

# Valley lookout

## Capertee National Park



### Overview

Relax with a picnic lunch at Valley lookout and enjoy dramatic views inside the world's second largest canyon. It's easily combined with a 4WD or camping getaway in Capertee National Park, near Rylstone.

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### Type

Lookouts

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### Where

Capertee National Park in Sydney and surrounds, Country NSW

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### Accessibility

Medium

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### Opening times

Access to Capertee National Park is via a locked gate. For the gate access code please contact the Mudgee office on weekdays, or Blue Mountains Heritage Centre on weekends, during office hours, before you set out.

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### What to bring

Hat, sunscreen, drinking water, sturdy shoes

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### Please note

This park is in a remote area, so make sure you're well prepared.

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There's no need to scramble over boulders or hike up cliffs to enjoy views of the Capertee Valley – the world's second largest canyon. You can drive right up to Valley lookout, located inside the canyon within Capertee National Park, between Lithgow and Mudgee.

Pack a picnic lunch and relax on the grassy area at the lookout, which looks south across the Capertee River Valley to Blacks Corner and Genowlan Point. Looming above from the rolling farmland and forested hills are the red sandstone cliffs and pagodas that make this area such a geological marvel.

Keep your binoculars handy for birdwatching as there's no better place in the world to spot critically endangered regent honeyeaters. Painted honeyeaters, Lewin's honeyeaters and masked wood swallows are among the other birds seen here.






















































The lookout is a 5km drive or mountain bike ride from historic Capertee Homestead and Woolshed ruins. Stay overnight at the homestead or at charming Capertee Cottage. For something a little more rustic, pitch your tent by the tranquil river at Capertee campground.

It's a great base for a few days of 4WD touring, bushwalking, mountain biking and birdwatching in Capertee and nearby Wollemi, Turon, and Gardens of Stone national parks.

Map



## Map legend

 Feature Park/section	 Other NPWS reserve	 Mount/Peak/Hill	 Waterfall
 Track	 Management trail (no motor vehicle access)	 Motorway	 Primary road
 Arterial road	 Sub-arterial road	 Distributor road	 Local road
 Sealed road	 Unsealed road	 Feature route	 Railway
 Watercourse	 Waterbody	 Marine Park/ Aquatic Reserve	 Firearms range/ Danger area
<b>Attractions and activities</b>		<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Transport</b>
 Aboriginal site	 Adventure sports location	 Accommodation	 Train station
 Birdwatching spot	 Boating location	 Boat ramp	 Bus station
 Campground	 Canoe/Kayak location	 Café/kiosk	 Ferry wharf
 Cave entrance	 Fishing spot	 Education centre	 Airport
 Historic site	 Lookout	 Picnic area	<b>Warnings</b>
 Snow sports facility	 Surfing spot	 Venue	
 Swimming spot	 Visitor centre		 Gate – may be locked
 Canoe/Kayak route	 Car touring route		 Warning
 Cycling trail	 Horse riding trail		
 Snow trail	 Walking track		
 4WD touring route			


## Local alerts


For the latest updates on fires, closures and other alerts in this area, see

<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/lookouts/valley-lookout/local-alerts>

## General enquiries

National Parks Contact Centre


 7am to 7pm daily

 1300 072 757 (13000 PARKS) for the cost of a local call within Australia excluding mobiles

 [parks.info@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:parks.info@environment.nsw.gov.au)

## Park info

 in [Capertee National Park](#) in the [Sydney and surrounds](#) and [Country NSW](#) regions

 Capertee National Park has a locked entry gate. If you're visiting during the day, get the gate code by calling Mudgee Office (weekdays) or Blue Mountains Heritage Centre (weekends).

## Visitor info

All the practical information you need to know about Valley lookout.

## Getting there and parking

Valley lookout is in Capertee National Park, near Capertee. To get there:

From Lithgow or Mudgee:

- Take the Castlereagh Highway to Capertee
- Turn off towards Glen Davis onto Glen Davis Road and drive 29km
- Turn left onto Glen Alice Road, towards Rylstone, and continue around 21.5km
- Turn left onto Port Macquarie Road and follow 6km to the locked gate at the park boundary (you'll need to get the access code before arriving)
- From the locked gate continue around 5km to the Capertee River causeway
- Follow the road around to the right to cross the river and reach a visitor information bay
- From the visitor information bay, follow the road north for 5km to reach the lookout.

### Road access and conditions

- Access to Capertee National Park is via a locked gate. For the gate access code please contact the Mudgee office on weekdays, or [Blue Mountains Heritage Centre](#) on weekends, during office hours, before you set out.
- If you're staying at Capertee campground, cottage or homestead you'll receive the gate access code with your email booking confirmation.
- Check the weather before you set out as the road to Capertee National Park may be flooded after heavy rain.
- Mixture of sealed and unsealed roads

### Vehicle access

- Most roads suitable for 2WD vehicles (no long vehicle access)

### Weather restrictions

- Dry weather only

## **P Parking**

Parking is available at the lookout.

## **Facilities**

Toilets and picnic tables are available at [Capertee campground](#), around a 5km drive from the lookout.

## **P Carpark**

## **Maps and downloads**



**Valley lookout factsheet**



**Valley lookout map** (1.5MB pdf)

## **Safety messages**



### **Mobile safety**

Dial Triple Zero (000) in an emergency. Download the [Emergency Plus app](#) before you visit, it helps emergency services locate you using your smartphone's GPS. Please note there is limited mobile phone reception in this park and you'll need mobile reception to call Triple Zero (000).

## **Accessibility**



### **Disability access level - medium**

Medium access presents some minor difficulties, such as a grassy surface. You may require a little assistance to get around in some areas.

## **Prohibited**



### **Camp fires and solid fuel burners**



### **Camping**

Camping is not permitted at the lookout. You can camp nearby at Capertee campground. Bookings required.



### **Drones**

Flying a drone for recreational purposes is prohibited in this area. Drones may affect public enjoyment, safety and privacy, interfere with park operations, or pose a threat to wildlife. See the [Drones in Parks policy](#).



This area may be a declared Drone Exclusion Zone, or may be subject to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) rules for flying near airports, aerodromes and helicopter landing sites. See [CASA's Drone Flyer Rules](#).

### Commercial filming and photography

Commercial filming or photography is prohibited without prior consent. You must [apply for permission](#) and [contact the local office](#).



### Generators



### Pets

Pets and domestic animals (other than certified assistance animals) are not permitted. Find out which [regional parks allow dog walking](#) and see the [pets in parks policy](#) for more information.



### Smoking

NSW national parks are [no smoking areas](#).

## Learn more

Valley lookout is in Capertee National Park. Here are just some of the reasons why this park is special:

## Looking for things to do in Capertee?



There are great things to do when in Capertee. Enjoy fantastic bird watching any time of the year - the protected woodlands attract the threatened gang-gang and glossy black cockatoos, and Capertee Valley is one of only three known nesting areas for the endangered regent honeyeater. You'll find a range of options if you're looking for a place to stay, including Capertee Homestead, Cottage or campground. Bookings essential. You can also hike into remote Policemans Point campground.



### **Capertee Woolshed ruins**

Capertee Woolshed ruins, in Capertee National Park, offer a view of the historic heritage of the area, with walking, paddling and birdwatching opportunities nearby.



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## Plant life abounds



The park is home to rare grey grevillea shrubs, which bloom with pink and red flowers in spring. This hardy, dense shrub is found nowhere else but Capertee Valley. Fertile river flats and surrounding slopes host an ecological community of majestic yellow box, blakelys red gum and white box, providing a vital habitat for wildlife and native birds.



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## Wiradjuri country



Capertee National Park is within the traditional lands of Wiradjuri People. The surrounding countryside contains evidence of Aboriginal occupation in the form of rock art, scarred trees and artefacts. Traditional food plants and old travel routes are also present within the park.

## Education resources (1)



**Who cares about national parks?, Stage 2 (Years 3-4), Geography**



