

Walking Tracks

WATARRKA NATIONAL PARK



VOYAGES

KINGS CANYON

RESORT

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

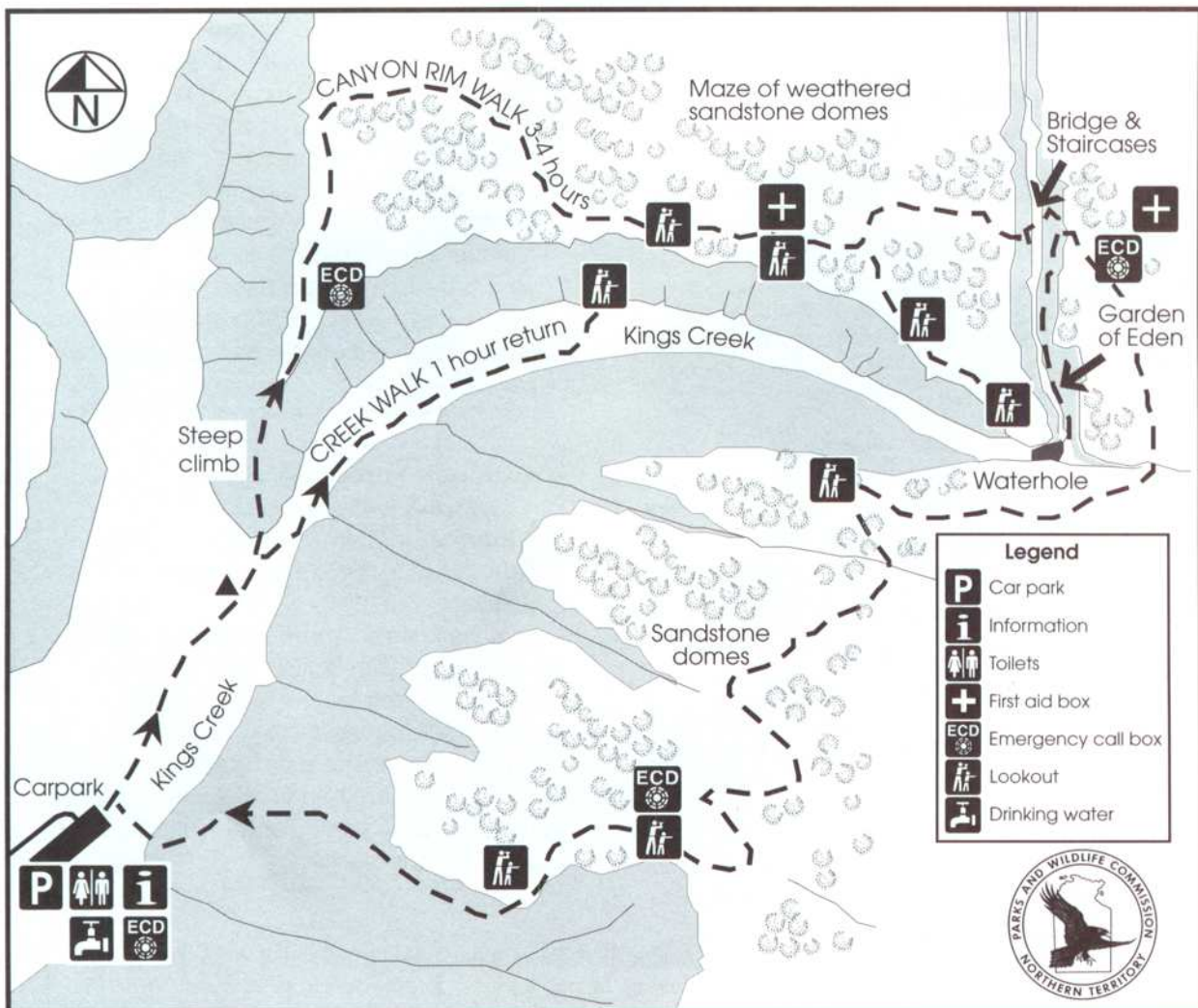
There are a variety of walking tracks in the National Park, offering visitors an opportunity to experience first hand the beauty and solitude of the Australian outback. Signs along the tracks highlight features of interest.

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.