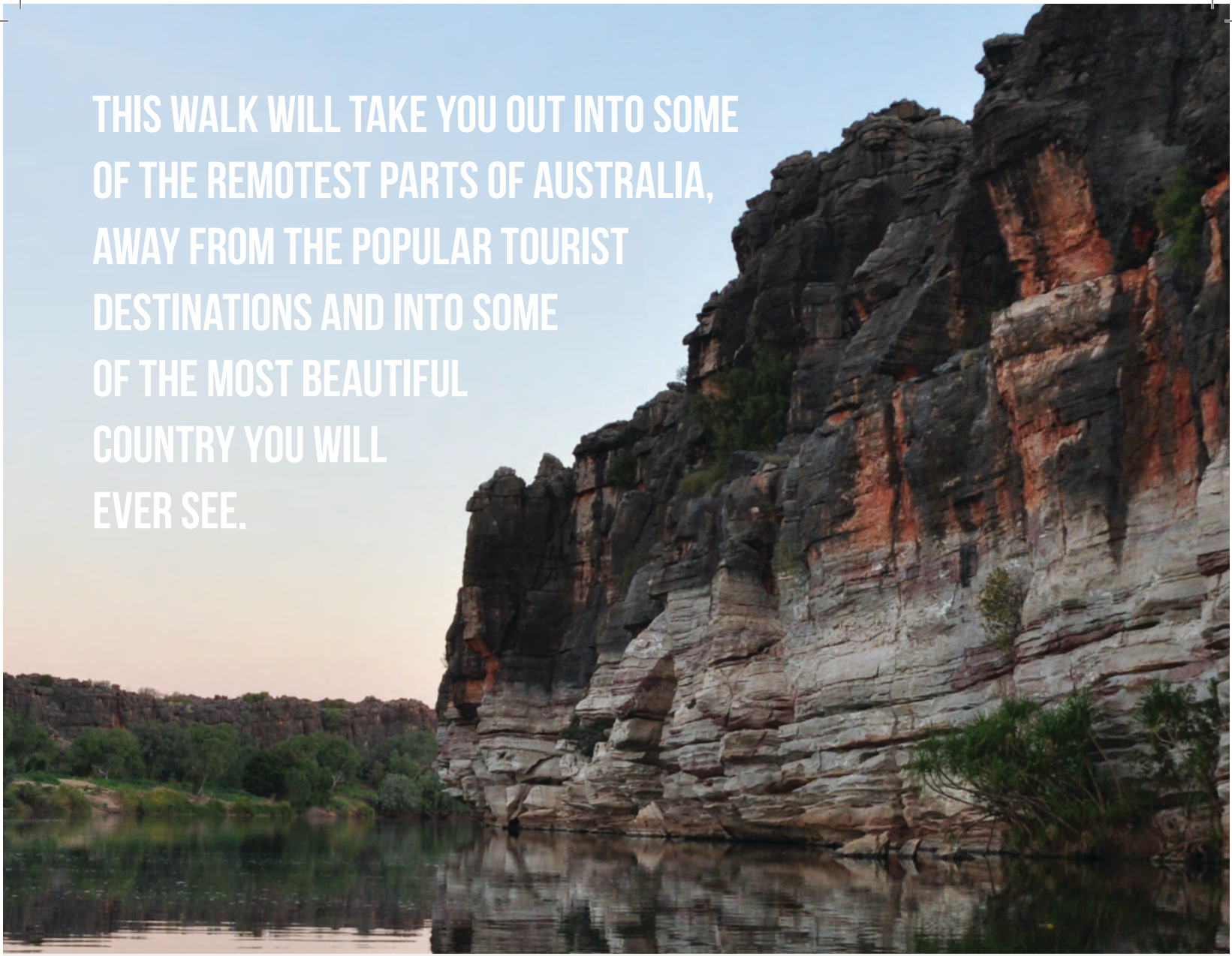




TWIN GORGES WALK KIMBERLEY

THIS WALK WILL TAKE YOU OUT INTO SOME OF THE REMOTEST PARTS OF AUSTRALIA, AWAY FROM THE POPULAR TOURIST DESTINATIONS AND INTO SOME OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY YOU WILL EVER SEE.



TWIN GORGES WALK KIMBERLEY - DAY PACK

This walk takes you into Brooking Gorge, Dangku (Geikie) Gorge and the upper reaches of the Fitzroy River near Fitzroy Crossing WA.

It will be guided and hosted by the Bunuba Rangers – a Ranger group established by the Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation whose aim is to nurture and protect their country whilst fostering sustainable development and meaningful employment for the local community. They will guide you through their country where you will walk through the spectacular terrain, see the native wildlife and plant, and experience the spirit of Kimberley at it's best. The Rangers will show you where to find bush tucker, hunt for food and tell us about their culture and heritage as they guide you through this remarkable country. True and lasting friendships will be made out here and help bridge the gap between white Australians and Australia's first people.



The walk described in this brochure caters for those who wish to walk shorter distances with day packs only. An alternate to this option is available to cater for those who would prefer a longer walk.



DAY
1&2

AN INTRODUCTION TO BUNUBA COUNTRY & BROOKING CREEK

Day 1 After we pick you up at the Broome Airport we drive directly to Fitzroy Crossing (400 km) on Great Northern Highway. We stop for lunch at the Willare roadhouse which is located near the first bridge crossing of the Fitzroy River. Upon arriving in Fitzroy Crossing we set up camp at “The Lodge” where we set up our tents and camp before having a meal at the Restaurant.

Day 2 Starts by exploring a number of places of interest in Fitzroy Crossing including the Art Gallery (Mangkaja Art), an indigenous social enterprise (Marnin Studio) and many of the historical buildings which will bring to life the history and heritage of Fitzroy Crossing and it’s people. This morning you will receive a traditional Bunuba welcome and introduction to country . This ceremony involves being walked through the smoke from a small fire burning a special ceremonial wood. This ceremony introduces you to the spirits of the country – to let them know you come as a friend so that they can look after you. In the afternoon we walk down the Fitzroy River from the Old Crossing to the New Bridge and back to our camp at the Lodge.



DAY
3

BROOKING GORGE AND HOMESTEAD CREEK

After an early breakfast we pack up camp and we drive to Dangku (Geike) Gorge. The Fitzroy River in flood has the largest flowrate of any river in Australia. This massive amount of water has carved it’s way through the Oscar Ranges to create this spectacular Gorge and in doing so has exposed a cross section through the 350 million year old Devonian Reef. We will explore the gorge by boat which is the best way to see the Gorge and it’s awesome jaffer coloured limestone walls, intricate caves and amazing Flora and Fauna.

After our boat tour we drive to the nearby Brooking Springs Station. As we travel through to this open savannah country we pass by cattle, turkeys nests (raised dams) and we see glimpses of station life. Soon we arrive at the stunning Brooking Creek and commence a 5km walk to the mouth of Brooking Gorge. The creek and gorge is fed from a permanent spring and offers permanent water, good swimming holes and shade provided by the magnificent paperbark trees, pandanus palms and ghost gums. The Gorge hosts an amazing variety of habitats ranging from a rain forest full of fruit bats and Fig trees to open dry spinifex country. We spend the night camping beside a crystal clear swimming hole and under the stars at the mouth of Brooking Gorge.





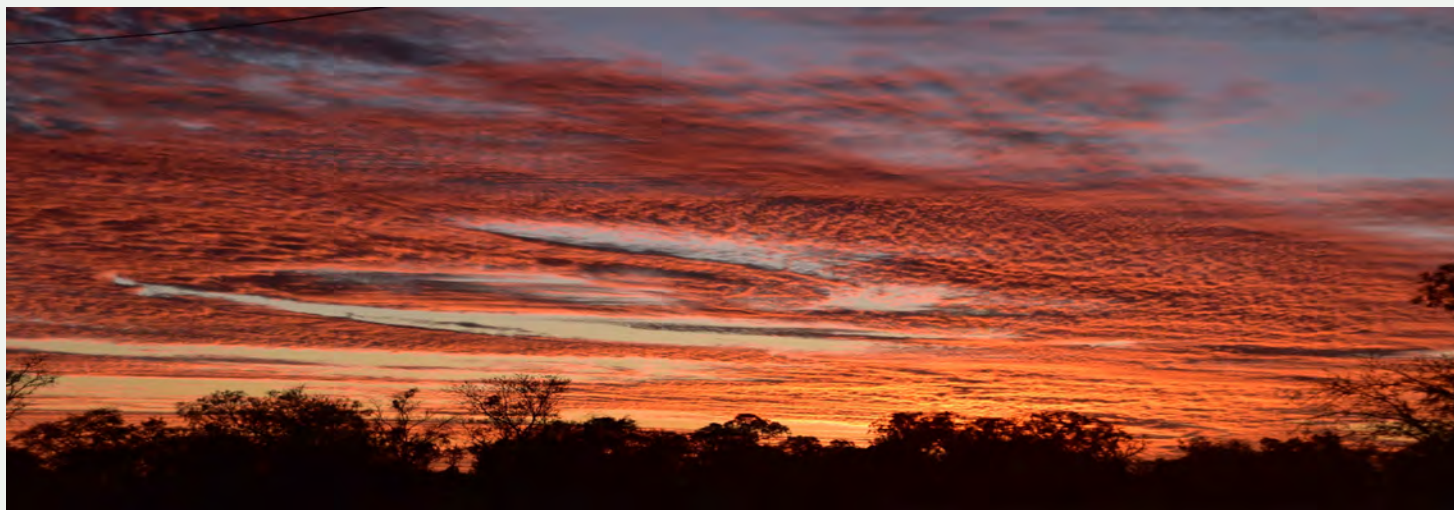
Fitzroy River



Brooking Creek



Brooking Gorge



**DAY
4**

BIRIDU TO THE FITZROY RIVER

This morning, after we pack up our camp at Brooking Gorge, we set off to explore Bunuba Country north of the Oscar Ranges. We travel by road for approximately 2 hours until the road takes us into a disused quarry site in the heart of the Oscar Ranges. These hills are the remnants of a 350 million year old coral (Devonian) reef system, the geology of which comes alive as we explore the quarry and an extensive cave system. Afterwards we enjoy a swim in the deep cool water of the unused quarry.

Our next stop is Jawi on Leopold Downs station which is where we will discover a pre-historic landscape that is otherwise unknown to most travellers. Jawi a very beautiful and culturally significant place set in an amphitheatre within the Brooking Gorge structure. It is one of the most culturally significant sites for the Bunuba people who believe that their ancestors came from here. Here we can swim up long water holes covered in flowering water lilies, past little water falls through thick patches of pandanus palms. The story of Jawi is told on the walls of one of the caves that boasts the most impressive and important rock art that we will see.

Later in the afternoon we drive to a small ecotourism camp at Birudu community. Here we will be welcomed by members of the local community who may join us for dinner. This camp is exclusively ours, undisturbed by other tourists, and is located beside a dry creek bed called Pigeon Creek. The creek is named after the famed resistance fighter called Jandamara. Sometimes called Pigeon, he was legendary for leading a mob of Bunuba people in their resistance to white settlement in the 1890's. Around the dancing campfire, we will learn about Pigeon and also hear Dreamtime stories, and tales of the drovers. We also learn about the sometimes disturbing history of the Bunuba people after the arrival of the early settlers. Early risers will be able to walk down Pigeon creek and watch the start of the day for flocks of Budgerigars, Finches, Herons and maybe even some Jabirus.

**DAY
5,6,7**

GEIKIE GORGE AND THE FITZROY RIVER

DAY 5 starts with a 2 hour drive to the junction of Pandanus Creek and The Fitzroy River. We will cross several sandy creek beds - this is where the off-road vehicles really prove their worth. We are in cattle country so we often see herds of cattle and sometimes will witness mustering activities from a distance. We may also catch Barramundi or local Black Bream. Our aboriginal guides love hunting Bush Turkey and Goanna which they may catch - this is their traditional food and they will take this delicacy home to share with their grateful family and friends. Before they do this, they will cook it and you may like to try some. The more energetic can join in short walks exploring the shadey banks of the Fitzroy River, or you can just relax and swim in the River. On the way back to our camp at Biridu there are some hills that we can climb - the reward for climbing them is a view magnificent view of the surrounding country and Fitzroy River flood plain.

DAY 6 We head off to Old Leopold Station homestead ruins. Here we explore the decaying stone buildings and infrastructure including a visit to the remains of the aboriginal camp built to house the station's aboriginal work force. You can easily imagine what life must have been like 80 years ago on a struggling cattle station. We have lunch beside a shady, spring feed creek and talk about our next stop - Tunnel Creek, and the Jandamarra story. By early afternoon we will arrive on the Windjana road where we turn north on our way to Derby. We will stop at the well known and loved Tunnel Creek and Windjana Gorge. These 2 famous places are back on the tourist track, but are "must visit" sites. We spend the night camped at Windjana gorge.

DAY 7 We walk through the towering Windjana Gorge following the Lennard River before returning to our cars and driving to Derby. Derby retains it's outback coastal town flavor and it's history is notorious including the infamous prison tree and old jail. Our hotel is close to the old jetty where we can enjoy sunset drinks on the old jetty.



Dangku (Geikie)Gorge



Brolgas at Windjana Gorge

TWIN GORGES WALK

KIMBERLEY

WHERE WE ARE GOING

Click to view in Google Maps to fly over the walk and zoom in for a closer look.

Note the aerial photos of the Fitzroy River appear to be taken shortly after the wet season when the water is turbid. In the dry season the water is clear.



DAY 1

- BROOME AIRPORT TO FITZROY CROSSING
- CAMP AT THE LODGE

DAY 2

- FITZROY CROSSING TOWN TOUR
- FITZROY RIVER WALK
- CAMP AT THE LODGE

DAY 3

- GEIKIE GORGE
- BROOKING GORGE CAMP

DAY 4

- OLD QUARRY
- JAWI
- BIRIDU ECO CAMP

DAY 5

- PANDANUS CREEK
- FITZROY RIVER
- BIRIDU ECO CAMP

DAY 6

- OLD LEOPOLD RUINS
- TUNNEL CREEK
- WINDJANA GORGE CAMP

DAY 7

- WINDJANA GORGE/LENNARD RIVER
- DERBY

DAY 8

- TRANSFER TO BROOME AIRPORT

WHAT TO BRING



Guests are requested to bring their own comfortable day pack, and sleeping bags if they have them – if not these will be provided. Basic tents and camping gear will be provided but if you have your own favourite light weight tent please bring it. All food, cooking gear, satellite phone, first aid, camping mats will be provided.

An alternate full pack (FP) version of this walk is also available. This walk will include full day hikes to locations that are not accessible by vehicles. Walkers will camp out overnight and carry all their camping gear in full size (15 kg) packs. This walk can be tailored to suit the walkers capability.

CONTACT US



Self organised group bookings are preferred with guest numbers of 8-10 per group. Individuals can be catered for if date flexibility is possible. Basic camping experience is preferred and a willingness to help out with daily activities around the camp to assist in the smooth running of the camp.



For Dates and Costs refer:

Webpage: www.kimberleycountry.com

Email: info@kimberleycountry.com

