

# HIKING SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK FOR 2027

## ARRIVAL DAY

**\*Print the Calendar to arrive on the correct day\***

**“We arrive on a Tuesday by 1pm Breeze BIG Four Carnarvon Gorge”**

FLY INTO ROMA 8.15AM, I’LL BE THERE WAITING FOR YOU.

9.30AM MORNING TEA INJUNE CAFÉ (purchase lunch for today as well)

SPA SUPERMARKET FOR FRESH SNACKS FOR THE TRACK

VISIT INJUNE VISITOR CENTRE, THE MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

10.30AM DRIVE OFF FROM INJUNE

Visit the plane Wreck when driving into the Gorge (on the left or Carnarvon Gorge Road), also be sure to drive in and Visit Sandstone Caravan Park.

Lunch Time

1 PM MEET ALL THE HIKERS THAT ARE DRIVING AT BREEZE BIG 4 AT CARNARVON GORGE If you beat Maree there, ask for six “campsite numbers” booked under Maree Brennan; Tent sites that are unpowered. Pick any site and just go set tents up and have lunch. 2 tents per site. (Maree is meeting a plane and maybe held up a little.)

2PM GROUP MEETING KITCHEN AREA – What the guides require you to follow on the trek chat. Etiquette behaviour on trek will be discussed for clarity for a peaceful hike for us all, especially us guides.

2.30 PM VISIT THE \*CARNARVON GORGE VISITOR CENTRE

3pm \*MICKEY’S CREEK AND WARRUMBAH GORGE - Explore – This is amazing place...

4.50pm video about the gorge at Breeze Big 4 bar and happy hour.

6pm dinner at Restaurant (If opened, or a hiking meal.) I will let you know.

It’ll either be Breeze Big 4 Restaurant or Wilderness Restaurant – I’ll check if opened and confirm.

Tonight is a full practice night with tent and bedding to ensure you have everything you need to sleep warm for the trek while at the cars.

THE START THE CARNARVON GREAT WALK

## DAY ONE

FLYERS – Motel bags and gear not needed on trail may stay in my car.

DRIVERS - Cars are left at the Carnarvon Gorge Visitor Centre carpark, I've left my car here multiple times over the years for a week at a time and my car has always been perfectly safe.

(We're 40kms off a highway and only tourists enter this car park.) Tiny Cars can get into the Carnarvon Gorge no worries. (Gravel road is really good.)

6.20am DRIVE OFF FROM BREEZE BIG 4

Weighing of all packs – all packs must be under 14kg please, this includes 3.5litres of water and 3 full days of food. (Extra food or water is okay if your body requires more) HOWEVER – all other items must match my lightepack list. <https://lighterpack.com/r/66zstj...>

Fiona and Maree will be weighing all the packs prior walk off.

**Pack Weigh-In Policy -All packs will be weighed at the Carnarvon Gorge visitor car park, at the car. Any pack weighing over 16 kg will be gutted on the spot, with items removed in the car park. Please don't be *that* hiker who chooses to let this happen — it frustrates everyone in the group. Follow my packing list and the “how to pack it” video properly, and this won't be an issue. Pack weight limits are in place for safety, group flow, and enjoyment of the trek.**

We then all go to toilet and then get group photo at Carnarvon Great Walk sign.

7.30am Walk off from Information Centre - Simon or Michell from Australian Nature guides will be joining us in the Gorge up to the Art Gallery. 1pm leave Art Gallery.

R1 Carnarvon Gorge visitor area to Big Bend walkers' camp—9.7km (allow 3–4 hours walking time, longer if you visit the side-gorges) 15KMS WITH SIDE TRACKS [Grade 3](#) and [Grade 4](#)

From the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area, the Great Walk heads along the main Carnarvon Gorge track, following the winding course of Carnarvon Creek up the ever-narrowing gorge. The main walking track is mostly flat, although side-branches involve steeper sections.

Surrounded by towering cliffs of Precipice Sandstone, Carnarvon Creek is a cool and green oasis compared to later, more elevated, stages of the Great Walk. Carnarvon fan palms, ancient cycads, flowering shrubs and gum trees line the creek, while narrow side-gorges provide a protected environment where remnant rainforest survives. Side-branches from the main track led to a range of sites, including the Moss Garden, Ward's Canyon, the Art Gallery and Cathedral Cave.

The Aboriginal rock art adorning the sandstone walls at the Art Gallery and Cathedral Cave includes some of the best-known and finest rock imagery in Australia.

This first section of the Great Walk ends at Big Bend arrive 2.30-3pm—also the end of the gorge's main walking track.

2.30pm -3pm ARRIVE CAMP

## DAY TWO

R2 Big Bend walkers' camp to Gadd's walkers' camp—14.8km (allow 6–7 hours walking time) plus 2 hours for stops [Grade 5](#)

### 6.30am walk off from camp

If new to hiking with a full pack – you must set your alarm for 2 hours prior walk off time, until you know how long it takes you to get ready. (Then you set your alarm accordingly to what you need.) We're all different.

From Big Bend the Great Walk trail leads through the narrow, boulderlined Boowinda Gorge before heading steeply up and out of Carnarvon Gorge towards Battleship Spur. Ascending over 600m in 4km, the walk to Battleship leads the walker along narrow ridges and across rocky scree slopes towards the basalt-capped top of the Great Dividing Range.

ARRIVE prior 11am early lunch on Battleship spur. 4.5 hours to hike 5kms.

12pm walk off with packs on.

At over 1000 metres above sea level, the Battleship Spur lookout provides sensational views back over Carnarvon Gorge and further east. From here, the trail heads across grassy plateaus and down the western side of the Great Divide into the Mount Moffatt section of Carnarvon National Park. This is the headwaters of the Maranoa River—itsself part of the MurrayDarling catchment. Gadd's walkers' camp is situated near the site of an old stockyard—for many years stockmen camped here when this area was a highlands cattle run.

Arrive to camp 3.30pm

## DAY THREE

R3 Gadd's walkers' camp to West Branch walkers' camp—15.8km (allow 5–6 hours walking time) plus 2 hours for stops [Grade 5](#)

[6.30am walk off](#) From Gadd's walkers' camp, the trail leads uphill, heading along a

narrow-side branch of the Maranoa River for 6km before leading steeply up onto the plateau and the Great Dividing Range once more. There are great views back over Carnarvon Gorge, and to the south-west a little further on. From here the track heads south-west, before leading steeply down a ridgeline into Boot Creek, from where the basalt-capped peak of Mount Moffatt itself can be seen beyond the rolling hills with their cover of yellow grass and waves of silver-leaved ironbark.

The landscape on the western side of the Great Dividing Range is less dramatic than Carnarvon Gorge, but equally as interesting. Here, the Maranoa River has eroded broad valleys from the soft, more elevated layers of sandstone.

Descending into Boot Creek, the track heads down one of these sandy valleys and eventually over a suspension bridge across the west branch of the Maranoa River and into the West Branch walkers' camp. Water is available here, and toilets are a short distance away.

### WESTBRANCH CAMP – HALFWAY

As soon as you get to camp – set tent up and fill all water bladders immediately for the next day. Party boys will arrive and I've had hikers forget to fill their bladder with all the excitement.

Charging station – charge all power banks and phones – bring cords and adapters in food drop.

Hot Shower, soap, shampoo, conditioner and a big towel each provided.

Icy cold beverage – put your order in. (I buy it and Peter brings the beverage on ice to Westbranch.) Drinks are capped at 5 beers or 5 spirits/wines. (day 4 is huge)

If you are travelling home **via Injune**, you may include a **clean set of clothes** in the food parcel you are sending to Maree for **Westbranch**. Mathew Bidgood will be at Westbranch and will transport **all dirty clothes and any off-loaded gear** back to the **rear veranda of his townhouse in Injune**. Flyers – yes, we will call to the house and grab your gear on the way to Roma.

If you are travelling home **via Rolleston**, this option will **not** work for you. If you would like any off-loaded gear posted back to you, please leave a **pre-paid envelope** with Maree.

### 1pm arrive at camp

- Your food drop will be here, Whip Cracking competition, bonfire, cold beverages plus **lots more**.

Evacuation by choice available here for anyone wishing to only hike 50kms or feel the need to pull out. \$600 cash needed to hand the driver as it's an 8-to-10-hour drive for them. \$300 for wear and tear on the car plus fuel, and \$300 for the driver's time. \$600 in total.

**HIKING SCHEDULE – Have You Trained Appropriately? Hike with Maree's daily schedule is set around the slowest group we have ever had in our history. If you hold the entire group back by more than 60 minutes beyond our scheduled times due to choosing not to train properly and deliberately ignoring Hike with Maree's training guidelines, Lighter Pack requirements (under 14 kg), and repeated advice, the following consequence applies: Evacuation at Westbranch at your expense — \$600.**

**We will not allow one person's decision to under-train or over-pack to cause the group to walk into camp in the dark.**

**Please note: After Westbranch Camp (located low in the riverbed), Day 4 requires us to hike back UP to 1,232 metres above sea level. This is a major climb and includes the longest and toughest kilometres of the entire trek. Many hikers consistently report Day 4 as the hardest day of the whole walk.**

**Training and pack weight are not optional — they are essential for your safety and for the group's enjoyment.**

## DAY FOUR

R4 West Branch walkers' camp to Consuelo camping zone—17.3km  
(allow 6–7 hours walking time) [Grade 5](#)

### 7 am walk off

This is the Great Walk's longest section. From West Branch the trail climbs steadily uphill once again, leading up onto the Consuelo Tableland, where you will cross the crest of the Great Dividing Range, which heads away in a north-westerly direction. There are great views of the western mountain ranges and Mount Moffatt.

A cool change from the open rugged country you have just passed through, the Consuelo Tableland has deep, fertile basalt soils—remnants of the Buckland Volcano's basalt flows. The deep soils and cool, moist conditions support a tall woodland/open forest of silvertop stringybark and Sydney blue gum, with patches of rough-barked apple. Swathes of kangaroo grass, blady grass and at times, bracken fern, cover the ground. Macrozamia (cycads) are common here, in places reaching as much as six metres in height.

The track leads through a very tall open forest consisting almost entirely of majestic silvertop stringybark. Known as the Mahogany Forest, this is one of the area's best examples of this forest type. The trail passes close to the southern edge of the plateau, through small pockets of casuarinas where the sound of red-tailed black cockatoos may be heard from high above.

The Consuelo Tableland reaches a height of 1232 metres above sea level at a point just to the south of the Great Walk trail. You are now walking across the 'Roof of Queensland', the most elevated part of the Central Queensland Sandstone Belt and one of the highest places in Queensland.

## DAY FIVE

R5 Consuelo camping zone to Cabbage Tree camping zone—13.8km  
(allow 3–4 hours walking time) [Grade 5](#)

### 9.00am walk off (Sleep until 7.00am)

Camp far away from the camp shed if you wish to sleep in, as hikers will get up early for coffee etc.

Foleys camping zone has been a place where people have camped for many years under the shelter of Queensland blue gums and rough-barked apple trees. A series of springs—including Foleys, Ferntree and Heavenly springs—are hidden along the tableland. These water points were known to Aboriginal people and the stockmen who followed.

This section of the Great Walk is a gradual south-east descent along the top of the Consuelo Tableland. The track will lead you through an area of grass trees with towering flower spikes, with casuarina forest on your right.

From Foleys Springs the trail heads through tall open forest. This area is frequently burnt, with the varied undergrowth reflecting this—carpets of bracken fern indicate recent burns, while unburnt areas have an understorey dominated by acacias.

11am to 12pm BUSH TRACK ART

AND lunch

Art piece done on the track halfway between camps. Everyone get their design ready NOW! 2pm arrive at camp , Set up tents

3pm visit a spur “Off Track” or rest up in camp. Optional 200m hike.

## DAY SIX

R6 Cabbage Tree camping zone to Carnarvon Gorge visitor area— 15.3km (allow 5–6 hours walking time) plus 2 hours for stops. [Grade 5](#)

### [5am walk off](#)

[Walk 40 minutes and have breakfast on the cliff watching sunrise; set your timelapse as you pull up.](#)

The last leg of the Great Walk skirts the eastern edge of the Consuelo Tableland and heads back down into the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area. After several kilometres of walking, the tableland narrows, and the trail leads close to the northern edge of the plateau, from where there are views north to Mount Acland (Black Alley Peak)—a remnant of basalt rising from the sandstone of Black Alley Ridge.

Morning tea – with an amazing view looking out over the Rolleston Highway

The trail descends steeply to the south from the tableland, down onto a broad, lower plateau known as Jimmys Shelf. You are following the trail once used by stockmen to travel between the plateau and the lower country. After several kilometres heading south, the trail climbs several steep ridges and crosses deep gullies before heading up Demons Ridge. Passing within view of the large rock formation known as the Devils Signpost, the trail leads south again, with the imposing Bulknaoo Cliffs looming overhead. A 700m side-track leads to the Boolimba Bluff Lookout, with views over the mouth of Carnarvon Gorge.

Lunch - on Boolimba Bluff with a Celebration Toyota jump

From here, the trail descends through spotted gum woodland to Carnarvon Creek. There are steps, steep sections including one very steep section with 300m of steps and short ladders.

[Approximate arrival time being 3pm to the Carnarvon Gorge Visitor Centre carpark.](#)

We then take showers at Big4 Breeze and afterwards and sit down at Breeze Big4 café and have a relaxed cold drink with ice-creams and treats and then say our goodbyes from here. (There is a ceremony which no one can miss)

Flyers; planes- it's a three-hour drive to Roma 4455. 6-7pm arrive at your motel you've previously booked. I recommend booking Midtown motel, as it's close to shops and restaurants, and off the main noisy truck hwy.

Anyone driving you may wish to book a cabin at BREEZE BIG 4 TONIGHT as you will be super tired. Book 6-12 months in advance as they get booked out early. Or sleep in your tent again, haha.

LOOKING FORWARD TO A FUN FANTASTIC ADVENTURE WITH YOU!

#### PHONE SERVICE ON TREK

If you would like to leave your next of kin 'Pete's Contacts while we are out on trek. For Pure emergencies only -

LANDLINE 07 46263730 (Pete)

PETER Mobile 0407 100 118

Your next of kin should try your mobile first though, Pete second.

#### SERVICE OUT ON TRACK

We will have service day one Breeze Big 4 wifi, day two 11am-12pm at battleship Spur, day three 9am for 30minutes purgatory shelf, day four maybe 5minutes? up top in Consuela Forest. Day five – camp on weak service at Cabbage camp. Day six into gorge – service Breeze big 4. So, if they send a message you should pick up along the trek in places.

Telstra Blue tick mobile phone has the best service.

Please all save my number in your mobile for travel day

MAREE 0400 663 099

At home ring me on 07 46263730

**Look forward to a fun fantastic adventure.**