



# Walk the Bibbulmun Track

*Feel the spirit of Australia's South West*



**3-6 days**

## **Clifftops to Treetops**

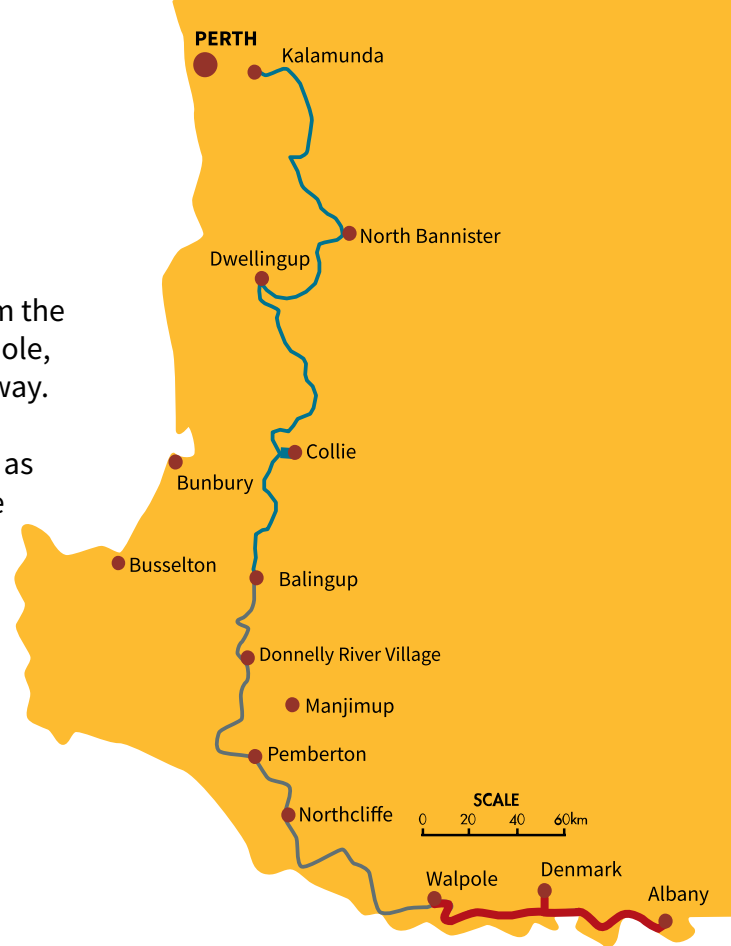
**Albany to Walpole**

# Clifftops to Treetops

Explore some of the Bibbulmun Track's wildest and most spectacular scenery on this six-day adventure. Travel from the rugged coastlines of Albany to the ancient forests of Walpole, stopping at the beautiful beaches of Denmark along the way.

This itinerary includes a range of Track day walks, as well as interesting sights, trails and attractions in and around the Track Towns.

Whether you complete the entire trip or just pick a walk or two, this itinerary will lead you to some of the best parts of the Bibbulmun Track.



## Track Towns offer plenty to see and do



*Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk. Photo: Tourism WA*



*The Gap, Torndirrup National Park. Photo: Tourism WA*



*A summer day at Greens Pool, Denmark*



*National Anzac Centre, Albany. Photo: Tourism WA*



# Day One - On the way to Albany



## Morning

Albany is a four-and-three-quarter-hour drive from Perth along the Albany Highway and is the Southern Terminus of the Bibbulmun Track. About two hours from Perth, take a break at the [Williams Woolshed](#), where you can enjoy a bite to eat and browse local produce and wool products. When you're ready, continue along Albany Highway.



*Walking up to Castle Rock. Photo: Rod Annear*



*The Granite Skywalk. Photo: Department of Parks and Wildlife*

## Afternoon

Add some adventure to your drive with a detour to [Castle Rock](#) in Porongurup National Park.

Off Albany Highway, turn left on to Oatlands Road just before you enter Mount Barker. Continue on to Porongurup Road for 20 minutes and then turn right on to Castle Rock Road.

It's a steep 2.2 km hike to the top, but it's worth it to explore the Granite Skywalk—a suspended walkway around Castle Rock with incredible views that stretch over the surrounding forest and farmland to Albany and beyond.

## Evening

From Castle Rock Road, turn right on to Porongurup Road and then right on to Chester Pass Road to reach Albany. Head into the heart of Albany and treat yourself to a delicious dinner from one of the town's many restaurants or historic pubs.

When it's time to rest, Albany offers plenty of accommodation, ranging from boutique hotels and chalets to budget caravan and campsites and everything in between. Visit [our website](#) to find walker-friendly businesses in the area.



*The historic town of Albany is home to the Southern Terminus of the Bibbulmun Track. Photo: Tourism WA*

# Day Two - Cosy Corner to Shelley Beach



Albany

## Morning & Afternoon

You have a full day of walking on the Track ahead of you, so it's best to set off early.

From Lower Denmark Road, turn left on to Cosy Corner Road and park at the Cosy Corner picnic area. Look for the Bibbulmun Track signs to begin today's walk.



*Views over West Cape Howe. Photo: Department of Parks and Wildlife*

## Day Walk One: Cosy Corner to Shelley Beach Lookout

**Distance:** 16 km return

**Difficulty:** Grade 3

**Time:** Full day

**Starting point:** Cosy Corner picnic area (look for the wooden staircase heading up the hill), Cosy Corner Road, Kronkup.

On this return walk you will cross large granite outcrops, thickets of coastal tea-tree and peppermints, and skirt karri and sheoak woodland.

At many points along the Track, you will have panoramic views over the whole of Torbay and across to Bald Head. At the halfway mark you will reach a lookout that overlooks the beautiful Shelley Beach in West Cape Howe National Park, which is also a popular launch point for hang gliders.

To reach the lookout, turn left at a T-junction (where the Bibbulmun Track continues right) and continue 250m to the lookout.

*Along the Track. Photo: Pelusey Photography*



# Day Three - Muttonbird Beach to Blowholes



Albany

## Morning

Begin your day with breakfast and a stroll along Albany's Princess Royal Harbour foreshore before setting off for Mutton Bird Beach, the starting point of today's walk.

To get there, take Lower Denmark Road and turn left on to Elleker-Grasmere Road, then right on to Mutton Bird Road. Drive 8.5 kms to Mutton Bird Beach car park.



*Shelter Island. Photo: Pelusey Photography*

## Day Walk Two: Mutton Bird Beach to Mutton Bird Campsite

**Distance:** 8.2km

**Difficulty:** Grade 3

**Time:** 2-3 hours

**Starting point:** Mutton Bird Beach car park, Mutton Bird Road, Elleker.

This short Track walk begins at the car park above the white sands of Mutton Bird Beach, opposite Shelter Island—a nature reserve that is home

to colonies of little penguins and flesh-footed shearwaters. As you walk along the Track (away from the beach) you'll have a fantastic view over the coastline and if you're lucky the chance to spot passing dolphins or whales. After a short break at the Mutton Bird Campsite, retrace your steps back to the car park. For a [full-day walk](#), you can continue along the Track to the Sandpatch car park and Albany Wind Farm, or further still to the Sandpatch Campsite.



*Views over the Albany Wind Farm*

## Afternoon

Discover more of Albany's amazing coastal scenery with a trip to Torndirrup National Park. To reach the park, head back along Lower Denmark Road and turn right onto Frenchman Bay Road. Be sure to visit the Gap, Natural Bridge and Blowholes, to witness the fury and power of the Southern Ocean.

On your way back, stop in at the Albany Wind Farm and marvel at the giant turbines perched along the cliff tops. Follow the network of trails to learn more about this incredible source of renewable energy and take in the epic coastal views!



# Day Four - Discovering Denmark



Albany to Denmark

## Morning

From Albany, take the 40 minute drive down South Coast Highway to reach the waterside town of Denmark.

Today's walk is best completed as a one-way trail, so you will need to organise a lift to and from the Track. Stop in at the [Denmark Visitor Centre](#) to arrange a track transfer with one of the local transport operators.



*The view from Mount Hallowell. Photo: Laughing Ladies*

## Day Walk Three: Lights Beach to Ocean Beach Road

**Distance:** 8.2km one-way

**Difficulty:** Grade 4

**Time:** 3-4 hours

**Starting point:** Lights Beach car park, Lights Beach Road, Denmark.

This one-way walk combines forest, rocky features and coastal views to create a wonderfully scenic walk.

Starting at Lights Beach (near the toilets), the Track meanders east through coastal heath and farmland before turning north and ascending to Monkey Rock. You will then climb even higher through towering karris to Mount Hallowell. Here you can enjoy views of rolling green hills, the Wilson Inlet and the Southern Ocean, before descending past gigantic boulders and sheoak forest through to Ocean Beach Road.



*Elephant Rocks. Photo: Tourism WA*

## Afternoon

After today's walk, head to William Bay National Park to explore Denmark's glorious beaches, including Elephant Rocks, and the very photogenic Greens Pool.

Alternatively, take a drive along the [Denmark Food and Wine Trail](#) and experience some of the region's best wines, craft beers and gourmet produce.

## Evening

Denmark has a large variety of accommodation, including, hotels, backpackers, self-contained chalets, B&Bs, caravan parks and campsites. Check out [our website](#) to find a range of walker-friendly accommodation in the area.

# Day Five - Conspicuous Beach to Giant Tingles



Denmark to Walpole

## Morning

After a tasty breakfast from one of Denmark's cafes, drive 40 minutes along South Coast Highway and turn right onto Conspicuous Beach Road to reach Conspicuous Beach, the starting point of today's Track walk that takes in some of WA's most pristine coastline.



Approaching Rame Head Campsite. Photo: Pelusey Photography

## Day Walk Four: Conspicuous Beach to Rame Head Campsite

**Distance:** 6.6km return

**Difficulty:** Grade 3

**Time:** Half-day

**Starting point:** Conspicuous Beach car park,  
Conspicuous Beach Road, Nornalup

Starting at beach level (follow the boardwalk down to the beach from the car park), this return walk takes a steep climb to the edge of Conspicuous Cliffs to provide incredible views of the Southern Ocean. The Track then meanders through undulating coastal heath to the picturesque Rame Head Campsite. If you're a bird-lover, keep an eye out for the tiny colourful wrens that live in the area.



Ancient Empire Walk. Photo: Tourism WA

## Afternoon

After a morning on the coast, it's time to head to the forest. From Conspicuous Beach Road, turn left on to South Coast Highway and then right on to Valley of the Giants Road, where you'll find the world-famous Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk. The 600m walkway leads you through the tops of giant red tingle trees that rise up to 40 metres above the forest floor.

Down below, the [Ancient Empire Walk](#) takes you around and right through the middle of some of the forest's most ancient tingle trees, including a particularly gnarled veteran named Grandma Tingle!

## Evening

From Valley of the Giants Road, turn right onto the South Coast Highway and continue along to reach Walpole. Despite its small size, Walpole has a range of accommodation options, including luxury chalets, motels, backpackers, B&Bs, self-contained cottages and caravan parks. You will also find a number of walker friendly businesses on [our website](#).

# Day Six - Walpole and Nornalup Inlets



Walpole to Perth

## Morning

From Walpole, take the 10 minute drive east along the South Coast Highway and turn right onto Coalmine Beach Road to reach Knoll Drive, a five kilometre scenic loop with beautiful views over the Walpole and Nornalup Inlets. Bring along some morning tea to enjoy at one of the peaceful picnic spots along the drive.



*Rest Point at Walpole Inlet. Photo: Tourism WA*



*Coalmine Beach, Nornalup Inlet.  
Photo: Department of Parks and Wildlife*

## Afternoon

After you've had enough spectacular scenery, head back to Perth along the South Western Highway, Forrest Highway and Kwinana Freeway. On your way, you'll pass through a number of towns, including the Track Towns of Pemberton and Balingup.

Check out our other itineraries for more Track walks and attractions that you can enjoy on your way home.

*Posing pelicans at Walpole Inlet.  
Photo: Tourism WA*





# Important Information



## Before you go

Here is a list of things you need to do, pack and think about before you go for a day walk.

- A National Park pass is required. You can buy one [online](#).
- Wear good walking shoes, comfortable loose fitting clothes, and a waterproof/windproof jacket.
- Take a watch, wear a sunhat and use sunscreen.
- Pack a bottle of water (1-2 litres depending on distance, terrain and weather).
- Pack a basic first-aid kit and blister kit.
- Pack snacks and lunch.
- Use only appropriate access points.
- Check the current [Track Conditions on our website](#).
- Tell someone where you are going and what time you expect to return.
- Please note that not all sections of the Track have a phone signal.
- Many of these walks can be found on the [Trails WA website](#) – or download the [Trails WA App \(iOS only\)](#).
- For more tips, visit our [Day Walks – Getting Started webpage](#).

**Remember, your safety is our concern but your responsibility**

## Along the Track

The yellow Waugal trail markers clearly show the way along the Bibbulmun Track. The Waugal, or Rainbow Serpent, is an important spirit from the Aboriginal Dreamtime responsible for the creation of the rivers, waterways and landforms around WA's South West.



## Tread Softly

The Bibbulmun Track will lead you through some of the most beautiful and pristine landscapes in the South West, and we ask all walkers to respect the natural and cultural heritage of the area.

While exploring the Track, please follow the seven Leave No Trace Principles:

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimise campfire impacts.
6. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other walkers.



In other words, please leave the Track in better condition than you found it.

That way we can make sure that you and others can enjoy the beauty of the Bibbulmun Track now and in the future.

Please note that dogs are not permitted in National Parks. They should be restrained on a leash in State Forests, around the town and in local parks.

# Important Information



## Walk Grades

All walks in this itinerary are graded using the Australian Walking Track Grading System. Use the guide below and ask yourself 'is this walk suitable for me?'



### Grade 1

No bushwalking experience required. Flat even surface with no steps or steep sections. Suitable for wheelchair users who have someone to assist them. Walks no greater than 5km.



### Grade 2

No bushwalking experience required. The track is hardened or compacted surface and may have a gentle hill section or sections and occasional steps. Walks no greater than 10km.



### Grade 3

Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections a rough surface and many steps. Walks up to 20km.



### Grade 4

Bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may be long, rough and very steep. Directional signage may be limited.



### Grade 5

Very experienced bushwalkers with specialised skills, including navigation and emergency first aid. Tracks are likely to be very rough, very steep and unmarked. Walks may be more than 20km.

## On the Track

If you spot any problems or changes to this walk, please email the details to [friends@bibbulmuntrack.org.au](mailto:friends@bibbulmuntrack.org.au) so we can update it for those that follow in your footsteps.

If you enjoyed this walk, please help us keep it fantastic.

Regular maintenance is undertaken by around 300 volunteers managed by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation. If you enjoyed your walk please make a [donation](#) – or become a [member](#)... it's less than the price of a coffee each month.



## Contact Us

### Bibbulmun Track Foundation

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