



Coates Wildlife Tours

Specialist in Nature Tours since 1986

## Trip Dossier

### 13 Day Kimberley Wonders Tour



#### Easy Camping Small Group Tour - Max 12 passengers

Kununurra - Broome 28 July - 9 August 2023

##### Itinerary Highlights:

- 3 nights at Purnululu (Bungle Bungles) National Park; one of Western Australia's most striking geological landmarks and home to remote wildlife
- Optional helicopter (at your own expense) over Purnululu to see the beehive-like mounds, hidden gorges and contrasting pools from above
- Visit Parrys Lagoon for wetland bird watching; this waterbird breeding and feeding area is also a stopover point for migratory waders.
- Optional Flight and hike to visit the iconic Mitchell Falls (Punamii-unpuu to the Wunambal people); a four-tiered waterfall
- Camping at Drysdale River Station, a family owned and operated million-acre cattle station
- Camp at Silent Grove and take a relaxing swim at Bell's Gorge,
- Visit stunning Bandilngan (Windjana Gorge)

##### **\*Easy Camping\***

*The easy camping concept has been introduced to make the whole camping experience more enjoyable. The camp support crew will travel ahead 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 Kimberley region in the northwest of Western Australia is one of the most remote and unspoiled wilderness areas in the world. Its unique geology, vibrant Aboriginal culture and diverse flora and fauna have fascinated visitors for many years.

A highlight of this tour will be our visit to Purnululu National Park to see the Bungle Bungle Range. This World Heritage-listed site is one of the most fascinating geological landmarks in Western Australia. The beehive-like mounds are encased in a skin of silica and algae, creating a striking stripe pattern. More than 130 species of bird reside within Purnululu, including Rainbow Bee-eaters, flocks of Budgerigars and Australian Bustards. The Nail-tail wallaby and the Euro live around the massif, while Short-eared Rock wallabies live on top.

Bird enthusiasts will particularly enjoy our visit to Marlgu Billabong at Parys Lagoon Nature Reserve. These reserves are havens for a variety of waterbirds.

We will also spend two nights at Drysdale River station where on the second day it will be possible to undertake an optional flight (at your own expense) and hike to the Mitchell Falls. This trip will be visiting the magnificent Mitchell and Mertens Falls. Landscapes around the plateau vary from mangroves and swamps to woodlands and lush rainforest patches. A diverse array of wildlife populates the region. The rugged sandstone areas are home to some rare residents like the small rock wallaby called a monjon (*Petrogale burbidgei*), the Rough-scaled Python (*Morelia carinata*). The area also has a rich indigenous history. Wunambal Aboriginal people have lived in the vicinity for thousands of years, and the plateau offers many excellent examples of ancient rock art.

## Itinerary

### Day 1 Kununurra to Purnululu (Bungle Bungle)

An early start today as we head for the Purnululu National Park. The 53 km trip into the park is our introduction to outback tracks with many creek crossings, wash aways and rough, slow sections. The journey from the highway to our accommodation takes around three hours. We will start our exploration of the national park by exploring the area around our camp. There will also be time to enjoy an incredible Kimberley sunset.

Accommodation: National Park Campsite - Purnululu LD

### Day 2 & 3 Purnululu (Bungle Bungle)

We spend the next two days exploring the park, including the beautiful and unique geological formations of Echidna Chasm, the beehive at Piccanniny Creek and Cathedral Gorge. You can also take an optional helicopter flight over the Bungle Bungle Range to see the gorgeous mounds from above.

Accommodation: National Park Campsite - Purnululu BLD

### Day 4 Purnululu (Bungle Bungle) to Kununurra

This morning we return to Kununurra. There will be free time this afternoon to catch up on washing and relax while the crew buy fresh provisions for the tour. Dinner is at your own expense to allow you to sample some local delights.

Accommodation: Campsite - Kununurra BL





## Tour Costs

Cost: \$7,175.00 per person  
Free Single Supplement

Optional Mitchell Falls Flight: \$TBA

Departs: Kununurra 28 July 2023

Finishes: Broome 9 August 2023

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 28 June 2023

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

## 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);
- Dome tents & chairs with arms;
- Well maintained vehicle with front-facing, seat belted, mostly reclining, coach-style seats
- Eating utensils
- Meals as per itinerary;
- Morning tea each day;
- Fresh fruit on board daily;
- All national park entrance fees

## Not Included

- Optional Bungle Bungle helicopter flight
- Optional flight and hike to the Mitchell Falls
- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks.
- Travel insurance (very strongly recommended)
- Travel expenses to Broome and from Kununurra
- 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

### Pick up point in Kununurra and drop off in Broome:

Coates can pick up in Kununurra from any centrally located hotel from 7 am on day one. Coates will drop off in the late afternoon at any centrally located Broome hotel or the Broome Visitors Centre on the last day of the tour. Unfortunately, we can't give an exact time for drop-off due to changing conditions on the road.

### 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 sleeping bags and pillows, or a sleeping bag can be purchased from us for \$100.00. Purchased sleeping bags can be taken home after the tour, or they can be given back to us, and we will donate them to charity.

### Single Travellers:

On Coates Wildlife Camping Tours, single travellers will be allocated a tent to themselves. Please let us know if you are travelling with a friend and would like to share a tent.

### Accommodation:

It is 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 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 managers operate National Park campsites. 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. 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 contact the office if you have a special dietary requirement, as a surcharge may apply.

### Trek Grading:

We undertake moderate to challenging bushwalking on most days. All walks are optional and can 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 at night in the Bungle Bungle Ranges. Rain is not usually experienced at this time of the year.

### Clothing:

Our pre-departure information will include a suggested list of items to bring on tour. This will be sent to you about one month before departure. Generally, comfortable, casual clothing is recommended. Light shirts and T-shirts are appropriate 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 necessary, and an old pair of sneakers or reef-style boots that can be worn in the water is highly recommended.

**For detailed Terms and Conditions, please click [HERE](#) to visit the FAQ page on our website.**

## Special Offers

### 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.

### 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.

To make a booking or further information please contact

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