



**Coates Wildlife Tours**  
*Specialist in nature tours since 1986*

## Trip Dossier

### 12 Day Great Western Woodlands and the Helena & Aurora Range Tour



#### **Camping Small Group Tour - Max 10 passengers**

**Perth - Perth 26 October - 6 November 2019**

(Max. 6 participants in 2 lead vehicles plus 2 passengers in 2 tag along vehicle)

#### **Itinerary Highlights:**

- Wave Rock - a unique 27 million year old grey and red granite formation.
- Grevillea Hill - a botanical hotspot. Honey and pigmy possums may also be seen.
- Granite Woodlands - explore pristine landscape / one of the world's greatest untouched temperate woodlands
- Cave Hill Nature Reserve - a spectacular granite outcrop, with a large cave formation.
- Burra Rock Conservation Park - Dam and rock catchment area and great view's over the regenerated woodlands
- Credo Conservation Park - scenic landscapes that includes mature stands of Salmon Gum woodland, breakaways and Greenstone hills.
- Rowles Lagoon Conservation Park - the largest freshwater lake in the Coolgardie bioregion.
- Mount Manning Nature Reserve - known as the Northern Yilgarn. It covers an area of 1,700 square kilometres
- Helena & Aurora Range - a magnificent banded ironstone formation and are home to rare, locally endemic species of flora and fauna.

On this expedition we travel east to the Great Western Woodlands (GWW) which is in the south-west of Australia, east of the Rabbit Proof Fence. It is the largest (40 million acres) temperate woodland left on earth covering an area the size of England, and is home to 3,000 flowering plant species, rare mammals, frogs, reptiles and birds. These woodlands that are so vast that ancient hydrological patterns still work and clouds form in response to the vegetation beneath.

It is home to about 20% of all known plant species in Australia. The wildflowers are magnificent and more than a hundred species of eucalypt, including Mallees, towering Salmon Gums, Dundas Mahogany and Gimlet are found here. Water is so scarce with little nutrients in the soil and yet nowhere else do large trees of such variety grow. It is also a unique haven for a community of animal species that are now threatened elsewhere in Australia.

We will also explore the Helena & Aurora Range (Aboriginal name 'Kalamaia 'Bungalbin') , a magnificent banded ironstone formation. This is one of the last ranges in the whole Yilgarn region that is 2.6 billion years old. It's ancient, it's unique, and there are species here that are not found anywhere else on the planet.

Wonderful scenery together with breathtaking wildflower displays will provide perfect photographic opportunities daily.



## Itinerary

### Day 1 Perth to Hyden

Today we will depart Perth from the Wellington Street tourist pick up point at 7:30 am. We will travel along the Great Eastern Highway and then pass through York, Quairading and Hyden via Bruce Rock and Narermbreen. There should be time this afternoon to explore Wave Rock.

Accommodation: Wave Rock Caravan Park LD

### Day 2 Wave Rock Caravan Park to McDermid Rock

From Hyden we will travel along the Granite Woodlands Road to enjoy the botanical bonanza at Grevillea Hill, where *Personia helix* and *Swordfish Banksia* occur. We'll visit The Forresteria plots, an early agricultural research station which has now been taken over by a forest of Grevilleas. The breakaways and McDermid Rock are other interesting features of the area.

Accommodation: Bush Camp McDermid Rock BLD

### Day 3 & 4 McDermid Rock to Cave Hill

Traveling east we pass through Norseman and head to Widgiemooltha and then on to Cave Hill for a three night camp. We'll explore some of the Kurrawong woodlines railway system west of Kalgoorlie, which was in operation between 1899 and 1937. The magnitude of the water catchment works at Cave Hill, the woodlines camp from 1932, are staggering. The 70 year re-growth salmon gums are a tribute to the eucalypts' ability to regenerate. We will have a full day here.

Accommodation: Cave Hill bush camp BLD

### Day 5 Cave Hill

We will spend today exploring some of the old woodline tracks and the Woodline dam on Burra Rock.

Accommodation: Cave Hill bush camp BLD

### Day 6 Cave Hill - Kalgoorlie - Credo Station

Today we travel to Kalgoorlie where we will restock with fresh provisions. We head out of town to our campsite at Credo Station.

Accommodation: Credo Station campsite BLD

### Day 7 Credo Station

Credo was purchased by the Government as it is a representative conservation area and an important water catchment area for Rowles Lagoon. It encompasses the Clear and Muddy Nature Reserve and Rowles Lagoon Conservation Park, the largest freshwater lake in the Coolgardie bioregion. The lagoon is also a significant area for local Indigenous people who worked on the station and whose ancestors camped at Rowles. The 212,126-hectare proposed reserve offers outstanding scenic landscapes that include mature stands of Salmon Gum woodland, breakaways and Greenstone hills.

Accommodation: Credo Station campsite BLD

### Day 8 Credo Station to Helena Aurora Range

Today we will travel via Menzies to the Mount Manning Range where we will set up our camp which will be our base for the next four nights.

Accommodation: Bush Camp Mount Manning Range BLD

**Days 9, 10 & 11****Helena & Aurora Range**

We will spend the next three days exploring the natural history of the often overlooked and threatened range, which is characterised by its large banded ironstone rocks, stretches of eucalypt woodland and tall, inland white gums. From the top of the range, you are treated to unspoilt views of the Great Western Woodlands as far as the eye can see. The low, scattered range emerges from a mostly flat, wooded landscape and is ecologically and culturally significant. Because of the ancient isolation, most of the range is home to rare locally endemic species of flora and fauna.

Accommodation:

Bush Camp Helena & Aurora Ranges

BLD

**Day 12****Helena & Aurora Ranges - Baladjie Rock - Perth**

This morning we pack up and start our return Journey to Perth via Koolyanobbing, Southern Cross and Baladjie Rock. We should arrive back in Perth in the late afternoon.

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



## Tour Costs

Cost: \$4,125.00 per person  
\$1,985.00 Per Person in Tag Along Vehicles.

Departs: Perth 26 October 2019

Finishes: Perth 6 November 2019

## Tour Payments

Deposit: At time of booking \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 26 September 2019

Note: The final payment is non refundable if canceled within 30 days of the departure date.

## Special Offers

### Early Bird Bookings

**Save \$150.00 per person** if booked and deposited by 15 January 2019

### 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

## Included

- Coates tour leader/ driver;
- Coates Naturalist leader/driver ;
- Two well-maintained, air-conditioned vehicles with front-facing, seat-belted seats;
- Easy to erect tents and camp chairs with armrests;
- A self-inflating air mattress and stretcher bed;
- All eating utensils;
- Meals as per itinerary
- Morning tea each day & Fruit on-board the vehicle throughout the day;
- All national park entrance fees.
- Campsite fees;
- Travel permits as required;

## Not Included

- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks (you are welcome to bring your own);
- Pillows;
- Sleeping bags (can be hired for \$55.00 each with prior notice);
- Travel insurance (very strongly recommended);
- Travel expenses to and from Perth;
- Pre and post tour accommodation;
- All other private expenses.
- Entrance fees or activity costs other than those included above.

## Tour Information

Naturalist Guide: TBA

Driver Guide: TBA

### Vehicle & Equipment:

Two Toyota 4WD Prado's with trailers or similar. All the necessary camping equipment is provided. Passengers are to supply their own sleeping bags and pillows. (Sleeping bag can be hired for \$55.00).

### Accommodation:

Is a combination of bush camps, campsites.

Bush camps are at locations chosen by the tour guide for their suitability and natural benefits.

There are usually no facilities other than a long drop bush toilet there. We do carry adequate water for washing.

Private campsites vary - from providing full facilities which include ablution blocks, to sites which have only a long drop toilet.

### 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 Helena Aroura Ranges some extra effort is required on the ascents and climbs on the ranges. All walks are optional and will be able to be conducted at your own pace.

### Weather:

Our tour has been timed to coincide with the spring wildflower season. Days are usually dry and warm with temperatures around the low to mid 20's (degrees Celsius). The nights can be cool with minimum temperatures around 5 - 10 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. Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes are highly recommended.



**To make a booking or 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**

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## 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.