

WELCOME TO THE



BANANA WELL GETAWAY

NATURE

WALK TRAIL



Try our New Bird Hides at Sites 8 & 9

Before starting out

Daytime temperatures in the Kimberley can be extreme, so be sure to take plenty of drinking water. Be sun safe and wear a hat, sun protection, suitable clothing and footwear and don't forget the insect repellent.

Please be aware that snakes and crocodiles inhabit tidal creeks and wetlands throughout the Kimberley. For your own safety and for the protection of this pristine tidal ecosystem, we ask that you stay on the designated trail.



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SITE 1

Shelter, seat and adjoining pond



Blue Waterlily (*Nymphaea violacea*)

A traditional bushfood - Tuber, stem, flowers and seeds are all edible. Corm (tuber) and seeds eaten raw or cooked in hot ash. Native to Kimberley region and northern parts of Queensland and the Northern Territory.



Red Dragonfly (*Diplacodes haematodes*)

Commonly known as the Red Percher Dragonfly. For the first people of the Dampier Peninsula, its appearance announced the arrival of Marrul season, the dry and cooler time.



Noomornagoodood (*Acaia neurocarpa*)

The strong, flexible stems of the Noomornagoodood were traditionally used for making fishing spears.



Water Chestnut (*Eleocharis dulcis*)

Also called BILGIN, the tubers (inset) are eaten raw and are popular in Asia.



Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*)

Native to the Americas, feral Muscovy ducks are found in New Zealand, Australia, and Europe.



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SITE 2

Clump of four trees



Beagle Bay
Mission

Garj Tree (*Timonius timon*)

The trunks of the Gari trees were used for making the ladder rails at the Beagle Bay Mission.



Weeping Ghost Gum (*Corymbia bella*)

Traditionally called Marroolal, the gum from the tree was used to treat toothache by mixing burnt bark ash with chewing tobacco. Bark was also used to make coolamons.



Mistletoe (*Amyema sanguinea*)

Growing high in the canopy of the weeping ghost gum and flowering from January to December, the flower is important to at least seven species of bird, moths and butterflies.

The plant establishment is reliable indicator of bushfire frequency.



Mistletoebird (*Dicaeum hirundinaceum*)

Also known as the mistletoe flowerpecker, the Mistletoebird and mistletoe plant have mutually co-evolved with a high dependence on each other. The bird almost exclusively eats the mistletoe berries, thereby spreading the seeds through its digestive system.



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SITE 3

Shady grove of trees



Saltwater Paperbark (*Melaleuca alsophila*)

Traditional name Loonyjoomard. Trunks were traditionally used for hut frames. The bark was used for torches for night fishing. Leaves were used as bush medicine to treat colds. The swollen trunks contain fresh, drinkable water.



Stingless Sugarbag Bees (*Tetragonula hockingsi*)

Nesting in the trunks of the saltwater paperbark, sugarbag bees are one of the smallest of the native stingless bees in Australia. Sugarbag honey from these native Australian bees is a popular form of bush tucker.



Crow Butterfly (*Euploea core*)

In the cool season, clusters of Crow butterflies gather amongst this shady grove, living off their fat reserves and local nectar plants until warmer weather returns and they disperse.



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SITE 4

Lone Jamai (Mangrove Tree)



Mangrove Tree (*Avicennia marina*)

Most adaptable of the mangrove species, found as far south as Bunbury. Commonly known as grey mangrove or white mangrove, is a species of mangrove tree classified in the plant family Acanthaceae.



Black Mangrove (*Lumnitzera racemosa*)

Also called the White Flowered Black Mangrove or Ooloor. The wood is strong and durable and has many uses, including bridge construction and for Galwa (traditional rafts). It grows in the higher part of the intertidal zone, on beaches and lining the banks of creeks.



Fiddler Crabs (family; Ocypodidae)

Look out for landcrab burrows, holes visible at low tide. The fiddler crab or calling crab can be easily identified by their sexually dimorphic claws; the males' major claw is much larger than the minor claw, while the females' claws are both the same size.



Mudskipper (*Boleophthalmus pectinirostris*)

The mudskipper is the world's only tree climbing fish. At low tide the mudskipper hunts for worms and small crabs. At high tide it lives in a burrow with a stored air bubble which allows it to breath.



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SITE 5

Shallow brackish pond



Black Mangrove (*Lumnitzera racemosa*)

The timber of *Lumnitzera racemosa* (Oorloor) is strong and durable and has many uses, including bridge construction.



Jamai Mangrove (*Avicennia Marina*)

pneumatophores

Jamai mangrove (to left in image above), commonly known as grey mangrove or white mangrove. It has aerial roots (pneumatophores) that grow to a height of about 20 centimetres. These allow the plant to absorb oxygen, which is deficient in its habitat.



Jamai Fruit (fruit of the *Avicennia Marina*)

Mangrove systems provide a sheltered habitat for a wide variety of native and aquatic animals. Teeming with life, they are both feeding grounds and nurseries for fish, molluscs, burrowing mud worms, various crustaceans, turtles, and the occasional saltwater crocodile.



Salt Flats

Large open, tidal salt flat with muddy crossing. Follow the arrows and cross at the slabs.



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SITE 6

Island on salt flat
with many Oolor



Mangrove Milkpod (*Vincetoxicum carnosum*)

A slender vine which only grows in saline habitats, typically clambering over saltwater paperbarks. The narrow pods split at maturity, releasing lots of seeds with each attached to a plume of hairs, so aiding their dispersal by wind.



Saltwater Couch (*Sporobolus virginicus*)

Known by numerous common names including seashore dropseed, marine couch, sand couch, salt couch grass, saltwater couch and coastal rat-tail. It is favoured by feral cattle for grazing.



Grey Lichen (*Ramalina celastri* lichen)

Grows on the bark of the Oorloor (Black Mangrove, *Lumnitzera racemosa*), sustained by the humid sea breeze.



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SITE 7

Open area behind Loonyjoomard
(Saltwater Paperbark)



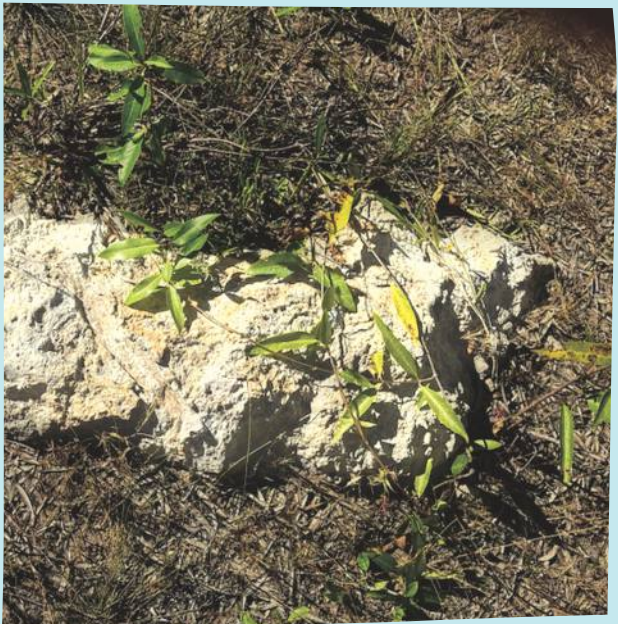
Gumbin (*Calandrinia strophiolata*)

Succulent, prostrate annual herb with bright pink to purple petalled flowers that bloom May to August. Gumbin have edible roots that can be eaten raw, boiled or warmed in hot ashes. Grows in sandy pindan soils from Port Hedland to Fitzroy Valley.



Native Globe Amaranth (*Gomphrena axillaris*)

A recently discovered new species of *Gomphrena* from central and northern Australia. The Genus is commonly known as globe amaranth and is an edible plant from the family Amaranthaceae. This species typically grows under the light shade of the saltwater paperbark thickets.



Limestone outcrops

Follow the limestone boulder outcrops to the west



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SITE 8

Steep gravel bank of
excavated pond

Bird hide #1
Try our New Bird Hide



Brown Honeyeater
(*Lichmera indistincta*)

Many birds frequent this space attracted by the diverse vegetation, insects and water. Watch for Rainbow Bee-Eaters swooping for insects and honeyeaters as they dive and drink.



Trail continues on the other side of the pond.
Use crossing planks at muddy patch.



Black Speargrass
(*Heteropogon contortus*)

The seed becomes twisted when dry and straightens when moistened, and is capable of drilling the seed into the soil. However, it has also been responsible for the elimination of the wool industry over much of Australia due to the seeds becoming embedded in the wool and skin of sheep and devaluing the wool and killing the animals.



Indian Mallow
(*Abutilon indicum*)

Native to tropical regions of Australia and PNG, its roots and leaves were used for curing fevers. It has been widely introduced outside of its native range, and is considered invasive on certain tropical islands.



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SITE 9

Large white boulder on the bank of excavated pond

Bird hide #2

Try our New Bird Hide



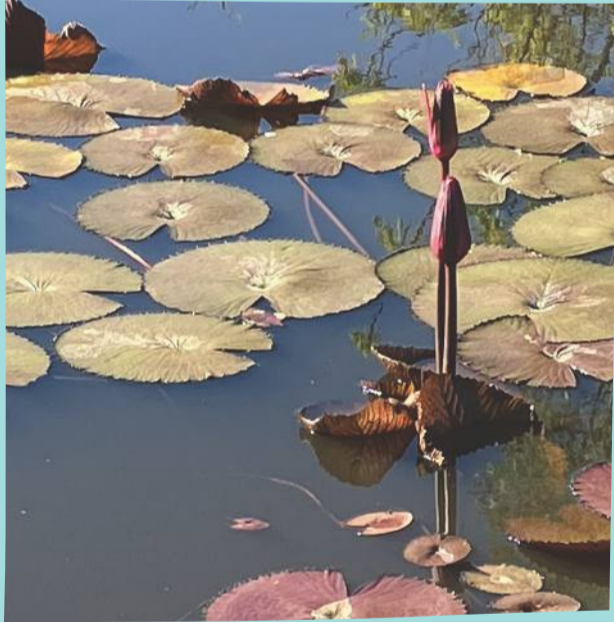
Sacred Kingfisher (*Todiramphus sanctus*)

Over a 3 day period, the Broome Bird Observatory recorded a total of 82 bird species at Banana Well Getaway.



Blue Waterlily (*Nymphaea violacea*)

Both native and exotic (introduced) waterlilies. Mauve leaf waterlily (below) is introduced.



Thicket of Neem saplings (*Azadirachta indica*)

An introduced species, Neem oil is extracted from the seeds. Controlling the spread of the plant is made all the more difficult as the seeds are distributed by Bowerbird which collect the seed to decorate their bower (nest).



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SITE 10

Clay flat with much
Stylosanthes hamata



Caribbean Stylo (*Stylosanthes hamata*)

Native to the islands of the Caribbean islands and Mexico it has been introduced by CSIRO as a forage crop to northern Australia.



Globe Amaranth (*Gomphrena flaccida*)

Spectacular, tall *Gomphrena flaccida* with bright pink flower heads are one of the iconic flowers of the Dampier Peninsula.

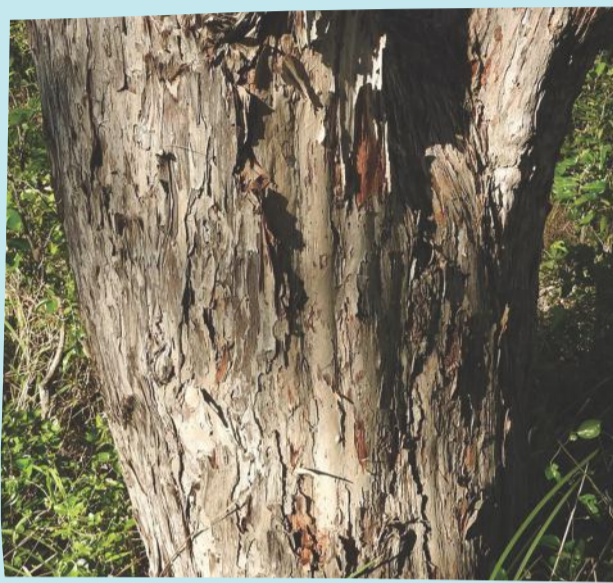


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SITE II

Lone Garnboorr tree
(*Melaleuca dealbata*)



Garnboorr Tree (*Melaleuca dealbata*)

Commonly known as Blue Paperbark, the tree is in the myrtle family. The bark of the tree was traditionally used for bedding, bandages, roofing huts and wrapping food for cooking. The timber was used for building pearling luggers during the late 1800's. The fragrant leaves were also used in cooking.



The flowers of the Garnboorr Tree are rich in nectar, making the ideal tree for honey production.



Darwin Pea (*Clitoria ternatea*)

Native to south east Asia, the seeds within the pods are edible when tender. The blue flowers are used as a natural food colouring in parts of Asia.



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SITE 12

Kabiny or Gubinge tree



Kabiny or Gubinge Tree (*Terminalia ferdinandiana*)

Also marketed as Kakadu Plum, the fruit of the Gubinge tree has become globally recognised as the world's highest natural source of Vitamin C. The superfood status has created a lucrative new industry for communities on the Dampier Peninsula, who sustainably harvest and process the fruit.



Irrooloo grassland *Chrysopogon pallidus* (n)

A native grass also known as Golden Beard grass. Native to north Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland.



Noomornagoodood *Acaia neurocarpa* (n)

Like most species of Acacia, Noomornagoodood has phyllodes rather than true leaves. Phyllodes are modified petioles or leaf stems, which are leaf-like in appearance and function. In some plants, these become flattened and widened, while the leaf itself becomes reduced or vanishes altogether.

You have reached
the end of the Trail



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