



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



Lane Poole Reserve

Lane Poole Reserve park guide

Lane Poole Reserve is a key conservation area for part of the Murray River Valley in the Perth Hills. Covering nearly 55,000 hectares, it is the largest park in the northern jarrah forest, ranging from steeply forested valley slopes and rock-rimmed pools of the Murray River near the Darling Scarp to the more open, undulating jarrah and wandoo woodlands further east. The reserve is named after C.E. Lane-Poole, the state's first Conservator of Forests and a devoted conservationist.

The reserve protects about five hundred species of native plants which provide important habitat for threatened fauna species such as the quokka, noisy scrub-bird, woylie, chuditch and western ring-tailed possum. You may glimpse Baudin's and Carnaby's cockatoos feeding high up in the forest canopy.

Only 100 kilometres from Perth, the reserve is a popular destination offering a wide range of nature-based recreational activities and visitor facilities based around the Murray River. The Murray is the longest permanent river in the jarrah forest and one of the few major rivers in the Darling Plateau remaining undammed for water supply. During summer, the river provides a tranquil setting for swimming, canoeing and fishing. As water levels rise after winter rains, the river swells providing small rapids ideal for white water rafting.

Historical remnants of past timber harvesting can be seen along several railway track formations throughout the reserve and at Nanga Mill. Nanga Mill was the site of a timber mill and town destroyed in the Dwellingup fires of 1961, which is now a popular campground.

Camping

Lane Poole Reserve is very popular for camping with many different camping areas available. Camping fees apply at all sites.

Camping for smaller family groups or individuals is available in New Baden Powell, Charlies Flat, Tonys Bend, Yarragil, Chuditch and Stringers. These sites must be booked online at parkstay.dpaw.wa.gov.au two days or more in advance. Old Baden Powell, Nanga Mill and Nanga Townsite are suitable for larger groups and cannot be booked in advance—they operate on a first come, first served basis.

All campgrounds have pit toilets, picnic tables and bins. Fire pits are provided at most camp sites but firewood is not supplied. New Baden Powell and Chuditch campgrounds are campfire-free areas but have camp kitchens with gas barbecues.

Generators are only permitted from 8am to 9pm.

Dogs are allowed but must be kept on a leash at all times. Please clean up after your dog.

Universal access

Lane Poole Reserve provides wheelchair access to certain camping areas.

For more detailed information on access, please visit the Access WA website at www.accesswa.com.au.

How to get there

The reserve is approximately 100 kilometres south of Perth, just south of Dwellingup. Travel time from Perth is about two hours.

Best time to visit

Spring and autumn

What to do

- Bushwalking, cycling and other trails (see information below)
- Picnicking
- Wildlife observation – 32 species of mammal, 123 species of bird, 42 species of reptile, 16 species of amphibian and six species of native fish have been recorded within the reserve
- Photography
- Camping
- Swimming
- Canoeing/ kayaking

Walk trails

- Island Pool Walktrail starts from the top car park at Island Pool and is a one-hour loop walk through scenic jarrah forest with numerous grass trees.
- The King Jarrah Trail is 18 kilometres long, you will need to allow six hours to walk this picturesque circuit through the forest, from Nanga Mill.
- The Bibbulmun Track winds through Lane Poole Reserve offering numerous options for day walks. Bibbulmun Track maps are available at the DPaW Dwellingup office or the Dwellingup Visitor Centre.
- The Xanthorrhoea Trail is a shared-use trail for walking and cycling that connects Nanga Mill and Chuditch. Along the way, enjoy forest views and stands of *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, more commonly known as grass trees.

Four-wheel driving

See separate guides for details.

Horse riding

The Les Cousins Bridle Trail traverses part of the park.

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Cycle trails

There are many cycle trails within the reserve, ranging from short downhill tracks to long distance cross country tracks such as the Waterous Loop and Munda Biddi Trail.

Canoeing

See separate 'Canoeing the Murray' brochure for details.

On-site information

Rangers, entry station and trailside signs.

Fire restrictions

Open wood fires cannot be lit during the Prohibited Burning Period, normally from 15 December to 15 March. These dates may be extended. Campers will need to use a gas cooker during this time. A **Total Fire Ban** may also apply on any day because of dangerous fire conditions. During this time, gas cookers are not permitted and campers will need to cook their meals at the camp kitchens in Chuditch and New Baden Powell campgrounds. Fires are not permitted under any circumstances during a total fire ban.

Important note: The reserve may be closed at short notice due to fire risk or other emergency conditions.

Visitors safety

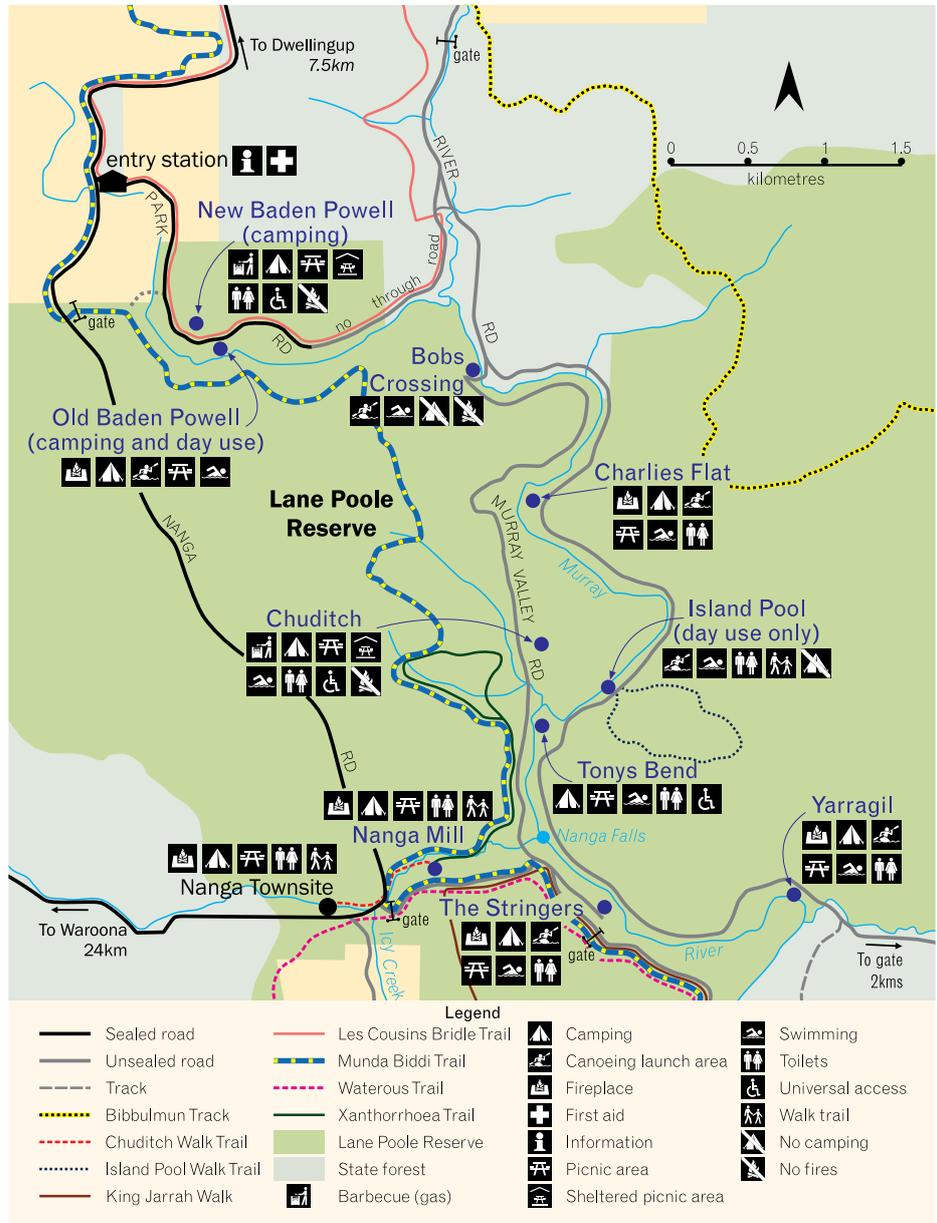
- Check the weather forecast.
- Stay on tracks and paths.
- Camp only in designated camp sites.
- Drive safely on all roads according to road conditions.
- Remember that your safety in natural areas is our concern but your responsibility.

Caring for the reserve

- Please do not feed the native animals, as it interferes with their natural ability to hunt.
- The taking of flora and fauna is prohibited.
- Use soap, shampoos and detergents well away from water courses.
- Take your rubbish with you when you leave.
- Campfires only permitted in designated fire pits.
- Bring your own firewood.

Emergency contacts

Police 131 444
Emergencies 000



Lane Poole Reserve

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This publication is available
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