

MOUNT OBSERVATION

Location: The walk begins at the Mount Observation picnic site which is 48 miles / 78 kilometres along the Great Southern Highway or 'York Road' as it is more popularly referred to.

Length of walk: 10 miles / 16 kilometres.

Map required: Forests Department Mundaring 80 1:63 360 1976.

Amenities: Dispersed barbecue sites at the start.

This is a delightful walk through fairly open wandoo (white gum) country. These eastern sections of the Darling Range are not as foreboding as the gloomier jarrah country, and they are generally much more enjoyable to walk through.

From the 'wooden goanna' on top of Mount Observation follow the picnic site loop road round to Catchment Road. Walk south along this road through open country dotted here and there with stately white gums. The first conspicuous marker tree is AO92 1. There are open fields on the left and you may possibly catch sight of emus and their chicks quietly feeding in the field.

At marker tree AO 92 3 turn right onto Pony Road and walk in a westerly direction. Pass tree AP 92 1 on the left, just prior to the gully. Proceed beyond the apiary site to sight marker tree AP 91 1 on the right. A kilometre beyond the tree come to a junction. This is signposted as Sand Springs Road but it is not marked on the map. Turn right here and walk north. In approximately 3 kilometres cross a track coming in on the right. Very soon note Yuring Road entering on the left. Keep north and in just under 2 kilometres reach Nganguring Road. You must leave the track here and strike east across country. Mount Observation, visible through the trees, is about 2 kilometres almost due east. The correct bearing is 88° east. Try to walk on this bearing by keeping the hill in sight. Should you be deflected by the busy, remember that the picnic area is almost at the top of the visible ground.

