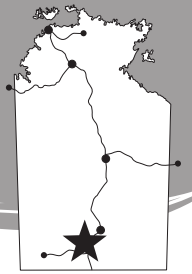


Henbury Meteorites Conservation Reserve



Fact Sheet

Henbury Meteorites Conservation Reserve contains twelve craters which were formed when a meteor hit the earth's surface 4,700 years ago. The Henbury Meteor, weighing several tonnes and accelerating to over 40,000 km per hour, disintegrated before impact, and the fragments formed the twelve craters.

The scattered fragments of the Henbury Meteorite are extremely heavy since they consist mainly of the metals iron (90%) and nickel (8%). Over 500 kilograms of metal have been found on the site, the largest over 100 kilograms. Few specimens now exist in the area.

Access

The Henbury Meteorites are located 145 kilometres south-west of Alice Springs. Turn off the Stuart Highway onto the Ernest Giles Road 132 kms south of Alice Springs. Travel along this gravel road for eight kms, then turn north for five kms to the Reserve's entrance.


The Reserve can be reached by conventional 2WD vehicle however care should be taken after heavy rains as gravel roads may become impassable. 4WD is recommended if planning to continue on the Ernest Giles Road to Watarrka National Park.


When to Visit


The Reserve is accessible all year round, the cooler months from April to September being the most pleasant. Photographers who can time their visit for early morning

or late afternoon will be rewarded by scenery in which the sun most clearly defines the craters.

What to do

 **Picnics** - Wood barbecues, shaded picnic tables and a pit toilet are available. There is no drinking water in the area. Firewood should be collected before entering the Reserve.

 **Walking** - There is a self guided walking track around the craters. The largest of the craters is 180 metres wide and 15 metres deep, while the smallest is barely recognisable at six metres wide and only a few centimetres deep. Three or four of the craters can be seen very clearly and inspected at close range.

 **Camping** - A camping area with basic facilities is adjacent to the carpark. Camping fees are payable on site.

Most of the meteorite fragments have been removed from the site. Some visitors have persisted in searching for souvenirs and you may see evidence of their activities. Such activities are illegal.

Safety and Comfort

- Observe park safety signs.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, suitable clothing and footwear.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Consider your health and fitness when choosing a walk.

Please Remember

- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All historic, cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Firewood collection is not permitted in the reserve.
- Fires are only permitted in designated firepits.
- Bins are not provided, please take your rubbish with you.
- Pets are not permitted in this park.
- Generators are not permitted.



The sharp outlines of the craters have been softened over thousands of years by wind and rain to become the broad undulating mounds that you see today.

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

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