

# Bushwalking in Denmark

For the keen bushwalker, or the holidaymaker who simply wants to get a bit closer to nature, Denmark's cool climate is ideal for a range of experiences.

The wide range of landscapes in Denmark includes granite outcrops, tall eucalypt forests, wildflowers in spring, endless pristine beaches, mountain views and the beauty of Wilson Inlet. All are accessible by formal walktrails and paths, many of which start in town.

## Denmark-Nornalup Rail Trail

Ideal for mountain bikes, horses and walkers, this section of former railway reserve features renovated bridges, steep embankments and cuttings, and constantly changing views.

Three stages of the trail have been completed to date -



- Denmark River mouth to Hay River (about 12km) - Walkers, Hybrid Bikes, Mountain Bikers. The section to Rudyard Beach Road is of high quality surface (suitable for families), with the remaining section soft or uneven in places, and suitable for walking and keen bikers.
- Denmark River mouth to Parker Road (33km) - Walkers, Horse Riders, Mountain Bikers. Sections are boggy in winter and soft sandy sections make it recommended for keen cyclists.
- Peaceful Bay Road to Station Road (about 14km) - Walkers, Mountain Bikers. The surface is still rough and/or sandy in places and suitable for walkers and keen bike riders only.

## What are rail trails?

Rail trails are shared-use paths recycled from abandoned railway corridors. They can be used for walking, cycling and horse riding.

## Where are they?

There are now rail trails all around Australia and in other countries too. Rail trails link big and small country towns and meander through scenic countryside just as railways did in the past.

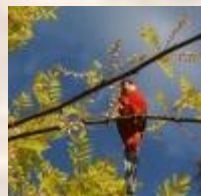
## What are they like?

Most trails have a gravel or dirt surface suitable for walking, mountain bikes and horses. Some are sealed and are great for touring bikes too.

Following the route of the railways, they cut through hills, under roads, over embankments and across gullies and creeks. Apart from being great places to walk, cycle or horse ride, rail trails are linear conservation corridors protecting native plants and animals. They often link remnant vegetation in farming areas and contain valuable flora and fauna habitat. Wineries and other attractions are near many trails as well as B&B's and other great places to stay.

## Are the rails still there?

The rails are usually removed when a railway is closed, but remnants of the past such as railway cuttings and bridges still remain



# About the Munda Biddi Trail



The Munda Biddi Trail (which means path through the forest in the Noongar Aboriginal language) is fast becoming a world-class nature-based off-road cycling experience. There are few places left in the world where a 1000km track could be built through an undeveloped natural corridor. Combine Western Australia's vast areas of unspoiled forests and bushland, gentle terrain, and year-round cycling weather, and you have the ideal setting for an off-road cycle trail.

Every day on the trail will be different. Imagine cycling through towering eucalyptus forests and ancient, unspoiled bushland. Discover plants and wildlife not found anywhere else in the world. Camp in shelters or stay in quaint country towns. Learn about Aboriginal culture and the rich heritage of the region as you visit wineries and attractions of the south west of Australia.

The Munda Biddi is a trail with something for everyone. There are sections of trail that will suit anyone's cycling ability and pace. The trail is easily accessible by car, so you can begin your journey wherever it is convenient. Different sections of the trail will be suitable for cyclists of all levels, with challenging loops and spurs to be added once the main trail is completed. And because the trail is predominantly off-road, you can enjoy the scenery while you safely cycle through the forest on the dirt track. The entire Munda Biddi Trail is now open between Mundaring and Albany (approx 1000km).



## The Bibbulmun Track

The Waugal trail marker clearly marks the way.



The Bibbulmun Track is one of the world's great long distance walk trails, stretching nearly 1000km from Kalamunda, a suburb in the hills on the outskirts of Perth, to the historic town of Albany on the south coast. It passes through the heart of the scenic south west of Western Australia.

**The Track is for walkers only** and is signposted with yellow triangular markers symbolising the Waugal, the rainbow serpent of the Aboriginal Dreaming. It takes walkers through towering karri and tingle forests, down mist-shrouded valleys, over giant granite boulders and along breathtaking coastal heathlands. It passes through many of the most beautiful national parks of the south west forests and coastline.

The Bibbulmun Track offers a wide range of experiences, from a gentle stroll to enjoy the peace and beauty of the natural environment, to an epic eight week adventure. Those that walk every step of the way can be registered as **end-to-enders**.

You can make it a wilderness experience by **camping out**, you can join a **guided group**, a **tour**, or you can **do it in comfort** by staying in the towns along the Track and enjoying day walks in the area. The Track passes through Dwellingup, Collie, Balingup, Donnelly River Village, Pemberton, Northcliffe, Walpole, Peaceful Bay and Denmark.

The Bibbulmun Track is essentially a linear walk; you will need to do some planning if you don't want to retrace your steps. This might involve arranging a car shuffle, swapping keys as two groups meet at a campsite, or having someone drop you off and collect you at the other end.



Long Gully Bridge is a rare example of a curved timber railway bridge in Western Australia. **It is not possible to walk consecutive sections of the Track as day walks** or to do it staying in accommodation each night. Some sections have many days between permitted access points (up to four days) and long distances between towns (the longest being 12 days).

In addition, there are several facilities designed to enhance the walker's experience. Boardwalks, well positioned lookouts and footbridges all form part of the trail.

The best times to walk the Track are in autumn (April to May), winter (June to August) and indeed spring (September to mid-November), our wildflower season. On cooler days, **walking during summer** is possible but should be restricted to the karri forest around Pemberton.

