

# Right direction

REMEMBER THE BASICS AND FIND YOUR WAY WITHOUT A COMPASS – OR SMARTPHONE

( GET YOUR BEARINGS )

## CARDINAL POINTS

Before you try any of these methods, you'll need to think back to your Grade 5 geography. If you're facing north, then west will be on your left, east on your right and south directly behind you.

## HIGH NOON

If you're in no rush and have a watch, wait until noon – the sun always points due north midday.



## KNOW THIS

### BALLPARK FIGURE

If accuracy isn't that important to you, knowing that the sun rises in the general east and sets in the general west may be enough. But it only rises due east twice a year, on the spring and autumn equinoxes. In mid-summer or mid-winter, this can be way off.

## TIME KEEPER

Try this if you have a watch:

- You'll need an old-school analogue watch with hands and number markings.



- Point the 12 o'clock mark towards the sun.
  - Bisect the angle between the 12 o'clock mark and the hour hand to find the north-south line.
  - If you're unsure which way is north, remember that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.



## DOWN UNDER

Please note that all tips are for the southern hemisphere only. Different rules apply north of the equator.

**take note**

## REACH FOR THE STARS

*This method only works on cloudless nights:*

- Find the kite-shaped Southern Cross constellation (but don't be fooled by the nearby False Cross, which is a bit larger, but not as bright).
- The two stars that make up the long axis of the cross form a line that points to an imaginary spot in the sky above the South Pole.
- Follow the imaginary line down from the two stars five times the distance between them.
- Draw an imaginary line from this point to the ground: this is due south.

