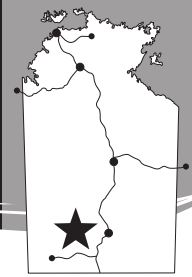


Redbank Gorge - Part of the West MacDonnell National Park



Fact Sheet



Located in the West MacDonnell (*Tyurretye*) National Park and nestled at the base of Mount Sonder (*Rwetyepme*, pronounced 'roo-chip-ma'), this stunning gorge and chasm is a refuge for many threatened plant and animal species. For visitors travelling on the Red Centre Way, Redbank Gorge also provides a refreshing stop and a chance to stretch your legs on a short walk.


Access


Redbank Gorge is located 156 km west of Alice Springs. Access is via Larapinta and Namatjira Drives, both sealed roads. The 5km access road from the Redbank Gorge turn-off to Redbank Gorge is unsealed and a high clearance vehicle is recommended. All roads can be impassable for a short period after heavy rain.

When to visit

The Park is accessible all year round. The cooler months (April to October) are the most pleasant.

What to do

 **Camping** - There are basic camping facilities available at two different locations - The Woodland Camping Area and the Ridgetop Camping Area. Both have toilets, firepits and picnic tables, the Woodland Camping area also has free gas barbecues. Spaces are limited and operate on a first come, first served basis. Camping fees apply and are payable onsite.

 **Swimming** - The Gorge has a near-permanent waterhole situated 1km from the Carpark. Swimmers should be aware that

most water holes are extremely cold. It is recommended that swimmers use a flotation device to assist them in swimming through the Gorge. Prolonged exposure, even during summer, can result in hypothermia. Beware of submerged logs and rocks. Do not jump, dive or swing into the water.



Walking - A 2km, 1.5 hour return walk from the Carpark alongside the creekbed will lead visitors to Redbank Gorge. The walk is unmarked but starts on a well defined track before dropping into the sandy creek bed. On a warm day walking in the sand is tiring and visitors should take and drink plenty of water. The track is rocky at times and care should be taken when walking.



Section 12 of the **Larapinta Trail** starts and finishes at the Redbank Gorge Carpark. Walkers also have the option to start or finish Section 11 of the Trail from this point. Both of these Sections are graded 'hard' and should only be attempted by fit people with previous bushwalking experience. Careful planning and preparation is required. Visit www.nt.gov.au/parks or contact the Parks and Wildlife Regional Office or Tourism Central Australia for details. Notify a reliable person of your intended walk plans. Ensure they know to contact police if you do not return by the arranged date. Walkers should carry a satellite phone or personal locator beacon.



There is a limited supply of drinking water at Redbank

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.
- Swim only where recommended.

Please Remember

- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All historic, cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Fires are permitted in fireplaces only.
- Collect firewood before entering the park.
- Bins are not provided, please take your rubbish with you.
- Pets are not permitted in the park.
- Generators are not permitted.

Gorge, provided for Larapinta Trail Walkers only. All tank and surface water should be treated before drinking. Other visitors planning to camp should carry their drinking water requirements with them.



Visitors who want to explore the sheltered cold waters of Redbank Gorge should use a flotation device.

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

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