



Coates Wildlife Tours

Specialist in Nature Tours since 1986

Trip Dossier

9 Day Golden Outback Expedition



Camping Small Group Tour - Max 10 passengers

Perth to Perth 5 - 13 September 2020

Itinerary Highlights:

- Visit Lake Ballard, a picturesque ephemeral salt lake, and walk among the Gormley outback sculpture installation (51 unique sculptures spread across the lake)
- Enjoy bird watching at Niagara Dam Nature Reserve and visit Niagara Dam, often described as an “oasis” in the wilderness
- Visit the infamous bush pub Ora Banda and have a refreshing drink
- Stay at Credo Station and visit Rowles Lagoon, a great spot for birding
- Visit the recently protected Helena and Aurora Ranges, one of the last examples of banded iron stone formations still left in Australia and home to many endemic species

Visit the old towns of the gold mining days; numerous relics, equipment, old shanties and mine frames, all long since abandoned. In the 1890's thousands of locals' and migrants alike tried their luck with gold prospecting. Mining relics and their possessions are scattered throughout the old settlements and history abounds in the region.

We will also visit the Kalgoorlie open cut mine, and explore Lake Ballard. 51 unique sculptures based on residents of the Shire of Menzies can be found on the lake.

We will visit the Helena and Aurora Ranges (Aboriginal name 'Bungalbin'), magnificent banded ironstone formations. This is one of the last ranges in the whole Yilgarn region that dates back 2.6 billion years. It's ancient, it's unique, and there are species here not found anywhere else on the planet. The area should still have a good display of wildflowers as well.

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

Itinerary

Day 1 Perth to Coolgardie area

We depart Perth from the Wellington Street tourist pick up point at 8.00 am and head up the Great Eastern Highway towards Coolgardie. The drive takes us up the Darling escarpment, through its forests and some of our most productive wheat and sheep farming areas. We will also follow the Golden Pipeline; the C.Y.O'Connor inspired Goldfields Water Supply Scheme. This pipeline was built in 1903 and took five years to construct. It is still the longest freshwater pipeline in the world.

Accommodation: Bush Camp Coolgardie area LD

Day 2 Coolgardie area - Kalgoorlie - Lake Ballard

We leave Coolgardie for the short drive to Kalgoorlie, taking us through eucalypt woodland forests made up of tall, vigorous and varied species of eucalypts. There are about 14 different eucalypt species between Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie and over 50 around Kalgoorlie. In Kalgoorlie, we will visit the massive open cut mine before continuing onto our campsite at Lake Ballard.

Accommodation: Bush Camp Site Lake Ballard BLD

Days 3 Lake Ballard

This morning we will take a walk out onto the lake to look at the Gormley outback sculptures. After lunch we will visit the Niagara Nature Reserve and Niagara Dam, travelling via Menzies. The water in the dam is a great draw card for wildlife in the area.

Accommodation: Bush Camp Site Lake Ballard BLD

Day 4 Lake Ballard - Rowles lagoon - Credo Station

Today we travel to Credo Station via Rowles Lagoon, which is a good spot for birding. This afternoon we will explore the former pastoral station.

Accommodation: Credo Station Camp Site BLD

Day 5 Credo Station

We return to the nearby Rowles Lagoon Conservation Park and spend the day discovering the local wildlife.

Accommodation: Credo Station Camp Site BLD

Day 6 Credo Station to Helena Aurora Ranges

Today we will travel via Southern Cross to the Helena and Aurora Ranges. After setting up camp, we will spend the afternoon exploring the area around our campsite.

Accommodation: Bush Camp Helena Aurora Ranges BLD

Day 7 & 8 Helena Aurora Ranges

We will spend the next two days exploring the natural history of these often overlooked and threatened ranges. Enjoy the spectacular scenery, discover ancient rock outcrops and keep an eye out for unique fauna and flora.
Accommodation: Bush Camp Helena Aurora Ranges BLD

Day 9 Helena Aurora Ranges - Baladjie Rock - Perth

This morning we pack up and make our way back to Perth. We will travel via Koolyanobbing, Southern Cross and Baladjie Rock and should arrive in Perth late afternoon. BL

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



Tour Costs

Cost:	\$3,875.00 per person in lead vehicles \$1,685.00 per person in tag along vehicles Free Single Supplement	
Departs:	Perth	5 September 2020
Finishes:	Perth	13 September 2020

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 5 August 2020

Note: Deposit is non-refundable.

The payment is non-refundable if cancelled within 30 days of the departure date.

N/B If the tour can not proceed due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, all payments will be refunded in full.

Travel Insurance covering all payments is available and is strongly recommended.

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.

Included

- Two well-maintained 4WD vehicles;
- 2 crew members - a Naturalist/Driver Guide and Driver/Cook;
- Easy-to-erect 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 purchased from us for \$100.00);
- 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

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 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.

Tag Along Participants

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

Single Travellers:

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

Accommodation:

Accommodation on this tour 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 apart from a long-drop bush toilet. We carry adequate water for washing.

Private campsites vary significantly. Some have full ablution blocks with showers and flushing toilets; others 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 will undertake light to medium bush walking on most days. All walks are optional and will be able to be conducted at your own pace. There may also be some optional rock scrambling.

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, sent to you on full payment of tour costs. Generally, comfortable, casual clothing is recommended. Light shirts and T-shirts are appropriate for during the day and warmer jumpers and jackets may be required for the evenings. Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes or boots are essential.

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

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. Medical clearance from a registered medical practitioner may be required for participants wishing to join some tours. Some activities like scenic flights, boat cruises, helicopter flights are not operated by the tour operator, nor by persons or companies associated with the tour operator and may involve inherent risk of injury, death, accident and loss. Passengers assume all risks concerning 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, they may do so by shortening or varying the trip in which case the participant will make no objection or claim for compensation.

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 operator's conduct or the conduct of their employees or agents or for any ramifications of that conduct.

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

All care is taken to ensure this document is correct at the time of printing. Prices and services, as shown in the trip dossiers and website 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 before departure. However, some tours may require payment up to 4 months before departure. Please refer to the tour's trip dossier for exact details.

Payments can be made by Cheque, Direct Deposit, Visa or Mastercard.

N/B Visa and Mastercard payment will incur an additional bank credit card fee of 1.5%

CANCELLATIONS

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

Coates Wildlife Tours will not be considered to be in breach of this contract due to a delay or cancellation caused by a Force Majeure. "Force Majeure is any circumstance which is outside our reasonable control.

In these circumstances, Coates Wildlife Tours will use our best endeavour to re-schedule the tour to a date within 12 months of the original date. Coates Wildlife Tours shall not be held liable for amounts that cannot be retrieved from third parties.

In respect of cancellations by a passenger, specific to the Golden Outback Expedition the following cancellation time or penalties are in place plus any costs charged by other parties involved with the Tour will apply: -

Deposits are non-refundable for all tours at any time.

Where written notice is received:

Before 5 August 2020: Deposit is non-refundable however any other payments may be refunded

On or between 5 August 2020 and 5 September 2020: Full tour cost is non-refundable.

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 affected.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EQUIPMENT: - Transport by an air-conditioned custom built 4WD tour coach, minibus or 4WD vehicle; whichever 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 wildlife mentioned in the itineraries cannot be guaranteed as they are wild and therefore free to come and go as they please.

WILDFLOWER DISPLAYS: - Cannot 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.