

WHAT “GUIDE ONLY” MEANS

HIKE WITH MAREE vs BIG COMMERCIAL HIKING COMPANIES

HIKE WITH MAREE — GUIDE ONLY MODEL

This is a **small, guide-led trek**, not a commercial tour operation.

I am a **qualified, experienced hiking guide**.

My role IS to:

- Guide you safely around the **Carnarvon Great Walk**
- Manage route finding, safety, pacing, camps, and weather decisions
- Look after overall group wellbeing
- Carry first aid, PLB, communications, and emergency equipment

My role is NOT to:

- Carry spare personal gear
- Carry extra food, tents, mattresses, or clothing
- Fix or replace individual hiking gear on the trail

 **Every hiker is 100% responsible for their own kit — including hired gear.**

If something breaks, I will assist **where reasonably possible**, but you may need to manage and *rough it out* until **Westbranch (the halfway camp)** or until the end of the hike.

This is exactly why **training hikes and pack testing are compulsory before the real trek.**

This guide-only model keeps:

- ✓ pack weights realistic
- ✓ safety high
- ✓ the group moving efficiently
- ✓ expectations clear and fair for everyone

BIG COMMERCIAL HIKING COMPANIES

Large commercial operators run **very different systems**, including:

- Multiple staff (guides, assistant guides, porters)
- Vehicles on standby

- Spare tents, mattresses, food, and clothing
- Emergency logistics teams
- Much higher trip prices to fund this infrastructure

👉 **That is NOT what you are booking with HIKE WITH MAREE.**

A seven-day commercial hike typically costs **\$4,000–\$5,000+** — and this is why.

WHY THIS MATTERS

If you come on this hike expecting:

- ✗ someone else to fix your gear
- ✗ someone else to carry extra weight
- ✗ someone else to solve preventable comfort issues

— then **this is not the right style of hike for you.**

This is a **remote, self-sufficient, full-pack Great Walk**, guided by experience — **not a catered tour.**

IMPORTANT — PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR GEAR

I am a **guide only** 😊

I guide you around the Carnarvon Great Walk 😊 😊

If your tent breaks or your mattress blows a hole, I will help **where I reasonably can** — but **every hiker is ultimately responsible for their own equipment.**

I'm not a hiking gear engineer.

I guide the hike — **I don't rebuild tents and mattresses on the track.**

My husband will have **replacement tents, mattresses, and some gear at Westbranch (the halfway camp).**

👉 If something fails **before or after Westbranch**, you will need to manage with what you have **until Westbranch or until the end of the hike.**

I do **not** carry spare tents, mattresses, or duplicate gear in my pack.

I am a **53-year-old grandma (really a Glamma 😊)** — **not a pack mule** 🐎
My pack is already loaded with safety, first aid, and emergency essentials.

GEAR PREPARATION IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

PLEASE CHECK YOUR GEAR THOROUGHLY BEFORE ARRIVAL

MATTRESSES

- Protect your mattress **every night**
(*Footprint + tent floor PLUS a car sunshade or foam mat*)
- Bring repair patches and basic fixes
- Most punctures are impossible to find without a bathtub of water

TENTS


- Research your tent brand **before the trek**
- Learn basic repairs for **your specific tent**
- Carry a few small repair items in your stake bag
(*Ask ChatGPT how to fix a tent pole for your tent brand*)

HIRED PACKS

Yes — **even hired packs are your responsibility.**

Every hiker must complete **TWO × 30 km overnight hikes** before arriving to:


- Test comfort
- Test weight
- Ensure all gear works properly

 Sorting this out **before the hike is compulsory — not during the hike.**

THE BOTTOM LINE

I guide.
I support.
I keep you safe.

But I **do not carry your gear** or take responsibility for it.

 Your comfort with your gear matters to me — **but responsibility sits with you.**

Preparation is non-negotiable.

HAPPY HIKING EVERYONE 🤗 😊 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌