



**Coates Wildlife Tours**  
*Specialist in Nature Tours since 1986*

## Trip Dossier

### 15 Day East Pilbara Expedition



### Camping Small Group Tour

Perth to Perth 28 August - 11 September 2021

(Max. 6 passengers in 2 lead vehicles, 4 participants in 2 tag along vehicles)

#### Itinerary Highlights:

- Three nights at Carawine Gorge, a great spot for bird watching due to the abundant bird life or for a swim in the crystal clear water
- Visit and take a swim at Running Waters, an oasis in the bush.
- Visit the historic Marble Bar (“Australia’s hottest town”) and dine at the iconic Iron Clad Hotel, the only pub in town. Explore the highlights in and around the town.
- Three nights in the Karijini National Park - A vast wilderness area with spectacular rugged scenery, ancient geological formations such as Dales and Kalamina gorges.



Join us as we head to the remote yet beautiful East Pilbara. The Pilbara is fascinating at any time. The wildlife is plentiful and the scenery is spectacular; green covered hills, red soil and refreshing rock pools.

Our northward journey will take us northwards through Mt Magnet, Cue Meekatharra and onto Newman. Leaving Newman we leave the sealed roads behind and start to explore the area to the North and East of Nullagine. We will set up Camp at Carawine Gorge and the Oakover River. This will be our home for three nights and have plenty of time to enjoy the natural beauty and birdlife. We will also visit the remote waterhole known as Running Waters. Surrounded by Paperbarks, this is a fabulous spot to spend the day.

Our journey from Carawine Gorge takes us westwards to Marble Bar. Two nights here will give us plenty of time to discover the town's history, the geology and to enjoy the scenic beauty. There will also be time to explore the natural wonders found close to this historic town.

From Marble Bar we head into the Karijini National Park. The park has some of the oldest rocks on the continent and contains many beautiful gorges and rock formations. The park is also home to approximately 800 plant species. Two small, carnivorous marsupials are endemic to the area, the Pilbara Ningauai (*Ningauai timealeyi*) and the Little Red Antechinus (*Dasykaluta rosamondae*). Other marsupials that call the park home include the Western Pebble-mound Mouse (*Pseudomys chapmani*), Rothschild's Rock-wallaby (*Petrogale rothschildi*), Red Kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*) and the Common Wallaroo (*Macropus robustus*).

Our homeward journey to Perth takes us via the outback towns of Meekatharra, Cue and Mt Magnet, as well as the ghost town of Big Bell and the natural wonder of Walga Rock.

## Itinerary:

### Day 1 Perth - Mt Magnet Area

We depart Perth around 7.30am this morning and commence our journey north. We travel via the Great Northern Highway to our bush campsite in the Mt Magnet area.

Accommodation: Bush Camp LD

### Day 2 Mt Magnet Area - Kumarina

Today we continue to travel north via Cue and Meekatharra. Cue has many impressive buildings erected during the gold rush while Meekatharra's gold mining continues to this day (on a small scale). Tonight we will be camping at Kumarina road house. This will be our last opportunity for a shower before we head out into the bush tomorrow.

Accommodation: Campsite BLD

**Day 3 Kumarina - Newman - Marble Bar Road, Bush Camp**

We continue north to Newman. This will be our last opportunity to purchase supplies and contact home before leave the main road and head North on the Marble Bar Road.

Accommodation: Bush Camp BLD

**Day 4 Marble Bar Road, Bush Camp - Carawine Gorge**

Today we continue northwards to Nullagine before heading east on the Skull Springs road to Carawine Gorge, located on the Oakover River. This will be our campsite for the next three days.

Accommodation: Bush Camp BLD

**Day 5 Carawine Gorge**

A day out of the vehicles as we explore the area around the campsite on foot. Highlights include a variety of birdlife, geological wonders including evidence of glacial movement and plenty of time to relax and enjoy the environment.

Accommodation: Bush Camp BLD

**Day 6 Carawine Gorge - Running Waters - Carawine Gorge**

A short drive takes us across the Oakover River to a shaded wetland known as Running Waters. This paperbark-fringed waterway is spring feed with crystal clear water. Ideal for a walking, bird watching or taking a swim before we return to Carawine Gorge.

Accommodation: Bush Camp BLD

**Day 7 Carawine Gorge - Marble Bar**

Our journey today takes us into Marble Bar, reputed to be the hottest town in Australia and famous for the banded red jasper bar across the Coongan River. There will be plenty of time here to explore the natural wonders of the area. There will also be time for a long overdue shower and a meal (at your own expense) at the local Iron Clad Hotel. Here, you will get a true taste of country life.

Accommodation: Camp site BL

**Day 8 Marble Bar**

Today we will discover the early mining and settlers history along with the geological wonders and the wildlife. Highlights of the day include Coppin Gap, Doolena Gorge, Corunna Downs an abandoned WW2 airfield.

Accommodation: Camp site BLD

**Day 9 Marble Bar - Dales Gorge ( Karijini National Park)**

Our journey to Karijini and Dales Gorge will see us travelling through some spectacular Pilbara scenery, stopping regularly to make the most of our time.

Accommodation: National Park Camp Site, Karijini BLD

**Day 10 & 11 Karijini National Park**

We will the next two days visiting and exploring the park. Highlights include, Kalamina and Dales Gorges, Fortescue Falls and Fern pool. These all offer great walks and fresh water waterholes where swimming is a must.

Accommodation: National Park Camp Site, Karijini BLD

**Day 12 Karijini National Park - Newman - Bush Camp South of Newman**

Today we start our return journey to Perth. We will restock in Newman before heading south on the Great Northern Highway to our campsite on the Middle Gascoyne River.

Accommodation: Bush camp site BLD

**Day 13 Campsite South of Newman - Nallan Station**

After breakfast we will continue south travelling through Meekatharra to Nallan Station which will be our campsite tonight.

Accommodation: Campsite BLD

#### Day 14 Nallan Station - Cue - Mt Magnet - Paynes Find Area

From Cue we will visit the ghost town of Big Bell, abandoned in the 1950's much of the town is gone however the ruins of some buildings remain including the spectacular Big Bell Hotel. We will also visit the natural wonder of Walga Rock (one of the largest monolith rocks in Australia).

Accommodation: Campsite BLD

#### Day 15 Paynes Find Area - Perth

Today we conclude our journey with the final leg into Perth. Along the way we will travel through the wheatbelt town of Dalwallinu and the monastic town of New Norcia. Our adventure ends with our arrival in Perth, where you will be dropped off at your chosen central Perth accommodation. BL

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

## Tour Costs

Cost: \$6,125.00 per person in lead vehicles  
\$2,275.00 per person in tag along vehicles

Departs: Perth 28 August 2021

Finishes: Perth 11 September 2021

Max No. Of Participants in 6 passengers in lead vehicles & 4 passengers in tag along vehicles plus 2 crew

## Tour Payments

Deposit: At time of booking \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 28 July 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

- Two well-maintained 4WD vehicles;
- Naturalist/Driver Guide;
- Driver/Cook;
- Easy-to-erect tents, camp chairs with armrests,
- Self-inflating air mattress and stretcher bed;
- All eating utensils;
- Meals as per itinerary:
- B (breakfast), L (lunch), D (dinner);
- Campsite fees;
- Morning teas;
- Fresh fruit on board daily;
- All national park entrance fees & travel permits;
- **Tag Along Participants** - If requested when booking we can supply tents, armchairs and eating utensils but they will need to be carried in your own vehicle.

### Not Included

- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks (you are welcome to bring your own);
- Pillows;
- Sleeping bags (can be purchased for \$100.00 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

### 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.

### 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.

National Park campsites are operated by DoCBaA. They range from providing nothing to a mix of flushing or long-drop toilets; fire rings and clearly defined camping areas. Some campsites have showers.

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 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:

The tour has been timed to coincide with the northern dry season. Days are usually dry and hot, with temperatures around 25 degrees Celsius. The nights can be cool, with minimum temperatures around 2 to 10 degrees Celsius. It will be cooler with possible showers at the beginning and end of the trip.

### 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. Don't forget your bathers! Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes or boots are essential.

For detailed **Terms and Condition** please visit the FAQ page on our website



To make a booking or for further information please contact  
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