

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

AUSTRALIAN TRIP REGISTRATION AND LIABILITY RELEASE



I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Trip Chosen and Date:

Full Name: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Postal Address: (Include residential address if different) _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone Number (Home): _____ (Work or mobile): _____

Fax and/or e-mail contact if available: _____

Date of birth: _____ Have you done any trips with us previously? Yes _____ No _____

If so, please list the most recent one. _____

In Case of Emergency Please Notify: _____

Membership discounts. To claim a discount for membership in one of the organisations listed in our brochure, **you must** list the organisation and your membership number below and attach a photocopy of your proof of membership.

Organisation _____ Membership number _____

Where did you first hear about Willis's Walkabouts?

From a friend _____ From our website _____ From another website (Which one?) _____

From a Bushwalking Club (Which one?) _____ From a travel agent (Which one?) _____

Magazines: Wild _____ Habitat _____ Australian Geographic _____ Backpacker Essentials (YHA) _____ Great Walks _____

Aust Geographic Outdoor _____ Park Watch _____ National Parks Journal (NSW) _____ FMC Bulletin (NZ) _____

The Bushwalker (NSW Confed of BW Clubs) _____ Top End Holiday Guide _____ Outer Edge _____

Other magazine or paper (which?) _____

Guide Book: Lonely Planet _____ Rough Guide _____ Other (Which one?) _____

Other: _____ Please say where, if possible _____

II. MEDICAL INFORMATION

Willis's Walkabouts needs the following information to adequately ensure your safety as well as the safety of those who will accompany you on the trip you have chosen. This information is confidential and will not be provided to anyone without your permission unless providing that information is necessary for your or their safety.

Do you have any known allergies to things such as foods, drugs, bee stings, etc? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please list those things to which you are allergic _____ Do you

have any disabilities or illnesses which might affect your ability to do the walk? (For example, asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, deafness, high blood pressure, heart condition) Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please give details.

Do you regularly take any medication? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please give details.

Do you suffer from any back or joint injuries? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please give details.

Note. If you know you suffer from a bad back, bad knee(s), weak ankles or similar, we expect you to bring the necessary braces, supports and medications.

Do you have a current tetanus inoculation? Yes ___ No ___ We strongly recommend this.

Do you have any other medical conditions which we should be aware of? Please give details.

III. BUSHWALKING EXPERIENCE AND FITNESS

All Willis's Walkabouts trips are physically strenuous and most trips require somewhat above average physical fitness. **No** trip is suitable for someone who would find it difficult to carry an 8–10 kg pack for 10 km on flat ground in 2½ hours. Previous overnight bushwalking experience is helpful and most of those taking part in Walkabouts trips have had such experience. Lack of such experience will not prevent a person from taking part but it is important that your guide(s) is/are aware of this in order to give you the extra information and assistance that may be required. Please answer the following questions concerning your fitness and bushwalking background.

1. About how many nights would you have camped out while backpacking during the past year. **Count only** those nights where you carried all food and equipment in a backpack. **Do not count** nights where you camped near a vehicle.
0 _____ 1 to 4 _____ 5 to 9 _____ 10 or more _____
2. Have you ever done a backpacking trip of five or more days? Yes _____ No _____
If so, where and when was the most recent one? _____
3. How would you describe your general level of fitness? (Tick one)
about average _____ a bit above average _____ well above average _____
(If you do not fall into one of these categories, you should **not** consider coming on **any** Walkabouts trip.)
4. Please briefly describe what bushwalking experience you have had and what sort of exercise you do *in addition to bushwalking* to keep fit.

IV. DIETARY INFORMATION

Willis's Walkabouts prides itself on the quality of the meals it provides for those taking part in its trips. In order for us to serve you better, it is important for you to fill in the following questionnaire.

1. Would you describe yourself as a heavy, light or moderate eater? heavy _____ moderate _____ light _____
Note. Many heavy and light eaters describe themselves as moderate. This can lead to carrying too much or too little food. For a main course we provide about 100 grams of dry rice or pasta for a heavy eater, 85 grams for a moderate eater and 70 grams for a light eater. This is supplemented by a variety of vegetables, etc.
2. We normally use only small quantities of animal proteins, more as a flavour than as bulk. Dairy products are commonly used in sauces and deserts. Our menus are based on your answers to the following. Please carefully consider your choices before you tick a particular item.
I **will eat** anything. Yes _____ No _____
I **will not eat** any red meat _____ chicken _____ fish _____ prawns _____ dairy products _____
I **also cannot eat** _____

If you have listed something you will not eat, please let us know if you can tolerate small amounts in sauces, etc. Any information you can give us that might make life easier for the cook will be most appreciated.

3. What sort of beverage would you like **with breakfast**. coffee _____ tea _____ herbal tea _____
other (what?) _____ Do you have milk _____ or sugar _____ in your beverage?
What sort of beverage would you like to follow your **evening** meal? coffee _____ tea _____ herbal tea _____
other (what?) _____ Do you have milk _____ or sugar _____ in your beverage?

If you tick more than one, you will get approximately equal proportions of each unless you indicate otherwise.

Excessive group demands, however, occasionally cause us to run out of certain beverages. If you are a heavy coffee drinker, we recommend that you bring extra to be on the safe side.

4. **Breakfasts and lunches are NOT included in the price of the trip.** We can provide them for people arriving from overseas too late to do any shopping. Please contact us if you need this service.

V. SWIMMING

Please rate your swimming ability by ticking one of the following.

- Able to swim 500 metres unaided _____ Able to swim 100 metres unaided _____
Able to swim less than 100 metres unaided _____ Complete non-swimmer _____

VI. WEIGHT

Your weight and the weight of your pack determines what aircraft (including helicopters) we charter on trips where we use aerial transport. To ensure we book the correct aircraft, we must have your weight well in advance. Please list what you expect to weigh fully clothed plus the expected weight of your pack plus anything else you plan to bring on the flight. Do not include the food we provide. Badly underestimating or failing to provide your weight could mean that you don't get onto a flight.

Personal weight _____

Pack weight _____

VII. BUSHWALKING GUIDE AND TRIP NOTES

Anyone booking one of our trips should receive our booklet, '*Guide to Bushwalking in North Central Australia*.' It is very important that you read this booklet as soon as possible after receiving it. The electronic version of this is labelled **bwguide.pdf**.

No one should do any of our trips unless they have read this booklet, printed or electronic, well before departure.

Please date and sign one of the following. If you have not received the Bushwalking Guide, **phone or fax us urgently.**

I have received and read the 'Guide to Bushwalking in North Central Australia.'

Date: _____ Signature: _____

I have the 'Guide to Bushwalking' but have not yet had time to read it. I will read it before beginning the trip.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

The trip notes contain additional important information. Have you received a copy? Yes _____ No _____

Our *General Information* page contains some information which is not repeated in either the 'Bushwalking Guide' or trip notes. Have you received a copy? Yes _____ No _____

VIII. EQUIPMENT HIRE

No equipment is included in the price of any trip. We do, however, have a limited number of items for hire or sale. These are available on a first come, first serve basis. Details and charges are listed in our bushwalking guide. Please tick any items which you would like to hire or purchase for your trip. **Note.** We need your height if you want a pack.

For hire: backpack (list your height) _____ tent _____ foam sleeping mat _____ thermarest _____

tent fly _____ gaiters _____ eating utensils _____ sleeping bag _____

All sleeping bags come with a liner. Would you prefer cotton (free) _____ or silk (extra charge) _____

December to March only: pack liner _____ pack cover _____

For sale: new mosquito net _____ used mosquito net (cheaper) if available _____ lightweight airbed _____

Maps (refer to the trip notes for the maps relevant to your trip, then please list) _____

Books:The two books below are produced by Geoscience Australia. They are the best overall references we have seen.

Kakadu & Nitmiluk: a guide to the rocks, landforms, plants, animals, Aboriginal culture, and human impact (\$25) _____

Bungle Bungle Range: Purnululu National Park, East Kimberley, Western Australia: a guide to the rocks, landforms, plants, animals and human impact (\$22) _____

IX. TRANSPORTATION

Most of Willis's Walkabouts vehicles are registered as self-drive hire cars. **Everyone who rides in one of these vehicles during any part of a tour will be required to sign a hire car agreement.** A copy of this agreement is available on request.

Note. Our vehicles may be driven either by the guide or by one of those taking part in the tour. The vehicles may not contain emergency exits and the full range of safety equipment found in standard tour vehicles. Transportation in such a vehicle does not carry with it any special insurance or rights other than those you would receive if you hired the vehicle directly from a hire company and drove it yourself. The cost of the vehicle hire is included in the cost of the tour.

Discounts are available for those providing their own transportation. (Four wheel drive is required on most trips.)

Please sign and date one of the following. Without your signature on the first line, we may not be able to provide transport.

I would prefer to ride in Willis's Walkabouts hire vehicle. Date: _____ Signature: _____

If you signed the above, would you be willing to assist in the driving? Yes _____ No _____

I would prefer to provide my own transportation. Date: _____ Signature: _____

If you are providing your own transport, what kind of vehicle will you bring? _____

XI. RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK – Please don't just sign it. Read it first.

Our trips are different. It is very important that you understand exactly what is involved.

I am aware that certain risks and dangers may occur during the Willis's Walkabouts trip I have chosen. Among other things, these risks and dangers include: the hazards of remote wilderness travel where there are no trails or tracks, climatic extremes such as heat and flooding, accident or illness in remote places where medical facilities are unavailable, the forces of nature and travel by air, automobile and/or other conveyance. I accept that such conveyances may include self-drive hire vehicles driven by one of those taking part in the tour.

I am aware that mobile telephones do not work in the areas where Willis's Walkabouts trips take place, that conditions may be such as to make communication by satellite phones difficult or impossible. I am aware that even when help has been summoned by an EPIRB, radio or satellite telephone, that help could take a day or more to arrive.

I am aware that the Willis's Walkabouts guide(s) on the trip I have booked may or may not have done this particular trip before.

I recognise that it is important to prepare myself according to the information presented in the Willis's Walkabouts Bushwalking Guide and that failure to do so could place me in a life threatening situation. I recognise that there is a possibility that the guide could become incapacitated leaving my group without a qualified leader.

I accept that it is not possible for me to take part in this tour without accepting these and all other risks associated with this kind of tour. I agree that I will hold Willis's Walkabouts and all its representatives harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, claims and demand of every kind and nature whatsoever which I now have or which may arise out of or in connection with my trip or any other activities arranged for me by Willis's Walkabouts.

I accept that Willis's Walkabouts reserves the right to cancel a trip or modify the itinerary in any way necessary to protect the interest of all participants or due to circumstances over which it has no control. I understand that a full refund is payable if Willis's Walkabouts cancels a trip but that there will be no refund whatsoever resulting from any such itinerary change including changes which shorten the length of the trip.

I understand that Willis's Walkabouts can never give a 100% guarantee of departure more than 60 days prior to departure.

I recognise that **all** trips are physically demanding and may be hazardous. I warrant that I am in good health and do not suffer from any known disease, condition or disability which might affect my ability to complete the trip. I understand that Willis's Walkabouts reserves the right to refuse any application on the grounds of unsatisfactory medical condition or failure to provide any medical details requested. I hereby authorise Willis's Walkabouts to take any such action, including directing that I discontinue the trip, as it or any of its representatives may deem necessary should it or they at any time be of the opinion that I am in need of medical services or am otherwise not physically or otherwise fit enough to continue. I undertake to indemnify Willis's Walkabouts for any expenses incurred on my behalf and to reimburse Willis's Walkabouts within seven days of their being incurred. In the event that I am directed to discontinue the trip, Willis's Walkabouts shall be under no obligation to refund any money I have paid.

I understand that it is my own responsibility to cover the cost of any medical or non-medical evacuation in which I may be involved and that substantial cancellation penalties apply to all Willis's Walkabouts trips. I understand that Willis's Walkabouts strongly recommends that all its clients insure themselves against such costs.

I hereby agree to follow and comply with the directions of Willis's Walkabouts and its representatives throughout the trip. I understand and agree that should I at any time refuse to comply, Willis's Walkabouts may treat its obligations to include me in the rest of the trip as being at an end and shall be under no obligation to refund any money I have paid.

The foregoing terms shall bind me as well as my heirs, executors, administrators, assigns and legal personal representatives. They shall also bind me personally where I signed this booking in the capacity of parent/guardian of a minor.

(Parent or legal guardian must sign for all persons under the age of 18.)

Date: _____ Signature: _____