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**WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS**  
ABN: 71 498 328 841  
Phone: (08) 8985-2134  
Fax: (08) 8985-2355



12 Carrington Street  
Millner NT 0810  
Email: rrwillis@internode.on.net  
www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

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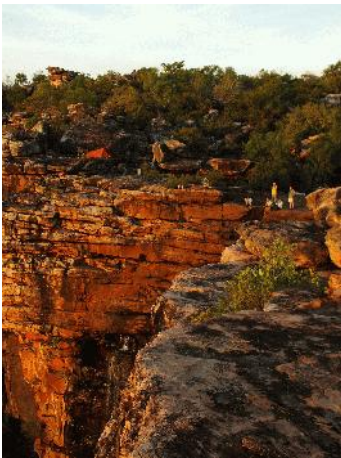
## King George Area, Faraway Bay airstrip to Twin Falls: June 13-20, 2015

We fly to the Faraway Bay airstrip, don our packs and head toward an area with a number of interesting Aboriginal art sites and middens as well as some wonderful sea views. We spend the afternoon exploring without packs.



Sea view near first camp.

The following day, we move a short distance to a small waterfall which plunges into the sea below. (If water is a problem, we'll have to head here on the first day.) Again there are a number of interesting art sites and a good walk without packs in the afternoon. Sitting at the top of the cliffs looking down the bay at sunset is truly magnificent.



Sunset, Monitor Falls, camp 2

We spend the next two or three days working our way to a major north-south creek. The terrain is a mix of flat and easy plus some very broken rocky country. We have never managed to take the same route twice. Back in the early 1990s before we had a GPS, one group found a major art site which we have never seen since.



Bradshaw or Gwion figures near camp 2.

In 2012, we had a really good look in the area where we thought it should have been. It wasn't there. In 2014, we tried a different area and missed again. Any search would be a bit out of the way, but, if the group is interested, we'll have another go at finding it.

Once we arrive at the north-south creek, nameless on the map, we'll spend a full two days working our way down past the many huge pools to where it plunges over a tall waterfall into Glycosmis Bay below. A couple of hundred metres away, a second creek plunges over a second waterfall, hence the name Twin Falls.



Twin Falls Panorama. Our campsite is above the falls slightly left of centre in the photo.

We will do our best to get to Twin Falls in time to spend two nights so that we can spend a day doing an interesting walk down to a beach below or a drier walk to an area which we have been told contains a good concentration of Aboriginal art sites. Either walk takes most of the day.

On the final day, we make our way down the east side and out to another small beach. The first part of the walk is flat and easy, the final descent is steep and potentially scrubby. Gardening gloves can be useful as can secateurs.

We are picked up on the beach by a float plane which brings us back to Kununurra.



The final descent.

## Notes

Although we will be averaging less than ten kilometres per day, some of the areas through which we will be travelling are quite rugged. This, combined with the need to carry up to a week's worth of food, makes reasonable physical fitness absolutely essential.

The trip includes a lot of rock hopping with a full pack on and even a bit of clambering over large boulders. Anyone who has done some off-trail rock hopping is unlikely to have any problem with the terrain. However, we strongly recommend that anyone who has never done any off-trail rock hopping find some place where they can try it and see how well they cope. Most people cope reasonably well right from the start. A few have serious difficulties which are impossible to overcome quickly.

As the trip should include a number of day-walks, you should bring a day pack or bum bag.

Although we carry a sat phone and a PLB, you need to be aware that no satellite phone is 100% reliable. If an accident occurs at a time when we cannot get through, the PLB might not get help for a day or more.

We expect warm conditions, generally dry but possibly humid at times, with little or no rain for most of the trip. **However, the weather can do odd things.** In 2004, a huge storm system stranded us at Faraway Bay for two days after the trip was supposed to end in late May.

If you like fishing, bring a light weight fishing line. It can be excellent in several of the places we visit.

The photos in these notes were all taken on our trips to the area in June 2012 and May 2014.

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. All flights arrive in time for you to do some shopping in Kununurra.

## Terrain and difficulty

**Overall** Level 3.

**Climate** Level 4. Rain is unlikely but possible. Could be somewhat humid. Average daytime max about 34° C; average night minimum 18-20° C, but can get below 10° C on occasion.

**Terrain** Level 3. Some flat, some steep, some rock hopping. A complete mix. Some of the harder terrain may be done with day packs. **How hard it is depends partly on how much you want to do.**



It was 8°C on the morning this photo was taken. It may not get that cold, but it could even get slightly cooler.



As easy as it gets.



Easy walking along a creek.



Scrubby walking and creek crossing.



Serious rock hopping. A bit of this is unavoidable.

**Vegetation** Level 3. Can vary from year to year depending on when last burnt.

Most of the walking will be fairly open but there may be some thick grasses including spinifex. There will be one or more short sections of thick vine forest. Gaiters or long trousers and seed socks strongly recommended. We normally see a large variety of wildflowers.



Unknown flower.



Poor soils mean sundews like this are common.



Calandrina – several species occur in the region.



Grevillea refracta – one of the many grevilleas we see.

**Hours** Generally 4-6 hours walking per day.

**Packs** **Waterproofing.** Although rain is unlikely, we suggest bringing a pack cover or liner (which could be as little as a heavy duty garbage bag) in case we get a late season storm. They are also good for the occasional heavy dew.

**Pack weight** - level 3. You carry a week's food.

**Art** There is a wealth of art sites in the area. Many are quite faded, but some are in excellent condition. More Bradshaws than Wandjinnas but both are there.



Photographing a Bradshaw or Gwion site. We always make sure that no one touches the paintings.

**Campsites** Mix of sand, rock ledges and grassy areas. Some sites are excellent, some less so.

**Swims** Good to excellent along most of the route. There are likely to be one or two camp sites where swimming is limited.

**Lowlights** Pushing through the vine forest; one or two scrubby camp sites.



Swimming with the water lilies.



Open woodland swim.

**Highlights** Waterfalls plunging in the tidal gorges, Aboriginal art, good swimming.

**Wildlife** You are unlikely to see many large animals. Birds should be abundant as will lizards. Many of the small animals are nocturnal and seldom seen.

**Fishing** Some good possibilities.

**Maps.** 1:100 000 Rulhieres & a tiny bit on King George

1: 50 000 Sanz and small section on Raaf.



Rainbow bee eater



Water monitor

## Itinerary King George Area, Faraway Bay to Twin Falls

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

**Note 2** This itinerary is subject to change due to weather or other circumstances beyond our control.

**Day 0** This trip begins in Kununurra. There are daily air and bus services between Kununurra and Perth and Darwin. Connections to the eastern states are normally made through Darwin.

Pre-trip meeting 6.00 p.m., outdoor area, Kimberley Croc Lodge. **This meeting is important.** If you cannot make the meeting, please advise us well in advance and make alternative arrangements for the food drop.

**Day 1** Pick up between 6.00 and 7.00 a.m. Pick up time will be set by the air charter company. It will be from your accommodation in Kununurra provided you have given us the address at least a week before departure or have made other arrangements at the pre-trip meeting. If you are unable to notify us where you are staying, the pick up is from in front of the Kununurra Visitors Centre.

Fly to Faraway Bay airstrip. Begin walk to Twin Falls. First day about 3 km.

**Day 2-7** Walk to Twin Falls in the west. This is a particularly beautiful spot between two creeks overlooking a tidal gorge. Good pools but unlikely to be much flow in May.

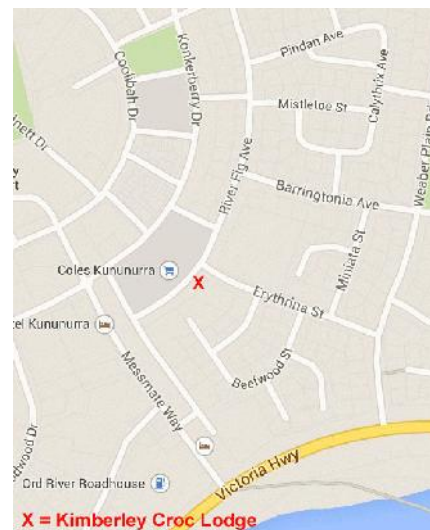
**Day 8** Very early departure for walk to beach. Float plane pick up. Fly back to Kununurra, drop off at your accommodation.



Looking over Glycosmis Bay from Twin Falls camp



Heading home – Glycosmis take off



X = Kimberley Croc Lodge