



# CHAMPAGNE SPRINGS

## TRAIL FACT SHEET

<b>GRADE</b> <b>GRADE 5</b> 	<b>DISTANCE</b> <b>10 KM</b>	<b>GRADIENT</b> Mostly flat with some short climbs.	<b>EXPERIENCE</b> Experienced bushwalkers only. This track is remote.
	<b>TIME</b> <b>5.5 HRS</b> Return without swim	<b>QUALITY</b> Rough track with many obstacles. Loose and slippery rocks. Several creek crossings.	<b>WATER</b>  <b>4L</b> Minimum
<b>CHECKLIST</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sturdy and enclosed footwear (thongs are not suitable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Swimming attire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water bottle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Widebrim hat/ sun protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A small backpack for items		
<b>PERMIT</b>	Please note a valid <b>EI Questro Day Pass</b> or <b>Park Permit</b> is required. Permits are available at all <b>EI Questro</b> outlets.		

### OVERVIEW

Champagne Springs is named after the springs that bubble from deep inside the earth's interior and surface at point 12 near the end of the walk.

This trail is quite different to other EI Questro walks. It is longer and the exposed terrain makes it more challenging, especially after the Half Way Point. Champagne Springs trail was recently established and is not as well defined as other trails. At the end of this strenuous walk beautiful freshwater pools partly surrounded by lush vegetation invite you to a well-deserved swim.

The sheer cliffs on the western and northern side rise up to 375m and are mostly made up of ancient sandstone. Erosional forces, such as the watercourse, have carved out Champagne Valley by following a geological fault line.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

There is both a long and short walk option for this hike. The short walk ends at Point 6, the long walk continues to point 14.

Do not attempt the longer walk after 11am, as it is difficult and exposed to the elements. This walk should only be continued by physically fit and capable walkers with good navigational skills.

Note – you will walk past portions of the Pentecost River. This river is home to saltwater crocodiles – no swimming.

### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Please help us protect our park and our environment. Follow the trail signage and keep to the track at all times. Moving off the trail will damage this sensitive environment.

Sunscreen pollutes our natural environment. Please minimise use before swimming. Wear protective clothing instead.

Don't litter. Please take all your rubbish with you. This includes cigarette butts, fruit peel and toilet paper.

It is a criminal offence to disturb or destroy local flora and fauna. Never touch or tamper with rock art. Memorabilia collection of Aboriginal artefacts is strictly forbidden.

Firearms are strictly prohibited. Alcohol, illegal drugs and pets are not allowed along the trail.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Slips and Falls:** Sections along the trail are rocky, slippery and challenging. Take care when negotiating large rocks, creek beds and steep sections. By following the trail signs, wearing suitable footwear and employing common sense, you will minimise the chances of injury. These waterholes contain submerged logs and rocks. Please do not jump off the gorge walls into the water for risk of severe personal injury.

**Falling Rocks:** There is a risk of falling rocks from the sandstone gorge walls. Please be aware of this and walk the gorge at your own risk.

**Heat Illness:** Review weather forecast, drink plenty of water, wear a hat and rest in the shade to minimise heat related issues.

**Animals:** Dangerous animals like snakes, bulls and crocodiles can be found throughout the Kimberley. If seen, do not attack or intimidate them. Withdraw and alert others in the area.

**Trail Signage:** This trail is signed to guide you safely to the attractions and back. Follow the diamond markers and white poles.

### WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY (SELF-GUIDED)

If you or a member of your group suffer an injury, set up and stay put. Stay in-site of the path but move to a dry, shaded spot if possible. Keep yourself (or injured person) as comfortable as possible and remain calm. If in a larger group and confident with the trail path, someone may return to reception to notify staff of an issue.

**7. Champagne Valley**  
 Turn south. 3 creek crossings ahead. Be careful, logs are slippery and unstable. Trail traverses the valley and gets more difficult.

**8. Rising Difficulty**  
 Trail becomes very rugged and much less defined. Spinifex covers loose rocks. Watch for blue ribbons on trees and markers on rocks. The trail leads between the lush vegetation to the north and the decreasing escarpment to the south. Minimal shade.

**11. To Gem Pool**  
 Trail leads around the thick vegetation along the small escarpment.

**6. Half Way Point, Old Boab Tree**  
 This majestic Boab Tree (*Adansonia Gregorij*) marks the halfway point. It is around a thousand years old. Have a rest under its huge branches before you tackle the much more challenging and less defined 2nd part of the trail. Please do not deface this "gentle giant".

**9. Check Point**  
 Rocky outcrop and view point. Proceed straight ahead.

**10. Secluded Pool, Champagne Springs Area**  
 Secluded Pool is located to the northeast. Walk across the polished rock to get to the Thermal Springs and the top pool.

**12. Gem Pool**  
 You've made it, well done. Gem Pool is the most convenient to have a swim and a massage under the waterfall. Be careful rocks are slippery. No diving due to submerged rocks

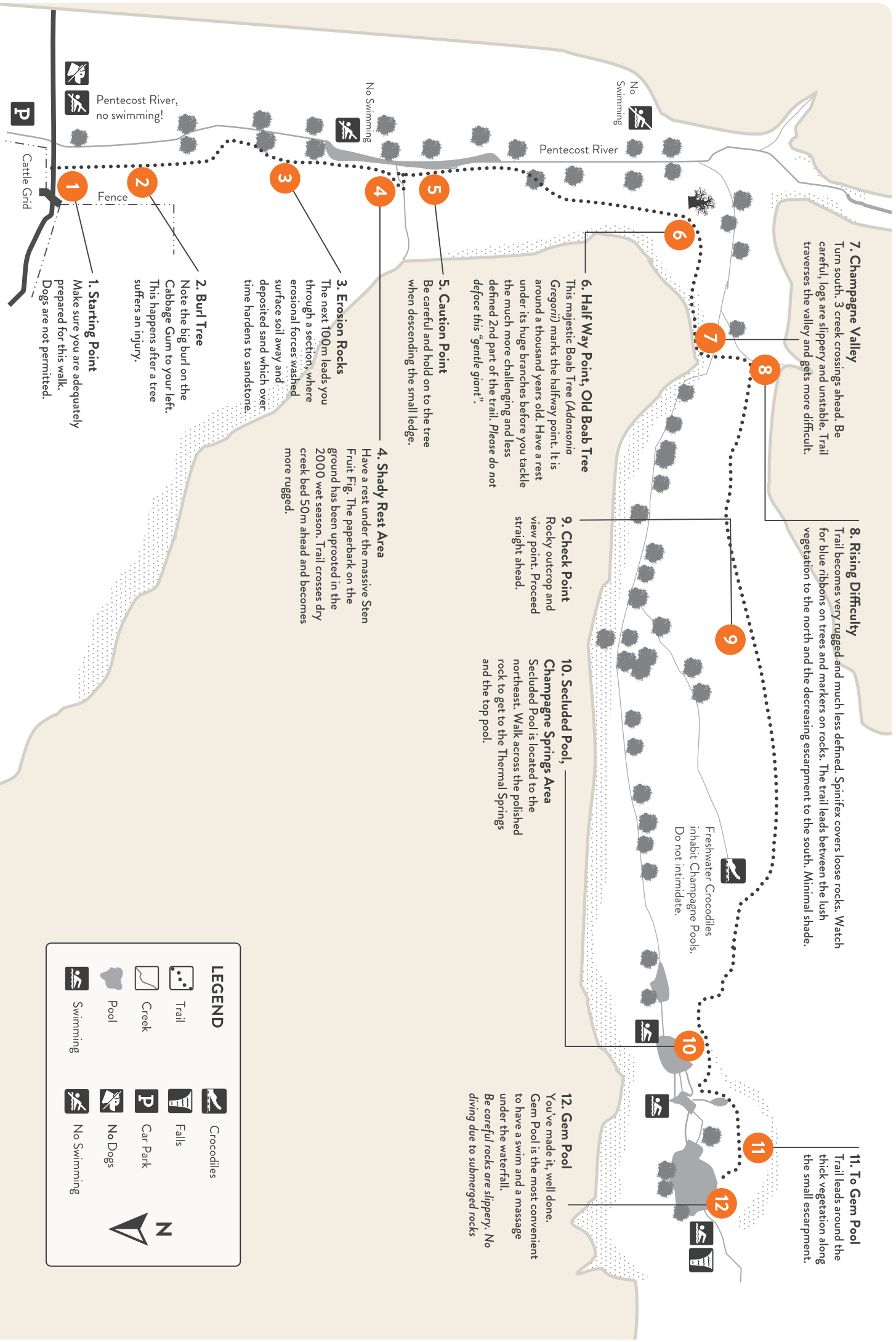
**5. Caution Point**  
 Be careful and hold on to the tree when descending the small ledge.

**4. Shady Rest Area**  
 Have a rest under the massive Sten Fruit Fig. The paperbark on the ground has been uprooted in the 2000 wet season. Trail crosses dry creek bed 50m ahead and becomes more rugged.

**3. Erosion Rocks**  
 The next 100m leads you through a section, where erosional forces washed surface soil away and deposited sand which over time hardens to sandstone.

**2. Burl Tree**  
 Note the big burl on the Cabbage Gum to your left. This happens after a tree suffers an injury.

**1. Starting Point**  
 Make sure you are adequately prepared for this walk. Dogs are not permitted.



**LEGEND**

	Trail		Crocodiles
	Creek		Falls
	Pool		Car Park
	Swimming		No Dogs
			No Swimming