



Coates Wildlife Tours

*Specialist in Nature Tours since 1986*

## Trip Dossier

### 10-Day Mid West Wildflower Tour



Accommodated Small Group Tour - Max 12 passengers

Perth - Perth 24 August - 2 September 2024

#### Itinerary Highlights:

- Travel on Western Australia's world famous wildflower route
- Dalwallinu - renowned for having the largest variety of wattle species (acacias) found anywhere in the world and the first stop on Wildflower Way
- Coalseam Nature Reserve - a botanical hotspot showcasing a wide range of annual and perennial wildflowers
- Eneabba Wildflower Drive - one of the largest and most spectacular wildflower displays in Western Australia
- Kalbarri - visit stunning gorges and walk amongst the coastal wildflowers
- Northern Kwongan - a sand plain heath with sweeping carpets of brightly coloured flowers
- Lesueur National Park - one of the richest sites for plant species in the world (over 800 species)
- Nambung National Park - travel through the spectacular Pinnacles Desert, one of WA's best known landscapes; this area is scattered with thousands of limestone formations called pinnacles

Australia is renowned as being one of the world's botanical 'hotspots' and the Mid West is no exception. Following the winter rains WA wildflowers burst into bloom and transform the rugged golden outback landscape into a brightly-coloured wonderland.

The reason for this unique storehouse of biological diversity is the great age of the West Australian landmass. It is one of the most ancient and undisturbed geographic locations in the world. This has resulted in the survival of primitive forms of plants and the evolution of more specialised species.

This tour has been designed to show you the magnificent diversity and abundance of flowering plants north of Perth when they should be at their colourful best.

The trip covers a diverse array of landscapes, from the farm lands of the wheat belt, to the gorges of Kalbarri National Park, to the northern sand plains around Eneabba, Badgingarra and the Lesueur National Park.

Our naturalist guides have conducted many WA wildflower tours and will ensure you are guided and educated throughout the whole trip.

## Itinerary

### Day 1 Perth - Dalwallinu

Today we leave Perth at 7:30 am. Travelling via Toodyay, Goomalling and Wongan Hills, we will head through the wheatbelt to Dalwallinu, the first town on WA's world-famous wildflower route.

Accommodation: Motel Dalwallinu LD

### Day 2 Dalwallinu

Today we will explore the wildflowers in the Dalwallinu area, known for having the most extensive variety of wattles (acacias) in the world. There are about 185 varieties within 100 km of Dalwallinu.

Accommodation: Motel Dalwallinu BLD

### Day 3 Dalwallinu - Three Springs

This morning we will continue our drive north, heading for Morawa. During the day, we will look at and photograph the wildflowers that grow along the side of the road.

Accommodation: Three Springs Hotel BLD

### Day 4 Three Springs - Coalseam Reserve - Three Springs

Today we will explore Coalseam Nature Reserve, well known for its annual display of wildflowers. The abundance and diversity of annuals and perennials here are due to the park's location, encompassing multiple habitat types as it goes from sand plains to arid country.

Accommodation: Three Spring Hotel BLD

### Day 5 Three Springs - Eneabba - Geraldton

Today we'll leave Three Springs and head to Geraldton. Our travels take us via the mineral sand mining town of Eneabba. There will also be time to visit and explore the wildflowers at Western Flora.

Accommodation: Hotel Geraldton BLD

### Day 6 Geraldton - Kalbarri

This morning we'll travel to Kalbarri via the coast road. There will be plenty of time today to visit some of the coastal gorges and walk amongst the wildflowers.

Accommodation: Motel Kalbarri BLD

### Day 7 Kalbarri

We'll rise early this morning to maximise our time in Kalbarri National Park, famous for its wildflowers. The species-rich heathlands provide spectacular colourful floral displays. Vivid gold and orange banksias, red, white and yellow grevilleas, red kangaroo paws, many coloured feather flowers and grey smoke bushes make an unforgettable picture. There are also 21 plant species unique to this area. We hope to find the Kalbarri catspaw, a small yellow and red plant usually found in recently burnt areas and confined to the region. We also hope to see several orchids, including the Kalbarri spider and the Murchison hammer orchid.

Accommodation: Motel Kalbarri BLD

### Day 8 Kalbarri - Cervantes

Today we start heading south. As we travel through farmlands, roadside verges should offer a diverse range of plants and colours. South of Dongara, we enter the Northern Kwongan, a sand plain heath supporting sweeping carpets of brightly coloured flowers. During our drive to Cervantes, there will be time to stretch your legs and look around for wildflowers and wildlife. Some wildflower displays will include Dryandra, Propeller Banksia, Painted and Scarlet Feather-flowers, Blue Smoke bush and Black and Yellow Kangaroo Paws.

Accommodation: Motel Cervantes BLD

### Day 9 Cervantes - Lesueur National Park - Cervantes

Today we will continue to explore this magnificent area. Lesueur National Park contains large expanses of northern sand plains, with various geological formations, landscapes and soil types. These vary from salt lakes in the west to laterite ridges in the east. This is one of the world's richest sites for plant species; over 800 plant species have been recorded here, nine of which are found nowhere else. There is always something flowering in the park, but in September and October, Lesueur erupts into colour with various species from Lechenaultias to Melaleucas.

Accommodation: Motel Cervantes BLD

### Day 10 Cervantes - Perth

We'll visit Nambung National Park this morning and travel through the spectacular Pinnacles Desert. This is a bizarre region where thousands of limestone pinnacles rise, forest-like, from the shifting yellow sands. After lunch, we'll continue our journey down the coast to Perth, arriving by late afternoon.

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



## Tour Costs

Cost: \$6,385.00 Per Person Twin Share  
\$815.00 Single Supplement

Departs: Perth 24 August 2024

Finishes: Perth 2 September 2024

## Tour Payments

Deposit: At the time of booking, \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 23 July 2024

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

## Special Offers

### Book Multiple Tours

If you travel with Coates twice in the same calendar year, you will receive a 5% discount off the cheaper tour.

### Loyalty Program

Save \$100 per person on your second, third and fourth tour. Save \$150 per person when you have travelled on 5 or more tours. Tours must be operated by Coates Wildlife Tours.

Please note: Loyalty discount can be combined with other offers.  
Discounts are only available on bookings made directly with Coates on tours within Australia.

## Included

- Coates tour leader/ driver;
- Coates Naturalist leader;
- Accommodation - twin share with private facilities in hotels and motels;
- Meals as per itinerary;
- Morning tea each day;
- Fresh fruit on board daily;
- All national park entrance fees;
- Kalbarri Wildflower Display entrance fee.

## Not Included

- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks;
- Travel insurance (very strongly recommended);
- Travel expenses to and from Perth;
- Pre and post tour accommodation;
- All other private expenses;
- Other entrance fees or activity costs not listed.

## Tour Information

### Vehicle & Equipment:

Air-conditioned purpose-built 4WD tour coach with all front facing, mostly reclining and seat-belted seats or minibus.

### Accommodation:

Twin-share rooms at hotels or motels with ensuite facilities. If you would prefer a single room, a single supplement will apply.

### Meals:

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

### Trek Grading:

Light bushwalking on most days.

### Weather:

Days are usually mild, with temperatures around mid-20 degrees Celsius. The nights are cooler, with minimum temperatures around 6-12 degrees Celsius. There is also the possibility of light showers during the tour.

### Clothing:

A suggested list of items to bring on the 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.

For detailed **Terms and Conditions**, please visit the FAQ page on our website.

To make a booking or further information please contact

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