

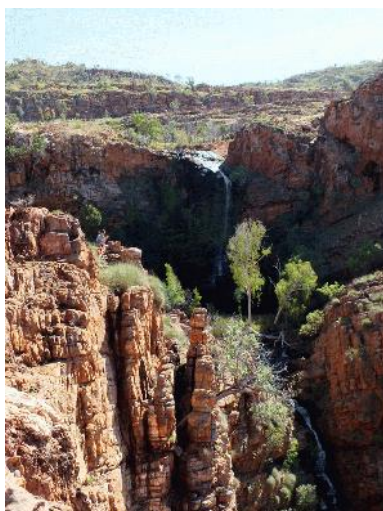
# Carr Boyd Family Special Charter: July 1-5, 2017

This trip was created at the request of a family of four who have little time. It's the shortest and easiest taste of this wonderful area that we can give you.

Located south of Kununurra, between Lake Argyle in the east and the Dunham River in the west, the peaks and cliffs of the Carr Boyds will be familiar to anyone who has visited the region. From the roads they present a forbidding face, dry and barren, rugged beyond belief. Up close, they can show a different nature. Even after the driest of seasons, spring fed creeks trickle through deep, cool gorges and lovely pools bounded by a lush vegetation which stands in stark contrast to the dry plains outside the range.



We begin with a helicopter flight to a drop off on the creek we call 'Many Falls'. Here we will set up a base camp while we spend the rest of the day exploring downstream. If time and the inclination is there, we may explore upstream as well.



Waterfall view, much easier without packs. Look closely and you can see someone, centre left.

creeks can vary dramatically from year to year so this is a decision we can't make until we are actually there.

The route between the two main creek systems takes us over two low ridges. Although we could camp along the way, we normally go straight through in a day so we can have more time to enjoy what lies beyond. Some of the walking is as easy as anything you'll encounter on any of our trips.

There are several possible side walks we can do without packs. Which ones we choose will depend on how fast we are travelling and on how much water there is. Water levels on some of the smaller



Enjoying a view, midway between the two main creeks.



Coming down a rocky section of Packsaddle Creek.



Enjoying a swim just below the rock ledges in the photo at left.

Our final campsite may be above the last set of waterfalls at the pool there or it may be at another pool below. In either case, we will almost certainly have it to ourselves in spite of being less than 20 km in a straight line from the centre of town.

On the final morning, we follow the creek down to a road where we are met by the vehicle which brings us back to Kununurra.

## Terrain and difficulty

<b>Overall</b>	Level 3.
<b>Climate</b>	Level 3. Usually very dry, average daytime max 30°C, average nighttime minimum is 14°C but can get down below 5°C. Rain is very unlikely, but it is possible. If you wish to keep your pack as light as possible, leave your tent fly at home. If you wish to be absolutely certain that you won't get wet, bring it. A lightweight plastic painter's drop sheet makes a good insurance policy that will keep you dry if we get rain.
<b>Terrain</b>	Level 3. Much of the walking is through relatively flat, open woodland with a grassy understorey. Some short sections of grass may hide a broken rocky surface where you will have to be particularly careful. There are few steep climbs, none of which is over 200 m. None are technically difficult. None require ropes or other special equipment. There will be some places where you have to step from stone to stone as you walk along the edge of a creek.

Almost none of the walking is on a marked trail. If you have never done any off-track walking through moderately rough terrain, nothing we can say can adequately describe the experience. The photos on our website, [www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au), can give you a partial picture, but they cannot substitute for the real thing. Most of those who have not had any off-track walking experience find it more difficult than those who have done it before.

Anyone who does not regularly (average twice a month) go bushwalking carrying a full pack would benefit from doing some pre-trip training. Do this and you will almost certainly enjoy the trip. If you are not an experienced off-track bushwalker and you don't do any training or any other form of strenuous physical exercise, you might feel that the trip is more of an endurance test than the pleasure most people experience.

**Vegetation**

Level 3. This can vary dramatically from year to year. There are usually some sections of thick grass and/or spinifex which make for slow going. Gaiters essential, long trousers recommended.

**Hours**

You normally walk 4-6 hours per day.

**Packs**

**Pack weight:** level 3.

**Art:**

Very little. Some groups don't see any.

**Campsites**

Can be dry river bed, rock ledges, sandy patches or grassy open areas. Some sites have a mix.

**Swims**

Excellent. There are a many good pools and most camp sites will be next to a swimmable pool.

**Lowlights**

Thick grass (most years).

**Highlights**

Helicopter ride. Great views from the top. Waterfalls, pools and gorges.

**Wildlife**

There are birds on the walk but you are unlikely to see many large animals.

**Fishing**

Possible only at the very end of the trip. Sooty grunter and catfish are the most likely fish to be caught.

**Maps**

1:50 000 Deception Range or 1:100 000 Kununurra.

**Notes**

Day packs may be useful.

Bringing fresh fruit, vegetables or honey into WA is illegal whether you come by road or plane. (You cannot even bring in boxes or other containers that once contained fruit or vegetables.) Bags are checked both on the highway and at the airport. There will be time to do some shopping in Kununurra.

**Special note.** Those who wish to do so will be able to spend an extra 20 minutes in the helicopter doing a scenic flight. As the cost of getting to the start of the walk is already included in the price, the additional cost of about \$100 per person is as cheap as you can get.

**Itinerary: Carr Boyd**

**Note 1** Day 0 is the day before departure.

**Note 2** This itinerary is subject to change.

**Day 0** Pre-trip meeting for everyone doing the Bungles section, 6.00p.m., outdoor area, **Kimberley Croc Lodge. This meeting is important.** If you cannot make the meeting, please advise us well in advance.

**Day 1** Morning pick up for those beginning with this section. Pick up is from your accommodation if you have notified us where you will be staying at least a week before section one departs. Otherwise pick up is from in front of the Kununurra Visitors Centre sometime between 6 and 8 a.m. Helicopter to the start of the walk. Set up camp near drop off. Exploring the creek and waterfalls with day packs for the rest of the day.

**Day 2-4** Bush camping. Carrying full packs at least part of every day.

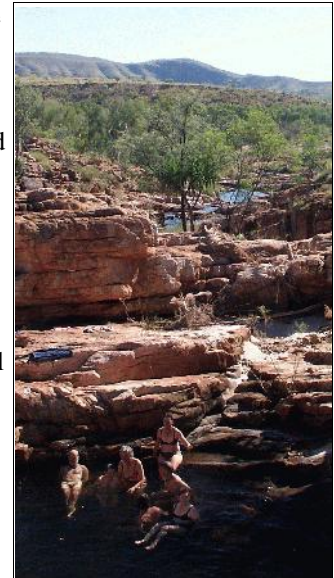
**Day 5** Finish walk. Drive back to Kununurra. Drop off at accommodation.

**Important** **Air North**, the main airline currently operating into Kununurra uses some relatively small aircraft

**Note** with an official baggage allowance of only 13 kg on a few flights. See the Getting Here page on our website or contact Air North for more details. Phone: 1800 627474 or (08) 8920 4001; email:

[reservations@airnorth.com.au](mailto:reservations@airnorth.com.au)

If you are coming from Perth, it's worth checking Virgin Australia as well.



Swim stop above one of the many Carr Boyd waterfalls.

