Campground host information pack

Carnarvon Gorge section, Carnarvon National Park

Photo: Robert Ashdown © Queensland Government
Welcome to Carnarvon Gorge section, Carnarvon National Park.

The Traditional Custodians of Carnarvon Gorge, the Bidjara and Karingbal people, welcome you to country, ask that you stay safe and treat this special place with respect and care.

Information about Carnarvon Gorge

Situated between the central Queensland towns of Roma and Emerald, Carnarvon Gorge is approximately 740km north-west of Brisbane, 450km south-west of Rockhampton, 246km north of Roma and 241km south-east of Emerald.

The park can be reached by conventional and 4WD vehicles and trailers. Carnarvon Creek does rise rapidly after rain, cutting the access road into and out of Carnarvon Gorge.

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service ranger station is located on site at the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area. Rangers are rostered on duty every day of the year except Christmas Day.

The closest shopping centre (SPAR) is located in Injune approximately 155km south east of Carnarvon Gorge.

Medical facilities are available at Injune and Springsure. The Royal Flying Doctor Service and Care Flight service can provide assistance for emergency help.

There is no fuel available at Carnarvon Gorge. Purchase fuel in either Rolleston or Injune and ensure you bring adequate supplies for the duration of your stay. The nearest vehicle and tyre repair facilities are at Injune and Springsure.

There is no mobile phone coverage at the park. There is a coin-operated public telephone and free QPWS Wi-Fi available between the hours of 8am to 4pm at the national park’s visitor centre.


Campground host program

The main role of a campground host is to greet visitors at the Carnarvon Gorge camping area and help maintain the visitor facilities in the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area. Campground hosts camp for free in return for performing these duties.
What is expected of a campground host?

- Hosts will be required to commit to a two week hosting period over the Easter, June/July or September Queensland school holidays.
- Hosts are expected to work two hours a day, six days a week for the specified timeframe.
- Hosts are encouraged to welcome visitors to the Carnarvon Gorge camping area and assist campers with any general enquiries regarding the Carnarvon Gorge camping and visitor area.
- Hosts will be required to assist with the cleaning of the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area facilities.
- Hosts are required to maintain contact with rangers in case of emergent situations.
- Hosts are not required to undertake any compliance duties nor handle any money.
- Hosts will need to be self-sufficient and be equipped to camp in all types of weather conditions including seasonal high rainfall and cool temperatures over winter.
- A dedicated host camping site will be provided which will be suitable for a camper trailer.
- The campground host site will have access to treated water and will be located in close proximity to the camping area’s shower and toilet amenities.
- Rangers will visit the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area daily in order to perform essential maintenance tasks and will be available to assist hosts with any practical issues.

What will QPWS provide the campground hosts?

- Free camping while engaged as a host.
- QPWS volunteers shirt and badge.
- A dedicated host camping site which is suitable for a camper trailer.
- A Volunteer agreement, Statement of duties and Campground host information pack.
- An induction will be held onsite to ensure you are familiar with the role and duties of the position including Workplace Health and Safety policy and procedures.
- All cleaning equipment and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- A UHF radio for the sole purpose of communicating with ranger staff.
- A portable shelter, folding table and chairs, A frame notice board, log book and pens.
- Information handouts such as park brochures and maps.
- Short term loan material such as animal reference books.
What equipment will I need to bring?

Carnarvon Gorge camping area is semi remote. Campground hosts are required to be self-sufficient and be equipped to camp in all types of weather conditions.

Essentials to bring are:

- Own camping accommodation.
- Adequate food.
- Rubbish bags, there are no rubbish bins nor is rubbish collected in the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area. Campers are asked to dispose of their rubbish at regional refuse stations.
- A fuel stove. Open fires are not permitted in the national park.
- Insect repellent, screened tents or mosquito nets, adequate fuel and spare parts for your vehicle.

How to apply?

If you would like to apply be become a Campground Host please contact the Ranger in Charge (RIC) at Carnarvon Gorge on 07 4984 4505. You will be emailed out a questionnaire to complete and asked to supply two current referees.

How campground hosts are selected?

Suitable applicants will be chosen through a selection process and will be notified via email/phone if they have been successful.

Selection criteria

- A valid driver’s licence.
- A current Senior First Aid Certificate (recommended)
- Sound knowledge and experience of camping and environmental practices associated with camping in national parks.
- Prior camping experience at the relevant site, or experience in remote, isolated environments.
- An ability and willingness to carry out the required duties.
- Campground hosts may not be an individual, preferably two or more persons known to each other and aged 18 years or over.
Additional Information about Carnarvon Gorge camping area

Camping area features: A picturesque, semi-secluded camping area situated under a canopy of gums and Carnarvon fan palms.

Location: Between the carpark and the Carnarvon Gorge visitor area.

Access: The camping area can be reached by conventional and 4WD vehicles and trailers. The road may be impassable for conventional vehicles during wet weather as creeks may flood.

Number of sites: 35 numbered sites suitable for tent, off-road campervans or camper trailers.

Camp site surface: grass

Facilities: Drinking water, flushing toilets, $1 coin –operated hot showers, wheelchair-accessible toilet and shower, picnic tables and free gas barbecues.

Bookings: Book online. The maximum length of stay at this camping area is 5 nights.

Open fires: Prohibited

Generators: Not permitted

Mobile phone coverage: Not available

Pets: No pets allowed within the national park, nor at the campground.