



Bowra Wildlife Sanctuary Visitor Program

Australian Wildlife Conservancy purchased Bowra in 2013 and the visitor program is organised by a dedicated team of Birds Queensland and AWC volunteers.

Australian Wildlife Conservancy was borne out of one man's mission to turn back the tide of extinction's of Australia's native species. Starting with one property in south western Australia, Martin Copley began a journey which would lead to creation of Australian Wildlife Conservancy and the creation of a new model of conservation.

Through support from donors and innovative partnerships with Indigenous groups, governments and landholders, AWC now owns, manages or works in partnerships at 30 properties across the nation, covering almost 6.5 million hectares.

Our practical land management program coupled with solid scientific research and practices ensure that we produce measurable results. Each year, our team of ecologists conduct the nation's most extensive biodiversity program gathering data that informs AWC'S land management actions and enables us to measure the ecological return on our supporters' investment.

If you would like to find out more about AWC's ground breaking conservation work please take a copy of our newsletter, **Wildlife Matters**. See display racks in the check in shack. If you would like to make a donation contact AWC Sanctuary staff or go to the AWC website.

Bowra Wildlife Sanctuary has a long reputation as a reliable birding site with a bird list of more than 200 species, including nine threatened species. Three species of Australian Babblers are present and the rare Grey Falcon has been known to breed on the sanctuary.

AWC gratefully acknowledges the wonderful support of Birds Queensland whose dedicated volunteers organise the Visitor Program. Thank you to BQ and AWC volunteers.

Key Contacts and Information

Location: 887 Humeburn Road, Cunnamulla QLD
Bowra Camp staff -0455527698
Sanctuary Manager - 0447466180
<https://www.australianwildlife.org>

Hours of operation

Book in / arrivals: 2pm – 5pm
Book out / departures: by 10am
Day visitor access: 7am – 5pm



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Pricing for Bowra Visitor Program

Powered site	Self-contained	\$20 per night 1 x Adult	\$5 per person Extra 1 x Adult	3 sites
Unpowered site	Self-contained	\$12 per night 1 x Adult	\$5 per person extra 1 x Adult	4 sites
Powered site	Blue amenities	\$27 per night 1 x Adult	\$15 per person Extra 1 x Adult	2 sites
Unpowered	Shearers Showers & toilets	\$14 per night 1 x Adult	\$12 per person Extra 1 Adult	2 sites
Day visitors	No Facilities	\$10 per vehicle		10 vehicles
Children under 15 years	free			
Tourist Operators	Fees on application			

Staying at Bowra

- There are only limited sites for camping with a special deal for self-contained (toilet & shower) vans. Maximum stay 3 weeks
- **Online booking for access only –**
<https://www.australianwildlife.org/where-we-work/bowra/bowra-visitor-program>
- **There is only 4 sets of amenities which is why numbers are limited.**
- **Amenities are cleaned daily between 11am and 12pm so they are closed during this time.**
- All vehicles to be washed on arrival mainly wheel areas, running boards and check underneath for any stray vegetation – wash down area at check in shack.
- When arriving look for the stop sign veer to the left onto the rocky pad near the hose for vehicle wash down.
- There is no accommodation available for 2021.



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EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND SAFETY

Please read **Conditions of Entry, Emergency Procedures, maps and contacts list** in check in shack.

Also, follow **check in and out procedure** in check in shack.

All documents are also available when **booking online**.

Use UHF 13. There is base stations in staff vehicles and housing but others may need your help.

- In a medical emergency, contact Sanctuary staff immediately.
The nearest hospital & emergency services are in Cunnamulla. **Ring 000**
- In case of fire, please alert sanctuary staff immediately. Muster points as in camp map.
- If you run into trouble on the road, stay with your vehicle and wait for assistance. There are 77km of tracks on Bowra. This is one of the reasons to sign out with your destination and time of return.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- No campfires, drones, generators, firearms, pets.
- **Camping.** Camp in designated sites.
- **No smoking and no candles** in buildings - be very aware of your surrounds. Please dispose of butts & toilet paper to avoid rubbish and fires.
- Wildlife & feral animals will get into rubbish bags if they are left out. Disposable bags provided in check in shack for toilet paper.
- **Driving** - Look out for wildlife and observe speed limits, **30kph on** sanctuary roads and **10kph around buildings**. Pull over to look at birds and remember to close car doors so others can get past .Take water & the map and means of communication. Mobile phones work in some areas.
- **NO OFF TRACK DRIVING.**
- There are a number of **work tracks** that are used for AWC research, feral animal control and maintenance. We can't sign post them all so **drive only on roads printed on your map**.
- **In the case of rain**, you will be advised about which roads are open/closed. If it starts to rain while you are out, **return immediately**, as roads very quickly become impassable.
- Use the toilets provided near the quarters. If you are away from camp, bury waste properly and use disposable bags for toilet paper, take disposable bag with you.
- AWC has removed cattle, sheep, goats & pigs but you may still see a few.
- Wildlife, including snakes, inhabit the area and should not be approached. Carry a torch at night and wear closed shoes. Do not feed or approach any wildlife.
- Please do not turn on or alter any outdoor troughs or parts of any water systems.
- Remember to sign out when you leave the homestead area and sign back in upon your return.
- Bowra midnight is at 9pm. Please be respectful of others after that time.



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FACILITIES

- **Reception:** Closed 2021
- **EMERGENCY** telephone contact Sanctuary staff
- RACQ, Supermarket, Laundromat, Pubs. Library, Fuel, Visitor Information Centre in Cunnamulla...
- Caravan owners; please use the **dump point** in town, not Bowra toilets, as we are on a septic system. **Dump Point William St near Show Grounds.**
- **Take your rubbish with you.** Rubbish bins beside the road to town, after T-junction just before bridge.
- **Water & Power Bowra** water is from the Great Artesian Basin and is untreated. Power is mains so please be careful of usage.
- Use showers and toilets designated to your site only.
- Our Hot Water Units produce *limited* HW; please leave some hot water for others.
- Campers need to be self-catered for cooking & dishwashing. Power points in shearer's quarters & shearing shed are for occupants only. Not campers.

BIRDING AT BOWRA

- Visitors to Bowra are mostly interested in seeing, photographing, or learning about birds in general. Please ask our volunteers for assistance in finding certain species.
 - **Bird Call:** Volunteers and visitors meet in the Shearer's Shed each evening when the Bowra list is read out and data is collected of what species has been sighted each day. To avoid double counting, the list is made up of the maximum number of a species sighted at one time in one place. Convid restrictions apply follow Sanctuary Staff instructions. Bring your own chair
 - **Fixed Route Surveys:** These surveys follow a pre-determined set of markers along the tracks where the observer will stop for 10-15 minutes counting every species and the total number seen. The survey takes from 2 to 3 hours and should be started within 2 hours of sunrise. ASK ABOUT THEM.
 - **Nests & Breeding:** Small record sheets are available at reception and in the quarters, to record sightings of birds breeding. Please leave in visitor dropbox at check in shack.



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OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE BIRDS PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING.

The following are NOT permitted:-

- The use of **recorded birdcalls to attract birds**, including mobile phones.
- **Touching, removing or cutting vegetation** at a nest site to get a better view.
- Setting up a **hide or approaching within 6 meters of any nest,**
- Or any Birds with young on the ground
- **Remaining within 20 meters** of a nest for longer than 10 minutes.
- **Using flash or spotlights** to photograph birds or nests.
- **Operating Drones.**
- **Entering the water** of the lagoon.
- Remaining so close to a water point **that you deter birds from drinking.**

Please read the Photography Rules in the Terms and Conditions in the conditions of entry
If you have any questions, or want more information, please ask one of the Sanctuary Staff

www.australianwildlife.org

www.birdsqueensland.org.au

