

Walking Tracks of Watarrka National Park



Please read the following information carefully before starting your walk.

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

Kings Canyon Rim Walk *Clockwise track marked with blue arrows*



Distance: 6 km loop
Time: 3 - 4 hours
Grade 4: Moderate - Difficult

The Rim Walk begins with a strenuous, steep climb and is only recommended for reasonably fit and healthy walkers. The walk ascends to the top of the Canyon and follows the Canyon rim around before descending to the carpark. About half way along is the **Garden of Eden**, a beautiful area of cool waterholes and riverine vegetation.

Extreme care should be taken during the hotter months (Oct - April). During this time walkers should consider other shorter walks during the middle of the day. Along the track are stairs and boardwalks to make your walk safe and to protect sensitive vegetation and waterholes.

Kings Creek Walk

Marked with red arrows



Distance: 2.6 km return
Time: Approx. 1 hour
Grade 2: Easy

This walk is suitable for families and people seeking a less strenuous walk than the Rim Walk. It meanders along Kings Creek, ending at a viewing platform with stunning views of the sheer Canyon walls. Follow the same track to return to the carpark. Sturdy footwear is essential as the track can be rough underfoot.

South Wall Return Walk

Marked with green arrows



Distance: 4.8 km return
Time: Approx. 2 hours
Grade 3: Moderate

Begins with a demanding climb up to the south wall of Kings Canyon and offers stunning views of the park's geological features. The walk ends at a one-way gate from which you need to return to the car park via the same route. The Garden of Eden or the rest of the Rim Walk cannot be accessed from the South Wall Return Walk.

Kathleen Springs Walk

Sealed track without markers



Distance: 2.4 km return
Time: Approx 1.5 hours
Grade 1: Easy (Disabled Access)

This walk is suitable for families and visitors with limited mobility (wheelchair access available).

Signs along the track tell stories of Aboriginal Culture and the recent cattle industry. It leads to a spring-fed waterhole at the head of Kathleen Gorge. This is a cool moist place to sit and enjoy the area's tranquillity.

Giles Track

Marked with orange arrows



Distance: 22 km return
Time: 2 days
Grade 4: Moderate - Difficult

This 22 km (2 day) walk links Kings Canyon and Kathleen Springs.

An information sheet and map must be obtained from the Parks website or Resort Reception prior to commencing the walk. Careful planning and preparation is required.

Walkers planning extended and overnight walks should notify a reliable person of their intended route and walk plans. Carry a satellite phone or personal locator beacon.

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 - please take note of **Heat Management Strategy** information overleaf
- Consider your health and fitness when choosing a walk

Please Remember

- Stay on the marked tracks and follow the track markers
- Stay at least 2m from cliff edges
- All historic, cultural items and wildlife are protected
- Bins are not provided on the walking tracks, please carry your rubbish out with you
- Pets are permitted on a leash in the carpark only
- Throwing rocks into the Canyon is dangerous and illegal. Please report any rock-throwing or graffiti to a Park Ranger

Emergencies



If someone is in urgent need of medical attention, you can contact a Park Ranger using

the **Emergency Radio Call Devices (ECD)**. There are 3 call devices located along the Kings Canyon Rim Walk and one in the carpark's safety information shelter.

Basic first aid equipment and emergency water is available from the emergency first aid boxes at the top of the Canyon.

See map overleaf for details.

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.

The Park Ranger Station is situated 2.1km east of the Canyon turn-off, then a further 2km off the Luritja Road. *Please note*, this is strictly for emergency situations only.

Parks & Wildlife Commission

Watarrka Ranger Station
Ph: (08) 8956 7460

www.nt.gov.au/parks

Regional Office - Tom Hare Building
5th Stuart Highway ALICE SPRINGS NT 0870
PO Box 1120 ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871
Ph: (08) 8951 8250



HEAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

When the temperature is forecast to be 36°C or above*, visitors wishing to undertake the **Rim Walk** need to start their walk **before 9.00 am**.

On days when the temperature is forecast to be 36°C or above*, visitors wishing to undertake the **South Wall Return Walk** need to start their walk **before 11.00 am**.

Signs at the Park will be updated daily to indicate current access conditions.

There is **no drinking water** available once you leave the carparks.

* Based on Bureau of Meteorology forecasts for Watarrka.

