

# “Aardbulardoo ngayeye Garaan-ngaddim”

Welcome everybody to  
Horizontal Falls

“You need to be quiet  
in this Country.”

Dambimangari Aboriginal  
Corporation





## Lalai & Mamaa

To understand **Garaan-ngaddim**, you need to understand **Lalai** and **Mamaa**.

**Lalai** is our history. **Lalai** holds all the rules we follow, our songs, our **Joonba** (performances) and our stories of **Wandjina** and **Woongudd** creating our Country.

We believe that **Wandjina** and **Woongudd** created the land, sea, and all living things. They made the law and rules by which we live. They set out the way we must look after our culture, plants, animals, people and Country to keep them healthy.

**Lalai** is found in the images of the **Wandjina**, **Woongudd**, **Geeyorn** and other beings in the caves and stone arrangements.

**Mamaa** means all Country is sacred. There are sites and stories everywhere. And we, as Traditional Owners, have cultural responsibilities to care for them, respect cultural protocols and keep visitors safe.

## The Woongudd snake & the creation of Garaan-ngaddim

**Garaan-ngaddim** was created by the writhing body of the **Woongudd** woman, the spiritual snake.

The **Woongudd** crawled along, creating places by using her tail to hit or strike the Country as she moved.

She dug holes for fresh water; she stood up and she looked about, creating other features. She went, and returned again, splitting up the Country, modifying the land and seascape.

The path of the **Woongudd** through Country can be seen on the rocks and land formations.

Woongudd is powerful, a sacred life force. This power is in the tides, the waves, the islands and the reefs.

The **Woongudd** is the whirlpools at **Garaan-ngaddim**. **Woongudd** is moving and creating when the salt waters are moving. When the tide slows, **Woongudd** is at rest.

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Culturally, Traditional Owners would only travel through the gaps for a specific purpose and always at the right time; neap tides, smooth waters to show our respect for Woongudd.

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We ask visitors to be quiet in this place. Respect our cultural obligations to care for Country and culture, and keep you safe.

The Woongudd's scales are in the rock formations around Garaan-ngaddim and throughout Dambeemangarddee Country.





Wooloowa (Smoking Ceremony)  
on Country at Garaan-ngaddim.

## Wooloowa & 'Right Way' Visitation

We have to work together with Wandjina and Woongudd in a respectful way to make sure that we as Dambeemangarddee people are safe, and visitors to our Country are safe, helping us to look after Country by following the rules from Lalai.

Wooloowa (smoking ceremony) is our law. It is a respectful custom that is important to our people. It is a protection and cleansing mechanism for people coming to Country.

There are different ways to make sure that visitors are safe, like when we welcome you and smoke your body and when people ask for permission to visit the Country.

We can't always be on-Country to provide Wooloowa, but by purchasing our Dambimangari Visitor Pass your tour operator is asking permission for you, their passenger, to visit our approved visitor locations.

It is important that when you are visiting our Country, you have permission, and come with a free spirit.

You need to be quiet in this Country.

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**We would like all people to respect us and ask permission to come to visit us and our Country. We welcome visitors who really want to know.**

J. Oobagooma,  
Dambeemangaddee Elder

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**dambimangari**  
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