



Located 24 km west of Narrogin, Contine hill is a great spot to visit for a picnic and a walk, in all but the hottest part of the year.

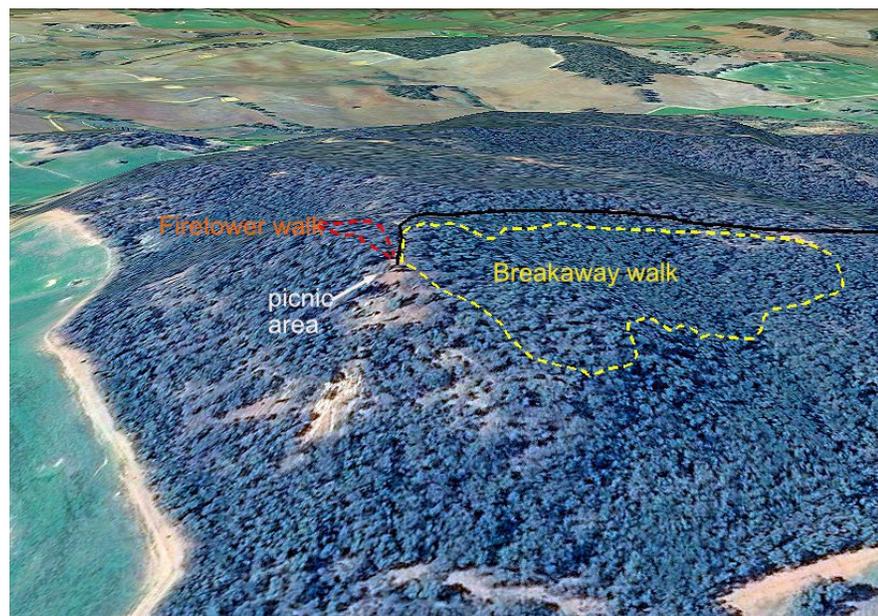
The site is a laterite breakaway with a commanding view of the countryside. You'll find picnic tables, and BBQ plates (May to September use), an information bay, and two walk trails, but no toilet. Cars with caravans can reach the spot but camping is not permitted. Fantastic camping and caravan sites are available at nearby [Gnaala Mia](#) and [Congelin](#). Do not take pets as baits are laid in the reserve to protect the native wildlife from feral animals.



Historic spot

From 1933 to the 1960s Contine Hill was one of series of fire lookout towers in Dryandra Woodland. In summer, the overseer and his wife scanned the landscape constantly in summer for signs of fire that could destroy the mallet plantations and farmland. The family lived here in a small house with no facilities.

Being many miles from town, the children went to school on the bus but had to walk several miles to get to the bus stop. They were never bored at Contine Hill, amusing themselves by hunting rabbits, climbing trees, wandering around the bush, riding ponies or bikes, or doing odd jobs for farmers.





The Firetower Loop walk (450m 15 minutes) is a short meander along the edge of the breakaway to the two fire lookout points.

The dense ironstone soil here has similar sparse proteaceae vegetation including the stunning spring-flowering pink *Isopogon crithmifolius*, and the secretive king dryandra (*Banksia proteoides*) that hides flowers inside the bush. Keep your eyes and ears open for bird life.



Isopogon crithmifolius September, October



King Dryandra August/ September

The one kilometre Breakaway Walk (Grade 3, 45 minutes) leads to the western side of the mesa, and winds through ironstone pavement around the edge of the breakaway, before a moderately steep descent into a cool shady gully in rock sheoak/wandoo woodland, with abundant winter ferns, rushes, cowslip orchids and everlastings. The track goes past the old dam, follows an old fenceline, and across a rock where you may find lemon scented sun orchids. The loop then heads back to the picnic site



Breakaway Walk



Peregrine falcon image R Playle