

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



Trip Highlights

Visit King's Park - one of Australia's largest and most fascinating inner city parks

Visit the northern sandplains - an area of extraordinary botanical diversity and the habitat of some of Australia's most spectacular native plants.

Visit the magnificent Murchison River gorge

Incredible rock formations at Kalbarri National Park

Unique exploration through the Wheat Belt

Walk amongst the bizarre limestone Pinnacles at Nambung National Park

Enjoy the aquamarine waters of Jurien Bay and Shark Bay

Trip escorted by Dr Peter Weston



Trip Duration	15 days	Trip Code: FFX
Grade	Adventure touring	
Activities	Day Walks, Botanical exploration, Adventure Touring	
Summary	15 day trip, 14 nights hotel/motel/lodge, Day walking, touring, wildflowers	

Welcome to World Expeditions

Thank you for your interest in our Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay trip. At World Expeditions we are passionate about our off the beaten track experiences as they provide our travellers with the thrill of coming face to face with untouched cultures as well as wilderness regions of great natural beauty. We are committed to ensuring that our unique itineraries are well researched, affordable and tailored for the enjoyment of small groups or individuals - philosophies that have been at our core since 1975 when we began operating adventure holidays. Our itineraries will give you the very best travel experience, designed by people with incredible local knowledge who share our vision of authentic exchange and real exploration with a responsible tourism approach. Whether you like your adventures to include trekking, touring, cycling, mountaineering, kayaking or cruising World Expeditions can make it happen for you. We hope you will join us for a life changing experience.

Why travel with World Expeditions?

World Expeditions Australian Treks have been in continuous operation for more than 30 years, offering economical, reliable, environmentally friendly small group fully inclusive adventure holidays to some of the most beautiful pristine parts of Australia. Our trips cater to people from many walks of life, age groups and motivations. World Expeditions offers more than 30 tailored Australian itineraries that incorporate trekking, walking, rafting, cycling and climbing throughout Australia.

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



trip dates

2020 18 Aug - 01 Sep

trip cost

Joining Perth from: \$6670
All prices are per person

options & supplements

Single Supplement: \$1500

World Expeditions does not require single travellers to pay a surcharge for travelling alone. We will arrange for you to share accommodation with another traveller of the same gender and if we can not match you up we will provide a single room at no extra charge. If you prefer not to share a single supplement is payable to guarantee your own room. Please refer to our website for the additional cost.

For competitive airfares and stopover ideas to join this adventure, contact our expert staff today to receive a detailed quote.

The Trip

On this exclusive Foundation & Friends tour, Dr Peter Weston will be leading members to the home of *Thelymitra pulcherrima*, at Mt Lesueur, on the way from Perth to Shark Bay and back. This region includes the "northern sandplains", an area of extraordinary botanical diversity and the habitat of some of Australia's most spectacular native plants. We expect to see flowers of the black kangaroo paw (*Macropidia fuliginosa*), the wreath lechenaultia, (*Lechenaultia macrantha*), the scarlet featherflower (*Verticordia grandis*), the huge blossoms and gumnuts of the mottlecah (*Eucalyptus macrantha*), and massed displays of pink everlasting daisies (*Rhodanthe chlorocephala*), to name a few of the hundreds of species that will be blooming when we will be there, at the peak of the wildflower season. We will also walk amongst the extraordinary limestone pinnacles of Nambung National Park, visit the magnificent Murchison River gorge, see the fascinating stromatolites of Hamelin Pool, a reminder of Earth's earliest lifeforms, and enjoy the aquamarine waters of Jurien Bay, Dongara and Francois Peron National Park.

We hope you can join us!

About your Leader

Your tour will be accompanied by Dr Peter Weston, former Senior Principal Research Scientist with the National Herbarium of NSW. Peter's special interests are the Proteaceae and Orchidaceae families, both of which are spectacularly diverse in the area we will be visiting. Peter's botanical expertise and enthusiasm will only serve to enhance this unique adventure. Peter has taken trips to Madagascar (twice) and South Africa with Foundation and Friends as well as New Caledonia and Vietnam & Cambodia. Peter Escorted a trip to the South West of Western Australia in Sept 2019, and this journey north of Perth is Part 2 of this incredible exploration.

At a Glance

DAY 1	TUESDAY 18 AUGUST 2020 - ARRIVE PERTH
DAY 2	WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST - KING'S PARK & BOTANIC GARDEN
DAY 3	THURSDAY 20 AUGUST - TO YANCHEP AND NAMBUING NATIONAL PARK
DAY 4	FRIDAY 21 AUGUST - VISIT BADGINGARRA NP AND MT LESUEUR NATIONAL PARK
DAY 5	SATURDAY 22 AUGUST - TO TATHRA NATIONAL PARK
DAY 6	SUNDAY 23 AUGUST - TO KALBARRI
DAY 7	MONDAY 24 AUGUST - EXPLORE KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK
DAY 8	TUESDAY 25 AUGUST - TO SHARK BAY
DAY 9	WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST - AT SHARK BAY. VISIT FRANCOIS PERON NATIONAL PARK.
DAY 10	THURSDAY 27 AUGUST - TO GERALDTON VIA GALENA NATURE RESERVE
DAY 11	FRIDAY 28 AUGUST - COALSEAM CONSERVATION PARK
DAY 12	SATURDAY 29 AUGUST - THE WHEAT BELT
DAY 13	SUNDAY 30 AUGUST - VISIT WONGAN HILLS
DAY 14	MONDAY 31 AUGUST - TO PERTH VIA AVON VALLEY NATIONAL PARK AND JOHN FORREST NP
DAY 15	TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER - TRIP CONCLUDES IN PERTH

What's included

- All meals - 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 14 dinners.
- 14 nights comfortable accommodation or best available in remote towns (as outlined in the itinerary)
- all National Park entry fees and visits as outlined in the notes

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



- professional wilderness guide and support staff
- all transport as listed by private coach
- emergency communications and group first aid kit
- one group airport departure transfer
- trip escorted by Dr Peter Weston, Foundation & Friends

What's not Included

- Airfares
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry or postage
- Alcoholic beverages
- Travel insurance

Local cash payments are becoming increasingly popular with many operators in the adventure travel industry. The policy seems to benefit the tour operators, more than the local economies or travellers, as it avoids local taxes and transfers the cost and risk of cash handling to travellers. In accordance with our Responsible Travel practices we have chosen a policy not to ask for such payments.

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1 Tuesday 18 August 2020 - Arrive Perth

Fly to Perth and make your own way to the CBD to settle in to our hotel, where we will come together as a group for dinner and briefing.

Accommodation: Ibis Hotel

Meals: D

DAY 2 Wednesday 19 August - King's Park & Botanic Garden

No trip to Perth can be complete without a visit to King's Park and the Botanic Garden. Considered one of the World's best inner-city Parks, you will have the opportunity to see curated wildflowers displays, with species from every bio-zone in Western Australia. If the beauty at your feet isn't enough, the stunning elevated views of the Swan River will take your breath away.

Approximate time in bus: 30 mins

Accommodation: Ibis Hotel

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 3 Thursday 20 August - To Yanchep and Nambung National Park

It is time to leave the curated displays, and head bush! Today we will head north, first poking our heads into Yanchep National Park to see it's magnificent Tuart Trees and wetland species.

Then it is on to Nambung National Park, the site of the famous Pinnacles.

With ample time to roam around the forest of monoliths at the Pinnacles, we will see what we can find in the coastal heath, which boasts a diverse array of plants and bird life.

There should also be time enough for a visit to the Stromatolites of Lake Thetis.

Our accommodation for the next two nights is in Cervantes.

Accommodation: Cervantes Pinnacles Motel (driving approx 230km)

Meals: B,L,D

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



Fast Facts

Singles:

A single supplement is available for this trip*

Leader:

Expert local leader

Advice for people with limited mobility

This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

Thoughtful Travel

The natural environments that you'll travel through are fragile; the cultures and traditions precious and often the communities we pass through are reliant on tourism. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence, protect what is precious and where we can leave a positive impact. Learn how you can do this by downloading the Thoughtful Traveller booklet from our website.

Trip grading Adventure touring

We recommend that you are in good health with a good level of fitness to join this trip. While there is no commitment to extended walking, you will be walking most days on a variety of terrain. Weather conditions can be variable with wind, rain and cooler temperatures at times. You need to make sure you have adequate clothing and good walking shoes or boots.

DAY 4 Friday 21 August - Visit Badgingarra NP and Mt Lesueur National Park

Today we head to Mt Lesueur National Park. Mt Lesueur is fast gaining a reputation as one of the best places to see a diverse range of wildflowers. With 900 species, we will be looking for the endemics which include the Lesueur Hakea (*Megalosperma*), the Mount Lesueur Grevillea (*Batrachioides*), Forrest's Wattle (*Forrestiana*), and the Laterite Mallee (*Eucalyptus Lateritica*). Some of our more energetic guests, may consider one of the parks longer walks, or we may content ourselves to pick our way around closer to home base. We'll also visit Badgingarra NP where we are looking for the very rare Black Kangaroo Paw (*Macropidia*) in its natural habitat.

Once content, we will make our way back to Cervantes, for a second night.

Accommodation: Cervantes Pinnacles Motel

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 5 Saturday 22 August - To Tathra National Park

Today we have the possibility of exploring Coomallo Nature Reserve, South Eneabba Nature Reserve and Tathra National Park.

Depending on what is in flower when we are there, we will take the day to look under every nook and cranny, and hopefully discover a few endemics.

Tonight we will stay in the heart of Tim Winton country, at the tiny seaside town of Dongara. Consider packing your copy of Cloudstreet.

Accommodation: Dongara Motel (driving approx 241km)

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 6 Sunday 23 August - To Kalbarri

From Dongara, it is a short drive through to the sunny coastal town of Geraldton (where we will be staying later in the tour) and then on to a number of little-known nature reserves which we can explore including Nilligarri Nature Reserve, Oakabella Nature Reserve, Utcha Well Nature Reserve

The coastal route to Kalbarri includes another excellent area for flora, with the Bigurda walk trail giving us access to some stunning views, and some stunning plants. You will fall in love with the holiday town of Kalbarri, with the deep red sandstone, and the Murchison river dominating the geography. We will have 2 nights in Kalbarri

Accommodation: Kalbarri Edge Resort

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 7 Monday 24 August - Explore Kalbarri National Park

We have a full day in Kalbarri National Park today which lays a short drive inland from the town which shares its name. Considered one of WA's gems, this National Park boasts some very interesting geology known as Tumbalgooda Sandstone, which bares fossilised Eurypterid tracks (think ancient sea scorpion).

We can visit Nature's Window, the Z Bend and Hawk's Head look outs as well as stopping whenever we see something that catches our eyes. Hopefully we have timed it right for a big splashy display of Acacias, as well as a trove of Caladenia orchids.

Accommodation: Kalbarri Edge Resort (driving approx 146km)

Meals: B,L,D

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



Adventure Travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. In remote and developing countries do not expect standards you are used to at home. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with your consultant or travel agent.

Important Note

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

DAY 8 Tuesday 25 August - To Shark Bay

We know that sometimes it is hard to get excited about rocks... but when the rocks are 3.5 billion years old, and some of the earliest records of life on earth, we think they are pretty exciting!

The stromatolites of Shark Bay (Hamelin Pool) endow this region with World Heritage status, and are obviously very special. We have 400km to cover today, but we will make sure we get some opportunities to get out of the bus, and soak it all up. We will be staying in Denham for the next 2 nights

Accommodation: Heritage Resort Shark Bay (driving approx 386km)

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 9 Wednesday 26 August - At Shark Bay. Visit Francois Peron National Park.

Today we visit visit Francois Peron National Park or relax on the beach! We have planned and unplanned day for you today. Other than checking out the famed Monkey Mia dolphins, we will make it today a day for relaxing, swimming and catching up on your Tim Winton reading.

There is a short walk around Monkey Mia, that may take you fancy.

Accommodation: Heritage Resort Shark Bay

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 10 Thursday 27 August - To Geraldton via Galena Nature Reserve

We have reached the most point of our floral adventure, and it is time to head back south. Initially, we need to cover some of the same territory back to Geraldton, before we break new ground to the East.

Today we will visit Galena Nature Reserve in search of *Acacia sphacelata*, round leaf grevillea (*Grevillea teretifolia*) and woody pear. In the afternoon, we will have tour of Geraldton, and get to the know "the capital" of the mid-west. The Memorial to the HMAS Sydney, which was sunk off the coast, is a must visit.

Accommodation: Geraldton Ibis Styles (driving approx 408km)

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 11 Friday 28 August - Coalseam Conservation Park

Today we will head inland to Coalseam Conservation Park. Here we hope to find the yellow carpet rolled out for us, with the famed everlastings in full bloom (hopefully!). Irrespective of the luck of our timing, we will find an interesting, florally diverse area. For those feeling active, there is a 3km walk trail (mostly flat) which takes about an hour for the everyday walker.

Others may be content to set up shop and call it home though! That said, if you feel like sleeping in a proper bed, rather than a bed of flowers, the bus will be heading back to Geraldton tonight!

Accommodation: Geraldton Ibis Styles (driving approx 219km)

Meals: B,L,D

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



DAY 12 Saturday 29 August - The Wheat Belt

Today we head east, into the “big dry”. It would have been nice to stay a bit further east last night, however the accommodation options in this part of the world are pretty limited, so we make do. As we head inland we will be checking out a number of conservation reserves, and old stations.

If you are looking at map of this area, you will note it has a number of names bearing the prefix “Ex” e.g. Ex Barnong, Ex Thundella, Ex Warriedar etc. These are all old stations, and amongst the disturbed ground, we hope to find floral gold.

After our inland expedition, we will head to the town of Dalwallinu which is one of the larger “wheatbelt” towns.

Accommodation: The Old Convent Guest House, Dallwalinu (driving approx 368km)

Please note our accommodation for the night is in “demountable” rooms which are quite small. They are however clean with en-suite bathrooms.

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 13 Sunday 30 August - Visit Wongan Hills

As we head south, the trees get bigger, the land will get greener, but we hope our rich run of wildflowers will continue. Our first stop is Wongan Hills Nature reserve, in the shadows of Mt Matilda. Mount is a very generous description for what is really a “decent hill” however there should be no hyperbole in our description of the wildflowers in this park. Another notable area of incredible bio-diversity.

Depending on our timing, we might stop off at a few other reserves before we meander our way into the picturesque town of Northam, with its rolling green hills.

Accommodation: Dukes Inn Northam (driving approx 97km or 119km)

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 14 Monday 31 August - To Perth via Avon Valley National Park and John Forrest NP

Our last full day should be no lesser on the floral front. You will note a real change in landscape and species as we get closer to Perth. Avon Valley National Park and John Forrest National Park are both on the list for the day, and given we start the day just 1.5hr out of Perth, we will have plenty of time.

“The Hills” as people from Perth call them, are dominated by mixed Banksia, Jarrah and Marri (*Corymbia Caolphylla*).

Accommodation: Ibis Hotel, Perth (driving approx 229km)

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 15 Tuesday 1 September - Trip concludes in Perth

All good things must come to an end. Your trip concludes after breakfast. There will be one airport shuttle run today (time tbc)

Meals: B

This Itinerary Is Subject To Change With Any Change In Community Regulations As Well As Governmental Changes And Natural Circumstances Beyond Our Control.

Climate

We expect mild conditions during our tour, with daytime temperatures in the high teens and low to mid 20's. Night time temperatures will be cool, with brisk early mornings that warm up quickly.

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (at least 1 month prior to your trip) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

Accommodation on the Trip

Accommodation is outlined in the detailed itinerary. It is comfortable but at times basic and is the best available in some of the more remote towns we visit.

What you Carry

You will only need to carry a day-pack with your water bottles, jacket, camera and other personal items each day. You should plan on carrying at least 1-2 litres of water each day.

Equipment Required

A comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information supplied on booking.

Vehicles & Safety

During the course of your trip, we will use a variety of vehicles, all of which are fit for purpose and the conditions encountered. It should be noted that laws governing transportation safety may differ from those in your home country and whilst wherever possible, vehicles with seatbelts are provided, on occasion some vehicles may not have seat belts fitted.

Subscribe to our e-newsletter

Never miss an amazing deal, inspirational speaker tour or exciting new trips and cutting edge adventure news. Head to our website to subscribe to our regular e-newsletter.

Social Networking

Connect with us on social

FACEBOOK: @worldexpeditions

Like our page at facebook.com/worldexpeditions

INSTAGRAM: @worldexpeditions

Follow us at instagram.com/worldexpeditions

YOUTUBE: World Expeditions

Subscribe to our channel at youtube.com/worldexpeditions

Share the love

Use the hashtag #WorldExpeditions on your best travel photos and videos to be featured.

Wildflowers of Western Australia - Perth to Shark Bay



Trip Availability

If this trip seems right for you then we encourage you to call us now to check availability. There are many reasons why you may not be able to join your desired departure and limited space on our small group departures is just one of them. Many of our adventures require us to secure services on your behalf; such as trekking permits, train travel and visa invitation letters. The demand is increasing each year making it difficult to join a trip last minute. To ensure we can assist you onto your adventure of a lifetime we ask that you check your trip availability with our team at your earliest convenience.

How to Book

Please fill out the booking form and return with a \$500 deposit to Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens to reserve your place on the tour. Please note that all reservations are subject to availability at the time of booking. The deposit is payable by cash, credit card or cheque (made payable to World Expeditions) and is non-refundable. Please direct your completed booking form and send to the following address:

Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens
Cottage 6
Mrs Macquaries Road
Sydney NSW 2000
Ph: 9231 8182
Fax: 9241 3064