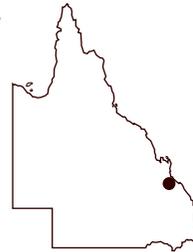


Cania Gorge National Park



Welcome to Cania Gorge National Park

Cania Gorge National Park protects a valuable remnant of the Brigalow Belt, Aboriginal freehand art and varied wildlife habitats spanning over 3,000 hectares.



It is the closest park to the coast in which you can see the rugged and diverse sandstone landscapes of central Queensland. Waiting to be explored are towering cliffs, ancient caves and sheltered gorges.

“ The stunning scenery offers a place of colour and contrast. I encourage visitors to enjoy the short walks that allow you to discover the natural sandstone cliffs, secret caves, quiet fern-covered pools, picturesque eucalypt forests and dry woodlands. When visiting, please remember that this is an ancient and unique landscape. Please help to protect it by staying on the tracks and not damaging vegetation or the rich cultural history.

Ranger Peter



Peregrine falcon
(*Falco peregrinus*)

Enjoy your visit

Walk on one of the eight walking tracks in the morning or afternoon to give yourself the best chance of seeing Cania Gorge's interesting wildlife. Take your time; the hidden sights and sounds of the park will reveal themselves to you.

Most of the walks lead from Three Moon Creek picnic area in the southern end of the park, where there are sheltered picnic tables, electric barbecues and wheelchair-accessible toilets. Three Moon Creek runs along the length of the gorge. Take a stroll by the creek or test your fitness with a walk to the Giant's Chair lookout.

You will discover amazing native plants and animals—kangaroos, bettongs, brush-tail possums, sugar gliders and brush-tailed rock wallabies. So, bring your camera and binoculars and go wildlife watching. Rustling noises in the dry rainforest are often caused by birds or reptiles, which you may see if you are quiet.

The park is home to more than 90 species of birds. Keep your eyes open for dollarbirds, king parrots, wompoo pigeons, and regent bowerbirds. When in the side-gorges, listen for the echoing calls of sulphur-crested cockatoos or currawongs. Look up at the cliffs and you may spot a soaring peregrine falcon or wedge-tail eagle.

Cania Gorge protects some Brigalow Belt plant communities including mixed eucalypt woodland, riparian zones, dry vine forest, brigalow forest and grassland. The Giant's Chair lookout, in the shade of pink spotted gums, is a great place to obtain a view over the varied vegetation communities of Cania Gorge. You'll see two main types of vegetation from this view—dry vine forest, which fringes the cliff bases and extends into deep gullies, is noticeable as darker green patches in sharp contrast to the grey-green of the eucalypt woodland seen above the cliffs and on the lower slopes.

For those who are keen to try their hand at fishing, Lake Cania just north of the park is the place to go.

Getting there

Cania Gorge can be reached via a bitumen road that branches off the Burnett Highway 12km north of Monto (or 77km south of Biloela) and passes through the small township of Moonford.

Camping is not permitted in the national park, however private caravan and camping parks are located in the gorge.



A rich cultural heritage

First Nations peoples have lived in Cania Gorge for at least 19,000 years. Freehand art on the sandstone walls resonates with the spirit of the people who made them. Please respect the area's rich cultural heritage, it has spiritual and cultural significance to First Nations peoples today.

Cania Goldfields

Gold was discovered just to the north of Cania Gorge in 1870 and the township known as 'Cania Goldfields' soon sprang up along Three Moon Creek. Mining finally ended in the early 1920s. The waters of Lake Cania covered the remains of the goldfields after Cania Dam was built on Three Moon Creek in the early 1980s.

Walk to explore



Remember to carry water on all the walks—the creek water is unsuitable for drinking.

From Three Moon Creek picnic area (park's southern section)



Picnic area circuit

300m return. Allow 20min.

Take a stroll beside Three Moon Creek, for views of the towering sandstone cliffs and surrounding eucalypt woodlands that cover the slopes.



Dripping Rock and The Overhang

3.2km return. Allow 2.5hr.

After crossing Three Moon Creek, the track winds through eucalypt woodland and dry vine forest before arriving at the base of Dripping Rock (2.2km return). In wet times, choruses of frogs can be heard near the creeks. Continuing on to The Overhang, you'll see where centuries of weathering has eroded the base of the sandstone cliff leaving striking yellow and red features.

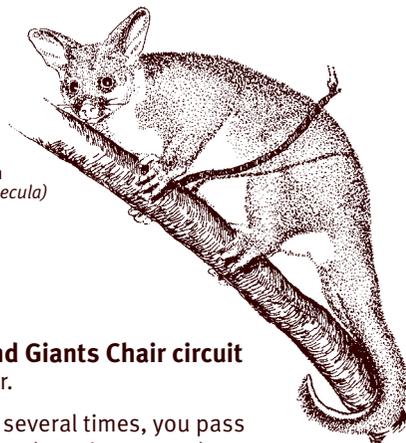


Big Foot walk

1km return. Allow 45min.

While on this short walk look for the large brown image of a four-toed foot on the white sandstone cliff.

Brush-tail possum
(*Trichosurus vulpecula*)



Fern Tree Pool and Giants Chair circuit

5.6km return. Allow 3hr.

Crossing Doctors Gully several times, you pass Fern Tree Pool (2.5km) and continue a moderate climb for another 2.2km up a sandstone escarpment to the Giants Chair lookout. The circuit returns 900m to the car park down a steep track and steps.



Dragon and Bloodwood caves

2.6km return. Allow 1hr.

Once you reach Dragon Cave (1.8km return) a natural black mural of a 'dragon' can be seen highlighted against the white sandstone wall. The southern branch of the track leads to Bloodwood Cave, so called because the roots of a bloodwood tree can be seen on the left-hand side of the cave.



Two Storey Cave circuit

1.3km return. Allow 45min.

This scenic circuit meanders upwards around isolated sandstone monoliths. A 20m side track leads to King Orchid Crevice, a parting of the cliff that has created an ideal haven for epiphytes. The top section of Two Storey Cave is important habitat for insectivorous bats. Please do not disturb these animals.



Castle Mountain

22km return. Allow 7-8hr.

Follow this track to two lookouts. The first, Gorge lookout, offers stunning views down the gorge and is 1.5km from the picnic area. The second, Castle Mountain lookout, is 11km offering a rewarding view of Lake Cania after the long walk. Return via the same track.

Caution: This walk is for self-reliant bushwalkers with first-aid skills and ability to cope with weather hazards. The track:

- may be overgrown at times
- has unfenced cliff edges and naturally occurring lookouts
- has unreliable mobile phone reception.

From northern car park (10km drive north from Three Moon Creek picnic area)



Shamrock mine site

1.4km return. Allow 45min.

Meander along a creek and through eucalypt woodland to arrive at the former Shamrock gold mine site. Follow the self-guided walk and get a feel for what life was like on the Cania Goldfields. The remains of the old battery, mine shafts, processing sheds and mullock heaps can be seen along the way. Gold fossicking is not permitted.

Find out more

When planning your trip to Cania Gorge National Park, visit qld.gov.au/CaniaGorge for park alerts, safety information, maps, things to do and details on the wildlife that make this park special.



Scan for
Cania Gorge
National Park

Track classifications

Grade 2 	Hardened surface; gentle hills; some steps; no bushwalking experience required.
Grade 3 	Rough surface; many steps; short, steep hills; suitable for most ages and fitness levels; bushwalking experience recommended.
Grade 4 	Rough surface; often long tracks; very steep; limited signs; for experienced bushwalkers.

Further information



qld.gov.au/NationalParks



qld.gov.au/Camping



qld.gov.au/ParkAlerts

(access, closures and conditions)



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This brochure is also available online at qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures



Scan to check
park alerts

Front cover photo: View from Castle Mountain lookout
Ben Blanche © Queensland Government

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