

Central Queensland News

Friday 14 July 2017

It's well worth the experience

Head to Lake Nuga Nuga



DISCOVER YOUR BACKYARD
PETER GRIGG
CHDC tourism development officer

HOW many of us know where Lake Nuga Nuga is or have actually visited the lake?

Indeed the lake conjures up a place shrouded in mystery, a place that seems just too far out of the way and off the beaten track for locals and travellers to make the effort to visit and stay.

In fact the journey to Lake Nuga Nuga requires little to no effort at all.

For us Central Highland locals we have a number of access points to the lake, one via Rolleston, south-east on the Dawson Hwy for 28km and turn right at Arcadia Valley Access Rd.

Lake Nuga Nuga turn-off

is 58km along this gravel road.

Another is from the Gregory Hwy via Mulachay's Rd and then turn left onto the Arcadia Valley Access Rd.

For those travelling through Injune, follow the Arcadia Valley Rd from the southern entry point.

The last 7 km into the national park requires caution in wet weather and four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended.

Lake Nuga Nuga is the largest natural water body within the Central Queensland Sandstone Wilderness country and provides valuable habitat for water birds in an otherwise arid sandstone landscape.

Waterlilies on the lake flower at certain times of the year when the lake becomes dappled with colour, providing visitors with photographic opportunities.

For canoeists and kayakers, the lake is the



WATER BLOOMS: Nuga Nuga National Park, Lake Nuga Nuga, is worth the effort to visit.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

perfect setting for an early morning or sunset paddle.

Bush camping is the only option around the lake itself but there is an accommodation option south along the Arcadia Valley Rd at Arcadia Valley Escapes.

The camping ground has no facilities and camping fees do apply, so if you intend to stay a night or three you can book your campsite online at www.nprs.qld.gov.au.

The Nuga Nuga National Park provides low-impact nature-based activities such as bird watching,

photography and bushwalking, although the park offers no formal walking tracks so be mindful of your safety as the area is very remote and assistance is a long way away.

For an artist, Lake Nuga Nuga offers the backdrop and serenity to put creativity on canvas.

There have been more than 150 different bird species recorded in the park and on the lake and pelicans, black swans, magpie geese and broilgas are common.

When the waterlilies are in flower the lake comes

alive in colours of pink, purple and light blue and the beauty of this colour is only enhanced with a spectacular sandstone wilderness sunset.

Due to the remoteness and lack of facilities, visitors will need to be fully self-sufficient and it is advisable to wear sturdy shoes, a hat, protective clothing and sunscreen.

Make allowances for wet weather as rain and changing road conditions will impact access and possible departure.

Winter nights can be cool

so be prepared but this time of the year is just perfect for walking or paddling on the lake.

Rubbish bins are not provided, so always carry out what you carry in and domestic pets/animals are not permitted in the national park.

Campfires are allowed but are to be controlled and contained in a fireplace if provided.

Most definitely don't forget your camera and binoculars and most importantly enjoy your Lake Nuga Nuga experience.