



Coates Wildlife Tours

*Specialist in Nature Tours since 1986*

## Trip Dossier

### 12 Day Wild Coastlines of the South East



**Accommodated Small Group Tour - Max 12 passengers**  
**Perth - Perth 24 February - 07 March 2021**

#### **Itinerary Highlights:**

- Wave Rock area and Indigenous rock art
- Visits to Peak Charles, Cape Le Grand and Cape Arid National Parks
- Cruise the Recherche Archipelago to the waters around Woody Island Nature Reserve
- Pink Lake - an important bird area due to its populations of Hooded Plovers and Banded Stilts
- Fitzgerald River National Park
- Bremer Bay Canyon - Orca (Killer Whale) Tour
- Stirling Range National Park
- Dryandra Woodland

Our coastline is just beautiful - sandy coves, rolling hills leading down to the water's edge, and offshore islands with their abundant sea-life - birds, seals, Orcas, and dolphins. We will showcase the natural diversity of the regions between Perth and Esperance, particularly the coastline either side of Esperance.

## Itinerary

### Day 1 Perth - Wave Rock - Hyden

This morning we'll leave Perth around 7.30 am and head south-east to Hyden to catch one of Australia's biggest wave which is nowhere near the ocean. The famous rock formation called 'Wave Rock' has been, 700 million years in the making and rises 15 metres above the outback plain. We will take you into this ancient landscape, where you'll discover a wide variety of striking geological features. Many are also the subject of fascinating Indigenous Dreamtime stories, and the site of beautiful Indigenous rock art.

On the way, we will pass through the wheatbelt towns of York, Quairading and Corrigin.

Accommodation: Motel Hyden LD

### Day 2 Hyden - Norseman

Today we take a scenic drive on the Hyden Norseman Road through the Greater Western Woodlands with numerous granite outcrops. We will be stopping at McDermid Rock and the interesting

Breakaways. Accommodation: Motel Norseman BLD

### Day 3 Norseman - Esperance

This morning we'll head south to Esperance via a visit to Peak Charles, a 651m high granite peak, standing majestically above the surrounding pancake-flat countryside. The view from the base of the peak is very impressive. The vegetation around Peak Charles is a mixture of shrub and low mallee eucalypt trees. This habitat also supports many different species of birds and reptiles. There will be time this afternoon to have a look around the Esperance townsite and some of its magnificent beaches.

Accommodation: Motel Esperance BLD

### Day 4 & 5 Esperance

We will spend the next two days exploring the national parks in the Esperance area visiting Cape Arid and Cape Le Grande National Parks. Cape Arid lies at the eastern extremity of the South-Western botanical province and overlaps the boundary of the Eremaean botanical province (the arid zone). Therefore, alongside beaches and the Thomas River and estuary, the area includes both south-western and arid zone vegetation types, providing a broad array of bird habitats.

Wild coastal scenery, rugged granite peaks, and sweeping heathlands characterise Cape Le Grand National Park. Popular and it's attractive bays with wide sandy beaches set between rocky headlands.

Accommodation: Motel Esperance BLD

### Day 6 Esperance - Recherche Archipelago Crusie and Pink Lake - Esperance

Today we'll set off on a cruise through the Recherche Archipelago to the Woody Island Nature Reserve, approximately 15km off the coast of Esperance. The Island is one of one hundred islands of the Recherche Archipelago, known to locals as the Bay of Isles. The waters around the Island make for great sightings of spectacular wildlife. All sorts of marine life thrive in these waters including fur seals, sea lions and dolphins, as well as a range of birds including Cape Barren Geese and White-breasted Sea Eagles.

This afternoon we will travel to Pink Lake just outside Esperance. The unique pink colour after which the lake is named is the result of Green Algae and/or Brine Prawn. Unfortunately, the lake hasn't been pink for over ten years. The lake is also well known for its birdlife, being recognised by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area (IBA) due to its populations of Hooded Plovers and Banded Stilts.

Accommodation: Motel Esperance BLD

**Day 7 Esperance - Hopetoun**

We'll leave Esperance this morning and begin our journey westward to the Fitzgerald River National Park. Our drive takes us past Stokes National Park and Stokes Inlet, one of the most picturesque estuaries along WA's southern coast.

Accommodation: Motel Hopetoun BLD

**Day 8 Hopetoun - Fitzgerald River National Park - Bremer Bay**

Today we'll find ourselves on the doorstep of the Fitzgerald River National Park, which is one of the largest and most botanically significant National Parks in Australia. Nearly 20 per cent of Western Australia's flora species are found in the park, many of which only occur here. Our first point of interest is Mt Barren (which we'll visit if the access road is open). We'll continue travelling through the national park on the way to Bremer Bay.

Accommodation: Bremer Bay Motel BLD

**Day 9 Bremer Bay - Bremer Canyon Whale Tour**

Today we will enjoy a full day out on the water. After breakfast, we will cruise from the Bremer Bay coast to the Bremer Canyon. This undersea canyon dropoff provides the perfect habitat for Orca (Killer Whales) that frequent the area on mass at this time of year and will hopefully provide us with some spectacular sightings. Late this afternoon we will return to the port.

Accommodation: Bremer Bay Motel BLD

**Day 10 Fitzgerald River National Park**

We will spend the entire day exploring the west end of the Fitzgerald River National Park. The park covers over 120,000 acres and houses a wide variety of habitats including heathlands, wetlands, shrublands and rugged mountains (by Australian standards).

We will walk the trails and climb one of the mountains to enjoy the excellent views (optional). The birdlife here is abundant, ranging in size from large Emus to tiny Emu-wrens, Fairy Wrens and Thornbills.

Accommodation: Bremer Bay Motel BLD

**Day 11 Bremer Bay to Katanning via Stirling Range National Park**

Today we head to the Stirling Range National Park. On route, you will see a change in the vegetation from shrubland to tall species of Eucalyptus, Jarrah and Marri. The Stirling Ranges are a striking feature of the landscape, with five peaks over 3000 feet high that rise abruptly from the coastal lowlands. The area receives more rainfall than its surrounding districts, allowing unique plants not found anywhere else to thrive in the ranges. After exploring the National Park, we will continue onto the historic town of Katanning.

Accommodation: Katanning Motel BLD

**Day 12 Katanning to Perth via Dryandra**

After breakfast, we will depart Katanning, bound for Perth. Along the way, we will stop in at Dryandra woodland, where we may spot the endangered numbat if we are lucky! We hope to arrive back in Perth by the late afternoon.

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

## Tour Costs

Cost:	\$5,775.00	Per Person Twin Share
	\$785.00	Single Supplement
Departs:	Perth	24 February 2021
Finishes:	Perth	07 March 2021

## Tour Payments

Deposit: At time of booking \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 24 January 2021

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.

### Included

- Coates tour leader/ driver;
- Coates Naturalist leader;
- Well-maintained vehicle with all front-facing, seat-belted, coach-style seats;
- Meals as per itinerary;
- Morning tea each day;
- Fresh fruit on board daily;
- All national park entrance fees;
- Woody Island Cruise.

### 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 activities not listed.

## 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.

*Please note: Above discounts cannot be combined.*

### 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.*

## **Tour Information**

Naturalist Guide: TBA

Driver Guide: TBA

### **Vehicle & Equipment:**

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

### **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.(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:**

Light bushwalking on most days.

### **Weather:**

Days are usually mild, with temperatures around the 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 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 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](mailto:coates@iinet.net.au) Web: [www.coateswildlifetours.com.au](http://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 requirement 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:-

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

Where written notice is received:

31 days or more prior to departure: Deposit is non-refundable however any other payments may be refunded

30 days or less prior to departure: 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 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.