



Determining the boundary and 'Outstanding Universal Value' of the proposed Murujuga World Heritage area

The Western Australian Government recognises the Traditional Owners and custodians of Murujuga; the past, present and future generations of Ngarda-Ngarli, and their ongoing connection to this sacred country.



What are the World Heritage values of Murujuga?

The rock art of Murujuga is of immense cultural, archaeological and spiritual significance and is an important part of Western Australia's cultural heritage. The World Heritage nomination for Murujuga must make a strong evidence-based case that the site has 'Outstanding Universal Value'. This means 'cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity'¹. The 'Outstanding Universal Value' of Murujuga will be determined through detailed research and comparative analysis to meet the World Heritage criteria and will be assessed by international experts.



How will the proposed Murujuga World Heritage boundary be determined?

The World Heritage nomination will be for those significant areas of Murujuga where there is a management framework in place that can adequately conserve and protect its World Heritage value. The boundary and size of the proposed Murujuga World Heritage area will be determined during the nomination process, following effective and comprehensive stakeholder consultation and assessment of the area. The boundary of the [Dampier Archipelago National Heritage Listed area](#)² will be used as a guide and starting point for this.

Will there be a buffer zone around the boundary?

UNESCO requires that World Heritage areas are properly protected, including if necessary, the provision of a buffer zone. The need for a buffer zone around the proposed Murujuga World Heritage area will be determined during the nomination process.

How can I be involved in the nomination?

The [Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation](#) and the Western Australian Government welcomes stakeholder involvement in the nomination process. To register for updates, please visit pws.d BCA.WA.GOV.AU/murujuga.

¹ The definition of 'Outstanding Universal Value' is in UNESCO's Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

² The National Heritage List is Australia's list of natural, historic and Indigenous places of outstanding significance to the nation.