



Coates Wildlife Tours

Specialist in Nature Tours since 1986

Trip Dossier

15-Day West Australian Outback Expedition



Camping Small Group Tour - Max 6 passengers

Perth to Perth 11 - 25 September 2024

Itinerary Highlights:

- Historic goldfield towns in the Coolgardie area - striking landscapes, gold rush heritage and Indigenous history.
- Anne Beadell Highway - an awe-inspiring track which runs along the Great Victoria Desert passing through remote desert areas.
- Connie Sue Highway - travel through red sand dune country on this remote track through the Great Victoria Desert.
- Eyre Bird Observatory in the Nuytsland Nature Reserve - a favoured site for bird watchers and nature enthusiasts.
- Granite Woodlands Trail - explore the worlds largest untouched temperate woodlands.

This outback expedition is no ordinary adventure. We follow two tracks built by Len Beadell (regarded as the 'last real Australian Explorer'), the Anne Beadell Highway (named after his wife) and the Connie Sue Highway (named after his daughter). They were completed in 1962. He surveyed these and many of the better-known outback tracks of Central Australia.

The highways pass through remote desert areas but don't be confused by the highway tag; these tracks are rarely used and are often narrow, twisty and sandy, but well worth the adventure.

The trip departs from Perth and heads to Neale Junction via Laverton on the Anne Beadell Highway, before heading south on the Connie Sue to Cocklebidy. We have allowed seven days to travel these tracks so we'll have plenty of time to explore the area's wildlife and breathtaking terrain.

We will spend two full days at the Eyre Bird Observatory to explore the wildlife and history in this peaceful and strikingly scenic outpost.

Making our way back to Perth we will have two days on the Granite Woodlands Discovery Trail which passes through one of the most extensive temperate woodlands left in the world.

Itinerary

Day 1 Perth to Coolgardie Area

Today we will depart Perth from the Wellington Street tourist pick-up point at 7.15 am. We then head up the Great Eastern Highway, passing through the central Wheatbelt towns of Northam and Merredin as we head to Coolgardie.

Accommodation: Bush Camp, Coolgardie Area LD

Day 2 Coolgardie Area to bush camp east of Laverton

Today we will travel through the historic goldfield ghost towns of Broad Arrow and Kookynie and then on to Laverton.

Accommodation: Bush Camp, east of Laverton BLD

Day 3 & 4 Laverton - Anne Beadell Highway - Neale Junction

For the next two days, we will travel on one of the loneliest roads in Australia over many dunes topped by magnificent Marble Gums (*Euc gongylocarpa*). In the swales and throughout the area, you will find *Eucalyptus youngiana*, dense thickets of Mulga (*Acacia anuer*), Sheoak (*Allocasuarina cristata*) and Hummock Grass or Spinifex (*Triodia basedowii*). The western side of the Great Victoria Desert features fascinating breakaway country and mesa-like hills. There will be plenty of time to look at the natural wealth of flora and fauna and appreciate the beautiful outback scenery.

Accommodation: Bush Camps, Anne Beadell Highway BLD

Day 5 Neale Junction

Today will be spent exploring and discovering Neale Junction Nature Reserve.

Accommodation: Bush Camp, Anne Beadell Highway BLD

Day 6 - 9 Neale Junction to Eyre Bird Observatory

The next section of the trip takes us south. We travel on the Connie Sue Highway via Rawlinna and on the Trans-Australian railway line to the coastal Eyre Bird Observatory south of Cocklebidy.

Accommodation: Bush camps on Connie Sue Highway and shared accommodation at the Bird Observatory. BLD

Day 10 & 11 Eyre Bird Observatory

We take a break from driving and camping for the next two days and discover the history and wildlife around the observatory.

Accommodation: Bird Observatory

BLD

Day 12 Eyre Bird Observatory to East of Norseman

Today we head back to the Eyre Highway while stopping and looking at the birdlife and wildflowers as we slowly make our way back to Perth.

Accommodation: Bush Camp, East of Norseman

BLD

Day 13 & 14 East of Norseman to Hyden Area via Granite Woodlands Trail

We will spend the next two days exploring the Woodlands Trail, which passes through one of the most extensive temperate woodlands left in the world. It links Norseman to Hyden and Wave Rock with 300 km of heathlands and granite outcrops.

Accommodation: Bush Camps, Granite Woodlands Trail

BLD

Day 15 Hyden Area to Perth

Our last day takes us through the Wheatbelt back to Perth. Our outback adventure ends with our late afternoon arrival in Perth.

BL

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



Tour Costs

Cost:	\$7,285.00 per person Free Single Supplement
Departs:	Perth 11 September 2024
Finishes:	Perth 25 September 2024

Tour Payments

Deposit:	At time of booking \$500.00 per person
Final Payment:	On or before 11 August 2024

Note: Deposit is non-refundable. The final payment is non-refundable if cancelled within 30 days of departure. Travel Insurance covering all payments 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 on tour within Australia.

Included

- Coates tour leader/driver;
- Coates naturalist leader/driver;
- Two well-maintained, air conditioned vehicles with front facing, seat-belted seats;
- Easy to erect tents and camp chairs with armrests;
- A self-inflating air mattress and stretcher bed;
- All eating utensils;
- Meals as per itinerary - breakfast (B), lunch (L), dinner (D);
- Morning tea each day & fruit on-board the vehicle throughout the day;
- All national park entrance fees;
- Campsite fees.

Not Included

- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks (you are welcome to bring your own);
- Pillows;
- Sleeping bags (can be purchased for \$125.00 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

Naturalist Guide: TBA
Driver Guide: TBA

Vehicle & Equipment:

Our vehicles for the tour will consist of two Toyota 4WD Prados with trailers or similar. All the necessary camping equipment is provided. Passengers are required to supply their sleeping bags and pillows, or a sleeping bag can be purchased from us for \$120.00. 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 are allocated a tent for themselves. Please let us know if you are travelling with a friend and would like to share a tent. PLEASE NOTE: at the Eyre Bird Observatory, there are only limited rooms, and as such, all guests will be in twin shared rooms while at the Observatory.

Accommodation:

Is a combination of bush camps, campsites and shared accommodations with shared facilities at Eyre Bird Observatory.

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 there. We do carry adequate water for washing. Private campsites vary. Some provide full facilities, including ablution blocks, while some only have a long drop toilet.

Meals:

Meals as per the tour itinerary are included. i.e. breakfast (B), lunch (L), dinner (D) 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 get in touch with the office if you have a special dietary requirement, as a surcharge may apply.

Trek Grading:

This tour is a remote outback experience and is not expected to be easy travelling. We will undertake light bush walking on most days. All walks are optional and can be conducted at your own pace.

Physical Fitness:

Remote camping tours require a level of fitness that enables participants to set up and pack down their own camping equipment, including tents, beds, mattresses and chairs.

Please note that the guides will be on hand to show you how to best tackle the tasks and to assist where required.

Weather:

The tour has been timed to coincide with the wildflower season. Days are usually dry and warm, with temperatures around 25 degrees Celsius. The nights can be cold, with minimum temperatures around 2 - 10 degrees Celsius. There will be a chance of showers during the trip, particularly along the south coast.

Clothing:

A suggested list of items to bring on the 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 during the day, and warmer jumpers and jackets may be needed for the evenings. Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes or boots are essential.

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

To make a booking or further information please contact

Tom or Sylvia Grove at Coates Wildlife Tours

P.O. Box 1208

Booragoon, WA 6954

Phone: 08 9330 6066 Free Call Country & Interstate: 1800 676 016

Email: info@coateswildlifetours.com.au Web: www.coateswildlifetours.com.au