



PADDLE 'N' PICNIC

AND GENERAL SUMMER SHALLOW WATER EXTRA INFORMATION

The Murray River is reliant on natural rainfall patterns and thus levels change throughout the year. Generally during summer, the full day tour Paddle 'n' Picnic tour is unsuitable. The ½ day tour however runs all year with the following information relevant to low water levels. Note: any water levels below .3 is unsuitable for the Paddle 'n' Picnic tour and we do not run the tour. General canoe hire is available. The following general information is relevant to the 6km section between Island Pool and Baden Powell Water Spout

Q. Will I have to get out of the canoe?

A. Yes. There are sections where the water is too low to support the canoe and paddlers weight. The only 'carry' section is the road crossing at Bobs Crossing. Here you are required to carry the canoe over the roadway to re-launch no matter what the water level.

Q. How long are the shallow sections?

A. There is about 150 meters of partly shallow water where the canoe has to be pulled along and over some exposed logs. Sections are various lengths from a couple of meters to probably the longest section about 25 meters. The canoeist skill also helps in picking the best route and weight in the canoe is a factor.

Q. I have small children how would they go with the shallow sections?

A. Be cautious of hiring a 3-person canoe and putting 2 small children in and only 1 adult in your party. Not a good ratio anyway. Ok if you have 2 adults in 2x3-person canoes with kids. Remember you have to carry the canoe over Bobs Crossing. If you have an adult and a child in a 2-person canoe often the child can be pulled through the shallow sections sitting in the canoe. Get a double paddle for the adult paddler if you have a small child in the front seat.

Q. Can we swim?

A. Yes. The river is very popular for swimming activities over the warmer periods. There are numerous sections on-route that are ideal for swimming depending on your party and if you want deep or shallow water.

Q. Is there shade?

A. The river is forested to the water's edge. You can paddle in the shade for much of the way. Some people will want the sun others shade depending on the day.

Q. What should I wear?

A. Plenty of sun protection and a hat. **Bare feet and thongs are unsuitable.** Please wear runners or firm soled secure sandals. Pulling the canoe along shallow rocky sections requires firm footwear.

Q. Can I check water levels myself?

A. Yes, go to <http://kumina.water.wa.gov.au/waterinformation/telem/stage.cfm> scroll down until you locate Baden Powell Water Spout. Go to 'Report of Stage Levels for The Last 6 Days'. Ignore the first 10 meters.