

Landscapes and Geosites

1. Choc Chip Rise - to the west of Witchelina Airstrip there is a low dark hill. The stony gibber plain here is made of spectacularly tessellated small platy shale fragments, which look like broken pieces of chocolate. There are also many curved fragments which resemble broken pieces of chocolate eggs. See how many different shapes you can find, but remember – no collecting!



2. Bubble Rocks Gully is a “break-away” erosional gully, where a branch of the Balawopina Creek has eroded through the very thin hard gypcrete surface made of yellowish-white gypsum-rich soils. Older sedimentary layers with their splendidly sculpted and enigmatic “bubble rock” concretions occur in the gully where there are dozens of dark red coloured ellipsoidal, football shaped, iron-rich nodules. The nodules are called concretions, because they are much harder than the sediments.

3. An array of Standing Stone Walls, which resemble Celtic stone lines, but are natural hard layers, which have been tilted upright in a large fold, occur just before the view stop on the plateau. Looking south, the majestic Termination range along the line of the Norwest Fault rises gradually out of the plains.

4. South of Rocky Dam a few rocky outcrops rise out of the scrub and form a low ridge of very hard iron-rich layers, fractured with white quartz veins.



5. The track crosses a **gently inclined Alluvial Fan** which slopes down from the Termination Hill range to Lake Watherston. These fans are common on edges of active fault scarp slopes.

6. Ideyaka Hill sits astride the major Norwest Fault where sliding and grinding of large rock masses produced breccias, rock flour & polished fault surfaces

7. “**Dunefield**” country is entered past Pug Hill Hut with very young superficial covering of sand dunes, claypan swales and with exquisite wildflowers after good winter rains.

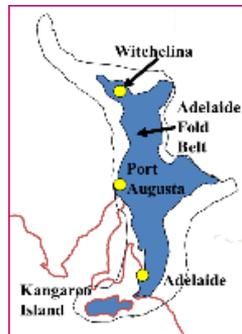
8. Coronation Arrowhead shows an unusual pattern of coloured rock layers of limestone, dolomite and magnesite.



Total distance: **Approx. 111 kms round trip**
Difficulty: **Easy, with 1 moderate section**
Basic signs As you drive, you'll see basic signs:

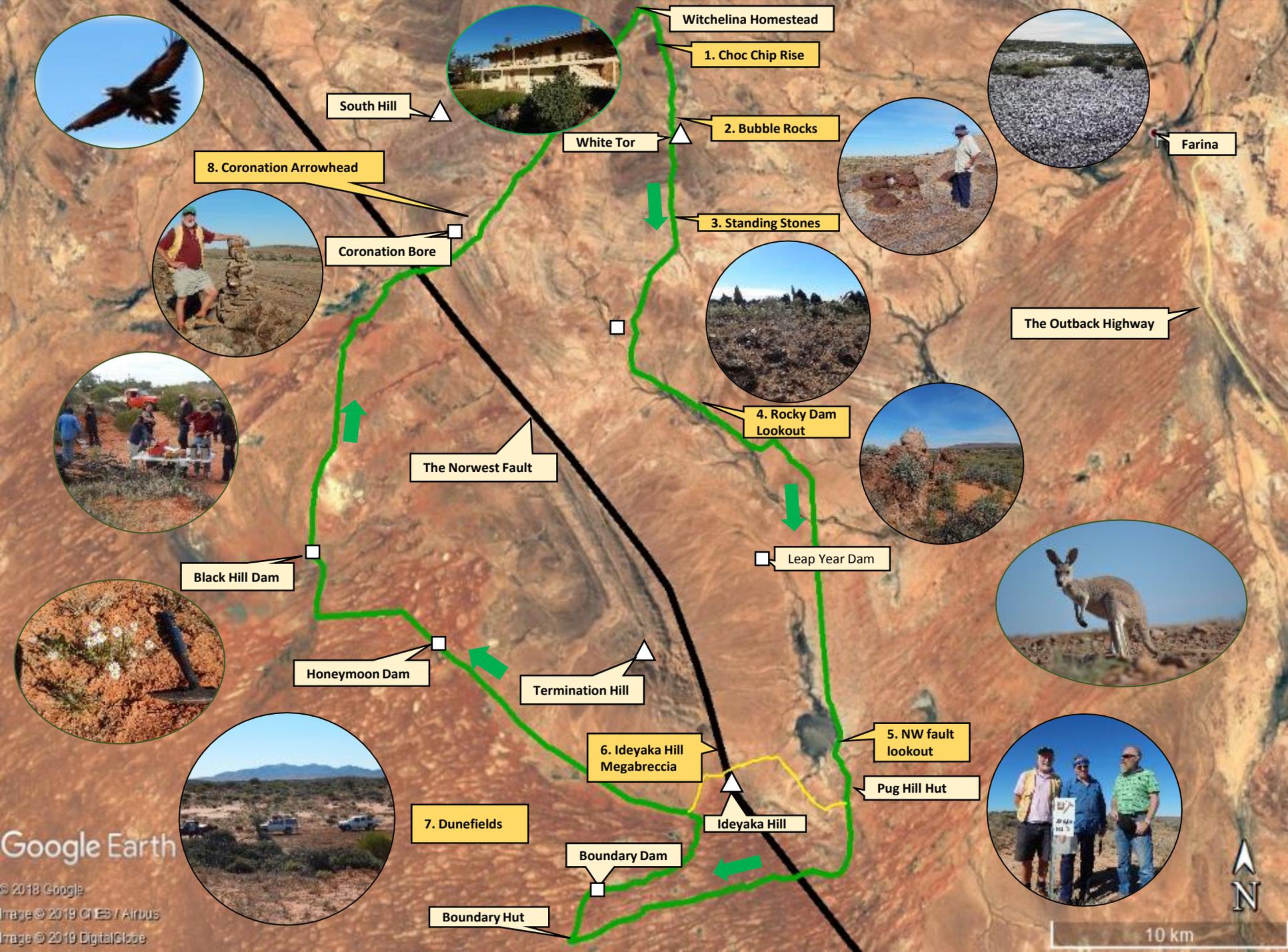
-  - shows the direction to follow for the Dunes & Wildflowers Nature Drive.
-  - indicates a geological feature you may like to stop and inspect. *Please note: fossicking on Witchelina is prohibited.*
-  - indicates another feature you may like to stop and inspect.

The Dunes & Wildflowers Nature Drive nature drive is only suitable for 4WD vehicles and is safe to travel only during daylight hours. Please begin your drive before 10.00am. Signs clearly show your route, please do not leave the marked track.



Dunes & Wildflower Nature Drive Witchelina





Google Earth

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10 km