

# Boodja Gnarning Walk

Wanju Nyoongar  
Boodja

Living off the land

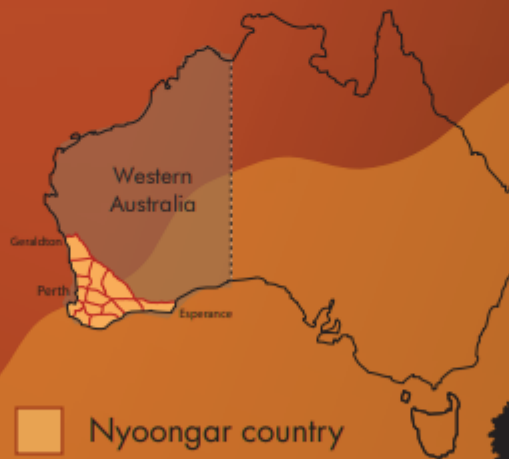
Food | Tools | Medicine | Shelter

Welcome to Nyoongar country, an area including Perth that is bounded by the south-west coast of Western Australia and extends from Geraldton in the north to Esperance on the south coast.

There are many tribes within Nyoongar country, many of whom visited the Moora Katta (Kings Park) area at various times of the year: a place of ceremony, celebration and good hunting. Today Mooro Katta is a place of gatherings, celebration and learning for all Western Australians. It is a sanctuary and a place of rare and natural beauty.

The Boodja Gnarning Walk offers a unique experience that highlights the diverse methods of survival used by Nyoongar people to live off the land in the south-west of Western Australia.

Experience Australia's oldest living culture first-hand and discover traditional foods, tools, medicines and shelter of the Nyoongar people from the south-west of Western Australia.



Nyoongar language:

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Balga             | Grass Tree    |
| Bibool            | Paperbark     |
| dowak             | clubs         |
| gidji             | spear points  |
| kaarta gar-up     | cliff         |
| kulunga           | children      |
| kylee             | boomerang     |
| maarm             | men           |
| mia-mia           | hut           |
| Mungitch          | banksia       |
| wanna borna       | digging stick |
| yandi + coolamons | bowls         |
| yonga             | kangaroo      |
| yorgas            | women         |





## Did you know...

...the area near the Pioneer Womens Memorial was a women's-only precinct as it was where they traditionally gave birth?

...the Balga has over 101 different uses including tools, glue, spears and food?

...there are over 12 dialect groups throughout Nyoongar country?

...that many Perth suburbs are named after Nyoongar words? ... Balcatta, Gwelup, Innaloo, Karrinyup, Mundaring, Yanchep... just to name a few!

## Experience Nyoongar Culture in Kings Park

- Book a **Wadjuk Wandering** lesson with Kings Park's Aboriginal Cultural Education Officer for your school  
Phone (08) 9480 3624 or visit our website:  
[www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/education/schools](http://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/education/schools)
- See artwork on the Lotterywest Federation Walkway as part of the **Boodja Gnarning Walk**.
- Book an **Indigenous Cultural Heritage Tour**  
Learn about the Indigenous history of Kings Park including the Dreaming story for Nyoongar country; which plants were used for bush food and medicine; and how tools and weapons were made.  
[www.indigenouswa.com.au](http://www.indigenouswa.com.au)
- Visit the **Aboriginal Art Gallery** to purchase original Aboriginal artwork by Australian artists. Art is central to Aboriginal culture. It records the beliefs and stories from the Dreaming.  
Phone: (08) 9481 7082  
[www.aboriginalgallery.com.au](http://www.aboriginalgallery.com.au)

## For more information

Visit the Kings Park Visitor Information Centre, (08) 9480 3634, situated in the Fraser Avenue precinct near *Aspects of Kings Park* Gallery Shop, or visit the website: [www.bgpa.wa.gov.au](http://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au)

# Boodja Gnarning Walk

## Living off the land

A self-guided walk that explores traditional Nyoongar ways of living off the land

The Boodja Gnarning Walk was researched and written by Alton Walley.

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Food | Tools | Medicine | Shelter



# Western Australian Botanic Garden



**Boodja Gnarning Walk Starts here**

## Plants Legend

### Boodja Gnarning Walk

- 1 **Marri**, *Corymbia calophylla*
- 2 **Wonnil**, Peppermint Tree, *Agonis flexuosa*
- 3 **Jumulu**, Boob Tree, *Adansonia gregorii*
- 4 **Boronia**, *Boronia megastigma*
- 5 **Mungitch**, Banksia
- 6 **Nyoongar**, Six Seasons
- 7 **Moonah**, Rottnest Island Tea Tree, *Melaleuca lanceolata*
- 8 **Kondil**, Sheoak, *Allocasuarina fraseriana* and **Karri**, *Eucalyptus diversicolor*
- 21 **Tuart**, Scar Tree, *Eucalyptus gomphocephala*
- 22 **Balga**, Grass Tree, *Xanthorrhoea preissii*
- 23 **Jarrah**, *Eucalyptus marginata*

The walk separates into male and female tracks:

### Maarm Track ♂

- Men's Long Walk
- 9 **Djiridji**, *Zamia*, *Macrozamia fraseri*
- 10 **Yonga Waarnginy**, Kangaroo Story
- 11 **Uilarac**, Sandalwood, *Santalum spicatum*
- 12 **Macrocarpa**, *Eucalyptus macrocarpa*
- 13 **Wandoo**, *Eucalyptus wandoo*
- 14 **Koolah**, Native Plum, *Podocarpus drouyanus*
- 15 **Moodja**, Christmas Tree, *Nuytsia floribunda*
- 16 **Wuanga**, Wattle, *Acacia*
- 17 **Boyer**, Woolly Bush, *Adenanthos sericeus*

### Yorgas Track ♀

- Women's Short Walk
- 18 **Kerbein**, Coastal Sword Sedge, *Lepidosperma gladiatum*
- 19 **Yorgas**, (Women's) Business sign
- 20 **Bibool**, Paperbark, *Melaleuca thaphiophylla*



Signs are dotted throughout the Botanic Garden, along the path, highlighting traditional Nyoongar uses of native plants and places of significance.

The Boodja Gnarning Walk is in three parts. It separates into two paths at the end of the Lotterywest Federation Walkway. You can then choose to do the Yorga ♀ Track and/or Maarm ♂ Track. Both of these tracks will lead back through the Botanic Garden to number 21, the Scar Tree, then back to the starting point.

### Boodja Gnarning Walk

Length 1 km  
Walk duration 30 minutes  
Trail information: hard ground / slight incline.

### Maarm Track

Men's Long Walk  
Length 1.4 km | Walk duration 60 minutes  
Trail information: soft and hard ground / medium incline.

### Yorgas Track

Women's Short Walk  
Length 0.8 km | Walk duration 20 minutes  
Trail: hard ground / slight to moderate incline.

