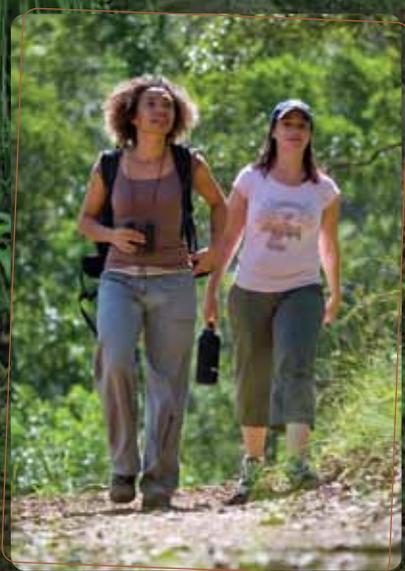


D'Aguilar Range

D'Aguilar National Park, Samford and Bunyaville conservation parks and surrounds



Park guide



... the bush on Brisbane's doorstep

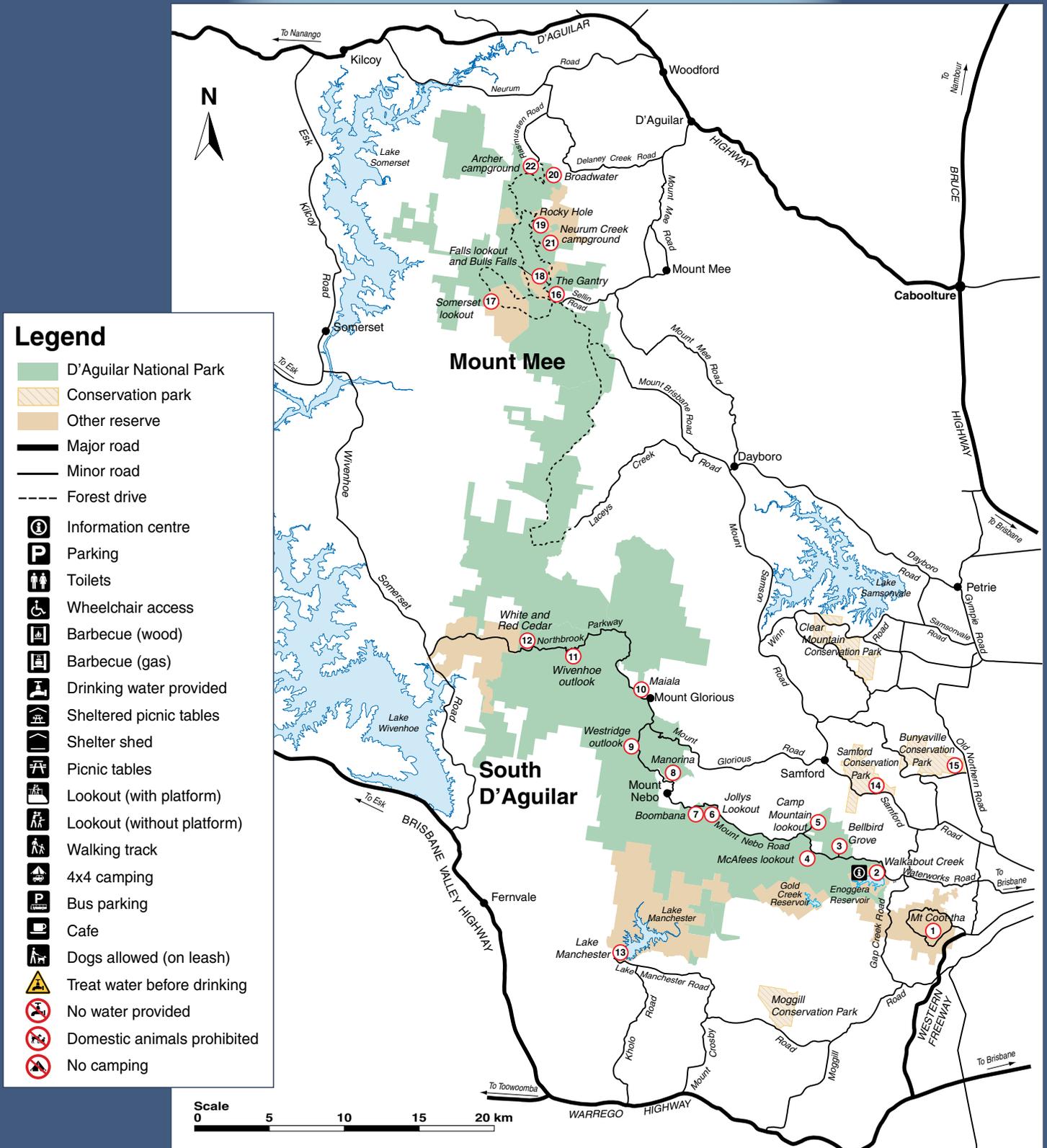
Discover remote gorges, sheltered pockets of subtropical rainforest, expansive forests and spectacular views; all within an hour's drive from Brisbane.

Locality map

Exploring the range

The D'Aguilar Range can be explored in two hours or over several days. Experience the park on foot, by horse or bicycle, or by car or motorbike. To get the most of a visit, this guide is divided into sections to help visitors tailor their experience. More detailed information is available in the park, from Walkabout Creek Visitor Centre or at www.npsr.qld.gov.au.

Some activities in Queensland parks and forests require a permit, such as commercial, group or scientific activities. For licence and permit enquiries, email palm@npsr.qld.gov.au or phone 1300 130 372.



Touring and places to visit

Embark on an adventure on one of several scenic tourist drives along the range and visit spectacular lookouts, parkland picnic areas and stunning natural features.

South D'Aguilar

To explore the southern end of the D'Aguilar Range, follow Mount Nebo Road (tourist route number 8) from The Gap. The road winds along the range to the mountain townships of Mount Nebo and Mount Glorious. Alternatively, the park can be reached via Samford along Mount Glorious Road (tourist route number 9). For those looking to circumnavigate the park, the Northbrook Parkway provides a circuit back through Brisbane Valley and Ipswich, or alternatively return via Samford.



Westridge outlook

Public transport access

For information on bus services, contact TRANSLink on 13 12 30 or visit www.translink.com.au.

1 Mt Coot-tha



Catch public transport or drive to the summit of Mt Coot-tha for expansive views over Brisbane city. Alternatively, embark on a short walk from any of the picnic areas at the foothills of the mountain or explore the Mt Coot-tha botanic gardens and planetarium. For further information or to obtain brochures or maps, please visit the Brisbane City Council website www.brisbane.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3403 8888.

2 Walkabout Creek



Walkabout Creek is located at 60 Mount Nebo Road, The Gap—12 km from Brisbane's CBD, and is easily accessible by public transport from the city. The complex includes a visitor and wildlife centre, function rooms and cafe.

The Walkabout Creek Visitor Centre and South East Queensland Wildlife Centre are open from 9.00 am to 4.15 pm every day, excluding some public holidays.

The function rooms at Walkabout Creek provide a unique and secluded setting for conferences, functions and wedding ceremonies, and adjoin the Green Tree Frog Café. To find out more about the wedding centre and cafe, visit www.walkaboutcreek.com.au.

Vehicle access

3 Bellbird Grove

10-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Stop and enjoy a picnic or barbecue at this open, grassy day-use area and take a short walk along one of the walking tracks.

4 McAfees lookout

15-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



This lookout was named after the first settlers in this area and offers breathtaking views of Moreton Bay.

5 Camp Mountain lookout

15-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



On a clear day see amazing views of Moreton Bay and the Glass House Mountains from the lower lookout. Walk along the ridgeline to another lookout offering surprisingly close views of bustling Brisbane city.

6 Jollies Lookout

20-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Named after William Jolly, Brisbane's first Lord Mayor (from 1925 to 1931), this lookout offers expansive views of Moreton Island, Brisbane Valley and the Glass House Mountains.

7 Boombana

20-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Boombana, meaning 'trees in bloom', fits this area perfectly. During summer the lacebark tree *Brachychiton discolor* loses its leaves and keeps its large, pink, showy flowers to create a burst of colour through the greenery. Enjoy a barbecue lunch or take a walk through the forest.

Start at Walkabout Creek 2 in The Gap and come face-to-face with the amazing diversity of native wildlife that lives in Queensland's national parks at the South East Queensland Wildlife Centre. With Enoggera Reservoir as the backdrop, and surrounded by tall eucalypt trees, the Green Tree Frog Café is a wonderful place to relax, grab a coffee and a bite to eat.

Enjoy a stroll along one of the two short walking tracks that start from the visitor centre (Corymbia circuit and Araucaria track), or journey up the mountain by car and visit a number of beautiful destinations within the park, including Bellbird Grove 3, McAfees lookout 4 and Boombana rainforest 7.



8 Manorina

30-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Two walking tracks leave from here, offering walkers lush wet eucalypt forest and views of Samford Valley.

9 Westridge outlook

35-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



From the lookout perched on a high rocky outcrop, enjoy views over Lake Wivenhoe with the Great Dividing Range in the distance.

10 Maiala

45-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



This special area was the first piece of national park declared on the D'Aguilar Range. Originally cleared for a timber mill, some machinery and a remnant hoop pine plantation remain as evidence of Maiala's loud and laborious past.

11 Wivenhoe outlook

50-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



This outlook provides a picnic area with scenic views of Lake Wivenhoe.

12 White and Red Cedar

1-hour drive from Walkabout Creek 2 via Northbrook Parkway



With open grassy areas and a picturesque stream running behind the day-use area, this is a great place to stop and enjoy the scenery.

13 Lake Manchester

1-hour, 20-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Enjoy a picnic and take a short stroll to the lake's grassy shores.

14 Samford Conservation Park

15-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Visit Ironbark Gully or Lomandra day-use areas off Samford Road and enjoy a natural woodland setting for picnics and barbecues.

15 Bunyaville Conservation Park

20-minute drive from Walkabout Creek 2



Discover a peaceful bush retreat with walking, mountain bike and horse riding trails close to Brisbane's CBD.



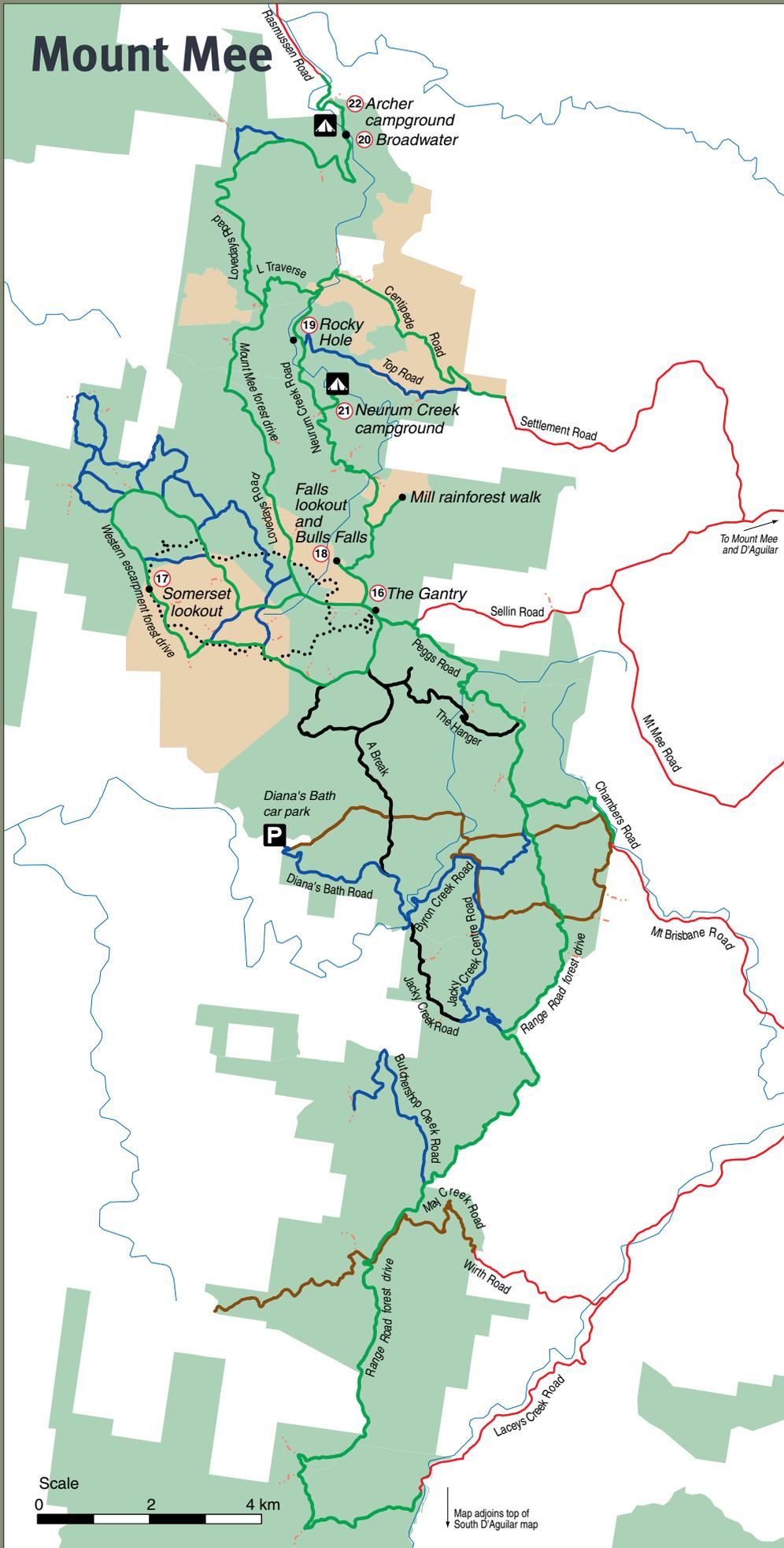
Connect with Nature

A wide range of ranger-guided activities are offered in various parks throughout Brisbane, the Gold Coast and hinterland, and Western Scenic Rim. Connect with Nature offers school holiday activities for adults, children and families as well as curriculum-based school educational activities for primary and secondary years. For more information on Connect with Nature, visit www.nprsr.qld.gov.au or phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

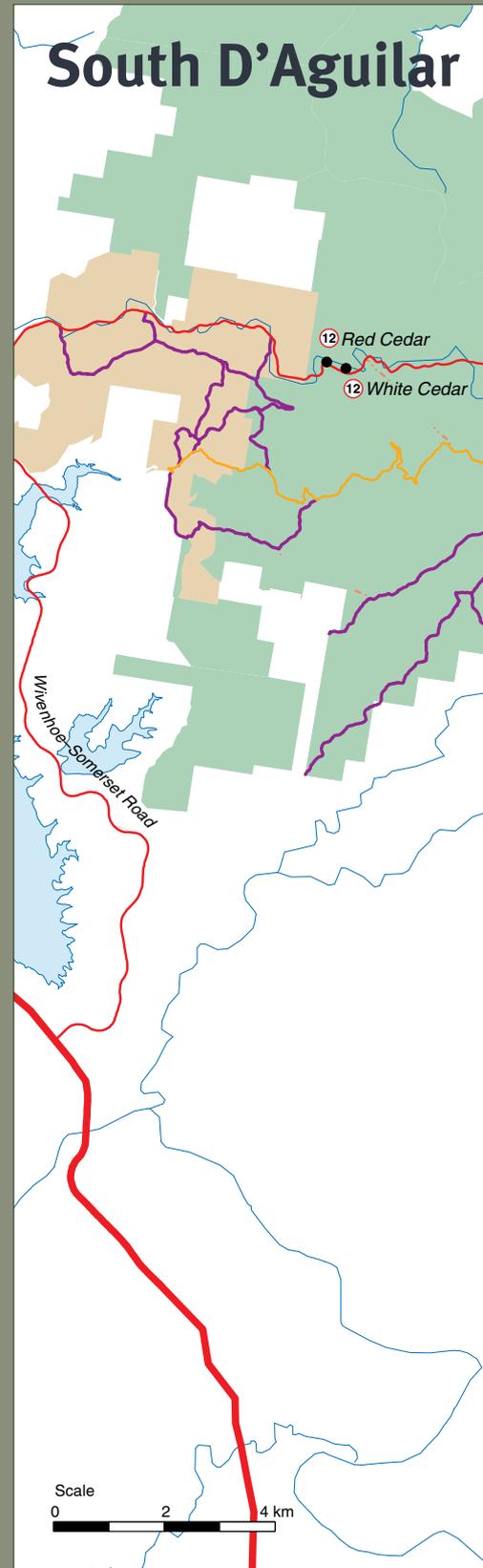
For information about school activities in Bunyaville Conservation Park, please visit the Bunyaville Environmental Education Centre website www.bunyavilleec.eq.edu.au or phone (07) 3353 4356. For information on the various environmental, cultural and recreational programs and activities offered by Brisbane City Council visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3403 8888.

The lush subtropical rainforest of Mount Glorious.

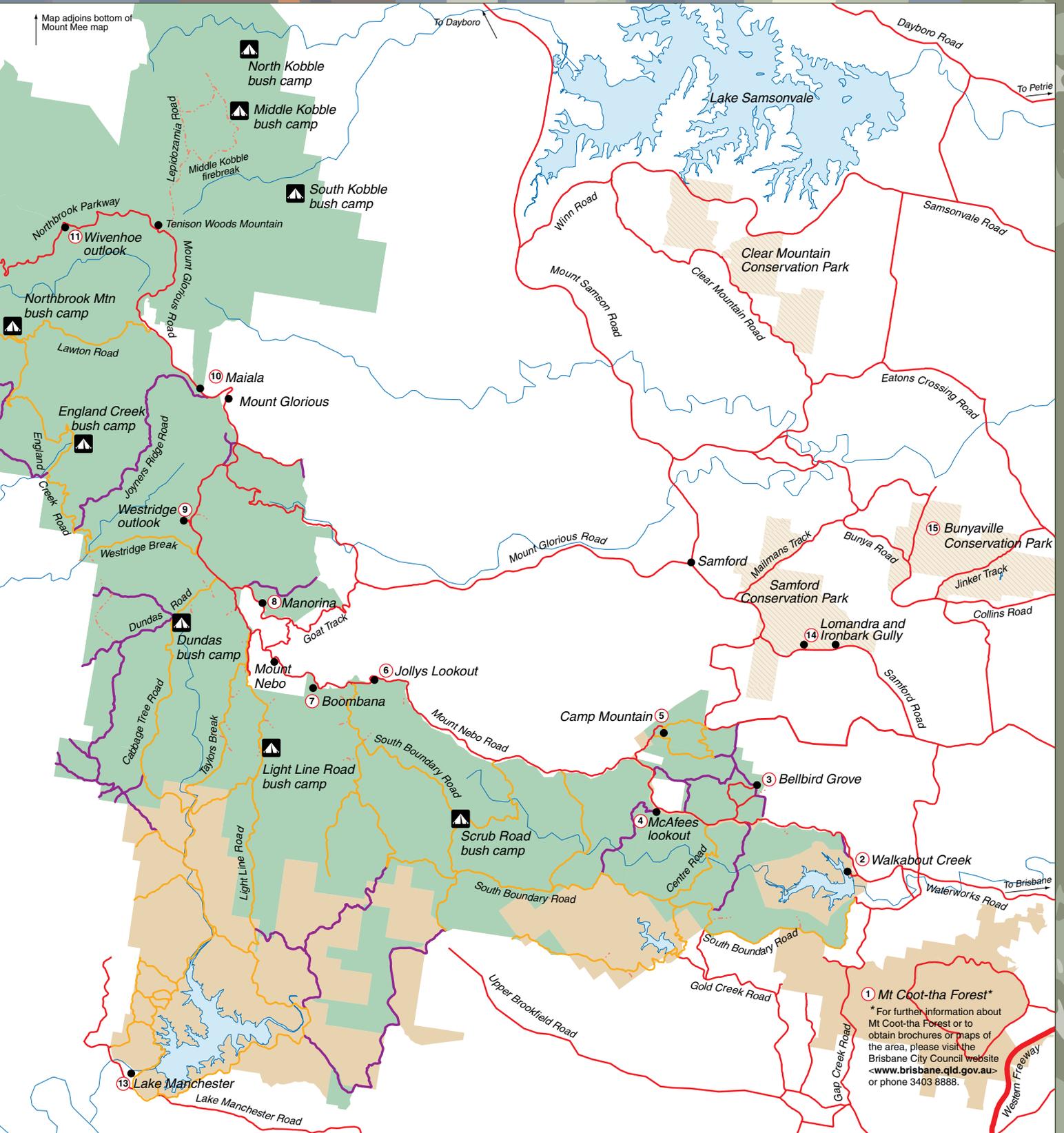
Mount Mee



South D'Aguiar



Note: Many trails lead to private property. Get permission from landholders before accessing private property. Many gates are locked and cannot be opened. It is the responsibility of riders and walkers to determine appropriate access requirements.



Legend

D'Aguilar National Park	Forest trail	Forest drive
Conservation Park	Horses and pedestrians	Easy
Other reserve	Horses, cyclists and pedestrians	Moderate
Minor road	Cyclists and pedestrians only	Difficult
Management access only	Walking track	Parking
Creek		Camping

Walking tracks

The D'Aguilar Range offers a wide variety of walking tracks suitable for beginner and experienced walkers. Walking tracks are classified according to Australian Standards and are only suitable for pedestrian use. Please note that while each track is classified according to its most difficult section, other sections may be easier.

Walkers can also access a number of forest trails throughout the range. These trails may be shared by horse and mountain bike riders, four-wheel-drivers and/or motorcyclists—please see the trail map section of this guide (pages 6 and 7) for more details.

Mt Coot-tha Forest has a diverse range of tracks and trails, picnic facilities and seasonal creeks and waterfalls to explore. For information on walking tracks in Mt Coot-tha Forest, please refer to the track map on the Brisbane City Council website <www.brisbane.qld.gov.au>.

Key to walking tracks



Class 2 track Australian Standards

- Easy level, well-graded track, suitable for all fitness levels.



Class 3 track Australian Standards

- Gently sloping, well-defined track with slight inclines or few steps.
- Caution needed on loose gravel surfaces and exposed natural lookouts.
- Reasonable level of fitness and ankle-supporting footwear required.



Class 4 track Australian Standards

- Distinct track, usually with steep exposed inclines or many steps.
- Caution needed on loose gravel surfaces and exposed natural outlooks.
- Moderate level of fitness and ankle-supporting footwear required.

Mount Mee

Track name and classification	Distance/Time	Access point	Drive from The Gantry (90 minutes from Brisbane)	Description
Short walks (less than 1 hour)				
 Lophostemon walk	750 m circuit, allow 20 minutes	21 Neurum Creek campground	15 minutes	This circuit begins at the northern end of Neurum Creek campground.
 Piccabeen walk	1 km circuit, allow 20–30 minutes	16 The Gantry	Not applicable	This short walk is along a boardwalk and track through a lush piccabeen palm grove.
 Falls lookout track	1 km return, allow 20–30 minutes	18 Falls lookout and Bulls Falls	5 minutes	Falls lookout can be reached by a gravel road off Neurum Creek Road and has a short walk down to a viewing platform overlooking the northern side of D'Aguilar Range and picturesque Neurum Valley.
 Mill rainforest walk	1.4 km circuit, allow 40–50 minutes	Off Neurum Creek Road between The Gantry 16 and Neurum Creek campground 21	10 minutes	This subtropical rainforest track provides great opportunities for birdwatching so bring binoculars. The track entrance is accessed by a short unsealed, formed gravel road.
Longer walks (2–4 hours)				
 Somerset trail	13 km circuit, allow 4 hours	16 The Gantry	Not applicable	This track passes through scribbly gum forests, rainforest and dry open forest. Take in views to the west overlooking Somerset Dam and Lake Wivenhoe.

South D'Aguilar

Short walks (less than 2 hours)

 Tree discovery circuit	650 m circuit, allow 15 minutes	15 Bunyaville Conservation Park	20 minutes	This walking track starts and finishes at the northern end of the day-use area.
 Atrax circuit	750 m return, allow 15–20 minutes	8 Manorina	30 minutes	Walk through tall forest featuring cabbage tree palms.

South D'Aguiar

Track name and classification	Distance/ Time	Access point	Drive from Walkabout Creek	Description
Short walks (less than 2 hours) continued				
 Crebra circuit	900 m circuit, allow 20–30 minutes	 Samford Conservation Park	15 minutes	This circuit meanders through a forest of deeply furrowed and dark-coloured ironbark trees.
 Pitta circuit	1 km circuit, allow 20–30 minutes	 Boombana	25 minutes	This track explores open eucalypt forest and then subtropical rainforest. Mount Nebo village can be accessed from this circuit via a 600 m track from the boardwalk.
 Western Window track	1.2 km return, allow 35–45 minutes	 Maiala	40 minutes	This track runs along the escarpment to the Western Window—an expansive undulating view to the west.
 Corymbia circuit	1.5 km return, allow 45 minutes	 Walkabout Creek	Not applicable	This track winds down through a wet eucalypt forest gully and climbs back to the visitor centre. The track is quite steep in places.
 Egernia circuit	1.5 km circuit, allow 45 minutes	 Jollys Lookout	20 minutes	This track loops through wet eucalypt forest and a gully of subtropical rainforest.
 Bunyaville track	1.6 km return, allow 30–40 minutes	 Bunyaville Conservation Park	20 minutes	This track leaves from the northern end of the day-use area and goes through open eucalypt forest back to the southern end of the day-use area.
 Turrbal circuit	1.7 km circuit, allow 40–50 minutes	 Bellbird Grove	10 minutes	This circuit winds through open eucalypt forest, down into a wet eucalypt gully and back to the day-use area.
 Golden Boulder track	1.8 km circuit, allow 40–50 minutes	 Bellbird Grove	10 minutes	A short track takes walkers along exposed ridges and past historic gold mines. It is quite steep in places, so please supervise children at all times.
 Rainforest circuit	2 km circuit, allow 1 hour	 Maiala	40 minutes	This walking track winds through stunning subtropical rainforest. Cypress Grove and a section of the Greenes Falls (see longer walks) walking tracks adjoin this track.
 Cypress Grove track	2.5 km return, allow 1 hour 20 minutes	 Maiala	40 minutes	This is a short walk branching off the Rainforest circuit.
Longer walks (2–4 hours)				
 Greenes Falls track	4.3 km return, allow 2 hours	 Maiala	40 minutes	The Greenes Falls track passes over rainforest pools and ends at a lookout adjacent to Greenes Falls. Be prepared for an uphill walk on the return trip.
 Araucaria track	5 km return, allow 2 hours	 Walkabout Creek	Not applicable	This walking track winds past giant hoop pines along the shores of Enoggera Reservoir.
 Morelia walking track	6 km return, allow 2–2.5 hours	 Manorina	30 minutes	Walk from the Manorina car park through wet eucalypt forest to Mount Nebo lookout and enjoy spectacular views over Samford Valley and Moreton Bay. The track is quite steep in places.
 Westside track	6.4 km return, allow 2–3 hours	 Maiala	40 minutes	This track branches off the Western Window track (see short walks). Access is from the top of the Maiala day-use area. Walk 600 m to the Western Window, before walking down to a level track perched on the side of a steep slope that finishes at Lawton Road.
 Thylogale walking track	8 km return, allow 2–3 hours	 Jollys Lookout	15 minutes	This walking track connects Jollys Lookout to Boombana. Walk through pockets of dry rainforest—a vegetation type known for its diversity and abundance of twisting vines.

Mountain bike trails and horse riding trails

Enjoy riding in a bushland environment on one of the many multiple-use trails in the D'Aguilar Range.

Mountain bike riding

Cycling is permitted on all forest trails within the southern end of D'Aguilar Range unless otherwise signed (see trail map on pages 6 and 7). Bicycles are not permitted on designated walking tracks, or on roads in Mount Mee as this area is set aside for motorised vehicle-based recreation.

Ride safely

- When using tracks, cyclists must alert others when approaching them.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Plan ahead, ride within your ability and according to track conditions.
- Avoid skidding and sliding around turns—collision and injury may result.
- Avoid riding in large groups.
- Avoid riding on soft, wet and muddy tracks.
- Cyclists riding downhill must give way to cyclists riding uphill.



Recreation Trails

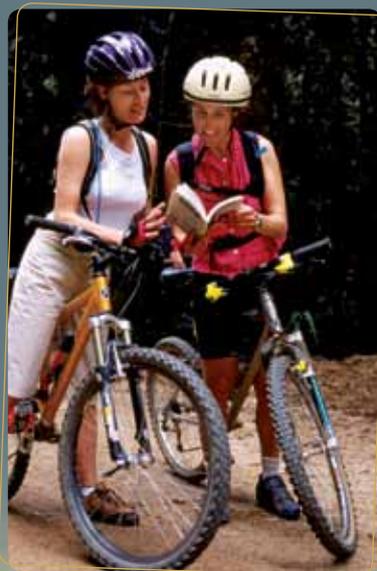


The give-way code

- Cyclists should give way to horses and walkers.
- Walkers should give way to horses.

For a challenging ride, follow South Boundary Road to Mount Nebo Road, and onto the cool rainforest township of Mount Nebo to enjoy a cold drink at one of the local cafes.

Bunyaville Conservation Park **15** and Mt Coot-tha Forest **1** both offer a variety of designated mountain bike trails that are interconnected by multiple-use trails. For more information on mountain bike trails in these areas visit www.nprsr.qld.gov.au, or contact Brisbane City Council on (07) 3403 8888 or www.brisbane.qld.gov.au.



Horse riding

Horse riding is permitted on specified forest trails in the D'Aguilar Range (see trail maps on previous pages).

To help reduce your impact on these natural areas, please:

- do not allow horses to remain in the park overnight
- ride only on formed roads and trails designated for riding. Do not take shortcuts or form new tracks as this damages the environment and causes erosion
- do not allow horses to enter or remain in or near natural watercourses. Only allow horses to cross natural watercourses at designated crossing points on the trail for the protection of watercourses in the area
- minimise damage to vegetation. Do not allow horses to graze on any vegetation while in the area
- tether horses at hitching posts or resting areas only for short periods to minimise soil erosion and compaction
- avoid spreading weeds—ensure horses' coats, hooves and equipment are free of seeds before park visits.

For more information about horse riding in Queensland's protected areas, visit www.nprsr.qld.gov.au.

Enjoy a half or day-long ride in the foothills around Enoggera Reservoir and the southern section of the D'Aguilar Range. A series of trails lead into the adjacent valleys of Brookfield and Gold Creek, or ride along the crest of South Boundary Road to Mount Nebo Road, and onto the township of Mount Nebo.

Overnight stays and camping

With the variety of trails and tourist sites, why not unwind in the D'Aguilar Range over a couple of days.

Bed and breakfast, resort and commercial camping accommodation are available in and around the townships of Mount Mee, Mount Nebo and Mount Glorious. For more information about tourist accommodation in the D'Aguilar Range, visit the Tourism Queensland website <www.queenslandholidays.com.au>.

How to obtain a camping permit

A camping permit must be obtained prior to arrival; fees are payable and a camping tag with your booking number must be displayed at your camp site. People who camp without a permit can be fined. To extend your stay you must amend your permit. Obtaining a camping permit well in advance is recommended for public or school holiday periods.

Obtain a camping permit:

- online at <www.qld.gov.au/camping>
- by phoning 13 QGOV (13 74 68) with credit card details.

Camping experiences

D'Aguilar National Park has two formal campgrounds and eight remote bush camp sites.

Formal campgrounds

Located at Mount Mee, Neurum Creek and Archer campgrounds are not suitable for caravans, campervans or camper trailers.

Open fires are allowed in the fireplaces and fire rings provided. Bring your own firewood—untreated, milled timber off-cuts are recommended.

21 Neurum Creek campground

15-minute drive from The Gantry 16



Neurum Creek campground provides opportunities for camping close to Neurum Creek in an enclosed forest setting.

22 Archer campground

40-minute drive from The Gantry 16



Enjoy the open, grassy, family friendly, natural bush setting near Neurum Creek. Facilities are provided for campers only.

Remote bush camping

Visitors can test their bush camping skills in the secluded back country of South D'Aguilar. There are eight walk-in-only bush camping sites, with minimal facilities—Dundas Road, South Kobbler, Middle Kobbler, North Kobbler, Northbrook Mountain, Scrub Road, England Creek and Light Line Road bush camps. A network of trails provides access between these camping sites and also link to the townships of Mount Nebo and Mount Glorious.

Walkers need to be physically fit, have bushwalking and navigation experience, and have an emergency plan in place with a responsible friend or family member. Always carry a topographic map, compass, first-aid kit, water and food. Mobile phone reception within the park is unreliable.

Bush camps within D'Aguilar National Park may be closed during periods of high fire danger or for regenerative purposes. Please check 'Park alerts' at <www.nprsr.qld.gov.au> for the latest information on access, closures and conditions.



Courtesy of Bruce Cowell, Queensland Museum



Emergency contacts

Ambulance emergency

phone 000

non-emergency

phone 13 12 33

when low or no mobile service: try phoning 112

for text-only emergency messages 106

(This is for people with speech or hearing impairments. No one will speak to you on this service.)

Caring for the range

By following these guidelines, visitors will help protect the natural environment for the future enjoyment of others and ensure the survival of native plants and animals living here.

- Everything within national parks and forests is protected. Do not take or interfere with plants and animals.
- Stay on the designated tracks. Shortcutting causes erosion, damages vegetation and can potentially result in injury.
- Leave pets at home. Domestic animals are not permitted in the national park.
- Remove all rubbish. No bins are provided in the park. To dispose of cigarette butts, carry a small container.
- Let native animals find their own food. Human food can make native animals susceptible to disease and can cause overpopulation and aggressive behaviour.
- Do not collect firewood. Fallen trees provide homes for insects and small animals.
- Show consideration for other park users and wildlife by keeping noise to a minimum.

For your safety

By following a few simple steps, visits can be safe and enjoyable.

- Never walk alone. Tell friends or family where you are going and when you expect to return. If you change your plans, inform them.
- Plan to complete walks well before dark.
- Obey all safety and warning signs.
- Wear appropriate bushwalking shoes.
- Avoid walking during wet weather. Tracks can be slippery, especially after rain. Stay away from cliff edges.
- Supervise children at all times.
- Carry adequate drinking water—drinking water is not provided on park.
- Carry a first-aid kit and know how to use it.
- Carry a mobile phone, but remember that reception may be poor in places.
- Use sun protection—wear sunscreen, a hat and long-sleeved shirt even on cloudy days. Start longer walks at cooler times of the day to avoid heat exhaustion in summer.
- Never dive or jump into water as it may be shallow or have submerged hazards.
- Do not leave valuables unattended. When visiting these parks, reduce risk of theft—ensure vehicles are locked and all valuables removed.



Bushfire safety



In conditions of high fire danger, walking tracks and other areas may be closed.

For your safety, follow instructions on signs. If you see a bushfire or any illegal activity, please phone emergency services as soon as possible.

Further information

Visit www.npsr.qld.gov.au

- Go to 'Park alerts' for the latest information on access, closures and conditions.

Email info@npsr.qld.gov.au.

Phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

To access Lake Wivenhoe, please phone SEQ Water on (07) 5427 8100; **to access Somerset Dam** phone (07) 5426 0188.

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Front cover: background photo courtesy of Bruce Cowell, Queensland Museum

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