



## The Meridian Line - Sunday 13.10.2024

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart. “- Helen Keller



### ***Otways 4WD Map – from \$14.95***

This double sided Otways 4WD Map is a high-quality, detailed resource specifically designed for 4WD enthusiasts and outdoor adventurers to explore the rugged terrain of the Otways region. This map provides extensive coverage of the Otways, including the Great Otway National Park, Otway Forest Park, and Otway Drive. It features detailed topographic and contour lines, information on 4WD tracks, fire trails, campsites and points of interest. It is printed on durable paper, designed for easy reading and interpretation.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/the-otways-4wd-map//>

### ***Oodnadatta Track – from \$14.95***

This map details the Oodnadatta Track from Lyndhurst to Oodnadatta, passing through Marree, Lake Eyre, William Creek, and Algebuckina. One side of the map displays the area with GPS locations, while the other provides information about each site. The map include notes on history, explorers, points of interest, local flora and fauna, and various photos of landmarks. The map is easy to read and provides essential details such as road and track distances, rest areas, specific 4WD, caravan, and camping information, as well as heritage and tourist information, national parks and reserves, and a Lat/Long grid with GPS coordinates.

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

***4WD Weekends Out of Perth – \$19.95***

Get ready to embark on 15 fantastic day trips from Perth that will kick-start your 4WD adventures. The fifth edition of our highly popular guide is filled with essential track information, GPS coordinates, and detailed descriptions of trails just outside of Perth.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/4wd-weekends-perth/>

***Tasmania Atlas & Guide - \$25.95***

The ultimate guidebook for exploring Tasmania, featuring the Top 15 4WD Adventures in the state and five of the finest walking trails. This first edition of the Tasmania Atlas & Guide includes 40 large-scale atlas pages at a stunning 1:150,000 scale, presented in an eye-catching cartographic style. It highlights the Top 15 4WD Adventures in Tasmania, all field-tested by Hema's Map Patrol. The guide also offers an introductory overview of the region, alongside sections dedicated to trip planning and recommended activities. Each distinct region of Tasmania is detailed in the touring sections. The Top 15 4WD Adventures are categorized by locality, with each trip providing in-depth information, including difficulty ratings, distances, essential travel tips, and a complete driving itinerary from start to finish.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/tasmania-atlas/>

***Best Walks of the Gariwerd/Grampians National Park – \$29.98***

The Best Walks of the Gariwerd-Grampians National Park features 31 trails in this beloved park, renowned as a walker's paradise. Each walk includes details on distance, total ascent and descent (where applicable), difficulty grade, and estimated duration, all accompanied by an accurate full-colour map. Insights into the Grampians' history and wildlife enrich the walking experience, while families will appreciate the information on child-friendly walks and tips for safely exploring the bush with children of all ages. Over 100 vibrant photos enhance the text, providing readers with a clear sense of the unique features along each trail. This guide will help walkers discover many of the region's classic routes, as well as some hidden and adventurous tracks that are less well-known.

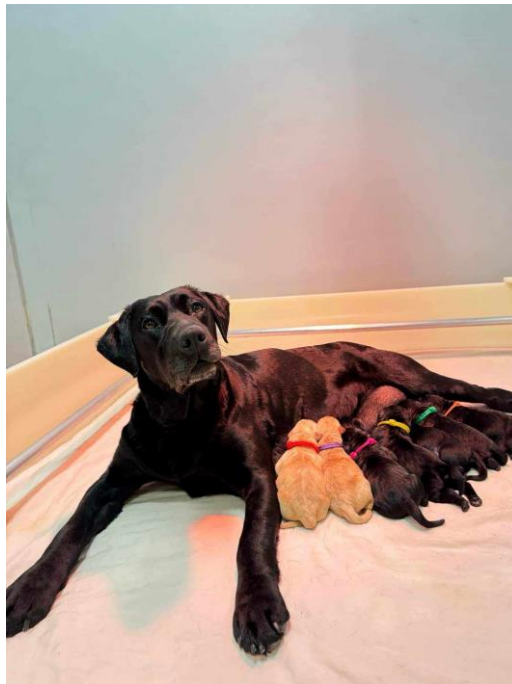
<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/grampians-walks-book/>

## Meridian Musings

Daylight saving has just kicked off in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and the ACT. I've always loved the extra hour of daylight it gives us. Moving that hour from the morning to the evening means there's still plenty of time to enjoy being outside after work before it gets dark. It also makes weekends feel longer, giving you more time to get out and about for walks, scenic drives, or just enjoying barbecues with friends and family. For me, the extra daylight just makes everything more enjoyable.

For a number of years, we have been involved with fostering dogs for the Australian Border Force. Detector dogs help protect Australia's borders and dogs are trained them to detect prohibited and restricted goods, quickly screening people, products, and large areas efficiently and without intrusion or bias. Other government law enforcement agencies also rely on detector dogs for their operations. The very first pup that we fostered, Wilma, was selected to play the important role of providing the next generation of puppies for this amazing program. Wilma lives with us full time, only returning to the Border Force Facility to have her pups. Once she is retired from the program, we will be lucky enough to permanently adopt Wilma as our pet.

Wilma recently gave birth to her second litter – 4 boys and 3 girls. Wilma is truly a beautiful, clever and very special girl.



## What's New to the Website

There have been a number of exciting new additions to the website.

### ***Blackwood Tourist Map – from \$5.95***

Discover the village of Blackwood, nestled in the heart of the stunning Wombat State Forest, with our newly released tourist map. Created in collaboration with the local community, this guide is your key to uncovering the hidden treasures of this delightful region in Victoria. Situated in the picturesque Macedon Ranges, between Ballan and Trentham, Blackwood was once a bustling gold-mining hub in the 1850s following the discovery of gold at nearby Golden Point. For those seeking adventure, a variety of picturesque walking trails await! Wander along the Significant Tree Trail, enjoy a relaxing stroll on the Whipstick Loop Walk, or take on the more challenging Blackwood Circuit Walk and Moonlight Gully Circuit Walk.

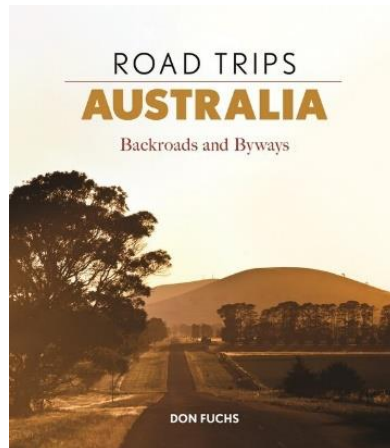


<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/blackwood/>

### ***Road Trips Australia Backroads and Byways - \$44.95***

Australia is the perfect destination for adventurous road trips. Its vast network of roads, many unpaved or backcountry routes, spans the almost endless expanse of the continent. These roads connect fascinating national parks with country towns, and provide access to long stretches of coastline, dense forests, and the expansive outback. However, you don't always need to venture into Australia's most remote areas to enjoy a great adventure. Many of the road trips suggested in this book take place in more civilized, densely populated parts of the country, where the unknown and fascinating may be just around the corner. Wherever you choose to explore, there's no better way

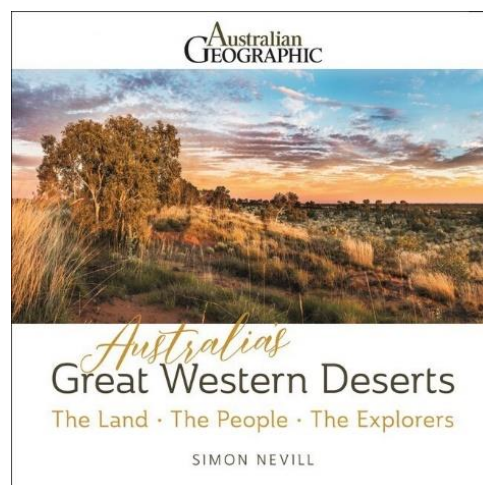
to escape the hectic pace of city life and the everyday routine of suburbia than by hitting the roads less travelled.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/road-trips-australia/>

### ***Australia's Great Western Deserts - \$39.95***

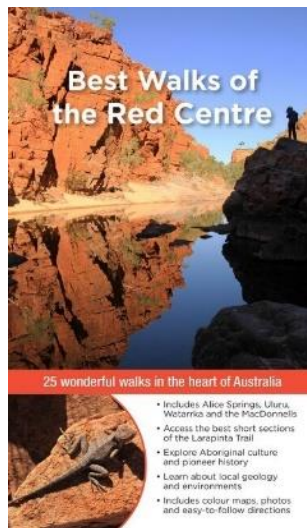
This large-format hardback is one of the most comprehensive works on Australia's Western Deserts. It features stunning photographs alongside in-depth information about the region. The six deserts—Great Sandy, Little Sandy, Tanami, Gibson, Great Victoria, and Central Ranges—are explored in terms of their geography, communities, and the tracks that traverse them. The book covers the diverse wildlife and plant species of the Western Deserts, with detailed descriptions and illustrations. It also explores the Indigenous peoples who live in or near the deserts. A section on the first ten major European explorers, from Augustus Gregory in 1855 to the lesser-known but daring Frank Hann, provides insights into their journeys and hardships, with accompanying sketch maps of their routes. The final section focuses on the Canning Stock Route, one of the longest and toughest 4WD tracks in Australia, featuring photographs of key landmarks along the way.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/great-western-deserts/>

### ***Best Walks of the Red Centre - \$24.95***

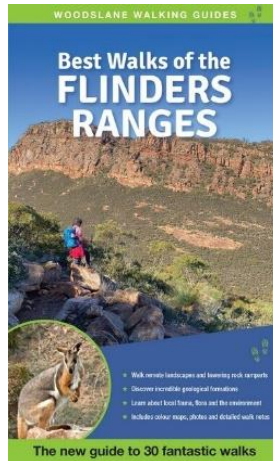
The heart of Australia holds an array of treasures: red-walled gorges, serene waterholes, fascinating rock formations, and the rich culture of the people who have lived here for millennia. This diverse landscape of arid plains, ancient mountain ranges, and hidden, lush gullies is best explored on foot. Best Walks of the Red Centre showcases the finest walks, offering options from leisurely strolls on well-marked paths to challenging hikes up rugged ridges and along remote riverbeds. The book covers numerous trails in and around Alice Springs, the MacDonnell Ranges, and the Red Centre Way, as well as the iconic walks around Uluru, Kata Tjuta, Watarrka, and Rainbow Valley.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/best-walks-of-the-red-centre/>

### ***Best Walks of the Flinders Ranges - \$32.95***

Best Walks of the Flinders Ranges features 30 walks in this region, renowned as a hiker's paradise. Each walk includes details on distance, total ascent and descent (where applicable), difficulty grade, and estimated duration, all accompanied by accurate, full-colour maps. Engaging snippets about the region's history and wildlife add depth to the walking experience. Families will find helpful tips on child-friendly walks and advice on safely exploring the bush with children of all ages. With over 150 full-colour photographs, readers gain a vivid sense of the highlights of each walk. This guide uncovers many classic trails as well as some wild, lesser-known tracks for the more adventurous.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/best-walks-of-flinders-ranges/>

## What's On

**12 October: Wynyard Tulip Festival** in Wynyard Tasmania. For one Saturday each October the festival tempts visitors to shake off winter and welcome in spring with joy, colour, activities, food and music.

<https://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/tulip-festival/>

**18 – 20 October: Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival** in Kangaroo Valley in NSW. A family friendly weekend of music, dance and poetry.

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

**19 – 20 October: Warbirds Downunder Airshow 2024** in Temora NSW. A curated program of historical warbird flights. The program will offer an array of aircraft from trainers to jets.

<https://warbirdsdownunderairshow.com.au/>

**25 – 27 October: Festival of the Miner's Ghost** in Cobar NSW. A celebration and commemoration of Cobar's miners and proud mining history.

<https://www.visitbourke.com.au/products/festival-of-the-miners-ghost>

**25 – 27 October: North East Food and Wine Festival** in Wodonga Victoria. Experience the best food, beverages and entertainment in north east Victoria.

<https://www.wodonga.vic.gov.au/Microsites/NEFWF>

**26 October: Warrnambool Show** in Warrnambool Victoria. Activities for the whole family including rides, side show alley, showbags, animals and community service precinct.

<https://warrnamboolshow.com.au/>

**26 – 27 October: Quorn Qandong Festival** in Quorn South Australia. The Quorn Qandong Festival is a celebration of past and present, embracing the town's cultural tapestry and fostering a sense of unity in a vibrant and inclusive bush food and street fair markets event.

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

**5 November: Noonamah Frog Races & Melbourne Cup Day** in Noonamah Darwin. Iconic frog races, fashion parade prizes and live music.

<https://northernterritory.com/darwin-and-surrounds/events/noonamah--frog-races--melbourne-cup-day>

### **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/>

Anne Beadell Highway is currently closed to all traffic.

Connie Sue Highway is currently closed to all traffic.

Bulloo Shire Council in Queensland has completed the remaining 1.5km seal on the Quilpie-Thargomindah Road under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme.

Berry Springs Nature Park in Darwin will be closed for maintenance from 7 October to 27 October for restoration work to repair a swimming landing.

The Witjira National Park in South Australia is open to 4WD only.

Munga-Thirri – Simpson Desert National Park is open to 4WD only. The Eyre Creek is now making its way south and will soon impact the QAA line. The river is expected to remain within its banks as it continues to flow south. Changes are being monitored. The Northern Eyre Creek Bypass must now be used by persons travelling into the Simpson Desert National Park East/West.



Kakadu's longer day walks in the Stone Country close annually from 1 October or when the Bureau of Meteorology announces the first severe heatwave for the Kakadu region: Barrk Marlam, Twin Falls Escarpment Walk, Jarrangbarnmi (Koolpin Gorge) and Bilkbilkmi (Graveside Gorge).

As a result of severe weather damage, the Coomera circuit in Lamington National Park will remain temporarily closed until declared safe.

*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](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au)

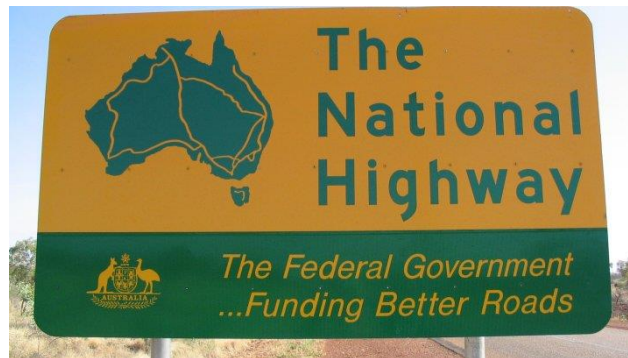
### Australia's National Highway 1

Australia's National Highway 1 is the world's second-longest highway and the world's longest national highway, stretching over 14,500 kilometres. Although the Pan-American Highway, a network of roads connecting North and South America, runs for approximately 48,000 kilometres, it is not considered a single national highway. National Highway 1 surpasses other notable national highways, such as the Trans-Siberian Highway at just over 11,000 kilometres and the Trans-Canada Highway at 8,030 kilometres. Often referred to as the "Big Lap," this iconic route links nearly every major coastal city across Australia, earning its title as the longest national highway in the world.



Australia's National Highway 1 was officially established in 1955 as part of the National Route Numbering system, which aimed to create a uniform network

of roads connecting the major cities and regions across the country. Prior to this, Australia's road system was fragmented, with each state managing its own routes, which often lacked coordination and consistency. National Highway 1 was envisioned as a single, continuous route that would link Australia's coastal cities and towns, encircling the continent. Over the decades, the highway has evolved, with sections being upgraded and modernized to accommodate increasing traffic and improve safety.



Since this highway encircles the country, you can begin at any point and travel either clockwise or counterclockwise, eventually returning to your starting location. Starting from Brisbane in Queensland, National Highway 1 follows the Pacific Motorway south, hugging the coastline. Travelling south towards Sydney the Highway passes through coastal towns, national parks, and beaches, before reaching the harbour city.

Continuing further south along the Princes Highway, the road follows the coast into the state of Victoria, winding through lush forests and quaint towns before arriving in Melbourne. From Melbourne, the highway continues westward, following the Princes Highway through the Great Ocean Road region. After this dramatic stretch, the road flattens out as it approaches South Australia, traversing through picturesque farmlands and vineyards before arriving in Adelaide. This stretch of the highway showcases the lush, green landscapes that contrast with the arid interior of the continent.

Leaving Adelaide, National Highway 1 heads west along the Eyre Highway, traversing the Nullarbor Plain—a vast, treeless expanse that is one of the longest straight roads in the world. This part of the journey is challenging and awe-inspiring with the highway continuing across the southern coast into Western Australia, eventually reaching the State's capital, Perth.

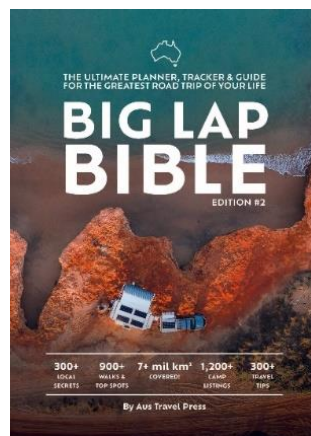
From Perth, National Highway 1 turns northward, following the Indian Ocean coast along the North West Coastal Highway. This section is marked by pristine beaches, coral reefs, and rugged outback. The route passes through small coastal towns and the remote Pilbara region, with its red earth and vast mining operations. As it continues north, the highway reaches the tropical

region of the Kimberley, known for its dramatic gorges and waterfalls, before arriving in the northern capital, Darwin.

From Darwin, National Highway 1 veers southeast along the Stuart Highway before linking up with the Savannah Way, which crosses the Top End and the Gulf of Carpentaria. The route from Darwin to Cairns passes through remote tropical landscapes, cattle stations, wetlands, and dense rainforests. The climate shifts from tropical heat to the humid rainforests as the highway snakes toward Cairns, Queensland's gateway to the Great Barrier Reef.

From Cairns, National Highway 1 runs south along the Bruce Highway, skirting the lush, tropical coast of Queensland. This section of the route offers stunning views of the Coral Sea, passing through towns like Townsville and Macka, enabling access to the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest. As the highway winds southward, the climate becomes more temperate, finally arriving back in Brisbane.

National Highway 1 is more than just a road; it's a symbol of Australia's vastness and diversity. The completion of National Highway 1 is commonly referred to as "The Big Lap,". For many, completing this journey symbolizes the exploration of the country's vastness and beauty. National Highway 1 is more than just a road; it's a gateway to discovering Australia's heart and soul.



## Meridian Mirth

To share your jokes, please send them to [rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au).

### How do trees get on the Internet?

They log in.

### What do computers like to eat?

Chips.

**What do you call a space magician?**

A flying saucerer.

**What is a computer's first sign of old age?**

Loss of memory.

**What does a baby computer call his father?**

Instead of Da-da it says "Da-ta."

**What is an astronaut's favourite control on the computer keyboard?**

The space bar.

**What happened when the computer fell on the floor?**

It slipped a disk.

**How does a boy cell phone propose to his girlfriend?**

He gives her a ring, of course.

**Why was there a bug in the computer?**

It was looking for a byte to eat.

**What is a computer virus?**

A terminal illness.

**How did the mouse get out of the Roman Cathedral?**

He clicked on an icon and opened a window.

**What kind of doctor fixes broken websites?**

A URLologist.

**Have you heard about the Disney virus?**

It makes everything on your computer go Goofy.

**What happened when a dragon breathed on several Macintosh computers?**

He wound up with baked Apples!

**Why did the chicken cross the Web?**

To get to the other site.

**Why did the computer go to a doctor?**

It thought it had a terminal illness

One day a mom noticed that when her son was logging onto a favourite website he typed a very long password. She asked him what it was, and he replied, "MickeyMinnieGoofyPluto." She asked him why he would use such a

password. "Because," he explained, "it says your password has to have at least four characters."

One day, a ragged individual stranded for several months on a small deserted island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean noticed a bottle lying in the sand with a piece of paper in it. Rushing to the bottle, he pulled out the cork and with shaking hands withdrew the message. "Due to lack of maintenance," he read, "we regretfully have found it necessary to cancel your e-mail account."

A man and wife were both in an Internet business, but it was the husband who truly lived, ate and breathed computers. His wife finally realized how bad it had gotten when one day she was scratching his back, and he said "No, not there. Scroll down a little."

## **The Fine Print**

### **At 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](mailto:rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au)

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