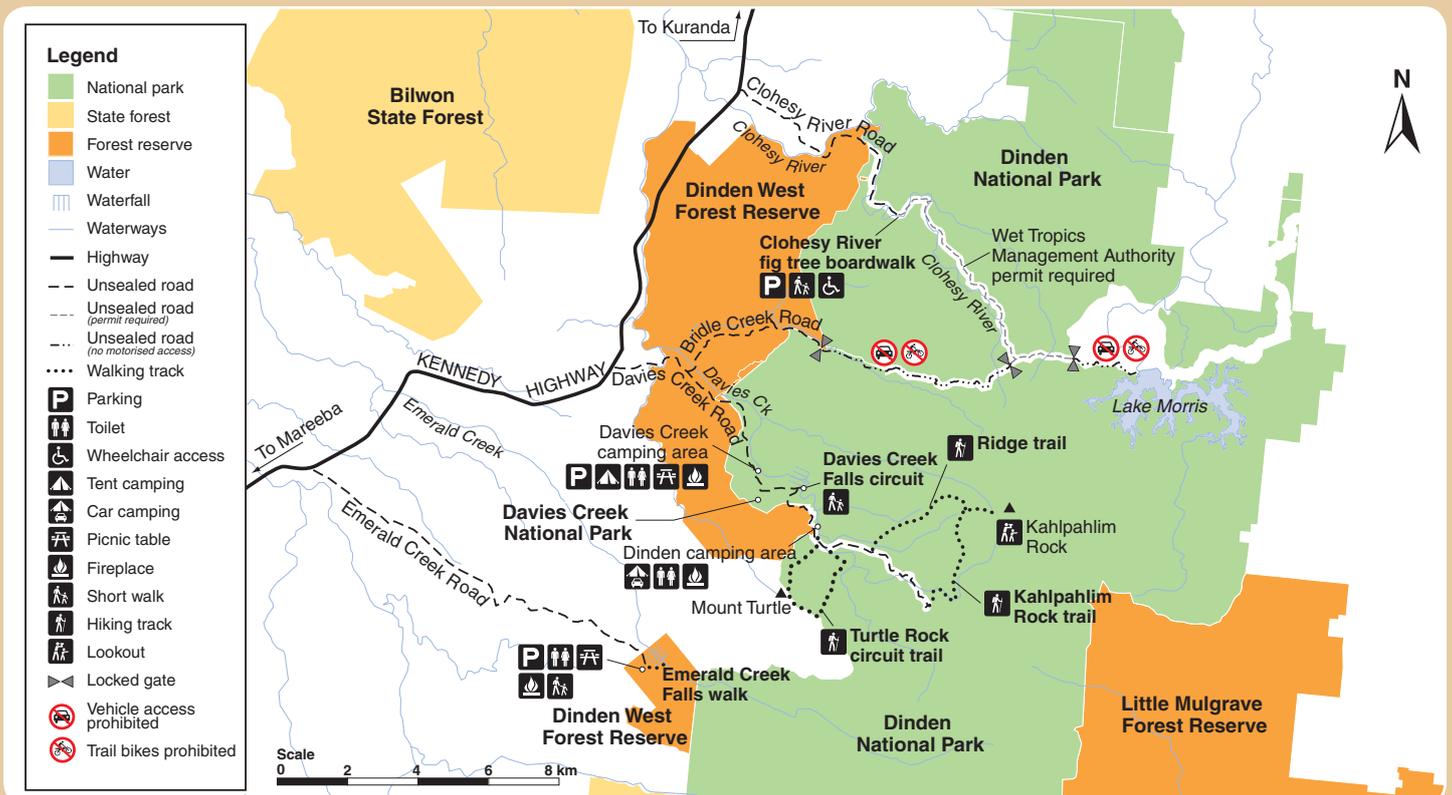
Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Be aware of slippery rocks when paddling in the creek.
- Never jump or dive into the water—the creek is shallow and there may be submerged objects.



From the Kennedy Highway, turn onto Tinaroo Creek Road, 3 km east of Mareeba. Travel 3 km and turn onto Cobra Road and travel 8 km to the forest. The road is steep, mostly unsealed and unsuitable for caravans.



Central and eastern tablelands

Clear, blue crater lakes fringed by lush rainforests, giant kauri pines and magnificent fig trees, waterfalls and Aboriginal culture. Swim, walk, birdwatch, canoe, take a cruise or picnic in these beautiful parks.

Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Lake Eacham, Crater Lakes National Park



The Aboriginal Traditional Owners, the Ngadjon-Jji, welcome you to Lake Eacham. Please enjoy your time here and take care of their sacred country.

Lake Eacham is a maar—a volcanic crater formed by massive explosions resulting from superheating of groundwater. The crater has filled with water, forming a lake 65 m deep.

Lake circuit track
3 km return (1 hr) Grade: easy to moderate

A pleasant walk around the lake, this track offers secluded forest-fringed views of the lake and excellent opportunities for viewing wildlife. Signs present the rainforest environment through the eyes of the Aboriginal Traditional Owners.

Active children's walk
1.4 km return (1 hr) Grade: easy

Have fun while learning about the rainforest and its inhabitants. Wriggle like a snake, stamp on pests and hunt for dragons on this fun walk for kids (and adults). The time taken will depend on how much fun you're having.

Saw-shelled turtles and eastern water dragons are common lake residents and over 180 bird species have been recorded in the park. Musky rat-kangaroos are active during the day and are often seen from the walking track.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Stinging trees may be encountered along the tracks. Never touch this plant as it will result in a painful sting. If stung and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.

Lake Eacham is on the eastern Atherton Tableland. Follow the signs from the Gillies Highway or Lake Barrine–Malanda Road.

Lake Barrine, Crater Lakes National Park



A pair of towering bull kauri pine trees, over 45 m tall, is a feature of the park. Take a lake cruise for a different perspective of the lake and its wildlife.

Lake circuit track
5 km return (2 hrs) Grade: easy to moderate

A pleasant walk around the crater lake, the track passes through rainforest characteristic of the type found on fertile basalt (red) soils in areas of high rainfall. It offers secluded forest-fringed views of the lake and excellent opportunities for viewing wildlife.

Twin kauris walk
160 m return (10 mins) Grade: easy

Walk from the lower car park to the boardwalk at the base of two exceptionally large bull kauri pine trees that tower over the canopy. These ancient giants are believed to be more than 1000 years old.

Rainforest walk
600 m one way (15 mins) Grade: easy

This rainforest track starts on the entrance road into Lake Barrine and joins the circuit track just past the twin kauri boardwalk.

Amethystine pythons, with dazzling patterns that blend cryptically into the forest, live around the lake. Colourful Boyd's forest dragons, lizards that grow to 45 cm, cling to narrow tree trunks.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Stinging trees may be encountered along the tracks. Never touch this plant as it will result in a painful sting. If stung and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.

Lake Barrine is on the eastern Atherton Tableland. Follow the signs from the Gillies Highway near the top of the Gillies Range.



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Below: Take a cruise on Lake Barrine, Queensland.

Left: The timber teahouse at Lake Barrine, Queensland was built in the 1930s.



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Curtain Fig National Park



Endangered mabi forest surrounds this magnificent tree—one of the best-known attractions in North Queensland. A wide curtain of the fig's aerial roots drops 15 m from the canopy to the ground.

Curtain Fig boardwalk

180 m return (10 mins) Grade: easy

A short, gently sloping boardwalk takes visitors around the tree while protecting the fragile root system.

 Look for near threatened (rare) species including Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos, Herbert River ringtail possums and rainforest skinks. Spotlight in the canopy for nocturnal mammals, reptiles, frogs, insects and spiders.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Please remain on the boardwalk at all times.

 Turn onto Curtain Fig Tree Road from the Gillies Range Road, on the western outskirts of Yungaburra, and travel 1 km to the car park.

Malanda Falls Conservation Park



 The Aboriginal Traditional Owners, the Ngadjon-Jii, welcome you to Tutamonlin (Malanda Falls). Please enjoy your time here and take care of their sacred country.

Malanda Falls, on the North Johnstone River, tumbles over basalt rock from an ancient lava flow that spread from the Mount Hypipamee area 15 km away. The rainforest has characteristics of both the drier, northern tableland forests and the wetter forests of the south. Across the road from the falls, the forest is wetter and contains a higher diversity of plant species, larger trees, and more luxuriant growth forms—typical of the southern tableland forests. This park is rich in war history and remains an important part of the lives of the Ngadjon Aboriginal people.

Tulip oak walk

1 km return (35 mins) Grade: easy

From near the toilet block wander through the rainforest. Learn about Ngadjon-Jii culture, history and lifestyle from trackside signs.

Rainforest walk

1.5 km return (30 mins) Grade: easy

Starting on the opposite side of the road, this short walk follows the North Johnstone River before turning back through the forest to its starting point. Many of the towering trees are labelled.



Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR

The veil of aerial roots of the Curtain Fig Tree.



Photo: NPRSR

Spotlight in the Curtain Fig Tree's canopy for Herbert River ringtail possums.

 Birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians abound at Malanda Falls. During the day, look for birds from the canopy to the forest floor. Keep an eye out for platypus in the river, especially at dawn and dusk. Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos and green possums can sometimes be seen snoozing on branches during the day. At night, spotlight for them in the canopy, as well as for leaf-tailed geckos, spiders and bats.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Stinging trees may be encountered along the tracks. Never touch this plant as it will result in a painful sting. If stung and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.

 Access the Malanda Falls car park from the Malanda–Atherton Road, 1 km from Malanda.

Bartle Frere Trail, Wooroonooran National Park

Wooroonooran National Park covers a vast area of mountainous rainforest on the eastern edge of the tablelands. It includes Queensland's two highest peaks, Bartle Frere (1622 m) and Bellenden Ker (1592 m). A long-distance walking trail climbs to the Bartle Frere summit from either Josephine Falls, on the lowlands, or near Topaz on the Atherton Tableland. The Bartle Frere trail guide is available at visitor information centres; and updated track conditions, camping bookings and information are available at www.nprsr.qld.gov.au.

Read about Ngadjon culture along the Tulip Oak walk.



Photo: Tamara Vallance

Around Lake Tinaroo

Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Crater lakes, strangler figs, rainforest walks, camping areas and places of important local history and interest can be enjoyed along Danbulla Road. Allow at least half a day to sightsee, walk, swim, canoe, picnic or camp overnight.

Danbulla National Park and Danbulla State Forest

 The Danbulla forest extends between the Tinaroo and Lamb ranges, and borders Lake Tinaroo. Eucalypt and acacia forests, pine plantations and Wet Tropics World Heritage rainforest support a variety of wildlife including many endangered, near threatened (rare), and threatened species.

 **All camp sites at Danbulla must be booked and camping fees apply.** As mobile phone service is unreliable, it is best to book a site before starting the drive. Dogs are not permitted in camping areas and campers need to supply their own firewood. The use of generators is only permitted at some camping areas and conditions apply. Please check camping area details.

Platypus Rock lookout

150 m return (5 mins) Grade: easy



Climb the steps onto the huge granite boulders for a unique view of the plantation and forest canopy.

Platypus camping area and day-use area



This joint camping and day-use area is in a hoop pine plantation that was established in 1971. Popular with anglers, this area overlooks the dam wall. Parking is a short distance from camp sites.

Fong-On Bay camping area



On the foreshore, 4.5 km from Danbulla Road, this large camping area is favoured by water skiers and can accommodate groups of all sizes. Most camp sites along this peninsula have water access and views.

Regeneration walk

2.3 km one way (45 mins)

Grade: easy



This track links the Downfall Creek and Kauri Creek camping areas. Before the dam was built, this area was a dairy farm, and the land was either left to regenerate or planted with pines. The forest that persists today is the result of natural revegetation that has been occurring since 1959.

Kauri Creek camping area

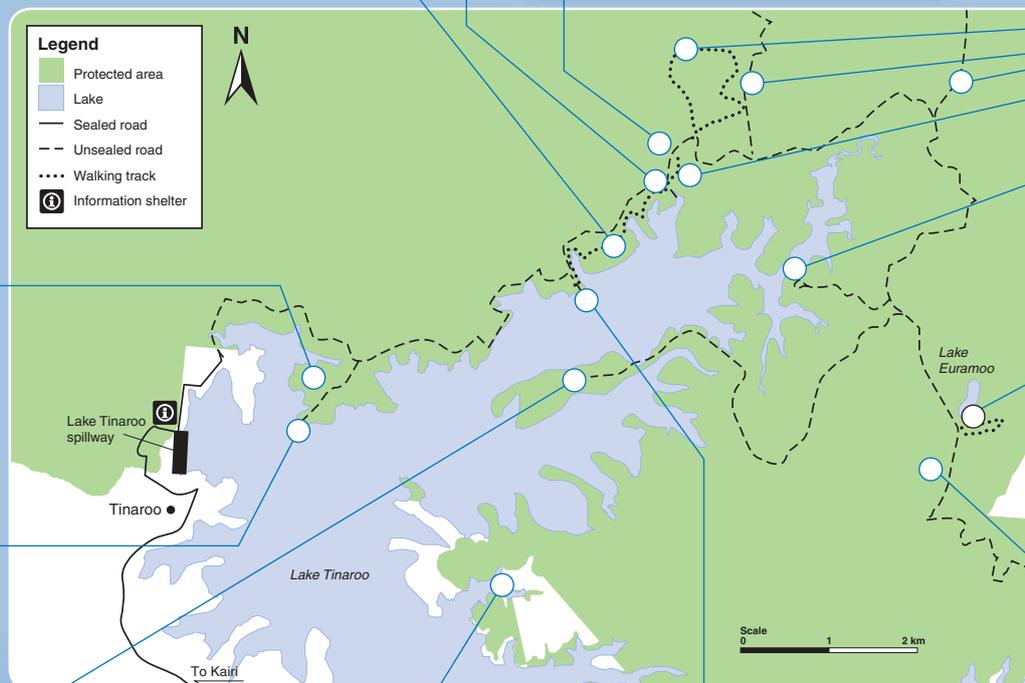


This camping area is on the edge of a quiet inlet that is well suited to a peaceful swim or exploration by canoe.

Kauri Creek day-use area



Hidden in pine plantations and native forest, this small day-use area is ideal for a family stopover. Children can paddle in the shallow sandy rainforest creek while parents enjoy the picnic and barbecue facilities in the shaded surrounds.



Curri Curri camp sites



Curri Curri camp sites can be accessed by boat only and have no facilities. The separate sites may have long grass and, when dam levels are high, site area is reduced.

Downfall Creek camping area



This popular camping area looks over tall pine plantations and native forests and has uninterrupted water views. Camp sites are separated by native vegetation that attracts birds and butterflies.



Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.

The gently sloped and grassy Downfall Creek camping area.

Kauri Creek rainforest walk

5.1 km return (2.5 hrs) Grade: difficult



This track winds through rainforest, crosses Kauri Creek and follows an old logging road. This track is steep and narrow in places and should only be undertaken by fit and experienced walkers.

Link track

600 m one way (15 mins) Grade: easy



This track links the Kauri Creek camping and day-use areas. Stop for a while at Kauri Creek and watch the clear water gently flow past on its way to Lake Tinaroo. This area of Danbulla is alive with birds so take binoculars and walk quietly.

Kauri Creek and Mount Edith roads (Tinaroo Range road network)

43 km (2 hrs to drive; 1 day to cycle)



During the dry season, ride, walk or four-wheel-drive this road network. The roads climb 450 m into the Lamb Range through rainforest, open forest and tall wet sclerophyll forest. Wet Tropics Plan permits are required for vehicles (see Permits to Traverse, page 4).

School Point camping area



This camping area, 1 km from Danbulla Road, was the site of the Euramoo State School before the construction of the dam. The camp sites surround a large grassed area.

Lake Euramoo lookout and track

500 m return (15 mins) Grade: easy



Lake Euramoo is a maar—a dumbbell-shaped volcanic crater formed about 10 000 years ago by two massive explosions. An observation platform overlooks the maar and a circuit track winds through the rainforest, providing occasional glimpses of the lake through the trees.

Mobo Creek Crater walk

630 m return (20 mins) Grade: easy



The geology of this crater has perplexed scientists for many years and several theories exist as to how it was formed. Enjoy the upland rainforest following the edge of the crater. Quiet visitors may spot a platypus in the creek.

The Chimneys day-use area



Following World War I, land in the Danbulla area was offered to returned soldiers for clearing and farming. Settlers battled to make a living from the small blocks, with poor soil fertility and native animals hampering their efforts. Many blocks, like the one on which this day-use area is located, were abandoned. The chimneys are all that remain of the house built in 1924.

Cathedral Fig Tree

325 m return (15 mins) Grade: easy



The Cathedral Fig Tree is one of the tablelands' famous rainforest giants. A boardwalk around the tree provides great views up the trunk and into the canopy, while protecting the tree's fragile roots. Dawn chorus at the Cathedral Fig is one of the best on the tableland—be sure to bring a camera and binoculars.

 At night, catch a glimpse of an endangered northern bettong as it searches for truffles in the wet sclerophyll forest. In the rainforest, look for the near threatened green-eyed tree frogs and well-camouflaged Boyd's forest dragons. The variety of habitats and vegetation types also support a wide range of bird species so always take binoculars.

  Several public boat ramps are available around Lake Tinaroo. Fisheries regulations apply—information on bag and size limits, restricted species and seasonal closures is available from www.fisheries.qld.gov.au or by phoning 13 25 23. A stocked impoundment permit is required to fish in Lake Tinaroo (see Stocked Impoundment Permits, page 19). The Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol enforces fisheries and boating safety laws and conducts periodic patrols on the lake.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see page 18 and 19).

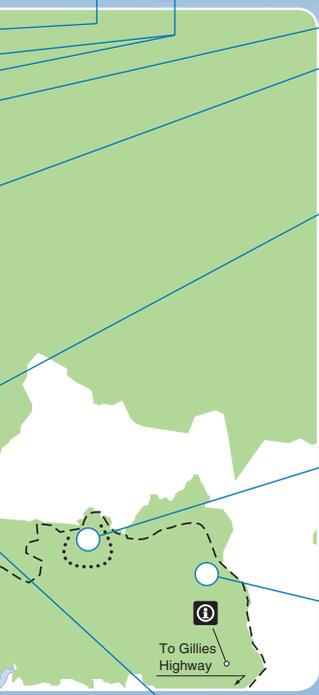
- The lake contains many submerged trees and other hidden hazards. These hazards vary as the water level in the lake changes. Vessel masters must ensure they navigate with extreme caution.
- Stinging trees may be encountered along the tracks. Never touch this plant as it will result in a painful sting. If stung and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.
- Take care when driving. The roads are narrow, unsealed and have sharp curves and rough surfaces. Be aware of other vehicles, pedestrians and wildlife on the road. Logging trucks also use this road. Exercise extreme caution and look out for oncoming vehicles.

 Danbulla Road extends for 28 km around the northern shore of Lake Tinaroo, providing access to the park and forest. The eastern entrance to Danbulla Road is on Boar Pocket Road, near the top of the Gillies Range. The western entrance is reached via the township of Kairi. The Tablelands Regional Council has erected signs indicating Danbulla Road is unsuitable for caravans. For any road access problems, please contact the council on 1300 362 242.

The spectacular Cathedral Fig Tree.



Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.



Around Atherton

Hike above the town of Atherton, view resident and migratory birds from a two-storey hide, take long drives in the forest or walk through endangered rainforest on tracks designed for the visually impaired, all within a stone's throw of Atherton.

Photo: NPRSR

Hallorans Hill Conservation Park



This park protects open eucalypt forest and patches of endangered mabi rainforest around an extinct volcanic hill, overlooking the township of Atherton.



Hallorans Hill walking track

1.4 km one way (40 mins)
Grade: moderate

From the car park and playground, the track follows Priors Creek to the summit, which has panoramic views across the tableland. A council picnic area is provided here. Arrange for a vehicle pick up or return along the same track.



For a small park, Hallorans Hill has a high diversity of fauna, supported by the changes in vegetation along its length. Insects, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and birds abound in both the rainforest and eucalypt woodland. During the day, look for red-legged pademelons, spotted catbirds and eastern water dragons.



Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Please remain on the walking track at all times.



Hallorans Hill is in the centre of Atherton. The track to the summit starts at the park on Maunds Road.

Hasties Swamp National Park



Hasties Swamp is a large seasonal wetland, renowned as a valuable refuge for resident and migratory birds. See up to 220 aquatic and woodland species from the two-storey bird hide.



From the comfort of the hide, enjoy uninterrupted views across the swamp. The best time for birdwatching is during the dry (April to October) as the swamp dries out and the area becomes an important refuge for waterbirds.



Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Take care on the steps of the bird hide, especially in wet weather.



Hasties Swamp National Park is 4 km south of Atherton on Atherton–Herberton Road. Turn left onto Hastie Road and then right onto Koci Road. The hide is 1.3 km along this well-formed, gravel road.

Far left: There are a variety of vegetation types in Hallorans Hill Conservation Park.

Left: Hallorans Hill Conservation Park has high diversity of fauna, including insects.

Below: Eastern water dragon.



Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.

Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.



Photo: Tamara Vallance.

Right: See hardheads at Hasties Swamp.

Below: Uninterrupted views of the swamp from the top floor of the hide.



Photo: NPRSR

Photo: Julie Dutoit, NPRSR

Wongabel State Forest



This state forest protects endangered mabi forest, less than two per cent of which now remains. It also has rich timber history and is considered the birth place of reforestation in Queensland.



The two tracks in Wongabel State Forest have been designed with consideration for walkers who are vision impaired. Braille booklets, tactile maps and audio headsets are available from the Atherton Information Centre, Main Street, Atherton. The rocks lining the track serve as a guide for walkers using canes, and textured concrete panels act as tactile indicators, warning of changes in track direction.

Forest walk

750 m return (15 mins) Grade: easy

This short walk travels deep into mabi forest. Experience the unique features that make this forest special and the animals that call it home.

Heritage walk

2.5 km return (1 hr) Grade: easy

Learn about the history and culture of the area while walking along the mabi forest- and plantation timber-flanked track.



Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Stinging trees may be encountered along the tracks. Never touch this plant as it will result in a painful sting. If stung and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.



Wongabel State Forest is 8 km south of Atherton on the Kennedy Highway.

Right: Talk by District Forester Suttie to visiting timber men at Wongabel, 15 October 1954.

Herberton Range State Forest and Baldy Mountain Forest Reserve



Tall open forest of bloodwoods and ironbarks; wet, high-altitude rainforest surrounding the peaks; and lower slopes and foothills cloaked with drier forest are protected in this state forest and reserve.



Mount Baldy walking track

4.3 km return (2.5 hrs) Grade: difficult

This walk to the 1017 m summit of Mount Baldy offers extensive views of the Atherton Tableland and Lake Tinaroo. The walk has steep sections and is suitable only for fit and experienced walkers.



Herberton Range ridge road

17.5 km one way (1.5 hrs)

This four-wheel-drive road winds through a section of the Herberton Range, rising to just over 1200 m at the highest point.

Vehicles must be road registered.



Bush camp in various locations throughout the forest. Dogs are not permitted to camp overnight and vehicles must remain adjacent to formed roads. Camping is not allowed along the Herberton Range ridge road (see map, page 2).

Camping must be booked and fees apply (see Camping, page 4).



In the rainforest, look for golden bowerbirds and Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos. Yellow-bellied gliders are found in the wet sclerophyll forests, while red-bellied black snakes and azure kingfishers live along the creeks.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Mobile phone coverage is not reliable.
- Tell friends or family where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Stay on the track, observe warning signs and take care on uneven surfaces, especially in wet conditions.
- Expect to share roads with pedestrians, motorbikes, bicycles, horses and vehicles.
- Watch out for washouts, scoured road shoulders and loose surfaces. Be especially careful in wet weather when some roads and creek crossings may become impassable.
- Be aware of cattle and wildlife, especially in the early morning and late afternoon.
- Not all trails and roads are shown on the map (page 2) and intersections may or may not be signposted.
- All roads are suitable for four-wheel-drive vehicles only.



For the Mount Baldy walking track, travel 1.6 km south of Atherton on Atherton–Herberton Road. Turn right onto Rifle Range Road and travel 600 m, following the gun club signs, to the start of the track.

For the northern entrance to the Herberton Range ridge road, travel 1.6 km south of Atherton on Atherton–Herberton Road. Turn right onto Rifle Range Road and travel 1.8 km to the trail head sign at the start of the Herberton Range ridge road.

For the southern entrance to the Herberton Range ridge road, travel 12 km south of Atherton on Atherton–Herberton Road. Turn right onto the dirt road and travel the short distance to the trail head sign at the start of the Herberton Range ridge road.

Photo: Forestry, Atherton, Queensland



Heading south

Experience high-altitude rainforest surrounding an awe-inspiring volcanic pipe and spotlight for possums and gliders. Enjoy impressive waterfalls and scenery, and re-live the rich history of World War II.



Fringe lily ▶
Photo: Tamara Vallance, NPRSR.

Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Mount Hypipamee National Park



High on the southern Evelyn Tableland, in the Hugh Nelson Range, a deep, cylindrical volcanic pipe with a lake at the bottom is the awe-inspiring feature of this park. The volcanic pipe, or diatreme, is thought to have been created by a massive gas explosion. The crater is less than 70 m across with sheer granite walls (the surface rock through which the gas exploded). Fifty-eight metres below the rim is a lake about 82 m deep covered with a green layer of native waterweed. A remarkable variety of vegetation types, including high-altitude rainforest, grow in this small park.

Crater track

800 m return (30 mins)
Grade: easy

A sealed track through the rainforest leads to a viewing platform overlooking the crater. Return the same way or via the Dinner Falls track.

Dinner Falls track

1.2 km return (40 mins)
Grade: moderate

An alternative route back to the car park from the crater, this track leads down to Dinner Falls, a series of cascades in the headwaters of the Barron River. The track surface is uneven with exposed rocks and roots and can be slippery when wet. Some sections are reasonably steep.

Several species of possum can be seen here. Look for upland rainforest birds, including a number of endemic species which are found only in the Wet Tropics. These include Victoria's riflebird, the bridled honeyeater and golden and tooth-billed bowerbirds.

! Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Stinging trees may be encountered along the tracks. Never touch this plant as it will result in a painful sting. If stung and symptoms are severe, seek medical advice.
- Remain on the walking tracks at all times and stay behind the fence at the viewing platform. Supervise children closely.
- Cassowaries are potentially dangerous. Be cass-o-wary.

Mount Hypipamee is on the Kennedy Highway, 25 km south of Atherton. The park can also be reached from Malanda (15 km) via a partially unsealed road past Bromfield Swamp.

Herberton Range Conservation Park



Endangered wet sclerophyll forests of yellow stringybark, pink bloodwood, rose gums, turpentines, Bakers oak, coastal banksia, forest red gum and Gympie messmate are protected in this conservation park.

Halls Falls track

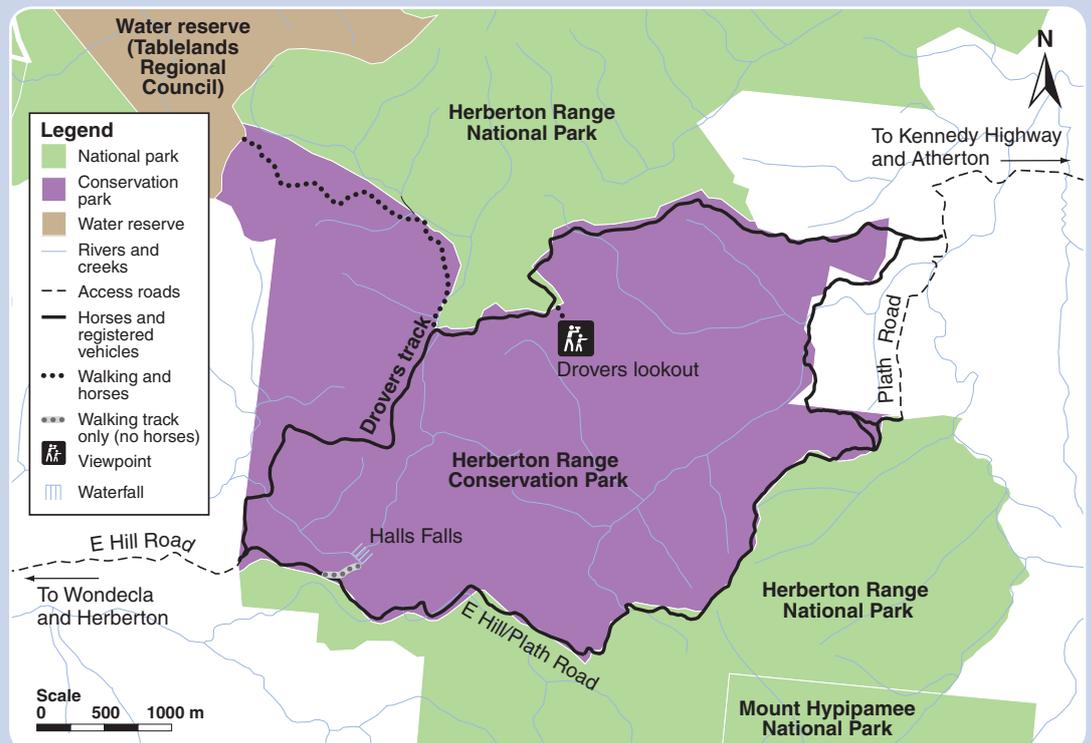
520 m return (15 mins)
Grade: moderate

Take this short walk through a forest of brushbox to where numerous streams of cool, clear water tumble gently over the polished granite walls. This is a walking track only—horses and bicycles are not permitted.

Drovers lookout track

250 m return (10 mins) Grade: easy

This short walk to Drovers Lookout rewards visitors with expansive eastern views over the tablelands. Remember to take a camera. This track is for walking and horseriding only.





Ride or four-wheel-drive the network of Herberton Range Conservation Park's internal roads. Vehicles must be road registered. Only some roads are shown on the map and intersections may or may not be signposted.



Special provisions have been made to allow horseriding on roads in Herberton Range Conservation Park. Horseriding is only permitted on the roads indicated on the map and intersections may or may not be signposted.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Mobile phone coverage is not reliable.
- Tell friends or family where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Expect to share roads with pedestrians, motorbikes, bicycles, horses and vehicles.
- Watch out for washouts, scoured road shoulders and loose surfaces. Be especially careful in wet weather when some roads and creek crossings may become impassable.
- Be aware of wildlife, especially in the early morning and late afternoon.



From Herberton, travel south on Longlands Gap Road for 3.2 km and turn left onto Rolley Road, following it for 2.4 km, then turn right onto E Hill Road. Drive 3.3 km along this road to the park.

From Atherton, travel south on the Kennedy Highway for 14.1 km, then turn right onto Plath Road and follow it 3.4 km to the park.

Tumoulin State Forest and Tumoulin Forest Reserve



 The Aboriginal Traditional Owners (TOs) of this area—the Jirralb people—welcome you to Tumoulin State Forest. The Jirralb TOs continue their cultural obligations and ask that visitors respect and care for the area. The area is rich in cultural history and has many significant sites and story places.



Endangered sclerophyll forest provides habitat for vulnerable and near threatened species like the yellow-bellied glider, magnificent broodfrog and rufous owl.



McKenzie Falls track

600 m return (15 mins) Grade: easy

Walk through the forest from the car park to the top of McKenzie Falls. The Millstream River tumbles over this multi-tiered waterfall on its way down the Millstream Valley.



Drive or ride Tumoulin State Forest's network of internal roads. Vehicles must be road registered. Only gazetted roads are shown on the map and intersections may or may not be signposted. The internal roads are suitable for four-wheel-drive vehicles only.



Special provisions have been made to allow horseriding on roads in Tumoulin State Forest. Only gazetted roads are shown on the map and intersections may or may not be signposted.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Expect to share roads with pedestrians, motorbikes, bicycles, horses and vehicles.
- Watch out for washouts, scoured road shoulders and loose surfaces. Be especially careful in wet weather when some roads and creek crossings may become impassable.



There are three main access routes into Tumoulin State Forest—McKenzie, Smith and Allen roads. All vehicles, including motorbikes, must be road registered and internal roads are suitable for four-wheel-drive vehicles only. Please leave gates as you find them.

McKenzie Road access

From Atherton, travel 30 km south on the Kennedy Highway. Turn right onto Tumoulin Road and travel 18.6 km to Kidner Road. After turning left onto Kidner Road, drive 2.4 km to McKenzie Road. Alternatively, from Ravenshoe, travel north-east and then north for 16.5 km on the Kennedy Highway. At Kidner Road, turn left and travel 4.5 km to McKenzie Road. On McKenzie Road, drive 800 m to where the road divides into three. Take the righthand side road, turning sharply right before the gate and travelling along the fence line to the boundary.

Smith Road access

From Atherton, travel 41.5 km south on the Kennedy Highway. Turn right onto Smith Road and travel 2.7 km to the forest boundary. From Ravenshoe, travel north-east and then north for 9 km on the Kennedy Highway. Turn left onto Smith Road and travel 2.7 km to the forest boundary.

Allen Road access

At Tumoulin, turn off the Kennedy Highway Road into Allen Road and travel 2.1 km to the forest boundary.

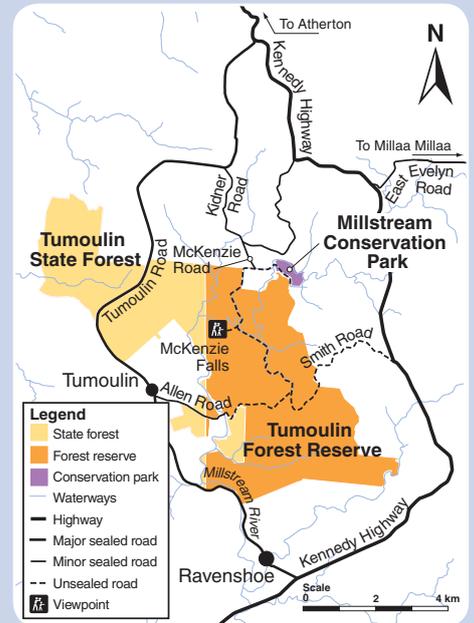
Millstream Falls National Park



 The Aboriginal Traditional Owners (TOs) of this area—the Jirralb people—welcome you to Millstream Falls National Park. The Jirralb TOs continue their cultural obligations and ask that visitors respect and care for the area. The area is rich in cultural history and has many significant sites and story places.



Plunging over the edge of a columnar basalt lava flow, Big Millstream Falls is reputedly the widest single-drop waterfall in Australia. Here, in the rain shadow of the Great Dividing Range, the dry, open woodland vegetation is dominated by eucalypts.



Big Millstream Falls lookout

680 m return (15 mins)
Grade: moderate

Follow the steep but sealed walking track through the forest to the lookout over Big Millstream Falls. Rock seats are provided along the track and at the lookout.



World War II Heritage track

1 km return (45 mins) Grade: easy

Enjoy this easy walk through an area used by the 2/14th and 2/28th Battalions of the Australian Army during the second world war. Informative signs tell about how the soldiers lived, worked and played.



Little Millstream Falls track

700 m return (25 mins)
Grade: moderate to difficult

Follow the steep and narrow walking track to the base of Little Millstream Falls. Enjoy views of the falls from numerous points along the track.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- The gravel track to the base of Little Millstream Falls is slippery and injuries have occurred. Please do not use this track unless you are a fit and confident walker.
- The rocks at the base of Little Millstream Falls can be slippery.
- Always carry water, wear a hat and sturdy footwear, and try to walk in the cooler part of the day.



To access Big Millstream Falls, travel 3.5 km south-west of Ravenshoe on Mount Garnet Road. Turn left into the signposted entrance and drive 1 km to the picnic area. Parking for long vehicles is available.

To access Little Millstream Falls, travel along the Tully Falls Road for 3 km from Ravenshoe then turn right onto Wooroora Road and drive 1.5 km to the signposted turn off.

Southern Tablelands

Visit one of Australia's most stunning waterfalls, marvel at escarpment views or walk, drive, picnic, bicycle or camp in this scenic cloud-swathed landscape.

Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Tully Gorge and Tully Falls national parks



The Aboriginal Traditional Owners (TOs) of this area—the Jirrbal people—welcome you to Tully Gorge and Tully Falls national parks. The Jirrbal TOs continue their cultural obligations and ask that visitors respect and care for the area. The area is rich in cultural history and has many significant sites and story places.

These parks protect a range of vegetation types—from diverse, upland rainforest on red basalt soils to tall, open forest on grey-brown rhyolite soils. The water supply from Tully Falls is held in Koombooloomba Dam and diverted through a hydro-electric power station. This is one of the wettest areas in Queensland.

Tully Gorge lookout, Tully Gorge National Park

From the lookout enjoy spectacular views of the deep gorge and Tully River below. The dam upstream restricts water flow over the falls. It is only during the wet season, when the entire system floods, that water thunders over the rock face and down the gorge.

River walk, Tully Gorge National Park

14 km return (45 mins)
Grade: moderate

Starting beside the lookout, walk through woodlands to the Tully River and a patch of endangered vine forest featuring red mahogany trees.

A thundering Tully Falls—now only seen during the wet season when the entire system floods.



Photo: Barry Schmith, NPSR.

Wabunga Wayemba, Tully Falls National Park

5.2 km return (2 hrs) Grade: moderate

Enjoy this walk through the rainforest to a waterfall where clear mountain water cascades over moss-coated rocks into a shallow pool. The track can be accessed from two points. About 1 km from the start of the first access, a 300 m return steep side track with steps leads from a shelter shed to a viewing deck overlooking the falls. Walking along the road (1.7 km) between the access points is not recommended.

Misty Mountains wilderness walking tracks

This 130 km network of short and long-distance walking tracks offers visitors an opportunity to explore otherwise inaccessible parts of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. There is also a road network suitable for four-wheel-drive vehicles. A Misty Mountains wilderness walking tracks trail guide is available from visitor information centres; and updated track conditions, camping bookings and information are available at www.nprsr.qld.gov.au.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- The boardwalks and tracks can be slippery when wet.
- Enjoy the view but remain behind the lookout safety fence at all times.
- Do not venture onto the rocks in the Tully River. Water, released from the dam upstream, can cause river levels to rise rapidly and without warning.

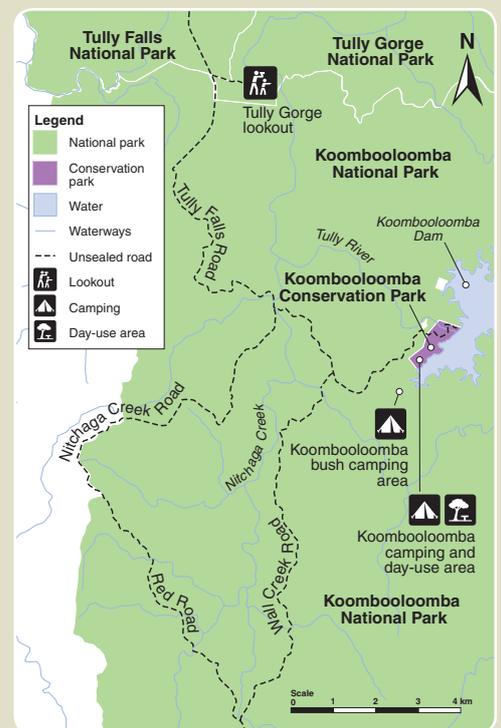
Access the Wabunga Wayemba walk from one of two trail heads. The first is 11.5 km from Ravenshoe on Tully Falls Road; the second is a further 1.7 km along the road.

Tully Gorge lookout is 24 km south of Ravenshoe on Tully Falls Road. Turn left at the sign and follow the 1 km unsealed road to the car park. The road is slippery when wet and caravans are not recommended.

Koombooloomba National Park and Koombooloomba Conservation Park



The Aboriginal Traditional Owners (TOs) of this area—the Jirrbal people—welcome you to Koombooloomba National Park and Conservation Park. The Jirrbal TOs continue their cultural obligations and ask that visitors respect and care for the area. The area is rich in cultural history and has many significant sites and story places.



Endangered wet sclerophyll forest, dry forest and upland rainforest surround Koombooloomba Dam. The parks are home to endangered, near threatened and vulnerable species including Lumholtz's tree-kangaroos, Herbert River ringtail possums, red goshawks, yellow-bellied gliders and golden bowerbirds.

Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo
Photo: NPRSR.



 Bush camp along Wall and Nitchaga Creek roads in Koombooloomba National Park or in the defined bushing camping area on the waterfront. Koombooloomba Conservation Park also has a camping area, with defined sites and some facilities. **Camp sites must be booked and fees apply** (see Camping, page 4). Mobile service is not available in the park so bookings must be made prior to leaving Ravenshoe.

 Drive or ride the parks' roads. Vehicles must be road registered. Only some roads are shown on the map and intersections may or may not be signposted.

 Koombooloomba Dam is popular with water skiers and anglers. The dam is not part of the national park or conservation park. Be aware of submerged trees and other hazards and be mindful of sudden storms that can significantly reduce visibility. Fisheries regulations apply—information on bag and size limits, restricted species and seasonal closures is available from www.fisheries.qld.gov.au or by phoning 13 25 23. Maritime Safety Queensland places restrictions on the use of vessels with engines over 3 kW when the dam is above and below certain levels. See www.msq.qld.gov.au/notices-to-mariners or phone 13 23 80 for current information.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Treat all water before drinking.
- Expect to share roads with motorbikes, bicycles, walkers and vehicles.
- The roads to and within the parks are narrow, have sharp corners and are rough and potholed. Take extreme caution and be aware of oncoming traffic.

 Drive 20 km south of Ravenshoe on Tully Falls Road to the park entrance. The roads to the dam are accessible by conventional vehicles with high clearance. Nitchaga Creek and Wall Creek roads are accessible by four-wheel-drive vehicles only.

The Koombooloomba Dam wall.

Blencoe Falls, Girringun National Park



 Blencoe Falls is part of the traditional lands of the Warungnu Aboriginal people. They hope that you will enjoy your visit and respect their sacred place.

 Open forest dominates the escarpments of the Blencoe and Herbert gorges and she-oaks line the creeks and rivers. Along the gullies and upper slopes of the Herbert River Gorge, the vine-thicket rainforest is scattered with hoop pines.

 **Blencoe Falls lookout**
400 m return (20 mins)
Grade: easy

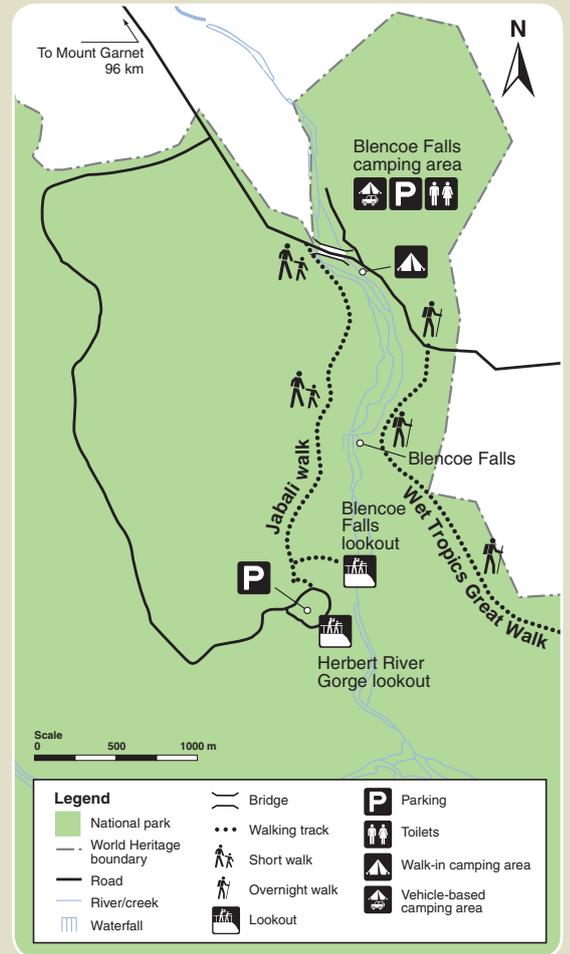
Near the car park, the Herbert River Gorge lookout provides amazing views of the Herbert River as it meanders its way through the gorge. A distant dull rumble becomes a roar as the track nears Blencoe Falls. Relic hoop pines shrouded in mist create an eerie scene.

 **Jabali walk**
5 km return (1.5–2 hrs)
Grade: moderate

The Jabali (pronounced Ju-bah-li and meaning whiptail wallaby) walk travels through open eucalypt forest as it meanders towards the Blencoe Falls lookout. Return the same way or arrange for pick up at the Blencoe Falls lookout car park.

 **Wet Tropics Great Walk**
Blencoe Falls provides a gateway to the Wet Tropics Great Walk—110 km of walking opportunities, including short and overnight walks. A Wet Tropics Great Walk trail guide is available from visitor information centres; and updated track conditions, camping bookings and information are available at www.nprsr.qld.gov.au.

 Blencoe Falls camping area is in open woodland with large camping areas and a number of private, sheltered sites along the creek. Camp sites must be booked and fees apply (see Camping, page 4).



 Fishing is permitted in the park. Fisheries regulations apply—information on bag and size limits, restricted species and seasonal closures is available from www.fisheries.qld.gov.au or by phoning 13 25 23.

 In the open forest, animals such as the elegant, whiptail wallaby and gangly emu seek sanctuary from the heat. In the river and creeks, freshwater turtles can be seen basking on logs or peering above the surface of the water.

Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety (see pages 18 and 19).

- Cattle may be encountered in the camping area. Never startle or approach these animals and ensure they have a clear path to the scrub.
- Enjoy the view but remain behind the safety fence at all times and supervise children carefully.

 Blencoe Falls is 96 km south-east of Mount Garnet. From Mount Garnet travel west for 4 km along the Kennedy Highway and turn left onto Gunnawarra Road. After 52 km, turn left onto Kirrama–Cashmere Road and travel the last 40 km to the falls. Access is possible only during dry conditions and four-wheel-drive vehicles are recommended. There is no access from the coast via the Kirrama Range Road.

Things that kick, bite and sting



Photo: NPRSR.

Be cass-o-wary

Cassowaries are an endangered species found throughout the rainforests and nearby woodlands and swamps of North Queensland. These large, flightless birds play an important role in the dispersal of rainforest plant seeds. Cassowary populations face a variety of threats and, as habitat disappears, human contact with cassowaries is increasing. Cassowary behaviour is unpredictable—they are known to kick with their large clawed feet and this can be dangerous for people.

Cassowaries are potentially dangerous. Avoid unnecessary risks and help protect cassowaries by following these guidelines in cassowary territory.

- Never approach cassowaries.
- Never approach chicks—male cassowaries will defend them.
- Never feed cassowaries—it is illegal, dangerous and has caused cassowary deaths.
- Always slow down when driving in cassowary territory.
- Never stop your vehicle to look at cassowaries on the road.
- Always discard food scraps in closed bins.

Report cassowary sightings and incidents by emailing <cassowary.sighting@npsr.qld.gov.au> or phoning 1300 130 372.

Do not approach freshwater crocodiles.



Photo: NPRSR.



Photo: NPRSR.

Southern cassowaries are encountered on the tablelands.

Freshwater crocodiles

Freshwater crocodiles have been introduced to some parks and other areas of the tablelands. Freshwater crocodiles can become aggressive and cause injury if disturbed. Do not approach or interfere with freshwater crocodiles and take care if swimming.

Do not touch stinging trees.

Stinging trees

Stinging trees are found alongside tracks, in clearings and on forest edges on the tablelands. They grow to 4 m high and have large, heart-shaped leaves with serrated edges. Touching any part of the plant—including the leaves (dead or alive), fruit and stem—will result in a very painful sting. If you are stung, and symptoms are severe, seek medical attention.



Photo: Jamera Vallance, NPRSR.

Things to know



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Safety in parks and forests

Visitors must be well prepared and responsible for their own safety.

- Supervise children closely.
- Take care when driving. Many of the roads are unsealed and have sharp curves and rough surfaces. Take your time and read the signs. Be aware of vehicles, pedestrians and wildlife on the road.
- Always let someone know your travel plans.
- Keep to the tracks and heed safety and warning signs.
- Wear sunscreen, a hat, protective clothing and sturdy footwear.
- Always carry water and try to walk in the cooler part of the day.
- Treat tap and creek water before drinking.
- Mobile phone coverage on the tablelands can be unreliable.

In emergencies

In case of an emergency, dial Triple Zero (000), or 112 from a mobile phone. For non-urgent incidents, contact Policelink on 13 14 44.

Caring for parks

Please assist the rangers and Traditional Owners to look after the natural and cultural values of parks:

- Everything in parks and forests is protected. Please leave everything as you found it.
- Do not feed wildlife, including fish, as it can affect their health and alter the natural population balance. Do not leave food or scraps around the picnic areas or camp sites.
- Do not remove plant material, living or dead.
- Domestic animals are not allowed in parks. Dogs are allowed in State forests during the day (not overnight) but must be on a leash at all times.
- Where no bins are provided, please take your rubbish with you when you leave.
- Avoid the spread of weeds—check your clothing and shoes regularly for seeds. If you find seeds, remove and wrap them before placing in a rubbish bin.

- Stay on formed walking tracks and roads. Do not cut corners or create new tracks or roads.
- Rules for fires and generators vary in the different parks and forests. Check camping area information before booking.
- Take care not to pollute fresh water. Do not use soap, shampoo or detergents in streams or lakes.
- Ensure you are aware of current fire bans and restrictions. Check details for the Tablelands Regional Shire at www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au or by phoning (07) 4042 5468.

Road conditions

During the wet season (December to April) heavy rain and strong winds may cause flooding and fallen trees, blocking some roads for short periods. Check conditions with the Bureau of Meteorology on www.bom.gov.au or by phoning (07) 4035 9777, and the Department of Transport and Main Roads www.131940.qld.gov.au or by phoning 13 19 40.

Park alerts

Park alerts provide the latest information on access, closures and conditions on all parks and forests. Go to www.nprsr.qld.gov.au or phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

Roads may flood during the wet season.



Photo: Tamara Vallance.



Photo: Tourism Queensland.

Check the camp fire rules for each park and forest.

Stocked impoundment permits

A Fisheries Queensland stocked impoundment permit is required to fish in some Queensland dams, including Lake Tinaroo. Permits can be obtained by phoning 13 25 23, online at www.smartservice.qld.gov.au, and at some small business outlets throughout Queensland. For more information see www.qld.gov.au/environment or phone 13 25 23.

Visitor facilities and opportunities

National park (NP) Conservation park (CP) Forest reserve (FR)	Page no	Toilets	Day-use area	Camping	Caravan or trailer sites	Easy, short walks	Harder or longer walks	Natural lookout	Constructed lookout	Boating	Fishing	Web page
Bartle Frere Trail, Wooroonooran NP	9			✓			✓	✓				✓
Blencoe Falls, Girringun NP	17	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Curtain Fig NP	9					✓						✓
Danbulla NP, SF and FR	10–11	✓	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Davies Creek NP	6–7	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			✓
Dinden NP	6–7	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓				✓
Dinden West Forest Reserve	7											✓
Forty Mile Scrub NP		✓	✓			✓						✓
Hallorans Hill NP	12						✓					✓
Hasties Swamp NP	12	✓							✓			✓
Herberton Range SF and Baldy Mountain FR	13			✓			✓	✓				✓
Herberton Range CP	14–15					✓		✓				✓
Koombooloomba NP and CP	16–17	✓		✓	✓**						✓	✓
Lake Barrine, Crater Lakes NP	8	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓*		✓
Lake Eacham, Crater Lakes NP	8	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓*		✓
Malanda Falls CP	9					✓			✓			✓
Millstream Falls NP	15	✓	✓			✓						✓
Mount Hypipamee NP	14	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓			✓
Tully Falls NP	16						✓	✓				✓
Tully Gorge NP	16	✓				✓			✓			✓
Tumoulin SF and FR	15					✓						✓
Undara Volcanic NP		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓
Wongabel SF	13					✓	✓					✓

✓* Non-motorised crafts only.

✓** Camper trailers only,
no caravans.

For further information

Visit us online at <www.nprsr.qld.gov.au>

- Go to 'Park alerts' for the latest information on access, closures and conditions.

Camping bookings

- online at <www.qld.gov.au/camping>
- visit a Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing business centre or authorised booking agent
- phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68). Mobile phone charges may apply.

Front cover background: Cycad fronds (Tourism Queensland).

Front cover insets (top to bottom): Camping on the Atherton Tableland (Peter Nieves, NPRSR); The rolling green hills of the central and southern tablelands, Queensland (Tourism Queensland); Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo (NPRSR).

Back cover: Sunset on the Atherton Tableland (Tamara Vallance).



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