

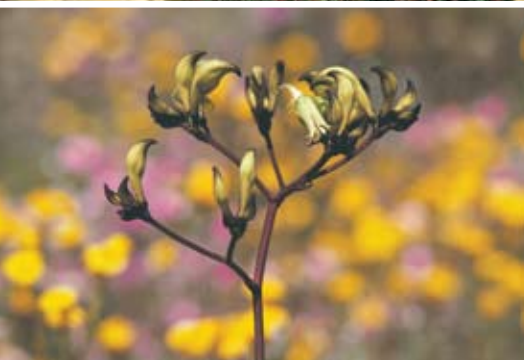
# Wildflower Holiday Guide

## Western Australia

Your holiday guide to Western Australia's wildflowers



Wildflower Guide 2009



[wildflowerswa.com](http://wildflowerswa.com)



WESTERN AUSTRALIA





# Western Australia's Wildflowers

**Mention wildflowers and most people think of Western Australia – and it's no wonder. With up to 12,000 species found within its borders and many unique to the state, Western Australia's wildflower season draws visitors from all over the world.**

The wildflower season ranks as one of Western Australia's most fascinating and precious natural treasures. For several months of each year, wildflowers are scattered across 2.5 million square kilometres of terrain. As diverse and colourful as the locals, the uniqueness and natural beauty of the wildflowers attract thousands of tourists and scientists every year.

Rain and sunshine greatly influence the timing of the wildflower season, causing it to span over several months and regions. In the north of the state, wildflowers will appear in July with early rains hastening their arrival. As late as November a blaze of wildflower colour will take over the south, where the warmer weather produces a totally different collage of species.

While the north is home to many species of coastal and inland wildflowers, it is best known for its everlastings.

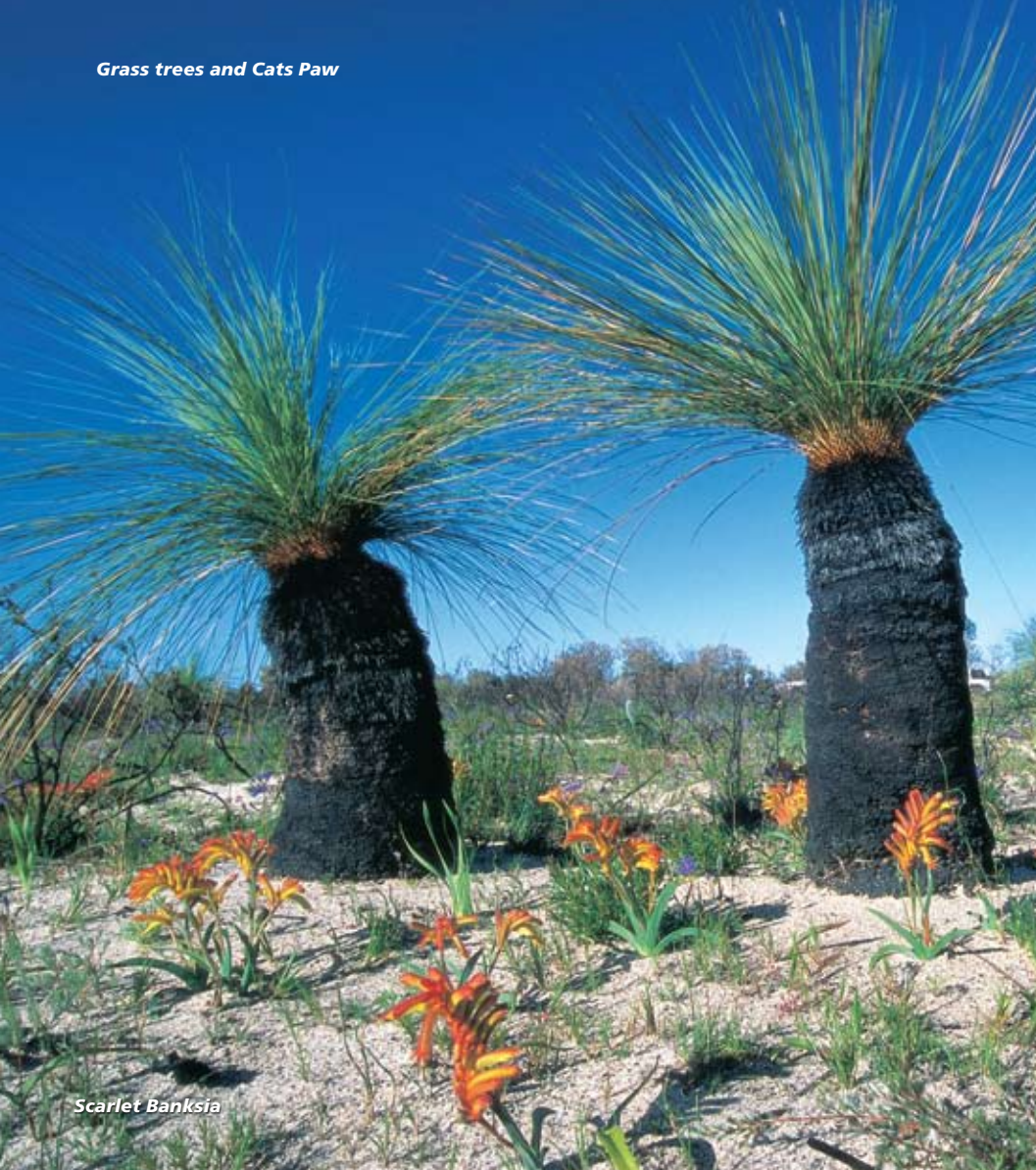
Fields of these lollipop-shaped flowers in yellow, pink and white are found in various inland areas, often along road verges. The 186,000ha Kalbarri National Park teems with wildflowers and visitors can expect to see kangaroo paws, Banksias, eucalypts and Grevilleas.

Australia's Coral Coast is home to the pristine Shark Bay World Heritage Area. As well as rugged outback terrain and pure white beaches, visitors can also see a large variety of wildflowers, some of which are unique to the area. Wattles, Hakeas, Dampiera, purple peas and Shark Bay daisies are common.

The Pilbara, in Australia's North West, produces yellow native hibiscus, bluebells, sticky cassia, mulla mulla, native fuschias and many more.

To the east is Australia's Golden Outback with its fields of everlastings as well as Acacia, Hakea and Sturt's desert pea.





Scarlet Banksia

Cowslip Orchid



Purple Enamel Orchid



Australia's South West is home to a wide range of rare and unique flora. Dainty flowers such as orchids, milkmaids, honeypots, green kangaroo paws and mountain bells give colour to green fields. More than 150 species of orchids are known to inhabit the area, along with grass trees such as *Kingia australis*, scented plants like brown *Boronia* and more than 165 species of eucalypts.

The south also boasts 80 species of carnivorous plants such as the Albany pitcher plant. Mistletoes including the amazing Western Australian Christmas tree are also found here.

Areas such as Esperance, Pemberton, Denmark, Northcliffe, Albany and Margaret River, are popular wildflower areas and most celebrate the season with wildflower events.

While a tour of regional areas is a popular way of experiencing wildflowers, visitors to Perth in September need only go as far as Kings Park in the heart of the city to view a stunning selection.

The Kings Park and Botanic Garden Wildflower Festival is an annual event which showcases the best of Western Australia's wildflower varieties and draws more than 50,000 visitors.

The Park's 400ha Botanic Garden has more than 1,700 native species.

With warm daily temperatures around 20°- 25°C, springtime is perfect to enjoy the incredible and unique beauty of nature in Western Australia.

Bright Podolepis, Wooleen Station





Wildflowers near Wave Rock, Hyden



The Bird Flower



### When and where do the wildflowers bloom?

Most Western Australian wildflowers bloom in late winter or early spring, from July until September. Some species require more warmth for growth and therefore bloom in late spring during the months of October and November.

The wildflower season, beginning in the Pilbara in July, commences slightly later as you head south, concluding in the southern regions in November. The season is subject to weather variations, but generally wildflowers can be seen in profusion in Western Australia from July until November.

Each of the trails covered in this brochure boast unique wildflower species due to variances in environmental elements such as soil type, local fauna, the broader plant system, geological structure and, most importantly, the weather.

### Planning your holiday

This guide contains a range of suggested itineraries, as well as some accommodation options.

Before setting out on one of the wildflower drives contained in this guide, it is advisable to contact the Western Australian Visitor Centre (contact details on the next page) or visit [wildflowerswa.com](http://wildflowerswa.com).

It is also worth stopping at visitor centres and shire offices in towns around the state for additional information about specific wildflower blooms and local road conditions.

The maps in this brochure are intended as a handy guide only. More detailed maps containing accurate directions, distances and other important information are available from the Western Australian Visitor Centre, most service stations, motoring organisations and visitor centres.

### Please protect the flora

To conserve the native flora and fauna for future generations, no domestic animals are permitted in national parks. The picking of wildflowers is prohibited by law throughout Western Australia.



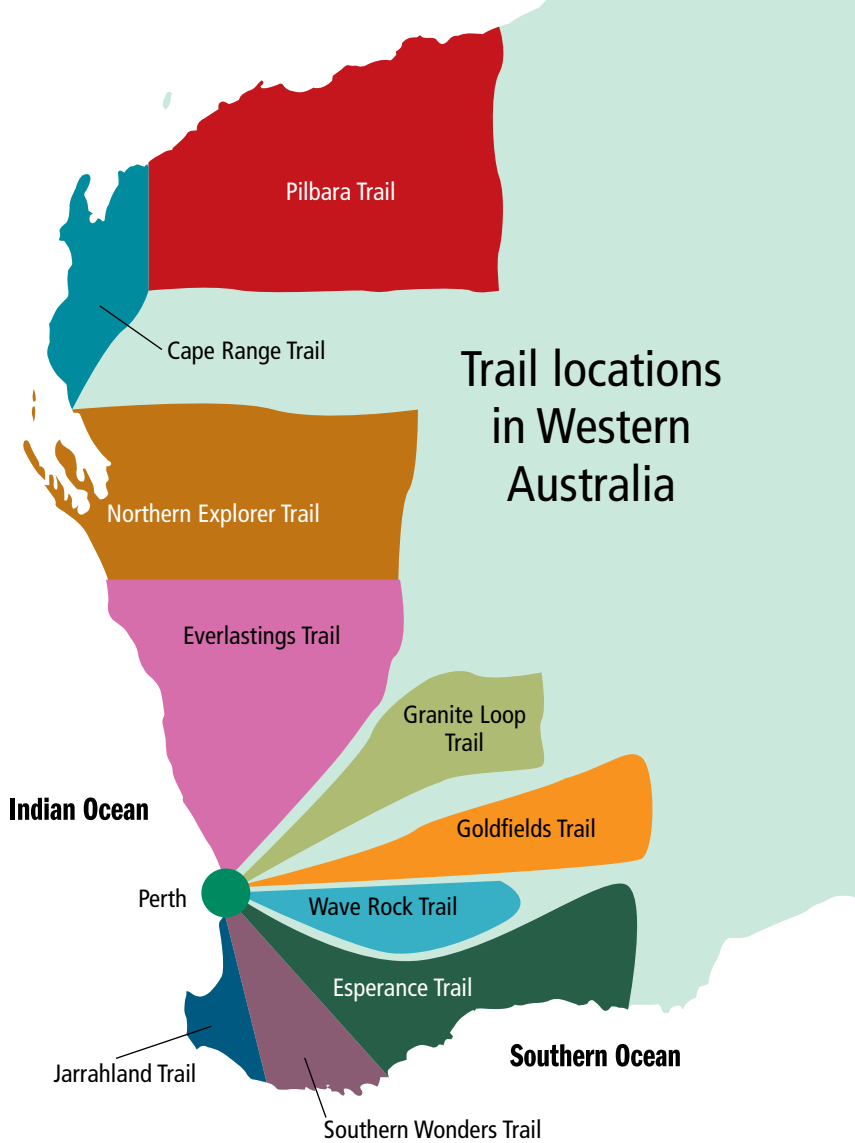
## Go online to see where the wildflowers are blooming

Visit [wildflowerswa.com](http://wildflowerswa.com) to find out more information about the wildflower trails, regular wildflower updates by locals in the specific regions and other things to see and do on your wildflower holiday in Western Australia.



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Printed February 2009.

**Main cover photo:** Couple in everlasting wildflowers near Murchison.

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## Western Australian Visitor Centre

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**Website:** westernaustralia.com  
**International Callers:** +61 8 9483 1111



## Accredited Visitor Centres

To get the most out of your wildflower holiday in Western Australia, speak to the experts at a local Visitor Centre. Look for the blue and yellow 'i' sign while on your travel trail.





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[www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au](http://www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au)

# Touring Suggestions

*There are numerous options available for you to experience Western Australia's wildflower season. Coach touring, rail tours, hire cars, air packages and guided walking tours are featured in this guide.*

*Also featured throughout this guide are a range of accommodation options including camping grounds, chalets, hotels, farm-stays, station stays, and bed and breakfasts.*

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# Wildflowers Alive!

## Spectacular display of wildflowers in Perth.

If you're visiting Perth this September make sure you don't miss the Kings Park Festival 2009. Celebrate Western Australia's unique collection of native plants and enjoy the displays of over 3000 flora species in bloom at the State's Botanic Garden! Join in the Festival activities and entertainment and meet the colourful 'Wandering Wildflowers' over the month of September. For more information visit [www.kingsparkfestival.com.au](http://www.kingsparkfestival.com.au)



2009

**kings park festival**

*Wildflower September*





Kings Park, Perth

# Perth Trail

Begin your journey in the heart of Perth at the much-loved Kings Park and Western Australian Botanic Garden, alive with colourful plant and bird life.

Follow nature trails or relax in tranquil picnic surroundings as you savour Perth's spectacular floral treasures. Make sure you have your camera for the Park's natural vantage point offering sweeping views across the city and Swan River to the gently rising Darling Escarpment which frames Perth's eastern horizons.

It's a pleasant drive up the Sunset Coast, with its white beaches, to Yanchep. Then a short journey east takes you into the forested hills of the Darling Range, known as the Perth Hills, where several national parks and reserves are situated among towering jarrah and marri trees.

En route take in the picturesque Swan Valley – Perth's premier food and wine destination and Western Australia's oldest wine region. In addition to award winning wines, the Swan Valley produces a wide range of delicious fresh produce and there are an endless number of breweries, distilleries, restaurants and art galleries for you to visit.

For snorkelling and pristine beaches, take a ferry day trip to the unique environment of Rottnest Island.

## SPECIAL EVENT

### *Kings Park and Botanic Garden Wildflower Festival*

Tuesday 1 September -

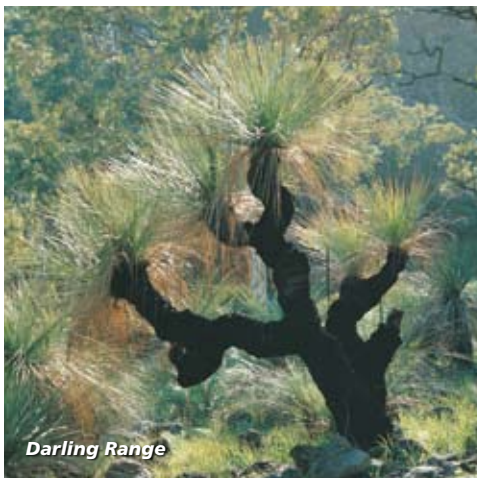
Monday 28 September 2009

Forrest Drive, Kings Park, West Perth

Open: Daily 9.00am to 5.00pm

Tel: (08) 9480 3600

As a showcase for Western Australia's spectacular wildflowers, the Festival draws thousands of people each year. Display gardens and demonstrations are presented alongside a wealth of botanical information about many of the 12,000 species that grow wild within the state's borders.



Darling Range

## 1 Kings Park and Western Australian Botanic Garden, Perth

**Features:** Kings Park is a wonderful starting point to familiarise yourself with Western Australia's abundant and diverse flora.

The park covers 400ha of natural bushland with lush parkland areas. The main entrance via Fraser Avenue is an enchanting drive through towering lemon-scented gum trees. Wildflowers abound and can be found within the Botanic Garden or in the bushland areas.

The Lotterywest Federation Walkway should not be missed with its enthralling tree top walk that provides picture-postcard views of the beautiful Swan River and the city skyline. The Pioneer Women's Memorial Fountain is a great place for a picnic. There are several picnic areas scattered throughout the park, as well as free barbeques.

An Aboriginal art gallery is located beneath the lookout on Fraser Avenue, or browse Aspects of Kings Park - a gallery featuring the works of local artists.

To really appreciate the amazing range of flora in Kings Park, enjoy a free guided walk. These occur every day at 10am and 2pm. You can find out more from the Visitor Information Centre on Fraser Avenue.

**Flora:** At the Botanic Garden, wildflower enthusiasts can see more than 1,700 native species of wildflowers in a 17ha area.

Hovea



Pink Everlastings



Kangaroo Paw



There's also an endangered flora garden, and no visit is complete without seeing the Acacia Steps, the Banksia Gardens and the Water Garden.

## 2 Yanchep National Park

51km north of Perth

**Features:** Known as Perth's natural and cultural meeting place, Yanchep National Park offers daily tours of Crystal Cave, Aboriginal cultural experiences, boat tours on Lake Wagardu, a stunning array of spring wildflowers and cultivated native gardens. Enjoy barbecue and picnic facilities, row boat hire, scenic walk trails, koalas, kangaroos and an abundance of other native animals and plants. Entry fees apply at Yanchep National Park.

**Flora:** Tuart trees, Banksia, one-sided bottle-brush, yellow buttercups, blue flowering Hardenbergia, parrotbush, honeymyrtle, grass trees and the Yanchep rose.

### Perth Trail

#### Must see and do

- Stroll the Lotteries Federation Walkway in Kings Park
- Walk the Swan River foreshore
- Watch a sunset from Cottesloe Beach
- Walk sections of the Bibbulmun Track
- Climb the DNA Tower in Kings Park for city views
- Meet the black swans at Lake Monger
- Go wine-tasting in the Swan Valley, Bickley or Carmel Valley
- Visit Caversham Wildlife Park
- Take a ferry ride to Rottnest Island
- Explore the jarrah forests of the Perth Hills
- Wander across the historical Mundaring Weir wall
- Experience native marsupials at the Perth Hills National Parks Centre







*Hibbertia*

### 3 Whiteman Park Recreation and Conservation Reserve

18km north east of Perth

**Features:** Located just a short 25 minute drive from the centre of Perth, this reserve is picturesque bushland covering an area of more than 4200 hectares (over 10,000 acres) with nearly half of this classified as high value conservation bushland or wetland.

An extensive network of trails complete with interpretive notes enables those on foot or using pedal power to cruise the park.

A wide range of activities are available such as playgrounds, sporting facilities, picnic shelters and BBQ facilities.

Watch artisans at work while browsing the variety of shops in the village or enjoy a train ride through native bush, over bridges and down to Mussel Pool.

Visit the Caversham Wildlife Park which is located within the reserve, to see and touch native animals such as Australian Koalas and Kangaroos in their natural habitat

**Flora:** Marri, jarrah, pricklybark and Banksia, together with Hibbertias and grass trees.

#### Gidgegannup Trails

The Swan Valley and Eastern Region Visitor Centre, corner Meadow and Swan Streets Guildford, has an excellent free wildflower trail guide. Tel: (08) 9379 9400 or visit [www.swanvalley.com.au](http://www.swanvalley.com.au).

### 4 Noble Falls – Walyunga Drive (53km)

*Travel the Perth - Toodyay Road. Turn left into O'Brien Road. Travel 16km to Walyunga Lookout*

**Features:** Enjoy sweeping views from the lookout and a walk trail to the Avon River before continuing on to Clenton and Berry Roads. Turn right at Toodyay Road to Noble Falls.

**Flora:** Discover 12 beautiful orchid species, as well as Hakeas, Grevilleas, Isopogons, Petrophiles, triggerplants, and Verticordias.

### 5 F.R. Berry Drive

*Travel east along Toodyay Road for 38km towards Gidgegannup. Turn left into Reen Road, travel 8.5km to F.R. Berry Reserve, which is signposted on the left*

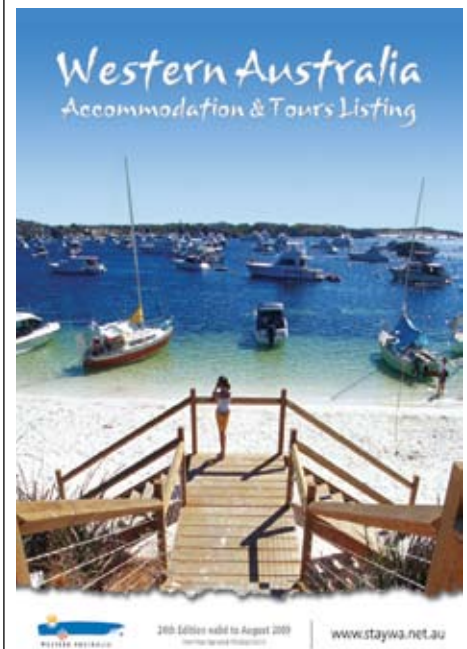
**Features:** There are beautiful walk trails and picnic facilities, as well as granite outcrops and waterfalls which flow in winter. To reach the Noble Falls Picnic Area, travel 5.5km and turn right into Berry Road, then right into Toodyay Road.

**Flora:** Discover several vegetation communities including wandoo, marri, jarrah and paperbark. Wattles, hibbertia, blue Lechenaultia, Melaleuca, Grevillea, Darwinia, Hovea, kangaroo paw and orchids are all common.

### 6 John Forrest National Park

*Travel 28km east of Perth on the Great Eastern Highway*

**Features:** Sweeping views across to the city can be enjoyed from an



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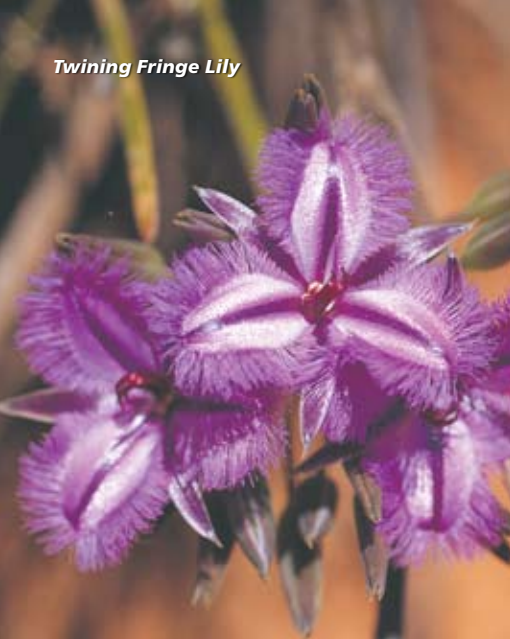
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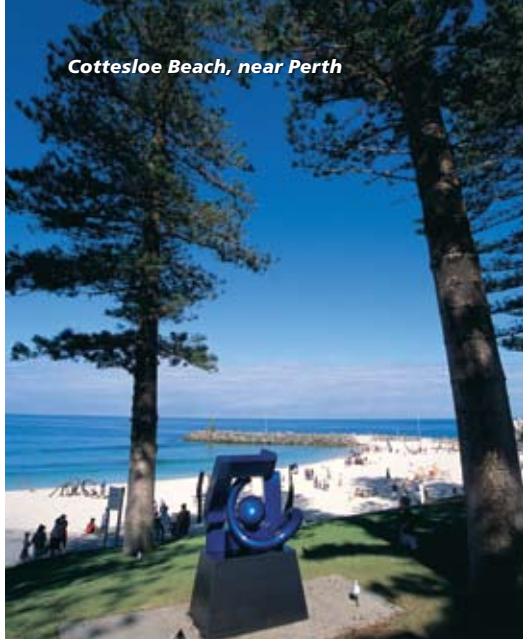
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Twining Fringe Lily



Cottesloe Beach, near Perth



excellent lookout area, and you'll be amazed at the wonderful mix of wildflowers in bloom all year round. The interestingly named twenty-eight parrots are regularly seen in the park. Visits to Hovea Falls, Rocky Pool and National Park Falls are recommended. This is the state's oldest National Park.

**Flora:** Towering jarrah and marri dominate the upland areas, with flooded gums and paperbarks along Jane Brook. The understorey is a treasure trove of Banksia, wattle, Hakeas, Grevilleas, Dryandras, Pimelea, myrtles, triggerplants, kangaroo paws and blue Lechenaultia.

### 7 Perth Hills

*The Darling Range – 30 minutes east of the city*

**Features:** Forest areas with jarrah, marri, flooded gums and forest life abound in this popular region for nature lovers. The Perth Hills area incorporates five National Parks including John Forest National Park. Worthwhile places to visit include Lake Leschenaultia, Mundaring Weir, Kalamunda National Park and Lesmurdie Falls National Park. Walk and cycle trail maps are available from Mundaring Visitor Centre, and guided wildflower walks are conducted during September and October.

**Flora:** Discover a profusion of wildflowers such as grass trees, kangaroo paws, Hakeas, Grevilleas, wattles, orchids and peas.

### 8 Ellis Brook Valley and Sixty Foot Falls

*Travel 17km south east of Perth on Tonkin Highway. Turn left into Gosnells Road East and follow signs to Ellis Brook Valley on Rushton Road*

**Features:** Hidden Valley has four separate walk trails from wheelchair access to challenging trails. See a rich wildflower display with more than 550 species of flowering plants, plus 116 bird species including the blue wren and wedge-tailed eagle. The Sixty Foot Falls are spectacular after winter rains and offer fantastic views of the city and coastal plain.

**Flora:** Each trail has a different experience and the heathland and wandoo woodland ecosystems create a striking palette of colour with mass displays of Verticordia, Lambertia, Nuytsia (Christmas tree) and orchids.

### 9 Wireless Hill Park

*South of Perth, off the Canning Highway towards Fremantle*

**Features:** This 40ha of natural bushland is full of wildflowers in spring. From here it's a short drive down the Canning Highway to the historic and lively port city of Fremantle, with its distinctive architecture, markets, and vibrant café lifestyle.

**Flora:** Stroll among kangaroo paws, catspaws, Lechenaultia and grass trees.

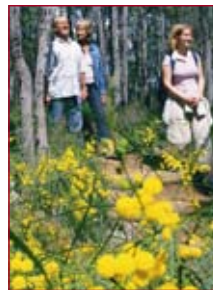
# Wildflowers

in Perth's Eastern Region

*Find the wildflowers:*

#### By Foot

- Whiteman Park
- Railway Reserve Heritage Trail
- Walyunga National Park
- Perth Hills National Parks



#### By Mountain Bike

- Munda Biddi Trail
- Lake Leschenaultia Trail
- John Forrest Heritage Trail



[www.perthtourism.com.au](http://www.perthtourism.com.au)

Explore Perth's Eastern Region





Fish Hook Bay, Rottneest Island



Donkey Orchid



Darling Range walk and bike trail

### 10 Rottneest Island

*A ferry trip from Perth, Fremantle or Hillarys Boat Harbour*

**Features:** Rottneest, or Rotto to the locals, is 11km long and 4.5km wide and is home to the famous small marsupial, the quokka, unique flora and some of the world's finest beaches and bays, providing a spectacular venue for snorkelling, scuba diving, surfing and swimming.

Many tours and activities operate throughout the day, or hire a bike and head off around the island.

Rottneest Island is ideal for a day trip, or stay longer in a range of accommodation.

**Flora:** About 1,500 native species flourish on the island, including the Blue Rottneest daisy, Rottneest Island pine and Rottneest Island tea tree (Melaleuca).

*Set off from Perth on one or more of the many Western Australian regional trails detailed in this guide.*



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# Jarrahland Trail

Wind your way through an awe-inspiring corner of Western Australia, be dwarfed by giant karri trees, surrounded by sun-drenched vineyards and captivated by coastal vistas.

Follow bushland and forest walks to discover a myriad of orchid and wildflower species that thrive in the region. Go back in time as you wander beneath the towering karri, jarrah, marri and tuart trees of ancient forests.

Cool and peaceful picnic areas along the way encourage you to take a break before marvelling at the rich natural environment and unique heritage of the region's many national parks.

On the spectacular western coastline from Cape Leeuwin to Cape Naturaliste, discover unspoilt beaches washed by the waters of the Indian Ocean.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### **84th Busselton Wildflower Exhibition**

Thursday 17 – Friday 18 September 2009

Uniting Church, Kent St, Busselton

Open: Thursday 9.00am to 6.00pm,

Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Tel: (08) 9755 8001

The rich floral diversity of the south-west corner comes to life in this annual show that features individual specimens, beautiful orchid displays and massed bowls of flowers.

### **Festival of Country Gardens**

Balingup, Bridgetown, Manjimup and Nannup

**Autumn Delights** – Friday 1 and Sunday 3 May 2009

**Prelude** – Friday 9 - Sunday 11 October 2009

**Main Festival** – Thursday 5 November - Sunday 8 November 2009

Tel: 1800 001 357 and (08) 9761 4475

Web: [countrygardens.com.au](http://countrygardens.com.au)

Gardens will be open for viewing in the four towns and in the surrounding

countryside during the festivals which take place in autumn and in spring.

### **Greenbushes – New Zealand Gully Wattle Walk**

August 2009. The date is yet to be confirmed in order to take advantage of full blossom. Tel: (08) 9761 1740

Web: [bridgetown.com.au](http://bridgetown.com.au).

### **Margaret River Region – Wildflower and Orchid Season Celebration and Tours**

Specialist guided tours run from September to the end of October.

Open: Caves open from 9.00am to 5.00pm (Wildflower tour times TBA).

Admission: Wildflower Tours \$15 pp. Max 20 pax per tour. **Special Offer: Cave Entry, Wildflower Tour and book only \$30.**

Bookings essential - (08) 9757 7411 or [caveworks@margaretriver.com](mailto:caveworks@margaretriver.com)

Location: Lake and Mammoth Caves, Caves Road (20 minutes South of Augusta).





Yellow Buttercup and Common Clematis



Karri trees, near Denmark

### 1 Jarrahdale and the Serpentine National Park

*South Western Highway*

**Features:** Take a trip to the heritage listed town of Jarrahdale where you can enjoy the many walk and hike trails or join guided walks held on weekends. Continue to Serpentine Falls and Serpentine Dam through the Darling Range for spectacular scenery of jarrah forests and water features.

**Flora:** Wattle, kangaroo paws, Hakea, Hardenbergia, Chorizema, Verticordia and orchids.

### 2 Dwellingup and the Scarp Road Oakley Dam

*Depart Jarrahdale along Kingsbury Road, rejoin South Western Highway to North Dandalup, left onto Del Park Road*

**Features:** At Dwellingup visit the Forest Heritage Centre and its Australian School of Fine Wood. Contact the Dwellingup History and Visitor Information Centre for the best places to see beautiful wildflowers.

**Flora:** Blue squill, tiny star and donkey orchids, golden Dryandra, sea-urchin Hakeas, yellow and pink Verticordias, red bottlebrush and orange/lemon scented Darwinia.

### 3 Harvey

*South Western Highway*

**Features:** Wildflower picnic sites and Hoffman's Mill are all near Harvey, offering bush walking through jarrah country. One of the world's greatest trails, the Bibbulmun Track, passes through the region.

**Flora:** Grass trees, Acacia, kangaroo paws, Hakea, Hardenbergia and orchids.

### 4 Collie

*South Western Highway via Coalfields Highway*

**Features:** There are several picturesque drives in the surrounding jarrah forest,

with various walking trails from Wellington Dam in Wellington National Park that offer views over the Collie River. The scenic drive close to town, or Mornington Mills Road out to the historic settlement of Worsley, present wonderful wildflower drives. Collie Visitor Centre has more details.

**Flora:** Blue Lechenaultia, white Clematis, coral vine, wattles, morning iris, purple enamel orchids, kangaroo paws, milkmaids, Hovea and cowslip orchids.

### 5 Boyup Brook

*Travel south on Collie Preston Road*

**Features:** Many orchid varieties are to be found in the town reserves and surrounding areas of the district. Contact the visitor centre for up-to-date information.

**Flora:** A spectacular wildflower area that includes Thomasia, Daviesia, Hibbertia, Bossiaea linophylla, Pimeleas, blue Lechenaultia as well as painted lady, sundew, basket and curry flower.

### 6 Balingup

*Travel towards Greenbushes to Balingup*

**Features:** Balingup's Golden Valley Tree Park, just south of the town.

**Flora:** A profusion of wildflowers can be seen including sarsaparilla, coral vine and holly flame pea.

### 7 Bridgetown

*Travel south on the South Western Highway*

**Features:** In the jarrah/marri forests surrounding the town, there are several walk trails where orchids and kangaroo paws abound.

**Flora:** Wattles, buttercups and Bossiaeas, Hakea, the blue native wisteria, native bluebells, Dampiera and the orange/red peas (Kennedia).

**Jarrahdale Trail**  
**Must see and do**

- View the amazing corals and marine life from Busselton Jetty Underwater Observatory
- Go wine-tasting
- Taste a variety of fresh local produce including cheese, chocolate and fudge
- Climb the Diamond Tree near Manjimup
- Browse extensive local galleries
- Go land-based whale and dolphin watching (June to December)
- Cycle the Munda Biddi Bike Trail
- See the friendly dolphins of Koombana Bay on a boat cruise



Blue China Orchid

**8 Manjimup**

*South Western Highway*

**Features:** Travel through karri forest to the Four Aces and One Tree Bridge area, 23km west of Manjimup. Travel 3km east of Manjimup to the King Jarrah tree, estimated to be 600 years old, where there is a signposted walk trail.

**Flora:** A profusion of sarsaparilla, coral vine, holly flame pea, morning iris and Lomandra pauciflora - a grass-like plant with small cream bell-shaped flowers.

**9 Pemberton**

*Travel South Western and Vasse Highways*

**Features:** The town is adjacent to the Gloucester National Park (entry fee applies). Enjoy one of several walk trails, beginning at the famous Gloucester Tree, or take a leisurely drive to discover the park's prolific birdlife. Visit The Cascades, 100 Year Forest and drive the Rainbow Trail. When passing through Pemberton, visit Botanica Gallery which displays works from a range of artists who documented the subject of Western Australia's unique and diverse native flora and fauna, with scientifically accurate and visually appealing works of art.

Open 10am - 4.30pm daily, except Tuesdays.

**Flora:** Karri trees with Kennedia, tree Hovea, orchids, coral vine and Clematis.

**10 Northcliffe**

*Travel south on Pemberton Northcliffe Road*

**Features:** Travel via Great Forest Trees Drive and Snake Gully Boardwalk to Northcliffe Forest Park which is famous for its hollow butt and twin karri trees. The rare Queen of Sheba orchid can be seen at the granite outcrop of Mount Chudalup.

**Flora:** Crowea and Hovea intertwine with the unique karri pea flower, and yellow Hibbertia and red Kennedia are visible on the forest floor.



★ Distances indicated between stars.



# Margaret River Wildflower Tours



Swamp Bottlebrush



Cranbrook Bell



## September - October

Discover the incredible wildflowers and orchids of the Margaret River region with specialist guides.

After your tour visit the stunning Lake, Mammoth and Jewel Caves and Boranup Forest. Bookings Essential.

### Contact Caveworks

(08) 9757 7411  
caveworks@margaretriver.com  
www.margaretriver.com

Margaret River .com



### 11 Windy Harbour

*Travel south on Wheatley Coast Road to Windy Harbour Road*

**Features:** D'Entrecasteaux National Park (entry fee applies) and the Toolakup Lookout. There is a spectacular 6km coastal drive to Point D'Entrecasteaux which has an access friendly cliff top walk, providing grand views of the coastal vegetation.

**Flora:** Wisteria, coral vine, Clematis, shark tooth Acacia, buttercup and Melaleuca can be seen around Toolakup Lookout.

### 12 Warren National Park

*Head north towards Pemberton, then left into Old Vasse Road*

**Features:** Experience dramatic views of the Warren River while on the Heartbreak and Maidenbush Trails. At the Dave Evans Bicentennial Tree visitors can relax with a picnic or the more adventurous visitor can climb the tree. An entry fee applies at Warren National Park.

**Flora:** Magnificent stands of virgin karri forest with wisteria, coral vine and Clematis.

### 13 Beedelup National Park

*17km west of Pemberton on the Vasse Highway*

**Features:** Famous for its beauty of majestic karri trees, this park's understory is lush and the atmosphere damp and often misty. Walk along Beedelup Falls Trail to view the beautiful falls, which are in full flow during winter and spring. Enjoy the views from many natural lookouts or take a walk on the suspension bridge. An entry fee applies at Beedelup National Park.

**Flora:** An interesting range of trees including karri, jarrah, marri, sheoak, Banksia and snotty gobbler.

### 14 Nannup

*Travel north west on Vasse Highway and Brockman Highway*

**Features:** The Kondil Recreation Park at Nannup offers an easy walking trail through wildflowers. St John Brook Conservation Park is also ideal for spotting wildflowers and provide popular swimming areas.

**Flora:** Hibbertia, purple flags, Acacia, an interesting range of trees including jarrah, marri, sheoak and Banksia.

### 15 Scott National Park

*Take Brockman Highway from Nannup, then left into Scott River Road*

**Features:** This park is home to one of the world's most diverse collections of cordrushes. This park is only accessible by foot or boat.

**Flora:** Swamp bottlebrush and the superb climbing triggerplant.

### 16 Cape Leeuwin (near Augusta), Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park

*Take Bussell Highway to Augusta and follow the main road through to the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, then Skippy Rock Road scenic drive.*

**Features:** Take a captivating walk along the southern end of the Cape to Cape Track which starts at Cape Leeuwin, the dramatic meeting point of the Southern and Indian oceans. This trail is filled with spectacular coastal scenery, fascinating geology and sensational wildflowers and orchids (especially in spring). Venture further north to admire the majestic karri trees in the Boranup Forest and the intricate formations of close by Jewel Cave.

**Flora:** Discover over 20 different species of orchids including the Augusta Bee orchid (unique to the region), Funnel Web Spider

*Kingia Australis*



*Red Flowering Gum*



Orchid and Vanilla Orchid. Also see climbers and creepers such as coral vine, wisteria, clematis, coastal pimelea and fan flowers (scaevola).

### 17 Boranup Forest, Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park

*Take the Boranup Scenic Drive off Caves Road, between Augusta and Margaret River*

**Features:** Journey through towering karri forest and explore some of Australia's most impressive and youngest limestone caves that lie beneath the Leeuwin Naturaliste Ridge. Lake Mammoth and Cave are easily accessible and close by.

**Flora:** Deep blue karri hovea, trailing clematis, yellow cone bushes and patersonia and orchids such as forest mantis, cowslip, common donkey and pink fairy.

### 18 Margaret River Walk Trails

*Various walks can be accessed from the Bussell Highway and Carters Road.*

**Features:** There are several easily accessible, pleasant walks central to the town of Margaret River, including the Margaret River Heritage Trails, Rails to Trails, and the Carters Road walk trails. Maps and signage onsite or stop at the visitor centre for more information.

**Flora:** A mix of karri and jarrah wildflower species such as hovea, hibbertia, wattles, yellow and purple patersonia (or flags), flame and brown peas and a diverse range of native orchids (in spring) including flying duck orchid, king-in-his-carriage and rattle beaks.

### 19 Cape Naturaliste, Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park

*Continue on Caves Road via Yallingup to Dunsborough, then onto Cape Naturaliste Road*

**Features:** Stop for a picnic at Meelup Beach which is surrounded by beautiful natural bushland and scenic walk trails. Many birds including the honey eaters are attracted to this area. Continue to Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse, where numerous walk tracks provide spectacular coastal views over the ocean and across to Sugarloaf Rock.

**Flora:** Coastal heath growing on limestone cliffs shaped by strong, salt-laden winds. Features one-sided bottlebrush, Naturaliste Nancy, Dunsborough spider orchid, Cape spider orchid and Bussells spider orchid.

### 20 Busselton

*Travel east along Bussell Highway towards Busselton, then south into Queen Elizabeth Ave*

**Features:** Ambergate Reserve which has an easy wildflower walk trail with 170 plant species in just 70ha.

**Flora:** Blue smokebush, Boronia, wattle, red Grevillea and white myrtle. The Busselton Visitor Centre has a brochure for more information.

### 21 Tuart Forest National Park

*Located between Busselton and Bunbury*

**Features:** Tuart Forest National Park protects the largest remaining pure forest of tuart in the world. It has the tallest and largest tuart trees, some as high as 33m.

The forest adjoins the Vasse-Wonnerup Estuary – an internationally important wetland that supports thousands of waterbirds. Walk the Possum Night Spotlight Trail and visit the Malburp Bird Hide.



  
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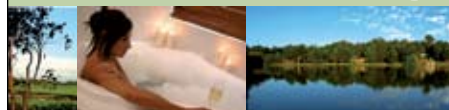
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Accommodation and tours are a breeze with our Visitor Centre's free booking service. The Centre can also advise you of the best wildflower viewing locations.

**Freecall: 1800 BUNBURY**  
[www.visitbunbury.com.au](http://www.visitbunbury.com.au)

Tel: 08 9792 7205

Email: [welcome@bunbury.wa.gov.au](mailto:welcome@bunbury.wa.gov.au)

 **Bunbury Visitor Centre**  
Carmody Place Bunbury WA 6230

COB01



**BUNBURY**



Blue Lady Orchid



Boronia

The park presents a number of beautiful tourist scenic drives.

**Flora:** See tuart trees that are between 300 and 400 years old.

### 22 Bunbury

*Rejoin the Bussell Highway, turning left from Ludlow Road. Follow through to Bunbury (approx 48km)*

**Features:** Favoured wildflower locations are Manea Park, the tourist rest area, Ocean Drive and Crooked Brook Forest, located in the Ferguson Valley. Contact the Bunbury Visitor Centre for more wildflower information and reports during the season.

**Flora:** Commonly seen varieties include buttercups, kangaroo paws, Dampiera, blue Hovea, egg and bacon bush, wattle, running postman, Hibbertia, pepper and salt bush, blue Lobelia, Hakeas, purple tassels, blue Squill, cotton heads, blue Lechenaultia, white and pink myrtle and beard heath.

Also on display in the region are a variety of orchids including cowslip, donkey, green hood, jug, clubbed spider, white spider, blue enamel and pink fairy.

### 23 Yalgorup National Park

*Travel the Old Coast Road to Preston Beach Road*

**Features:** Occupying a narrow strip of coastal land, this park protects 10 lakes, which harbour a large variety of bird life and amazing thrombolite living fossils.

The park has several easy walks, and is known for its spectacular variety of vegetation and diverse geographical features, towering tuart trees, limestone ridges and wetlands. It is a paradise for birdlovers and wildflower enthusiasts alike.

**Flora:** Hibbertia, pink fairy orchids and cockies tongue.

**Return to Perth via Mandurah and then through the historic port city of Fremantle.**





# Southern Wonders Trail

From tall, shady trees and gently dappled woodland areas, journey through the sweeping mountain vistas of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges, and on down to the spectacular southern coastline.

You'll marvel at the vibrant contrast of natural colours among the rich and diverse flora along the way.

Native birds like the red-tailed and white-tailed black cockatoos, peregrine falcons, emus and blue wrens can be observed in their natural habitat, along with kangaroos and wallabies.

The southern coastal area from Albany to Walpole is rugged and dramatic. Here you'll enter cool forests of jarrah and marri trees and walk high up amongst the lofty tingle trees that shade the forest floor.

Rich colours blend with stunning scenery to create a trail of contrasts and true natural beauty.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### *Albany Wildflower Festival*

Wednesday 23 - Saturday 26  
September 2009

St Johns Church Hall, York St, Albany  
Open: 9.00am to 6.00pm (Wed-Fri),  
9.00am to 1.00pm (Sat)

Admission: Adults \$3, children free  
Morning tea and light lunches available  
Tel: (08) 9842 4545

Featuring district vases, beautiful orchids and massed displays of wildflowers from the area covering Denmark to Bremer Bay and north to Mount Barker, this festival offers approximately 500 named specimens on display.

### *Cranbrook Wildflower and Art Display*

Saturday 26 September - Sunday 27  
September 2009

Art Centre, Old Railway Station,  
Cranbrook

Open: Daily 9.30am to 4.30pm  
Admission: Gold coin donation  
Tel: (08) 9826 1008

Situated at the western end of the Stirling Range National Park, Cranbrook will provide visitors with a spectacular

display of wildflowers including orchids and Banksia and featuring the beautiful Cranbrook Bell.

### *Kojonup Spring Wildflower Festival*

Friday 25 September - Wednesday 30  
September 2009

Kojonup Visitor Centre, Albany Highway  
Open: 9.00am to 5.00pm  
Admission: Fees apply  
Tel: (08) 9831 0500

Magnificent wildflower displays feature more than 400 local species and organised bushwalks.

### *Mount Barker Celebration of Wildflowers*

September - October 2009

Banksia Farm, Pearce St, Mount Barker  
Open: Daily 9.30am to 4.30pm  
Tel: (08) 9851 1770

Named orchid displays, photographic displays, named species, scenic bushwalks with named species, orchid and wildflower hotspot information sheets, fine botanic artworks, books, craft, food and beverages.





View from Bluff Knoll, Stirling Range National Park, near Albany

### 1 Sullivan Rock

Take the Albany Highway south of Perth via Armadale

**Features:** Sullivan Rock Trail is a comfortable one hour walk with picturesque rock pool views. The area forms part of the popular Bibbulmun Track, a walking trail which extends from Mundaring near Perth, to Albany.

**Flora:** The base of the rock is home to granite honey-myrtle, tiny cream *Trymalium* masses, eye-catching mauve *Calytrix* and pink and blue *Andersonia*.

### 2 Crossman Reserve

Continue down the Albany Highway past Bannister to reach the Reserve

**Features:** Crossman Reserve is home to a wide range of orchids, including the rattle beaks, which only flower after fire.

**Flora:** Look out for orchids such as the donkey, jug, star, blue china, rabbit ears, hammer and bird.

### 3 Woodanilling/Katanning Road

Travel south on Albany Highway, then turn left onto the Woodanilling/Katanning Road

**Features:** The area abounds in rich vegetation including heath, sheoak thickets and York gum woodland.

**Flora:** Yellow wattles, pink and yellow *Verticordia*, parrot bush, ground level honeypot *Dryandra*.

### 4 Martup Pool and Boscabel

Shady picnic areas are located on the Albany Highway just 1km south of the Woodanilling turn-off and another 12km south, opposite the Boscabel turn-off

**Features:** At the first picnic area, take a short walk to Martup Pool, which is shaded by paperbark trees. Look for several varieties of ducks and water birds sheltering in the reeds.

Several species of honeyeaters may also be seen gathering nectar from *Dryandra* flowers at the Boscabel turn-off area.



### Southern Wonders Trail Must see and do

- Take in the sights and scenery of Torndirrup National Park
- Enjoy a picnic on the Nornalup Inlet, near Walpole
- Explore the wineries around the Porongurup Range, Mt Barker and Denmark
- Enjoy a wide range of fresh produce including berries and marron
- Go whale watching from June to September
- Learn more facts about whales at Albany's Whale World
- Step out onto the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk
- Visit the Manjimup Timber Park





Coneflower



Swamp Bottlebrush



Queen of Sheba Orchid

**Flora:** The Boscabel turn-off picnic spot boasts jarrah trees, gravel-loving plants such as yellow Hibbertias, kangaroo paws, Verticordias, white starbush and pea plants.

### 5 Australian Bush Heritage Reserve

Travel 5km south, left into Cherry Tree Pool Road, continue 11.7km on a sealed road, then onto gravel, left into Mission Road

**Features:** Bird lovers should keep their eyes peeled as the reserve is the habitat for some 80 species of native birds, including the rare crested shrike-tit, the peregrine falcon and Carnaby's black cockatoo.

**Flora:** Mostly wandoo woodland with open scrubland, Melaleuca thickets, herbs, heaths, sedges and orchids.

### 6 Myrtle Benn Sanctuary

Return to Albany Highway, travel towards Kojonup. Just before Kojonup, turn right into Robinson Road which leads to Soldier Road, then right into Tunney Road

**Features:** The Sanctuary offers nine wonderful walking trails, where you can catch a glimpse of various birds and small animals. Pick up a map at the car park or at the Kojonup Visitor and Interpretive Centre.

**Flora:** A rich diversity of orchid species, including the red-tongued spider, mantis, clubbed spider, white spider and pink enamel. Other floral species that abound here are myrtle, cats paws, Dampiera, Lechenaultia, everlastings and parrot bush.

### 7 Farrar Reserve

Leave the Kojonup Visitor and Interpretive Centre and take the immediate right off Albany Highway into the Boyup Brook/ Kojonup Road for about 8km

**Features:** The Old Railway Dam is home to numerous water birds, frogs and the long necked tortoise. Outcrops of granite offer interesting collections of mosses, lichens, flowers and many orchids.

**Flora:** Look out for Kojonup's floral emblem - the red Lechenaultia. Gravel areas of the Reserve are home to displays of the bright blue Lechenaultia, the white candle flowers of the Stackhousia, numerous orchids as well as four species of the brilliant orange Gastrolobium peas.

### 8 Stirling Range National Park

Travel south to Cranbrook, then east on Salt River Road. Continue right onto Red Gum Pass Road and Stirling Range Drive

**Features:** Unique and abundant wildflowers, plus the brooding beauty of the mountain landscape, makes this park one of the South West's popular destinations. The pathways and impressive cliff faces of the park provide challenges to bushwalkers, climbers and abseilers.

Formby South Road towards Mount Trio is a favourite spot for wildflowers, as is the trail around Bluff Knoll. The Stirling Range Retreat has details of guided wildflower or orchid bus tours which depart from there. The park is home to more than 1,500 species of native plants, 87 of which aren't found anywhere else in the world.

Entry fees apply at Stirling Range National Park.



*Stirling Range Retreat*

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- Wildflower & Orchid Bus Tour departing 9am daily, 15 Aug - 31 Oct.
- Birdwalks from Mid Sept - 31 Oct.

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(opposite Bluff Knoll turn-off), Stirling Range

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Email: info@stirlingrange.com.au  
www.stirlingrange.com.au



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August 1 - November 30  
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5 acre scenic wildflower garden. All 77 banksia and most Dryandra species.

**Flora:** Magnificent wildflower displays proliferate through the park and include the Queen of Sheba orchid, mountain bells, Banksias and Dryandras.

### 9 Porongurup National Park

Travel south on Chester Pass Road to Porongurup Road and Tourist Route 252, turn right and enjoy the many wilderness walks or drives travelling west to Mount Barker

**Features:** Pathways lead through marri, jarrah and karri forest to reach the summits of weathered granite domes. From here there are panoramic views of the coastline, nearby Stirling Range, surrounding farmland and vineyards. View the majestic granite domes and sweeping views of the Porongurup Range, covered by giant karri trees. Early in 2007 a bushfire passed through a section of the park, so visitors will see the parks regeneration.

Numerous signed walk trails lead to spectacular lookouts. Animals found here include wallabies, the yellow-footed antechinus, the southern brown bandicoot (quenda) and grey kangaroos.



Bibbulmun Track near Denmark



Firewood Banksia

In addition, more than 70 species of birds can be seen including the rare red-eared firetail finch.

Entry fees apply at Porongurup National Park.

**Flora:** Visit the Banksia Farm at Mount Barker. Look out for the vibrant colours of the yellow Acacias and purple Hoveas that are visible under the tall karri trees in the National Park.

### 10 Twin Creeks Conservation Reserve

*Just 3km from the Porongurup Shop and Tearooms on Knight Road*

**Features:** This 511ha reserve offers visitors magnificent views of the Porongurup and Stirling Ranges, hundreds of wildflowers - some flowering all year round, eighty bird species and a diverse range of other fauna.

Look for the many orchid species proliferating in the spring, and the resident wedge-tailed eagle family.

Visit the wetlands in winter for another unforgettable surprise. Main entry and enquiries at Porongurup Shop and Tearooms.

### 11 Albany and Torndirrup National Park

*Travel south of Albany on Frenchman Bay Road*

**Features:** A well signposted circular walk at Stony Hill meanders past granite outcrops.

For great wildflower photo opportunities, stroll on the well-established paths and boardwalks at the Windfarm in Sandpatch.

The powerful Southern Ocean has sculptured spectacular coastal features known as "The Gap" and the "Natural Bridge" along Torndirrup National Park's buffeted coastline. Windswept Banksias lie inland from granite headlands, limestone cliffs, sandy slopes and beaches.

**Flora:** Pink *Pimelea ferruginea* and *Pimelea rosea*, blue *Scaevola nitida*, as well as the striking white, five-petaled flower of the sticky tailflower with its distinctive perfume are abundant in the heartlands in spring.

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Over half of WA's wildflower species are found within a short drive of your holiday base in amazingalbany, and are easily discovered from walking trails. Spring is when you see the flowers at their striking best. You might spot a whale too!

...where every road is a scenic drive





*Tree Top Walk, Walpole-Nornalup National Park, near Dwellingup*

### 12 West Cape Howe National Park

*Travel west towards Denmark*

**Features:** Shelley Beach is a popular spot and can be reached by a scenic gravel road.

**Flora:** The rich and abundant coastal heath of this area is home to Banksia, Dryandra, Hakea and plants from the Myrtaceae family. The area is also a habitat for the insect trapping Albany pitcher plant. You'll also find many varieties of orchids at Ocean Beach, south of Denmark.

### 13 Mt Lindesay National Park

*From Denmark travel north on Scotsdale Road then turn right onto Mt Lindesay Road*

**Features:** North of Denmark along the Scotsdale Road is Mount Lindesay. A spectacular 9km walking track climbs through profuse wildflowers into granite domes to give you sweeping views across the Wilson Inlet, Bennet Range, Mt Frankland, Walpole Wilderness and Porongorups.

**Flora:** Tree Hovea, Acacia and numerous orchids.

### 14 William Bay National Park

*Approximately 15km west of Denmark*

**Features:** This park, protecting a stunning coastline and forest, is renowned for its windswept granite rocks, which have a striking primeval appearance. Inside the reef, sheltered pools, channels and granite terraces create a fascinating seascape for beachcombing.

The white blossoms of the sticky tailflower can be found on the rugged and rocky coastline of this scenic southern area.

**Flora:** Dense scrub dominates the vegetation here, with a thick covering of Dryandra and peppermints.

### 15 Valley of the Giants

#### - Tree Top Walk

*Journey further west to reach this legendary area*

**Features:** Discover WA's famous forest of gigantic tingle trees which can be seen in the forests surrounding the 420m long Tree Top Walk. This spectacular lightweight bridge, a world-renowned attraction, soars gently upwards, 40m into the tingle foliage, before descending to the Ancient Empire Walk.

Take time to do a picturesque drive through the Walpole-Nornalup National Park.

Entry fees apply at Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk.

**Flora:** In season, the forest is ablaze with Crowea, orchids, purple native hovea, wisteria and green kangaroo paw.

*From here, return to Perth, or join the Jarrahland Trail found on page 13.*



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# Wave Rock Trail

The central wheatbelt area of Australia's Golden Outback is a wonder waiting to be enjoyed. Its massive granite outcrops with spectacular views, charming country towns, unique rock formations and changing landscapes are well worth the visit.

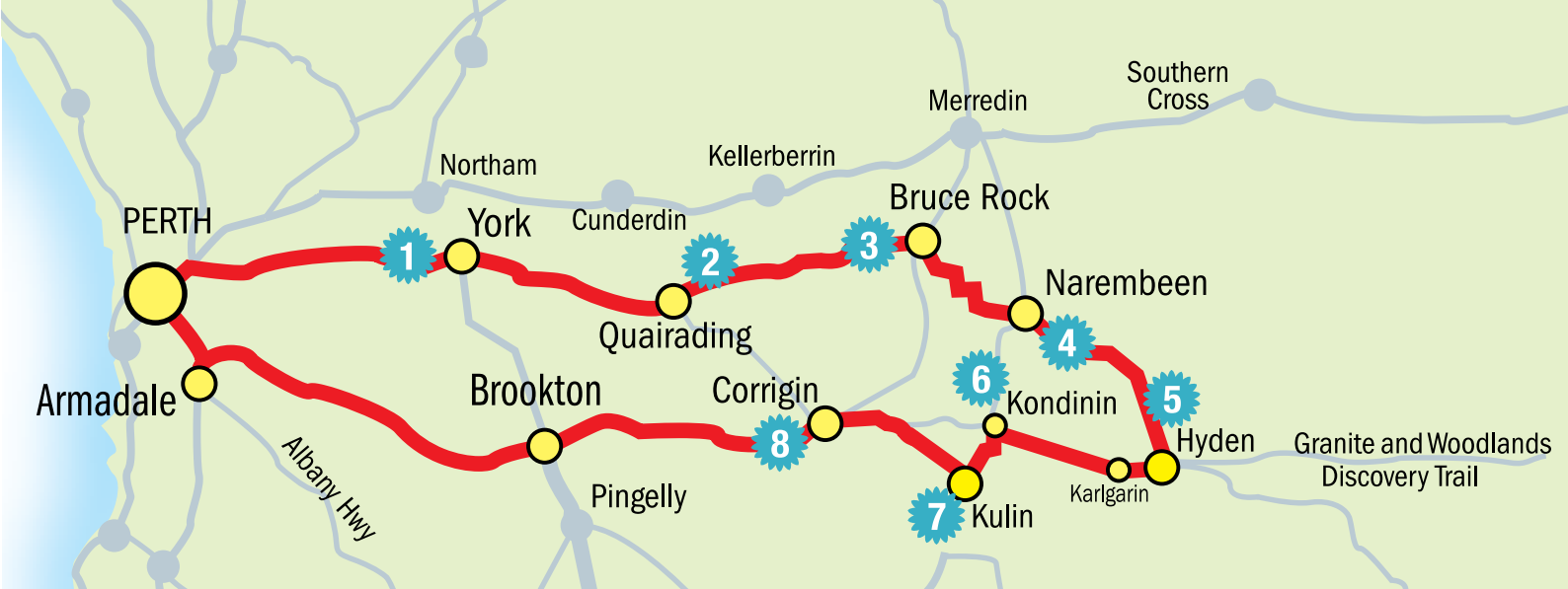
You will find numerous nature reserves with walk trails, that are rich in flora and also fauna.

A highlight is one of Australia's most famous landforms - Wave Rock. Situated just near the town of Hyden, and at 15m high and more than 100m long, Wave Rock looks like a giant surf wave of multicoloured granite about to crash onto the bush below.

## Wave Rock Trail Must see and do

- Visit the York Motor Museum
- Pack a picnic and visit the bird watching paradise Roe Dam, near Narembeen
- Drive the 35km Old Prospector's Trail starting in Narembeen
- Discover Hyden's Wildlife Park and other town attractions
- Visit the Corrigin and Bruce Rock Pioneer Museums
- Explore the Macrocarpa Trail, 1km west of Kulin
- Pick your favorite horse along the 20km Tin Horse Highway, Kulin





### 1 York

Take the Great Southern Highway east to York

**Features:** First settled in 1831, the historically significant town of York was WA's first inland settlement. Drop into the York Visitor Centre, located in the historic town hall, to pick up a local wildflower brochure for directions to Wallaby Hills Reserve, St Ronan's Reserve and Mokine Reserve.

**Flora:** An impressive variety including pygmy sundew, yellow Hibbertia, rosy cheeked donkey orchids, climbing fringed lily, mouse ears and Damperia.

### 2 Quairading

Travel 68km east from York

**Features:** A 572ha Community Reserve, offering walk trails, has been set aside for conservation and environmental studies.

An excellent example of a rock water catchment can be found at Toapin Weir, built in 1912.

**Flora:** A wide variety of wildflowers, including some declared and priority species of Lamiaceae shrubs, Acacias, Hakeas, rubiaceae, and Proteaceae. The rare *Banksia cuneata* flower can be found from September to October.

### 3 Bruce Rock

Travel east 77km from Quairading

**Features:** Travel to Kokerbin Rock, 45km west of Bruce Rock. Enjoy impressive views, picnic spots, rock formations and caves.

**Flora:** Orchids amid the tea trees, sheoaks, sandalwood, *Verticordias*, *Dampiera*, *Banksia*, Acacias, Hakeas, quongdongs, orchids and poker *Grevillea*. Also visit the small town of Babakin, where the rare underground orchid is a challenge to find.



Couple in wildflowers, near Hyden

## York..



[www.yorkwa.org](http://www.yorkwa.org)

### Things to See & Do

Avon Valley Ballooning	1800 468 886	<a href="http://www.avb.net.au">www.avb.net.au</a>
Beverly Tourist Bureau	9646 1555	<a href="http://www.beverleywa.com">www.beverleywa.com</a>
Daisy Hill Farm Yard	9641 1482	<a href="http://www.daisyhillfarmyard.com.au">www.daisyhillfarmyard.com.au</a>
Residency Museum - Brooke St	9641 1751	
The Old Albion Inn Beauty Retreat	9641 2608	<a href="http://www.oldalbion.com.au">www.oldalbion.com.au</a>
Windward Balloon Adventures	9621 2000	<a href="http://www.windwardballooning.com">www.windwardballooning.com</a>
Wellness & Healing Centre	9641 2720	<a href="http://www.uryourdreams.com">www.uryourdreams.com</a>
York Wines	9641 2228	<a href="http://www.yorkwines.com.au">www.yorkwines.com.au</a>

### Eating Out

Imperial Hotel	9641 1255	<a href="http://www.imperialhotelyork.com.au">www.imperialhotelyork.com.au</a>
Settlers House	9641 1096	<a href="http://www.settlershouse.com.au">www.settlershouse.com.au</a>
The York	9641 2188	<a href="http://www.theyork.com.au">www.theyork.com.au</a>

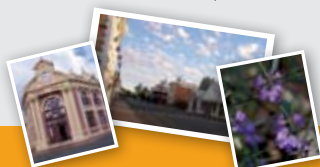
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Hope Farm Guest House	9641 2183	
Imperial Hotel	9641 1255	<a href="http://www.imperialhotelyork.com.au">www.imperialhotelyork.com.au</a>
Kookaburra Accommodation	9641 2936	<a href="http://www.kookaburradream.com.au">www.kookaburradream.com.au</a>
Lavendale Farm	9641 4131	<a href="http://www.lavendalefarm.com">www.lavendalefarm.com</a>
Moondyne Caravan Park & Chalets	9574 2534	<a href="http://www.toodyaycaravanparks.com.au/moondyne">www.toodyaycaravanparks.com.au/moondyne</a>
Settlers House	9641 1096	<a href="http://www.settlershouse.com.au">www.settlershouse.com.au</a>
Sunset Serenity B&B	9641 1418	
Tipperary Church Lodgings	0439 965 275	<a href="http://www.tipperarychurch.com">www.tipperarychurch.com</a>
The Old Albion Inn Accom.	9641 2608	<a href="http://www.oldalbion.com.au">www.oldalbion.com.au</a>
The York	9641 2188	<a href="http://www.theyork.com.au">www.theyork.com.au</a>
Toodyay Caravan Park	9574 2612	<a href="http://www.toodyaycaravanparks.com.au">www.toodyaycaravanparks.com.au</a>
York Cottages	9641 2125	<a href="http://www.yorkwa.com.au/yorkcottages">www.yorkwa.com.au/yorkcottages</a>



History older than Melbourne just an hour from Perth... come and see for yourself why a billion stars can't be wrong.



*Verticordia and Beaufortia*



*Tin Horse Highway, near Kulin*

#### 4 Narembeen

*Travel 38km south east from Bruce Rock*

**Features:** Wadderin Wildlife Reserve is located 8km north of town. Mt Walker Rock is found on the Hyden road which heads east from Narembeen.

**Flora:** Donkey orchids, cowslips, Queen of Sheba orchid.

#### 5 Hyden

*Travel 87km east on Mt Walker Road, then south to Hyden*

**Features:** Visit the famous Wave Rock or nearby Mulka's Cave, The Humps and Hippo's Yawn. Here you will find bird life in abundance and native fauna which are easy to spot at dusk. Enjoy the spectacular sunsets from the top of Wave Rock after a day of exploring the breathtaking wildflowers.

**Flora:** Over 2,500 varieties grow in the Wave Rock area. Orchids found around Wave Rock include ant, bee, blue sun, candy, china, cowslip, dragon, donkey, spider, yellow and sun. Granite outcrops are scattered throughout the area. Surrounding these rocks are stands of Verticordi, Banksia, mulla mulla, Grevillea, sheoaks, salmon gum, moral, borree gimlet and mallee trees.

*From Hyden it is possible to travel the Granite and Woodlands Discovery Trail through to Norseman (or in reverse if you are traveling from the Eastern States).*

#### 6 Kondinin

*From Hyden travel 59km west to Kondinin*

**Features:** Visit Yeerakine Rock and the 50ha Kondinin Bushwalk Trail.

**Flora:** A diverse range of flora including Eucalyptus kondininensis (blackbutt).

#### 7 Kulin

*23km south west from Kondinin*

**Features:** Collect a wildflower brochure at Kulin Shire Council or the service station for directions to Hopkins Nature Reserve, Jilakin Lake, Rock Reserve and Buckley's Breakaway. You will also travel part of the Tin Horse Highway.

**Flora:** Hakeas, Grevilleas, pink boronia, Isopogon, several varieties of Verticordia, numerous orchids, Eucalyptus macrocarpa, Melaleucas, Hibbertia, Dryandra, thyanotus fringed lily and gastrolobium spinosum.

#### 8 Corrigin

*Travel 62km north west from Kulin*

**Features:** Local attractions include Gorge Rock, Dog Cemetery and Wildflower Drive.

**Flora:** Red toothbrush Grevillea, one-sided bottlebrush, cauliflower Verticordia, fringed mantis orchid, wild foxglove, Calytrix brachyphlla, pop flower and trigger plants.

*Return to Perth via Brookton.*



## Lazy D Wildflower Farm

**Lazy D Wildflower Farm** is situated 27km east of Hyden on a private property owned by Denis & Sheenagh Collins. In spring the road verge as an entrance to the farm is a show of colours to greet you. The bush land you can see is on sand plain country and produces the most spectacular display of wildflowers, boasting over 2500 varieties.

Other attractions to see during your stay in Hyden are; the famous Wave Rock, Hippos Yawn, Mulkas Cave, the Humps, Wave Rock Wildlife Park and Lake Magic.

**For accommodation please contact the Wave Rock Hotel Motel on (08) 9880 5052.**





Caley's Banksia



Southern Cross



Teasel Banksia

# Esperance Trail

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show

Saturday 5 - Saturday 19 September 2009  
Senior Citizens Hall, Morgans St, Ravensthorpe  
Open: Daily 9.00am to 4.00pm  
Admission: Adults \$3, children free  
Tel: (08) 9838 1277 or (08) 9838 3183  
Features include an incredible display of over 700 wildflowers, many of which are unique to the Ravensthorpe area. The region's orchids will be on display.

### Esperance Wildflower Festival

Wednesday 9 - Saturday 12 September 2009  
Anglican Parish Centre, Andrew St, Esperance  
Open: Daily 9.00am to 5.00pm  
Admission: Gold coin donation  
Tel: (08) 9083 1555

The indoor display features over 400 identified wildflower species. Explore the native garden displays. Morning, afternoon teas and lunches are available.

### Ongerup Wildflower Display

Monday 14 September -  
Sunday 4 October 2009

Ongerup and Needilup District Museum  
Open: Daily 9.00am to 4.00pm  
Admission: Adults \$3, children free  
Tel: (08) 9828 2282 or 0428 282 282  
This display features some of the region's 400 varieties of wildflowers. Visit the natural history museum which includes an Aboriginal bush foods display. There is also a delightful picnic park here.

**Discover Woody Island & Esperance's Bay of Isles**



Over 130 identified native specimens  
Day trips and overnight accommodation available  
Access via scenic wildlife cruise  
View seals, dolphins and sea eagles

71 The Esplanade, Esperance • (08) 9071 5757  
info@woodyisland.com.au • www.woodyisland.com.au

The drive from Perth to Esperance will take you through some truly spectacular rural scenery that ends with the reward of one of Australia's most stunning coastal regions. Along the way you will encounter a number of historically significant Wheatbelt towns in the Australia's Golden Outback region.

Esperance and its surrounding areas will provide the visitor with a myriad of outdoor experiences that go way beyond the region's striking wildflower displays. This is where you can also observe sea eagles, whales, dolphins and seals in their natural habitat. The nearby Cape Le Grand National Park will also present nature lovers with an unforgettable opportunity to experience one of WA's most pristine coastal environments.

In the Fitzgerald River National Park, nearly 20 per cent of the State's plant species can be found and it is popular for bird and whale watching. Wildflowers are generally blooming until the end of October.



### 1 Boyagin Rock

*From Perth head to Brookton (via Albany Highway, Brookton Highway and the Great Southern Highway)*

**Features:** Travel 10km past Brookton and turn west to Boyagin Rock. The reserve provides a picnic area with a magnificent backdrop of wildflowers.

**Flora:** Range of orchid, Dryandra, Drummond's gum, Grevillea, Kunzea, Hakea, Isopogon, Petrophile, Leucopogon and Hibbertia.

### 2 Dryandra Forest

*54km south west of Pingelly*

**Features:** The 27,000ha Dryandra Forest is a haven for wildlife and also features an abundance of plant life.

**Flora:** Golden dryandra, prickly Lambertia, purple tangled Grevillea, pink and lemon rainbows (Drosera) and a profusion of orchids.

### 3 Narrogin

*197km south east of Perth*

**Features:** Take a walk around the base of Yilliminning Rock and discover the many orchids that grow around the area or enjoy the walk trails in Foxes Lair.

**Flora:** Spider, rabbit, cowslips and donkey orchids. The surrounding reserves are a great place to look for other wildflowers.

### 4 Harrismith

*Travel east on Yilliminning Road*

**Features:** Drive south of town out to the old Harrismith airstrip, or explore the Harrismith wildflower walk trail, which starts at the Oasis Hotel.

**Flora:** Dryandras, Banksias, Verticordias, Grevilleas, Isopogons, Petrophiles, Eucalyptus and Calothamnus.

### 5 Kukerin – Tarin Rock Nature Reserve

*Travel east on Stock Route Road, head south on the Rabbit Proof Fence Road and then east along the Dumbleyung - Lake Grace Road to Kukerin*

**Features:** Just past Kukerin is the Tarin Rock Nature Reserve. One species of particular interest in this area is the compass bush – named because of the fact that it always grows in the same direction.

**Flora:** Lechenaultia, native foxglove, cats paw, mallees, honeymyrtles and Dampiera. In October, watch out for the delightful purple and gold flower of the Queen of Sheba orchid.

### Esperance Trail

#### Must see and do

- Walk the Moorambine Heritage Trail, Pingelly
- Enjoy the scenic drive down Magdhaba Track to Roe Hill lookout, Lake King
- Look out for whales, seals and dolphins on a cruise of the Recherche Archipelago
- Take in the stunning coastal scenery of Cape Le Grand National Park
- Take the 40km Great Ocean Drive from Esperance
- Go fishing, windsurfing or walking around Hopetoun
- Explore early settlement areas along the Williams Heritage Trail
- Learn about sheep shearing at the Williams Woolshed



### Wildflower Information

at the Lake Grace Shire Visitor Information Centre

Phone: 9865 2140 or Shire of Lake Grace Phone: 9890 2500  
*Pick up or email for a free copy of the Ocean to Outback Lakes Self Drive Brochure.*

shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au  
 lgvisitorscentre@westnet.com.au



## 6 Greater Lake Grace Area – Lake King Road, Emu Rock and Old Water Tanks

325kms south east of Perth – approx 175kms on the main route from Perth to Esperance lies in the Shire of Lake Grace

**Features:** Rifle Range Hill (5km east of Lake Grace), Holland Track (traverses the Lake Grace Newdegate Rd), Roe Heritage Trail (23km south of Lake King) and Maghaba Track and the Rabbit Proof Fence (30km east of Lake King).

**Flora:** Early varieties include many species of orchid, Sundews, Hakea, Grevillia, tea trees, wax flowers and many species of wattles. Mid spring the Dampiera and Lechenaultia colour the road verges along with a host of other varieties. Later the verticordias, cyanostegia, adenanthus and the lachnostachys are found in the area.

## 7 Peak Charles National Park

Leave the Lake King-Norseman Road about 150km east of Lake King to find a bush camp at Peak Charles National Park

**Features:** This ancient granite peak and its companion Peak Eleanora provide visitors with superb views of the dry sandplain heaths and salt lake systems. Continue on to Salmon Gums or visit Helms Arboretum, located 18km north of Esperance.

**Flora:** In the Peak Charles National Park, search out the unique tuberous rooted one-sided bottlebrush.

## 8 Cape Le Grand National Park

60km east of Esperance

**Features:** Wild coastal scenery, rugged granite peaks and sweeping heathlands characterise this park. Look for wildlife such as pygmy honey possums, bandicoots and mobs of grey kangaroo.

**Flora:** There is an abundance of coastal wildflowers including Banksia speciosa and Banksia pulchella.

## 9 Stokes Inlet National Park

The Park is about 80km west of Esperance on the Ravensthorpe Road

The Esperance Visitor Centre has further information.

**Flora:** Yate, swamp yate, paperbarks and bell-fruited mallee.

## 10 Monjingup Lake Reserve

10km West of Esperance

**Features:** Monjingup Lake Reserve is only 10kms from the Esperance township and

home to a diverse species of flora and native birds. Enjoy beautiful bushlands and lakes dotting the coastal landscape, walk trails and picnic facilities.

**Flora:** Blue Mallee, Red Kangaroo Paw, Christmas Tree, Showy Banksia, Pincushion Hakea, Four Winged Mallee

### RAVENSTHORPE WILDFLOWER SHOW

5 - 19 September 2009



MORGANS STREET, RAVENSTHORPE

9am-4pm daily | Devonshire teas | Over 700 named specimens | Adults \$3 | Children free

For details go to: [www.wildflowersravensthorpe.org.au](http://www.wildflowersravensthorpe.org.au)

## 11 Ravensthorpe Range

10km east of Ravensthorpe

**Features:** Drop by the Ravensthorpe Visitor Centre for information on local scenic drives and attractions in the area. The town is located amid stately salmon gums. Travel to the Archer Drive and Ethel Daw Lookouts.

**Flora:** Look out for Ravensthorpe bottlebrush, nodding Banksia, Beaufortia, blue Scaveola, Lechenaultia, one-sided bottlebrush, Verticordia grandiflora, claw featherflower, everlastings, Qualup bell and Dryandra, and poached Dampiera.

## 12 Fitzgerald River National Park

From Ravensthorpe, journey to Hopetoun and then west along Hamersley Drive to see one of the most flora rich areas in WA.

**Features:** Within 3km of Fitzgerald River National Park's entry (admission fee applies) you'll discover dramatic headlands with 180 degree views of the coastline and the park. There is a walk trail and lookout at East Mount Barren and Sepulcralis Hill. Visit The Southern Ocean Discovery Centre at The Deck in Hopetoun (small admission fee applies).

**Flora:** This area is world famous for Royal Hakeas (Hakea Victoria) with its colourful veined leafy bracts and stature of up

to 3m. Qualup Bell, Sepulcralis, Weeping gum, pincushion Hakea, woolly Banksia, possum Banksia and Grevillea macrostylis, four-winged mallee, Barrens Regelia, Isopogen, several Verticordia, orchids, tinsel lily, red kangaroo paw, fringed lily, painted lady and oak - leaved Dryandra.

## 13 Quaalup

Travel via Hamersley Drive back to the South Coast Highway. Head west, then right into Quiss Road and Pabelup Drive into the western side of Fitzgerald River National Park

**Features:** Regular stops on Pabelup Drive are recommended. There are walks at Twertup Field Study Centre. Travel into Point Ann for whale watching (July to November) and then on to West Mount Barren for spectacular coastal and inland views. The Park is gazetted as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. For a unique experience, stay at the heritage listed Quaalup Homestead Wilderness Retreat, situated in the heart of the Park. Nearby Bremer Bay is also worth a visit.

**Flora:** The 1,800 species include the unique curly grass, Qualup bell (Pimelea physodes), royal Hakea, pincushion Hakea, Baxters Banksia, cauliflower Hakea, Ashby's Hakea, coneflowers, starflower, smokebushes and numerous orchids.

From here, it is a five hour return to Perth or you may continue on your journey along the Southern Wonders Trail. Details on page 19.



Stay in the  
*Fitzgerald River  
National Park*

Your perfect gateway to see the wildflowers and the whales at Point Ann. Enjoy the wildflowers and birdlife on 40 acres surrounded by the Park, close to West Mount Barren & Gairdner River. Enjoy our guest lounge with fireplace and café. Accommodation options include s/c units, chalets, camping and onsite vans.

Ph: (08)98374124 Email: [richelmann@web.de](mailto:richelmann@web.de)  
Web: [www.whalesandwildflowers.com.au](http://www.whalesandwildflowers.com.au)





# Goldfields Trail

From Perth, journey through Australia's Golden Outback region via Merredin and on to Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Through Eucalypt woodlands and sand plains, the past is ever-present in the landscape creating the character that many believe is at the heartland of Australia - the Outback.

While towns and settlements here have been shaped by both history and fanciful legends of the gold rush, the harsh and unforgiving environment is constantly softened by the natural and recurring beauty of its wildflowers, trees and plant life.

Venture north of Kalgoorlie to small towns, heritage dams and even ghost towns whose time has come and gone leaving strong reminders of a pioneering and determined spirit.

Against the backdrop of history, take the journey slowly, stopping to appreciate the changing scenery and the spectacular seasonal displays of wonderful wildflowers.

## 1 Merredin

*Travel 257km east of Perth*

**Features:** Call into the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre for the latest wildflower information and drives.

Morning wildflower coach tours operate in season, and an evening town tour operates every day.

Enjoy the Merredin Peak, Tamma Parkland, and Totadgin Conservation Parks bush walks. The area has a diverse range of flora suited to granite outcrops, sand plains and salt lake country which all surround Merredin.

**Flora:** Verticordia, cricket ball Hakea, wattle, a variety of orchid species, everlastings and salmon gum woodland. Visit [wheatbelttourism.com](http://wheatbelttourism.com) for a list of 980 species found in the area.

## 2 Sandford Rock Nature Reserve

*From the Great Eastern Highway, turn off at Carrabin Westonia Road, head to Westonia then take Booderrockin Road and continue 10km north-east of Westonia townsite to find the Reserve*

**Features:** Discover a variety of wildflowers in this 806ha reserve made up of interesting granite outcrops and pools set in scrub and bushland. Look for purple peacock beetles here.

**Flora:** Silver mallee grow in the Reserve. Stop in Southern Cross (at the roadhouse or shire office) on your way through and pick up a leaflet showing walking trails and wildflowers of the Yilgarn.

## 3 Boorabbin Rock

*Take the Great Eastern Highway to Boorabbin Rock, at the eastern end of Boorabbin National Park*

**Features:** The water reserve here is a fascinating example of hand-built dams, aqueducts and catchment areas that provided water for steam trains and for the early colonial settlements. See the remains of the Number 8 Pump Station where water was once pumped from Mundaring, east of Perth, to Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

**Flora:** The increase in soil moisture around the base of Boorabbin Rock brings a diversity of plant life here, and the rare granite rock poison plant with its reticulated leaf is visible near the aqueducts.

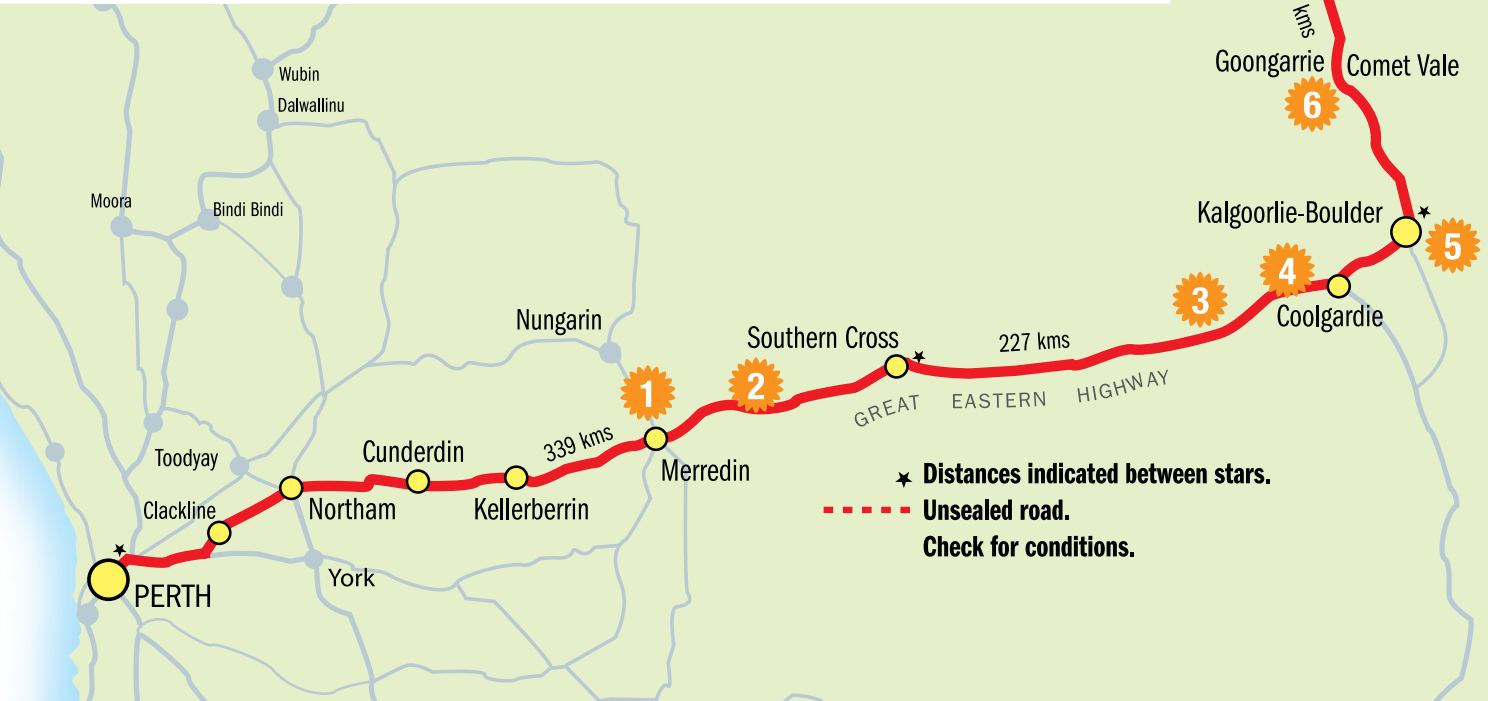




Hakea



Parakeelya wildflowers, Riverside Sanctuary



Firebush, a low purple flowering shrub with hairy leaves, is common in the area, as is the Goldfields York gum with its smooth, bronze-coloured bark.

#### 4 Caenya Rock

Turn north 1km west of the Bullbulling Rock Hotel. Accessible by four wheel drive vehicles only

**Features:** Notice the sudden environment change from Eucalypt to heathland at Caenya Rock. The Banksia variety found here, known as swordfish Banksia, was first discovered by the Elder Expedition in 1891.

**Flora:** Grass trees and swordfish Banksia.

#### 5 Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Continue east on Great Eastern Highway, through Coolgardie

**Features:** With its gold-mining history, adventurous character and legendary tales of fortunes made and lost,

Kalgoorlie-Boulder requires time for sightseeing. Include Karkurla Bushland Park and visit the Department of Environment and Conservation Arboretum to see a range of Goldfields trees.

**Flora:** Between Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie, in the Eucalypt area, 15 different species can be found. Beautiful gimlet and salmon gums are common with their bark varying in colour from rich dark copper to pale pink.

#### 6 Goongarrie Siding and Comet Vale

Heading north of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

**Features:** Goongarrie Siding 90kms north of Kalgoorlie is salt lake country to the east and Comet Vale features red sand and spinefex country flora which flower Nov-Dec.

**Flora:** Look out for the tree Grevillea Juncifolia and its large bright orange flowers at this time of year.

#### Goldfields Trail Must see and do

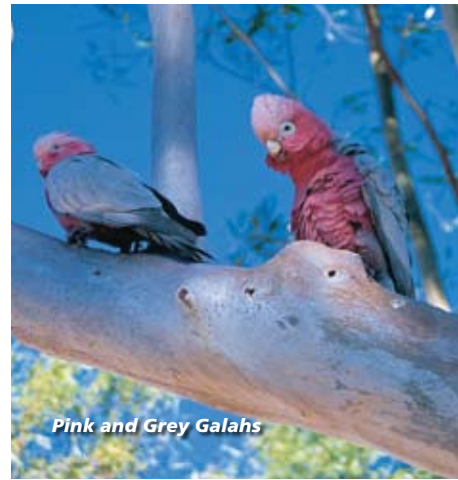
- Visit the Merredin Museum and historic Cummins Theatre
- Visit the Coolgardie Exhibition Museum
- Take in superb views of Kalgoorlie and learn about the CY O'Connor water pipeline from Mt Charlotte
- See the 51 Antony Gormley sculptures at Lake Ballard, Menzies
- Look out for local birdlife at Malcolm Dam, Leonora
- Drive the Golden Quest Discovery trail north of Kalgoorlie
- Visit the Leonora Gwalia Museum
- Pan for gold at the Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame, Kalgoorlie



Featherhead wildflowers



Pincushion Hakea



Pink and Grey Galahs

### 7 Menzies

Travel The Goldfields Highway to Menzies, the Jeedamya Flats then off the highway to Niagara Dam and Kookynie and onto Malcolm on a good gravel road.

**Features:** Aprox 35 kms north of Menzies see the sprawling Jeedamya Flats covered in a variety of Saltbush and Blue Bush species. The Kookynie road to Niagara Dam and Kookynie is both bitumen and good gravel road often abounding in flowering Mulga tree species and perennial shrubs.

Heritage Listed Niagara dam has two walk trails with some amazing plant species often in flower.

**Flora:** Subject to rain, colourful annual everlasting, purple and green mulla mulla, perennial sennas, eromophilla, hop bush and mulga species.

### 8 Leonora - Gwalia

A good gravel road to Malcolm via Kookynie and bitumen across to Leonora and Gwalia

**Features:** Malcolm Dam is home to a good supply of gilgies (yabbies). At Gwalia, the museum and historical district are well worth visiting. Recommended camping, however no facilities.

**Flora:** Subject to good rain fall annual wildflowers can be seen throughout the district.

Choose one of several interesting routes back to Perth: via Kalgoorlie-Boulder; via Mt Ida, Lake Ballard and Coolgardie, Sandstone, Mount Magnet, Paynes Find and Wubin; or south to the coast via Esperance and Albany.

## Be introduced to the wildflowers of the Wheatbelt

Half day wildflower coach tours operate from Merredin in the Wildflower season. An evening coach tour of the town operates every day.



Call 1300 736 283 • [www.wheatbelttourism.com](http://www.wheatbelttourism.com)  
Barrack Street, Merredin WA 6415 - Ph: (08) 9841 1666  
[visitor@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:visitor@merredin.wa.gov.au)



Outback touring





Ruins of the Glenfield Homestead, Katrine Heritage Trail, near Toodyay

# Granite Loop Trail

## SPECIAL EVENTS

*3rd Annual Wongan Hills - Reynoldson Reserve Festival*

Fri 7 November – Sun 9 November 2009.

Wongan Hills Visitor Centre: 08 96711973

E: wongantourism@westnet.com.au

### *Exhibition Opening:*

5.00pm Friday: - Wine and Cheese, Photography, Arts and Crafts.

Open all weekend. *Devonshire teas, breakfast, live entertainment and stalls.*

### *Reynoldson Reserve and Mt Matilda guided walks:*

*Saturday* - BYO BBQ and live music at Mt O'Brien from 5.00pm.

*Sunday* - Thanksgiving Service with Community Voices Choir, BYO basket supper or BBQ 7.00pm.

Experience the striking beauty of massive granite outcrops rising impressively out of the landscape that is uniquely Australia's Golden Outback. An abundance of natural vegetation is waiting to be discovered around these complex rock formations where wandoo, salmon gum, dense honey-myrtle and tea tree thickets give way to flowering granite Kunzea with their gnarled shapes.

Marvel at the fascinating gnamma holes developed by Aboriginal people to collect precious water. Attempts to keep rabbits from the crops are visible in the remains of the Rabbit Proof Fence.

The journey is a memorable contrast of picturesque farmlands, colossal rocky outcrops, vibrant floral displays stretching into the distance, tranquil picnic spots and a profusion of bird and animal life. Be touched by nature while taking the time to travel through this truly fascinating region.

## 1 Toodyay

*Travel Toodyay Road 85km from Perth*

**Features:** Before reaching Toodyay, turn left into Sandplain Road then travel along Racecourse Road and Drummond Drive. Stop in the parking area next to the racecourse. High on Drummond Drive there is a pull over bay. Take a walk and discover a delightful display of many varieties of flowers including everlastings.

Pelham Reserve in the townsite is a rare example of York gum/jam tree woodland and provides a great view of the town. Toodyay has over 10 parks, drives and reserves for seeing a great variety of wildflowers in the area. Call into the Toodyay Visitor Centre for a wildflower map for further information.

**Flora:** You will find specimens of at least four different kinds of orchids including donkey and cowslip orchids, purple tassel, Hibbertia, kangaroo paw, trigger plants and more amongst wandoo trees.

## 2 Goomalling

*Travel the Toodyay – Goomalling Road (48km)*

**Features:** 15km north of Goomalling, Oak Park Reserve is a particularly attractive picnic area during spring when wildflowers are in abundance. The park supports a variety of wildlife and a distinguishing aspect is the presence of gnamma holes (holes made by Aboriginal people for the collection of water in earlier days).

**Flora:** The rest area adjacent to the Mortlock River (12km before Goomalling) is an attractive stopover for a variety of orchids and Verticordias late in Spring.

## 3 Namelcatchem Nature Reserve Goomalling – Dowerin

**Features:** Namelcatchem Nature Reserve is approximately 10km east of Dowerin between Dowerin and Wyalkatchem. Dowerin is home to Western Australia's largest regional farming and agricultural shows. While in Dowerin, enjoy the Tin Dog Creek Trail to view birds and plants of the area.

**Flora:** Blue Lechenaultia, grass trees and yellow Dryandra line the route from Perth. The reserve is a wandoo woodland with many native orchids in season.

## 4 Wyalkatchem

*191km north east of Perth*

**Features:** The rare and endangered native foxglove is found in the main street flower gardens. Wyalkatchem Reserve, with its interesting open heathland, is a good location for flowering shrubs.





Parakeelya

**Flora:** Wandoo, Eucalyptus, Melaleuca, sheoak trees and Verticordias.

### 5 Korrelocking Nature Reserve and Trayning

*Continue east from Wyalkatchem*

**Features:** The reserve is heavily timbered and contains some of the best Salmon Gums to be seen in the Shire. As well as being a sanctuary for grey kangaroos, echidnas, skinks and other forms of animal and bird life indigenous to this part of the wheatbelt, it is also a very popular picnicking place especially during spring when it abounds with wildflowers. Salmon gums, York gums and gimlet can be found in this open woodland on a walking trail or see the gnamma holes. Tables, toilets and parking facilities is provided. View the Tree Library at Trayning.

**Flora:** Enamel, china, fairy, spider and donkey orchids add colour, and pink everlasting carpet the ground.

### 6 Billycatting Rock

*Yelbeni - Kununoppin*

**Features:** Many interesting rock formations and numerous wildflowers, tracks and facilities can be found in this 2,500ha reserve.

Explore the Rock on the interpretative walk trail.

**Flora:** Native orchids, hibbertia, kunzea and flowering shrubs.

### 7 Talgomine Rock

*Talgomine Reserve Road*

**Features:** This huge granite outcrop with its two historic pioneer wells was the turning point for airforce training flights during World War II.

**Flora:** Look beyond Talgomine Rock for fantastic views of seasonal everlastings.

### 8 Mukinbudin

*Travel north via Cornish Road*

**Features:** The Pioneer Botanical Walk and rare species garden is a must visit location.

**Flora:** A number of local indigenous plants are found in the rare species garden.

### 9 Weira Reserve

*Travel east on Koorda Road to Weira. Travel Quanta-Cutting Road and Morrison Road*

**Features:** Sheoak, wattle and hop bushes surround barbecue and picnic facilities at Weira.

The bush trail is an excellent habitat for birds, and native orchids can be discovered in damp areas.

**Flora:** Quandong and Hakea trees, bronze, glossy, twisted gimlets and the red-flowered mallee with its powdery white trunk and bright red flowers.

Zigzag wattle is common closer to Chiddarcooping Nature Reserve

### 10 Chiddarcooping Nature Reserve

*40km round trip from Weira*

**Features:** This untouched 5,000 ha granite rock and bushland teems with wildlife is for the enthusiast that doesn't need tracks and signage.

With 90 bird species and 33 native orchids documented. The creek bed walk along the Echo Valley rewards visitors with prolific wildflower sightings, including the wild form of the silver princess tree.

**Flora:** Swordfish Banksia are found near the parking area, and native orchids, Pimelea,

### Granite Loop Trail

#### Must see and do

- Visit Toodyay's intriguing Old Gaol and Museum
- Take in the stunning country gardens, lavender fields and olive groves of Toodyay
- Step back in time at the School House Museum, Heritage Town Walk and Old Railway Station, Goomalling
- Explore the Tin Dog Creek Walk and Bird Hide near Dowerin
- Wyalkatchem's Agricultural Museum showcases over 400 items
- Visit Beacon's pioneer wells – Tampu and Datjion Wells provide beautiful picnic spots during wildflower season
- Stroll the 2km Koorda Heritage Trail





*Pincushion Hakea*



*Flame Grevillea*

pink and yellow everlastings, triggerplants and buttercup Hibbertia abound on the valley walk.

White Lechenaultia offer generous displays amongst desert poplar trees, and the sand plain is a colourful mass of blue Dampiera, golden flame Grevillea, yellow snakebush and tea tree.

### 11 Elachbutting Rock

*Travel north east on Elachbutting Road*

**Features:** Take the track around this gigantic granite outcrop or drive to the top for awe-inspiring views. A popular camping spot, the Rock's amazingly coloured wave (similar to Wave Rock at Hyden) has a 30m tunnel and an unusual cave-like amphitheatre.

**Flora:** Masses of donkey orchids are found on the east side, and poverty bushes and Kunzea are common on the top. Eucalyptus orbifolia, granite rock box (Eucalyptus petraea), wattles, native grasses and reeds are also plentiful.

### 12 Beringbooding Rock

*Take Elachbutting Road, left at Masefield Road, left at Rabbit Proof Fence Road, right at Beringbooding Road*

**Features:** This engineering feat of 1937 is one of the largest water tanks in the southern hemisphere. Look for its amazing balancing boulder, a huge gnamma hole and indigenous Kalamia tribe paintings.

**Flora:** The area is a treasure-trove of flora, including pink tea tree, Eucalyptus orbifolia, Acacia, Grevillea, Hakea, Eremophila, quandongs, sandalwood, native orchids, granite Kunzea and one-sided bottlebrush.

### 13 Bonnie Rock, Wialki through to Beacon Botanical Walk

*Travel to Bonnie Rock, right into Kuser Road then onto Bonnie Rock-*

*Burakin Road, to Wialki and Beacon*

**Features:** Kangaroos and bobtail skinks are often seen in the Kuser Road area. Dwarf grass trees and many Pityrodia can be seen around Wialki.

**Flora:** Purple Cyanostegia augustifolia, yellow Glischocaryon and gimlet thicket.

### 14 Billiburning Reserve

*Take North Beacon Road from Beacon, turn left at Kuhl Road, then right into Bimbij Road*

**Features:** Largest rock outcrop in the area. Provides excellent opportunities for birdwatchers with good sightings of wedge-tailed eagles, budgerigars, black cockatoos, purple-crowned lorikeets, Major Mitchells and mallee fowl.

Close proximity to Karroun Hill Reserve, a popular picnic and camp spot. Good rainfall results in pink and white everlastings carpeting the ground.

**Flora:** One-sided bottlebrush and interesting orchids such as the sun and yellow spotted donkey varieties.

### 15 Mollerin Rocks

*Return south, turn right at Kuhl Road. Travel west to Bimbij Road then left and south to Burakin Bonnie Rock Road. Continue west turning left at Koorda Mollerin Road and left again on Kulja Mollerin Road to Mollerin Rocks.*

**Features:** Wildflowers of countless varieties proliferate in the Koorda district, with dazzling colour displays along roadside verges. Many are particularly well adapted to dry conditions, with leafless branches, needle-like or waxy leaves and deep roots.

**Flora:** Koorda rose (Darwinia purpurea), tinsel lily (Calectasia grandiflora) and many orchids.

### 16 Wongan Hills

*Travel south to Koorda from Mollerin Rocks, then take the Koorda – Wongan Hills Road to the west*

*via Cadoux to Wongan Hills*

**Features:** Wongan Hills Nature Reserve is home to numerous plant species, including five rare and numerous species of priority flora in addition to 16 species of plants unique to the area. It offers naturalists a fantastic opportunity to observe it's beauty year round.

Hike the Mt Matilda Trail or take a leisurely drive to Mt O'Brien Lookout which will reward you with a variety of wildflowers and spectacular views on the way.

Christmas Rock Walk, adjacent the town site, includes wattles, one sided bottlebrush and everlastings. Late in the year the Reynoldson's Reserve, 15km north of the town, is ablaze with wonderful varieties of Verticordia. The Visitor Centre conducts wildflower walks during the season.

**Flora:** Dryandra, Mircocorys, Acacias, Hakea and Grevillea, everlastings and Verticordia, Isopogon, Eucalyptus, orchids, pea flowers and egg and bacon.

*Return to Perth via Goomalling or Calingiri.*

 A circular logo for the Wongan Hills Tourism Group Inc. It features a landscape scene with a tree, a building, and a field, with the text 'WONGAN HILLS TOURISM GROUP INC' around the bottom edge.
 

**Wongan Hills  
Visitor Centre**

Railway Station, Wongan Road  
Wongan Hills WA 6603

Ph/Fax (08) 96711973  
Email: wongantourism@westnet.com.au  
Web: www.wongantourism.com.au

Open Mar-Jun 6 days a week 9am-5pm  
Open Jul-Dec 7 days a week 9am-5pm



# Everlastings Trail

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### **Mullewa Wildflower Show**

Sunday 23 August -  
Sunday 30 August 2009  
Mullewa Town Hall  
Open: Daily 9.00am to 5.00pm  
Admission: Adults \$5 / Pensioners  
and Seniors \$3

Tel: (08) 9961 1500  
www.mullewatourism.com.au

More than 200 species of the mid-west region's spectacular wildflowers including the wreath flower are featured in this well-known show.

### **Dalwallinu Wattle Week Festival**

Saturday 5 - Saturday 12  
September 2009 - Events daily  
Tel: (08) 9668 10 10 or (08) 9661 1001

Activities are organised each day in an area with some of the most diverse Acacia species in the world.

Included are bush walk tours, bush breakfast, vintage machinery, biennial art show and more.

A wildflower show at Wubin is also part of this festival.

### **Chittering Wildflower Show**

Thursday 17 - Saturday 20 September 2009  
Bindoon Town Hall  
Open: 10.00am to 4.00pm  
Admission: small fee  
Tel: (08) 9576 1100

Plenty of attractions including a massed wildflower display, around 200 named specimens, guided tours, teas and wildlife marquee.

Enter one of the state's most spectacular wildflower areas when you take this leisurely drive north. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience the Indian Ocean Drive that meanders up the coast from Perth to Cervantes, Jurien Bay and Leeman. Another option is to travel via the inland Brand Highway route. The Everlastings Trail makes its way through areas ablaze with colour, often stretching lazily as far as the horizon. For many, this is the wildflower viewing they've always imagined.

Visitors travelling inland will marvel at the wide variety of everlastings in

this region. The stirring sight of vast displays of massed radiant colour among trees and bushland is a common occurrence on this interesting journey.

Wildflower lovers and keen photographers will go home with endless exquisite memories.

## **1 Brand Highway and Indian Ocean Drive**

*From Perth travel the Great Northern Highway and the Brand Highway. Alternatively, drive through Banksia woodlands via Wanneroo/Lancelin Road, Military Road, Gingin Brook Road*

**Features:** Drive under a canopy of large red gums along Dewar Road and see the red and green kangaroo paw display at the Gingin Cemetery or enjoy a picnic among paperbark trees at Granville Park by the Gingin Brook. From October, see the unique golden bloom of the Western Australian Christmas Tree in Moore River National Park and stop for a picnic under flooded gums along the Moore River, at Regan's Ford.



## Everlastings Trail Must see and do

- Walk amongst The Pinnacles – unique limestone formations rising up to 5m tall in Nambung National Park
- Take a tour to see the sea lions at Fisherman’s Island, south of Green Head
- Walk the Dongara-Denison Heritage Trail and the Irwin River Nature Trail
- Visit the Fisherman’s Lookout at Port Denison of sweeping ocean views
- Discover Mullewa’s giant, colourful murals which adorn the townsite
- Explore the Morawa Museum with it’s old gaol and courthouse and a collection of windmills
- Look out for a wide selection of native birds at Perenjori and have a relaxing picnic at the man-made lake
- Take in the wildflower and farming views at Buntine Rocks, 16km north of Wubin
- Take a New Norcia guided walking tour
- Explore the Chittering Valley Wine trail, a 76km loop passing through Bindoon



**Flora:** Find open-branched *Dryandra kippistiana* under wandoo woodland at Red Gully.

### 2 Badgingarra National Park North on the Brand Highway

**Features:** Overlooking low undulating plains with scattered scrub, this park boasts extensive wildflowers in spring. Experience this wonderland on the interpretative 2km Badgingarra Nature Trail, located on the eastern side of the park. Pick up details at the Badgingarra Roadhouse.

**Flora:** Black and yellow kangaroo paws, purple starflower and mottlecak – the largest Eucalypt flower. Travel west to Cervantes to join the Indian Ocean Drive or head north on the Brand Highway.

### 3 Lesueur National Park Travel to The Pinnacles, near Cervantes, then north to Jurien Bay, Lesueur National Park and Green Head

**Features:** This 27,000ha park ranks as one of the important reserves for flora

conservation in WA with much of its exceptionally diverse flora found nowhere else in the world. Embark on a scenic drive or walk trail to Mount Lesueur to discover the wildflowers and magnificent views. An 18km one way sealed loop road is accessible off Cockleshell Gully Road.

**Flora:** There are 11 regionally endemic plants. Look out for honey bush (*Hakea*), cork mallee, the unusual propeller *Banksia*, large magenta starflower and the Lesueur *Hakea*.

### 4 Lake Indoon 10km west of the Brand Highway

**Features:** The reserve surrounding this popular freshwater lake features elegant *Banksia* with lime-yellow flowers. Wildflowers abound alongside the Brand Highway between Eneabba and Dongara.

Guided wildflower walks leave from Western Flora Caravan Park, 22km north of Eneabba. The well-known *Banksia hookeriana* from this area is exported worldwide.

**Flora:** Orange *Banksias*, umbrella and white plumed smokebushes, and red hairy *Lechenaultia* around the Arrowsmith River.

*Charming Sunray*





Pink Everlasting



Splendid Everlasting

### 5 Depot Hill Reserve

Travel from Eneabba north towards Dongara, then east to Mingenew

**Features:** Located north west of Mingenew, from August to November, this reserve's wildflower displays make for a colourful stopover.

**Flora:** Dense shrubland, softening in spring with the pretty pink and white flowers of Thryptomenes and Scholtzias.

### 6 Coalseam Conservation Park

Between Mingenew and Mullewa

**Features:** This park's acacia shrubland, with its sparse understorey, comes alive with 'everlasting' wildflowers after good winter rains. Named for the coal seams that can be seen in the riverbed, marine fossils are exposed along the banks of the Irwin River.

**Flora:** Wildflowers of all varieties are in abundance, and wattle shrubs shade everlastings that include the brilliant pink Schoenia.

### 7 Mullewa - Wubin Road

Travel from Mullewa to Tardun, Canna, Morawa, Perenjori to Wubin

**Features:** Drop into the Canna Landmark for local wildflower information.

**Flora:** Sprawling carpets of sensationally coloured everlastings continue to delight travellers along this route. Native foxglove proliferate beneath yellow wattles.

### 8 Victoria Plains

**Features:** Old Plains Road, from south of New Norcia to the north of Toodyay, has the reputation as one of the most picturesque and pleasant rural drives in the state.

**Flora:** Many wildflowers can be seen, including blue Lechenaultia, grass trees and yellow Dryandra.

### 9 Bindoon

86km north of Perth on Great Northern Highway

**Features:** Bindoon, in the beautiful Chittering Valley, boasts an array of beautiful wildflowers. There are tours, bush walking and arts and crafts. View the rare and endangered sun star orchid (Thelymitra stellata) at the Chittering Wildflower Show.

**Flora:** Spider orchids, Lechenaultia, fringe lilies, kangaroo paws and Banksia.



A wildflower experience in 160 acres, with 12kms of walking tracks. 4.30pm Guided Wildflower walks Jul-Nov. 4x4 tag a long tours. Dining facilities. A true nature based experience with all the facilities. Chalets with ensuite \$95.00. Twin b/room \$65. On site van \$70 (linen inc). Powered site \$23. Unpowered site \$21. All twin share. Owned & operated by your hosts Allan and Lorraine Tinker.

Brand Highway, Eneabba North, 6518 (22 km North of Eneabba)  
Phone: 08 9955 2030 • Facsimile: 08 9955 2003  
Email: wfloracp@bigpond.com





# Northern Explorer Trail

From the Everlastings Trail, journey further north to experience a sensational show of wildflowers that cling to the vast landscape, adding brilliantly vivid colour to a harsh environment.

Travel the Indian Ocean Drive towards the white sands and crystal waters of Geraldton, up past the breathtakingly high coastal cliffs of Kalbarri, to where the sleek and magical dolphins of Monkey Mia swim peacefully in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area.

Past historic settlements and across rugged, outback landscapes, the Trail takes you on to the colossal and challenging Mount Augustus.

From there you may choose a return route to Perth, crossing vast and expansive sheep stations through a sea of colourful and dazzling wildflowers – often stretching to the horizon.

## SPECIAL EVENT

Thursday 10 – Sunday 13  
September 2009  
Wubin Town Hall, Arthur Street  
Open: 9.00am to 5.00pm  
Admission: Adults \$3, children free  
Tel: (08) 9664 1021 or 0427 553 622  
View a display of over 200 wildflowers from the area.

## 1 Greenough

*Head north on the Indian Ocean Drive or Brand Highway past Dongara*

**Features:** Make a stop at the historic Greenough Hamlet and the new Greenough Visitor and Interpretation Centre (open 9.00am to 5.00pm) situated on the Brand Highway.

Northwards lies Geraldton – known as the capital of the mid-west region – home to the Western Australian Museum, which pays tribute to the area's rich natural and cultural heritage.

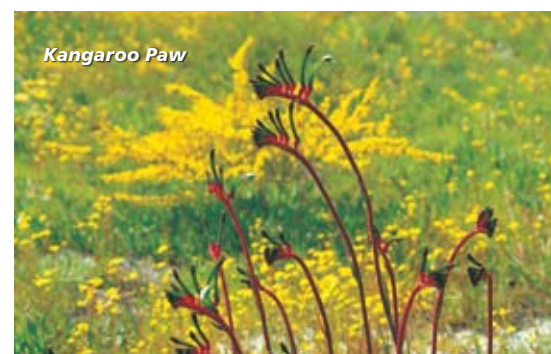
**Flora:** Colourful wildflowers of many varieties can be seen on roadside areas along this drive.

## 2 Gregory

*Take Yerina Springs Road, which runs off Port Gregory Road, approximately 35kms west of Northampton*

**Features:** Profuse display of orchids along with a diverse selection of wildflowers.

**Flora:** Orchids found include donkey, bee, cowslip, spider and the blue, shy and vanilla sun orchids, with the rare sighting of the endangered Northampton midget greenhood orchid.



Kangaroo Paw







## Rainbow Jungle

The Australian Parrot Breeding Centre, Kalbarri WA

*A Genuine Touch of Magic*

Rainbow Jungle is regarded as Australia's most beautiful parrot habitat. This unique complex offers a touch of magic with its pathways through landscaped tropical gardens, waterfalls, fountains, stained glass windows, gargoyles and lily ponds.

Come enjoy these surroundings where you will be amazed at our vast and colourful array of parrots. Walk through the largest parrot tree flight aviary in the country and then enjoy morning or afternoon tea in the tranquility of the Rainbow Jungle.



**Open every day**  
(except Christmas Day)  
Phone: 08 9937 1248

[www.rainbowjunglekalbarri.com](http://www.rainbowjunglekalbarri.com)

### 3 Kalbarri National Park

Travel the coast road via Gregory to Kalbarri

**Features:** Kalbarri is located at the mouth of the Murchison River. Kalbarri National Park covers an area of over 180,000ha and includes breathtaking coastal cliffs and dazzling wildflower viewing.

Marvel at nature's ability to carve the landscape, explore the depths and heights of the river gorges and sea cliffs, admire the floral beauty of the rolling sand plains and discover the intriguing cultural history of the area.

Magnificent wildflowers set the landscape ablaze with colour from July to November. Deep gorges on the Murchison River contrast with sand plain country. Entry fees apply at Kalbarri National Park.

**Flora:** River gums, gold and orange Banksias, Grevilleas, kangaroo paws, featherflowers, starflowers, smokebushes and Eucalypts are widespread.

### 4 Riverside Sanctuary

Head east to the North West Coastal Highway, travel north for 12km and turn right into Coolcalalaya Road and follow for 5km

**Features:** Visit Riverside Sanctuary to experience beautiful bush landscapes, spectacular seasonal wildflowers, dazzling night skies and knowledgeable guides. Take a guided wildflower tour on the farm in some of the 10,000 acres of remnant bushland and waterways.

**Flora:** Carpets of everlastings, pompoms and other annual flowers can be seen in a variety of colours - white, pink, mauve and yellow. A spectacular array of Thriptomene, Grevilleas, Hakeas, Verticordia, Calytrix (star flowers) and many more can be seen from August. Kangaroo paws, Kalbarri catspaws, trigger plants, up to six varieties of Banksias, various flowering Eucalypts and the Murchison clawflower are commonly found.

### 5 Shark Bay World Heritage Area – Denham and Monkey Mia

Travel north on North West Coastal Highway and west on Shark Bay Road

**Features:** For a chance to befriend enchanting bottlenose dolphins, a visit to Monkey Mia Reserve is a must. The dolphins are famous for their almost daily ritual of visiting the shore to interact with humans. Francois Peron National Park is a mere 4km from Denham and offers rare and spectacular coastal scenery of red cliffs, blue water, white beaches and vivid wildflowers.

The Peron Homestead can be accessed by 2WD and has an interpretative display in the old station overseer's quarters, a self-guided walk trail, picnic facilities and a hot tub where visitors can soak in artesian

## Dolphins are just the beginning...

Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort is the only place to meet the dolphins of Monkey Mia. Absolute beachfront accommodation in the heart of Shark Bay World Heritage Area, the Resort includes accommodation options for all travellers with a variety of rooms from backpackers to luxury villas. A range of onsite facilities includes swimming pool, artesian spring hot tub, bar and restaurant.





**MONKEY MIA**  
DOLPHIN RESORT



Monkey Mia, Shark Bay Western Australia 6537 or PO Box 119 Denham 6537 WA  
Phone: 08 99481 320 • FREECALL 1 800 653 611  
reservations@monkeymia.com.au • www.monkeymia.com.au





Couples in field of wildflowers



Touring near Mt Augustus



water. A high clearance 4WD is needed to explore the wilderness area north of the homestead. Entry fees apply at Monkey Mia Reserve and Francois Peron National Park.

**Flora:** Wattles, Hakeas, Grevilleas, Dampiera, purple peas and the Shark Bay daisy are commonly found in the region.

### 6 Carnarvon

*Travel along the North West Coastal Highway*

**Features:** The road to Carnarvon makes its way through many wildflower varieties, including seasonal everlastings. A drive further north of Carnarvon on the North West Coastal Highway will also reward you with outstanding displays.

**Flora:** Parakeelya, purple vetch, northern bluebells and the green birdflower.

### 7 Kennedy Range National Park

*Take the North West Coastal Highway then turn right, to Gascoyne Junction, approx. 177km, then 60km north to the Park*

**Features:** This park offers breathtaking scenery of gorges and precipitous rock faces. The area still retains a wilderness feeling. Visitors to the park can enjoy a series of walks through the craggy cliffs and gorges.

**Flora:** Seasonal wildflower varieties.

### 8 Mount Augustus National Park

*Travel north and branch east after approximately 90km*

**Features:** At two and a half times the size of Uluru (Ayers Rock), Mount Augustus rises impressively over the park. 1105m tall, Mount Augustus is one of Australia's most amazing peaks with ancient rock formations, Aboriginal art sites and a range of short and full day walks. Embark on a challenging climb to the top and be rewarded with incredible views over the park. Accommodation is available adjacent to the park.

**Flora:** Purple mulla mulla carpet the surrounding area in spring and early summer.

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Ideally located on Brand Highway, only 100m from the beach. Rooms feature flat screen TVs, free in house movies, room service and tea and coffee facilities. Relax by the pool and enjoy the casual ambience of Fitzgerald's Restaurant.



**is all you need**

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Couple in field of wildflowers



Pink wildflowers, near Wooleen Station



Lilac Hibiscus




**Riverside Sanctuary**

Visit us to experience beautiful bush landscapes, spectacular seasonal wildflowers, uninhibited night skies and knowledgeable guides. We offer inspiring guided wildflower tours on the farm in some of the 10,000 acres of remnant bushland and waterways.

**Seasonal Wildflower Tours** (July - October) - \$55 per double

**Accommodation** - camping from \$22, self contained from \$99.

Tel/Fax: (08) 9936 1021  
 Mobile: 0402 112 155  
 Email: [info@riversidesanctuary.com.au](mailto:info@riversidesanctuary.com.au)



### 9 The Murchison Region

Travel south east of Mount Augustus to Meekatharra

**Features:** After good winter rains, wildflowers are prolific and spread for hundreds of kilometres in this region.

**Flora:** Abundant white, pink and yellow everlastings appear from July in this area, as well as a vivid spread of golden billy buttons, mauve Velleia, magenta Parakeelya and blue pincushions.

### 10 Paynes Find

Travel from Meekatharra through to Cue, Mount Magnet and Paynes Find on the Great Northern Highway

**Features:** Historic Cue, The Granites at Mount Magnet and the Paynes Find Gold Battery and Museum.

**Flora:** Massed displays of white, pink, cream and yellow everlastings can be seen along the roadside.

### 11 Goodlands to Wubin

Continue south from Paynes Find on the Great Northern Highway to Goodlands Road (1km north of the boundary of Yalgoo/Dalwallinu Shires).

In season there is a magnificent display of Wreath Lechenaultia just 20km off highway.

**Features:** The old Rabbit Proof Fence is still visible just past the Jjibberding Rest Area. At Wubin there is a Wheatbin/ Machinery Museum.

**Flora:** Everlastings and Blue Cornflowers are found at Jibberding, and Everlastings and orchids (amongst the rocks) at Wubin Rocks (6km north of Wubin.)

### 12 Murchison Settlement and Roadhouse

Travel south west to Murchison via Carnarvon – Mullewa Road

**Features:** The Murchison Settlement and Roadhouse. While here, visit the Murchison Museum Herbarium and Botanical Walk. Further south at Wooleen Station (35km on the Meeberrie Road) daily wildflower tours and walks are conducted. Homestead or rammed earth guesthouse accommodation is available at Wooleen Station. Also further south, on the Carnarvon - Mullewa Road is Wandina Station, which provides accommodation and station tours for travellers.

**Flora:** Carpets of everlasting wildflowers and bright Podolepis add colour and texture to the landscape.

From here, continue south to Mullewa, New Norcia and Perth.

### Northern Explorer Trail Must see and do

- Photograph Greenough's amazing leaning trees
- Enjoy a tour of Geraldton's lobster factory
- See the daily pelican feeding in Kalbarri
- Explore the Murchison River in Kalbarri National Park by boat or canoe
- Marvel at the vivid colours of white beaches, turquoise waters and rust red dunes of the World Heritage listed Shark Bay area
- Meet the friendly dolphins at Monkey Mia
- Walk along the One Mile Jetty, Carnarvon
- Explore Mt Augustus on the 49km circuit Burringurah Drive
- Explore the heritage buildings at New Norcia




**Eurardy Reserve**  
 Bush Heritage Australia

Visit Bush Heritage's 30,066 hectare Eurardy Reserve for a unique outback experience. Bordering Kalbarri NP, this working conservation reserve is home to many birds, animals and plants. Our peaceful solar-powered setting offers beautiful day and night time landscapes all year round.

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 (08) 9936 1038 [eurardy@bushheritage.org.au](mailto:eurardy@bushheritage.org.au)  
[www.bushheritage.org.au](http://www.bushheritage.org.au)





# Cape Range Trail

The breathtaking landscape of Cape Range is a compelling backdrop for the bright, colourful and fascinating plant life that proliferates in the region. For a semi-arid area with a calcium rich soil, the North West Cape nurtures an unusually large variety of flora. More than 630 species have been recorded here to date.

Fringed by the wonders of Ningaloo Reef on the west and protected by the Exmouth Gulf on the east, Cape Range is a true nature lover's paradise.

From the unmistakable deep red sand dunes of the rugged outback, down to the pristine sands of secluded bays, the region will amaze and delight visitors in its surprising contrasts.

The Cape Range Trail will treat you to stunning coastline and an unspoilt environment brimming with a wealth of flora in a rainbow of colours.

## 1 Minilya

*Located on the North West Coastal Highway (Following from the Northern Explorer Trail on page 39)*

**Features:** South of Minilya, deep red sand dunes are home to spectacular shows of wildflowers. The riverbanks at Minilya offer the shade of river gums and coolibah trees.

**Flora:** Featherflowers, starflowers, Grevilleas and Hakeas on the dunes. Banksias and wattles cap the ridges.

## 2 Coral Bay

*Located off Minilya-Exmouth Road*

**Features:** Visit popular tourist destination, Ningaloo Marine Park, and witness unspoilt natural beauty of the pristine park first hand. The plains area between Minilya and Lyndon River is good for spotting the shiny dark green leaves and white trumpet flowers of the Minilya lily.

**Flora:** Spinifex, kurara, Cape Range Grevillea, Thryptomene and Melaleuca.

## 3 Giralia Station

*Off Burkett Road, 127km from Exmouth*

**Features:** The former sheep station makes an interesting overnight stop, with camping, farm-stay or "donga" accommodation in the shearers' quarters.

**Flora:** The area's fertile red soil relies on autumn rains to produce abundant colourful masses of wildflowers in spring

## 4 Learmonth Civil Airport

*Turn right to Wapet Creek*

**Features:** Enjoy exploring this small area of mangrove and salt marsh.

**Flora:** Observe how the plants have adapted to tidal floodings.

## 5 Exmouth Gulf

**Features:** The coastal plain is predominantly wattle shrubland interspersed with occasional stands of mallee near dry creek beds. Bright red yulbah flowers are visible in summer, and in winter there's the golden hue of spring wattles, often infused with purple mulla mulla.

**Flora:** Arid wattle, native tomatoes, Hibbertia, hairy pepperflowers and Sturt's desert peas.

## 6 Charles Knife Canyon

*Turn left opposite the Kailis prawn factory*

**Features:** This steep climb between two deep canyons boasts a sweeping view of the gorges and Exmouth Gulf. The return trip is 24km and the road is not suitable for caravans.

**Flora:** Cape Range Grevillea, Cape Range kurrajongs and several species of Verticordia.

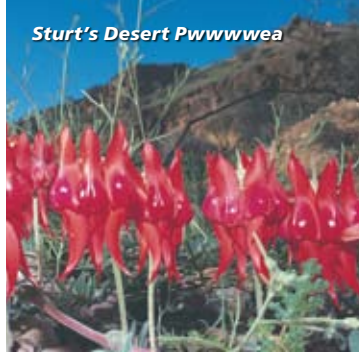
## 7 Shothole Canyon Road

*Further 7km north*

**Features:** The 24km return trip winds through the base of the canyon and is one of the rare places on the Cape where larger trees are found.



Cape Range National Park, near Exmouth



Sturt's Desert Poppies

**Flora:** Cream-white Eucalypt flowers contrast with the fire-engine-red flowers of their parasitic mistletoe.

### 8 Exmouth's North

About 5km north of Exmouth, just before Harold E. Holt Naval Base

**Features:** A wonderful 4.7km walk and cycle track winds its way south through fragrant Eucalypts.

**Flora:** Rattlebush, green birdflower and small clumps of toucan flowers.

### 9 Coastal plain, north of the Naval Base

**Features:** Following good winter rains, you can expect to see everlastings, native fuchsias, fanflowers and Dampiera.

**Flora:** Wattles and purple mulla mulla.

### 10 Vlamingh Head

Lighthouse signposted, left off the main road

**Features:** Enjoy striking views of distant red sand dunes parallel to the Cape Range. In well drained positions, you'll find the beautiful Ashby's Banksia which is rich in nectar. See the newly renovated Vlamingh Head Lighthouse at the spectacular North West Cape and journey south for a further 20km on this coastal road.

**Flora:** Featherflowers, starflowers, broombushes, pituri, silky Pimelea and the fascinating green birdflowers.

### 11 Cape Range National Park

**Features:** Enjoy spectacular rocky gorges carved by ancient rivers that adjoin one of the most pristine and beautiful coastlines in the world. See Acacia dominated shrubland scattered with Cape Range kurrajongs just inside the park. The white Minilya lily may be seen in the Pilgramunna area after good rains, while coastal dunes are dotted with daisies, Portulaca and the purple Lotus australis. Milyering Visitor

Centre (about 12km south of the entrance) houses a library with great local flora and fauna reference resources. Entry fees apply at Cape Range National Park.

**Flora:** Along Milyering Road verge is a wonderful selection of Sturt's desert peas, Dampiera, Ashburton peas, hairy pepperflowers, Indigofera, Yardie Creek morning glory, daisies and many annual herbs. Discover occasional stands of bloodwoods and rock figs growing with native fuchsia and pituri.

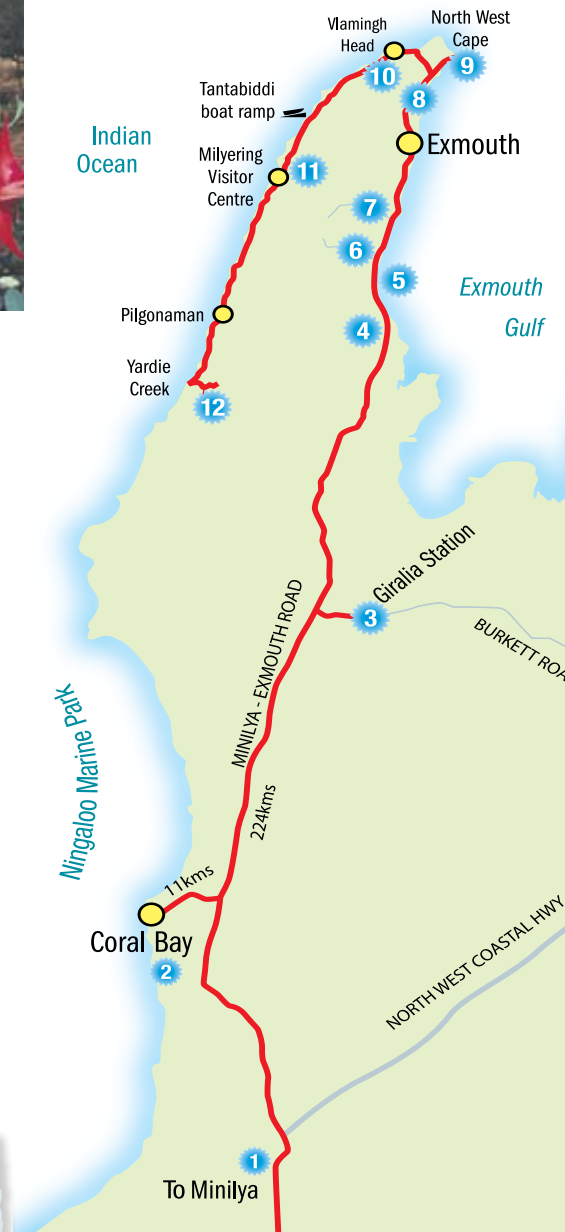
### 12 Yardie Creek Gorge

**Features:** Marvel at the many rock figs which are precariously rooted on the sheer rock faces of the gorge. A highlight of any visit is a trip on the scenic Yardie Creek boat tour.

**Flora:** Sturt's desert pea, Parkeelya and Thryptomene.

### Cape Range Trail Must see and do

- Head down to the beach at Coral Bay each day at 3.30pm to feed the snapper
- Visit the reef shark nursery just 20 minutes walk from Main Beach, Coral Bay
- See all the underwater wonders at Coral Bay without getting your feet wet aboard a glass bottom boat
- Hire a quad bike and discover for yourself all the Coral Bay region has to offer
- Witness the unspoilt natural beauty of Ningaloo Marine Park
- Snorkel from the beach to stunning Ningaloo Reef
- Swim with the world's biggest fish – the whale shark from April to July each year
- Take advantage of some of the best game fishing in the world at Coral Bay and the North West Cape
- Learn about the marine turtles at Jurabi Turtle Centre, just south of Vlamingh Head Lighthouse



**NINGALOO**  
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Millstream-Chichester National Park, Pilbara

# Pilbara Trail

Over half a million square kilometres of mangroves, off shore islands, deep gorges, mountain ranges, desert sand dunes and river pools ensure the Pilbara's flora is as diverse as the landscape. Vibrant floral shades contrast with the dusty red earth and golden spinifex grass. The Pilbara's flora is yours to explore.

Plants and flowers in the Pilbara have evolved unique adaptations to survive in an arid climate that receives most of its rainfall during summer by way of tropical cyclones.

Watercourses are lined with river red gums, coolibah, silver cadjeput and desert bloodwood trees. Gorges contain permanent water supplies to support moisture loving plants like the common rock fig and rock kurrajong.

From July to September wildflowers of all colours, sizes and shapes, like the unmistakable Sturt's desert pea, fluffy mulla mulla, the tall majestic Ashburton pea or any number of the 65 species of Acacia (wattle) can be seen throughout the region.

For the local Aboriginal people the plants and flowers of the Pilbara provided much more than just aesthetic qualities, and are still used today for food, medicine and ceremonial use.

## 1 Onslow

*81km off the North West Coastal Highway*

**Features:** Detour 82km towards Onslow and look for yellow flame Grevillea and Robinson's desert rose. The landscape changes to red sand dunes littered with termite mounds and after rain the vivid magenta ground cover known as Parakeelya.

**Flora:** The fragrant apple bush and the unique green birdflower adorn the landscape.

## 2 Road to Paraburdoo

*Travel east from Nanutarra Roadhouse for 276km*

**Features:** As the impressive Hamersley Range begins to appear you know you are nearing Karijini country. Disturbed roadside soil and collection of rainfall often causes the Sturt's desert pea and bush tomato to flower extensively.

**Flora:** Poison morning glory, burra (*Eremophila frazeri*) and northern bluebell are common here.

## 3 Karijini National Park

*Travel from Paraburdoo, Tom Price to Karijini National Park to Newman*

**Features:** The second largest national park in WA, Karijini is one of the most spectacular sights in the Pilbara. Set in the Hamersley Range, walk trails lead deep into

breathtaking gorges, with crystal clear rock pools and waterfalls. The area is steeped in indigenous culture. Maps outlining incredible walk trails through Karijini can be collected at the award winning Karijini National Park Visitor Centre.

At first glance the ancient Hamersley Ranges are covered in spinifex grass, desert bloodwood and snappy gum, however closer inspection reveals northern bluebell, mulla mulla, native tomato and limestone Cassia. Permanent water from the gorges nourishes the common rock fig, lemongrass and silver cadjeput. Entry fees apply at Karijini National Park.

**Flora:** Acacia, including the prolific mulga, desert poplar, Robinson's desert rose, slender *Petalostylis* and Ashburton pea are often seen from the vehicle window as the seemingly endless kilometres melt past.

## 4 Road to Port Hedland

*Travel north from Newman for 458km*

**Features:** Range country dominates the landscape until Auski Roadhouse where the land begins to flatten and endless horizons become the view until reaching Port Hedland.

The parasitic harlequin mistletoe, an attractive bright red tubular flower relies on host plants like wattles, Cassias, native Hibiscus and royal mulla mulla for support.

## Pilbara Trail

### Must see and do

- Explore the colourful marine wonderland of the Mackerel Islands
- Witness turtle nesting on pristine beaches
- Drive to the top of Mount Nameless for the view of a lifetime, Tom Price
- Take a day tour to marvel at the Pilbara Iron Ore Mine, Tom Price
- Explore the dramatic gorges, secret canyons and enticing rock pools of Karijini National Park
- Have a swim and explore the natural beauty of Newman's waterholes
- Check out local indigenous artists at work in Cossack
- Wander along the Onslow Boardwalk for spectacular sunrises and sunsets
- Catch the breathtaking views from Koombana Lookout, Port Hedland



**Flora:** Spotted emu bush, desert poplar, yellow flame Grevillea, twinleaf mallee and coolibah are stand out features along the trail.

### 5 Marble Bar

*Travel 193km from Port Hedland to Marble Bar via the sealed Marble Bar Road*

**Features:** A flat landscape dotted occasionally by the odd hill slowly becomes more dramatic as the road approaches the Gorge Range just north of Marble Bar. The road twists and winds across the Coongan River and through Doolena Gap.

**Flora:** Statuesque river red gums and Coolibah can be spotted along the drive. The Aboriginal people would cut the thick bark from the coolibah to make dishes for carrying. Keep an eye out for the fluffy yellow flowers of the Acacia.

### 6 Millstream-Chichester National Park

*Port Hedland to Millstream-Chichester National Park*

**Features:** River crossings dominate the road south from Port Hedland, so keep an eye out for river red gums, coolibahs and the yellow flowers of the candlestick Cassia. The desert walnut is common around South Hedland and south to the Turner River.

Whilst passing through the hills near Whim Creek look for the beautiful flowers of the corkwood tree.

Located along the Fortescue River is the Millstream oasis, a haven for birdlife. It has a landscape of rolling hills, impressive escarpments and winding tree-lined watercourses.

The Chichester Range rises sharply from the coastal plain and includes rocky peaks, tranquil gorges and hidden rock pools.

No trip would be complete without a swim at the memorably named Python Pool, before traveling on to Millstream Homestead which houses the national park visitor centre.

Entry fees apply at Millstream-Chichester National Park.

**Flora:** The rare Millstream fan palm (*Livistona alfredii*) is found on the walk trail to Chinderwarriner Pool. Bright golden sticky Cassia, rock kurrajong, lace flower, Sturt's desert pea, Robinson's desert rose, morning glory, tall mulla mulla, Spinifex, snappy gum and the common rock fig feature in the landscape.



Millstream-Chichester National Park

### 7 Cossack

*Travel to Roebourne. Cossack lies just 11km away*

**Features:** Make a stop at the fascinating restored pioneer settlement and visit the first pearling port in Australia's North West.

**Flora:** Shore stability is maintained here by coastal plant species such as ocean bean, holly leafed Grevillea and 7 species of mangroves.

### 8 Roebourne to Karratha and Dampier

*Travel west 40km from Roebourne to Karratha*

**Features:** Look for quartz outcrops with coastal caper, Sturt's desert pea and rock kurrajong.

**Flora:** A long living wattle called snakewood grows well on the flats leading into Karratha.



Karijini National Park



# newman visitor centre

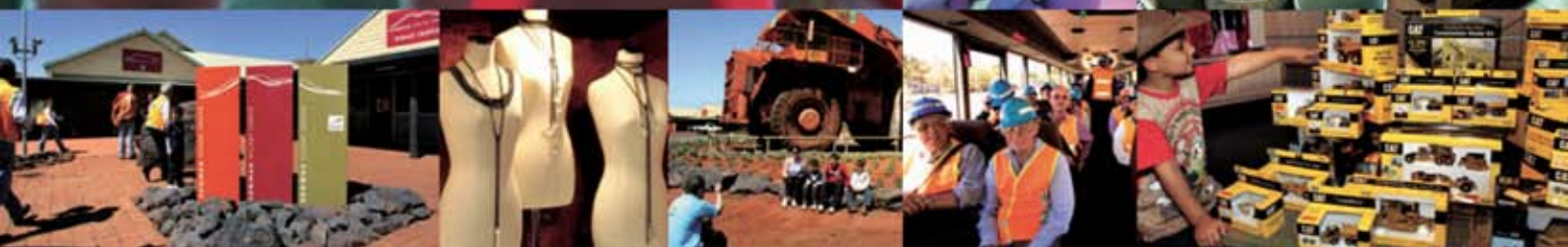
The Newman Visitor Centre, in the heart of Pilbara wildflower country, is the ideal stopover on your journey through the spectacular Pilbara countryside.

The revitalised centre reflects a distinctly West Australian flavour showcasing local and nationally made products such as books, stunning objects of ceramic, glass or wood, and our beautiful range of contemporary jewellery.

Take a walk through our mining and pastoral museums which explore the history & industries which have shaped this unique and timeless landscape, or book a tour of BHP Billitons Mt Whaleback Mine – the largest open cut iron ore mine in the world.



Images courtesy  
Jen Grey Wilson  
and Dan Paul



## NEWMAN VISITOR CENTRE

Cnr Newman Drive and Fortescue Ave  
Phone 08 9175 2888 Fax 08 9175 2964  
Email [newmanvc@bigpond.com](mailto:newmanvc@bigpond.com)  
Opening times 8-5 (7 days)  
[www.newman-wa.org](http://www.newman-wa.org)



newman visitor centre



# DISCOVER THE WILDFLOWERS DOWN SOUTH



Australia's South West is home to over 8,000 wildflower species including 150 different types of orchid, many of which are unique to the region. Wildflowers can be found all year round with the peak flowering time between September and November when the weather warms and the region blooms with colour.

Recommended viewing locations include Porongurup, Stirling Range, Leeuwin-Naturaliste, Fitzgerald River, Torndirrup, D'Entrecasteaux, Wellington and West Cape Howe National Parks and the Walpole Wilderness Area. A variety of wildflower festivals and events throughout the region provide visitors the opportunity to see a great variety of specimens.

Australia's South West is a naturally diverse region encompassing magnificent coastline, superb forests and remarkable ranges. Match this with superior food, wine and local hospitality and you have the perfect wildflower escape.



For more information including species, flowering times, vegetation zones, the best viewing locations and where to stay, go to [australiassouthwest.com](http://australiassouthwest.com)

