



*Experience the unforgettable
beauty of Australia's Wilderness Edge*

BEST OF THE SOUTH-WEST

WALKING TOURS

2012-2013





TOUR OVERVIEW

Our **Best of the Southwest Walking Tour** will introduce you to the best walks in the south-west of Western Australia. Magnificent karri forests, spectacular ocean views, amazing tingle forests, and exhilarating sea cliffs. Join us on an incredible walking tour that incorporates beautiful sections of the Bibbulmun Track, stunning hikes in the Stirling Range, and wonderful treks through the Walpole Wilderness.

Join our expert guide on the experience of a lifetime. Dr Dave (aka The Adventure Doctor) will lead this tour. He is a wealth of knowledge about the fauna, flora, and geology of the area and will provide interpretive commentary throughout the walk. This is a small group only tour – that ensures that each walker has the opportunity to interact with Dr Dave and learn as much as possible about the superb natural landscape.

Hiking in Australia's south-west doesn't mean roughing it. We choose to stay in deluxe accommodation – that means no camping, no dormitories, no motels. Each evening you will return to your accommodation in the peaceful forest surroundings of Karma Chalets located a short distance from the town of Denmark. You only carry a small day-pack and water on each walk, leaving the heavy pack to the guide.

Beautiful scenery, stunning wildflowers, relaxing accommodation, expert guides – what better way to experience the wonders of Australia's only internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot?

9 Day/8 Night - ITINERARY

Day 1 – Depart Perth and arrive in Denmark

We meet you in Perth central CBD at 12.30pm and drive to Denmark. We will stop at Kojonup Visitor Centre for a break where you will have the opportunity to purchase a snack at the cafe or visit Kodja Place, an interactive museum that tells the story of the region's indigenous and European settlement.

On arrival in Denmark you can settle into your chalet and relax before enjoying a BBQ on your balcony.

Day 2 – Mt Hallowell to William Bay (15.5km moderately challenging)

A guided walk through the karri forest over granite boulders to the top of Mt Hallowell and down to Monkey Rock. A physically challenging walk requiring balance and agility in some sections.

From Monkey Rock to William Bay National Park the terrain is undulating, with sand sections and a few hills. The view from granite tors of Tower Hill is magnificent

At the end of this walk enjoy a dip in the pristine waters of Greens Pool, a natural ocean rock pool.



Day 3 – Conspicuous Cliffs to Peaceful Bay coastal walk (20km moderately challenging)

A stunning walk on the Bibbulmun Track affording spectacular coastal scenery. Starting on the beach, we climb up the limestone cliffs to Rame Head and continue along the cliff tops to Point Irwin.

Although it is a long walk, the conditions are easy to moderate and you will be rewarded with the satisfaction of knowing that you have been able to complete a full length of the track in one day!



Day 4 – Walpole Wilderness Walk (20km moderate)



A guided walk through the ancient Tingle forest of Walpole Wilderness. Some of these trees are over 400 years old! These giants stand silently in the forest – majestic sentries that grow nowhere else in the world.

Walkers will have the opportunity to visit the Valley of the Giants Discovery Centre and Tree Top Walk, a canopy suspension bridge in the Tingle forest. From here we walk down to the coast at Conspicuous Cliffs.

Day 5 – West Cape Howe National Park coastal walk (16.5km moderate)

A guided walk which takes in the best rugged coastal scenery in Western Australia. West Cape Howe is the southern-most point of Western Australia and the coastline is a mixture of dolerite and limestone cliffs.

This walk starts from Shelley Beach lookout, affording spectacular views over the crescent beach at the base of the cliffs – a popular spot for hang-gliders.



Day 6 – Bald Head (16km challenging)



This strenuous return walk in Torndirrup National Park, Albany, traverses Isthmus Hill and Limestone Head, finishing at Bald Head, the most eastern point of the park.

The track narrows at the isthmus affording spectacular coastal views either side of the track – the southern ocean on one side, and King George Sound on the other.

Spectacular coastal blooms and the opportunity for spotting whales.

Day 7– Boat Harbour to William Bay (19.5km moderate)



This walk starts at stunning Boat Harbour, a natural harbour formed by giant granite formations. We enter the trailhead using a 4WD track and then walk along the limestone cliff tops towards Parry Beach.

The second half of this walk is along the stunning length of Mazzoletti Beach ending at Greens Pool. We know you won't be able to resist another dip in the pristine waters of this beautiful location.

Day 8 – Lowlands Beach to the Nullaki (16.5km moderate)

A walk on the Bibbulmun Track from Lowlands Beach along the length of the Nullaki Peninsula. The views from the cliff tops are stunning. The track meanders along the coast and affords spectacular views of the Porongurups, the Stirling Ranges, and Wilson Inlet.



Day 9 – Bluff Knoll (6km challenging)

We leave Denmark in the early morning and we drive to the Stirling Ranges and the popular trek up Bluff Knoll (1,073m). Bluff Knoll which is listed as one of Australia's 25 best hikes, is the highest peak in the Stirling Range and indeed the whole southwest of Western Australia. With 360° views at the summit it offers ocean glimpses on a clear day.

From the Stirling Range you drive back to Perth, arriving in the early evening. Unfortunately your fabulous walking experience has come to an end... but the memories will live on forever!



The itinerary should be used as a guide only as it can vary due to weather, trail conditions, and unforeseen circumstances. Wilderness Getaways reserves the right to cancel, delay or alter any tour due to circumstances beyond our control, including but not limited to dangerous weather conditions, dangerous Track conditions, or the inability of a contractor to fulfil any obligations. Our experienced guides will seek out the best alternatives where necessary.

FOR THE LATEST PACKAGE DATES PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE

Choose from set dates or organise your own itinerary (dependent on minimum group size). Tour runs at least twice during the Spring (September and October) so that you can experience WA's spectacular wildflowers in bloom.

PACKAGE PRICE AND INCLUSIONS

9 Day/8 Night Tour Price: \$2795 (twin-share)

We always include an extra night so that you can settle in to your accommodation the day before your first tour and relax in comfort on the evening of your last walking day.

We recognise that after a day's adventure packed with new and exciting experiences, you want to relax in comfort. That's why we choose to stay in deluxe chalets with multiple guest rooms, private bathroom facilities (some with spa baths to rejuvenate your whole body) and shared kitchen and living areas. Our guests have the privacy of their own rooms (twin share), and get to enjoy the company of others for their evening meal.

Eating scrumptious healthy meals is one of the highlights of all our packages. We supply all the ingredients for a cooked and/or continental breakfast including home-made muffins. On our walking packages, you enjoy freshly made rolls and a selection of healthy snacks to keep the energy levels up. We aim to cater for all dietary needs and that's why we always ask you for information about your dietary preferences.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Return transfers from Perth to Denmark
- 8 x breakfasts (self-serve continental and cooked breakfast supplies are delivered to your chalet)
- 8 x lunches
- 8 x morning and afternoon tea (tea, coffee and home-baking)
- 8 x snack packs (fruit, energy bars, trail-mix)
- 8 x dinners
- Twin-shared chalet accommodation
- 1 x 45 minute massage treatment
- All transfers to and from accommodation in Denmark to the Track
- Entrance fees and permits to national parks
- Bibbulmun Track maps
- The services of an expert track Guide who walks with you each day

TOUR EXCLUSIONS

- Items of a personal nature
- Alcoholic beverages
- Optional excursions
- Personal travel insurance

ACCOMMODATION

Tour price is inclusive of twin-share rooms in shared chalet accommodation at Karma Chalets.... nestled in the hillside under a canopy of eucalyptus. Ten exclusive chalets, each with a well-equipped kitchen, cosy living area, balcony and BBQ are available. Karma's panoramic outlook provides the ideal backdrop for you to relax with the quiet of nature at your doorstep as beautiful parrots, finches and wrens dart through the branches. While staying at Karma Chalets you will have the opportunity to experience all the pampering available at Karisma Spa.



HOW TO BOOK

1. Send us an email to - bookings@wildernessgetaways.com.au indicating the tour dates and the number of persons who wish to join us.
2. We will send you a return email with the price, which may include variations if you have any particular requests outside our standard packages. We will also send you a detailed itinerary, medical form and booking form.
3. You return the completed forms to us with the 20% deposit and have your wilderness holiday confirmed.

WALKING GRADE: 2-4

This package involves walks which are graded 2 (Introductory Trekking), 3 (Moderate Trekking) and 4 (Challenging Trekking). Keep in mind that environmental factors such as rainfall or high temperatures on the day may mean that a walk graded as easy could be experienced as moderate or even challenging.

Some of these walks involve trekking up to 8 hours per day in challenging terrains. Walks take place on well defined tracks but may involve obstacles such as estuary crossings or easy scrambling. Hilly terrain can be expected. You will need a good level of fitness and must be in good health. You will need to be able to carry a small daypack in variable weather conditions. We suggest that you prepare for your walk with at least 45 minutes of aerobic exercise three times per week. Hill walking with a pack is desirable preparation.

Ability will always vary within a group and under most circumstances we are able to accommodate these differences – our walks aren't a contest of speed! However, it is important for your well-being and that of your fellow travellers, that you are sufficiently fit for your walks. Make sure you carefully read the descriptions of the walks in the detailed itinerary. We also encourage you to contact our staff for more detailed advice.

GEAR REQUIREMENTS

Walkers will need to carry a small day-pack and water for their use on the walk. You will need to wear hiking boots or other sturdy footwear - definitely no sandals or joggers. The south-western sections of the Bibbulmun Track are greatly influenced by the cold Southern Ocean. It is always best to be prepared for cooler days and nights at any time of the year. We will provide you with a detailed gear list when you finalize your booking.

OUR CUSTOMER GUARANTEE

Just like you, we love to travel. Between our different team members, we have visited every continent and over 30 different countries. And like you, we want value for money and a genuine experience. We know that when you plan a holiday you want to be assured of quality accommodation and an authentic experience. We too are worried about 'green-washing' and we know that although the brochure looks great, there's always that niggling feeling that maybe the accommodation won't be as good as it looks, or that the tour won't be as amazing as the brochure says.

Because we know what it's like to be in your shoes, we wanted to create a holiday experience that ticks all the boxes – value for money, quality guaranteed, and a fabulous time. We can guarantee the experiences that we offer, because we work in these businesses ourselves. The person who sells the package is the same person who runs the tours and operates the chalets. Unlike other operators who parachute in from Perth or the east coast, we know the area intimately and our guides are experts on the flora and fauna you will encounter. We love our region and only offer products we've tested and know will deliver quality every time. The amazing feedback we receive is only the start of delivering on our promises. For us, the testament that we are doing things right is the enduring friendships that we have formed with our guests.