

Mac & Rose Chalmers Conservation Reserve (Tower Rock)



Spectacular views of the Reserve await those who climb the boulders up to Tower Rock

A family legacy:

The Chalmers family are fifth generation Territorians. Charles and Cora Chalmers obtained a pastoral lease to run sheep in 1923 and named the property MacDonald Downs after their two sons Mac and Don. Mac later ran the property with his wife Rose who had a favourite picnic spot on the Station which she named Tower Rock. In 2011 Mac's son Charlie signed the first voluntary conservation covenant on pastoral land in the NT. The Reserve encompasses Tower Rock as well as the final resting place of Mac and Rose.

Conservation:

The 474 hectare Mac and Rose Chalmers Conservation Reserve supports a diverse range of plants and animals, including a number of threatened species. It is part of the Burt Plain Bioregion, known for some of Australia's most extensive mulga woodlands. The granite boulders are the most striking geological feature of the Reserve, providing refuge for the areas inhabitants.



Station owners, scientists and volunteer groups are working together to document the Reserve's biodiversity values



On the Binns Track looking towards Harts Range

Getting there:

The Reserve is a 312km drive (3.5 to 4 hours) north-east of Alice Springs via the Plenty Highway and a short detour off the Binns Track. The road is unsealed beyond Gemtree and may be impassable after rain. A high clearance 4WD is recommended. Visitors should check road conditions before departure (map and contact details overleaf).

Things to do:

Bush camping, nature observation and bushwalking can all be enjoyed within the Reserve. Sunrise and sunset provide spectacular opportunities for photography. A visit to nearby Mt Swan is a must, with a renowned art gallery displaying Utopian Art. They also provide B&B style accommodation for visitors who enjoy a little more luxury. The adventurous traveler can continue on to the many other attractions the Binns Track has to offer.



A pair of binoculars and a sturdy pair of shoes are a must for visitors planning to explore all the Reserve has to offer

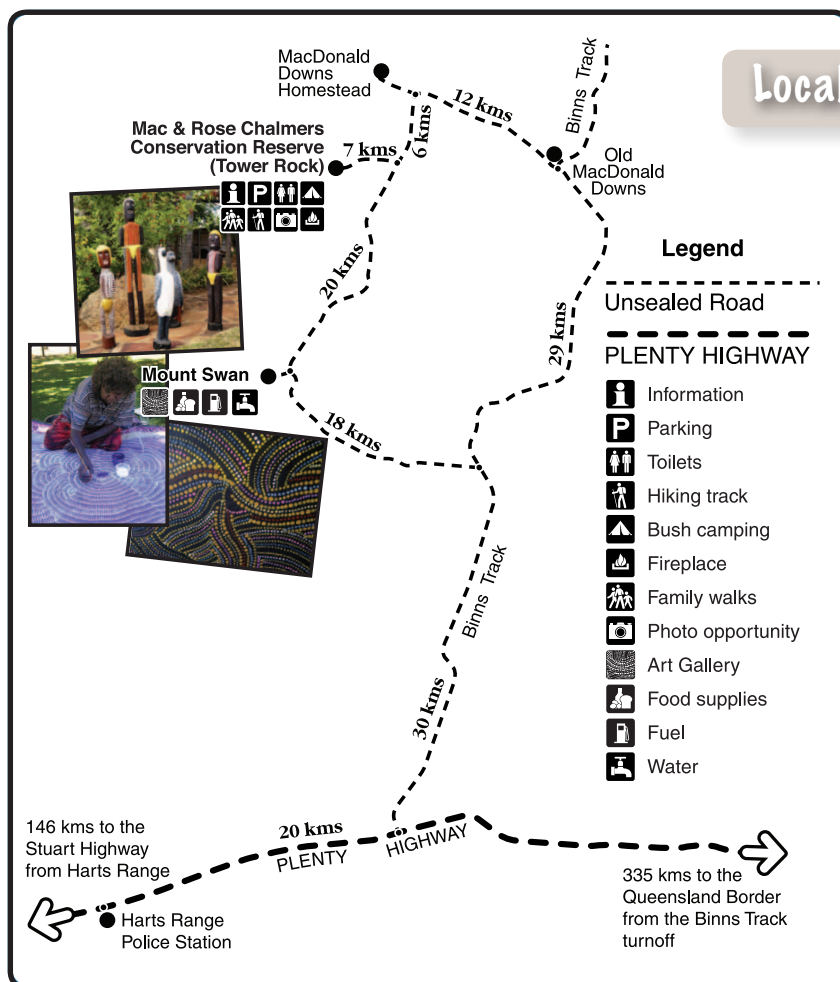


A high clearance 4WD is recommended. The usually dry roads may be impassable after rain

Be Prepared:

- **Please bring your own drinking water and firewood.** There is no drinking water provided and firewood collection is not permitted in the Reserve.
- Be sure to tell a reliable person of your travel plans including your intended time of return.
- Fuel is available at Gemtree, Harts Range and Mt Swan, but opening hours and availability vary.
- Please close the gates behind you. Pets are not permitted.

Mac & Rose Chalmers Conservation Reserve



Useful Contacts:

General Enquiries - Mt Swan

(08) 8956 9433

Road Conditions Hotline

1800 246 199

Harts Range Police Station

(08) 8956 9772 or in the case of an emergency phone 000

Gemtree Caravan Park

(08) 8956 9855

Tourism Central Australia

(08) 8952 5800

Binns Track Information

www.travelnt.com

Walking Tracks

