

Flinders - Goolman Conservation Estate

Carmichael's Road, Purga

TRAILS OF IPSWICH



www.ipswich.qld.gov.au



Destination overview

Proximity



Hardings Paddock
15km (20 mins drive)
from City centre



Flinders Plum
25km (30 mins drive)
from City centre



Open: 6.00 am - 6.00 pm

Trail rating



Easy - Difficult



**Easy - Very
Difficult**



**Intermediate -
Advanced**

Length of tracks



560m - 19km

How long will it take me?



**5 min walk -
6 hr hike**

This large Conservation Estate features a range of trails showcasing spectacular views over the distinctive valleys and peaks from the Scenic Rim to the bay islands. Visitors are constantly amazed by the feeling of remoteness they gain so close to Brisbane and Ipswich.

Destination description

Visitors to the Flinders - Goolman Conservation Estate can take in the natural wonders of the area through a range of recreational activities. Opportunities for bird-watching, hiking, mountain bike riding, horse riding, nature study and camping are all provided for your enjoyment.

The conservation estate is over 2,200 hectares in area and supports extensive forests and rugged volcanic peaks and slopes including Flinders Peak, Mt Blaine, Mt Catherine and Mt Goolman.

Hardings Paddock and Flinders Plum Picnic Areas are the destination highlights within the conservation estate.

The area forms part of the regionally significant Flinders - Karawatha Corridor and is listed on the Register of the National Estate. It acts as an important refuge for wildlife that supports a diverse range of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians as well as over 500 different native plant species.

Amenities

Hardings Paddock:

BBQs, toilets, large day use area, camping facilities, BYO drinking water.

Flinders Plum:

BBQ, toilets, picnic area, BYO drinking water.

Getting there

Hardings Paddock:

Travel along the Ipswich Boonah Road (off the Cunningham Highway) to Carmichael's Road and continue to the end to reach Hardings Paddock

Flinders Plum:

Travel along the Ipswich Boonah Road (off the Cunningham Highway) to Mount Flinders Road and continue right to the end of the gravel section of road to reach Flinders Plum.



Camping at Hardings Paddock

Camping at Hardings Paddock

Only 20 minutes from Ipswich City, Hardings Paddock campground offers a rustic nature-based camping experience within one of our largest natural areas.

With toilets, camp-shower cubicles, kitchen, BBQs, tables and a holding yard for horses, the campground is perfect for a short weekend escape and also suitable for caravans and campervans.

For bookings visit www.discoveripswich.com.au

Choose the best trail for you

Before setting out consider your group's fitness level, the trail difficulty rating, weather conditions and time you have available. During summer, plan your activity for the cool of the early morning for the best experience.

From Hardings Paddock

Chalk Circuit 560m one way  5-10 mins

Encompassing the picnic area and Bush Tucker gardens, this trail is flat and easily accessible for all levels of fitness. Along the trail you can learn about various bush tucker plants through interpretive signage from both Indigenous and European perspectives.

To Rocky Knoll lookout 2.4km return

 1.5 hrs |   part track only

A moderate level hike through eucalypt woodlands to Rocky Knoll lookout. Glimpses of the Scenic Rim and the surrounding Ipswich area are provided along the way.

Gamlen Circuit 3km return

 1 hr |   30 mins

Enjoy a hike or leisurely mountain bike ride along this circuit or use it as the launching pad for longer and more challenging trails including the Goolman and Rocky Knoll Lookouts and Flinders-Goolman Trail. This circuit includes some moderate slopes.



Hardings Paddock camping facilities

To Goolman lookout 5.6km return



2.5 hrs



1 hr



2 hrs

This multi-user trail winds its way to Goolman Lookout offering spectacular views of Mt Goolman and Ivory's Rock, Scenic Rim and Brisbane. On a clear day it is possible to see the Pacific Ocean. Be prepared for some steep sections along this trail.

To Goolman lookout via Rocky Knoll 7.4km return



3 hrs



1.5 hrs



2.5 hrs

An alternate and slightly longer route to Goolman Lookout skirting around the base of the Rocky Knoll.

Horse Trail Circuit 9km return



part track only



3 hrs

This trail allows you to do a circuit of the Hardings Paddock Picnic Area as well as taking in Goolman and Rocky Knoll Lookouts. You can either tackle the trail from the Horse Float Parking facility within the Picnic Area or if you live locally, just ride in as the trail passes the entrance to the estate.

Flinders Goolman Trail 19km one way



5-7 hrs



3-6 hrs



part track only

This multi-user trail forms the backbone of all trails in the Conservation Estate, and connects the two picnic areas.

Rugged mountain scenery, views to the coast from Mt Flinders, creek crossings and diverse landscapes such as dry rainforest and heath will reward you.

Please note: due to access restrictions, horse float turnaround and unloading facilities are only available at Hardings Paddock Picnic Area including hitching rail, water trough and holding yard. Horse riding is restricted to the section of this trail between Hardings Paddock and Flinders Plum Picnic Areas.

From Flinders Plum

Mt Blaine Hiking Track 2.5km return



1 hr



30 mins



1 hr

Take a short hike to Mt Blaine Saddle. Needing a moderate level of fitness you will pass through Spotted Gum and Ironbark forests, brushbox and patches of regenerating vine forest. Keep an eye out for koalas, wallabies and the magnificent red-tailed black cockatoos that call this area home. Mt Blaine Saddle provides beautiful views of Flinders Peak framed by statuesque eucalypts. On your way back to Flinders Plum picnic area you will catch glimpses of Cunninghams Gap and the Great Dividing Range.

Sandy Creek Track 3.5km return



1 hr



30 mins

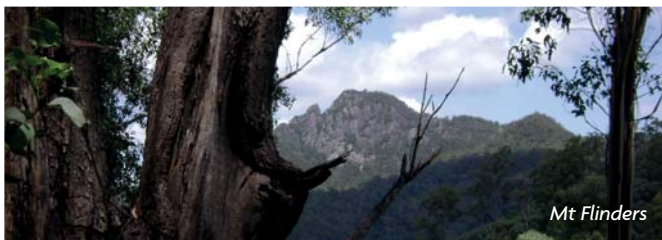
Walk through patches of majestic Hoop Pine forests on this moderate level track as it meanders along Sandy Creek.

Flinders Peak Hiking Track 6km return 6 hrs

Experienced walkers should allow a full day to reach the summit and return safely.

The upper slopes of Mount Flinders provide spectacular views of craggy peaks, the Bremer River catchment and the Scenic Rim. This track starts easily but becomes increasingly challenging as you ascend, with rough surfaces, steep inclines, cliff edges, limited signage and no water sources. It should only be undertaken by well-equipped, fit and experienced hikers with bush sense, navigation and rock scrambling skills.

The peak supports a unique suite of local wildlife. Small, quiet groups may encounter the brush-tailed rock wallaby, peregrine falcon and wedge-tailed eagle.



Mt Flinders



Nature and conservation

The Flinders - Goolman Conservation Estate contains unique ecosystems and species associated with the weathered remnants of once mighty mountain peaks. This area is home to some of Ipswich's most threatened animal species including the peregrine falcon, wedge-tailed eagle and Council's faunal emblem the brush-tailed rock wallaby. Watch for rock wallabies as you traverse the Flinders Peak Hiking Track and remember to provide any sightings or images to Council to assist with their management.

Ipswich Enviroplan

The Ipswich Enviroplan demonstrates Ipswich City Council's commitment to environmental protection through innovative programs and the effective management of our City's natural resources.



Enviroplan, together with key documents such as the Nature Conservation Strategy and the Integrated Water Strategy, sets the path for natural resources within Ipswich City. For more information about Ipswich Enviroplan visit www.ipswich.qld.gov.au

History and culture

This estate remains sacred to the Traditional Owners of Ipswich, the Yagara People, consisting of the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Clans. Sacred sites are very important to the Traditional Owners, as they provide a link between Country and personal identity and allow the passing on of cultural knowledge. Some of the sacred sites within Ipswich include quarry sites, traditional food resources, story places, pre-contact and historical camp sites, fighting grounds, ceremonial sites, bora rings and women's business sites.

Know before you go

Please refer to the Estate Notice Board for detailed track information or visit www.ipswich.qld.gov.au.

Visitors are to contact Ipswich City Council on (07) 3810 6666 for access requirements if they wish to:

- Venture away from the designated picnic area or track system
- Undertake organised group activities
- Undertake activities of a commercial nature

Conducting or engaging in the following activities is prohibited:



Camping only permitted in Hardings Paddock Campground

For your safety, please:

- Bring water, food, hat and sunscreen
- Take a mobile phone and emergency contact details
- Notify someone of your planned walk
- Check weather forecasts and fire and weather warnings
- Beware of falling branches

Trail etiquette – Tread lightly

- Stay on the designated track network
- Do not remove or disturb plants, animals or cultural sites
- Be prepared to share tracks with other recreational users
- In case of accident or other emergency please call 000 or 112
- Take out all the rubbish you take in



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