

WALK DETAILS

**5.5 km circuit. 2 to 3 hours
easy walking, some sand**

Note: Bicycles are not permitted on walking tracks

This walk commences from the main Waikerie to Gluepot road about 6 km south of Emu Tank. This point is some 2.3 km south of the main entrance to Gluepot.

The walking track heads north through Mallee/Cratystylis and then north-east into Mallee/Triodia dunes. These red sand dunes have formed over the bed of an ancient lake. In places, where lizards and scorpions have dug down below the surface, they have brought some of the white lake bed Gypsum to the surface.

The track turns towards the east and after about 3 km from the start, the Gypsum lunette is reached. The track now heads south along the lunette until it comes to the southern boundary vehicle track. A 1 km walk to the west along this vehicle track leads back to the starting point.

THIS WALK IS HABITAT FOR

Black-eared Miner, Striated Grasswren,
Grey Butcherbird, Grey Currawong,
Crested Bellbird, Jacky Winter.

IF YOU BECOME LOST ON THIS WALK

Walk south to the boundary track or west to the main Waikerie to Gluepot road

Bookmark Biosphere

Bookmark Biosphere covers an area of almost 1 million hectares and is made up of a number of land holdings. It includes land which is managed by SA National Parks, areas of Environment Australia controlled land, Local Government areas, National Trust of SA reserves and several private holdings. The thing bringing these diverse land holders together is the fundamental belief in the need to manage the land in an ecologically sustainable manner.

It is recognized that in a biosphere some areas are core habitat and need to be devoted entirely to biodiversity protection (eg Gluepot). Some areas can support various enterprises (eg sustainable grazing), whilst in areas where most human activity occurs, there needs to be sustainable management.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

A few simple precautions should always be taken when walking at Gluepot.

De-hydration is always a real risk

as the temperature can get extremely high (over 45°C), and humidity is normally very low.

- Carry sufficient water
- Protect yourself from the sun
- If on a long walk take at least one piece of warm clothing
- Carry a compass & plan or map
- Carry a snake bite kit.

W8 GYPSUM LINETTE WALK

Gypsum Lunette Mallee/Triodia dunes



Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis*

GLUEPOT RESERVE WALKING TRACK NETWORK

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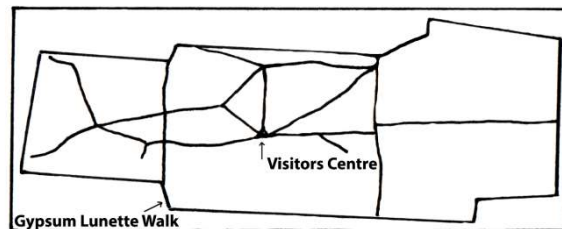
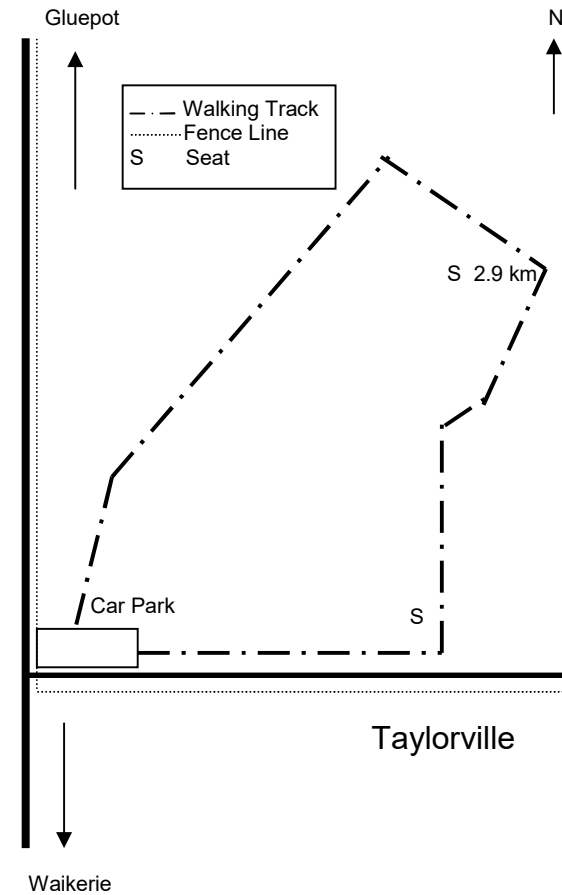


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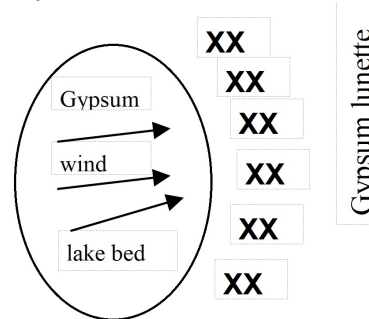
GYPSUM LUNETTE WALK

Map NOT to Scale



GYPSUM LUNETTES

Gypsum (Calcium Sulphate) deposits were laid down when shallow seas evaporated leaving their salts behind. To get substantial deposits, repeated inundations of salt water followed by dry periods for evaporation were necessary.



As the climate became more arid these lake beds of Gypsum were exposed to wind erosion.

In southern Australia winds blew across these lake beds from the west-southwest causing the finely powdered Gypsum to be blown to the east.

Over a long period of time the Gypsum accumulated along the eastern shore of the lake resulting in a thick deposit known as a lunette.

There are several deposits of Gypsum in neighbouring Taylorville and elsewhere in the Biosphere.

Some of these deposits are mined. There was formerly a mining lease on this deposit. This lease has lapsed.

BATS

Bats are the only mammals capable of sustained flight. This is possible because of a membrane that extends from the fore to the hind limbs.



Bats evolved in hot humid climates and this is where most of the bat species are found.

These conditions are ideal for bats to exist. They are able to survive in arid climates with cold winters by hibernating and sheltering in tree hollows. During this time their body temperature drops to near that of their surroundings.

These inland bat species are mostly insectivorous. They use echolocation to catch food and navigate, as they only have small eyes.

Twelve species of bats have been identified on Gluepot.

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