

What to Expect on a WFE at Barambah Environmental Education Centre (BEEC)

What is Barambah EEC?



Barambah EEC is an old forestry camp which has been converted into a residential camp facility for schools and is part of Education Queensland's Outdoor and Environmental Education sector. It is a beautiful setting with extensive native gardens in the centre grounds and forest outside of the grounds. The Centre is 2 to 2 1/2 hours drive from the Sunshine Coast, basically it is west of Gympie (see map below).



Where will I Stay?

All visiting staff and students are housed in barrack type accommodation, each room is furnished with bunk beds fitted with foam mattresses and the rooms have adequate space for personal belongings. Preservice teachers will be accommodated in our Training Complex which is just outside of the centre grounds and with its own ablutions block. The Training Complex has a small kitchen and lounge area.



What will You be doing?

Our staff provide teaching sessions for schools from 8.30am-5.00pm. We usually meet at the office at 8am and leave around 5.30pm. We also provide a night teaching session on the first night of camp from 7pm-9pm. You will be working with small groups of students during activities and assisting with supervision of students during teaching sessions. You will have the opportunity to build further rapport with school teachers and students during free time if you wish by playing games or assisting with supervision of shower time.

What will I need to bring?

It is probably important to let you know **there is no 3G or other mobile service at Barambah!**

- You will need to bring your own bedding including a pillow (bunks have a mattress only).
- You will need to bring your own food (or organise to have your food provided by our camp caterers). If you choose full catering you will need to bring lunch on the first day as caterers do not normally provide lunch on the first day.
- You will need to model sunsmart behaviour including wearing a brimmed hat and having a water bottle (sunscreen is also important). Shirts for day wear need to be sleeved.

- A torch will be handy!
- Insect repellent will be very handy!
- Sturdy shoes are a must – joggers are fine or hiking boots – some days are spent almost entirely out in the forest and involve a lot of walking so comfort is important. Slip on canvas shoes are not suitable for day wear but are fine for evenings.
- Long pants are also a must, preferably jeans or long canvas pants, this is for our workplace health and safety. We don't recommend tights or track pants for day wear though they are fine for evenings.
- The usual personal items –a towel, toiletries, medications etc

Other Important Things!

Your time at Barambah will give you the opportunity to experience the professional role of a teacher in an outdoor camp setting. You will be living in close proximity to a visiting school group and both our professional and private lives are visible to others including students, even in our down time.

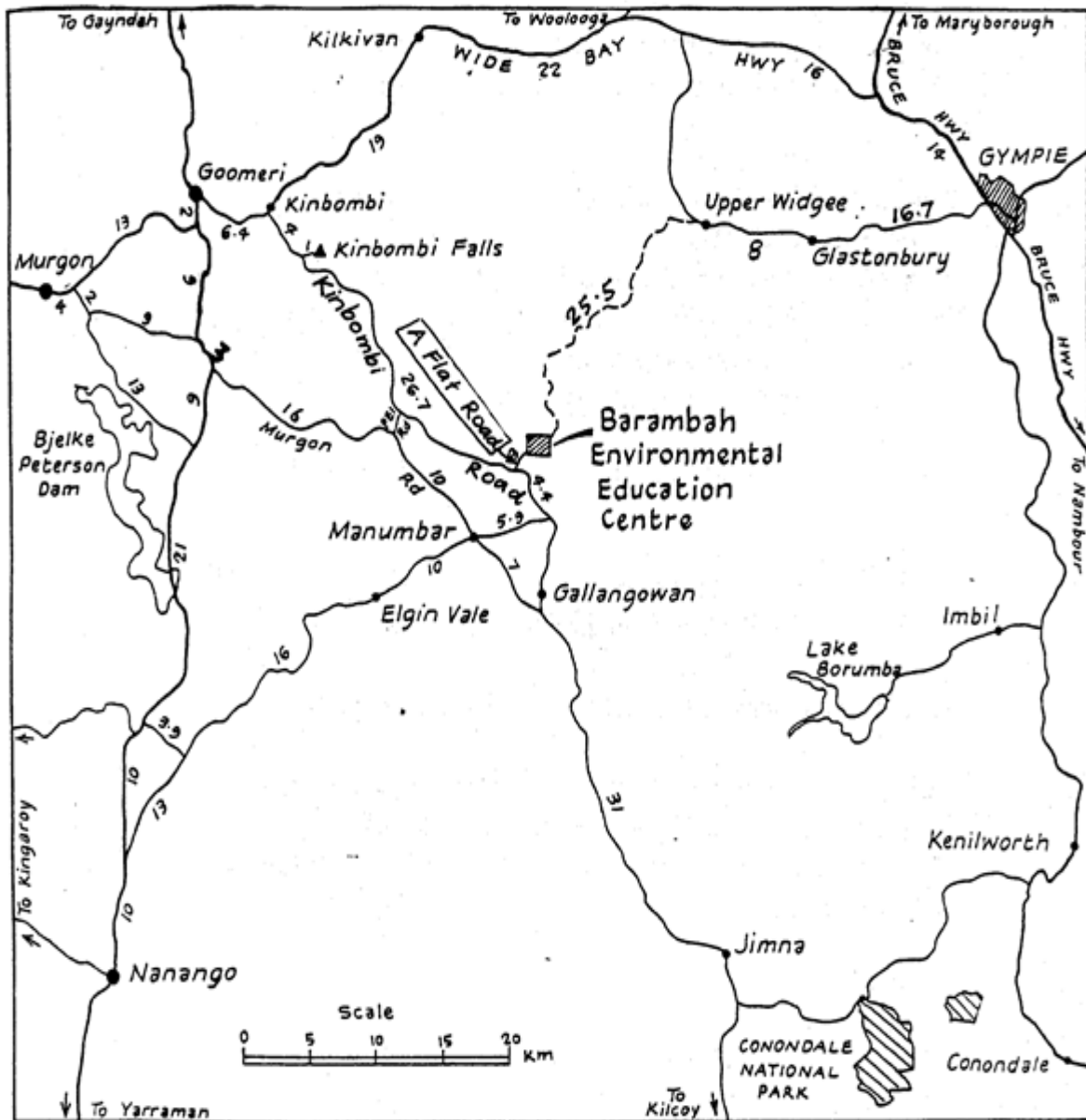
For these reasons, the drinking of alcohol is not acceptable during a WFE at Barambah. Other things to be aware of is the need to display acceptable behaviours (eg use of appropriate language and noise levels) at all times whilst at Barambah. You will certainly have a chance to relax and enjoy your downtime, we just need to remember to do this in a professional way!

I look forward to welcoming you to your Wider Field Experience at Barambah EEC. Our staff member Sandra co-ordinates our WFE students so she is your first port of call for enquiries. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have regarding the WFE, my email is sgibs50@eq.edu.au and the centre number is 41688190. You are also welcome to try my mobile 0427 156 954 but remember I will only be able to access this if I am offsite!

Sue Gibson
(Principal – Barambah EEC)



How to Get There



Note: The road via Upper Widgee is a gravel forestry road so it's a bit steep and rough in places. Four wheel drives or cars with good clearance are recommended.

Please use the above map to get here, GPS is unreliable.