



Coates Wildlife Tours
Specialist in nature tours since 1986

Trip Dossier

15 Day Pilbara Reef & Ranges Expedition



New Easy Camping Small Group Tour - Max 12 passengers
Perth to Perth 14 - 28 April 2019

Itinerary Highlights:

- Fly to the Abrolhos Islands and explore this unique marine area and its abundant wildlife.
- Enjoy a cruise at Monkey Mia, spotting dolphins, dugongs and other magnificent marine life.
- Visit Coral Bay, a small settlement where the coral starts right at the water's edge, and spend the day as you please.
- Experience the beautiful Ningaloo Reef - World Heritage area and one of the world's largest fringing coral reefs.
- Visit Karijini National Park - a vast wilderness area with spectacular natural wonders such as Dales Gorge, Fortescue Falls, Handrail Pool and Oxer Lookout
- Walga Rock - Aboriginal art sites
- Ghost town of Big Bell and the meteor crater at Dalgarranga
- New Norcia - historic Benedictine Monastery

Easy Camping

The easy camping concept has been introduced to make the whole camping experience more enjoyable. The camp support crew will travel in a separate vehicle and will have our camp operational when the bus arrives with the group. No more erecting tents, beds or un-packing camping equipment. Just pick up your bag and either spend time exploring the campsite or freshening up and relaxing before dinner.

The Pilbara is fascinating at any time, the wildlife is plentiful and the scenery is spectacular. Green covered hills and refreshing rock pools. The contrast between the red soil against the rocky outcrops are sure to create lasting memories.

The Abrolhos Islands consist of 122 islands, approximately 60 km off Western Australia's coast. The marine environment surrounding the Abrolhos is a meeting place for tropical and temperate sea life. It is also one of the most important seabird breeding sites in the world. More than 90 seabird species have been identified on the islands.

This tour has it all. The Ningaloo Marine Park is one of the world's largest fringing reefs, home to 200 species of hard coral, 50 soft coral and over 500 species of fish. It's a great place to swim, snorkel and enjoy a cruise in a glass-bottomed boat to see the colourful sea creatures.

Karijini National Park contains some of the oldest rocks on the continent with many beautiful gorges and rock formations. The park is also home to approximately 800 plant species. Two small, carnivorous marsupials are endemic to the area, the Pilbara Ningai (*Ningai timealeyi*) and the Little Red Antechinus (*Dasykaluta rosamondae*). Other marsupials that call the park home include the Western Pebble-mound Mouse (*Pseudomys chapmani*), Rothschild's Rock-wallaby (*Petrogale rothschildi*), Red Kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*) and the Common Wallaroo (*Macropus robustus*).

Join us and discover the spectacular natural wonders of this remarkable area.



Itinerary

Day 1 Perth to Geraldton

Departing Perth early this morning we start the journey north, passing through the northern Kwongan (sand plain heath) as we head to the Nambung National Park and the Pinnacle Desert. We continue northwards, traveling through Dongara and historic Greenough into Geraldton.

Accommodation: Camp site, Geraldton LD

Day 2 Geraldton

Today's flight to the Abrolhos Islands will provide some spectacular views of the island group. The flight lands on one of the islands where we will have time to explore the abundant wildlife in the area which includes a variety of birdlife. You may also find bottle-nosed dolphins and sea lions.

Accommodation: Camp site, Geraldton BLD

Day 3 Geraldton to Hamelin

We continue northward as we head for Hamelin. This afternoon there will be time to visit Shell Beach and the stromatolites at Hamelin Pool.

Accommodation: Camp Site, Hamelin BLD

Day 4 Hamelin - Monkey Mia - Hamelin (Shark Bay area)

Today we explore some of the natural history highlights that this area has to offer. There will be time this morning to undertake a cruise off Monkey Mia looking for dolphins, dugongs and all the other magnificent marine life that this area has to offer.

Accommodation: Camp Site, Hamelin BLD

Day 5 Hamelin to Bullara Station

An early start this morning, leaving Hamelin we continue our trip towards Coral Bay. There will be time in Carnarvon for a look at the town. We will arrive in Bullara in the late afternoon.

Accommodation Camp Site Bullara BLD

Day 6 Coral Bay

An early start this morning will allow time for those who want to participate in an optional (Own expense) 7.45 am, all day, Whale Shark Cruise. For those who don't wish to join the cruise there is plenty to do:- undertake an optional glass bottom boat / snorkelling cruise over the famous Ningaloo Reef, swim or just do some relaxing and sightseeing.

Accommodation: Camp Site Bullara BLD

Day 7 Bullara Station to Tom Price

Leaving Coral Bay we continue north to Nanutarra Roadhouse which is on the banks of the Ashburton River. We then head east towards Tom Price. There should be a number of opportunities to stop for wildlife sightings during the day.

Accommodation: Camp Site, Tom Price BLD

Day 8 Tom Price - Hamersley Gorge - Tom Price

This morning we drive along the west side of Karijini to Hamersley Gorge. There will be plenty of time to fully explore the gorge and enjoy a swim in its cool waters. Mid afternoon we head back to Tom Price where there will be some free time while the crew restock the fresh provisions.

Accommodation: Camp Site, Tom Price BLD

Day 9 Tom Price to Karijini National Park

Today we travel to the Dales Gorge area of the national park. Our drive will take us past the second tallest peak in WA, Mt Bruce. There will be time here to walk part of the way to the summit and experience the expansive views. The Dales camp ground will be our home for the next two days.

Accommodation: National Park Camp Site, Karijini BLD

Tour Costs

Cost: \$5,125.00 per person
NO Single Supplement

Departs: Perth 14th April 2019

Finishes: Perth 28th April 2019

Max No. Of Participants: 12 passengers, Coates Naturalist Leader, Driver/Guide and Support Crew.

Tour Payments

Deposit: At time of booking \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 14 March 2019

Note: The final payment is non refundable if canceled within 30 days of the departure date. Travel Insurance covering all payments is available and is strongly recommended.

Special Offers

Early Bird Bookings

Save \$250.00 per person if booked and deposited by 15 January 2019

Group Booking

Save 7.5% per person for a group of 4 or more

Book Multiple Tours

Save 5% per person on the second and subsequent tours if more than one tour is booked in the same year. Applies to the cheaper tours.

Please note: Discounts cannot be combined; Discounts are only available on bookings made directly with Coates.

Included

- 3 crew members consisting of a naturalist guide, driver guide and camp support crew member
- **Easy Camping** included (Camp is set up and packed away each day for you);
- Abrolhos Island flight
- Well maintained vehicle with front-facing, seat belted, mostly reclining, coach-style seats
- Monkey Mia Cruise
- Meals as per itinerary: B (breakfast), L (lunch), D (dinner)
- Fruit for snacking throughout the day
- Morning tea each day
- All national park entrance fees

Not Included

- Optional activities at Coral Bay
- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks.
- Travel insurance (very strongly recommended)
- Travel expenses to and from Perth
- Pre - and post - tour accommodation
- All other private expenses (e.g. laundry, telephone calls, camera batteries)
- Entrance fees or activity costs other than those included above

Tour Information

Naturalist Guide: TBA

Driver Guide: TBA

Camp Support Crew: TBA

Vehicle & Equipment:

Air conditioned purpose built 4WD tour coach with all front facing, mostly reclining, seat-belted seats, power facilities and all the necessary camping equipment. Passengers are required to supply their own sleeping bags and pillows, or a sleeping bag can be hired from us with prior notice for \$55.00.

Accommodation:

Is at a combination of bush camps and campsites.

Bush camps are at locations chosen by the tour guide for their suitability and natural benefits. There are usually no facilities available, other than a long drop bush toilet. We do carry adequate water for washing. Private campsites vary. Some provide full facilities including ablution blocks, other sites only have a long drop toilet.

National Park campsites are operated by National Park managers. They have a mix of flushing or composting toilets, fire rings and clearly defined camping areas. Some provide showers.

Meals:

Meals as per the tour itinerary are included, i.e. (B) breakfast, (L) lunch, (D) dinner and morning tea. There will also be a plentiful supply of fresh fruit available throughout the day. Special dietary requirements can usually be catered for where prior notice is given. Please contact the office if you have a special dietary requirement as a surcharge may apply.

Trek Grading:

We undertake only light / medium bushwalking on most days. In Karijini National Park some extra effort is required on the ascents and climbs in and out of the gorges. All walks are optional and will be able to be conducted at your own pace. There will also be some optional rock scrambling.

Weather:

Our tour has been timed to coincide with the dry season. Days are usually dry and hot with temperatures around the low to mid 30's (degrees Celsius). The nights can be cool with minimum temperatures around 10 -15 degrees Celsius.

Clothing:

A suggested list of items to bring on tour will be included with our pre-departure information. This will be sent to you about one month before departure. Generally, comfortable, casual clothing is recommended. Light shirts and T-shirts are appropriate for during the day and warmer jumpers and jackets may be needed for the evenings. Don't forget your bathers and any snorkelling equipment you may have. Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes are a necessity and an old pair of sneakers or reef style boots which can be worn in the water are highly recommended.

To make a booking or for further information please contact

Tom or Sylvia Grove at Coates Wildlife Tours

P.O. Box 4502

Myaree BC, Myaree, WA 6960

Phone: 08 9330 6066 Free Call Country & Interstate: 1800 676 016

Email: coates@iinet.net.au Web: www.coateswildlifetours.com.au

Terms and Conditions

Adina Nominees Pty Ltd (ACN 075 427 324) as trustee for the Grove Family Trust trading as Coates Wildlife Tours (hereinafter referred to as the tour operator) shall not be liable for any accident injury sickness delay irregularity or damage however caused or arising during any tour under its management or otherwise. Tours are often safari trips to isolated areas, they may include off road driving, bushwalking, snorkelling, swimming and other activities. These along with wildlife interactions, planned or otherwise involve a certain degree of risk. All travel involves some measure of personal risk that each passenger has to determine and accept.

Tour participants should be in reasonable health and fitness and be carrying all required medications in ample quantities. A medical clearance from a registered medical practitioner may be required for participants wishing to join some tours. Scenic flights, boat cruises, helicopter flights etc. These activities are not operated by the tour operator, nor by persons or companies associated with the tour operator. These activities involve inherent risk of injury, death, accident and loss. Passengers assume all risks with regard to any misadventure death, injury or loss which occurs during or as a result of any such activity.

Should the tour operator deem it desirable for climatic or other reasons whatsoever to amend or vary any itinerary it may do so by shortening or varying the trip in which case no objection or claim for compensation will be made by the participant.

The tour operator and its employees are unable to guarantee exact arrival and departure times, and are not liable for any failure to make connections with any other services.

The tour operator does not own or operate any third party suppliers of air transportation, hotels, restaurants, cruise craft or local sightseeing companies. The tour operator is not responsible for any loss or expense due to overbooking of flights, accommodations, default of any third parties or any other cause beyond its control. The tour operator takes all reasonable care in selecting these operators, it cannot accept responsibility for the operators conduct or the conduct of their employees or agents or for any ramifications of that conduct.

Whilst all care is taken, The tour operator do not accept liability for loss or damage to baggage, sickness or injury, or additional expenses caused by factors beyond their control.

All care has been taken to ensure this brochure is correct at the time of printing. Prices and services as shown in this brochure are however subject to change or withdrawal without notice.

BOOKING DETAILS

DEPOSIT: See the relevant trip dossiers for the amount required.

FINAL PAYMENT: In most cases, final payment is required at least 30 days prior to departure. However some tours may requirement payment up to 4 months prior to departure. Please refer to the tour's trip dossier for exact details.

CANCELLATIONS

Coates Wildlife Tours reserves the right to cancel any tour in the event of minimum numbers not being reached, in which case all moneys will be refunded in full.

In respect of cancellations by a passenger, some tours have specified cancellation times and penalties, this specific information is available on the respective tours, trip dossier. Where no specific cancellation time or penalties are in place the following levies plus any costs charged by other parties involved with the tour will apply:-

Where written notice is received

- 61 days or more prior to departure; \$250.00
- 60 - 31 days prior to departure; \$500
- 30 days or less prior to departure 100%
- No refunds are considered from the day the tour starts.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend that travel insurance against imposition of cancellation fees, loss or damage to baggage and extra costs arising from injury or illness be effected.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EQUIPMENT:- Transport by an air-conditioned custom built 4WD tour coach or mini bus which ever is appropriate for the tour. Camping equipment suitable for each tour (except Sleeping bags and pillows) is provided. A second vehicle may accompany the group on tours to remote areas. In the case of breakdown or other unforeseen circumstances effecting the vehicle or guide, the operator reserves the right to substitute vehicles and guides other than those specified, to ensure the operation of a tour.

GENERAL INFORMATION CONT.

SEAT ALLOCATION:- Seats on tour vehicle are not pre allocated. To ensure all participants get to enjoy forward positioned and window seats we have incorporated a daily seat rotation system.

LUGGAGE:- Please note that due to health and safety requirements luggage on tour is limited to one medium sized, soft sided bag per person. The sum of its length, width and height is not to exceed 140 cm. The maximum weight of the bag should not to exceed 15 kilograms. A small day pack is also permitted. International tours, some island tours and the Kimberley Coastal Cruises luggage limits may vary, please see the respective tours trip dossier for specific weight maximums.

WILDLIFE:- Sighting of birds, or animals mentioned in the itineraries can not be guaranteed as they are wild and therefore free to come and go as they please.

WILDFLOWER DISPLAYS:- Can not be guaranteed as they are dependent on seasonal rains.

MEAL SYMBOLS:- B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

GROUP SIZES

Minimum and maximum numbers apply to all tours. Generally tours have a maximum of 12 passengers. A camp cook and a naturalist leader will accompany camping groups with more than 6 passengers.