

Walk trails around Hyden Rock

Most people come to Wave Rock to see the "wave" itself – and it is a grand sight - but there is so much more to do and see around Hyden Rock!

Firstly, let's sort out these names: "Wave Rock" is the best-known feature here, but it is not the name of the whole huge granite outcrop – that is called Hyden Rock. So, Wave Rock is just one part of the bigger picture – and it should be just one part of your experience here, too.

The best way to explore the "Wave," and the whole of Hyden Rock is via the recently upgraded walk trails that lead up onto and around the outcrop:

- 1. The Wave Rock Walk:**
 - Leads from the car park to the Rock, then along the foot of the wave formation to the old quarry site at its western end.
 - It is just 325 metres each way (650 metres in total), and is flat and easy to walk.
 - Features several shaded stone seats and quality interpretation about the formation of the wave.
 - Links with the Hippo's Yawn Loop, the Breakers Trail and the Hyden Rock Walk.
- 2. The Hyden Rock Walk:**
 - Uses the Wave Rock Walk to the old quarry at the western end of the wave, and then takes you up onto the top of the main rock formation, where you can do one of two loops:
 - The shorter loop is 860 metres long (in total, from the car park), while the longer route is 1300 metres. Both return to the main parking area.
 - Both loops are well marked, and feature unobtrusive interpretation about the rock, its geology and formations, and the plants and animals that live on it.
 - Some climbing and descending is involved, and outdoor shoes and a hat are recommended.



- 3. The Breakers Trail:**
 - Also follows the Wave Rock Walk initially, but then branches off at the old quarry site and traces the foot of the outcrop to the historic Breakers Picnic Area.
 - It is 675 metres each way (1350 metres in total), and is flat and easy to walk.
 - Interpretive signs deal with both social history and aspects of the rock outcrop and the surrounding vegetation.

- 4. The Hippo's Yawn Loop:**
 - Follows the main access path to the base of the Rock, then branches off to the east (left) to follow the foot of the outcrop to Hippo's Yawn. From there it returns to this car park via part of the Wave Rock Walk Circuit (see below):
 - It is 1030 metres to the Yawn and a further 680 metres back to the car park, making a total of 1710 metres. The trail is well marked, flat and easy to walk.
 - Interpretation focuses on "Life on the Fringe" (the "edge" between rock and earth), and explains the formation of the Yawn itself.

- 5. The Wave Rock Walk Circuit:**
 - Leads directly from the main information signs in the car park to Hippo's Yawn, and then loops out through the fascinating salt-lake landscape to the north of Hyden Rock, before returning to this car park via the shops and café:
 - It is 3600 metres long, and is virtually flat with a wide smooth surface.
 - 15 interpretive panels range from Aboriginal and early settlement stories to birds, the night sky and the weather!
 - Suitable for families with small children in pushers, or visitors with bicycles.

