

Australian  
Wildlife Journeys



Common Wombat on Maria Island

# Australian Wildlife Journeys

Australian Wildlife Journeys is a group of expert independently operated wildlife tourism operators, who have joined together to raise awareness of Australia as a world class destination for authentic and sustainable encounters with wildlife in the wild.

Members of the group have a passion and commitment to provide in-depth information about Australia’s diverse wildlife species, and are dedicated to the preservation and regeneration of Australia’s natural heritage through conservation actions.

Central to these touring experiences is the guarantee of knowledgeable high-quality guiding, interpretation, and hospitality that connects visitors with nature, fosters learning and respects local communities and environments.



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# There's nothing like Australia's wildlife

Australia's natural beauty and unique wildlife is a major drawcard for international visitors, and with good reason. Our country is blessed with some of the most intriguing mammals within the animal kingdom, more than 80 per cent of which are found nowhere else on Earth.

Of the 828 bird species found on our continent, around 45 per cent are only found here. In fact, it has recently been determined that no other continent has contributed so greatly to the evolution of birds, with most of the world's species having Australian ancestry.

And the life in the waters surrounding Australia is simply extraordinary. Our coral reefs include the Great Barrier Reef, the largest living structure on earth and one of the most complex ecosystems. On Australia's west coast, the Ningaloo Marine Park is the world's largest extensive fringing reef, home to the graceful whale shark, and 50 per cent of the Indian Ocean's coral species. Along the southern Australian coastline, 85 per cent of fish, 90 per cent of echinoderms (starfish, sea urchins, sea cucumbers) and 95 per cent of molluscs are considered endemic, with new species being discovered every day. Our oceans support over 5,000 species of fish, more than half of the shark and ray species in the world, six of the seven known species of marine turtles, and tens of thousands of species of invertebrates.

More than half of the world's cetacean species: whales, dolphins and porpoises, are found in Australian waters. The world's largest population of Humpback Whales, estimated to be more than 40,000 individuals, travel along the coast of Western Australia every year to breed in the warm waters on their migration from Antarctica. This is mirrored on Australia's east coast where over 20,000 Humpback Whales make a similar journey.

We also have the most reptiles and lizards of any nation, with 869 species, 93 per cent of which are unique to our continent. A highlight for many visitors is to spot the largest living reptile and apex predator, the Saltwater Crocodile, found in abundance in the northern parts of the country.

With so many species spread across stunning and diverse habitats including tropical rainforests, coral reefs, coastal heaths, wetlands and swamps, sandy deserts, and Eucalypt woodlands, it is little wonder why Australia is recognised across the globe as a wildlife enthusiast's paradise.

Australian Wildlife Journeys invites you to join us, let us share our knowledge with you, and help you discover why there's nothing like Australia's wildlife.



# Australian Coastal Safaris

South Australia's Eyre Peninsula is Australia's ultimate temperate aquatic playground, featuring striking coastlines, vast sand dunes, rugged offshore islands, secluded coves and a thriving aquaculture industry. The pristine waters are renowned for incredible marine encounters, providing the opportunity for you to swim with Australian Sea-lions and Bottlenose Dolphins, cage-dive with Great White Sharks or dive with the Leafy Sea Dragon or ethereal Giant Cuttlefish.

Within the region are several national parks to explore, that protect 270 species of birds and around 1,900 native plant species across a variety of habitats. The rugged limestone cliffs of the Eyre Peninsula are a sanctuary for Osprey and White-bellied Sea-Eagles and numerous other seabirds. Venturing further inland, the region is home to distinctive rock formations, providing you access to Western Grey Kangaroos, Emus, Koalas, and Southern Hairy-nosed Wombats.

Owner, David Doudle, has spent 40 years exploring the local area. He and his team's knowledge of the area and the longstanding relationships they have with the local communities, make touring across the region with Australian Coastal Safaris an unforgettable experience. Whether you would like to shuck oysters fresh from the ocean, indulge in a seafood and wine pairing lunch, take a guided electric mountain bike tour, or improve your photography skills with a multi-day workshop, the team is renowned for providing custom itineraries based on your passions and interests.

The team are ambassadors in keeping the region's environments pure, pristine and sparsely populated, and provide you with opportunities to participate in local Koala and Rosenberg's Goanna citizen science tracking programs.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Port Lincoln Wildlife Encounters (S,P)	On Request	Year round	2 days	12
Eyre Peninsula Wildlife & Ocean Encounters (S,P)	On Request	Oct - late May	3 days	12
Winter Whale Watching & Wildlife Encounters (S,P)	On Request	Jul - late Sep	5 days	12
Southern Eyre Peninsula Birdwatching (S,P)	On Request	Sep - late May	3 days	4
Port Lincoln & Coffin Bay Photography Workshop (S,P)	On Request	Year round	3 days	4
Great White Shark Cage Dive Package (P)	On Request	Year round	2 days	12
Electric Mountain Bike Tours (S,P)	On Request	Year round	2 days	9

S Shared Group P Private Group Available

## REGION:

Eyre Peninsula, South Australia

## ACCESS:

Port Lincoln (PLO), 40 min flight from Adelaide Airport (ADL)

## CONTACT:

+61 472 682 490  
info@australiancoastalsafaris.com.au



Cummings Monument



# David Doudle

## AUSTRALIAN COASTAL SAFARIS

To spend time with David Doudle is to get a window into the fourth-generation farmer's enchantingly free-range childhood. David grew up on a sheep and grain farm, by the cliffy edges of the Great Australian Bight. Spare time was spent exploring rock pools for abalone, going snorkelling and spear fishing, surfing remote breaks, sandboarding and trekking through the bush, constantly in search of adventure. It's essentially what he does now, only with much more comfort attached.

These days, when David takes you to the rock pool where he, and later his kids, all learnt to swim, there's no lugging a full esky, chairs, cricket bats and snorkelling gear 50 metres down, anymore. A cushy 4WD vehicle handles all of that. Similarly, when he takes you to one of the region's first farming properties – settled in 1842 with the original homestead still intact – there's drinks and a cheese platter accompanying the harmony of 160 native bird species. And while peering over stark cliff edges is exhilarating, it doesn't compare to riding in a helicopter opposite the southern crust of Australia, allowing your eyes to sweep over sheep station country and sand dunes, schools of fish and footprint-free beaches, endless saltwater lakes and farmland. The diversity and sense of solitude never fails to astound David.

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"We are really proud to be partnering with the Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board, to contribute sightings with our guests, for several of our vulnerable species including the Rosenberg's Goanna, Mallee Fowl and other rare bird species, echidnas and our local population of Koalas. It's a terrific way to engage travellers of all ages and provide essential data so we can keep showing these amazing animals in our backyard!"*

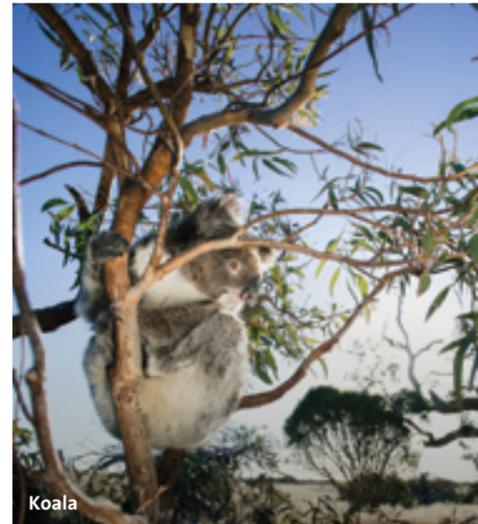
# Eyre Peninsula Wildlife & Ocean Encounters

3 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS OCT - LATE MAY | MAX NUMBER: 12 PAX

Adventure and excitement in the water and out – this spectacular adventure combines amazing marine encounters, spectacular landscapes and Australia’s best seafood. Swim with Australia Sea-lions and dolphins. See wild Koalas, Emus, Osprey and goannas across stunning coastal national parks and shuck oysters fresh from the ocean at Coffin Bay.



Australian Sea-lion



Koala

**Day 1: Coffin Bay National Park.** Visit the internationally-significant freshwater wetlands at Big Swamp to see several species of waders including Pink-eared Ducks, stilts, plovers and swans. Venture out on a cruise joining a local oyster farmer where you will spot seabirds, seals and dolphins and learn about oyster farming. After delicious seafood platters for lunch, explore Coffin Bay National Park via 4WD, to see Emus, goannas, kangaroos, White-bellied Sea-Eagles and Osprey. **Port Lincoln Hotel or South Point Private Beach House**



**Day 2: Baird Bay.** Today, visit the magical destination of Baird Bay to swim with Australian Sea-lions and Bottlenose Dolphins. Experiencing sea-lions in their natural environment is rated as one of the ocean’s greatest interactive experiences, as they are fast, agile and playful like puppy dogs. A visit to Talia Caves and Cummings Monument provides you spectacular and uninterrupted views of the rugged limestone cliffs, iconic of the Great Australian Bight. **Port Lincoln Hotel or South Point Private Beach House**

**Day 3: Lincoln National Park.** A 4WD tour of rugged Lincoln National Park, will provide breathtaking vistas at every turn. Weathered

cliffs, vast sand dunes and Mallee eucalypts provide habitat for kangaroos, emus, Western Yellow Robins, Australian Pipits, Rock Parrots and Shingleback Skinks. In the afternoon, venture out to beautiful Mikkira Station to watch a colony of wild Koalas while you relax with a platter of local produce, wine and listen to the sounds of nature. **Port Lincoln Hotel or South Point Private Beach House**



Off-Road Four-Wheel Driving

**Optional Extension:** Great White Shark Cage Dive. For an adrenaline rush, venture out on a day tour to the Neptune Islands for a chance to observe the Great White Shark.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,225 AUD per person twin share (based on 4-6 pax)

## ICONIC SPECIES

Australian Sea-lion, Koala, Western Grey Kangaroo, Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat, Osprey, Emu, Port Lincoln Parrot, Rock Parrot, Western Yellow Robin, Blue-breasted Wren, Rosenberg’s Goanna, Shingleback Skink

# Southern Eyre Peninsula Birdwatching

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS OCT - LATE MAY | MAX NUMBER: 4 PAX

Discover the Southern Eyre Peninsula’s remarkable birdwatching sites with local expert Fran Solly, in search of some of the region’s 270 bird species. A keen birdwatcher for more than 30 years and professional photographer, Fran will explore hidden hotspots to share iconic bird species such as Port Lincoln Parrots, Blue-breasted Fairy-wrens, Western Yellow Robins, Western Whipbirds and the endangered Southern Emu-wren.

**Day 1: East Coast.** Your ornithology journey starts at Port Neill before exploring other secluded coves on the east coast, to spot migrant Ruddy Turnstones, endangered Hooded Plovers, Diamond Firetails, Rock Parrots and a colony of Crested Terns. Following a short mangrove walk to spot shorebirds and a picnic lunch on the beach, you will divert inland to Mallee Scrub terrain, to find an assortment of bush birds and a unique location for ducks and waterbirds. **Port Lincoln Hotel**

**Day 2: Coffin Bay National Park.** Morning visits to coastal inlets and pristine swamps provides great opportunities to spot cormorants, teals, eagles, wrens, robins, parrots, ducks, pardalotes and honeyeater species. After a gourmet lunch in Coffin Bay and short Oyster tour, you will explore Coffin Bay National Park via 4WD to see some of the most spectacular coastal scenery in South Australia with Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagles, Caspian Terns, Hooded Plovers, Red Necked Stints, Emu and Southern Emu-wrens our target species. **Port Lincoln Hotel**

**Day 3: Lincoln National Park & Mikkira.** You will spend the morning near the coastal hamlet of

Tulka where waders, Black Swans and numerous seabirds can be seen via a bird hide. Traversing through to the Lincoln National Park, Osprey, White-bellied Sea- Eagles, kites and harriers are raptor highlights before beautiful Memory Cove. Purple-gaped Honeyeaters, Striated Pardalotes, Australian Pipits, Western Yellow Robins and Blue-breasted Fairy-wrens are possible sightings, before spending the afternoon at the privately owned, Mikkira Station. This is a hotspot for Port Lincoln Parrots, Golden Whistlers, honeyeaters, cuckoos, Koalas, Emus and occasionally Scarlet Robins and Western Yellow Robins.

**PRICE:**  
From \$1,455 AUD per person twin share (based on 4 pax)

## ICONIC SPECIES

Port Lincoln Parrot, Blue-breasted Fairy-wren, Western Yellow Robin, Western Whipbird, Southern Emu-wren, Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Purple-gaped Honeyeater, Pink-eared Duck, Golden Whistler, Australian Pipit



Sacred Kingfisher



Superb Blue-wren



Osprey



Port Lincoln Parrots



# Echidna Walkabout Nature Tours

It is little wonder that the state of Victoria is so popular with nature lovers, blessed with astonishing biodiversity in a concentrated area, easily accessible from cosmopolitan Melbourne. East Gippsland is one of the few regions of the world, with unbroken stretches of forests from the alps to the sea. Magnificent lush rainforests, coastal heathlands, giant eucalypt groves, pristine rivers and white sandy beaches, provide refuge for 50 native mammal species; including Australia's two monotreme species, the Platypus and Echidna along with the world's greatest songbird, the Superb Lyrebird. You can also find 17 species of kangaroo, possums, gliders, Koalas, and wombats; 19 amphibians and 36 reptile species, including the Lace Monitor and Diamond Python.

West of Melbourne, the grasslands and low woodlands around the You Yangs, provide you with the opportunity see Eastern Grey Kangaroos and a colony of Koalas that Echidna Walkabout has been studying for over 20 years. Incredible insights in to each Koala's history and social life will leave you amazed and inspired to protect this amazing marsupial. Inland from the coastal landscape of the Great Ocean Road, the cool, wet hinterland rainforests are home to Swamp Wallabies, possums, Short-beaked Echidnas, and a myriad of birdlife; while the tall eucalypt forests of the Great Otway National Park are alive with vividly coloured parrots and cockatoos, as well as 38 species of butterfly.

Echidna Walkabout Nature Tours has been providing high quality nature and wildlife experiences for small groups of travellers since 1993. With an enduring passion for wildlife and dedication to protecting nature, their vision is to bring people and wildlife together for mutual benefit and ensure the free-living future of Australian wildlife. The team has been internationally-recognised in wildlife in the wild conservation travel, having won the World Responsible Travel Award. You will have the opportunity to give back to Australia's precious habitats, contributing to the weed eradication program to save Koalas; removing discarded fishing net along East Gippsland; or helping guides record wildlife sightings for atlas submission and citizen science programs.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
East Gippsland Wildlife Journey (S,P)	Mon	Sep - late May	4 days	8
Private Mungo Outback Journey (P)	On Request	Mar - late Oct	4 days	8
Private Great Ocean Road (P)	On Request	Year round	3 days	8
Koala Recovery Experience (S,P)	Select Dates	Jul & Aug	2 or 3 days	10+
Tawny Frogmouths & Sandpipers 2 day Birding (P)	On Request	Year round	2 days	25

S Shared Group P Private Group Available

## REGION:

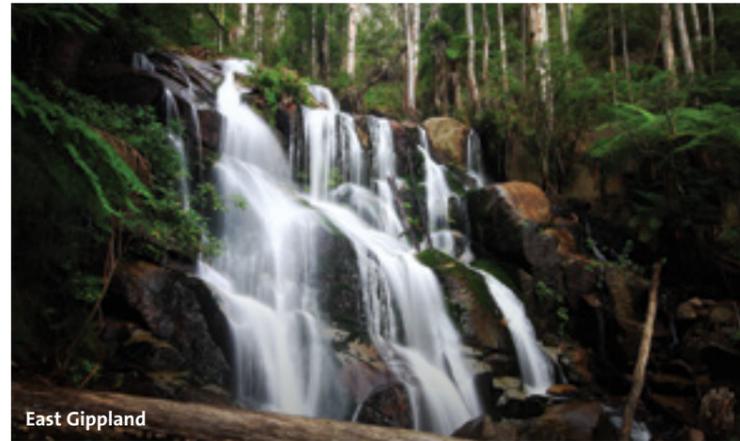
East Gippsland, Great Ocean Road & Mungo, Victoria & New South Wales

## ACCESS:

Melbourne (MEL)

## CONTACT:

+61 3 9646 8249  
enquiries@echidnawalkabout.com.au



East Gippland



Great Ocean Road – The Twelve Apostles



Tree Planting

## Janine Duffy

### ECHIDNA WALKABOUT NATURE TOURS

In all the time Janine Duffy has spent in the wild with Australia's native marsupials, especially Koalas and kangaroos, she's noticed something curious: they make eye contact with humans. When it happens, Janine says it feels like they're looking into your soul. The guide, conservationist and wildlife researcher describes it as unlike anything she's experienced anywhere else in the world.

Janine runs Echidna Walkabout Nature Tours with her partner, Roger Smith. Their first date was to the You Yangs granite peaks outside Melbourne, where they now oversee a wild koala research project and lead tours through the dry, open woodland where a population of around 127 Koalas live. In the river valleys just downstream, they are planting thousands of trees in partnership with farmers, to ensure those Koalas' future.

Every tour they do, be it through the eucalypt forests of East Gippsland, to arid Lake Mungo in the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area, or along the breathtaking Great Ocean Road, is imbued with the philosophy that travellers use the world as their classroom. Guests might learn through pulling out weeds that harm the wildlife, listening to the findings of research projects or sensing empathy while watching creatures in their natural setting. Adult education takes many forms, and Janine's bubbly nature and earnest passion – not to mention her other roles as wildlife foster carer and wildlife artist – makes her guests want to commit to a lifetime of study.

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"We strongly support the concept of privately-owned land to increase the habitat available to wildlife – this is essential if wildlife is to survive the upcoming challenges of climate change. Through our Koala Clancy Foundation, we plant koala food trees in river valleys and along creeks on private farmland near Melbourne – returning the indigenous flora to that denuded environment."*

# East Gippsland Wildlife Journey

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS SEP - LATE MAY | MAX NUMBER: 8 PAX

Immerse yourself in the magnificent biodiverse forests of East Gippsland, Southeast Australia's Coastal Wilderness. You will give back to our wildlife for half an hour a day, through helping with a new wild Koala research project, remove fishing nets and plastic from beaches, and conduct bushfire-recovery wildlife surveys. Photograph wild Koalas in magnificent stands of giant eucalypts, walk in rainforests listening for lyrebirds and cockatoos. Photograph wallabies, kangaroos, wombats and Lace Monitors beside secluded rivers and waterways.

**Day 1: Lakes District.** Your East Gippsland exploration starts at the acclaimed RAMSAR wetlands of the Lakes District, full of waterbirds, before heading to an island sanctuary, boasting a thriving colony of wild Koalas, abundant echidnas, kangaroos, parrots, honeyeaters and seabirds. The region's lush eucalypt forests, pristine estuaries and white sandy beaches, provide the opportunity to help record species sightings for conservation purposes. **Snowy River Homestead or similar**

**Day 2: Rugged Mountain Forests.** Today you will visit both dry and wet mountain forests, visit the famous Snowy River, and walk beside secluded waterways, with everchanging landscapes sure to captivate you at every turn. You will learn about the formation of these mighty forests that provide habitat for Superb Lyrebirds, Gang Gang Cockatoos, Satin Bowerbirds, Lace Monitors and Swamp Wallabies. Birds, reptiles and marsupials are abundant, but other human visitors are few. The day concludes with a classic Aussie dinner at the Homestead. **Snowy River Homestead or similar**

**Day 3: River Estuaries and Coast.** Gentle morning walks through lowland rainforest, coastal heathlands and rivers provide the opportunity to spot Swamp Wallabies, White-bellied Sea Eagles, cockatoos, kingfishers, swans, Eastern Whipbirds and huge goanna lizards. A visit to a complex dune system and 90 mile beach provides spectacular coastal vistas, before spending a little time removing old fishing nets that often trap and kill sea creatures. After a picnic in the bush overlooking the beach, you will explore the plains for wallabies, kangaroos and wombats with your guide. **Snowy River Homestead or similar**

**Day 4: Mouth of the Snowy River.** Experience the magnificence of the Snowy River mouth one last time, before a visit to Krowathunkoolong Keeping Place, an informative Aboriginal Cultural Centre in Bairnsdale. Here you will learn about how the Aboriginal people have lived amongst these captivating landscapes for thousands of years, before arriving back in Melbourne late afternoon.



Koala



King Parrot



Superb Lyrebird

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,250 AUD per person twin share

### 🦘 ICONIC SPECIES

Koala, Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Swamp Wallaby, Short-beaked Echidna, Common Wombat, Yellow-bellied and Greater Glider, Emu, King Parrot, Superb Lyrebird, Satin Bowerbird, Lace Monitor, East Gippsland Water Dragon



# Private Mungo Outback Journey

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | PRIVATE  
DEPARTS MAR - LATE OCT | MAX NUMBER: 8 PAX

Gaze in wonder at the the expansive red sand plains and dunes around Lake Mungo and the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area along with the riverine ecosystems of the famous Murray and Darling Rivers. Your private wildlife guide will reveal Mungo's arid land, ancient Aboriginal Heritage and iconic arid species such as Red Kangaroos, Emus, Pink Cockatoos, several parrot species including Mulga, Red-rumped, Mallee Ringnecks and Blue-bonnets, along with numerous reptiles basking in the sun.

**Day 1: River and Lakes of the Outback.** Your epic journey begins in Mildura, providing access to one of Australia's most significant places; the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers. Next stop is the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area to walk along an ancient fossilised watercourse with your expert guide, before watching the sunset over the dry bed of Lake Mungo, with sightings of desert parrots, cockatoos Western Grey Kangaroos and Red Kangaroos a highlight. **Mungo Lodge**

**Day 2 & 3: Lake Mungo.** On a series of walks and drives across Mungo National Park, you'll investigate the incredible wildlife across a diverse array of habitats, varying from dense mallee woodlands, cypress pine/buloke woodlands, mulga scrub, vast expanses of saltbush and huge white sand dunes. Additional photo opportunities await once you reach the spectacular lunettes (wind-curved sand dunes), where you will be fascinated with the story line through 50,000 years of Aboriginal History. Wildlife sightings may include Pink Cockatoos, Cockatiels, Emus, chats, arid land fairy wrens, raptors, goannas and occasionally the

Crested Bellbird. **Mungo Lodge**  
**Day 4: Return to Melbourne.** After an optional early morning bird walk, you will enjoy a final breakfast at Mungo Lodge before driving out of the desert to Mildura Airport. You will tally up with your guide all the species of birds, reptiles, mammals seen on the trip, which will help scientists to determine the movements and conservation status of species over time and the impacts of climate change and feral species intrusion.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,450 AUD per person twin share (based on 4 pax)

### 🦘 ICONIC SPECIES

Red Kangaroo, Western Grey Kangaroo, Gould's Goanna, Shingleback Lizard, Central Bearded Dragon, Emu, Pink Cockatoo, Blue-bonnet Parrot, Mulga Parrot, Brown Falcon, Splendid Fairy-wren



Bearded Dragon



Pink Cockatoos



Emus



Western Grey Kangaroo





# Exceptional Kangaroo Island

Kangaroo Island is Australia's third-largest island, and more than one third of it is protected as National and Conservation parks. Half the native bushland remains just as it was when British explorer Matthew Flinders named it in 1802, providing a natural habitat for a rich variety of animals. On this picturesque island, you are able to spot Kangaroo Island Kangaroos, Tamar Wallabies, Short-beaked Echidnas, Koalas and possums in abundant numbers.

Many of the island's plant and animal species are either threatened or exist nowhere else in Australia, such as the Sooty Dunnart, which is unique to Kangaroo Island. Hundreds of rare Australian Sea-lions gather on the long sandy beachfront at the Seal Park Conservation Park, one of the only places in the world where you can wander within metres of the animals as they laze on the beach. The island is home to more than 260 bird species, including the rare Glossy Black-Cockatoo, which is one of 14 birds with a Kangaroo Island sub-species. Aside from world-renowned wildlife viewing, the island provides you with endless touring possibilities, from exploring studios with local artists, sampling regional produce including honey farms, wineries, gin distilleries and oysters, through to multi-mode adventure activities including four-wheel driving, walking, e-biking and ocean rafting.

Multi award-winning tour operator Exceptional Kangaroo Island has been introducing guests to Kangaroo Island's unique wildlife since 1990, offering small group and luxury private four-wheel drive touring, as well as special interest programs, promising you good food, good wine and wildlife in the wild. Exceptional Kangaroo Island takes its responsibility to the environment, its guests and its community seriously. This is reflected in the company achieving advanced eco-tourism accreditation and its local partnership with KI Land for Wildlife, to regenerate local bushland and protect endangered species.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Kangaroo Island in Style (S,P,L)	Daily	Year round	2 days	12
Kangaroo Island Investigator (S,P,L)	Daily	Year round	3 days	12
Kangaroo Island Immersion (S,P,L)	Daily	Year round	4 days	12
Kangaroo Island Birding (Wild About Birds) (P,L)	On Request	Year round	3 days	12
Kangaroo Island Photo Safari (P,L)	On Request	Year round	3 days	12
Conservation Connection (P,L)	Daily	Year round	3 days	6
Walk Kangaroo Island (S,P)	Select Dates	Year round	6 days	8
Gin, Wine & Wildlife E-Bike Tour (S,P)	Sat & Tue	Year round	5.5 hours	6

**S** Shared Group    **P** Private Group Available    **L** Larger Groups Available

## REGION:

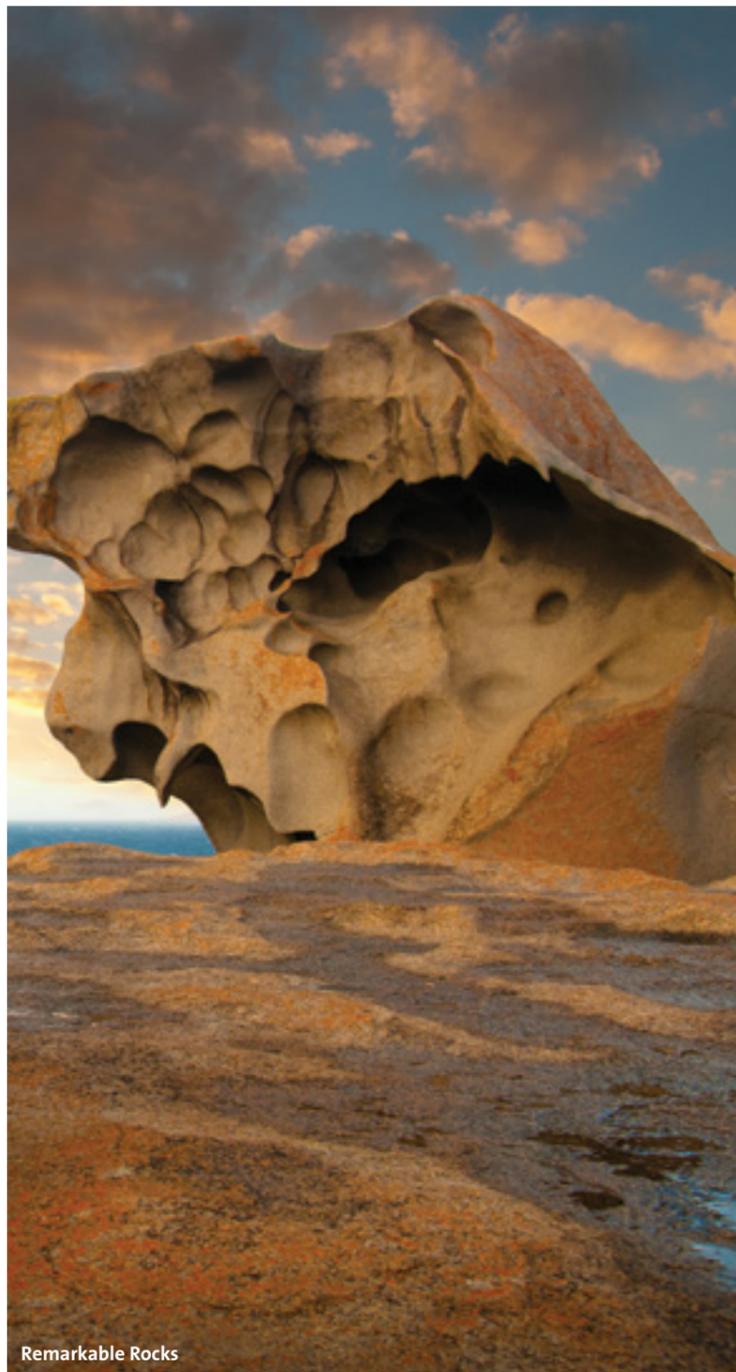
Kangaroo Island, South Australia

## ACCESS:

Kingscote (KGC) - 20 minute flight from Adelaide Airport (ADL) or 90 minute drive & 50 minute ferry from Adelaide to Penneshaw

## CONTACT:

+61 8 8553 9119  
info@exceptionalkangarooisland.com



Remarkable Rocks



# Craig Wickham

## EXCEPTIONAL KANGAROO ISLAND

When Craig Wickham spots a goanna scuttling across the road, he doesn't tell his guests to get out of the way. Instead, he invites them into the bush to see where it has come from. He knows that more often than not, the reptile is slinking away from a termite mound where it has just laid its eggs – a spot that's the ideal temperature to ensure they hatch.

Crouching down to show people parts of nature they'd never usually know about, let alone see up close, is what gives Craig his buzz, and that's after 30 years exploring his wildlife-packed island off the southern coast of South Australia.

When Craig bought the business in 1990, he remembers people would write letters wanting to make a booking, and later it was faxes. Photographs were used sparingly, still captured on film. "So much has changed in technology," he says, "but the fresh scent of crushed eucalyptus leaves, the perfume of bright red bottlebrush flowers or the birdsong indicating a snake is near remain the same."

Craig studied wildlife management and loves to bust perceptions of Australian snakes being hostile; instead, he shows his guests how calm and inquisitive they can be, if left alone and motionlessly observed. His version of transformational travel ranges from reframing the way we think about things, to pausing to engage all the senses. He tunes people into nature as well as into themselves. That might be stopping the car to gaze at endangered wallabies no one else has seen, or roaming through grapevines while talking to the viticulturalist, or tasting freshly distilled gin where it's made, or visiting a hidden beach known only to local fishermen.

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"One of the amazing things about Kangaroo Island is our community's unified approach to assisting our threatened species. Conservation and sustainability are part of the island's DNA, so partnering with Kangaroo Island Land for Wildlife and local scientists is a natural fit for us. It allows our guests to see firsthand what it's like to live in this beautiful place and what needs to be done to keep it that way."*



# Kangaroo Island Immersion

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 12 PAX

This celebration of Kangaroo Island's wildlife, landscapes, produce, history, ecology, and lifestyle reveals the very best of Australia's third largest island. Travelling in custom four-wheel drive vehicles, you will indulge in elegant picnics and superb local produce across stunning vistas. Engage in warm conversation with expert guides, observing many of Australia's iconic animals across landscapes of solitude and splendour.

**Day 1: Island Life.** Start at Cygnet River which is home to Koalas, many parrots and bush birds. Learn about the Eucalyptus oil industry - perhaps the most original Australian product. Travel to the north coast and explore Stokes Bay with kangaroos, wallabies, Koalas and shorebirds being regular encounters. Visit a private property amongst the redgum forest and enjoy a seafood barbeque lunch. At Seal Bay, observe Australian Sea-lions and learn about the feeding and breeding behaviour of these photogenic creatures. If time permits, end the day at Bales Bay, a spectacular wilderness beach.

**Day 2: Flinders Chase Focus.** The vast wilderness of the west end of the Island is our focus, including a critical private refuge (Kangaroo Island Land for Wildlife) and Flinders Chase National Park. Check out wildlife surveys targeting tiny endangered mammals and get an introduction to the bush, giving context to the fire ecology experienced later in the day. Break for lunch in the bush, before heading into the National Park. Explore natural sculptures at Remarkable Rocks, see fur-seals resting at Admirals Arch and learn about the history of Cape du Couedic lighthouse.

**Day 3: Fine Flavours.** Round out your Kangaroo Island experience by linking up with the locals. Meet the characters behind the fresh flavours in the local produce and discover their stories. Learn first-hand about the production processes and what makes this region such a celebrated culinary destination in a series of over-the-fence chats, tail-gate tastings, farm-gate visits, and cellar door experiences. Producers include the Islander Estate Vineyard, Fryar's Free-range Eggs, Clifford's Honey Farm, Kangaroo Island Pure Grain, Kangaroo Island Oyster Farm Shop, KI Olives and KI Spirits. Included tastings and experiences may change seasonally according to availability.

**Day 4: East End Explorer.** Limestone cliffs, white sandy beaches, ice-age dunes, gentle rolling hills and peaceful lagoons typify the beautiful Dudley Peninsula. This eastern region is a microcosm of Kangaroo Island with gorgeous landscapes, exceptional food and wine, and a diversity of wildlife habitat. Explore Pennington Bay and the marine sanctuary of Pelican Lagoon, a tasting at False Cape winery before a delectable picnic lunch. Continue east to Cape Willoughby, the Devil's Kitchen,



Australian Sea Lions



Short-beaked Echidna



Kangaroo Island Kangaroos

Antechamber Bay, Baudin Conservation Park and the township of Penneshaw.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,040 AUD per person (touring only)

## 🚗 ICONIC SPECIES

Kangaroo Island Kangaroo, Tammar Wallaby, Short-beaked Echidna, Koala, Australian Sea-lion, Long-nosed Fur Seal, Rosenberg's Goanna, Glossy Black-Cockatoo, Cape Barren Goose, Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo



# Kangaroo Island Birding (Wild About Birds)

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS | PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 12 PAX

Kangaroo Island is a birdwatcher's paradise, with the opportunity to spot almost one-third of the birds recorded in Australia. With magnificent coastlines and vast tracts of mallee and woodlands, seek out a broad range of species, including parrots, bush birds, raptors, seabirds, waterbirds and waders, with a significant number of endemic sub-species.

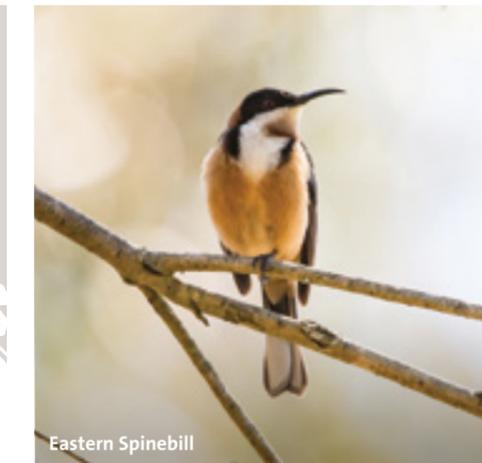
**Day 1: American River & Busby Islet.** Begin your three-day birdwatching adventure at American River where endangered Glossy Black-Cockatoos are frequent encounters in the bush, as are Grey Currawongs, Little Corellas, Galahs and Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes. After stopping at secluded locations known for waterbirds, you will have lunch, followed by a boat ride out to Busby Islet to observe seabird colonies protected in a restricted conservation area. Australian Pelicans, Royal Spoonbills, a range of cormorants, Australian White Ibis, and White-bellied Sea-Eagles are frequent sightings, as are Bottlenose Dolphins in the sheltered waters.

**Day 2: Flinders Chase & Seal Bay.** Start at Seal Bay for a privately guided tour where Australian Sea-lions share the beach with Caspian and Crested Terns, Sooty and Pied Oystercatchers and Hooded Plovers. Rock Parrots and Fairy Terns are chance encounters at Vivonne Bay and Little Penguins nest in burrows at Point Ellen. Both Seal Bay and Vivonne Bay provide the possibility of seeing Ospreys. Continue to the expansive wilderness of Flinders Chase National Park, where Cape Barren Geese, Tawny-crowned and Crescent Honeyeaters, Red and Little Wattlebirds, a couple of pardalote species, and Crimson

Rosellas, are birding highlights along with kangaroos, fur-seals and Koala observations.

**Day 3: North and East Coast.** Start with a session focussing on the endemic Glossy Black-Cockatoo recovery plan and private conservation efforts at Cygnet Park. Take in nearby Duck Lagoon, a freshwater billabong where typical encounters include White-eared, White-naped and Brown-headed Honeyeaters, Crimson Rosellas, Superb Fairy-wrens, teals, grebes, Yellow-billed Spoonbills and Black Swans. Latham Conservation Park is next stop, prime habitat for Glossy Black-Cockatoos, Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos, Scarlet Robins, thornbills, and Golden Whistlers being regular observations. After a fresh seafood barbeque lunch, there are chances to observe Koalas, Crescent Honeyeaters, Eastern Spinebills, Purple-crowned and Rainbow Lorikeets. The destinations explored in the afternoon will depend on seasonality and success with observations so far. We might go to D'Estrees Bay and try for Southern Emu-wrens, or Nepean Bay for Beautiful Firetails, or the Cygnet River estuary.

**PRICE:**  
From \$3,975 AUD per person (touring only)



Eastern Spinebill



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

## 🦜 ICONIC SPECIES

Glossy Black-Cockatoo, Hooded Dotterel, Cape Barren Goose, Scarlet Robin, Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Golden Whistler, Purple-crowned Lorikeet, Australian Swan, Royal Spoonbill, Crimson Rosella



Scarlet Robin



# Exmouth Dive & Whalesharks Ningaloo

Fringing Western Australia's north-west coastline, World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef Marine Park is one of the world's largest and most magnificent fringing coral reefs. This intricate reef system stretches for more than 260 kilometres, and at some points, is only metres from beautiful secluded sandy beaches.

The reef is home to a myriad of marine life, including the largest fish ever found, the Whale Shark. Ningaloo is the only place in the world where visitors can swim with Whale Sharks every day from March to August, when the plankton rich waters draw them close to the reef in search of food.

Humpback Whales are also in abundance, with more than 40,000 whales migrating to the area from June to late October. Manta Rays cruise along the reef between April and November; while in October and November, Green, Loggerhead and Hawksbill Turtles begin their mating season and nesting on the beaches along the coastline.

With a bio-diversity of around 300 species of coral, an assortment of uniquely coloured nudibranchs, and more than 500 different species of fish, the warm pristine waters of Ningaloo Reef are an impressive destination all year round.

As the region's original eco-tourism operation, Exmouth Dive & Whalesharks Ningaloo has been taking guests to experience the aquatic treasures of Ningaloo Reef for more than 20 years. The company specialises in small group tours for Whale Shark swims, Humpback Whale swims and whale watching, and scuba diving and snorkelling. Their long-term commitment to preserving the area has contributed to the team of guides providing guests with the region's best places for diving and snorkelling, along with reliable and exciting interactions with the local wildlife.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Deluxe Whaleshark Swim (S,P)	Daily	Mar - late Aug	Full day	20
Deluxe Humpback Whale Swim (S,P)	Daily	Mid Jul – late Oct	Full day	14
Outer Reef or Island Dive & Snorkel (S,P)	Daily	Mar - late Oct	Full day	20
Ningaloo Underwater Island Photography Course (S,P)	On Request	Mar - late Oct	Full day	4
Behind the Scenes with Researchers: Manta Rays (P)	On Request	Mar - late Oct	Full day	20

**S** Shared Group    **P** Private Group Available

## REGION:

Exmouth, Western Australia

## ACCESS:

Learmonth Airport (LEA) – 2 hour flight from Perth Airport (PER)

## CONTACT:

+61 8 9949 1201  
accounts@exmouthdiving.com.au



Cape Range National Park



Ningaloo Reef



# Debbie Ferguson

## EXMOUTH DIVE & WHALESHARKS NINGALOO

The first time Debbie Ferguson saw a Whale Shark was on her honeymoon. She and husband Mark wanted something to remember their special occasion with, and the enormity of the gentle, spotted giant – a filter-feeder that bears a vacuum-like mouth filled with 300 tiny teeth – definitely fit the bill. That was 2003, when Debbie was still working as a radiographer, spending her days indoors, often not glimpsing the outside world until after knock-off time.

Mark, a keen scuba diver and boat skipper, had ignited her interest in aquatic pursuits and soon the pair were dreaming of quitting city life. The World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Coast in Western Australia, where Whale Sharks consistently travel each March to August, became their answer.

Now, their office is the ocean, while diving, snorkelling and wildlife spotting is their nine-to-five. The pair bought Exmouth's first eco-tourism business in 2012. Ningaloo, the world's most accessible fringing reef, and the abundant activity within it, continues to enthrall them.

As well as snorkelling alongside long, docile Whale Sharks, from mid-July onwards, the couple host Humpback Whale swims and encounters, as well as playful interactions with graceful Manta Rays – the ballet dancers of the sea.

Their scuba diving trips to sites that are 15 to 17 metres down reveal so many fish, the reef is all but covered. Swarms of bait fish twist and turn in unison, dodging predatory pelagic species while putting on an extraordinary visual show of nature in the wild. For Debbie, it's all in a day's work.

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"We've never taken for granted that we live, work, and play in a World Heritage-listed area. While we're passionate about showcasing the Ningaloo Coast and Ningaloo Reef to the world, we're equally passionate about protecting it and preserving its unique and fragile ecosystem. We see donating our time, resources and a portion of tour costs, to marine science and research a non-negotiable. We encourage all our guests to get involved with Citizen Science on tour, to support projects like Project Manta, Wildbook for Whale Sharks, Centre for Whale Research Western Australia and Australian Parks & Wildlife Marine Research."*

# Deluxe Whaleshark Swim

FULL DAY | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS MAR - LATE AUG | MAX NUMBER: 20 PAX

The opportunity to swim with the Whale Shark is one of the world's greatest interactive marine encounters. This fish, the largest of the shark family and the largest fish in the world at an average of 12 meters (40 foot) in length, is a harmless plankton eater, with their graceful and passive nature providing you an unforgettable day out on the waters of the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Marine Park.

**Full Day: Ningaloo Marine Park.** Once boarding your beautifully equipped vessel, light aircraft will fly overhead directing us to the locations of the Whale Sharks to provide the best opportunities to encounter these magnificent fish. Throughout the day the on-board marine biologist will share interesting information with you about the Whale Sharks, how to identify the gender of the animal, typical behaviours, feeding patterns, how to take photos and more.

The return journey back to shore will often provide opportunities to see Ningaloo's other megafauna, including Humpback Whales (June to late October), Manta Rays, Dugongs, Australian Humpback, Bottlenose and Common Dolphins. Morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and refreshments are served throughout the day, ending with a celebratory glass of sparkling wine or beer.

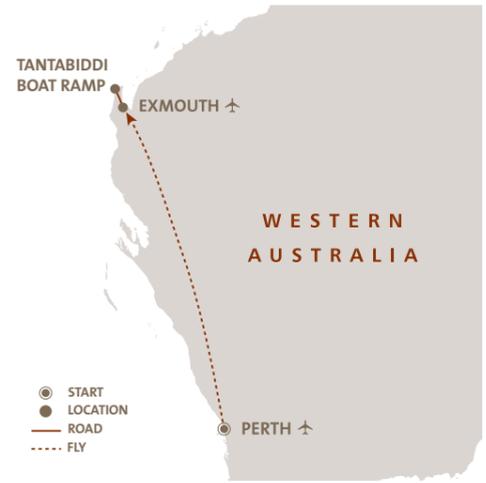
**Optional Extension: Outer Reef or Islands Scuba Dive & Snorkel Day Trip.** Discover the wonders of the Muiron Islands and Ningaloo Marine Park, regarded as one of the most beautiful underwater wilderness areas in Australia. You will spend the day exploring different snorkel and dive sites accessible

by boat only, with dolphins, rays and turtles all regular encounters. Snorkellers will be delighted to see colourful tropical fish including Parrotfish, Butterflyfish, Angelfish and Anemonefish amongst the spectacular coral bobbies. Three species of turtle, Olive Sea Snakes, Manta Rays, Reef Sharks and surreal Nudibranchs are highlights for enthusiasts.

**PRICE:**  
From \$450 AUD per person

## ICONIC SPECIES

Whale Shark, Manta Ray, Spinner Dolphin, Bottlenose Dolphin, Green Turtle, Parrotfish, Butterflyfish, Angelfish, Anemonefish, Coral Bombies, Damselfish, Flutemouth Wrasse, Coral Trout, Potato Cod, Black-tip Reef Shark, Nudibranch



Whale Shark



Manta Ray



Baby Turtle

# Deluxe Humpback Whale Swim

FULL DAY | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS MID JUL - LATE OCT | MAX NUMBER: 14 PAX

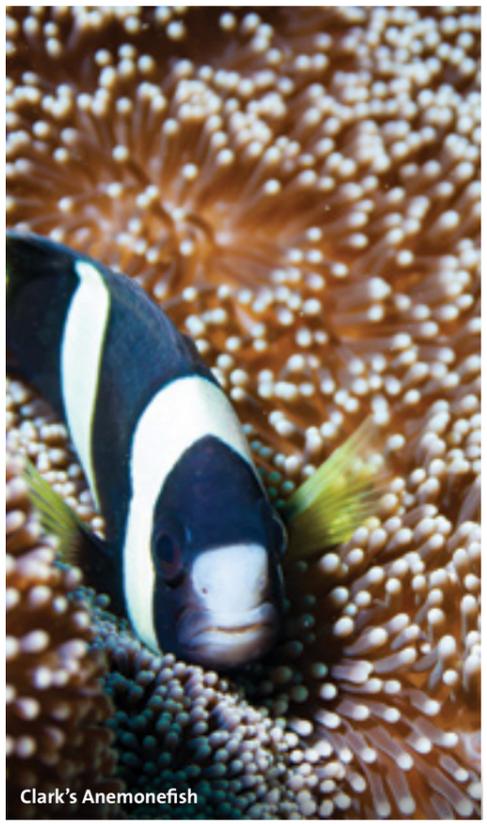
Spiritual, thrilling and captivating are a few words to describe swimming with these giants of the ocean. You will have the incredible privilege of joining small groups of seven snorkellers with a guide & videographer, to record one of the most special intimate encounters of the ocean.

**Full Day: Ningaloo Marine Park.** A staggering 40,000 west coast Humpback Whales migrate through to the Ningaloo region, to rest after their long migration from the Antarctic. The spacious vessel has special permission to approach Humpback Whales within a distance of 75 metres, before you will slide into the water and approach the Humpback Whale under the careful guidance of the expert crew. Once in the water, you will be awe-struck by the whale song and close-up views of these majestic creatures. You will also enjoy a snorkel on the reef to enjoy the amazing tropical fish, rays, turtles and corals.

**PRICE:**  
From \$450 AUD per person

## ICONIC SPECIES

Humpback Whale, Dugong, Manta Ray, Australian Humpback Dolphin, Spinner Dolphin, Bottlenose Dolphin, Green Turtle, Parrotfish, Butterflyfish, Angelfish, Anemonefish, Coral Bombies, Damselfish, Flutemouth Wrasse, Coral Trout, Potato Cod, Black-tip Reef Shark, Nudibranch



Clark's Anemonefish



Humpback Whale Swim



Humpback Whale



Green Turtle



# FNQ Nature Tours

Tropical North Queensland is a wildlife enthusiast's paradise, being the only place in the world where two World Heritage-listed areas exist side by side (Wet Tropics and Great Barrier Reef); an exceptionally rare combination of ecology.

The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is extremely rich in biodiversity, with 2,800 plant species and 663 vertebrate animal species, including 65 percent of Australia's fern species, 30 percent of Australia's orchid species and 35 per cent of Australia's mammals. Being the oldest tropical rainforest in the world, the landscapes provide living examples of some of the earliest flowering plants and a fascinating insight into the diversity, evolution and survival of many rainforest species.

This is the area where the world's songbirds emerged, currently home to forty percent of Australia's bird species including bowerbirds, kingfishers, riflebirds, fruit doves and the endangered Southern Cassowary. Boasting the highest diversity of rainforest mammals in Australia, the Bennett's and Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo, Spectacled Flying-fox, Daintree River Ringtail Possum and Northern Long-nosed Bandicoot are popular sightings.

These spectacular landscapes are also prime spots to observe reptiles, amphibians, monotremes and butterflies, including the Platypus, Saltwater Crocodile, Boyd's Forest Dragon, White-lipped Tree Frog, Green-eyed Tree Frog, Snapping Turtle, Leaf-tailed Gecko and the electric blue coloured Ulysses butterfly.

After 10 years of guiding nature and wildlife safaris in Northern Australia, James Boettcher established FNQ Nature Tours in 2015, with a firm belief that tourism is the key to the protection and conservation of the region. Expertly led small group tours are available across the Daintree Rainforest National Park, Atherton Tablelands, Crater Lakes and Cape Tribulation regions, designed for nature minded travellers desiring a personal, educational and interactive experience.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Daintree Afternoon & Nocturnal (S, P)	Daily	Year round	Full day	7
Daintree Exclusive (P)	On Request	Year round	Full day	7
Tablelands & Crater Lakes (P)	On Request	Year round	Full day	7
Tropical Wetlands Birdwatching (P)	On Request	Year round	Full day	7
5 Day Wildlife Photography Safari (S,P)	Select Dates	Year round	5 days	7
4 Day Nature, Wildlife & Conservation Safari (S,P)	Select Dates	Year round	4 days	6
Behind the Scenes with Researchers: Quolls (P)	On Request	Year round	Full day	4

S Shared Group P Private Group



## James Boettcher

### FNQ NATURE TOURS

When James Boettcher was a kid, he thought everyone swung through the trees, slid down rapids and fashioned fish traps from spiky rainforest vines. Growing up in Cairns, the World Heritage-listed Daintree Rainforest was at his fingertips. After finishing high school, he spotted an advertisement in a newspaper about guiding. To him, it sounded "like getting paid not to work" – it was exactly what he already did for fun. It was only when he started seeing his backyard through the eyes of visitors from around the globe that he understood the privilege of having grown up in such a raw, nature- dominated area.

The Daintree Rainforest is three times older than the Amazon, and James has been leading travellers through its wonders ever since. He started his own business, FNQ Nature Tours, in 2015 with the belief that tourism plays a major role in the voluntary preservation of this remarkable corner of the planet.

James loves to do things differently. Deftly avoiding larger tour groups that explore Cape Tribulation and the Daintree National Park each year, he runs a walk that begins as the light softens in the afternoon. It's when a post-dinner spotlight walk reveals Boyd's Forest Dragons, frogs, bandicoots, lizards, spiders and sometimes a possum or snake. No two nights are the same. He watches as people's faces light up in wonder, and as strangers become family.

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"Our partnership with the Australian Quoll Conservancy affords our guests the exclusive opportunity to work along-side industry experts and assist in conducting valuable research that will aid in the preservation of Far North Queensland's endangered wildlife. This behind the scenes tour provides you the opportunity to enter research locations not accessible to the public to observe the endangered Spotted-tailed Quoll."*

**REGION:**  
Far North Queensland

**ACCESS:**  
Cairns (CNS)

**CONTACT:**  
+61 400 732 883  
info@fnqnaturetours.com.au

# Daintree Afternoon & Nocturnal

FULL DAY | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 7 PAX

A visit to the 'oldest continually growing rainforest in the world' at night is the feature of this tour, encompassing the World Heritage-listed Daintree National Park and Cape Tribulation area. A river cruise and interpretative guided walks by day and night, reveal a different side of the Daintree and opportunity to see rare marsupials of the forest.

**Full Day: Daintree & Cape Tribulation.** Leaving early afternoon, you will head north along the Great Barrier Reef Drive, one of Australia's most scenic coastal highways, towards the world famous Daintree Rainforest. This ancient tropical rainforest spans 120,000 hectares and is estimated to be 180 million years old, boasting the highest diversity of rainforest mammals in Australia.

The region's array of landscapes including waterfalls, mountain ranges, idyllic streams, deep gorges and dense rainforest provide incredible vistas at every turn. You will be captivated by a wildlife cruise of the Daintree River, full of opportunities to observe and photograph the region's apex predator, the Saltwater Crocodile, along with iconic species such as the Boyd's Forest Dragon, Ulysses Butterfly, Spectacled Flying-fox, White-lipped Tree Frog and Azure, Little & Sacred Kingfishers.

After your amazing cruise, you will continue to Cape Tribulation, where rainforest extends right to the shoreline, separated by beautiful white sandy beaches. After dining at one of the region's finest restaurants, you will experience an interpretative guided nocturnal walk, where your guide will share information about crepuscular and nocturnal wildlife species, such as the Daintree River Ringtail Possum, Northern Long-nosed Bandicoot and Northern Bettong.



**PRICE:**  
From \$375 AUD per person

## 🚗 ICONIC SPECIES

Saltwater Crocodile, Boyd's Forest Dragon, Green-eyed Tree Frog, Green Ringtail Possum, Azure Kingfisher, Little Kingfisher, Ulysses Butterfly, Rainbow Bee-Eater, Wompoo Fruit Dove, Olive-baked Sunbird, Victoria's Riflebird, Spectacled Flying-fox



White-lipped Tree Frog



Southern Cassowary



Daintree Rainforest



Saltwater Crocodile

# Tablelands & Crater Lakes

FULL DAY | PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 7 PAX

On this epic day adventure, you will experience a spectacular mix of habitats across the Atherton Tablelands; from lush rainforest, volcanic lakes, wetlands through to savannah country. Located in the highland region southwest of Cairns, this tour covers landmarks such as the Cathedral Fig Tree, Lake Barrine and Milla Milla Falls, and the unique opportunity to spot the Platypus, Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo and abundant songbirds.

**Full Day: Atherton Tablelands.** Departing early morning from Cairns, guests will travel up to the highlands of the Atherton Tablelands, to experience beautiful panoramic vistas across sections of this World Heritage-listed ecosystem. Upon arrival to the Danbulla State Forest, travellers will reach the famous Cathedral Fig Tree, a gigantic 500-year-old strangler tree measuring 50 metres high, with a trunk circumference of 39 metres.

Led by your expert guide, this is a prime area to spot the regions abundant songbirds, including the Red-backed Fairy-wren, Golden Bowerbird, Blue-faced Honeyeater and Australia's very own bird of paradise, the Victoria's Riflebird. Next stop is a visit to Lake Barrine, providing you with opportunities to see the Red-legged Pademelon, Musky Rat Kangaroo, Snapping Turtle, Giant Eel, Eastern Water Dragon and Saw-shell Turtle.

After a delicious seafood lunch, you will search for one of Australia's most intriguing animals, the Platypus, with a very high likelihood of sightings. To finish off the day, take in the spectacular panoramas of Milla Milla lookout, an incredibly picturesque 18-metre waterfall, with the option to spend time at Lake Eacham or venture out to spot one of the area's most iconic species, the Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo.



**PRICE:**  
From \$1,250 AUD per group (1-4 pax)

## 🚗 ICONIC SPECIES

Platypus, Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo, Musky Rat Kangaroo, Red-legged Pademelon, Eastern Water Dragon, Saw-shell Turtle, Snapping Turtle, Tooth-billed Bowerbird, Atherton Scrubwren, Red-backed Fairy-wren, Golden Bowerbird, Bridled Honeyeater, Victoria's Riflebird



Platypus



Buff-breasted Kingfisher



Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo



Ulysses Butterfly



# Indian Ocean Experiences

Christmas Island's geographic isolation and minimal human disturbance has produced an incredible level of biodiversity and endemism, leading to the label of the 'Galapagos of the Indian Ocean'. Almost two-thirds of the island is declared as a national park, with more endemic species than any other Australia protected area.

The island's epic annual migration of approximately 60 million Red Crabs from the forest to the ocean shoreline to mate and spawn each wet season (November/December), has made this region renowned across the globe. Over 90 different crab species can be found on the island, with some obvious like the enormous Robber Crab, whilst others are far more elusive.

The island is also one of Australia's greatest birdwatching regions, with a rookery of around 80,000 seabirds nesting each year. It is home to the world's rarest booby and frigatebird, the Abbott's Booby and the Christmas Island Frigatebird, and one of the most beautiful seabirds on earth, the Golden Bosun. The amazing diversity extends beyond the shoreline, with Christmas Island boasting 88 species of coral and 650 different types of fish. It is recognised as one of Australia's best dive sites, due to the high volume of immense drop-offs only metres from the shoreline.

Further west, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands are two atolls, made up of 27 coral islands, formed around the ring of an extinct volcano. With 26 kilometres of glorious coastline, the islands are covered with coconut palms and idyllic white-sandy beaches, clear azure waters, abundant turtles (15,000 Green Turtles and 15,000 Hawksbill Turtles), reef sharks, dolphins, Manta Rays and diverse coral gardens.

Proudly calling herself a local, Lisa Preston founded Indian Ocean Experiences in 2011, being one of the first operators to offer expertly guided land experiences across Christmas Island, centred around sustainable and conservation focussed touring. As specialists in tailor-made itineraries across passion points such as birdwatching, diving, photography, geology and culture, the team prides itself on delivering genuine experiences for guests, connecting with passionate locals who love sharing their stories.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Christmas Island Ultimate Wildlife (S,P)	On Request	Year round	8 days	8
Christmas Island Birdwatching (S,P)	On Request	Year round	8 days	8
Bird & Nature Week Christmas Island (S)	On Request	Year round	8 days	8
Cocos Keeling Islands & Christmas Island Dive (S)	Variable	Year round	15 days	8
Red Crab Spawning Christmas Island (S)	Spawning Date	Nov - Jan	8 days	8

S Shared Group P Private Group



Red Crabs



## Lisa Preston

### INDIAN OCEAN EXPERIENCES

Lisa Preston first went to Christmas Island on holiday in 1996. Her visit happened to be right in the middle of one of the world's greatest natural spectacles: the red crab migration, in which millions of crabs march toward the ocean to spawn.

"It was just this crazy thing going on," she says. "The island got under my skin straight away." A year later she was living there, and 25 years on, she is a well-established local. As owner and manager of Indian Ocean Experiences, Lisa gets to show guests around this remarkable tropical outpost – 1,500 kilometres (930 miles) off the West Australian coast – as well as the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 980 kilometres west again.

"Christmas Island is actually a coral cap on top of an old volcano," she says. "It's not your standard tropical island; it's a rugged, jungle experience."

Lisa loves the birds that seem to be everywhere on the island, from the golden bosun, a seabird with a long yellow tail, to the imperial pigeons of the rainforest. And she says the island's mix of Chinese, Malay and other cultures adds to the sense that you're in a truly special place.

"We have about 20 Chinese temples on the island, and there's a mosque down at Flying Fish Cove. That multiculturalism adds another layer to the island experience. And it means we get to eat a lot of good food, too!"

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

"We are proud to partner with Christmas Island National Park in offering guests the opportunity to participate in research efforts through events such as Citizen Science Week and Bird & Nature Week along with beach clean-ups, tree planting and other rainforest rehabilitation activities."

#### REGION:

Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Islands

#### ACCESS:

Christmas Island (XCH)  
3 hour 50 minute flight from Perth (PER)

#### CONTACT:

+61 8 9164 7475  
info@indianoceanexperiences.com.au

# Christmas Island Ultimate Wildlife

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 8 PAX

Discover the remarkable biodiversity of Christmas Island - an island full of natural wonders and endemic species. Meet the islands' most famous residents, the Red Crabs, as well as some of the world's rarest seabirds and forest birds. Experience the full brunt of the Indian Ocean as it forces its way up through the blowholes, traverse Jurassic style rainforests and snorkel above untouched corals and hundreds of species of tropical fish, and visit the Island's glorious deserted beaches.

*Christmas Island Ultimate Wildlife is a 7 night inclusive package that features the following range of tours designed to immerse you in the island's incredible landscapes, history, culture and wildlife.*

**Orientation Tour.** Explore the rich history, multicultural community and the diverse range of activities available on the island with a two hour orientation guided experience.

**Nature Tour.** Your first stop is The Dales, home to a number of the crab species and natural springs that weave through to a mystical rainforest, canopied by gigantic Tahitian Chestnut trees. From there, you will head to The Blowholes where rhythmic waves force water through the myriad of eroded cliffs, before ending with the peace and tranquillity of Margaret Knoll giving stunning views across the eastern coast of the island.

**Panoramic Bird Tour.** The day starts at the Golf Course lookout, providing an eye-to-eye experience with many of the island's bird

species, where you will learn about the unique biology and behaviours. You will then visit Lily Beach to view juveniles and nesting birds and then onto Ethel Beach to view Abbott's Boobies in their nesting habitat. Other target species include the Golden Bosun, Red-footed Booby and Christmas Island Frigatebird.

**Dolly Beach Tour.** Venturing to the lower terraces of the eastern side of the island you will take a short 40 minute walk through the jungle before reaching the sandy, coconut-lined castaway shores of Dolly Beach. You may have to share the morning tea area with the friendly Robber crabs that frequent the beaches, before heading back to Greta Beach, where we search for unusual treasures and debris that the tide has bought in.

**Snorkelling Tour.** Snorkelling opportunities are plentiful and spectacular around Christmas Island, with this tour providing you the chance to see the incredible drop offs, a war wreck and some of the 90 coral species and 650 fish species. Dolphins, turtles, Manta Rays and



Flying Fish Cove



Rainforest



Golden Bosun

Whale Sharks can also be seen on an opportunistic basis.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,450 AUD per person twin share

## 🦋 ICONIC SPECIES

Red Crab, Robber Crab, Abbott's Booby, Christmas Island Frigatebird, Golden Bosun, Brown Booby, Red-footed Booby, Christmas Island Goshawk, Blue-tailed Skink, Green Turtle, Hawksbill Turtle, Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin, Whale Shark, Manta Ray



# Christmas Island Birdwatching

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 8 PAX

Christmas Island is one of Australia's best birdwatching destinations. An internationally renowned seabird rookery, the island attracts about 80,000 nesting seabirds every year. You will have the opportunity to see the world's rarest booby and frigatebird and the ethereal Christmas Island Hawk Owl.

*Christmas Island Birdwatching is a 7 night inclusive package that features a range of tours designed to immerse you in the island's incredible landscapes, history, culture and of course wildlife.*

**Orientation Tour.** Explore the rich history, multicultural community and the diverse range of activities available on the island with a two hour orientation guided experience.

**Full Day Twitch Tour.** On this epic day of birdwatching, you will visit all the mainstay hangouts to identify as many of the endemics and regular visitors as possible with your expert local guide. The itinerary can be adapted depending on which species are on target lists and typically includes frigatebirds, boobies, tropicbirds, Emerald Doves, Imperial Pigeons, Christmas Island White-eyes and Christmas Island Goshawks.

**Hawk Owl Tour.** The subject for this experience is one of Australia's rarest raptors, the endemic Christmas Island Hawk Owl. Measuring less than 30cm in height, this bird boasts extremely beautiful plumage and piercing large yellow eyes. These territorial birds only breed once per year, with the current population approximately

1,200 individuals, placing them on the vulnerable bird list.

**Nature Tour.** Your first stop is The Dales, a Ramsar site for birds and home to a number of the crab species and natural springs that weave through to a mystical rainforest, canopied by gigantic Tahitian Chestnut trees. Herons, egrets and Red-tailed Tropicbirds may be spotted before heading to The Blowholes to see this powerful stretch of coast. The day ends with the peace and tranquillity of Margaret Knoll, giving stunning views and chance to see frigatebirds, Golden Bosuns and Brown & Red-footed Boobies.

**Snorkelling Tour.** Snorkelling opportunities are plentiful and spectacular around Christmas Island, with this tour providing you the chance to see the incredible drop offs, a war wreck and some of the 90 coral species and 650 fish species. Dolphins, turtles, Manta Rays and Whale Sharks can also be seen on an opportunistic basis.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,450 AUD per person twin share



Christmas Island Frigatebird



Red Crab

## 🦋 ICONIC SPECIES

Abbott's Booby, Christmas Island Frigatebird, Golden Bosun, Red-tailed Tropicbird, Brown Booby, Red-footed Booby, Christmas Island Goshawk, Christmas Island Hawk Owl, Emerald Dove, Imperial Pigeon, Christmas Island White-eye, Blue-tailed Skink, Green Turtle, Red Crab, Robber Crab



Red-footed Booby



# Lords Kakadu & Arnhemland Safaris

Kakadu National Park, in Australia's Northern Territory, is one of the world's most magnificent natural reserves. With 280 bird species, 77 mammals, more than 10,000 insect species, 1,600 species of flora, 132 reptiles and more than 50,000 years of Indigenous history and culture, the area is a World Heritage-listed for both its natural and cultural significance.

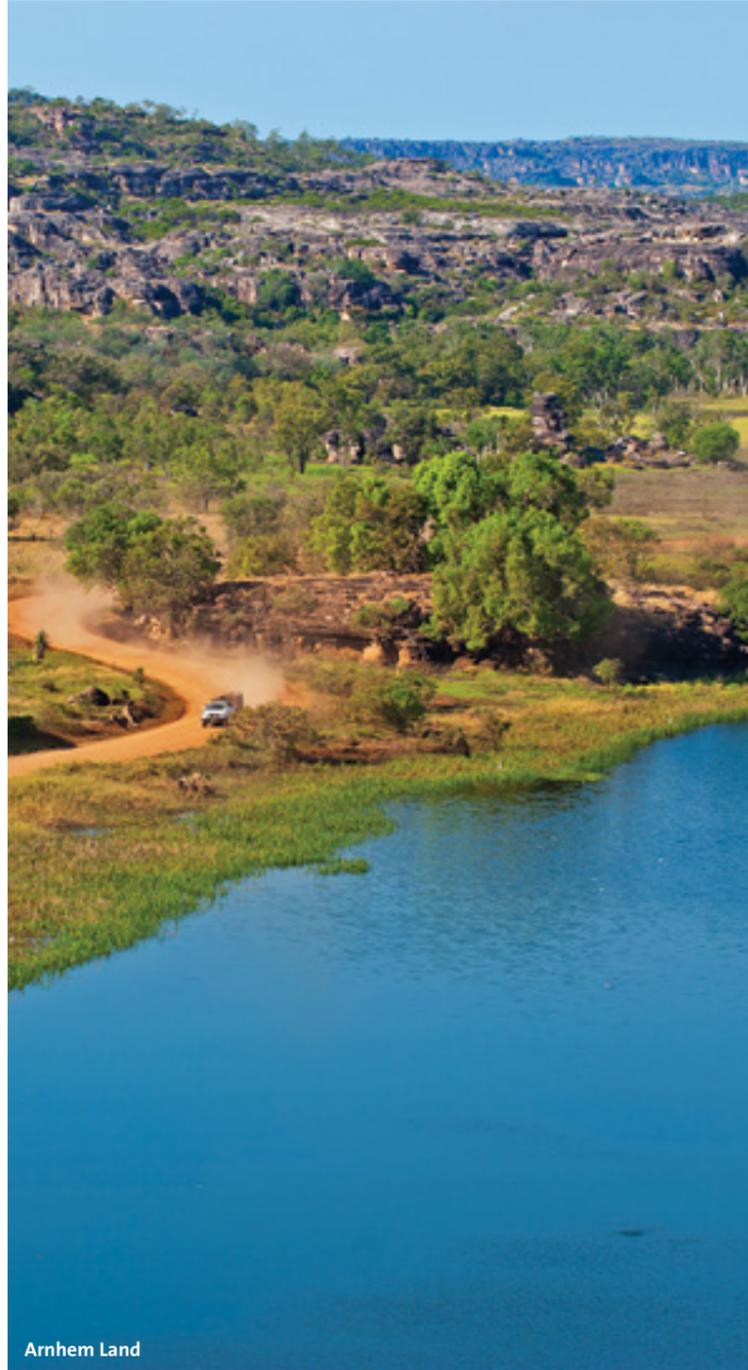
The wetlands of Kakadu are a bird-watcher's paradise, with areas such as Yellow Water Billabong providing you access to an immense concentration of birds, especially in the dry season, including Magpie Geese, Whistling Ducks, Great Egrets, Royal Spoonbills and Black-winged Stilts. One-tenth of all Saltwater Crocodiles in the Northern Territory are found at Kakadu. Along these vast floodplains, it is common to see Melaleuca forests that provide habitat for Agile Wallabies and nesting sites for birds such as the Black-necked Stork (Jabiru).

Lords Kakadu and Arnhemland Safaris is a family-owned, award-winning company that has been connecting guests to the Top End's remarkable natural beauty and indigenous culture for almost 30 years. Historically, the Lord family were pioneers of the Kakadu region. Owner, Sab Lord, was raised on a buffalo and crocodile hunting station, and his appreciation of the wilderness is linked back to his earliest childhood memories. Since then, his team have become key advocates in protecting and preserving Kakadu and Arnhem Land.

Specialising in private luxury four-wheel drive touring, their team has special access to award-winning properties such as Bamurru Plains Safaris Lodge & Davidson's Arnhemland Safaris Lodge; the only external tour operation to have this arrangement. The company also has special permission, granted by traditional owners, to visit areas of the Northern Territory inaccessible to other tour companies, ensuring you have the same guide for your entire Top End Experience.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Three Day Kakadu & Arnhem Land (P)	On Request	May - late Oct	3 days	6
Top End Luxury Lodges (P)	On Request	Apr - late Oct	5 days	6
Ultimate Luxury Safari Adventure (P)	On Request	Apr - late Oct	6 days	6
Kakadu Birding Tour (P)	On Request	May - late Oct	3 days	6
Kakadu & Arnhem Land Photography Tour (P)	On Request	Apr - late Oct	5 days	6
Private Charter (Kakadu, Arnhem Land or Kimberleys)	On Request	May - late Oct	3-14 days	6

S Shared Group    P Private Group



Arnhem Land



## Sab Lord

### LORDS KAKADU & ARNHEMLAND SAFARIS

You'd expect a man raised on a Kakadu buffalo and crocodile-hunting station to be a character, and Sab Lord doesn't disappoint. He also knows everything – and everyone – there is to know in the outback, enabling him to unlock places and people that few others have access to.

Sporting a dog-eared Akubra hat, a permanent tan and a mouth that rolls out Aussie expressions, it's easy to see why Sab was the private guide of choice for people like Nicholas Cage, Boris Johnson and, rumour has it, Meryl Streep (he won't confirm or deny) as they explored Australia's Top End.

Sab's safari-style version of Kakadu, Arnhem Land and The Kimberley is rich in Aboriginal culture, woven with private viewings of enormous, 50,000-year-old rock art galleries, snacks of live green ants plucked from a tree, and bellowing buffalo calls across the Mary River floodplains. Nights are spent around a campfire, eating dinner beneath some of the brightest stars you'll ever see while listening to the bushman's tales.

His lifetime of stories enhances the trips as much as the crocodiles lurking in the rivers and the waterbirds flying overhead. There are plenty – the station Sab grew up on became part of dual UNESCO World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park. His father employed Aboriginal families who taught Sab their indigenous language and involved him in traditional ceremonies. His understanding of their culture has earned him the rare permission to share culturally significant sites and stories.

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"The thing that I enjoy the most is sharing my understanding of the ecosystems and wildlife, through the eyes of Aboriginal people with guests. Noticing these changes in the ecosystems over time and being a custodian alongside the Aboriginal people has inspired me to appreciate our natural heritage and ask the question, what would this planet be like without wildlife?"*

# Three Day Kakadu & Arnhemland

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS | PRIVATE  
DEPARTS MAY - LATE OCT | MAX NUMBER: 6 PAX

Experience one of the world's most magnificent natural reserves across Kakadu National Park and Arnhem Land, as you venture through stunning floodplains, pristine estuaries, towering sandstone escarpments and tranquil waterfalls. Unearth the stories of ancient rock art in Arnhem Land with an Indigenous guide and spot crocodiles, marsupials, reptiles and many of the region's 280 bird species.

**Day 1: Fogg Dam & Yellow Water.** Your day begins at Fogg Dam Reserve, a major waterbird feeding and roosting site before visiting billabongs covered with vivid lilies. After lunch, you will experience another Kakadu icon, the Yellow Water Cruise at sunset. This pristine waterway supports a truly wonderful variety of species including Saltwater Crocodiles, Comb-crested Jacanas, White-bellied Sea Eagles, Azure Kingfishers, ducks, stilts, egrets, spoonbills and Magpie Geese. **Lords Private Camp**

**Day 2: Gunlom and Maguk.** Venturing out to the Southern end of Kakadu, your first stop is a pristine and famous waterfall, Gunlom, located on Waterfall Creek, providing incredible photo opportunities. Maguk (Barramundi Gorge) is the next stop where you will take a short walk through sub-monsoon rainforests of Paperbarks and a Pandanus lined creek which leads to the base of a stunning plunge pool. Many animals rely on these areas for refuge during the drier months such as the Chestnut-quilled Rock Pigeon, Short-eared Rock Wallaby, Black Wallaroo, and Merten's Water Monitor. **Lords Private Camp**

**Day 3: Arnhem Land.** Today, you will explore the extraordinary beauty across Arnhem Land. The scenic drive to the Gunbalanya Aboriginal community provides some of the best panoramas in the Top End, showcasing floodplains, billabongs and sandstone escarpments. Upon arrival, you will visit the Injalak Arts and Craft Centre to meet and watch traditional local artists in action, before heading out with an Aboriginal guide to see incredible examples of rock art on Injalak Hill, acknowledged as some of the best rock art in Australia. On the way back, your guide will provide opportunities to spot Brolga, Jabirus, kingfishers, wallabies, lizards and occasionally Dingos.

**PRICE:**  
**From \$3,160 AUD** per person twin share (based on 4 pax)



Saltwater Crocodile



Rock Art Injalak Hill

## ICONIC SPECIES

Saltwater Crocodile, Freshwater Crocodile, Mertens' Water Monitor, Agile Wallaby, Wilkins' Rock Wallaby, Dingo, Brolga, Magpie Goose, Comb-crested Jacana, Azure Kingfisher, Blue-winged Kookaburra



Magpie Geese

# Ultimate Luxury Safari Adventure

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS | PRIVATE  
DEPARTS APR - LATE OCT | MAX NUMBER: 6 PAX

Immerse yourself in the ancient cultures and impossibly beautiful wilderness of Australia's Top End. This is the ultimate Top End luxury private adventure for wildlife enthusiasts, with guests staying at Lords private permanent bush camp, Bamurru Plains Lodge and Davidsons Arnhemland Safaris Lodge, enjoying private access and activities such as airboating and 4WD safaris.

**Day 1:** Your epic Top End journey begins at Fogg Dam Reserve, a major waterbird feeding and roosting site before visiting billabongs covered with vivid lilies. Next stop is one of the most beautiful and pristine waterfalls in the National Park named Maguk, a scenic and tranquil place for you to enjoy a refreshing swim or spot the plentiful and vivid birdlife. **Lords Private Camp**

**Day 2:** Today, you will head to Arnhem Land, for a visit to Injalak Arts and Craft Centre to see traditional local artists in action. Head out with an Aboriginal guide to see incredible examples of rock art. Next stop is Davidson's Lodge in the north-west corner of Arnhem Land; a pristine wilderness area providing refuge for wallabies, flying-foxes, crocodiles, Dingoes, Leichhardt Grasshoppers and countless bird species. **Davidson's Arnhemland Safari Lodge**

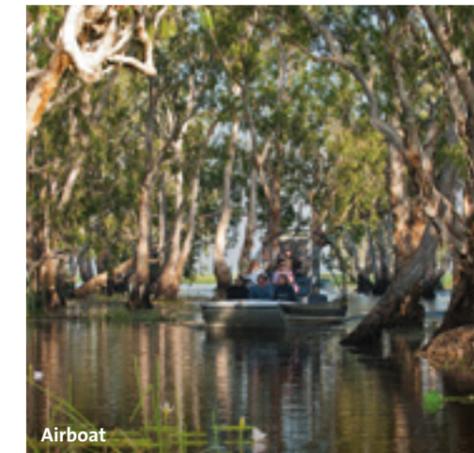
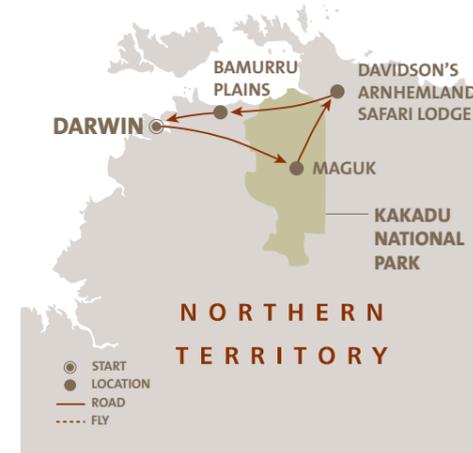
**Day 3:** Mt Borradaile is an Aboriginal sacred site nestled against the Arnhem Land escarpment. You will be captivated by the rugged ranges fringed by idyllic billabongs, floodplains, paperbark swamps and monsoonal rainforests and caves, that have been occupied for over 50,000 years. Enjoy 4WD safaris, Aboriginal Art, and billabong cruises to see

abundant birds, reptiles and marsupials. **Davidson's Arnhemland Safari Lodge**

**Day 4:** Led by your expert guide, you will enjoy some morning birdwatching and marsupial spotting, before arriving at Bamurru Plains; a safari-style camp surrounded by savannah woodland. Each individual safari suite is designed to blend with the surrounding habitat, where you will enjoy the sights and sounds of the bush, before sundowners on the floodplains. **Bamurru Plains Lodge**

**Day 5:** Today, you will have a choice of a variety of activities, from airboat rides to 4WD safaris. The floodplains of the Mary River region form one of the most significant ecosystems in Australia, teeming with wildlife, including Agile Wallabies, Saltwater Crocodiles, Jabirus, Brolgas, Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos, Red-winged Parrots and Australian Bustards. **Bamurru Plains Lodge**

**Day 6:** Enjoy an exhilarating trip out on the floodplains in an airboat, hearing the morning chorus of tens of thousands of Magpie Geese, spotting Saltwater Crocodiles and some of the 236 species of bird found at Bamurru Plains, before returning to Darwin.



Airboat



Black-necked Stork

**PRICE:**  
**From \$8,175 AUD** per person twin share (based on 4 pax)

## ICONIC SPECIES

Saltwater Crocodile, Freshwater Crocodile, Mertens' Water Monitor, Agile Wallaby, Wilkins' Rock Wallaby, Dingo, Brolga, Magpie Goose, Comb-crested Jacana, Azure Kingfisher, Blue-winged Kookaburra



Agile Wallaby



# Murray River Trails

Boasting one of the most picturesque sections of Australia’s longest river, the Riverland Ramsar Wetland area includes an 80 km (50 mile) section of the Murray River and more than 200 km (125 miles) of meandering creeks. This internationally recognised wetland system’s series of creeks, channels, lagoons, billabongs, swamps, and lakes provide life-giving water amongst this arid landscape, creating rich and diverse habitats for wildlife.

Each vegetation type is determined by elevation on the floodplain and therefore the frequency of flooding. Bordered by spectacular ochre-coloured cliffs and dry sandy Mallee ecosystems, many bird and mammal species traverse both the Mallee and the valley for feeding, drinking, and breeding including the iconic Red Kangaroo and Emu. Adjacent River Red gum forests dominate the banks of the river with endangered Regent Parrots, Australian ringnecks, Red-rumped parrots and Crimson Rosellas nesting in the hollows and Koalas nesting amongst the majestic limbs.

Several large shallow wind-formed ephemeral lakes lie on the outer floodplain and connect to the river during environmental watering events and natural floods. They teem with birdlife for long periods after filling in spring including eight species of duck, Red-necked Avocets, stilts, egrets, swans, pelicans and migratory waders from the northern hemisphere including Red-necked Stints and Sharp-tailed Sandpipers.

Murray River Trails was founded by proud Riverland locals and passionate Murray River champions, Tony & Susie Sharley, with the family-owned business building upon the couple’s extensive background in river management, wine tourism, marketing and eco-tourism.

Raising the profile and advocacy for Australia’s greatest river is central to the team’s mission, through sharing the stories of the region’s wildlife, landscapes, history, culture, people and environmental challenges; including retaining the region’s biodiversity, river floodplain health and improving the status of threatened species.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Murray River Safari (S)	Tue, Fri	Mar, Apr, Oct, Nov	3 days	10
Murray River Walk (S)	Mon, Tue	May – late Sep	4 days	10

S Shared Group

**REGION:**

Riverland, South Australia

**ACCESS:**

3.5 hour drive from Adelaide (ADL) or a 1.5 hour drive from Mildura Airport (MQL)

**CONTACT:**

+61 417 533 063  
info@murrayrivertrails.com.au



Headings Cliff



# Tony Sharley

## MURRAY RIVER TRAILS

Growing up in the Riverland town of Renmark, Tony Sharley saw first-hand the dramatic effects of the Murray River in flood when he was a student in high school – he even did a geography project on it. An environmental science degree followed, and a career as a field biologist and research scientist, studying rivers all over Australia.

But he ended up coming back to the country’s longest river and in 2016 launched Murray River Trails – a tour company that showcases the wildlife and natural beauty of an internationally significant section of river and creeks known as the Riverland Ramsar Wetland. Tours include the four-day luxury Murray River Walk, and the recently introduced Murray River Safari, which takes guests on a three-day houseboat wildlife adventure in spring and autumn.

“It’s when the migratory birds are here,” Tony says, “including the rainbow bee-eaters that migrate here from northern Australia. They nest in the sand dunes and cliffs, and are just beautiful.”

Highlights for Tony include seeing red kangaroos on the edge of the floodplain, and visiting the shallow lake systems, which, when they fill, attract thousands of waterbirds, including waders that travel here all the way from the northern hemisphere every year.

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*“We have established the Murray River Trails Fund, to raise money for organisations at the forefront of improving the region’s biodiversity, river floodplain health and status of threatened species in the region. We want our organisation to leave a legacy.”*

# Murray River Safari

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS | SHARED  
MAR-APR, OCT-NOV | MAX NUMBER: 10 PAX

Experience the diverse wildlife offerings where Australia's river oasis meets the outback. This multi-activity wildlife safari along Australia's greatest river includes guided walks, canoeing, an outback drive and open back cruising, combined with luxurious houseboat accommodation and superb dining including local wines. Spot iconic species such as Red Kangaroos, Koalas, echidnas, possums, goanna, Rainbow Bee-eaters, pelicans, parrots and migratory waders.

**Day 1: River Cruising, Cliff Walk & Nocturnal Walk.** Start your river adventure at Paringa, where you will board a roomy pontoon cruiser to learn about the regional history and spot pelicans, darters, swans, spoonbills and a colony of wild Koalas. After lunch, depart on a guided cliff walk to witness the spectacular landscapes and opportunities to spot Gilbert's Whistlers, Rainbow Bee-eaters and parrots. After a delicious dinner, enjoy a nocturnal walk, spotting Brush-tailed Possums and occasionally Tawny Frogmouths. **Houseboat**

**Day 2: Clifftop Walk & Ephemeral Lakes Nature Drive.** The region's spectacular ephemeral lakes are the focus for day two, where spectacular birdwatching can include Black swans, Pied Stilts, Red-necked Avocets, Yellow-billed Spoonbills, Sharp-tailed Sandpipers, Blue-billed and Musk ducks as well as other migratory waders. White-winged Fairy-wrens, White-winged Trillers, Blue Bonnets, Emus, raptors and iconic Red Kangaroos are often spotted. Take in a relaxing sunset from the top deck spa with sundowners before a locally-focused three-course meal. **Houseboat**

**Day 3: Red Gum Creek Cruise.** Explore the Riverland Ramsar river system via a guided canoe adventure, through incredibly picturesque meandering creeks and serene backwaters. Quietly approach Western Grey Kangaroos, Lace Monitors, cormorants, Yellow Rosellas and Mallee Ringnecks. You will then take a leisurely cruise passing spectacular red-ochre cliffs followed by a delicious lunch served on the top deck of the houseboat before arriving back at Paringa.

**PRICE:**  
From \$1,900 AUD per person twin share

## 🚶 ICONIC SPECIES

Red Kangaroo, Koala, Short-beaked Echidna, Brush-tailed Possum, Lace Monitor, Rainbow Bee-eater, Australian Pelican, Regent Parrot, Blue Bonnet Parrot, Red-necked Stint, Red-necked Avocet



# Murray River Walk

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | SHARED  
DEPARTS MAY - LATE SEPT | MAX NUMBER: 10 PAX

Immerse yourself in four easy days of hiking along Australia's greatest river, complemented by luxurious houseboat accommodation each evening. Across this river oasis that brings life to the outback, your friendly guides will share the region's incredible birdlife, marsupials and reptiles, including ducks, darters, egrets, spoonbills, cormorants, kites, parrots, Western Grey & Red Kangaroos, Wedge-tailed Eagles, honeyeaters and Red-capped Robins.

**Day 1: Renmark to Headings Cliff.** Your adventure starts on a pontoon cruiser for a 14 kilometre (9 mile) cruise to the start of the walking route, providing opportunities to see Australian Pelicans, cormorants, darters, kites, spoonbills, parrots and Koalas. Learn about the World War II Japanese internment camp, the magnificent River Red Gum forests and box woodlands, before a gentle climb through the ochre cliffs. After taking in these breathtaking vistas, arrive to the houseboat via a short cruise, finishing with a three course dinner paired with local wines. Distance 12km walking, 12km cruising. **Houseboat**

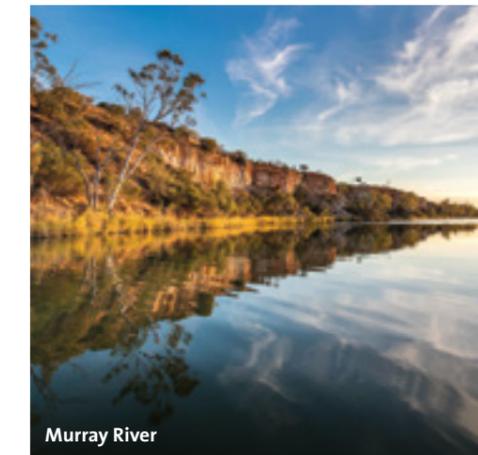
**Day 2: Heading Cliffs to Chowilla.** Start the day early for a walk to the rim of the Murray River valley for a glorious sunrise to hear the dawn chorus, with numerous honeyeaters, Rufous and Gilbert's whistlers and Red-capped Robins a highlight for birdwatchers. Led by your expert guide, you will follow an ancient river oxbow, before exploring dense River Red Gum forest, followed by an exploration of Amazon Creek through Little Hunchee Island with Sacred Kingfishers, numerous duck species, egrets, herons and Australian Pelicans target

species. Distance 14km walking, 10km cruising. **Houseboat**

**Day 3: Chowilla Creek to Bunyip Reach Cliffs.** Learn about the water management of the Murray Darling Basin from your guides, then cruise to the Chowilla Creek Environmental Regulator, to hear about the importance of environmental watering. The day's walk covers the beautiful route along the Chowilla Creek to the Queens Bend Cliffs lookout, followed by a cruise to the houseboat late afternoon as the sun illuminates the red cliffs. Distance 10km walking, 18km cruising. **Houseboat**

**Day 4: Bunyip Reach to Renmark.** Enjoy an optional two kilometre walk along the river after breakfast, before cruising in a private pontoon boat through Lock 6. After rejoining the houseboat downstream, you will cruise for two hours to the Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery, taking a tour with the head brewer before sitting down with guides to a fine barbecue. Distance 2km walking, 23km cruising.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,700 AUD AUD per person twin share



## 🚶 ICONIC SPECIES

Western Grey Kangaroo, Koala, Crimson Rosella, Mulga Parrot, Australian Ringneck, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Australasian Darter, Australian Pelican, Red-capped Robin, Whistling Kite





# Naturaliste Charters

The Bremer Canyon off Western Australia's southwest region, has become one of the most sought after whale watching expeditions across the globe, with over 100 Killer Whales (Orcas) returning to the submarine canyon each year from January to April; the only place in Australia where you can reliably encounter Killer Whales in the wild.

The offshore marine environment of the Bremer Canyon supports an incredible diversity of wildlife. As well as encountering Killer Whales over 95% of the time, other species seen include Bottlenose, Striped and Common Dolphins, Long-finned Pilot Whales, Sperm Whales, Australian Sea-lions, Giant Squid, Oceanic Sunfish and even rare beaked whale species. It's also a pelagic birdwatchers dream, with an astonishing array of seabirds including albatross, shearwater and petrel species.

Located at the edge of the Margaret River region, the picturesque seaside town of Augusta is one of the best locations in Australia where you can view Humpback Whales and Southern Right Whales as they make their migration north through the Ngari Capes Marine Park. Further north, Dunsborough is known for its tranquil waters and white sands, being the perfect backdrop to observe Humpback Whales and Blue Whales, as they escort calves back to Antarctica.

Naturaliste Charters has been offering spectacular eco-adventures within the region for over 20 years. Paul and Alison Cross purchased the business in 2009, with the organisation recognised as a leader in the responsible travel sector. The team is actively engaged with scientific projects with on-board research personnel, continuous improvement of environmental programs, water quality surveys, acoustic monitoring of whales, support of community groups and innovative educational programs for guests venturing out to see some of the ocean's rarest and spectacular creatures.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Bremer Canyon Killer Whale Expedition (S,P)	Daily	Jan - late Apr	8 hours	50
Dunsborough Whale Watching (S,P)	Daily	Sep - late Nov	2.5 hours	90
Augusta Whale Watching (S,P)	Daily	Mid May - late Aug	2.5 hours	90

S Shared Group P Private Group

## REGION:

Bremer Bay and Margaret River region, Western Australia

## ACCESS:

Bremer Bay is accessible from Albany (ALH), Margaret River is a three-hour drive south of Perth (PER).

## CONTACT:

+61 8 9750 5500  
info@whales-australia.com.au



Alison Maree Vessel



# Paul Cross

## NATURALISTE CHARTERS

Paul Cross has travelled more than 52 countries, but if you ask him to pick the most beautiful place in the world, it's his ocean-lapped backyard every time. Growing up near Bunbury, south of Perth, Paul and his brothers spent every spare minute fishing, surfing and diving along the Western Australian coast.

Following his father's advice to get a trade, he became a diesel fitter before working in earth moving and construction. But his passion for the ocean persisted. So when a friend told him a whale-watching business was up for sale, Paul jumped on it – even though he'd never been on a whale watching tour, let alone skippered a vessel, or owned his own business. That was a decade ago, and Paul has no intention of getting off the water.

Now, Paul spends his days marvelling at the largest Humpback Whale migration in the world, with over 40,000 playful cetaceans cruising along the WA coast each year. Paul's charters witness fin slapping and breaching in the flirting grounds of Augusta, body rolls in the placid waters off Albany, and a bit of each in the calf teaching and resting nurseries of Dunsborough and Busselton.

Between January and April, he braves the swell on expeditions to observe Killer Whales that flock to a curious and remote feeding 'hotspot' in the state's far south, opposite the tiny hamlet of Bremer Bay. Some 275 Orcas have been individually identified as regular annual visitors, but it's believed there are far more pandas of the sea, eagerly hunting the abundant sea life below.

Paul's focus is strongly interactive eco-tourism, so a marine biologist comes on every Naturaliste Charters tour, educating visitors about whale migration paths, the astounding numbers, their astonishing behaviours and the diversity of ocean species in Western Australia.

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"We thrive on involving our guests in activities on board that contribute to research and support longer term conservation efforts. We regularly host research personnel on board and collect data ourselves too, including recording sightings, photographic identification and water quality information which contributes to understanding of species encountered and the broader marine environment."*



# Bremer Canyon Killer Whale Expedition

FULL DAY | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS JAN - LATE APR | MAX NUMBER: 50 PAX

One of the world's greatest full-day oceanic expeditions departs from the beautiful town of Bremer Bay, the gateway to the Bremer Canyon and an immense aggregation of Killer Whales. You will be awestruck by these apex predators engaging in a variety of activities from hunting to socialising in family groups.

**Full Day: Bremer Canyon.** Departing Bremer Bay Boat Harbour early morning, you will board Naturaliste Charter's long-range expedition vessel purpose-built for the Southern Ocean. Your expert crew will delve into the Killer Whale's biology and ecology, before arriving to the Bremer Canyon area, one of the most amazing marine environments on earth.

It is common for pods of Killers Whales to approach and surround the vessel and you will often witness these magnificent creatures hunting. The spectacle of these predators chasing and devouring their prey is breathtaking, with seabirds such as albatross and shearwaters surrounding the vessel. On-board, expert marine biologists will share information with you about the pod's social behaviours, along with other facts about the local marine ecology. The day of unforgettable encounters is fully catered, with morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided, with the expedition returning at 4:30pm. Transfer connections from Albany with the Busy Blue Bus connect with the vessel's departure and return.

**PRICE:**  
From \$385 AUD per person  
From \$999 AUD per person - three day pass



## ICONIC SPECIES

Killer Whale, Bottlenose, Striped & Common Dolphin, Long-Finned Pilot Whale, Sperm Whale, Hammerhead, Oceanic Blue and Whaler Shark, Australian Sea-lion, Long-nosed Fur Seal, Wandering Albatross, Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross, Flesh-footed Shearwater, Wilson's Storm Petrel



Killer Whale



Wandering Albatross



Killer Whale

# Dunsborough or Augusta Whale Watching

FULL DAY | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS MID MAY - LATE NOV | MAX NUMBER: 90 PAX

Witness the pristine coastlines and tranquil waters of the Southwest region of Western Australia, which provides the perfect backdrop for you to regularly observe Humpback Whales, Southern Right Whales, Dwarf Minke Whales and the possibility of spotting the largest ever creature on earth, the Blue Whale.

**Full Day: Margaret River Locations.** After boarding your luxurious and spacious vessel mid-morning or mid-afternoon, your passionate and expert crew will commence an exciting and informative presentation, delving into the biology and ecology of the great whales that are migrating through the area, as well as information about the other marine and birdlife that visitors are likely to encounter.

From mid-May to late August, the picturesque seaside town of Augusta, the best locations in Australia to view Humpback Whales as they make their epic migration north, filling the beautiful Flinders Bay area.

From September to late November, you can experience the southern migration of the great whales, with many mothers in tow with their calves. From Dunsborough the whales return to the feeding grounds of Antarctica, with the opportunity to spot massive Blue Whales in the calm waters of Geographe Bay, as they too head south. Aside from the incredible whale encounters, you may also spot Long-nosed Fur Seals, White-bellied Sea-Eagles, Ospreys, petrels, shearwaters, Australasian Gannets and dolphins.

**PRICE:**  
From \$90 AUD per person



## ICONIC SPECIES

Humpback Whale, Southern Right Whale, Dwarf Minke Whale, Blue Whale, Bottlenose & Common Dolphin, Australian Sea Lion, Long-nosed Fur Seal, Osprey, Flesh-footed Shearwater



Blue Whale



Humpback Whale



Southern Right Whale



# Pacific Whale Foundation Eco-Adventures Australia

Hervey Bay is a natural bay located in Southeast Queensland between the mainland and World Heritage-listed K’gari Fraser Island, just below the start of the Great Barrier Reef. With depths generally less than 18 metres (60 feet), this wide shallow bay of approximately 4,000 square kilometres, provides perfect conditions for thousands of migrating Humpback Whales to rest, play and interact with other whales in the calm waters.

Being the first declared Whale Heritage Site by the World Cetacean Alliance in 2019, Hervey Bay lays claim to some of the most active and inquisitive whales found anywhere across the globe, with breaches, whale songs and muggings common practice. The region’s shallow bays and sheltered channels, blend into seagrass meadows, mudflats, salt marshes, mangroves and sandy beaches providing habitat, food sources and nesting sites for a broad range of species, including turtles, sharks, fish, corals, shorebirds, migratory waders, Dugongs and Dingoes on the beaches of K’gari Fraser Island.

Pacific Whale Foundation Eco-Adventures Australia (PWFEAA) was founded in 2011 as a fully owned subsidiary of Pacific Whale Foundation, an international NGO dedicated to protecting our ocean and marine life since 1980. As the only operator in the region to have been researching Humpbacks Whales for over three decades, Pacific Whale Foundation scientists are responsible for the South Pacific’s longest running photo-identification project and the largest curated database of Humpback Whales in Eastern Australia, having detailed the life histories of over 6,000 individual Humpback Whales.

With a mission to protect the oceans through science and advocacy and to inspire environmental stewardship, the social enterprise company runs eco tours and a merchandise shop to raise funding for education, conservation and research projects, with regular involvement in school visits, virtual classrooms, community forums and educational conferences.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
Ultimate Hervey Bay Whale Watching (S)	Daily	Jul – late Oct	3 hours	38
Hervey Bay Private Charter (P)	On Request	Year round	Custom	38

S Shared Group    P Private Group

#### 📍 REGION:

Hervey Bay, Queensland

#### ✈️ ACCESS:

Hervey Bay Airport (HVB) – 35 minute flight from Brisbane (BNE) or 3-hour drive north of Brisbane

#### 📞 CONTACT:

+61 7 4124 9641  
herveybay@pacificwhale.org



Humpback Whale and Ocean Defender vessel



## Andrew Ellis

### PACIFIC WHALE FOUNDATION ECO-ADVENTURES AUSTRALIA

Since he was a 15-year-old crewing on a tug boat on Sydney Harbour, Andrew Ellis has spent his career on the water. He ended up in tourism, working on floating restaurants and cruise ships. Then, 32 years ago, he took a catamaran from Sydney to Hervey Bay with the idea of starting whale-watching cruises. By a stroke of luck, before his first trip, Andrew chanced upon some researchers in a dinghy. They were from the Pacific Whale Foundation.

“I got to know them, and hired them to come on board and talk to my passengers,” he says. “The first day we went out looking for whales, we spotted some, stopped the boat, and three sub-adult humpbacks swam up to us, stuck their heads up and looked me in the eye. And that was it. I fell in love with whales from day one.”

Today, whale-watching tours fund the foundation’s research, conservation and education programs, with the most recent project involving the use of drones to study the health of humpback mothers and their calves. The migrating humpbacks – which stop in Hervey Bay to rest on their long annual journey from Antarctica to northern Australia and back again – are one the world’s great conservation success stories, Andrew says. “In the early ’70s the estimated population was about 300. Now it’s 30-odd thousand. That’s an amazing recovery.”

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*“We’re a science-based organisation. We use the moment of joy, the moment of wonder, in seeing these animals, as a teaching moment. We also encourage our guests to utilise citizen-science opportunities to assist our own scientists in discovering the best way to improve the environment for our marine wildlife.”*

# Ultimate Hervey Bay Whale Watching

3 HOURS | SHARED  
DEPARTS JUL – LATE OCT | MAX NUMBER: 38 PAX

Explore the world's first declared Whale Heritage Site at Hervey Bay, known for coming alive with thousands of Humpback Whales between July and late October. This region is renowned for having some of the most active and inquisitive whales found anywhere across the globe, with breaches, whale songs and muggings common practice.

**7am, 11am, 2:30pm.** Starting at the Great Sandy Straits Marina, you will board the custom-built Ocean Defender; a low profile rigid inflatable boat with a capacity of 38 passengers that ensures you will benefit from unobstructed 360-degree views at eye level with the whales, with forward facing seats and plenty of shade.

The relatively small area of Platypus Bay, combined with the popularity of the region for whales to rest, play and interact, means it is often not long after leaving the marina in our speedy vessel, before we spot these majestic creatures. Your crew, all trained in marine sciences, will interpret the amazing Humpback Whale behaviours including breaches, tail slaps, fluke-up dives, spy hopping and muggings; a common practice in Hervey Bay when the Humpback Whale approaches and stays close to the vessel for an extended period of time.

You will have the incredible opportunity to listen to ethereal whale songs, using the underwater hydrophones equipped with the vessel. Aside from watching whales, it is also possible to spot turtles, dolphins, dugongs and other marine life and a wide array of seabirds. There are also fun and educational activities led by Marine Naturalists on board, to help inspire the next generation of environmental stewards.



**PRICE:**  
From \$99 AUD per person

## ICONIC SPECIES

Humpback Whale, Indo Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin, Osprey, Australasian Gannet, Masked Booby, Sooty Oystercatcher, Brahminy Kite, Manta Ray, Dugong, Green Turtle



Humpback Whale Spy Hopping



Junior Naturalist Program



Humpback Whale Mugging

# Hervey Bay Private Charter

2 – 3 HOURS | PRIVATE  
YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 38 PAX

Explore the best of the Great Sandy Marine Park any time of year, with a fully customised charter led by knowledgeable certified Marine Naturalists. Cover activities or themes such as snorkelling, birdwatching, sunset cruising, European and Indigenous history or explore the geography of remarkable K'gari Fraser Island.

**Hervey Bay.** Enjoy the flexibility of your own private charter aboard the 12-metre, smooth-riding 'Ocean Defender' Rigid Inflatable Boat. This comfortable vessel features forward facing and covered seating at water level, with panoramic views, perfect for photography and naturalist groups.

The Great Sandy Marine Park is home to a number of varieties of dolphin, turtle and dugong year-round, as well as a broad array of bird species; both migrating waders and local populations including Osprey, kites, sea-eagles, terns, shearwaters, gannets and gulls. Choose a stopover on the beach of K'gari Fraser Island, Big Woody Island with its historic lighthouse, or perhaps land on a deserted sand cay.

During the whale watching season (July to late October), learn about the 35 years of local Humpback Whale research including our latest whale findings from our marine biologists, and help us collect data as part of our ongoing research studies. In addition to naturalist groups, tailored packages can be booked for wedding parties or receptions, birthdays, engagements, anniversaries, corporate whalewatch or snorkel cruises, sunset cruises or milestone celebrations.

**PRICE:**  
From \$2,200 AUD per charter



## ICONIC SPECIES

Humpback Whale, Indo Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin, Osprey, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Australasian Gannet, Brahminy Kite, Ruddy Turnstone, Eastern Curlew, Manta Ray, Dugong, Green Turtle, Dingo



Ocean Defender Vessel



Indo Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin



Pacific Whale Foundation Research Team



# Premier Travel Tasmania

One third of Tasmania's land mass is national park and UNESCO World Heritage wilderness, providing an extraordinary diverse habitat for an abundance of native Australian wildlife.

The isle state boasts a mix of expansive ancient temperate rainforests, spectacular coastlines, rugged mountains and sparkling highland lakes, providing refuge and habitat for a rich array of rare and endemic plants and animals. In fact, more than 60% of all species found across Tasmania's alpine region are found nowhere else on earth.

Australia's largest expanses of cool temperate rainforest are found in Tasmania. These forests date back over 60 million years, when Australia was attached to Antarctica, Africa, South America and New Zealand as part of the Gondwana supercontinent. This contributes to the region being renowned as a prime spot for marsupials including quolls, bandicoots, bettongs, potoroos, kangaroos, wallabies, pademelons and wombats, with 33 native terrestrial species recorded.

Premier Travel Tasmania is a leading provider of premium small group tours, tailor-made private tours and self-drive adventures, and has been offering specialised encounters with nature across Tasmania since 1996. The company's aim is to share Tasmania's diverse flora and fauna, pristine wilderness, rich heritage, gourmet food and wine, and local characters with you. The team consists of local guides who know Tasmania intimately and share their stories in a meaningful way.

At the core of the company's ethos is to preserve Tasmania's endemic wildlife and their natural habitats, and it makes important contributions towards research to save the world's largest carnivorous marsupial, the Tasmanian Devil, from habitat loss and disease.

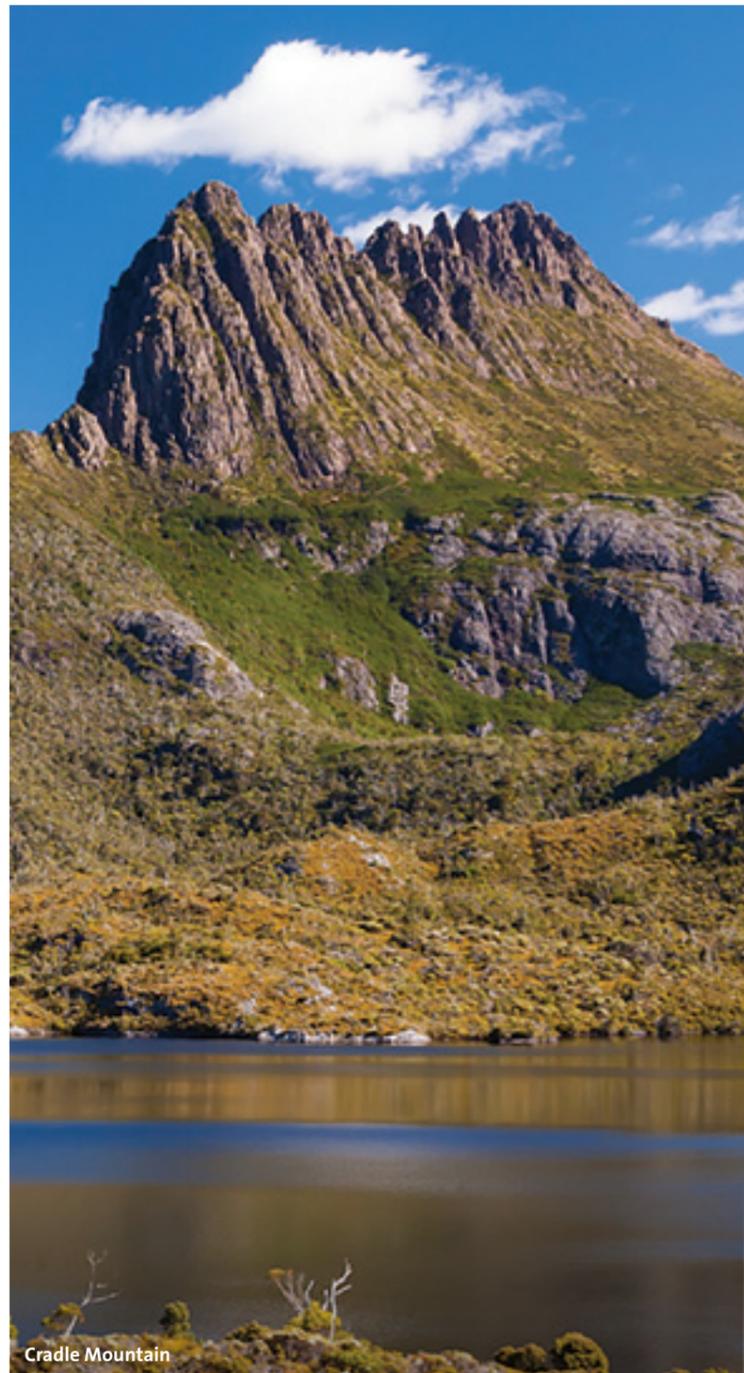
Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
5 Day Tasmanian Wildlife Encounter (S,P)	Sun (S)	Year round	5 days	12
5 Day Western Wilderness (S,P)	Thu (S)	Year round	5 days	12
9 Day Tasmania's Western Wilderness & Wildlife Encounter (S,P)	Sun (S)	Year round	9 days	12
6 day Tasmanian Devil Encounter (P)	On Request	Year round	6 days	12
4 day Private Tasmania Wildlife Encounter (P)	On Request	Year round	4 days	12
1 day Birdwatching Mt Field National Park (P)	On Request	Year round	Full day	12

**S** Shared Group    **P** Private Group Available

**REGION:**  
Tasmania

**ACCESS:**  
Hobart (HBA) or Launceston (LST)

**CONTACT:**  
+61 3 6231 4214  
travel@premier-tasmania.com



Cradle Mountain



## Daniel Schoedler

### PREMIER TRAVEL TASMANIA

When travel agent Daniel Schoedler flew from Switzerland to Tasmania for a trade show in 2015, it didn't take long for the Apple Isle to make an impression.

"I was invited on a seven-day tour and I was fascinated from the first minute," he says. "You get into Hobart and you can feel that laid-back lifestyle. Then I literally stumbled over a wombat up at Cradle Mountain. It walked across my path and I didn't see it. I actually stumbled over it. That got me. I thought, Tasmania is the place to be."

Daniel relocated to Tassie with his wife a year later. "It was pretty easy to move from Switzerland to here because it's similar in terms of the landscape: the hills and lakes..." he says. "The only thing that we don't have in Switzerland is, obviously, the wildlife." Daniel took a job with Premier Travel Tasmania, which had been offering small-group and private tours of the island for more than 20 years. In July 2020, he signed on the dotted line to buy the business.

"Most people said we were crazy ...in the midst of a pandemic," he says. But we are delighted to show off Tasmania's wilderness and wildlife to international guests again. "We have all the wildlife that people want to see: the wombats, the kangaroos, the Tasmanian devils. It's something that fascinates me every day."

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

"We are passionate about Tasmania's endemic wildlife and their natural habitats. For many years we have been actively supporting Tasmanian Devil research and inspired a number of our partners overseas to contribute and assist with their conservation. We feel that it is a privilege to experience Tasmania's untouched wilderness, hence our company philosophy strongly supports the concept of responsible tourism practices."

# 5 Day Tasmanian Wildlife & Wilderness

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 12 PAX

Tasmania, Australia's island state, provides a rare opportunity to encounter unique and endemic wildlife including pademelons, kangaroos, wallabies, quolls, wombats and the most famous resident, the Tasmanian Devil. On this adventure, experience a mix of beautiful eucalypt forests, spectacular coastlines, and tranquil bays, including Maria Island, Freycinet Peninsula, Bay of Fires and Cataract Gorge.

**Day 1: Hobart & Bonorong Night Tour.** Upon checking into your Hobart CBD accommodation, you will arrive at Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary for a 2.5 hour 'behind the scenes' night-tour to learn more about Tasmania's endemic species such as Eastern Quolls and Tasmanian Devils, along with Bonorong's rescue service, breeding and rehabilitation programs. **Old Woolstore Hotel in Hobart**

**Day 2: Maria Island.** From Hobart, you will arrive at the beautiful seaside village of Triabunna and board a ferry to cross the Mercury Passage to Maria Island. Enjoy a day of peaceful walking amongst convict ruins, across sweeping bays, rugged fossil cliffs and mountains, amongst abundant Wombats, Cape Barren Geese, Tasmanian Pademelons and Forester Kangaroos. **Beachfront at Bicheno Hotel**

**Day 3: Freycinet & Penguins.** Start the day with a 4-hour Wineglass Bay cruise, to take in the spectacular sights of Freycinet National Park, renowned for the stunning granite coastline, white sandy beaches, and the dramatic Hazards Range. Schouten Island provides opportunities to see many seabirds including Short-tailed Shearwaters. At dusk you will access a private

property to observe a local colony of Little Penguins nesting and breeding in the dunes. **Beachfront at Bicheno Hotel**

**Day 4: Bay of Fires.** Today, venture along the east coast to admire the stunning orange-lichen covered granite rocks of the Bay of Fires Conservation Area along with the stunning white sandy beaches and turquoise waters. You will travel to St. Columba Falls, the highest waterfalls in Tasmania, through lush and green valleys before arriving in Launceston keeping an eye out for Bennett's Wallabies, Flame Robins and Green Rosellas. **Grand Chancellor in Launceston**

**Day 5: Launceston.** Enjoy a city introduction of Launceston with your guide, followed by a visit to the stunning Cataract Gorge, where the South Esk river forces its way through sheer granite rocks.

**PRICE:**  
**From \$2,899 AUD** per person twin share



## ICONIC SPECIES

Common Wombat, Tasmanian Pademelon, Forester Kangaroo, Platypus, Tasmanian Devil, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Short-beaked Echidna, Green Rosella, Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle, Yellow Wattlebird, Pink Robin, Little Penguin



# 9 Day Western Wilderness & Wildlife Encounter

9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS YEAR ROUND | MAX NUMBER: 12 PAX

Over one-third of the 'island' state is reserved as a conservation area and this epic adventure traverses through some of the most scenic parts, including the World Heritage-listed Cradle Mountain, Freycinet Peninsula, Bay of Fires, Lake St Clair, Strahan & Mt Field National Park.

**Day 1 – 4: See 5 Day Tasmanian Wildlife & Wilderness itinerary.**

**Day 5: Launceston to Cradle Mountain.** Enjoy a morning tour of Launceston before visiting the stunning Cataract Gorge, where the South Esk river forces its way through sheer granite rocks, before your journey to UNESCO World Heritage listed Cradle Mountain National Park. Travel through lush rolling farm pasture before reaching the alpine bush of the Cradle Valley. **Peppers Cradle Mountain Lodge**

**Day 6: Cradle Mountain & Dove Lake.** Explore the beautiful alpine landscapes of Cradle Mountain, where cracked dolerite vertical columns have resulted in spectacular sculpted cliffs. Your guide will introduce you to the many endemic fauna and flora species of the region, including magical forests of Pandani, Sassafras, King Billy Pines and species such as echidnas, Pademelons and wombats. **Peppers Cradle Mountain Lodge**

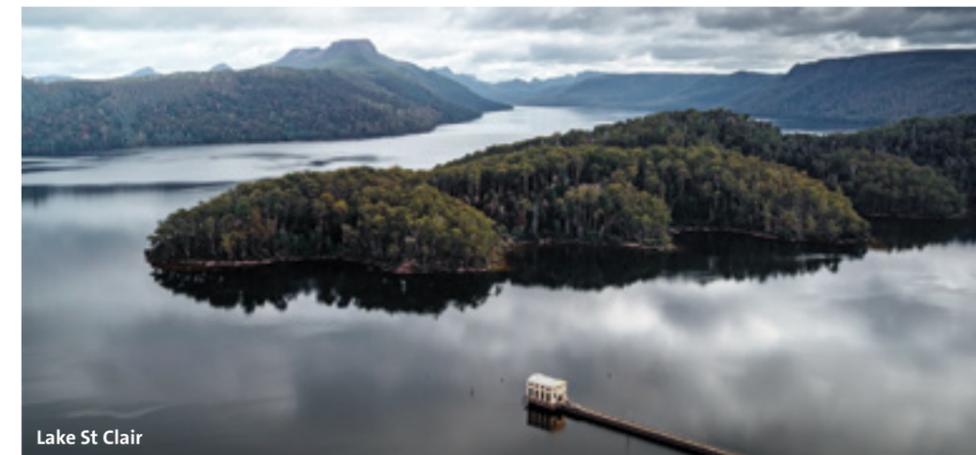
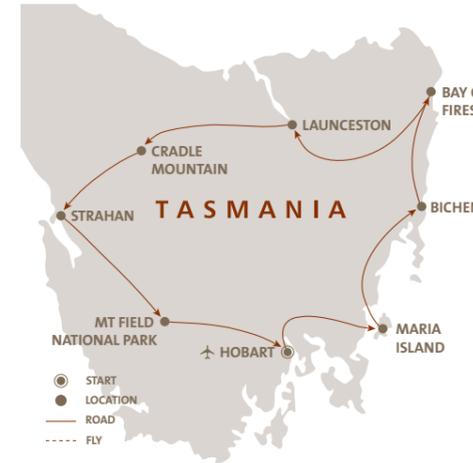
**Day 7: Strahan.** Today you will travel to the rugged Tasmanian west-coast, including a stop in Zeehan to visit the informative West-Coast

heritage centre, providing insight into the history of this unique part of Australia. In late afternoon you will arrive at the harbour-side village of Strahan, set on the edge of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. **Strahan Village Hotel**

**Day 8: West Coast Wilderness Railway & Lake St Clair.** In the afternoon, continue the scenic journey by road, visiting waterfalls before arriving at Derwent Bridge on the picturesque Lake St Clair.

**Day 9: Mt Field National Park.** You will explore the spectacular Mount Field National Park with your guide, learning about the lush forest landscapes, from eucalyptus temperate rainforest to alpine moorland. See some of the tallest flowering trees in the world, with the opportunity to spot several marsupial species, endemic birds and hopefully wild Platypus.

**PRICE:**  
**From \$5,499 AUD** per person twin share



## ICONIC SPECIES

Common Wombat, Tasmanian Pademelon, Bennett's Wallaby, Forester Kangaroo, Platypus, Tasmanian Devil, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Short-beaked Echidna, Green Rosella, Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle, Yellow Wattlebird, Pink Robin, Australian Fur Seals, oystercatchers, cormorants





# The Maria Island Walk

World Heritage-listed Maria Island is just off Tasmania's east coast and is known for its historic ruins, picturesque bays, rugged cliffs and mountains and unique fossils. But for many visitors, it's the island's remarkable collection of rare birds and animals, largely unaffected by human presence, that is the highlight.

When the island became a national park in the 1970s, various threatened and endangered species were introduced, and it became an island sanctuary, leading to its nickname as 'Tasmania's Noah's Ark'. The island is home to all of Tasmania's endemic birds, including the Yellow Wattlebird, Green Rosella and one of Australia's rarest and smallest birds, the endangered Forty-spotted Pardalote. With only five remaining population groups, Maria island is the largest remaining stronghold.

The Maria Island Walk showcases the island's many charms, centred around authentic wildlife encounters in remote and tranquil settings, combined with world-class hospitality. The walk is a 'soft adventure' experience, where backpacks are light, the food is gourmet, the wine is Tasmania's best, and each night there is a comfortable bed waiting for you.

The walk has received widespread acclaim for its environmentally friendly practices, contribution to conservation projects, and leadership in the eco-tourism and walking sectors. The team takes great pleasure in offering you an authentic Tasmanian experience, bringing local history and culture, rare Tasmanian wildlife, and spectacular scenery to life. Testimony to the success of this unbeatable formula is the string of national and state awards that has made The Maria Island Walk one of the most desired guided walking experiences in Australia.

Featured Experience	Days Departing	Season	Duration	Max Number
The Maria Island Walk (S,P)	Daily	Oct - late Apr	4 days	10
Maria Island Winter Escape (S,P)	Fri	Jun - late Aug	3 days	8

**S** Shared Group    **P** Private Group Available



McRaes Isthmus



## Georgia Currant

### THE MARIA ISLAND WALK

There are so many wombats on Maria Island, "they're a tripping hazard", Georgia Currant jokes. The young guide has spent countless family holidays on the isle off the east coast of Tasmania, so she's got firsthand experience.

In keeping, she makes a point of introducing people to the particularly docile marsupials around the convict settlement of Darlington, as she leads them on the four-day Maria Island Walk.

As one foot is placed in front of another, she might also recount the ghost stories she'd dramatically tell her friends in the Maria Island penitentiary, making use of tuna cans and an ouija board to try and contact the spirits. Her playful laughter indicates a cheeky personality beneath the knowledge and insights into this special place.

Being outdoors is Georgia's happy place; she'd rather sleep under the stars on a beach than go bar-hopping, and her awareness of how precious the environment is, is acute. As the hike continues along remote beaches, she'll point out where to walk; a misstep could ruin a shorebird's delicate nest; a discarded apple core could sicken a native mammal unused to the parasites within it.

A walk with Georgia is also a journey to huge granite rock formations covered in orange lichens that once formed a natural land bridge to mainland Australia. Tasmanian Aboriginals walked across it before sea levels rose, resulting in them becoming the most isolated humans on the planet for the longest amount of time. Significant indigenous sites are teamed with interactions with Tasmanian Devils – a key, disease-free sanctuary population used to preserve the state's iconic creatures.

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

*"Being a critical refuge for local plant and animal species, our team is actively involved in propagating and planting native and heritage listed trees on the island, wildlife monitoring programs in partnership with organisations such as Birdlife Australia and Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service and ongoing beach clean-up programs."*

**REGION:**  
Maria Island, Tasmania

**ACCESS:**  
Hobart (HBA)

**CONTACT:**  
+61 3 6234 2999  
mariaisland@wildbushluxury.com

# The Maria Island Walk

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS OCT - LATE APR | MAX NUMBER: 10 PAX

This four day guided walk combines intimate wildlife encounters, fascinating history, pristine white sand beaches, and locally sourced gourmet food. In small groups of 10 guests and two guides, you will explore the World Heritage-listed island with gentle walks by day and enjoy elegant private accommodation and candlelit gourmet dining each night.

**Day 1:** Upon transferring from Hobart, you will cruise across to Maria Island via the sparkling waters of Mercury Passage to a sandy isthmus, home to oystercatchers, terns, gannets, gulls and albatross. Once passing the crystal azure waters of Shoal Bay, you will settle into the tranquil Casuarina Beach camp, with the opportunity to spot echidnas, Pademelons, wallabies and Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos. After a fine Tasmanian gourmet dinner, guests can stroll along the beach at sunset with a glass of wine. Distance: 3-12 kms. **Wilderness Glamping at Casuarina Beach Camp**

**Day 2:** Wake to the chattering of wattlebirds and from the comfort of your bed, watch the morning sun sparkle through the forest. After a delicious breakfast, it's time to start your journey along five beautiful beaches. Watch dolphins play in the surf, sea-eagles soaring overhead and abundant wombats, wallabies and kangaroos feeding. After this perfect day, you can relax with fellow walkers, before enjoying a candlelit dinner of Tasmanian food and wine. Distance: 14km. **Wilderness Glamping at White Gums Camp**

**Day 3:** Today, your expert guide will take you inland to the heart of the Island, where you will wander through the world's largest stand of giant Tasmanian blue gums, with an optional hike to the peaks of Mt Maria or Bishop & Clerk.



It's a 700 metres climb through rare "cloud" rain forests with breathtaking views. The World Heritage-listed settlement of Darlington awaits you in the afternoon where you'll enjoy a final night banquet at Bernacchi House, looking out for the Tasmanian Devil. Distance: 6-17 kms. **Bernacchi House**

**Day 4:** The day commences with a trail walk through spectacular woodlands and forests, before arriving at the dramatic limestone cliffs, showcasing fossils from a 280 million-year-old sea bed. Coming back to Darlington, photograph opportunities for Common Wombats, Forester Kangaroos, Bennett's Wallabies, Cape Barren



Geese are plentiful, before a farewell lunch to reminisce about the four days walking across this beautiful Island. Distance: 4 kms

**PRICE:** From \$2,700 AUD per person twin share

## ICONIC SPECIES

Common Wombat, Forester Kangaroo, Bennett's Wallaby, Pademelon, Tasmanian Devil, Cape Barren Goose, Tasmanian Native Hen, Yellow Wattlebird, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Hooded Dotterel, Flame Robin, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Swift Parrot



# Maria Island Winter Escape

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS | SHARED & PRIVATE  
DEPARTS JUN - LATE AUG | MAX NUMBER: 8 PAX

Winter is a beautiful time to visit Maria Island, with this three-day lodge-based experience perfect for exploring the historic northern end of the island. Seasonal wildlife events include spotting Tasmanian Devils emerging from their dens, Common Wombats with their joeys, Tasmanian Native Hens having territorial squabbles and Cape Barren Geese building nests.

**Day 1:** After boarding a ferry to cross the Mercury Passage en route to Darlington, you will enjoy a short walk to the historic Bernacchi House, with the option to relax around the house or take a nature walk to the stunning Painted Cliffs or Fossil Cliffs to watch the sunset over the water. It is common to see grazing Common Wombats, Forester Kangaroos, Bennett's Wallabies, Cape Barren Geese, Tasmanian Native Hens, with a keen eye spotting pairs of beautiful Flame Robins darting around. The guides will serve delicious fresh Tasmanian produce and fine wines by candlelight. **Bernacchi House**

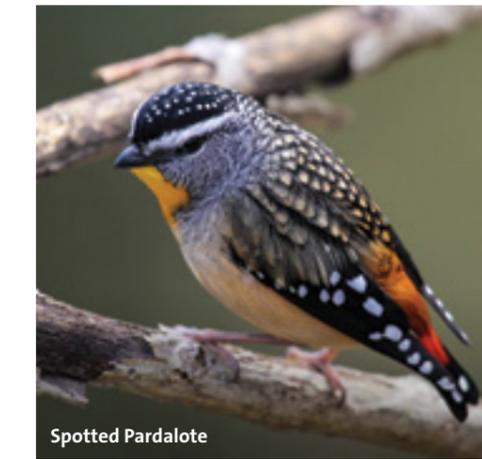
**Day 2:** After a leisurely and relaxed breakfast, there's plenty of time to enjoy the surroundings before you choose your walking trail for the day. For the adventurous, there is the choice of the island's two towering mountain peaks of Mt Maria or Bishop & Clerk, providing stunning views towards Tasman Island, Freycinet, Schouten Island and the Ile Des Phoques. On arrival back, you will be entertained by native birds, wallabies and pademelons, before a scrumptious dinner where guides will amaze you with the many fascinating stories of Maria Island. **Bernacchi House**

**Day 3:** After breakfast, you will have a final chance to explore Darlington, the World Heritage site's convict settlement and industrial ruins. After a farewell lunch in Darlington, guests board the boat for Triabunna and the return trip to Hobart, with the opportunity to spot cormorants, gulls, terns and albatross species.

**PRICE:**  
From \$1,690 AUD per person twin share

## ICONIC SPECIES

Common Wombat, Forester Kangaroo, Bennett's Wallaby, Pademelon, Cape Barren Goose, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Hooded Dotterel, Flame Robin, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Green Rosellas, Grey Fantails, Black-headed & Strong-billed Honeyeater



## Australian Coastal Safaris

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Marine Mammals	Australian Sea-lions	BV	BV	BV	BV		X	X	X		BV	BV	BV
Land Mammals	Koala	B	B						BV	BV	BV	B BV	B
	Western Grey Kangaroo	BV	BV	BV	BV					BV	BV	BV	BV
	Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat												
Birds	Osprey							N	N	N			
	Emu								N	N	N	N BV	BV
	Port Lincoln Parrot								N	N	N	N	N
	Rock Parrot								N	N	N	N	N
	Western Yellow Robin						N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Blue-breasted Wren								N			N	
Fish	Great White Shark												
Reptiles	Rosenberg's Goanna	B	B									B	B

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

<b>KEY</b>	Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species	Likely sighting chance	Moderate sighting chance	No viewing/tour not available	Nesting	Breeding	Baby viewing
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## Echidna Walkabout Nature Tours

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Land Mammals & Monotremes	Koala	B	B							BV	BV	BV	BV B	BV B
	Eastern Grey Kangaroo	BV	BV	BV	BV					B	B	B		
	Swamp Wallaby													
	Short-beaked Echidnas													
	Yellow-bellied & Greater Glider	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
	Grey-headed Flying Fox			B	B		X	X	X			BV	BV	BV
Birds	King Parrot						X	X	X					
	Superb Lyrebird					N	X	X	X	N				
	Satin Bowerbirds						X	X	X					
	Cuckoos						X	X	X	N	N	N		
	Scarlet Honeyeater						X	X	X					
Reptiles	Lace Monitor					X	X	X	X					

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

<b>KEY</b>	Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species	Likely sighting chance	Moderate sighting chance	No viewing/tour not available	Nesting	Breeding	Baby viewing
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## Exceptional Kangaroo Island

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Land Mammals & Monotremes	Kangaroo Island Kangaroo	B	B	B					BV	BV	BV	BV	B
	Tamar Wallaby	B	B						BV	BV	BV	BV	
	Short-beaked Echidna						B	B	B				
	Koala	B	B				BV	BV	BV	BV	BV	B	B
Birds	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	N	N	N	N	N	N	BV	BV	BV			
	Hooded Dotterel	N	N						N	N	N	N	N
	Cape Barren Goose					N	N	N BV	N BV	N BV	BV		
	Scarlet Robin												
	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	N	N									N	N
Marine Mammals	Australian Sea-lion	BV	BV	BV	BV	BV	BV						
	Long-nosed Fur Seal	B	BV	BV	BV	BV	BV	BV	BV			B	B
Reptiles	Rosenberg's Goanna	B	B	B		X	X	X	X				B

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing

## Exmouth Dive & Whalesharks Ningaloo

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Fish	Whale Shark	X	X							X	X	X	X
	Build up of Mass Fish, Congregation Cods, Mobular Rays, Pelagic Fish	X	X									X	X
	Manta Ray	X	X	X								X	X
	Coral Spawning	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Grey Nurse Sharks	X	X	X	X	X						X	X
	Sharks: Grey Reef, Black Tip, Tiger, Tawny, Lemon, Hammerhead	X	X										X
Marine Mammals	Humpback Whale	X	X	X	X	X			BV	BV	BV	X	X
	Dugong	X	X			BV	BV			X	X	X	X
	Spinner Dolphin	X	X									X	X
	Bottlenose Dolphin	X	X									X	X
	Orca	X	X	X								X	X
Marine Reptiles	Green, Loggerhead and Hawksbill Turtles	X	X									N	X

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing

## FNQ Nature Tours

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Land Mammals & Monotremes	Platypus							B	B	B		
	Green Ringtail Possum											
	Musky Rat Kangaroo											
	Tree Kangaroo											
Birds	Southern Cassowary					B	B	B	N	N BV	BV	BV
	Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher	N	BV	BV		X	X	X	X	B	B	B
	Tooth-billed Bowerbird	B								B		
	Victoria's Riflebird	*courtship display										
Reptiles & Amphibians	Boyd's Forest Dragon	B	B							B	B	B
	Saltwater Crocodile	N	N	BV	BV					B	B	N
	Green-eyed Tree Frog											
	Leaf-tailed Gecko											

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KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing

## Indian Ocean Experiences

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Marine Invertebrates	Red Crab	B, BV									B	B	B, BV
	Coconut / Robber Crab	B									B	B	B
	Blue Crab	B									B	B	B
Birds	Abbotts Booby	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	
	Christmas Island Frigatebird	B, MD	B	B	B	B		MD					
	Golden Bosun	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	
	Brown Booby				B	B	B	B					
	Christmas Island Hawk-owl	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	
	Christmas Island Goshawk	B							B	B	B	B	
	Cocos Buff-banded Rail - Cocos Keeling Islands	B				B	B		B	B	B		
Reptiles & Amphibians	Turtles (Green & Hawksbill) - Cocos Keeling Islands												
	Blue-tailed Skink	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N	

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Breeding / Nesting Baby viewing Male Display

## Lords Kakadu & Arnhemland Safaris

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Reptiles	Saltwater Crocodile	X	X	X								X	X
	Freshwater Crocodile	X	X	X								X	X
	Mertens' Water Monitor	X	X	X								X	X
Land Mammals	Agile Wallaby & Wilkins' Rock Wallaby	X	X	X								X	X
	Dingo	X	X	X								X	X
Birds	Blue-winged Kookaburra	X	X	X								X	X
	Magpie Geese	X	X	X	BV	BV	BV					X	X
	Brolga	X	X	X								X	X
	Comb-crested Jacana	X	X	X	BV	BV	BV					X	X
	Black-necked Stork	X	X	X	BV	BV						X	X
	Azure Kingfisher	X	X	X	BV	BV	BV	BV				X	X
	Great Billed Heron	X	X	X								X	X

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing

## Murray River Trails

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Land Mammals	Red Kangaroo	X	X										X
	Koala	X	X										X
	Brush-tailed Possum	X	X										X
Birds	Emu	X	X			N	N	BV	BV				X
	Regent Parrot	X	X						N	N	N	N	X
	Rainbow Bee-eater	X	X				X	X	X	X	N	N	X
	Red-capped Robin	X	X					N	N	N	N	N	X
	Red-necked Avocet	X	X										X
	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X
	Sacred Kingfisher	X	X			X	X	X	X	N	N	N	X
Australian Pelican	X	X											X
Reptiles	Shingleback Lizard	X	X			X	X	X		B	B	B	X
	Lace Monitor	X	X				X	X	X		B		X

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing

Naturaliste Charters		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Marine Mammals	Killer Whale	B BV	B BV	B BV	B BV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Sperm Whale		B BV	B BV	B BV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Long-finned Pilot Whale			B BV	B BV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Humpback Whale	X	X	X	X	B	B	B	B	B	BV	BV	X
	Southern-Right Whale	X	X	X	X	X	B	B BV	B BV	B BV	B BV	B BV	X
	Blue Whale	X	X	X	X	B	B	X	X	B	B BV	B BV	X
	Long-nosed Fur Seal						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Australian Sea Lion	BV	BV	BV	BV	BV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Flesh-footed Shearwater					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wandering Albatross					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross												X	
Brown Skua												X	

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY	Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species	Likely sighting chance	Moderate sighting chance	No viewing/tour not available	Nesting	Breeding	Baby viewing
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Pacific Whale Foundation Eco-Adventures Australia		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Marine Mammals	Humpback Whale	X	X	X	X	X	X			BV	BV	BV	X X
	Dugong												
	Indo Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin												
	Australian Humpback Dolphin												
	Southern Right Whale, Minke Whale, Bryde's Whale and False Killer Whale	X	X	X	X	X						X	X X
Marine Reptiles	Green, Loggerhead and Hawksbill Turtles											N N	N N
Birds	Osprey												
	Brahminy Kite												
	Masked Booby												
	Australasian Gannet												
Eastern Curlew			X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY	Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species	Likely sighting chance	Moderate sighting chance	No viewing/tour not available	Nesting	Breeding	Baby viewing
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Premier Travel Tasmania		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Land Mammals & Monotremes	Tasmanian Devil	BV		B	B	B						BV	BV
	Platypus	BV							B	B	B		BV
	Tasmanian Pademelon					B	B	B		BV	BV	BV	
	Forester Kangaroo	B	B							BV	BV	B	B
	Common Wombat	BV	BV			B	B	B					
	Eastern Quoll					B	B					BV	BV
Birds	Short-tailed Shearwater				BV	BV *migrate to Northern Hemisphere	X	X	X	B			
	Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle	B							N	N	N	N	N
	Green Rosella	B	B							N	N	N	N
	Orange-bellied Parrot				X	X	X	X	X	X	N	N	N
	Little Penguin	BV						N	N	N	BV	BV	BV
Marine Mammals	Australian Fur Seals										B	BV	BV

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing

The Maria Island Walk		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Land Mammals	Common Wombat	BV	BV				B	B	B						
	Forester Kangaroo	B	B						BV	BV	B	B	B		
	Bennett's Wallaby	B BV	B BV	B							BV	BV	BV		
	Pademelon	BV					B	B			BV	BV	BV		
	Tasmanian Devil	BV	BV	B	B										
	Birds	Forty-spotted Pardalote											N	N	N
Cape Barren Goose							N	N	N	N					
Tasmanian Native Hen		N BV								N	N	N BV	N BV	N BV	
Yellow Wattlebird											N	N	N	N	
Hooded Plover		N	N	N							N	N	N		
Swift Parrot		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N	N	N	N		
Scarlet & Flame Robins										N	N	N	N	N	
White-bellied Sea-Eagle											N	N	N		

\*For a more comprehensive list of sighting opportunities in this region, please visit the Australian Wildlife Journeys website.

KEY Peak viewing/ best time to visit for species Likely sighting chance Moderate sighting chance No viewing/tour not available Nesting Breeding Baby viewing



## Plan your trip

Australia is a vast land with enormous diversity, so knowing where to start planning your journey can sometimes be overwhelming. With so much to discover, the Australian Wildlife Journeys website is the perfect resource to get started on planning your Australian adventure.

You'll find more details about each of the operators; suggested itineraries; wildlife experiences by destination or special wildlife interest; and information to help you plan your trip. You can contact each operator directly for more information, immerse yourself in our picture and video galleries, and sign up for special offers. Whether you book directly with your chosen operator, or via your preferred travel specialist, our website is a great place to start.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Youtube and share your experiences, stories and photos; or find inspiration for your next Australian wildlife journey.

-  [www.australianwildlifejourneys.com](http://www.australianwildlifejourneys.com)
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Our Signature Experiences showcase the best quality experiences on offer across Australia. From winery experiences, fishing adventures and Aboriginal guided tours to luxury lodges, wildlife encounters, guided walking tours and a round or two of golf.



Australian Wildlife Journeys features Australia's leading independently operated wildlife tour operators offering unparalleled connection to Australia's most spectacular natural environments. Iconic and immersive wildlife encounters include birdwatching, whale watching, marsupial spotting and snorkelling.



Cultural Attractions of Australia is an industry led collective of iconic Australian arts and cultural attractions that have joined forces to present the best of Australia's cultural offering to the world. Each attraction has curated pre-bookable, premium experiences, ensuring unrivalled access and attention for their guests.



Discover Aboriginal Experiences is a collective of inspiring and transformational experiences guided by Aboriginal people who share their country and bring the landscape to life through their stories. A diverse range of experiences are on offer including quad biking, kayaking, hiking, fishing, mud crabbing, sightseeing, art and food.



Great Fishing Adventures is the catch of Australia's best fishing operators that have come together to raise the profile of Australia as a world-class fishing destination. As well as providing overviews of each fishing operator, Great Fishing Adventures of Australia spotlights some of Australia's best fishing experiences including tips on different categories, from saltwater and freshwater fishing to deep sea and fly fishing adventures.



Great Golf Courses of Australia provides access to some of Australia's leading golf courses including the country's World Top 100 course listings: Barnboughle Dunes and Barnboughle Lost Farm, Cape Wickham Links, Kingston Heath, New South Wales, The National and Royal Melbourne (East and West).



Great Walks of Australia offers superb and quintessentially Australian walking experiences that engage walkers in some of the world's most spectacular terrain. These walks inspire travellers to explore Australia's diverse landscape by foot, where guests reconnect with nature in small, intimate groups led by expert guides with a deep understanding and appreciation of the environment.



Luxury Lodges of Australia is a collection of independent lodges and camps offering unforgettable experiences in Australia's most inspiring and extraordinary locations. These lodges are exclusive by virtue of their location, intimate size and personalised delivery of uniquely, genuinely, Australian experiences.



Ultimate Winery Experiences Australia is a collection of premium award-winning wineries in Australia's most renowned wine regions. These wineries are not just places to sample and purchase wine, but offer a diverse and unique range of cellar door, dining and private touring experiences.



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