





Staircase to the Moon

The Staircase to the Moon is a natural phenomenon that only occurs in the northern region of Western Australia. On the West Pilbara Coast it can be experienced at Settler’s Beach in Cossack and Hearson’s Cove, near Dampier and Karratha.

Occurring on full moon dates, from April to October the Staircase to the Moon is a beautiful optical illusion, only created when the full moon reflects on exposed mudflats at an extremely low tide. The effect is breathtaking and creates the magical illusion of a staircase reaching up to the moon. Plan an evening complete with deck chair and camera to view this spectacular event at beautiful Hearson’s Cove.

Hearson’s Cove

Hearson’s Cove, located on the Burrup Peninsula between Karratha and Dampier, is one of the many beautiful beaches in this region. Explore the tidal flats and you could encounter turtles, mud crabs, octopus and migrating seasonal bird life.

This lovely sheltered cove is a popular swimming and picnic spot all year round. It is also one of only a few locations where you can view the spectacular Staircase to the Moon event.

This picturesque shell beach boasts amenities such as barbeques, shade shelters and toilets. Check your local tide times and weather conditions before setting out.

Settlers Beach

Settlers Beach is a beautiful, wide, sandy beach ideal for swimming, diving and snorkelling. A lookout pergola is perched on the cliff top, offering sweeping views of Roebourne, Wickham, Point Samson and along the coast to Depuch Island. There is great fishing in this area, whether along the beach or along the mangrove filled river mouth. Catches include Mackerel, Salmon, Bream, Mangrove Jack, Barramundi, Mud Crabs and Blue Swimmer Crabs. Check your local tide times and weather conditions before setting out.

Call 08 9144 4600 or visit www.Karrathavisitorcentre.com.au for more information, including viewing dates and times.



One of the great pleasures of a holiday along the Pilbara Coast is the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of recreational activities on and under the water. Marine life is abundant and a good catch is almost guaranteed. If you have your own boat, launching ramps are provided and strategically located around the City of Karratha. Natural boat ramps are also available at Cleaverville and 40 Mile. It is important to exercise caution when planning a trip on the water, allowing for the large movement in tides and larger vessels.

Cleaverville Nature Based Campsite (located 26km northwest of Karratha) and 40 Mile (Gnoorea Point) Nature Based Campsite (located 56km south of Karratha) are natural camping areas and apart from the natural boat ramps, chemical toilets and the sullage disposal points, there are no facilities available. It is important to take plenty of drinking water with you as there is none available on site and remove all rubbish when you leave. Water is available from the Karratha Visitor Centre. Dogs are permitted at both Cleaverville and 40 Mile Beach, small cooking fires are allowed (restrictions apply) however not on high or above Fire Danger days. Generators can also be used but must be switched off between 10.00pm and 6.00am.

Fees apply during camping season (1 May to 30 September), and need to be paid in advance to the City of Karratha Caretaker located on site. The maximum length of stay during this time is 28 days. No camping fees apply during the off season (1 October to 30 April) however the maximum length of stay is 3 nights per 28 days. It is important to note that campsites will close when a blue cyclone alert is issued and that camping within the City of Karratha is only permitted within designated camping areas.



Australia’s West Pilbara Coast has the ideal weather and climate for holidaying from April to October. It is the perfect place to enjoy winter daytime temperatures, averaging around 25°C to 30°C. During the cyclone season from November to March, the region receives its annual rainfall and weather conditions vary. If you are travelling during these months you should be well prepared and aware of the cyclone and flooding risks. The region has both tropical and semi-desert climates, with temperatures ranging from 15°C to 45°C.

Cyclones

November to April is the wet season in the North West of Western Australia, bringing with it the risk of tropical cyclones. Severe cyclones can cause widespread damage, injury and loss of life. As cyclones often adopt an erratic course and can change speed suddenly, it is important to be aware of any changes. Weather conditions can change quite noticeably from day to day. So if you’re travelling, keep an eye on the forecasts. There are four stages of alerts - Blue, Yellow, Red and All Clear. It is important to listen carefully and do what the alerts say to help keep you and your family safe. Please listen to the radio (ABC), watch television or visit the Bureau of Meteorology’s website for alerts, updates and relevant cyclone information.

Beware of Flooding

Flooding can occur as cyclones bring heavy rainfall that causes extensive damage. Heavy rain can continue as the cyclone moves inland so flooding is possible over widespread areas. It does not have to be raining in your area for flooding to occur and there is a possibility you may become stranded for several days until the water subsides.

Where Can I Get More Information?

The main sources of cyclone information are the radio, television stations and internet. Because of the high probability of the main power supply being disrupted, it is important to have a battery operated radio to listen for cyclone advices.

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

W: www.dfes.wa.gov.au | Information: 1300 657 209

Bureau of Meteorology

W: www.bom.gov.au | Cyclone Advice (WA only): 1300 659 210

ABC Local Radio

Karratha and Surrounding Area: 702AM

Main Roads

W: www.mainroads.wa.gov.au | Road Conditions: 138 138



www.roebourne.org.au

July
Baynton West Markets
Dampier Beachside Markets
Staircase to the Moon
Roebourne Races - Ladies Day
Roebourne Races - Cup Day
Cossack Art Awards
KDCCI Pilbara Pulse and Business Expo
NAIDOC Week Celebrations
August
Baynton West Markets
Dampier Beachside Markets
Staircase to the Moon
FeNaCING Festival
Dampier Classic Fishing Competition
Point Samson Chilli Festival
APEX Garden Party
September
Baynton West Markets
Dampier Beachside Markets
Staircase to the Moon
Red Earth Arts Festival
Fathers Day Bike and Car Show
October
Baynton West Markets
Dampier Beachside Markets
Staircase to the Moon
Wickham Community Celebrations
November
Staircase to the Moon
Guy Fawkes Day Celebrations
Remembrance Day Services
Wickham Charity Ball
Light the Night
December
Dampier Beachside Twilight Markets
Carols by Candlelight

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