



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 to Perth 17 - 26 September 2022

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 to Dalwallinu

Today we leave Perth at 7.30 am. Traveling via Toodyay, Goomalling and Wongan Hills we will head through the wheat belt to Dalwallinu, which is 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, also renowned for having the largest variety of wattles (acacias) in the world. There are about 185 varieties within 100 kms of Dalwallinu.

Accommodation: Motel Dalwallinu BLD

Day 3 Dalwallinu to Morawa

This morning we will continue our drive north, heading for Morawa. During the day we'll spend time looking at and photographing the wildflowers that grow along the side of the road.

Accommodation: Morawa Hotel BLD

Day 4 Morawa - Coalseam Reserve - Morawa

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

Accommodation: Morawa Hotel BLD

Day 5 Morawa - Three Springs - Eneabba - Geraldton

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

Accommodation: Hotel Geraldton BLD

Day 6 Geraldton to 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 coastal wildflowers.

Accommodation: Motel Kalbarri BLD

Day 7 Kalbarri

We'll rise early this morning so that we can maximise our time in Kalbarri National Park, which is famous for its wildflowers. The species-rich heath-lands 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 on recently burnt areas and confined to the Kalbarri area. We also hope to find several orchids including the Kalbarri spider orchid and the Murchison hammer orchid.

Accommodation: Motel Kalbarri BLD

Day 8 Kalbarri to Cervantes

Next we start heading south. As we travel through farm lands, road side verges should offer a diverse range of plants and colour. 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 of the 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. The Lesueur National Park contains expanses of the northern sand plains region, with a wide range of 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 richest sites for plant species in the world; over 800 plant species have been recorded here, nine of which are found nowhere else in the world. There is always something flowering in the park but in the months of September and October Lesueur erupts into colour with a range of species from Lechenaultias to Melaleucas.

Accommodation: Motel Cervantes BLD

Day 10 Cervantes to Perth

This morning we'll visit the Nambung National Park 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: \$5,775.00 Per Person Twin Share
\$ 735.00 Single Supplement

Departs: Perth 17 September 2022

Finishes: Perth 26 September 2022

Tour Payments

Deposit: At time of booking \$500.00 per person

Final Payment: On or before 17 August 2022

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 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

- 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

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.

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

To make a booking or further information please contact

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