

KAMBAH PRAM FRIENDLY WALK



Start/Finish	Kett Street car park, Kambah
Time/Distance	Allow 90 minutes/approx 5 km
Off leash rating	♥ ♥ ♥
Parking	Kett Street car park
Dog friendly café	<i>Our Pick</i> Biginelli's
Public toilets	Adjacent to Kambah Village shops
Bins	Bins available at all the ovals
Distractions	None
Playgrounds	After the Marconi Crescent and Summerland Circuit
Playgrounds	underpasses, and in 'bush park'

Kambah's generous open spaces and extensive network of footpaths make this an easy, pleasant walk whether you are pushing a pram or free to wander 'off track'. Dogs will love the variety of off leash spaces, from huge irrigated playing fields to a mini bush park. There are mountain and hill views reminiscent of Elioth Gruner (see www.cmag.com.au/exhibitions/elioth-gruner-the-texture-of-light) local landscapes from nearly all points on the route and a super dog friendly cafe on the way providing a tempting stop. This loop walk is fully paved and mostly flat with only one gradual up hill then down hill section in the first part of the walk, and crosses only one quiet road. The walk starts and ends at Kett Street behind the Kambah Village shopping centre. Alternatively, you could start and end your loop walk at our recommended dog friendly cafe.

Before starting this walk, see *Important Stuff* at www.canberradogwalks.com.au/important-stuff.

KETT STREET TO SUMMERLAND CIRCUIT (35 MINUTES)

1. Start at the end of Kett Street - at this point a small car park - at the amenities block on the edge of extensive playing fields (Kambah District Playing Field No. 3). Facing the amenities block from the street, join the wide concrete footpath on the right of the amenities block which heads away from the amenities block directly across and bisecting the green playing fields.

Off leash opportunity starts on the playing field. If sports games are in progress, wait until you reach the far side of the fields.

You'll pass the fenced off ACT Motor Car Racing Club on your left in the middle of the playing fields. If you aren't walking with a pram, you can just wander across the playing fields from any point until you reach the path on the other side.

There is free parking in the Kett Street car park and bins adjacent to the car park and amenities block, plus a water station.

2. After crossing the playing fields, follow the concrete footpath left as it follows the edge of the fields, ignoring any branches to the right. Then continue on the path as it curves to the right away from the fields towards an informal park and a large hill in the distance (Mount Taylor). Soon after leaving the playing fields, the footpath forks: take the right fork heading slightly uphill.

The footpath runs parallel to a quiet street for the next 10 minutes or so. Although it is some distance away, make sure your dog doesn't wander too close.

3. Continue following the concrete footpath as it gently heads up hill through the informal park, ignoring any branches to the left or right. As long as you choose the path heading uphill you can't go wrong.

You'll pass the fenced off Taylor Primary School on your left and scattered eucalyptus trees on your right.

4. After a few minutes you'll reach an underpass (under Marconi Crescent). Continue following the footpath through the underpass and past a children's playground on your left. Continue following the footpath as it becomes steeper and veers to the right leading into a narrow park between back fences and quiet cul de sacs, again ignoring any branches to the right or left.

5. As the footpath levels out, it ends at t-junction with another footpath. There are two forks leading at an angle to a quiet street immediately ahead. Ignore these and turn hard right to follow the widest footpath. When it forks soon after, take the left wider fork heading slightly uphill again and leading into a bush-like park.

This small park forms a pretty oasis in suburbia and at its highest point - and the highest point of the walk - offers sweeping views of the Tuggeranong Valley and Brindabella Mountains.

Your dogs will enjoy the interesting bush smells.

There is a small children's playground in this park to the right of the path.

6. The footpath soon begins to drop downhill. Continue on the main path, ignoring any branches to the right or left. As the path nears a main road (Summerland Circuit), it veers left and downhill to reach an underpass. Turn right to follow the footpath through the underpass.

Off leash opportunity ends here.

At this point, you might like to take a very short detour to Biginelli's (<https://www.facebook.com/biginelliskambah/>) cafe. To reach the cafe, when you reach the underpass, instead of turning right to go through it, turn left on the footpath, then nearly immediately take a right fork up hill that leads to a small car park. The cafe is at the far end of the car park. There are several bins here, a water station and the cafe has a toilet for patrons.

SUMMERLAND CIRCUIT TO O'HALLORAN CIRCUIT (20 MINUTES)

7. Continue following the wide concrete footpath as it gradually wanders down hill through a generously sized and attractive informal park.

There is a large playground (Community Village Park) on the left soon after the underpass.

The park is planted with mature casuarinas and eucalypts.

8. Continue on the footpath as it follows the line of back fences on the right, ignoring any branches to the right or left. After a few minutes it leads to an impressive yellow girded Golden-Gate Bridge look-a-like, spanning a six lane main road (Drakeford Drive). Walk across this pedestrian bridge and follow the footpath access back to ground level.

There are attractive hill views crossing the bridge. If you have a pram, follow the circular ramp access off the bridge, otherwise you can take a short cut down the stairs.

9. Once at ground level, follow the wide concrete footpath heading way from the bridge. However, after a short distance take the narrower footpath veering right off the main path. This path follows a line of coppers logs on the left bordering a stand of eucalypts and skirts the edge of a large green playing field (Kambah District Playing Field No. 2) on your right. Continue on the footpath, ignoring a branch to the right which leads to a small car park adjacent to the playing field.

10. Soon after the footpath veers away from the playing field, it joins a wide bitumen path (a shared pedestrian and cycle path). Turn right to follow this new path which, within metres, crosses a quiet street (Laidlaw Place) which is only open to cars on sports days. Continue on the bitumen path as it follows the line of a (usually) dry water course (Village Creek) on the right.

If you are not walking with a pram and the playing field is not being used for sports, you may wish to wander across it with your dog. The playing field area only is an off leash area when sports aren't in progress. You can join the bitumen footpath by turning hard left at the other side of the playing field.

11. The bitumen path continues to an underpass under a main street (O'Halloran Circuit). Follow the path through the underpass.

Off leash opportunity starts after crossing Laidlaw Place.

On your left before you go through the underpass is the remnants of the old Kambah Homestead woodshed (www.canberratracks.act.gov.au/heritage-trails/track-7-tuggeranong-heritage-track/kambah-woolshed) now popular as a picnic/party venue. There are bins and public toilets available here.

O'HALLORAN CIRCUIT TO KETT STREET (15 MINUTES)

12. Continue along the wide bitumen path. Not long after it curves to the right, it then forks. At this point, you can take a short cut back to the start point by taking the right fork through an underpass (beneath Drakeford Drive). This leads you back to Kambah District Playing Field No. 3 and the end of Kett Street in a couple of minutes. (This option continues off leash back to the starting point.) Alternatively, to extend the walk another 10 minutes or so, take the left fork and follow the bitumen path, ignoring any branches to the left. Continue walking along the bitumen path as it leads to another sumptuous playing field area (Kambah District Playing Field No. 1).

13. Just before entering the playing fields, the path becomes concrete. Continue following the widest path straight ahead following the line of Drakeford Drive.

Take care if your dog is off leash that you don't let it wander too close to busy Drakeford Drive. Remember the path is also used by cyclists and off leash dogs should be kept off the path.

This is a very attractive open space edged by lovely mature birch trees and featuring more of those impressive, Gruner-like hill views.

Take a moment to dawdle here if you have the time and your dog still has some energy left, as this is the last off leash opportunity - as long as sports games aren't in progress.

There are bins at the small car park as you enter the playing field area.

14. When you're ready, continue on the concrete footpath until it reaches another underpass. Turn hard right to walk through it.

Off leash opportunity ends here.

15. On the other side, continue following the concrete footpath straight ahead as it crosses over a little bridge and a small car park access road until it terminates at Kett Street, your starting point.

The buildings on your left are the back of the Kambah Village shopping centre and the last building on your right before Kett Street is the Burns (Irish) Club. The public toilets are in a separate small building half-way between the two on your left.