

# Walking Tracks

## WATARRKA NATIONAL PARK



**Please read carefully the information on the back of this sheet before taking these walks.**

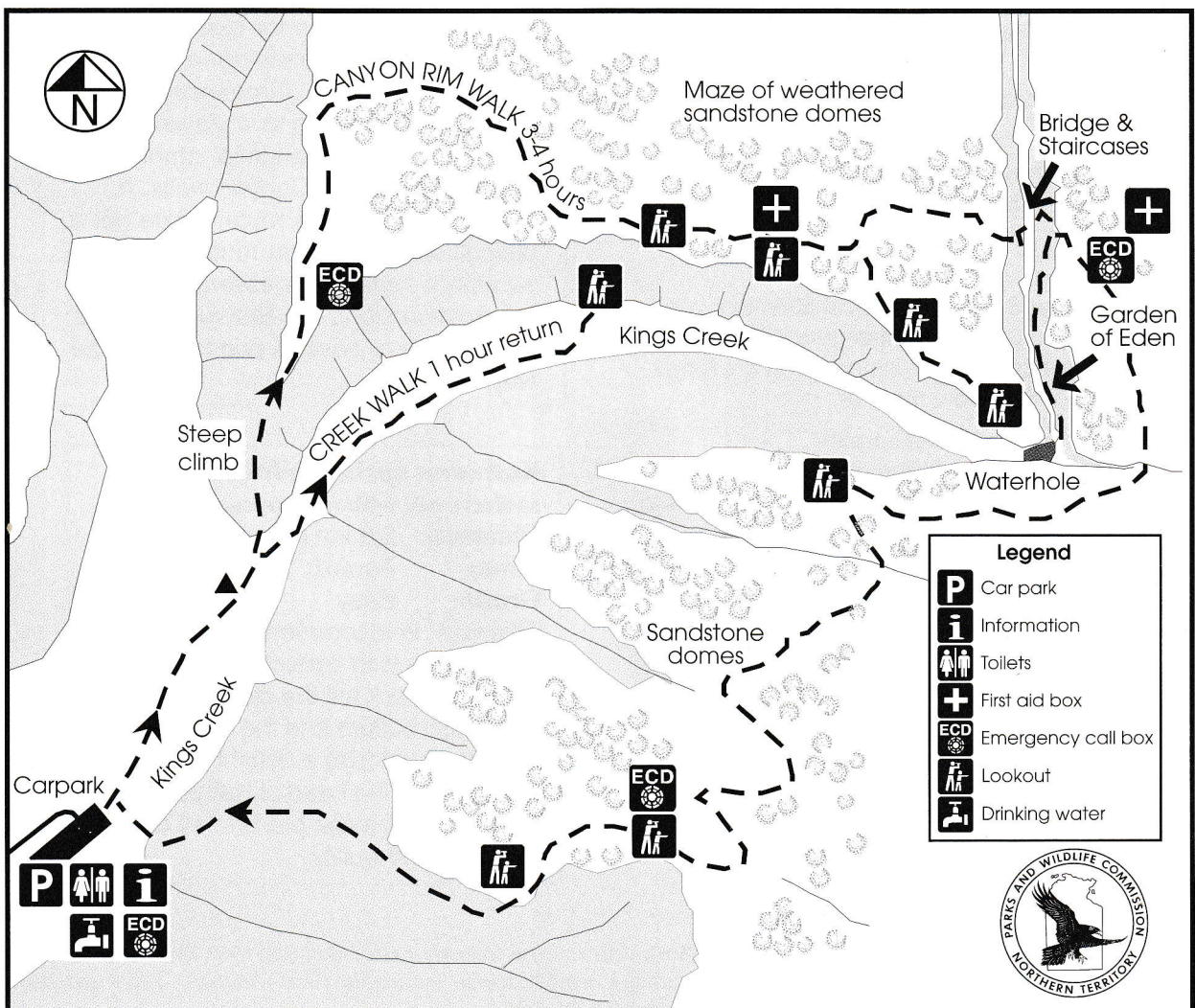
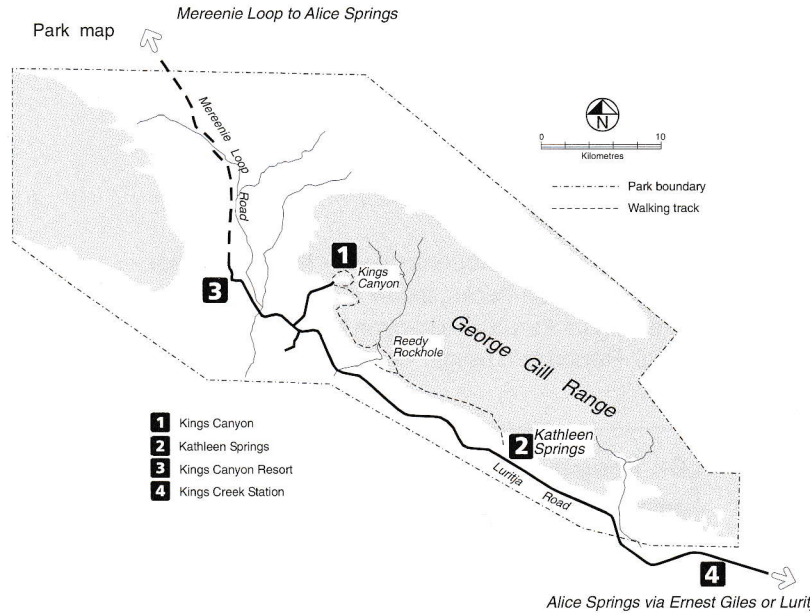
There are a variety of walking tracks in the National Park, offering visitors an opportunity to experience first hand the beauty and solitude of the Australian outback. Signs along the tracks highlight features of interest.

The **Kings Canyon Rim Walk** has many steep sections and is only recommended for reasonably fit and healthy walkers. Along the track are stairs and boardwalks to make your walk safe and comfortable and to protect sensitive vegetation and waterholes.

The **Kings Creek Walk** is an easier walk that is suitable for families.

The **Kathleen Springs Walk** is a pleasant walk suitable for families and accessible to wheelchairs.

Details of the Giles Track are provided in the Parks and Wildlife Commission information shelters in the park and an information sheet must be obtained from the Resort Reception prior to commencing the walk.





# Walking Tracks

## WATARRKA NATIONAL PARK

### Protecting the Environment

Watarrka, as with all national parks is a protected area. It is an offence to disturb plants, animals and natural features. It is prohibited to break off branches for fly swats, write or etch names on rocks, trees and structures in any way, and leave litter including cigarette butts, tissue paper and orange peel.

Please take all litter with you when you leave.

### Walking Track Markers

The walking tracks of the Canyon area are well sign posted with metal trail markers.

*Please proceed along the Canyon Rim Walk in a clockwise direction; follow the blue track markers.*

### Walking Safety

- Choose a walk appropriate to your level of fitness.
- Stay on marked tracks, follow the track markers
- Throwing rocks into the canyon is dangerous and illegal. Report to a ranger any person you see doing this.

### Be Prepared When Walking



Wear a shady hat



Wear sensible footwear and clothing



Use sunblock



Carry and drink plenty of water.



Avoid strenuous activity in the heat of the day.

### Emergencies

If someone is in urgent need of medical attention, you can contact a ranger using the **Emergency Radio Call Boxes**. There are 4 call boxes located along the Kings Canyon Rim Walk (\*See front map) at:

- the information shelter at the carpark
- at the top of the steep northern climb
- the eastern side above the Garden of Eden staircase
- at Kestrel Falls half way down the return loop section.

Basic first aid equipment and emergency water is available from the emergency first aid box at the top of the Canyon. (See front map.)

Avoid leaving an injured person alone. Stay with them to administer first aid and send another person to get help, with careful note of your location.

Park Administration is situated 1 km east of the Canyon turn-off off Luritja road. Please note, this is strictly for Emergency situations only.

### Kings Canyon Rim Walk

**clockwise track marked with blue arrows**

**Distance:** 6 km loop

**Time:** Approx. 3-4 hours

**Grade:** Moderate \*with a hard section at the beginning of the walk.

This walk begins with a steep climb to the top of the Canyon then follows the Canyon rim around before descending to the carpark. About half way along the walk is the Garden of Eden, a delightful area of cool waterholes and riverine vegetation. This walk requires a medium to high level of fitness to negotiate some strenuous sections. Extreme care should be taken in the hotter months (Sept - May) when walkers should consider other shorter walks during the middle of the day.

### Kings Creek Walk

**marked with orange arrows**

**Distance:** 2 km return

**Time:** Approx. 1 hour

**Grade:** Easy

This walk is suitable for families and people seeking something less strenuous than the Rim Walk. It meanders along Kings Creek, ending at a viewing platform where you can experience stunning views of the sheer Canyon walls. It returns by the same route. While not a difficult walk, it can be rough underfoot, so sturdy footwear is essential. Information signs on Aboriginal culture are located at several points along the way.

### Kathleen Springs Walk

**sealed track without markers**

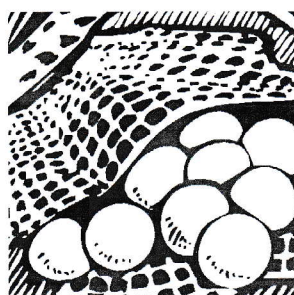
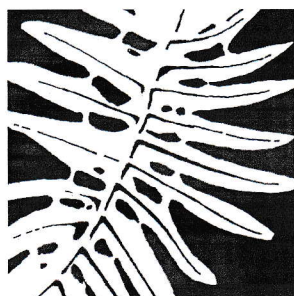
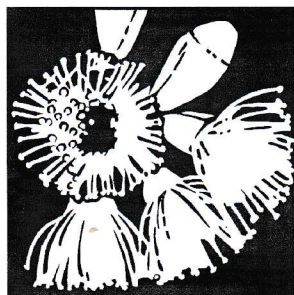
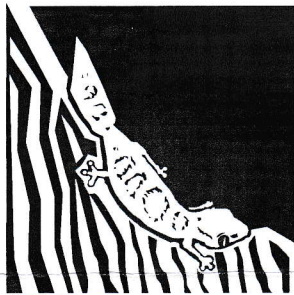
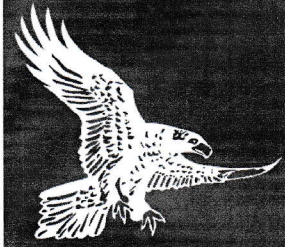
**Distance:** 2.6 km return

**Time:** Approx. 1.5 hours

**Grade:** Easy

This walk is recommended for families and visitors with limited mobility. Signs along the track tell the story of centuries of Aboriginal culture and the recent cattle industry. It leads to a delightful spring-fed waterhole at the head of Kathleen Gorge. This is a cool moist place to sit and enjoy the areas tranquility.





# Watarrka National Park

## The Geology of Kings Canyon



Kings Canyon is a valley that cuts firstly through a layer of Mereenie Sandstone, deposited about 400 million years ago, forming cliffs 30 metres high. Below the cliffs, the slope is less steep and the valley cuts through the softer Carmichael Sandstone, deposited about 440 million years ago (mya).

Between the Mereenie and the Carmichael Sandstone is a thin layer of purple shale or mudstone, which represents deposits laid down when the environment was changing from shallow marine (Carmichael) to an inland dune field in which there were rivers and lakes (Mereenie).

At Kings Canyon, the Mereenie Sandstone is cut by a very well developed set of west-north-west and a poorly developed set of north-north-east trending vertical joints. Erosion is proceeding along these joints. For instance, Kings Creek upstream of the main canyon flows along a series of straight lines; the lines forming right angles with each other and conform to the directions of the joint sets.

Many joints can be seen on the plateau on either side of the canyon. The best developed are parallel to the canyon wall. Some extend down for many metres and range from several metres wide down to hairline cracks.

### Geological Time

When Scientists speak of geological time they talk in terms of millions of years, and it is said to have taken about 400 million years for the canyon to form. To give you some idea of the time scale we have compressed time to fit into sixty minutes:

- 60 mins ago (4,600 mya) the earth was formed
- 46 mins ago (3,600 mya) the first sign of life appeared in the oceans.
- 11 mins ago (800 mya) the rock that forms the MacDonnell Ranges was laid down.
- 8 mins ago (550 mya) the rock that has formed Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) was being laid down from a separate mountain building event, 600 mya.
- 6 mins ago (440 mya) the sandstone of the canyon was formed; first life on land appeared.
- 4 mins ago (300 mya) formation of the Central Ranges occurred (including the George Gill Range and the MacDonnell Ranges); this had no affect on the shape of the present day outline of Uluru and Kata Tjuta. The MacDonnell Ranges when first formed were believed to be as high as the Himalayas. The Himalayas in comparison are only 60 million years old and are still being pushed up.
- 1 min ago (65 mya) the dinosaurs died out.
- 1 SECOND ago our ancestors appeared and our lifetimes

don't even register on this time scale.

### Cross Bedding

A good example of this can be seen in the domes just before the cycad information sign on the Kings Canyon Rim Walk.



The domes are old sand dunes and if a sand dune were to be cut in half today the same pattern would be found. The cross bedding is a result of the sand being deposited in one direction by the action of the wind. Some time later the wind direction changes, the top of the dune is cut off and the sand is then deposited in another direction. This cross bedding can also be found in tidal environments but the layers will be much thinner.

### The Canyon

The south wall of the canyon is the face of a joint which appeared in the range when it was uplifted 300 mya. Erosion of the Carmichael Sandstone on the north side has continually undercut the Mereenie Sandstone, eventually widening the canyon. The undercutting has resulted in some blocks of Mereenie Sandstone which are larger than a house to tumble to the canyon floor below.

### Parks & Wildlife Service of the Northern Territory

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# Watarrka National Park

## The Geology of Kings Canyon

### The Domes

The features of the canyon itself and the domes are a result of jointing and weathering. These deep cracks or joints criss-cross the local sandstone, resulting in quicker erosion, to form isolated blocks of sandstone. Further weathering by wind and rain have then eroded the top corners and sides of the blocks to form the domes that are visible today. The sandstone is quite soft rock and easily broken. Be careful where you put your feet when walking and especially when climbing. Help us to protect this fragile environment by keeping on the track.

### The Garden of Eden

This section of Kings Creek is called the Garden of Eden because of its lush vegetation. The lush state of the Garden of Eden relates back to the geology of the area.  
*(see figure below)*

The canyon is made up of two layers of sandstone with a layer of hard shale in between. Rainwater percolates through the Mereenie Sandstone but the layer of shale stops the water soaking through into the Carmichael Sandstone. This creates a water table in the Mereenie Sandstone, above the layer of shale (mudstone). The Garden of Eden cuts this water table, allowing stored water to slowly trickle out of the sandstone to water the lush vegetation.

### Fossils

It should be noted that the Kings Canyon sandstone was laid down in a shallow marine environment and at that time there was only life in the deep oceans. Life was only just appearing on land at this time. In the Mereenie Sandstone fossils are very rare, but some traces such as worm trails can be found in isolated locations. This differs to the Carmichael Sandstone where the

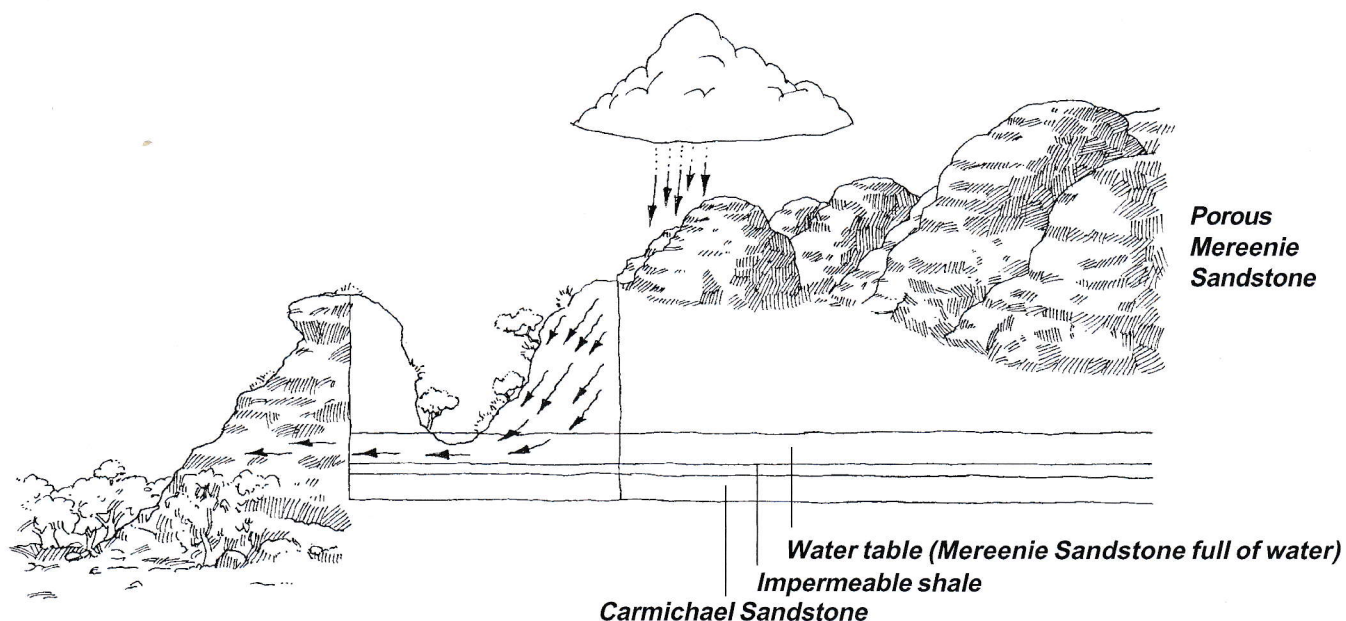
fossilised tracks of *Cruziana* (a creature similar to a Morton Bay Bug) can be seen.

### Colour


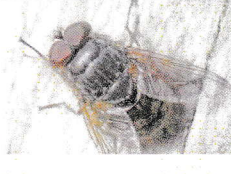


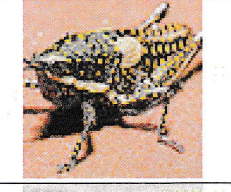
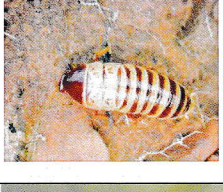







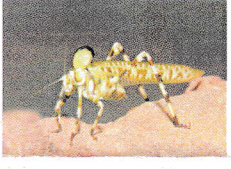






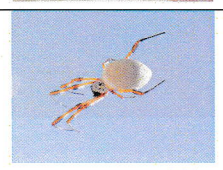




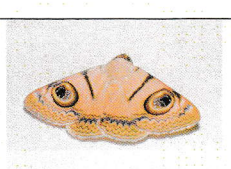


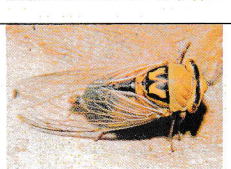

The Mereenie Sandstone is a clean white sandstone. It was deposited in an environment which ranged from aeolian (i.e. in the air) to lacustrine (fresh-water lake to marine). The red colour is believed to be due to an iron-rich dust blown onto the rock surface and then chemically fixed to the sand grains by a form of fungi which thrive on iron, silica and ephemeral (short lived) rainwater.

### Height







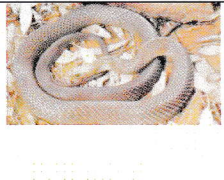
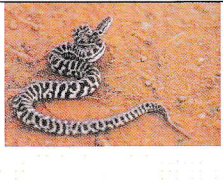
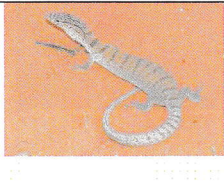



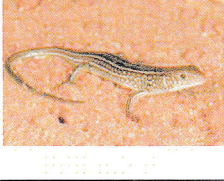




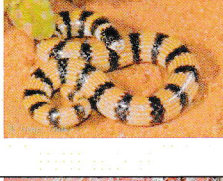



Kings Creek is 650 metres above sea level and the canyon walls range from 100 to 150 metres above the creek. The highest point of the George Gill Range is near Carmichaels Crag, 908 metres above sea level.





	<p><b>Sparassida,</b> <b>Huntsman Spider</b></p> <p>The crablike legs of a huntsman spider enable them to run both forwards and sideways, whereas most spiders have to turn, and then run.</p>		<p><b>Calliphoridae,</b> <b>Blowfly</b></p> <p>A typical fly lifespan is 30 days. During warm weather, a fly can produce a family generation in less than two weeks.</p>		<p><b>Latrodectus Hasseltii,</b> <b>Redback Spider</b></p> <p>While mating, in 2 out of 3 cases the female will eat the male.</p>
	<p><b>Lycosidae,</b> <b>Wolf Spider</b></p> <p>Wolf spiders cannot survive long indoors since they are unable to breed. They also do not make webs – instead they hunt.</p>		<p><b>Monistria pustulifera,</b> <b>Blistered pygomorph</b></p> <p>The Blistered Pygomorph move so little, that their entire life cycle can be completed under a single bush</p>		<p><b>Onicosoma Grammicollis,</b> <b>Native Cockroach</b></p> <p>An important part of the food web in many natural habitats, being eaten by invertebrates as well as mammals, frogs and reptiles. Also strong decomposers.</p>
	<p><b>Isoptera,</b> <b>Termites</b></p> <p>The biomass of termites in northern Australia is greater than the biomass of all the cattle in Australia combined.</p>		<p><b>Ctenomorpha Chronus,</b> <b>Stick Insect</b></p> <p>Males have full wings and can fly quite well. Females on the other hand, have reduced wings and have difficulty during flight.</p>		<p><b>Ophiogomphus Susbehcha,</b> <b>Dragonfly</b></p> <p>Dragonflies spend most of their lives in the larva stage (up to three years, depending on the species). The adult, winged stage only lasts a few weeks.</p>
	<p><b>Buprestis novemmaculata,</b> <b>Jewel Beetle</b></p> <p>They eat dead wood and can sense burning wood from up to 50 miles away.</p>		<p><b>Sceliphron caementarium,</b> <b>Black and Yellow Mud Dauber (Mud Wasp)</b></p> <p>Mostly feeding on small spiders, the wasp grabs it and stings it into submission.</p>		<p><b>Danaus Chrysippus,</b> <b>Lesser Wanderer</b></p> <p>This butterfly contains alkaloids in it's body which induces vomiting in predators when eaten.</p>
	<p><b>Ochrogaster Lunifer,</b> <b>Processionary Caterpillars</b></p> <p>They are often seen travelling in lines, one behind the next. However when disturbed they will curl up into a ball for protection</p>		<p><b>Alectoria Superba,</b> <b>Superb Katydid</b></p> <p>The crest is hollow within, and the function is unknown.</p>		<p><b>Polyrhachis Macropa,</b> <b>Mulga Ant</b></p> <p>Mulga ants build miniature levees to prevent their nests flooding from heavy rainstorms.</p>
	<p><b>Helea Tenebrionidae,</b> <b>Coleoptera</b> <b>Pie Dish Beetles</b></p> <p>The flanges are exaggerated, serving to deter predators and possibly to play a minor role in water collection.</p>		<p><b>Celaenia Excavata,</b> <b>Bird Dropping Spider</b></p> <p>To catch prey, the spider releases a pheromone which mimics the sex smell released by female moths. When a moth flies close, it catches it with it's front legs.</p>		<p><b>Mantidae,</b> <b>Praying Mantis</b></p> <p>This is the only insect with a neck and can turn it's head up to 180 degrees.</p>
	<p><b>Perga Affinis,</b> <b>Spitfire/Sawfly</b></p> <p>Related to wasps, however these insects cannot sting.</p>		<p><b>Anoplognathus Pallidicollis,</b> <b>Christmas Beetles</b></p> <p>Given the name due to the fact that around Christmas time, they are often seen in large numbers.</p>		<p><b>Nephila edulis,</b> <b>Golden Orb Weaving Spider</b></p> <p>Golden Orb Weavers are known to occasionally eat prey as big as small birds</p>
	<p><b>Camponotus inflatus,</b> <b>Honey Ant</b></p> <p>These ants are gorged with food by workers until their bodies expand and swell. Other ants then extract the nourishment and water from them.</p>		<p><b>Athropoda Subphylum,</b> <b>Grasshoppers</b></p> <p>Grasshoppers can eat almost any type of plant, including some poisonous ones.</p>		<p><b>Endoxyta Leucomochla,</b> <b>Witchetty Grubs</b></p> <p>Commonly eaten by indigenous Australians in "Bushtucker", this insect is said to taste like almonds when eaten raw.</p>
	<p><b>Xylotrupes ulysses australicus,</b> <b>Rhinoceros Beetle</b></p> <p>Only the males have horns, and the females are much smaller.</p>		<p><b>Noctuidae Nigruza Eucesta,</b> <b>Moth</b></p> <p>The majority of moths are nocturnal.</p>		<p><b>Culicidae,</b> <b>Mosquitoes</b></p> <p>Mosquitoes can smell exhaled carbon dioxide and body odors of humans from up to 70 feet away.</p>
	<p><b>Selenocosmia stirlingi,</b> <b>Barking Spider</b></p> <p>The deserts are prone to flash flooding and this insect lives in burrows with leaky rooves. The hairs on their body trap air bubbles during floods and the air pocket prevents them from drowning.</p>		<p><b>Thorpa Colorata,</b> <b>Golden Drummer Cicada</b></p> <p>Male cicadas have one of the loudest insect calls.</p>		<p><b>Myrmeleonidae,</b> <b>Ant Lion</b></p> <p>The ant lion catches it's prey by building a large crater. Other insects such as ants then slide down into the crater to be eaten</p>



	<p><b><i>Canis familiaris</i>, Dingo</b></p> <p>A dingo can turn its head through almost 180 degrees in each direction and have permanently erect ears.</p>		<p><b><i>Litoria rubella</i>, Red Tree-frog</b></p> <p>Unlike most desert frogs, the Desert Tree Frog does not burrow to avoid heat and desiccation. It will seek out shelter under rocks, trees or leaf litter.</p>		<p><b><i>Camelus dromedarius</i>, Camel</b></p> <p>Camels have straight spines, despite their humps.</p>
	<p><b><i>Macropus rufus</i>, Red Kangaroo</b></p> <p>A kangaroo can easily clear more than 23 feet with each bound. Kangaroos do not jump "up" so much as jump "forward" and this allows the roo to efficiently cover vast distances in search of food.</p>		<p><b><i>Moloch horridus</i>, Thorny Devil</b></p> <p>To drink, the thorny devil simply walks through dew-filled grass and shrubs, and the grooves on it's back directs the water into it's mouth.</p>		<p><b><i>Varanus giganteus</i> Perentie</b></p> <p>Perenties are fast sprinters, and can run using either all four legs or just their hind legs.</p>
	<p><b><i>Tiliqua multifasciata</i>, Centralian Blue-Tongued Lizard</b></p> <p>Blue-tongued lizards are popular pets and can live for up to 30 years in captivity</p>		<p><b><i>Macropus robustus</i>, Euro</b></p> <p>Euros thump their feet to warn others of impending danger and when threatened, they emit hissing sounds</p>		<p><b><i>Pseudonaja textilis</i>, Eastern Brown Snake</b></p> <p>The common brown snake is active mostly by day, except in very hot weather. It feeds on rats, mice, birds, lizards and other snakes</p>
	<p><b><i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>, Short-beaked Echidna</b></p> <p>Echidnas have no teeth, instead it crushes its insect food between horny plates on its tongue and the roof of its mouth.</p>		<p><b><i>Liasis stimsoni</i>, Stimson's Python</b></p> <p>These snakes are sold and kept as pets in some Australian states and are mostly nocturnal.</p>		<p><b><i>Varanus gilleni</i>, Pygmy Mulga Monitor</b></p> <p>Can grow to around 35 cm in total length, 10 cm of which is tail. The nostril is slightly positioned to one side.</p>
	<p><b><i>Ramphotyphlops endoterus</i>, Blind snake</b></p> <p>They have light-detecting black eyespots, and teeth occur in the upper jaw, yet are incapable of biting.</p>		<p><b><i>Vespudelus pumilus</i>, Eastern Forest Bat</b></p> <p>Eastern Forest Bats roost in hollows of old eucalypts; some individuals roost under loose bark.</p>		<p><b><i>Petrogale lateralis</i>, Black-footed Rock-wallaby</b></p> <p>On the rocks, they are camouflaged, and not many predators are as skillful and quick on such uneven ground.</p>
	<p><b><i>Diplodactylus intermedius</i>, Eastern Spiny-Tailed Gecko</b></p> <p>Geckos are the only lizards that can vocalize. They will often make barking, chirping or clicking noises when interacting socially with other geckos.</p>		<p><b><i>Equus caballus</i>, Wild Horse (Brumby)</b></p> <p>Brumbies are the descendants of escaped or lost horses, some dating back to those belonging to the early European settlers.</p>		<p><b><i>Demansia psammophis</i>, Yellow-Faced Whip Snake</b></p> <p>Very slender snake with long, thin whip-like tail. Large prominent eyes.</p>
	<p><b><i>Ctenotus saxatilis</i>, Rock Ctenotus</b></p> <p>Commonly found sunbathing on top of rocks, camouflaging – despite their heads lifted in the air.</p>		<p><b><i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>, Wild Rabbit</b></p> <p>Originally brought from Europe, rabbits are suspected of being the most significant known factor in species loss in Australia.</p>		<p><b><i>Lerista bipes</i>, Two-Toed Lerista</b></p> <p>As part of the skink family, the Two Toed Lerista tends to burrow more than the skinks with longer limbs.</p>
	<p><b><i>Lialis burtonis</i>, Burtons Legless Lizard</b></p> <p>Differing from snakes as it has a fleshy tongue, instead of a forked tongue. As well as having visible ear openings.</p>		<p><b><i>Cryptoblepharus carnabyi</i>, Caranaby's Snake-Eyed Skink</b></p> <p>These animals are short lived. Males live for around 12 months and females a few months longer.</p>		<p><b><i>Oedura marmorata</i>, Marbled Velvet Gecko</b></p> <p>Geckos have no eyelids. They use their tongue like a windscreen wiper to clean away dust.</p>
	<p><b><i>Sminthopsis youngsoni</i>, Desert Dunnart</b></p> <p>Every night it consumes approximately its own body weight of food.</p>		<p><b><i>Simoselaps bertholdi</i>, Desert Banded Snake</b></p> <p>Mildly venomous, but generally harmless this snake is smaller – only growing 20-30cm</p>		<p><b><i>Ctenotus collettii</i>, Striped Skink</b></p> <p>These lizards are commonly called 'comb-eared skinks', a reference to the scales aligned near the ear.</p>
	<p><b><i>Notaden nichollsi</i>, Desert Spadefoot Toad</b></p> <p>When handled, spadefoot frogs will inflate themselves and ooze a yellowy creamy secretion that becomes quite sticky.</p>		<p><b><i>Acanthophis pyrrhus</i>, Desert Death Adder</b></p> <p>Unlike most other snakes, Desert Death Adders give birth to live young. Up to 13 live young may be produced in each litter.</p>		<p><b><i>Litoria gilleni</i>, Centralian Tree Frog</b></p> <p>This frog only inhabits the MacDonnell Ranges in central Australia.</p>































\*Snake bites can be potentially fatal, in case of bite see the Nurse immediately or contact resort staff to assist. Please do not handle any snake.



# Common Bird Species at Kings Canyon

	<p><b><i>Aquila Audax</i></b> Wedge-tailed Eagle</p> <p>Pair for life and the pair claim a vast hunting territory for their exclusive use.</p>		<p><b><i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i></b> Mistletoebird</p> <p>The bird relies on the mistletoe plant for food (berries), but insects are eaten, especially when feeding young.</p>		<p><b><i>Psephotus varius</i></b> Mulga Parrot</p> <p>Their patchy colours blend well with those of the mulga shrubland and help to protect them from enemies.</p>
	<p><b><i>Colluricincla harmonica</i></b> Grey Shrike-thrush</p> <p>Commonly seen seeking insects from under the bark and leaf litter of shrubs that line creeks and rocky hill slopes.</p>		<p><b><i>Malurus Lamberti</i></b> Variegated/Turquoise Fairy-wren</p> <p>You'll need patience to see the colourful male bird since he is the shyest and usually flies into dense shrubbery at the first sign of danger.</p>		<p><b><i>Manorina flavigula</i></b> Yellow-throated Miner</p> <p>They are the guardians of the bush, quick to notice any intruders and their strident calling alerts all birds to the potential danger.</p>
	<p><b><i>Cacatua Roseicapilla</i></b> Australian Ringneck</p> <p>These noisy birds are often seen in the River Red gums along watercourses.</p>		<p><b><i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i></b> Willie Wagtail</p> <p>This is a busy bird that wags its body and tail constantly from side to side.</p>		<p><b><i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i></b> Budgerigar</p> <p>Numbers can increase greatly when seed is abundant, but they disperse as seed supplies dwindle; and successive dry years will kill many.</p>
	<p><b><i>Melanodryas cucullata picata/westralensis</i></b> Hooded Robin</p> <p>Hooded Robins may have 'helpers' at their nest: other members of the group that help feed the nestlings and fledglings.</p>		<p><b><i>Merops ornatus</i></b> Rainbow Bee-eater</p> <p>Each bee-eater usually arrives in Central Australia in August, after having wintered in the warmer north.</p>		<p><b><i>Falco berigora</i></b> Brown Falcon</p> <p>Probably arid Australia's most common bird of prey, brown falcons are usually seen perched on low branches watching for prey.</p>
	<p><b><i>Taeniopygia guttata</i></b> Zebra Finch</p> <p>Live in groups of up to 25 birds but may be seen in their thousands as they gather near water.</p>		<p><b><i>Geophaps plumifera</i></b> Spinifex Pigeon</p> <p>Unlike other pigeons, Spinifex pigeons live permanently in one area; where there is Spinifex grass, rocks and drinking water.</p>		<p><b><i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i></b> Crested Pigeon</p> <p>Usually found in lightly wooded grasslands, and since they must drink often they are never too far from a water supply.</p>
	<p><b><i>Oreoica gutturalis</i></b> Crested Bellbird</p> <p>The nests often have live, hairy caterpillars around the rim. It has been suggested that the adults gather them as a food storage for the sitting bird or as a defense for the nest.</p>		<p><b><i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i></b> Pied Butcherbird</p> <p>The sharp, hooked beak and fairly weak legs of the butcherbird are clues to how it got its name.</p>		<p><b><i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i></b> White-plumed Honeyeater</p> <p>They move noisily through trees seeking insects, and will angrily chase away other birds from its usual trees.</p>
	<p><b><i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i></b> Rufous Whistler</p> <p>Mainly eats insects, and sometimes seeds, fruit or leaves. It usually forages at higher levels than other whistlers, and rarely is seen on the ground.</p>		<p><b><i>Falco cenchroides</i></b> Nankeen Kestrel</p> <p>This is Australia's smallest falcon and is usually seen flying slowly or hovering in mid-air, as it searches for food in open grassy areas.</p>		<p><b><i>Cracticus tibicen</i></b> Australian Magpie</p> <p>Feeds mainly on small lizards, insects and other ground creatures.</p>
	<p><b><i>Artamus cinereus</i></b> Black-faced Woodsallow</p> <p>When settling for the night 20 or more birds huddle together, with the outside birds always trying to get to the middle.</p>		<p><b><i>Eulophus roseicapillas</i></b> Galah</p> <p>Galahs can breed with other members of the cockatoo family, including the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo.</p>		<p><b><i>Emblema pictum</i></b> Painted Finch</p> <p>Their colour makes them difficult to see against the rocks as they fly in to drink, it's usually their harsh call which is noticed first.</p>
	<p><b><i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i></b> Magpie-lark</p> <p>As it walks, its head moves back and forth in time with its feet giving it a very characteristic motion.</p>		<p><b><i>Corvus orru</i></b> Torresian Crow</p> <p>You can always tell which are the adult birds since they have white eyes while the younger, immature birds have brown eyes.</p>		<p><b><i>Falco hypoleucus</i></b> Grey Falcon</p> <p>Preys primarily on birds, especially parrots and pigeons. Like other falcons it utilises old nests of other birds of prey and ravens, usually high in a gum tree.</p>
	<p><b><i>Acanthiza chrysorhoa</i></b> Yellow-rumped Thornbill</p> <p>The Yellow-rumped Thornbill builds a large, double-storied nest with a 'false' nest on top.</p>		<p><b><i>Epthianura tricolor</i></b> Crimson Chat</p> <p>When a potential predator approaches the nest, one or both parents will fake an injury on the ground in a distraction to draw the predator away. It is also known as a 'rodent-run'</p>		



	<p><b><i>Abutilon leucopetalum</i>, Desert Lantern-bush</b></p> <p>This shrub is often flowering when only 30cm high. The branches are covered with a dense velvety down mixed with long spreading hairs.</p>		<p><b><i>Swainsona Formosa</i>, Sturt's Desert Pea</b></p> <p>First discovered by the explorer William Dampier, in 1688, when he visited islands off the coast of north-western Australia.</p>		<p><b><i>Triodia longiceps</i>, Buck Spinifex, Bull Spinifex</b></p> <p>As a clump grows outwards and the outer leaves take root. The centre dies, producing rings.</p>
	<p><b><i>Xerochrysum bracteatum</i>, Golden Everlasting, Yellow Paper-daisy</b></p> <p>Growth is mainly in Autumn-Spring periods although favourable conditions sometimes allow limited summer growth.</p>		<p><b><i>Acacia kempeana</i>, Witchetty Bush</b></p> <p>Named because in Australia, witchetty grubs often infest the trunk &amp; branches.</p>		<p><b><i>Macrozamia macdonnellii</i>, MacDonnell Ranges Cycad</b></p> <p>The crown may have 50 to 120 keeled leaves. The trunk grows to 3m tall and about 60cm to 80cm in diameter.</p>
	<p><b><i>Solanum quadriloculatum</i>, Wild Tomato Bush</b></p> <p>Bush tomato plants are small and their growth is encouraged by fire and disturbance.</p>		<p><b><i>Brachyscome ciliaris</i> Complex, Variable Daisy</b></p> <p>A small bushy perennial herb with a prominent flower, which occurs throughout most of temperate Australia.</p>		<p><b><i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>, River Red Gum</b></p> <p>A red river gum could reach ages of 500 to 1000 years.</p>
	<p><b><i>Amyema maidenii</i> subsp. <i>Maidenii</i>, Pale-leaf Mistletoe</b></p> <p>Clumps of Mistletoe form popular roosting places for small birds. Their dense foliage likely moderates in the low ambient humidity and extreme temperatures.</p>		<p><b><i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> subsp. <i>Seeberi</i>, Mulga Fern, Rock Fern</b></p> <p>Usually up to 25 cm tall and grows in shaded rocky gullies.</p>		<p><b><i>Pterocaulon sphacelatum</i>, Apple Bush, Bush Vicks</b></p> <p>Also known as the Fruit-Salad Plant it is an aromatic plant used in Aboriginal medicine.</p>
	<p><b><i>Eremophila freelingii</i>, Rock Fuchsia Bush</b></p> <p>Erect shrub, usually 1-2 m high, dull green and downy. Flowers are lilac, lavender or pale blue borne singly or in group of 2 to 3.</p>		<p><b><i>Aristida holathera</i>, Erect Kerosene Grass</b></p> <p>The leaves are long and flat but tend to curl or twist with age.</p>		<p><b><i>Solanum ellipticum</i>, Potato Bush, Potato Weed</b></p> <p>Its fruit have a pungent smell, and the plant can be smelled from some distance away when the fruit are ripe.</p>
	<p><b><i>Sida filiformi</i>, Fire Sida</b></p> <p>Erect or procumbent subshrub, often with long trailing stems to 80 cm long.</p>		<p><b><i>Eragrostis eriopoda</i>, Woollybutt Grass</b></p> <p>Seeds of Woollybutt Grass can be ground up and made into damper.</p>		<p><b><i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i>, Dead Finish, Kurara</b></p> <p>Can be used as a treatment for warts by inserting a number of phylloides. After four or five days the wart has shriveled and may be removed easily.</p>
	<p><b><i>Salsola tragus</i>, Buckbush, Rolypoly, Tumbleweed</b></p> <p>When mature, bushes break off at ground level and are subject to rolling away by the wind;</p>		<p><b><i>Eucalyptus coolabah</i>, Coolabah</b></p> <p>A wide-spreading tree (often more wide than tall) and reaches up to 15m in height.</p>		<p><b><i>Cheilanthes lasiophylla</i>, Woolly Cloak Fern</b></p> <p>The plant is very drought resistant, the leaves shrivelling in dry times and then expanding when it rains.</p>
	<p><b><i>Cucumis myriocarpus</i>, Paddy Melon</b></p> <p>The paddy melon is a prostrate or climbing annual herb native to southern Africa. The plant has been known to kill livestock.</p>		<p><b><i>Ptilotus obovatus</i>, Smoke Bush, Silver Bush, Silver Tails</b></p> <p>Flowers are pink tipped, covered by snow white hairs, can grow to 1m in height and diameter.</p>		<p><b><i>Enneapogon polyphyllus</i>, Woolly Oat-grass, Oat-grass, Leafy Nine-awn</b></p> <p>It can persist without rain, making it a carry-over species (providing food for livestock in drier months).</p>
	<p><b><i>Digitaria brownii</i>, Cotton Panic Grass</b></p> <p>It is easily recognised when in flower as the spikelets are densely covered in long, silky and silvery hairs on slightly weeping seed heads.</p>		<p><b><i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i>, Blue Periwinkle, Tropical Speedwell</b></p> <p>Long distance dispersal occurs via stem fragments and crowns dispersed as garden waste or by water.</p>		<p><b><i>Enchylaena tomentose</i>, Ruby Saltbush, Sturts Saltbush, Plum Puddings</b></p> <p>It grows as a small shrub, prostrate or erect, up to a metre high. Both leaves and stems are densely covered in woolly hairs.</p>
	<p><b><i>Acacia aneura</i>, Mulga</b></p> <p>Although generally small in size, Mulga is long-lived. A typical life span for a tree undisturbed by fire is in the order of 200 to 300 years.</p>		<p><b><i>Eriachne mucronata</i>, Mountain Wanderrle</b></p> <p>This species grows in tufts that can be up to 40 cm high and it is very drought tolerant.</p>		<p><b><i>Calotis latiuscula</i>, Leafy Burr-daisy, Yellow-flowered Burr-daisy</b></p> <p>Perennial, erect herb to 50 cm high, becoming woody at base</p>