

EXPERIENCE THE KIMBERLEY 2008
JULY 18-30TH, 2008

Broome to Kununurra via the Gibb River Road and Purnululu (Bungle Bungles)

Thankyou for your interest in this trip. It is a joint effort between Inspiration Outdoors and Coate's Wildlife Tours. It promises to be a fantastic opportunity to experience outback Western Australia not just by 4WD but from the best possible perspective- on foot!

The flora of the inland Kimberley is varied and includes pindan, semi-arid desert, eucalypt woodlands, tropical savannah grasslands, vine thicket and some rainforest plants in the wetter protected gorges. The famous boab tree can be found along much of our journey and also the beautiful kurrajong with its dry-season red flowers. Birds are also varied and include those typical of semi-arid desert as well as those associated with tropical areas. The multi-coloured gouldian finch is one that we will search for.

The 665km Gibb River Road was built to transport cattle to the Derby abattoirs in the 1960's and was gradually extended through to Wyndham. The many scenic gorges along the route make it a popular 4WD destination. The condition of the road adds to the adventure and matches the landscape's rugged beauty and feeling of isolation.

The Bungle Bungle Range or Purnululu National Park is a World Heritage site. Purnululu is the name given to the sandstone area by the Kija Aboriginal people. Alternatively it may be a corruption of *bundle bundle grass*. The range, lying fully within the park, has elevations as high as 578 metres above sea level. It is famous for the sandstone domes, unusual and visually striking with their striping in alternating orange and grey bands. We will have 3 nights here to appreciate its grandeur.

Walks will be easy to moderate, but always only carrying a day pack and always with the option to turn back when you wish. All walks are less than 10km. The terrain may be rocky with some ascending and descending.

DATES

Depart: Broome from your accommodation 7.00-7.30am Friday 18th July

Arrive: Kununurra mid afternoon Wednesday 30th July

ROUTE

***Day 1:** We leave Broome and head out via Derby to the Gibb River Road. We aim to make camp at Windjana Gorge and explore Tunnel Creek in the afternoon. The 1.5km walk takes you through a limestone tunnel carved through the Napier Range by flowing water. Our camp is at Windjana Gorge campsite, with flush toilets and cold showers.

***Day 2:** We have all day to explore Windjana Gorge as we camp for a second night there. Once part of a barrier reef, Windjana Gorge has been eroded by the Lennard River over millions of years. Fossils of shells and other creatures can be seen in the 100m high limestone walls.

***Day 3:** We retrace our steps back to the Gibb River Road and on to Silent Grove. This will allow us plenty of time to explore Bell's Gorge, part of the King Leopold National Park. Our campsite has toilets and cold showers.

***Day 4:** Once again we leave the Gibb River Road and proceed to the Australian Wildlife Conservancy property at Mornington Station. This afternoon we will walk at Annie Creek and search for the beautiful gouldian finch. Our campsite offers hot showers and toilets. What's more, there is a bar and restaurant here!

***Day 5:** A full day at Mornington Station will allow us to walk and swim at Sir John Gorge, located at the headwaters of the Fitzroy River. Campsite as per Day 4.

***Day 6:** Back to the Gibb River Road, we take a short walk into Galvin's Gorge for a swim and then on to Manning Creek for our overnight camp and a longer walk to Manning Gorge. Showers and toilets .

***Day 7:** Today we have a long drive to El Questro. El Questro Wilderness Park contains one million acres of rugged ranges, tidal flats, rainforest pockets, gorges, waterfalls and abundant wildlife. We'll have 2 nights here and the campsite offers hot showers and toilets. And another bar and restaurant.

***Day 8:** We'll walk the full length of Emma Gorge, watching the vegetation change from arid to tropical. At the end you will be rewarded with a magnificent swim at a waterfall. You may even locate the warm springs amongst the otherwise cool waters.

***Day 9:** Before we leave for Kununurra, we'll have time to take a bath in the warm waters of Zebedee Hot Springs. We then proceed to Kununurra and a walk at the Hidden Valley National Park. Time permitting we may take a side trip to Wyndham and Parry Creek lagoons. We camp at a caravan park in Kununurra, with

showers, toilets and washing machines! Tonight we give Rick and Pam a rest and eat out!

Day 10: This is essentially a driving day as the 53km drive from the Great Northern Highway to the Bungles will take about 3 hours, in addition to the drive down from Kununurra. We'll camp at Kurrajong campsite for 3 wonderful nights. Drop toilets only.

Day 11: We spend the day exploring the long and narrow Echidna Chasm, with its towering cliffs and Mini Palms Gorge with its pebbly creek beds, tumbling rocks and sandstone cliffs. The endemic *Livistona* palms can be seen along these trails.

Day 12: Today is reserved for Picaninny Gorge to explore as far as we can. This is the famous beehive dome section of the Bungles. We'll also visit Cathedral Gorge. There is an option of a helicopter flight over the Bungles in the afternoon. The best time for the flight is about 3pm and the cost is approx \$250 for a half hour flight. It is considered well worth the money by those who have done it.

Day 13: We return to Kununurra today, sadly to say our farewells and return home. You may want to extend your stay to have a look at Kununurra and Lake Argyle!

*** indicates showers are available on these days.**

Note: 1. All walks are optional. Although no alternative itinerary is offered, clients are welcome to relax around camp if they wish. Also, as most walks return via the same route, it is always possible to proceed as far as you wish.

2. The itinerary is always subject to local weather and road conditions at the time.

YOUR GUIDES

Pam Riordan: Owner of Inspiration Outdoors, Pam is well known to her clients. An avid walker (and paddler) she and Richard have devised walks along the route to make this truly a trip to remember.

Richard Curtis: Rick is a naturalist who has been guiding tours for Coates for many years. He has a thorough knowledge of the area and its flora and fauna. He is particularly clever at identifying birds. Additionally he is an excellent cook!

TRANSPORT

We travel in a 4WD Isuzu Coach which has been custom built and is air conditioned. All seats are front facing and most are reclining.

ACCOMMODATION

This tour is camping all the way. All camping equipment (except sleeping bags) is provided. Sleeping bags can be hired for \$33. The tents are 4 person dome tents, which will be used for 2 persons only. Self inflating Thermarest mats are provided.

Camping is at designated sites and toilets, either drop or flush, are always available. Showers, either hot or cold, are available everywhere except in the Bungles. Washing machines are only available at the campsites at El Questro and Kununurra.

FOOD

All food is provided (except for one evening in Kununurra). Breakfast comprises cereal, fruit and toast, lunch is cold meats and salads as sandwiches or rolls. Dinner is a 2 course meal. In addition, morning tea is supplied and fresh fruit is available at all times. Clients are not required to prepare meals. We can only have campfires at certain locations; food is cooked on gas stoves. All eating utensils are provided.

Drinks

Drinking water is always available. Clients may bring a small quantity of alcohol, but it must be either in casks or cans- glass cannot be accommodated. There will be opportunity to purchase at Kununurra. There will be limited capacity for cooling drinks.

CLIMATE

Days are usually dry with average max temps of 30C and average minimum temps of 15C. However, some evenings can be very chilly, especially in the Bungles.

PERSONAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT

Note: Please limit your luggage to one small-medium sized bag. - it has to be loaded and unloaded every day! 12kg should be sufficient. Sleeping bag, day pack, pillow and walking poles can be additional.

Sleeping bag(hired if required)
Pillow
Day pack- this can be carried on the coach
Shorts/long pants and shirts for walking-as many sets as you wish!
Walking socks
Gaiters
Bathers, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen
Toiletries, bath towel
Small towel to carry during the day
Boots/shoes for walking
Shoes for walking that can get wet- old joggers or sturdy sandals are ideal.
Thongs are not suitable.
Clothes for evenings- warm pants, jumper, beanie
Waterproof jacket
Camera
Torch and spare batteries
Fly net (to go over hat)
Any preferred first aid supplies such as your favourite blister treatment !
Waterbottle- 2 x 1 litre
A lunch container
Snacks for the walks if desired
Walking poles if you use them

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

The bus has an HF radio which can link to the Flying Doctor network. We carry full first aid kits.

OTHER TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

To Broome: Skywest, Qantas and Virgin . From \$179

From Kununurra: Skywest and Qantas. From \$380

There is a variety of accommodation in Broome and Kununurra, probably cheapest if booked directly.

However, if you need help with flights/ accommodation please contact me.

COST

\$3350 per person includes all transport, food (except for one evening meal in Kununurra), camping equipment (except sleeping bag), camping fees and guiding. Helicopter flights are additional. A deposit of \$200 is to be received by March 30th. However, it is possible the trip may fill before this date. There is a \$50 discount for previous customers of Inspiration Outdoors. The balance is to be

received by May 15th. The max number of clients is 12. The trip is subject to minimum numbers.

Please forward a cheque to Inspiration Outdoors, 172 Swan St West, Guildford, 6055 together with the medical form and assumption of risk form. If you wish to do a direct deposit the details are:

Acct Name: Inspiration Outdoors
ANZ 016255
Acct No 351017787

Please ensure that you identify yourself with the direct deposit. Additionally it is a good idea to send me an email after you have made the deposit. However, please still forward the registration form.

If you have further questions please phone or email .

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations received more than 12 weeks before the start of the trip will receive a refund in full. Thereafter there is a cancellation fee as follows:

6-12 weeks before the trip:	\$200
4-6 weeks before the trip:	25% full trip fee
2-4 weeks before the trip:	50% full trip fee
Less than 2 weeks before the trip:	100% full trip fee

NOT INCLUDED:

Travel Insurance (recommended)
Alcohol/carbonated beverages
Pre and post tour accommodation
Private expenses
Helicopter flight

CONTACT DETAILS

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