Coorong National Park Secrets

Chinaman Well Journey to Gold Walk

Start:

The Chinaman Well turn-off is located on the Princes Highway 16 km south of Salt Creek. The main car park and the start of the walk are 1.3 km along this unsealed road. There are two stopping points along the road where you can view evidence of stone excavation for the well and associated interpretive signage.

Distance:

1.3 km – a 1 hour leisurely stroll, longer if you continue to the excavation sites or follow the informal tracks to the Coorong.

What to take:

Camera and plant identification handbook.

The walk is mainly in full sun so apply sun protection and take some water with you.



Chinaman Well



Stone excavation site



Near the end of the Coorong – view from end of informal bush track

General information:

The loop walk commences from the main car park and extends in an anti-clockwise direction past the well and the eating house ruins. Good interpretive signage is provided along the way telling the story of the arrival of the Chinese in the 1850s, their journey from Port Adelaide to the Victorian goldfields and the construction of the well.

Note: while you are near the well you might like to take a diversion along an informal track through to the Coorong. The start of the track is difficult to see and is not signposted. It is approximately 35 m back from the well.

Having viewed the well, continue along until you arrive at a point where you can turn left to return to the car park or continue on the right to the eating house ruins. Once past the ruins you reach a point where again you can return to the car park or you can continue along the Nukan Kungun hiking track to two excavation sites. Between these two sites there is another informal track off to your right that extends through to the Coorong. This is also difficult to see and is not signposted. Refer to the map view to locate your way up and over a sand dune and along the side of an old wire fence. Take care not to trip on

remnant sections of wire which can be partially concealed.

The nearest toilets are in the campground at the 42 Mile Crossing to the south or by the roadhouse at Salt Creek to the north where fuel and refreshments are also available.



Adjoining maps - note scale variation between maps.



