

Mungo National Park



Overview

Visit World Heritage Mungo National Park, home of the famous Mungo Lady and Mungo Man, and explore a place rich in Aboriginal history. Enjoy a walk or picnic, or camp near Lake Mungo.

Wander the sands of time in ancient Mungo National Park at the heart of NSW's Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area. This extraordinary place is of great significance to the Ngyiampaa, Mutthi Mutthi and Southern Paakantyi people.

Mungo Lady and Mungo Man, found resting just meters apart, were buried more than 42,000 years ago on Lake Mungo's shores. The planet's oldest ritual burials, Mungo Lady was cremated, Mungo Man adorned with ochre. They represent the early emergence of human spiritual beliefs and provide a glimpse into the care provided to kin through Australia's deep history. Along with 20,000-year-old fossil human footprints, they tell an incredible story of First Australians' long history, and led to the establishment of Mungo National Park.

[Take a guided tour](#) to the incredible Walls of China, where erosion has sculpted sand and clay into fragile yet imposing formations; or explore on wheels with a cycling or drive tour through the stunning landscape.

Local alerts

For the latest updates on fires, closures and other alerts in this area, see <https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/visit-a-park/parks/mungo-national-park/local-alerts>

Contact

📍 in the [Murray-Riverina](#) region

🕒 Mungo National Park is always open but may have to close at times due to poor weather or fire danger.

🎫 **Park entry fees:** \$8 per vehicle per day. Fees are payable at [Mungo Visitor Centre](#), or through self-registration envelopes. Different fees apply for commercial tour operators and vehicles with 8 seats or more.

Buy a pass (<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/visit-a-park/parks/mungo-national-park/visitor-info#Fees-and-passes>).

 Buronga office
03 5021 8900
Contact hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm.
4 Melaleuca Street, Buronga NSW 2739
Email: npws.lowerdarling@environment.nsw.gov.au

Visitor info

All the practical information you need to know about Mungo National Park.

Getting there and parking

From Broken Hill:

- Follow the signs to Menindee and then to Pooncarie
- Travel through Pooncarie and continue 20km south. There, you'll see Top Hut Road with a sign indicating Mungo National Park.
- Follow this road to its end and turn right at the T-junction

From Mildura:

- Cross the bridge to Buronga and follow the Silver City Highway towards Broken Hill
- As you leave Buronga you'll see Arumpo Road with a sign indicating Mungo National Park, follow this road to its end

From Balranald:

- Follow the signs to Ivanhoe (Ivanhoe Road) for 53km
- Turn left 3km after Box Creek Bridge (signposted) and follow this road until you reach the park

From Wentworth:

- Cross the bridge and turn left, following the signs to Pooncarie
- About 20km before Pooncarie you'll see Top Hut Road with a sign indicating Mungo National Park
- Follow this road to its end and turn right at the T-junction

Park entry points

- Mungo National Park access South
- Top Hut Road access

Parking

- Mungo Shearers' Quarters
- Mungo Visitor Centre
- Mungo Woolshed
- Round Tank picnic area
- Walls of China viewing platform

By bike

Check out the [Bicycle information for NSW website](#) for more information.

Facilities

Amenities

[Main campground](#)

[Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)



Toilets

- [Belah campground](#)
- [Grasslands Nature trail](#)
- [Main campground](#)
- [Mungo lookout](#)
- [Mungo self-guided drive tour](#)
- [Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)
- [Mungo Visitor Centre](#)
- [Walls of China viewing platform](#)



Picnic tables

- [Belah campground](#)
- [Grasslands Nature trail](#)
- [Main campground](#)
- [Mungo lookout](#)
- [Mungo self-guided drive tour](#)
- [Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)
- [Mungo Visitor Centre](#)
- [Rosewood picnic area](#)
- [Round Tank picnic area](#)
- [Vigars Well picnic area](#)
- [Walls of China viewing platform](#)



Barbecue facilities

- [Main campground](#)
- [Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)
- [Mungo Visitor Centre](#)



Drinking water

- [Foreshore walk](#)
- [Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)
- [Walls of China viewing platform](#)



Public phone

[Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)

[Mungo Visitor Centre](#)



Showers

[Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)

[Mungo Visitor Centre](#)



Electric power

- [Mungo Shearers' Quarters](#)

Maps and downloads



Mungo National Park factsheet



Outback and Rivers PDF map (7.2MB pdf)



Outback National Parks Drives PDF (2.3MB pdf)



Outback and Rivers Itineraries PDF (5.7MB pdf)

Fees and passes

Park entry fees: \$8 per vehicle per day. Fees are payable at [Mungo Visitor Centre](#), or through self-registration envelopes. Different fees apply for commercial tour operators and vehicles with 8 seats or more.

- All Parks Pass - For all parks in NSW (including Kosciuszko NP) \$190 (1 year) / \$335 (2 years)
- Multi Parks Pass - For all parks in NSW (except Kosciuszko) \$65 (1 year) / \$115 (2 years)
- Country Parks Pass - For all parks in Country NSW (except Kosciuszko) \$45 (1 year) / \$75 (2 years)
- Single Country Park Pass - For entry to a single park in country NSW (except Kosciuszko). \$22 (1 year) / \$40 (2 years)

Annual passes and entry fees (<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/passes-and-fees>).

Safety messages

However you discover NSW national parks and reserves, we want you to have a safe and enjoyable experience. Our park and reserve systems contrast greatly so you need to be aware of the risks and take responsibility for your own safety and the safety of those in your care.



Mobile safety

- There's no mobile phone reception in this park.
- In emergencies a ranger can be contacted on UHF channel 3



Outback safety

Safety is of high priority in outback areas. In summer, temperatures can reach up to 50°C in some places. Food, water and fuel supplies can be scarce. Before you head off, check for road closures and use our contacts to stay safe in the outback.

- No food or petrol/diesel is available at or near the park. The closest fuel is approximately 110km away at Buronga or Mildura.

Prohibited

Fruit fly

- Mungo lies in the fruit fly exclusion zone so you can **only** bring in food bought in Broken Hill, Menindee, Hillston, Griffith, Narrandera, Shepparton, Swan Hill, Mildura, Waikerie, Renmark or other places within those boundaries.



Pets

Pets and domestic animals (other than certified assistance animals) are not permitted. Find out which regional parks allow dog walking and see the pets in parks policy for more information.



Smoking

NSW national parks are no smoking areas.

Visitor centre

 [Mungo Visitor Centre](#)
4 Melaleuca Street, Buronga NSW 2739

 Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm.

 03 5021 8900

Nearby towns

Pooncarie (95 km)

[Mungo National Park](#), 88 km from Pooncarie, is part of the [Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area](#), where the remains of Mungo Woman and Mungo Man were discovered. Mungo's lunar landscape and Walls of China hills are among the most striking natural formations in NSW.

www.visitnsw.com

Mildura (116 km)

Mildura is set amid a diverse landscape on the Victorian side of the [Murray River](#). The region is renowned for its long tradition of producing and serving fine [food and wine](#) at iconic restaurants, farmers markets, gourmet eateries and cellar doors.

www.visitnsw.com

Balranald (155 km)

Conveniently located on Sturt Highway as it crosses Murrumbidgee River between Sydney and Adelaide, Balranald is the perfect pit stop on a road trip through outback NSW. This small country town, with its rich pioneering past, is a gateway to Yanga National Park and the World Heritage-listed Mungo National Park.

www.visitnsw.com

Learn more

Mungo National Park is a special place. Here are just some of the reasons why:

World Heritage wonders



Mungo National Park is part of the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area. The region abounds in ancient cultural and archaeological treasures, the scale of which is almost impossible to grasp without a visit. Findings include human skeletal material, tools, middens and animal bones, along with relatively undisturbed landforms spanning several thousand years.

 **Mungo self-guided drive tour** Mungo self-guided drive tour through Mungo National Park in World Heritage Willandra Lakes offers scenic desert views of Walls of China and cycling options in outback NSW.

 **Walk the Walls of China** Wander the sands of time with an Aboriginal Discovery ranger in Mungo National Park on this Stage 3 (Years 5-6) excursion focused on HSIE. See the ancient dry lake bed and walk the Walls of China with a representative of the Paakantji, Ngyiampaa or Mutthi Mutthi tribal groups whose connection with the land reaches back 40,000 years.

 **Zanci Homestead site** Lose yourself in Mungo's pastoral heritage. The Zanci Homestead site is a fascinating part of the Willandra Lakes region's heritage, and can be accessed by mountain bike.

Outback animals



With its thriving kangaroo and emu populations, Mungo's the perfect place for an up-close glimpse of Australia's coat of arms. You're sure to be amazed by the sight and sound of pink cockatoos in their hundreds, or the vision of harmonious bird species taking turns drinking from ground tanks. There's a good chance you'll see a mallee ring-neck parrot - look for its striking green/gold colouring.

 **Rosewood picnic area** Enjoy lunch and some birdwatching at this picnic spot. It's well-positioned near walking tracks, and is a great place to contemplate Mungo's scenery and Aboriginal history.

 **Round Tank picnic area** Round Tank picnic area offers a picnic spot on Mungo Self-guided Drive tour, with excellent birdwatching opportunities in outback NSW in Mungo National Park.

Incomparable history



Walk in the footsteps of the Ngyiampaa, Mutthi Mutthi and Southern Paakantyi Aboriginal people who have lived here for millennia. Come and share this ancient place and stand at the history-making sites where the world's oldest human cremation was unearthed and 20,000 year old human footprints and trackways have

been found. Join an Aboriginal ranger on a Discovery Tour and learn about Mungo's exceptional heritage and continuing importance.



Mungo self-guided drive tour Mungo self-guided drive tour through Mungo National Park in World Heritage Willandra Lakes offers scenic desert views of Walls of China and cycling options in outback NSW.



Mungo walk the Walls of China tour When you visit Mungo National Park, take a tour to the Walls of China guided by an NPWS Aboriginal ranger. It's one of the most spectacular outback landscapes in NSW.



Walk the Walls of China Wander the sands of time with an Aboriginal Discovery ranger in Mungo National Park on this Stage 3 (Years 5-6) excursion focused on HSIE. See the ancient dry lake bed and walk the Walls of China with a representative of the Paakantji, Ngyiampaa or Mutthi Mutthi tribal groups whose connection with the land reaches back 40,000 years.



Walk the Walls of China Wander the sands of time with an Aboriginal Discovery ranger on this Stage 2 (Years 3-4) excursion focusing on HSIE in Mungo National Park. See the ancient dry lake bed and walk the Walls of China with a representative of the Paakantji, Ngyiampaa or Mutthi Mutthi tribal groups whose connection with the land reaches back 40,000 years.

A landscape like no other



Gaze in awe at scenery moulded by the elements and discover how climatic changes since the last ice age have shaped the land's geography. The park's lunette is perhaps its most astonishing feature. Comprising four layers of sand and silt deposited over tens of thousands of years, this majestic sight almost defies description. Walk the ancient dry lakebed of Lake Mungo and photograph the spectacular etched dunes of the Walls of China. At night, sit back and be amazed at star-filled skies unlike anything you've seen before.



Mungo self-guided drive tour Mungo self-guided drive tour through Mungo National Park in World Heritage Willandra Lakes offers scenic desert views of Walls of China and cycling options in outback NSW.



Walls of China See Mungo National Park's iconic Walls of China on this cycling trail. A bike ride is a great way to experience the World Heritage Willandra Lakes region.



Walls of China viewing platform The iconic views from wheelchair-accessible Walls of China viewing platform are some of the best in World Heritage-listed Mungo National Park in Outback NSW.

Plants and animals you may see

Animals



Emu (*Dromaius novaehollandiae*)

The largest of Australian birds, the emu stands up to 2m high and is the second largest bird in the world, after the ostrich. Emus live in pairs or family groups. The male emu incubates and rears the young, which will stay with the adult emus for up to 2 years.



Wedge-tailed eagle (*Aquila audax*)

With a wingspan of up to 2.5m, the wedge-tailed eagle is Australia's largest bird of prey. These Australian animals are found in woodlands across NSW, and have the ability to soar to heights of over 2km. If you're bird watching, look out for the distinctive diamond-shaped tail of the eagle.



Red kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*)

The red kangaroo is one of the most iconic Australian animals and the largest marsupial in the world. Large males have reddish fur and can reach a height of 2m, while females are considerably smaller and have blue-grey fur. Red kangaroos are herbivores and mainly eat grass.

Plants



Saltbush (*Atriplex nummularia*)

A hardy Australian native plant, the saltbush is a small spreading shrub that can withstand dry salty soils such as those found in the desert plains of western NSW. It is grey-white in colour and has small spear-shaped succulent leaves. It flowers from December to April.

Environments in this park



Desert and arid shrubland environments



Woodland environments

Education resources (1)



What is a national park?, Stage 2 (Years 3-4), HSIE

School excursions (2)



Walk the Walls of China, Stage 3 (Years 5-6), HSIE



Walk the Walls of China, Stage 2 (Years 3-4), HSIE

What we're doing

Mungo National Park has management strategies in place to protect and conserve the values of this park. Visit the OEH website for [detailed park and fire management documents](#). Here is just some of the work we're doing to conserve these values:

Managing weeds, pest animals and other threats

Pests and weeds have a significant impact to ecosystems within Mungo National Park. Reduction of threats, such as foxes abatement, as well as ongoing risk assessments for new and emerging weeds, is an important part of the work NPWS does to protect the biodiversity values of this park.

Conservation program

Fox threat abatement plan

Since the fox was introduced to Australia in the 1870s, its impact on the environment has been negative. Foxes have contributed to the decline and extinction of a large range of native Australian animals.

Historic heritage in our parks and reserves

Raising public awareness of Mungo National Park's rich historic heritage is a key priority. NPWS supports the planning and delivery of Aboriginal cultural heritage programs, along with the dynamic visitor education projects and interpretive and educational events that are ongoing in this park.

Developing visitor facilities and experiences

The countless assets of Mungo National Park are to be experienced and enjoyed, as well as protected. NPWS is committed to delivering a range of public activities within Mungo to ensure its rich cultural heritage is maximised, understood, celebrated and shared. Events planning and implementation is ongoing in this park.

Conserving our Aboriginal culture

Mungo National Park monitors, supports and, where possible, rehabilitates plant and animal species within its borders. Efforts to minimise the impact of threats are ongoing within this park and include frequent monitoring and pest management. NPWS is committed to plant and animal conservation, and protects threatened, vulnerable and endangered species within all NSW national parks.

Conservation program

Mungo National Park joint management program

Protecting and preserving the Aboriginal culture and heritage of Mungo National Park, part of the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area, is a joint effort. NPWS collaborates with representative elders from three local Aboriginal tribes to help manage this special and ancient place.

Managing fire

NSW is one of the most bushfire prone areas in the world as a result of our climate, weather systems, vegetation and the rugged terrain. NPWS is committed to maintaining natural and cultural heritage values and minimising the likelihood and impact of bushfires via a strategic program of fire research, fire planning, hazard reduction, highly trained rapid response firefighting crews and community alerts.

Conservation program

Planning for fire

Bushfires are inevitable across fire-prone vegetation types within NSW national parks. NPWS prepares for wildfires by working with other fire agencies, reserve neighbours and the community to ensure protection of life, property and biodiversity. Every park has its own fire management strategy, devised in consultation with partner fire authorities and the community to plan and prioritise fire management.