



Coates Wildlife Tours
Specialist in nature tours since 1986

Trip Dossier

12 Day Tanami Expedition



Camping Small Group Tour - Max 10 passengers
Broome to Alice Springs 11 - 22 June 2019

Itinerary Highlights:

- Explore Windjana Gorge, with walls up to 100m high, this entire area was under water 300 million years ago
- The Tanami Road crosses the vast expanse of the Tanami Desert and will delight nature lovers and bird watchers
- Visit Wolfe Creek Crater, a well-preserved 880-metre-wide meteorite crater that is dated as being over 300,000 years old
- Lake Gregory (Paruku) showcases remote freshwater wetlands and is renowned for its spectacular birdlife
- Newhaven Reserve lies at the intersection of three bioregions and is a hotspot for wildlife of Central Australia and spectacular scenery

Join us as we explore some of the most remote areas in North West Australia and the Northern Territory. The wildlife should be plentiful and the scenery and sunsets spectacular.

The trip is full of highlights however our detour off the Tanami Road to Mulan and Lake Gregory is one of the most exciting. This lake system is recognised as being vitally important for migratory birds traveling to and from Australia. There has been a wide range of bird life recorded around the lake, including the Black Necked Stork, large groups of Brolgas, Black Swans and Spoonbills. Wild horses and dingoes are commonly seen, and the lake is also home to a variety of other mammals.

Our visit to Newhaven Station is again one of the regions must do's. Newhaven Station is a wildlife sanctuary co-managed by Birds Australia and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy. Situated at the junction of three bioregions (the Great Sandy Desert, MacDonnell Ranges and Burt Plain), the station is home to a diverse array of arid zone plants and birdlife. At least 15 nationally threatened species of plants and birds call the area home.

so the station includes ten vegetation communities and a variety of landforms ranging from parallel dunes to salt lakes, clay pans, plains country and rocky ranges. The calcareous grasslands, open woodland and shrublands support a wide variety of birds, mammals and reptiles.

The station also hosts an abundance of bird life, with 138 species of bird recorded in the area. Intriguingly, Newhaven is also the site of one of the latest sightings of a pair of Night Parrots, who's habitat remains intact due to the unusually conservative stocking rates and careful management of the area over the years. There have also been a number of small to medium-sized mammals recorded on the station.

Itinerary

Day 1 Broome to Windjana Gorge

This morning we will leave Broome early and head to Windjana Gorge. Our drive today will have a look at the Fitzroy River at the Willare Bridge, the Prison Tree, a quick look at Derby and then onto our campsite. After setting up camp, we will start our exploration of Windjana Gorge. The gorge boasts a number of things to see including the majestic Devonian reef walls, freshwater crocodiles and a vast array of birdlife.

Accommodation: National Park campsite at Windjana Gorge LD

Day 2 Windjana Gorge to Fitzroy Crossing

This morning we will continue our journey travelling eastwards to Fitzroy Crossing. During the trip we will take time to walk through Tunnel Creek and learn about the history of Jandamarra, a local Bunaba resistance fighter who's story is a massive part of Aboriginal history in this area.

Accommodation: Campsite at Fitzroy Crossing BLD

Day 3 Fitzroy Crossing to Halls Creek

Leaving Fitzroy Crossing behind, we will drive to Halls Creek. There should be time this afternoon to visit Old Halls Creek and China Wall as well as catch up on your washing while the crew restock with fresh supplies and fuel.

Accommodation: Campsite at Halls Creek BLD

Day 4 Halls Creek - Wolf Creek Crater - Lake Stretch

An early start this morning as we start our journey down the Tanami Road. Our first visit will be to the Wolf Creek Crater where we will spend time exploring this wonder of nature. Back on the Tanami we head south east to Billiluna and then onto our campsite at Lake Stretch.

Lake Stretch is part of Sturt Creek and is alive with birdlife activity. We will camp right on the lake and spend the late afternoon birdwatching.

Accommodation: Bush camp at Lake Stretch BLD

Day 5 Lake Stretch to Handover (Lake Gregory)

Today we will head to Handover via the "back track" to the small community of Mulan then onto our campsite 10 kilometres south of the community at Handover. The back track takes us past many small lakes where we expect to find a diverse array of birdlife.

Accommodation: Bush camp at Handover BLD

Day 6 Handover

With the help of a local elder guide we will be spending today exploring Handover. Spectacular sightings of large numbers of Brolgas, Yellow Chats and a variety of waterbirds are but a small sample of the many species that we hope to see here.

Accommodation: Bush camp at Handover BLD

Day 7 Handover to Tanami Desert Bush Camp

We will continue South today, however before getting back on the Tanami Road we will visit Balgo Community where there should be time to visit their very well set up and run Art Centre. We will restock here before heading to our campsite in the Tanami Desert.

Accommodation: Bush camp Rabbit Flats area BLD

Day 8 Tanami Desert Bush Camp to Mt Doreen Station Area

We will continue south today on the Tanami Road. We will travel through this harsh, isolated area. There are a number of mines that are the only civilisation we will expect to see today. Our Campsite is at Mt Doreen's; an abandoned station.

Accommodation: Bush camp Mt Doreen Station BLD

Day 9 Mt Doreen Station Area to Newhaven Station

We will have an early start today as we head to the Birds Australia Newhaven Reserve. We will travel south to the community of Yuendumu before we turn off the Tanami and travel to Newhaven Station.

Accommodation: Campsite at Newhaven Station BLD

Day 10 & 11 Newhaven Station

We will spend the next two days driving and walking the station tracks to see the birds, botany and diverse wildlife that this remote area has to offer.

Accommodation: Campsite at Newhaven Station BLD

Day 12 Newhaven Station to Alice Springs

We will continue our exploration today with a visit to the south-east section of the reserve. We will leave Newhaven late this morning and head back to the Tanami Road and onto Alice Springs. We expect to arrive in Alice Springs Mid to late afternoon, where you will be transferred to your chosen accommodation.

BL

NOTE: The above itinerary may be varied according to conditions and advice.



Tour Costs

Cost: \$5,225.00 per person in lead vehicles
\$2,025.00 per person in tag along vehicles

Departs: Broome 11 June 2019

Finishes: Alice Springs 22 June 2019

Max No. Of Participants: 6 passengers in 2 lead vehicles & 4 passengers in 2 tag along vehicles

Tour Payments

Deposit: At time of booking \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 11 May 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 \$150.00 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

- Two well-maintained 4WD vehicles;
- 2 crew members - a Naturalist/Driver Guide and Driver/Cook;
- Easy-to-erect dome tents and camp chairs with armrests;
- A self-inflating air mattress and stretcher bed;
- All eating utensils;
- Meals as per itinerary: B (breakfast), L (lunch), D (dinner);
- Campsite fees;
- Morning teas;
- All national park entrance fees;
- Travel permits as required.

Not Included

- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks (you are welcome to bring your own);
- Pillows;
- Sleeping bags (can be hired from us for \$55.00 each);
- Travel insurance (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.

Tag Along Participants

If requested when booking we can supply tents, armchairs and eating utensils but they will need to be carried in your own vehicle.

Tour Information

Naturalist Guide: TBA

Driver Guide: TBA

Vehicle & Equipment:

Our vehicles for the tour will consist of two Toyota 4WD Prado's with trailers or similar. All the necessary camping equipment is provided. Passengers are required to supply their own sleeping bags and pillows, or a sleeping bag can be hired from us for \$55.00.

Accommodation:

We will be camping at bush camps and campsites. Bush camps will be at locations chosen by the tour guide for their suitability and natural benefits. There are usually no facilities provided other than a long-drop bush toilet. We do carry adequate water for washing.

National Park campsites are operated by DoBCaA. They usually have a mix of flushing or long-drop toilets, fire rings and clearly defined camping areas. Some campsites provide showers.

Private campsites vary greatly in the facilities they offer. Some provide full facilities which include full ablution blocks, other sites only provide a long-drop toilet.

Meals:

All meals are included throughout the tour - ie breakfast, lunch, dinner and morning teas. There will also be a plentiful supply of fresh fruit available throughout the day. Special dietary requirements can usually be catered for. Please contact the office if you have a dietary requirement, as a surcharge may apply.

Trek Grading:

We undertake moderate to challenging bushwalking on most days. All walks are optional and will be able to be conducted at your own pace. There will also be some rock scrambling on a few of the walks.

Weather:

The 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). Temperatures can drop to as low as 3 or 4 degrees Celsius. Rain is not normally experienced at this time of the year.

Clothing:

A suggested list of items to bring on tour will be included with our pre-departure information, sent to you about one month before departure. Generally, comfortable casual clothing is recommended. Light shirts and T-shirts are suitable for during the day and warmer jumpers and jackets may be needed for the evenings. Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes are a necessity.

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 require 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.