



The Meridian Line - Sunday 04.08.2024

“Where the signposts end, the trail begins.” – Marty Rubin



Mornington Peninsula Walks – from \$10.95

This double-sided, multi-scaled map features Mornington Peninsula National Park, Point Nepean, and Arthurs Seat State Park. It encompasses the entire Two-Bays Walking Track from Dromana to Cape Schanck, as well as the Coastal Walk from Cape Schanck to Portsea. The map highlights all tourist sites, wineries, picnic grounds, and walking tracks in and around the parks. It includes 25 walking track notes within the parks and reserves, along with information on coastal formations, history, and park development. This map is perfect for bushwalkers, day-trippers, and holidaymakers.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/mornington-peninsula-walks-map-guide/>

Binns Track – \$32.95

The Binns Track is a remarkable four-wheel drive adventure that traverses breathtaking scenery, offering the chance to discover some of the lesser-known sights of the Northern Territory.

Starting at the South Australian border, the Binns Track meanders through remote national parks, amazing camping spots, and distant outback towns. Spanning 2,230 kilometres, the track is named after Bill Binns, a ranger who dedicated 32 years to NT Parks and Wildlife. Bill's vision was to enable visitors to explore more of Central Australia, uncovering its vibrant colours, native wildlife, and majestic rock formations.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/binns-track/>

Outback NSW – \$14.95

A regional map of outback NSW (1:1,100,000) spans from Tamworth in the east to Broken Hill in the west, and from Wagga Wagga in the south to beyond the Queensland border in the north. The reverse side offers extensive information on various regions, including visitor guides, historical details, and background information. Covered areas include the Broken Hill region, Corner Country, east of Tibooburra, the White Cliffs region, Cobar and its surroundings, the Back o'Bourke area, Lightning Ridge and its vicinity, the Wentworth region, Balranald, the Griffith region, Dubbo and its surroundings, Kinchega National Park, Mungo National Park, Sturt National Park, and Mutawintji National Park.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/outback-new-south-wales/>

Alice Springs and Region – from \$5.95

The Heart of Australia's Red Centre offers a detailed street map with an index, an aerial photo map of the CBD, and information on accommodation, attractions, and services. It includes full-colour photographs and cultural, historical, and tourist information about Australia's inland capital. This easy-to-read map and guide will help you experience the best of Alice Springs.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/alice-springs-and-region/>

Crocodiles and Other People – \$34.95

This collection features tales of Aboriginal corroborees, Japanese pearl divers, overlanding, uranium mining, a wallaby that shot a man, and a crocodile that lived in the Commercial Bank. Some stories are amusing, others horrifying, and some seem unbelievable—except that Douglas Lockwood, with his reputation to uphold and a strong aversion to being considered gullible, tells them.

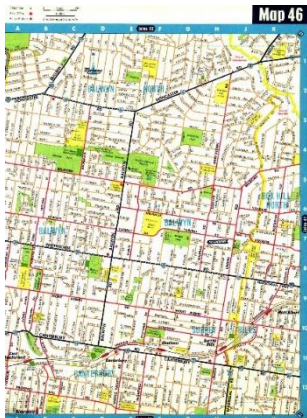
<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/crocodiles-other-people/>

Meridian Musings

In the last newsletter we had some interesting trivia about some towns in Australia. I must admit that I have not been to many of the towns listed so am not in the position to actually comment! Tony, a Meridian Line wrote in to say

“After living and working at Kintore in NT I can safely say that Kiwirrkurra is in WA, as is most of Lake Mackay. I may be wrong but I think Kintore is classed as one of the most remote Communities in the NT.”

The story in this edition looks at the issue of paper maps versus digital maps. I can definitely see both sides of the argument and there are times when I would prefer the digital but others when I believe the paper map offers a better option. I am probably giving away my age and the fact that I am based in Victoria, but I definitely remember driving to an unknown destination using the trusty old Melways. You would look up your destination and plan the easiest and most direct route before heading off. The Melways would sit open in case you needed to pull over and check the route. Today I get in my car and put the destination into my car's navigation system and follow whatever directions I am given. It is not always the most direct or best possible route but I get there in the end. In this case which is better? I'm really not sure.



OR



I know that all three of my children learnt how to read a paper map and navigate to a given point through scouts. There were often interesting debates by groups of young people trying to plot their hikes as to which path to take and who would be in charge of holding the map and following said route.



Photo credit: <https://www.stocksy.com/photo/1114748/children-scouts-learning-orientation-using-a-map>

As a family we would go on rogaines and the task of navigation was shared between the three children, each one looking forward to the important role of holding the map and leading our small team.

I'm sure these things could just as easily be achieved using a digital map and, perhaps it is a bit of nostalgia speaking, but the hard copy map will always have a place.

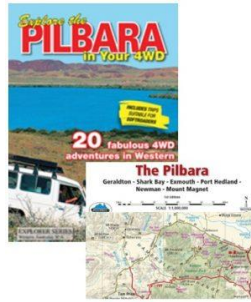
What's New to the Website

We have put together a number of new map packs to marry up our newest 4WD books with the maps that they complement.

The Pilbara 4WD Book and Digital Map Pack - \$26.90

This guide includes 20 4WD tracks, complete with GPS coordinates and local area information, making it the perfect companion for anyone planning a trip to the Pilbara. The book is paired with the Westprint Pilbara digital map, an essential resource with detailed information and comprehensive coverage. It will help you navigate the rugged terrain and stunning landscapes of one of Australia's most challenging and rewarding regions. Available in GeoTiff or PDF formats.

Please note this map is ONLY available in a digital format.

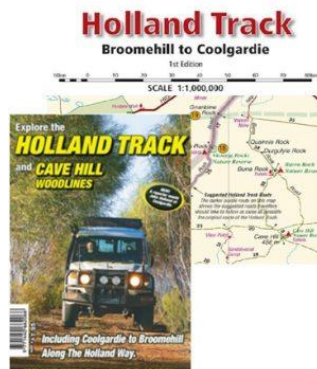


<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/pilbara-4wd-book-and-digital-map-pack/>

Holland Track 4WD Book and Digital Map Pack - \$25.10

The Holland Track is approximately 700kms in length and the track passes through sections of the Great Southern, Wheat Belt and Goldfields regions of Western Australia, including the largest intact area of Mediterranean climate woodlands left in the world. The book is matched with the Westprint Holland Track digital map, an indispensable resource with its detailed information and comprehensive coverage, it will help you navigate the rugged terrain and stunning landscapes of one of Australia's most challenging and rewarding regions. Available in GeoTiff or PDF Formats.

Please note this map is ONLY available in a digital format.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/holland-track-map-pack/>

Hanns Track 4WD Book and Gunbarrel Highway Map Pack – from \$35.90

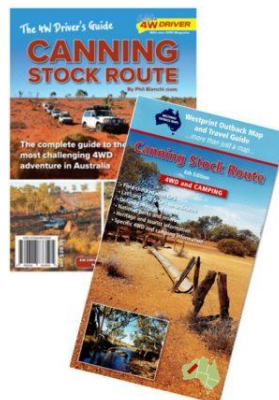
Hanns Track, located on the edge of the Great Victoria Desert, follows in the footsteps of the Frank Hann expedition from Laverton to Warburton. Discover spectacular country “beyond the black stump”. The book is matched with the 5th edition of Westprint's The Gunbarrel Highway Map, an indispensable resource with its detailed information and comprehensive coverage, it will help you navigate the rugged terrain and stunning landscapes of one of Australia's most challenging and rewarding regions.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/hanns-track-map-book-pack/>

Canning Stock Route and Map Pack – from \$53.90

this guide is essential for anyone planning to undertake this epic adventure. It provides valuable advice on vehicle preparation, permit requirements, and travel and track information. However, it is the responsibility of users to thoroughly understand the information, recognize the challenges and harsh conditions of the CSR, and ensure they have a properly equipped vehicle with adequate communication and safety systems. The book is matched with the 6th edition of the Westprint Canning Stock Route Map, an indispensable resource with its detailed information and comprehensive coverage, it will help you navigate the rugged terrain and stunning landscapes of one of Australia's most challenging and rewarding regions.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/csr-map-pack/>

What's On

August 3 – 4: Maclean Cattle Dog Trial in Maclean NSW. Categories include novice, open and bush dog.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2335738879849026>

August 8 – 11: Isa Rodeo in Mt Isa Queensland. Australia's longest running and largest Rodeo in the Southern Hemisphere with 3 days of rodeo, rock music and good old rodeo entertainment.

<https://www.isarodeo.com.au/>

August 10: White Cliffs Gymkhana and Rodeo in White Cliffs NSW. New event run by the Gymkhana and Rodeo team - camels roaring down the straight racing for a chance to win the big Cup and in between camel races there are motorbikes racing.

<https://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/outback-nsw/white-cliffs-area/white-cliffs/events/white-cliffs-camel-cup-and-bikekhana>

August 10 – 11: Heritage & Bullock Festival in Oatlands Tasmania. From traditional bullock teams to vintage car displays, the Heritage and Bullock Festival showcases Tasmania's rural heritage.

<https://www.discovertasmania.com.au/things-to-do/festivals-and-events/heritage--bullock-festival-2024/>

August 16 – 18: Coolgardie Rodeo & Ute Muster in Coolgardie Western Australia. Official Coolgardie rodeo, local competitions, Coolgardie ute & truck musters and the WA camp oven & slow cook championship.

<https://www.outbackrodeos.com/>

August 17: Beverley Agricultural Show in Beverley Western Australia. Great day out for all ages to enjoy rides, games, attractions, local exhibitions and view the talent in Beverley.

<https://www.beverleyagsociety.com/>

August 18: Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta held in Darwin. Annual family fun event for all to use imagination to design a vessel from cans as well as plastic bottles or milk cartons as long as it floats.

<https://beercanregatta.org.au/>

Seasonal Updates

Please be aware that road and Park closures are constantly changing and it is always best to check for changes before you set out.

For more regular updates on closures, please check our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MeridianWestprintMaps> as we try to include warnings and advice as we become aware of them.

The latest Desert Parks Bulletin has been uploaded to our website. For this and other Desert Pass updates, please go to

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/deserts-pass-update/>

Hastings Springs State Reserve in Tasmania has reopened to the public following heavy flooding.

The Crystal Cave in Yanchep National Park West Australia has reopened.

Two new Coastal Walkway Bridges at Grey Gully and Kurnabinna In Fryer Street Reserve in Hallett Cove South Australia will be opened on August 3rd.

The Birdsville Inside Track is closed due to flooding until further notice.

Birdsville Track - SA Border to Mungeranie is currently impassable due to substantial damage and deep section at Mirra. It is constantly being reassessed so please check before you travel.

Cooper Creek Ferry Crossing Road is closed due to flood damage.

For a full list of all temporary closures, restrictions and warnings on Northern and Western South Australian Outback Roads please visit **www.dit.sa.gov.au**

Disclaimer: These events were correct at the time they were added to the Meridian Line; however, this may have been some time before the actual event. Please make your own enquiries before travelling to an event.

Reader's Stories

Do you have a story?

Articles for this newsletter can be emailed to rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au
We cannot guarantee any item will have a particular publishing date but we do our best to keep topics and events current.

To paper or to digital?

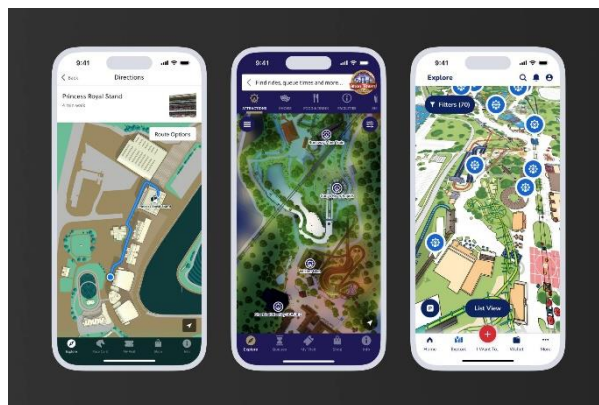
In today's digital age, the use of digital maps for navigation is becoming increasingly popular. With the advancement of digital technology, people now depend more on digital maps available on their phones rather than traditional folded paper maps. However, when it comes to navigation, there are still two main choices: the more traditional paper maps or digital ones. Both have their pros and cons and depending on the situation, one might be better than the other.



There are also many types of digital maps available from the navigation system in your car to downloadable moving map software. The choice between digital and paper maps depends on the context and specific needs of the user.

Both have their advantages and disadvantages:

Digital Maps



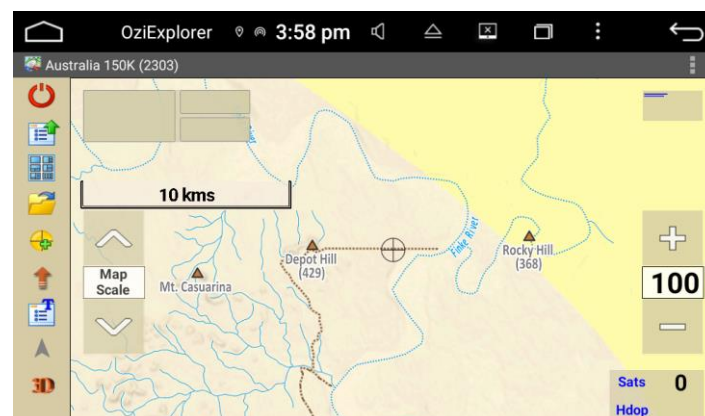
Advantages:

- **Up-to-Date Information:** Digital maps are often updated in real-time, providing the latest information about roads, traffic conditions, points of interest, and other relevant data.
- **Interactivity:** Users can zoom in and out, search for specific locations, and get directions easily. Features like street view and satellite imagery enhance the user's experience.
- **Convenience:** Digital maps are accessible on smartphones, tablets, and computers, making them portable and easy to use on the go.

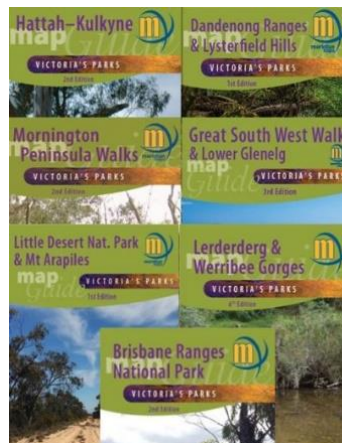
- **Integration with Other Services:** They can be integrated with GPS for real-time navigation and linked to other apps for information on public transportation, nearby restaurants, and more.
- **Customization:** Users can personalize digital maps to show specific layers of information, such as traffic, terrain, or weather.

Disadvantages:

- **Dependence on Technology:** Digital maps require a device and, often, an internet connection or GPS signal, which may not always be available.
- **Battery Life:** Prolonged use of digital maps can drain the battery of a device, potentially leaving the user without navigation in critical moments.
- **Learning Curve:** Some users may find digital map interfaces complex or difficult to navigate compared to the simplicity of paper maps.
- **Not all digital map software is compatible with all digital map hardware.** Need to ensure that the software matched the hardware.
- **Digital maps provide no form of shared experience.** There is less opportunity to study a map and design your route, rather you follow the directions given to you by the navigation system

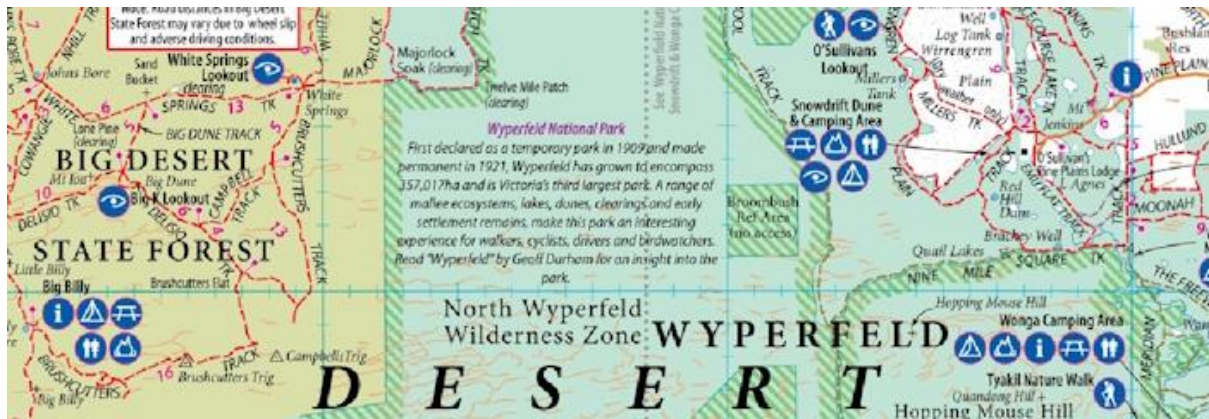


Paper Maps



Advantages:

- **Reliability:** Paper maps do not rely on batteries, internet connections, or devices, making them reliable in remote areas or during power outages ensuring you will always have them when needed.
- **Durability:** A well-made paper map can withstand harsh conditions and rough handling, whereas electronic devices can be fragile.
- **Comprehensive View:** Paper maps provide a broader overview of a region, which can be helpful for planning longer trips or understanding geographical contexts.
- **No Distractions:** Using a paper map eliminates the distractions that come with digital devices, allowing for focused navigation and planning.
- There is a feeling of nostalgia associated with using a traditional paper map. The tactile experience of tracing a finger along routes and manipulating the physical maps often adds to the journey and enables a deeper connection to the landscape to be made.
- A paper map can be more cost effective as there is only the cost of the actual map and not also the additional cost of the electronic device.
- There is a certain amount of ease when you can open a paper map and view, at a glance, the complete area of interest.



Disadvantages:

- **Lack of Updates:** Paper maps are not easily updated, and when they do need to be updated, it is quite a lengthy process and can be time consuming.
- **Bulky:** Carrying multiple paper maps for different areas can be cumbersome compared to the convenience of digital maps.
- **Limited Functionality:** Paper maps do not offer search functions, real-time traffic updates, or integration with GPS for turn-by-turn directions.
- **Paper maps are static and are limited to a specific area that has been drawn according to a scale.**
- **A certain level of skill is required in order to interpret these maps due to the signs and symbols that are used to represent objects in the area.**

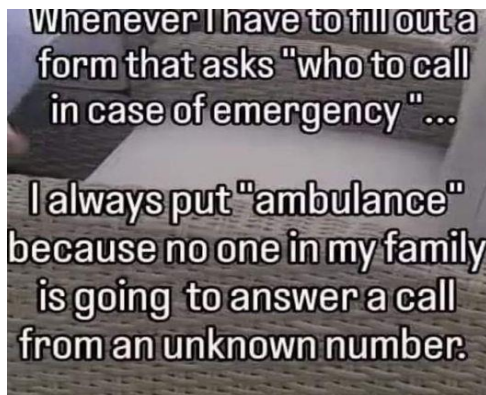
Conclusion

Neither digital nor paper maps are universally better; each has its own strengths and weaknesses. Digital maps are ideal for real-time navigation, convenience, and up-to-date information, making them suitable for everyday use in urban and suburban environments. Paper maps, on the other hand, offer reliability, a broad overview, and durability, making them valuable in remote areas, during outdoor activities, or as a backup to digital maps. Ultimately, the choice between digital maps and paper maps boils down to personal preference. The best choice depends on the specific needs and context of the user.

Drop us a line at rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au sharing your preference and experience with paper or digital maps.

Meridian Mirth

To share your jokes, please send them to rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au.



Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

I was wondering why the ball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

I Renamed my iPod The Titanic, so when I plug it in, it says "The Titanic is syncing."

Last night, I dreamed I was swimming in an ocean of orange soda. But it was just a Fanta sea.

I lost my job at the bank on my very first day. A woman asked me to check her balance, so I pushed her over.

Two windmills are standing in a wind farm. One asks, "What's your favourite kind of music?" The other says, "I'm a big metal fan."

I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

The man who survived pepper spray and mustard gas is now a seasoned veteran.

I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.

England doesn't have a kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes. She gave me a hug.

Just burned 2,000 calories. That's the last time I leave brownies in the oven while I nap.

The Fine Print

About The Meridian Line

Wherever possible we try to acknowledge the source of all information contained in this newsletter. We offer no guarantees for accuracy, but we do our best.

Get the Word Out

Feel free to forward this newsletter to any family or friends who you feel might enjoy a good read. If they would like to receive this newsletter on a regular basis they can register at: <https://meridianmaps.com.au/newsletter/>

Using information from this newsletter

You are welcome to use information from this newsletter, but we request that you kindly acknowledge that the information is from The Meridian Line.

Meridian Contact information

Email: rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au

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