

Conditions of Entry for **after dark and overnight** Visitors to Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park

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DO NOT ENTER WALKABOUT PARK UNLESS YOU AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

Entry and activities are at your own risk. Make sure you understand all safety information.

You, children and others in your care are your responsibility and take part in activities at your own risk. Although Walkabout Park takes reasonable steps to ensure your safety, this cannot be guaranteed and no liability is accepted by Walkabout Park or Walkabout Park team members. Ask our staff to explain anything to you that you don't understand.

FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY WALKABOUT PARK STAFF

You must follow all instructions given by Walkabout Park staff. If you are in doubt about anything you are told to do, or told not to do, please ask to speak to the manager on duty who can clarify this for you.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Walkabout Park expects all staff and visitors to treat each other and the animals with consideration and respect. Anyone who does not do so may be required to leave, in which case there will be no refund.

If you are visiting with a group, the "Responsible Person" will be the ranger's primary point of contact, and is expected to assist the ranger in ensuring that everyone in your group complies with Walkabout Park's "Respectful Behaviour Policy".

FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS WHEN INTERACTING WITH THE ANIMALS

Walkabout Park's kangaroos and emus free-range and they are big strong animals. They are well behaved, but no animal is completely predictable. It is imperative that everyone in your group understands this and follows the directions we give you about how to interact with the animals you will meet.

Your ranger and other Walkabout Park team members will give you additional information as needed.

STAYING SAFE WITH KANGAROOS

Never touch a kangaroo's face, neck, shoulders or chest, even it seems to like it. This is an invitation to a boxing match! You can tickle a kangaroo low on its back above the tail.

Never stand in front of a kangaroo. It is hard for a kangaroo to walk backwards so it may scratch to push past you. Always stand to the side of a kangaroo.

Never hug a kangaroo. If you see a kangaroo trying to hug someone, call a ranger immediately.

Although friendly, our kangaroos are wild so their behaviour can't be predicted.

FEEDING PETTING ZOO ANIMALS

You may feed the animals in the petting zoo, but don't let any other animals get food from you.

DO NOT FEED KANGAROOS, WALLABIES OR EMUS

Do not feed any kangaroos or emus as this is dangerous for people and bad for the animals. Animals learn to be aggressive towards people when you feed them. Hand-fed animals can become dangerous, especially for children. Never feed a kangaroo, even a friendly one.

A kangaroo helping itself to food is not cute. It is dangerous! If a kangaroo is sniffing around near food, call a ranger! Because we don't let people feed them, our emus and kangaroos are friendly and inquisitive and might approach quite close to you. They are not aggressive if treated properly.

When people feed wild animals, the animals don't understand that they should only take food when it is offered to them. They learn to help themselves to people's food when they like, looking for food in bags and pockets, and taking food from people who are trying to enjoy their picnics.

Walkabout Park is not a zoo! Many zoos allow you to feed animals in an enclosure away from where visitors eat so, even if they do learn to take food, the animals can't leave the enclosure to bother people. Some zoos let the animals wander where people picnic, and their animals do become a nuisance. When a zoo animal gets naughty, it is put in a cage. We do not want to put our animals in cages. We prefer our wildlife living wild and free and happy in their natural bush home.

PEOPLE MUST EAT INSIDE FENCED PICNIC AREA OR ON VERANDA

Never eat at the unprotected tables. Never walk around with food. You can walk with drinks, but not food. Eating where animals are is not fair as it can be a temptation for the animals, especially kangaroos and emus.

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DO NOT PICK UP OR HARASS ANY ANIMAL

Do not pick up wild turtles, or any other animal. Do not poke turtles or any other animal with sticks or other implements. Do not chase animals. Do not throw stones, sand or anything else. Do not shout or make loud noises around any animal. Do not knock on enclosures to get an animal's attention. If an animal moves away from you, let it. Please respect that some animals may not want to spend time with you.

STAY ON THE TRACKS

Stay on the tracks at all times, unless you are with a ranger on a guided off-the-tracks walkabout adventure.

ONLY THROW BOOMERANGS IN WORKSHOPS

Visitors are not allowed to throw boomerangs (or anything else) except during boomerang throwing workshops run by a ranger.

When boomerangs are being thrown at the 'Boomerang Field', everyone on the Boomerang Field must be standing behind the instructing ranger and must follow the instructing ranger's instructions.

Boomerangs are potentially dangerous because it can be difficult to predict their direction. If you don't want to take this risk, stay away from the boomerang field while the boomerang workshop is underway.

SUPERVISE CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES

Children must be with a responsible adult at all times. Do not let children wander around on their own. When the adult is supervising the child, they must be actively engaged with ensuring that the child is following Walkabout Park rules to keep them, others and the animals safe.

DO NOT DAMAGE THE LANDSCAPE OR PROPERTY

Do not scratch or mark or write on the rocks or trees (or anything else). Do not break anything.

Do not remove anything from the park without permission from the manager on duty. This includes ANYTHING, even feathers or stones. Walkabout Park staff in the field do not have the authority to give you permission to take anything from the park. Please go to reception and ask to speak to the manager.

There are serious legal consequences for damaging or interfering with Aboriginal sites and places.

PENALTIES FOR DAMAGING ABORIGINAL SITES

Do not damage or interfere with any Aboriginal sites in any way. Aboriginal sites are protected by NSW State and Federal Law. If you damage a site, or allow someone else to do so, you will be prosecuted and the law provides for heavy fines and jail sentences.

DRESS CODE

Shoes must be worn at all times. Although you can wear sandals on the bush tracks, we recommend closed supportive shoes as the ground is quite uneven in places.

Bring spare socks in case you step in a frog pond. Kids have been known to get soaked from head to toe, so we do recommend a change of clothes.

Shorts and skirts are ok, but we recommend long pants for bush walking. These are the best protection against pointy tree branches and insects.

Yes, we do require that our visitors always wear a shirt.

SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

Smoking is only allowed in the smoking area pointed out to you by your ranger. Cigarette butts must be properly extinguished and, when you are quite sure that they are out, must be deposited in a bin. Never leave them on the ground. Our inquisitive animals will eat them, which would be disastrous for their health.

ALCOHOL IS NOT ALLOWED

Alcohol is not permitted (except for with dinner at some overnight/evening programs).

DO NOT BRING GLASS ONTO THE PREMISES

Do not bring drinking glasses to Walkabout Park. Any broken glass in the park would be devastating for the animals. We can lend you plastic glasses if you need these. If you do break glass in the park, please notify your ranger immediately and we will clean this up.

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USE A TORCH AFTER DARK

If you will be visiting us after dark, don't forget to bring torches and spare batteries.

You may not walk around in the dark without a torch.

Please be considerate with your torch and never shine it in a person's or animal's eyes.

Please make sure children practice with their torches to make sure they know how to not shine them in animals' or people's eyes!

Head-torches should be set to shine down on the ground for 2 meters in front of your feet, rather than forwards, so that they don't temporarily blind any person or animal in front of you.

IF YOUR BOOKING INCLUDES A CAMPFIRE

Please make sure everyone in your group, including children, understands that fire is potentially dangerous and they must follow all ranger instructions.

The adults in your group are responsible for ensuring that the children in your group remain safe.

CARE FOR COTTAGES AND TENTS AND EQUIPMENT

Do not let children stand or jump on mattresses or beds.

Never wear shoes in tents.

Do not take any sticks or sharp implements into tents as these can make holes or tear tents and mattresses.

We check your cottage or tent and any camping gear you may have hired before you arrive to make sure everything is clean and in good repair for your use.

If you notice any damage or have any problems at all with your gear, please report this to your ranger immediately.

DO NOT SMOKE IN TENTS AND COTTAGES

If you are staying overnight, never smoke in the tents or cottages, or outside near an open window or door.

A cleaning fee will be levied for any tent or cottage that smells like cigarette smoke.

ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS

Unless you have been advised otherwise (e.g. in the case of camps for groups of children), alcohol is permitted, but only with dinner.

Guests over the age of 18 are welcome to bring sufficient beer or wine to have a glass or two with your dinner, but please be considerate of others.

Walkabout Park reserves the right to limit or prohibit the use of alcohol at our own discretion, and to require any person to leave the park if they are considered to be affected by alcohol.

KEEP VALUABLES SAFE

Please do not leave valuables in your cottage or tent.

We have never had an issue with anything going missing at Walkabout Park. We believe this is because the kind of people who choose to visit a working wildlife sanctuary are respectful and considerate!

Nonetheless, we recommend caution.