

PACK 'N' PADDLE

CUSTOMER DETAILED INFORMATION

This is a self-guided/supported tour. No guides accompany you. We assist you in delivery of canoes and equipment and collection of persons and equipment at the finish and return to Dwellingup.

Booking is essential although as normal canoe hire no deposit or bond is required.

Day 1

The Preparation

Please arrive at Dwellingup Adventure Tour Desk situated at Waypoints Cafe in the Dwellingup Trails and Visitor Centre at a time of your choosing. Customer toilet facilities are available at the centre as are hot showers, laundromat, and locker storage.

Normally we will get a time from you to help us with other commitments we may have on the day, about 10am is generally a good time. If you are an experienced hiker then later may suit you.

When you arrive at Dwellingup we complete the paperwork for the canoe hire and you pay. We fit you for your safety equipment that we bring out the next day. You leave us your clothing/equipment/food that you wish delivered to Island Pool on day 2 for your swap to canoe mode. You may have your own dry containers, or you may hire a 20-litre dry barrel along with other equipment (see below).

Food can be ordered and paid for from our own Waypoints Café. A receipt detailing the goods will be attached to your hire form. We will bring them out to you with the canoe, safety wear, paddles and any other items you require.

Please inform us if you require any items placed in our fridge. Water bottles and containers must be marked with a name.

Vehicle Security

Dwellingup does not have a high crime rate but you park your vehicle at your own risk. Dwellingup Adventures accepts no responsibility for vehicles. We have no room for vehicle storage in our equipment yard.

The Walk

The walk to Swamp Oak hut via the Bibbulmun Track is about 13.1 kms. How long you take depends upon your level of fitness and experience. With a backpack allow 5-6 hours for a leisurely walk with plenty of breaks. Experienced hikers will do it faster.

We do not supply maps and it is strongly recommended that you pre-purchase the excellent Bibbulmun Track Map 2 North Banister to Harvey-Quindanning Road. The track is marked but walkers have been lost before.

The track departs Dwellingup heading south next to the Dwellingup Primary School.

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The track features a gentle walk-through re-growth jarrah forest and a road crossing at River Road. A small sheoak enclave is encountered then the track crosses Nanga Road. The track winds around through jarrah, grass tree and marri forests before emerging out onto a high section above the first of the pine plantation blocks. A very uninteresting plod through the pine forest takes you across River Road for the second time before ascending a second pine plantation. The rest at the top offers a view of the Murray River Valley before the track rejoins the forest for essentially its ridge walk to Swamp Oak Hut.

The Swamp Oak Hut

Swamp Oak Hut is part of the chain of 32 huts that span the length of the 963-kilometer Bibbulmun Track. The hut is a 3-sided shelter with wide tiered platforms used as bunks. The hut has a water tank, pit toilets, picnic table, tent sites and fire pit. The proximity to Dwellingup makes it a popular walk and it is a good idea to take a tent if you prefer a bit more privacy. Take a stove for cooking. While a fire pit is provided, the area is being denuded of ground wood. Insects and little animals need a place to sleep too!

Walk Safety

Footprints of mobile reception are available in the reserve usually at elevated positions. Reception however will depend on your phone type and provider.

Any emergency egress can be made to a number of roads and hence the importance of having a map. Generally, roads in the reserve receive steady but light traffic. Far less vehicles use the roads during the week.

Dwellingup Adventures is not a medical emergency response agency, and all emergency calls should be made to 000.

We provide an optional walker's detail form that is available to emergency response agencies should you not turn up at Island Pool on day 2.

Please ensure you fill out the walker's log entry at Swamp Oak Hut so your movements can be ascertained.

Day 2

Canoe Delivery

Dwellingup Adventures staff will meet you at Island Pool at 10am on day 2. The walk from Swamp Oak Hut to Island Pool is about 1.8km. We will bring out any items you have requested us to bring along with your safety wear, canoe/s and paddles. We take back to our office/yard all that you do not want to take canoeing.

We Supply

One, two or three-person canoes are available. We provide paddles, buoyancy vests, water sports helmets for high water conditions.

Canoeing Guide number 6 Yarragil to Nanga Bridge are supplied by Dwellingup Adventures at no cost. The map is laminated for water protection.

The Murray River and Baden Powell Water Spout

The canoe leg is 6 kms and concludes at Baden Powell Waterspout. Baden Powell Waterspout is a severe drop that forms a grade 4 rapid in high water and exposed rocky formations in low water. The area is clearly sign posted and to go past it you would need to take the canoe out of the water carry it 300 metres around the water fall past the car park and the sign that indicates Baden Powell. We meet you there at 2pm and return your party and all equipment back to Dwellingup. The canoe leg is suitable for novices and beginners and at low water some portage or a least getting out at the shallow spots is required.

If you go past Baden Powell Waterspout Nanga Bridge is a high single lane wooden traffic bridge with warnings about dangerous rapids ahead. **DO NOT PROCEED PAST THIS POINT**

River Levels

The Murray River is reliant on natural rainfall patterns. Dwellingup Adventures will advise you if the water levels are unsuitable. We have a safety cut off point for high water.

Typically, from December to April the river gets very low. While the river is essentially a series of long deep pools there are shallow sections with exposed logs that require you do pull the canoe over or through. The section from Island Pool to Baden Powell Waterspout tour still has a number of shallow sections that require pulling the canoe through but generally is available during the summer months.

Canoe Safety

The section from Yarragil to Baden Powell or Island Pool to Baden Powell is generally suitable for novices and beginners. Two roads run parallel to the river, River Road on river right (looking downstream) and Murray Valley Road, river left (looking downstream). River Road will lead you back to your vehicle should you need to walk out.

If you are not at Baden Powell Waterspout at the designated pick-up time Dwellingup Adventures staff will travel along River Road to check your location.

If you require an emergency phone there are two land lines in the park.

Entry Ranger Station: if occupied rangers have a phone.

Nanga Bush Camp: a phone box close to the manager's residence is available for emergency and local calls only at no cost. Both locations are on your map.

Dwellingup Adventures is not a medical emergency response agency and all emergency calls should be made to 000.

As best note or describe your location. Emergency services will typically try to get to you. If you can please secure all gear and canoes up from the river and note location.

Dwellingup Adventures may be able to assist emergency staff so call 95381127.

For a non-medical emergency call Dwellingup Adventures for assistance. If you have to leave the river, please secure all gear and canoes up from the river and note location.

Group Bookings

Group bookings of 4 or more canoes as a single booking will receive a 10% discount. Full non-refundable payment for group bookings with the discount must be received prior to 48 hours from the date and time of

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the tour start. Canoes however can still be booked and will be held without deposit or full payment prior to the 48-hour window. If no payment is received canoes may not be held. Groups still wishing to proceed after the 48-hour window has expired will be subject to canoe availability but will not receive a 10% discount.

Any tour cancellations initiated by Dwellingup Adventures that have been fully paid will be fully refunded.

Waypoints Picnic Package.

Ask about our optional Picnic Package from \$15.00 per person. Include fresh wrap or sandwich, cookie or raw slice and a freshly squeezed juice. Ask about multi meal packages.

Hire Equipment

Dwellingup Adventures has a limited range of light weight camping equipment.

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| • 2 person tents | \$28.00 per night |
| • Trangia Stove methylated spirits 2 person | \$15.00 per day |
| • Day packs, 33 litres | \$12.00 per day |
| • Self-inflating sleeping mats | \$10.00 per day |
| • Black diamond walking poles (adjust, pair) | \$8.00 per day. |
| • Dry barrels (20 litre) | \$3.00 per day. |