

Waddananggu Narrayina ~ Information Pack

~ Sat 23rd - Tues 26th Aug ~

(Recommend: Arrive Friday, Depart Wednesday)

Ticket sales CLOSE midnight Friday 15th August

This document will be emailed to you as a PDF when you purchase your event ticket.
Still have questions after reading this info pack? Email wandjcustodians@gmail.com

~ Waddananggu Narrayina ('always here') ~

All sovereign tribes and non-Indigenous supporters are invited to join the Narrayina Celebration - to celebrate four years of Waddananggu!

Bula bula (four) years ago, Wangan and Jagalingou Cultural Custodians set up a stone Bora ring around a sacred fire, birthing the historic Waddananggu 'the talking' Ceremony opposite Adani's mine.

For four years they have occupied Waddananggu, asserting their human rights as Wangan and Jagalingou people and Cultural Custodians of Waddananggu, to practise culture and live on their homelands.

"Yina ngali Yamba nani, ngali bindana yina yiyala" This is our home. We live here now.



Steps to be part of the Celebration!

1. **Read this information pack** even if you have been to Waddananggu before.
2. **Secure your ticket for the event:** To help us plan the event, [please grab your ticket to join the Celebration as soon as you have locked in your travel plans.](#)
3. **Keep a look out for your welcome email and any important updates.**
4. **Join the [Facebook Organising Space](#)** to:
 - * see requests from organisers that you may be able to help with
 - * request/offer things that you need or could be helpful to others e.g. bikes/bike transport
 - * organise carpooling / airport/train/bus pickup and dropoff
5. **Remind all of your travel companions** to [secure their ticket](#) separately.
6. **If your registration details change** please let us know by emailing wandjcustodians@gmail.com.
7. **Talk to a volunteer:** A volunteer may call you to confirm your plans.
8. **Stay Flexible:** Keep an eye on the [Waddananggu Narrayina Facebook Event](#) for updates. A volunteer will contact you for any critical changes to arrival.
9. **Do NOT bring your dog** (unless a registered Assistance dog)

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What to expect!

A four day celebration filled with time connecting on Country, ceremony, yarns and live music by special guests, including of course Gurridyula!

And we will have a special challenge to find a new plant at Waddananggu, not yet recorded by western science!

This is a fluid celebration with Cultural (and weather/conditions!) considerations - so please arrive at Waddananggu with flexibility and a willingness to respect the Cultural Custodians and their decisions!

How to get to Waddananggu / What to do when you Arrive

Waddananggu is located within Wangan and Jagalingou Country, in remote Central Queensland, about 4 hours inland from Bowen, a 13 hour drive north from Brisbane and 9 hours drive south from Cairns.

The Front Camp (the original camp) at the stone Bora ring and first sacred fire is approximately 1km opposite Adani's Carmichael coal mine and [the drop pin is here](#).

The Cultural Custodians now live deeper into Waddananggu territory, to Gamu Yuna Warba (spring dam 1) which is approximately 4 km inland from the Front Camp.

By car

Waddananggu is 2wd accessible in dry weather, but care should be taken on dirt roads.

IMPORTANT: Read this "Driving Guide" which includes where you are going, what to do when you arrive and other important and useful information.

Flying into Emerald

We will commit to ensuring anyone who flies in and/or departs at the following times has a lift to Waddananggu. You can arrive earlier / depart later on these same days, but may need to wait.

- **Arrive Emerald:** Friday 22nd 11:30am
- **Depart Emerald:** Wednesday 27th, 2:55pm

You still need to initiate self-organising a pick up via the [Facebook Organising Space](#). We will help you in this process, but to reduce volunteer workload, we ask you to start the process.

Train or bus

If you want to get the train or bus - **you will need to self-organise your pick up AND drop off before you book your train/bus**. Get help from other participants in the [Facebook Organising Space](#).

Both Mackay and Emerald would be good towns to consider getting to, opening your pickup/drop off options to people travelling to/from Mackay and Brisbane respectively. Clermont (bus) is also a good option, opening yourself up to both Mackay and Brisbane travellers.

Carpooling / Airport, Train or Bus Pickup

You can self-organise carpooling and any pickups in the [Facebook Organising Space](#), but to help the many volunteers supporting Waddananggu - **please secure your ticket for the Celebration as soon as you know you are coming**.

When to come / how long to stay

Narrayina - the Celebration!

To get the most out of the Celebration, we recommend you arrive at least by Friday 22nd and depart from Wednesday 27th. You can opt in for Friday dinner and Wednesday breakfast when you secure your ticket (more details below).

Help Setup and Packdown

Volunteers will be needed to help us set up the event, and pack it down. If this sounds like you, then make sure you [read the section below](#) with everything you need to know below!

Accommodation, Facilities and Meals

Accommodation - Camping

You will be camping under the stars at Waddananggu, the same sky that inspired Gurridyula's song, [Under the Stars](#).

You can bring a tent, sleep in your car, bring a campervan or caravan (weather permitting - the roads can get boggy if there has been a lot of rain). It will be cold at night in August, and the area can sometimes be dusty, so if you are sensitive to dust or the cold, it's recommended you bring accommodation you can close up rather than things like hammocks and mozzie nets.

Meals, Tea and Coffee

Three nutritious meals will be provided each day during the Celebration event (Saturday/Sunday/Monday/Tuesday) and you can opt in for Friday dinner and/or Wednesday breakfast.

Please be self-sufficient for all meals outside of the above, unless you are arriving early to help with setup or staying to help pack down.

There will be meat and vegetarian/vegan options, along with gluten and lactose free.

Tea, coffee, sugar and milk (dairy and plant-based) is provided.

BYO snacks!

Food Allergies

We capture any food allergies when you secure your ticket and can generally cater for most people that need certain food items to be excluded like onions and capsicum.

If you have anything that is really concerning to you, bring your own cooker/cooking gear to self-cater.

Facilities

There are communal shaded spaces, a camp kitchen, water, tea/coffee and drop toilets with capability to sit. During the event (Friday dinner - Wednesday breakfast) the camp kitchen will only be available to the event cooks and their volunteers.

Wifi, Mobile Reception and Charging Devices

Wifi: is available via Starlink at Gamu Yuna Warba, which will be the central hub where meals will be provided and people can camp.

Charging: There is solar power to charge devices, however if you have your own solar set up and/or personal battery packs, please bring them with you. You will only be able to charge larger devices like

laptops during times when there is sunlight, and priority will be given to any device being used to support the event.

Weather + Landscape + Swimming

The landscape is currently green, and you can swim in Gamu Yuna Warba (spring dam 1).

In August, the days will be mild and the nights cold. Belyando is a good location to use to check the weather ahead of your trip.

Health and Safety

Not feeling well?

Please don't come if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms or are feeling unwell. Elders will be joining the Celebration and we want to keep them, and everyone else, safe!

We will gladly refund the cost of your ticket(s) if you are unable to come due to illness, but will be unable to help with any transport arrangements you may have made.

Waddananggu is in a Remote Location

Waddananggu is in a remote area with the nearest hospital around 3 hours away. Please consider this if you have particular medical needs that would find this problematic.

Family Friendly

Children are welcome and have a great time at Waddananggu! Just a few small points - no specific facilities are provided for them and please take into consideration that Waddananggu is in a remote environment that is largely exposed to the elements and the camping area and dams are unfenced.

Children's care and safety will remain the responsibility of their parents/caregivers at all times.



Play with Auntie Meisha!



Painting up with Gundulu



Making tools from Gidgee

Respecting Wangan and Jagalingou Country and Waddananggu

Whilst participating at the Waddananggu ceremony, you must be respectful to Country and Wangan and Jagalingou culture. This means:

- Do not **move or take any stones or artefacts** that you find along the journey or at Waddananggu, unless you have been advised that it is okay to do so from a Wangan and Jagalingou Cultural Custodian

- **Do not wear any items into the Bora ring** at Waddananggu other than your clothes. This includes: sunglasses, glasses, hats, jewellery and shoes. Do not consume alcohol around the Bora ring.
- **If you see that one of the sacred fires is low on wood**, please put a piece of wood on it, as long as you have already been smoked into the ceremony. Once you have been smoked in you are a part of the Waddananggu ceremony and tending the fire is a cultural responsibility of all ceremony participants
- **Do not swim in the spring dam with sunscreen**, insect repellent or anything else on your body that can contaminate the water. Do not use soaps, including biodegradable ones.
- **Take out what you bring in.** Don't leave rubbish or belongings behind. **If you think there is something that Waddananggu could use, please ask first before assuming and leaving it behind.**
- Be mindful that their old people's spirits are still living in the area so people are encouraged not to whistle at night.

This is included in the [Participation Agreement](#) that you will agree to when you secure your ticket.

Financial Contribution

We don't want costs to be a barrier for anyone attending the event. Limited free tickets and a "pay what you can" option are also available by request - simply email wandjcustodians@gmail.com with why you'd like to attend this event for the promo code.

The ticket price for the four days of Celebration covers the cost of food (3 meals daily), artists and other things like fuel, gas and supplies to set up the event.

You can also opt in for dinner on Friday night and/or breakfast on Wednesday morning.

Waged	→ Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday: \$240 → Friday dinner: \$15 → Wednesday breakfast: \$5
Concession	→ Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday: \$100 → Friday dinner: \$10 → Wednesday breakfast: \$5
Children (12yrs & under)	→ Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday: \$50 → Friday dinner: \$5 → Wednesday breakfast: \$5

Donation - Pay it Forward

Whether or not you are attending the event, you can chip in to help someone else attend, with donations being prioritised to First Nations people.

Helping with Setup / Packdown



Be part of the awesome setup/packdown community!

Help Setup and Packdown - the outdoor physical stuff

Volunteers are needed and welcome to help with set up and pack down.

If you would like to help with set up, it's preferred that you arrive Monday 18th / Tuesday 19th so that the small setup community can ground into working as a team to get all the things done. It will be difficult to try and accommodate people who arrive Thursday, or even Wednesday.

The Setup will be outdoors and physical in nature and will include things like: setting up shelters and a big kitchen, setting up first aid and charging stations, digging toilets and composts, creating a dance space with sand, rigging lighting, building a stage etc.

Please be a little patient with being allocated jobs, especially the later you arrive!

If you would like to help with packdown, the majority of work will happen on Wednesday 27th and then likely finish up on Thursday 28th. Staying for one or both of these days would be very welcome!

When you secure your ticket, you will be asked to provide your arrival and departure dates and interest.

Help feed the Setup and Packdown volunteers

Would you like to help feed the setup/packdown community?

Food will be supplied and the setup and packdown communities will be self-organising their own meals in the camp kitchen. As such, having someone dedicated to holding and/or helping the meals would be VERY welcome.

Email wandjcustodians@gmail.com if you would like more information on this role. **When you secure your ticket**, you will be asked to provide your arrival and departure dates and interest.

Setup/Packdown - Meals and Financial Contribution

For volunteers who come earlier and/or stay later to help with setup/packdown, we ask for a nominal contribution to cover food cost only. Please **bring cash if you can** with you to cover this.

Waged: \$15/day

Concession: \$10/day

If cash is an issue, you can prepay using the following bank account:

Name: Ancestral Precepts

BSB: 064162

Number: 11687622

What to bring, and NOT bring

Please do NOT bring alcohol or any illicit substances.

A detailed list is here in the [What to bring and not bring](#) guide. This guide will also be emailed to you upon securing your ticket. Some important things to bring are:

- Camping gear and a chair
- Your own cutlery, crockery and mug
- Self sufficient with meals outside of the meals being provided (see *meals / setup & packdown* sections)
- Bike, helmet, repair kit if you want to go for a ride to check out the surroundings - there are some great tracks to explore. A mountain bike, or thick-tyred hybrid, is recommended.
- Good walking shoes (there are prickles about!)
- Day pack, water bottle (useful for riding and/or day walks)
- Sun and rain protection, Warm clothes!

And, check out the [Waddananggu Wishlist](#) that has a list of general items needed at Waddananggu, which you may be able to donate and bring with you. Please check with us first before bringing by sending us an email at wandjcustodians@gmail.com

Sorry - NO DOGS (unless registered assistance dogs)

Assistance dogs are welcome but we ask that **all other dogs be left at home**. There are nine camp dogs already on site, and as such we cannot host additional dogs (even if tied up).

If you decide to just come with your dog/s anyway you will be asked to camp approximately 1km away from the main site and leave your dog restrained for the times you are joining us at the event.

Help others attend Waddananggu Narayina

Everyone is encouraged to join the [Facebook Organising Space](#) where we can all help each other out - participants and volunteer support crew alike. It is here you can answer call-outs for help, such as participants needing camping gear, airport pickup or a lift.