

EXPLORE

FEBRUARY
2010

Self-Guided Walks
Explore the city and surrounds



Tidbinbilla



Town and District
Parks



Canberra
Nature Park



Googong
Foreshores



Namadgi National
Park



Murrumbidgee
River Corridor

The Explore Program is growing with the addition of a Feature Walk. Each Feature Walk will profile one of our great self-guided walks, which allow you to explore different parts of Canberra's parks and natural heritage at your leisure.

Name of Activity: Kambah Pool to Pine Island. Enjoy a great relaxing walk beside the slow but steady Murrumbidgee River. Rest under the deep shade of a River Oak and soak up the calm of the river.

Length and approximate time: 7 km 3 hours **ONE WAY.** You may wish to leave a car at each end of the walk so you don't have to retrace your steps. Alternatively, you can walk as far as the Lookout or Red Rocks Gorge, then return to Kambah Pool.

Grade: Easy to moderate with some short steep rocky sections.

The Walk: The walk follows the Murrumbidgee River upstream to Pine Island. The track occasionally dips down to the water's edge but mostly stays up on the edge of the valley giving excellent views of the Bullen Range on the opposite bank and the river below.

Services: The closest toilets are at Kambah Pool and Pine Island.

What will I discover?

The walk takes you past native vegetation including River Oak *Allocasuarina cunninghamiana*, Burgan *Kunzea ericoides*, Native Blackthorn *Bursaria spinosa* (flowers in summer), native grasses and wattles including Silver Wattle *Acacia dealbata* and also through farmland. After less than 2 km, you pass a lookout. A little further on is Red Rocks Gorge where you may see birds of prey soaring overhead. The track then crosses Tuggeranong Creek which flows into the Murrumbidgee River and passes an historic stone wall which was built in the 1860s to mark the boundary between two early rural properties. There are some interpretive signs along the way as well as marker posts every 200 m to indicate your progress.

You may see cubed shaped animal droppings and large burrows dug into the soft banks. This is the work of the Common Wombat which is most active at night. Many birds including honeyeaters use the river as a flight path. You may also see ducks and herons on or near the water.

What do I need to take?

Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Take water, food and sun protection as there are some sections with no shade.

Other walks/activities links

This walk is part of the longer 27 km Murrumbidgee Discovery Track from Casuarina Sands to Point Hut Crossing. (However, the section of the Discovery Track that passes the Cotter is closed due to construction of the new Cotter dam wall.) Kambah Pool is suitable for swimming. For further information go to http://www.tams.act.gov.au/play/parks_forests_and_reserves/recreation_in_acts_parks_forests_and_bushlands/canberra_nature_park/canberra_nature_parks_maps.

For Further information on Canberra's native bird life go to <http://canberrabirds.org.au/>

How to get there

Kambah Pool Road in the southern suburb of Kambah.

Please remember

Dogs are prohibited on this walk. All native plants, animals and habitat are protected.

Kambah Pool



Red Rocks Gorge

Pine Island



Burgan



Historic drystone wall



River Oak



Lookout



Wombat burrow