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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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BARNAMIA

NOCTURNAL ANIMAL SANCTUARY

Take a nocturnal tour in a tranquil sanctuary that is home to some of Western Australia's threatened native animals.

Experience an unforgettable journey through Barna Mia in picturesque Dryandra Woodland, south-east of Perth.



Information guide



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



PARKS FOR
PEOPLE





Above Dryandra woodland. Photo – Parks and Wildlife

Escape... experience... encounter...

Dryandra Woodland provides the chance for quality time with nature. Escape to a place where your senses can reconnect and absorb the natural beauty of the woodland. Explore and experience this area in your own way and in your own time.

Explore...

Dryandra Woodland's beautiful bushland is one of the western Wheatbelt's most valuable nature conservation areas, given the extensive clearing of surrounding land for farming.

The woodland is located within a world recognised biodiversity 'hotspot', where over 850 species of flora can be seen throughout the year. Wandoo woodlands, mallet plantations and diverse heathlands support possums, woylies, kangaroos, numbats, echidnas, birds, reptiles and insects.

Dryandra offers:

- walk trails from one to 27km
- a unique 25km audio drive trail
- camping and picnic facilities
- accommodation in restored cottages or dormitories at the Lions Dryandra Village (contact caretaker on (08) 9884 5231)
- brilliant spring wildflower displays
- EcoEducation activities for school groups (phone (08) 9881 9200).



Right top Golden dryandra (*Banksia nobilis*).

Right Little pink fairy orchids (*Caladenia reptans* subsp. *reptans*) surrounded by cushion buttercups (*Hibbertia hibbertioides* var. *pedunculata*).
Photos – Parks and Wildlife





Barna Mia

Barna Mia is a predator-proof animal sanctuary with a difference. Nestled in the heart of Dryandra Woodland, 170km south-east of Perth, Barna Mia is a place to discover threatened native marsupials in a natural setting.

Experience the wonder of the woodland once the sun has set and the action begins. A tour guide takes visitors on a delightful journey through the sanctuary. Using special red spotlights, you can see threatened native animals such as bilbies, burrowing bettongs, rufous hare-wallabies, quendas, woylies and western barred bandicoots.

Learn...

Many of Western Australia's native mammals have been lost from their former habitats due to predation by cats and foxes, cleared vegetation and changed fire regimes. Preservation of Dryandra's 28,000ha of bushland enables several native species to survive.

The Department of Parks and Wildlife's ambitious *Western Shield* program aims to eliminate introduced predators, thereby protecting and conserving remnant indigenous animal species.

Barna Mia is home to six species of marsupial—bilby, boodie, mala, quenda, woylie and marl—which live in two 4ha enclosures that keep out introduced predators.

Above Left to right – mala and boodie at feeding station. *Photo – Gary Tate*

Opposite page from top to bottom Bilby. *Photo – Gerald Lorenz*; Boodie, woylie, quenda and mala. *Photo – Marc Simojoki*; Marl. *Photo – Parks and Wildlife*

Below Barna Mia guide at feeding station. *Photo – Gerald Lorenz*





Bilby

The **rabbit-eared bandicoot** or **bilby** (*Macrotis lagotis*) is a gentle animal with soft, blue-grey fur, long ears and a decorative black and white tail. The female bilby has a rear-opening pouch.

It spends daylight hours in a deep burrow and emerges after dusk to feed on insects, grubs, seeds, fungi and bulbs.

Boodie

The **burrowing bettong** or **boodie** (*Bettongia lesueur*) is a social, vocal marsupial that lives in communal burrows. Once a common mammal in semi-arid parts of Australia, the boodie is now extinct on the mainland but survives on a few offshore islands off the coast of Western Australia and in predator-proof enclosures such as Barna Mia.



Woylie

The **brush-tailed bettong** or **woylie** (*Bettongia penicillata*) feeds on underground fungi and also eats tubers, seeds and insects. It builds a nest of woven grass and bark in a scrape beneath low, thick vegetation. The woylie is listed as endangered and has a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

Quenda

The **southern-brown bandicoot** or **quenda** (*Isodon obesulus*) digs in topsoil for insects and spiders, tubers and fungi, leaving conical pits in the soil. They shelter in a nest of vegetation beneath dense cover and the female quenda has a rear-opening pouch. The quenda occurs in coastal heath, forest and scrub areas of the south-west of Western Australia.



Mala

The **rufous hare-wallaby** or **mala** (*Lagorchestes hirsutus*) is a small, delicate marsupial with light-fawn coloured fur. When disturbed, it springs from its shelter and quickly bounds away in a zigzag motion. The mala is a herbivore. By the early 1990s the last two wild populations had become extinct on the mainland. This species now survives on some offshore islands off the coast of Western Australia and in predator-proof enclosures such as Barna Mia.

Marl

The **western barred bandicoot** or **marl** (*Perameles bougainville*) makes a nest of bark, sticks and other litter material in a shallow depression within a dense thicket of bush. The female marl has a rear-opening pouch and can have litters of two to three young. Extinction occurred on the mainland in the 1950s. The species continues to survive on offshore islands off the coast of Western Australia and in predator-proof enclosures such as Barna Mia.





Want to know more?

Admission to Barna Mia: \$20 adults; \$15.50 adult concession; \$10 children under 16; \$50 families (2 adults, 2 children).

Opening hours: Tours begin after sunset and start times vary seasonally. Contact the Department of Parks and Wildlife's Narrogin District office for details and bookings.

Bookings are essential: Advance booking is recommended by calling (08) 9881 9200 Monday to Friday.

If booking on the day of the tour call before 4pm and for a Saturday call (08) 9881 2064.

Closed: Public holidays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays (except by prior arrangement for groups).

Department of Parks and Wildlife

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Cover top Barna Mia. **Bottom** Visitors enjoy an animal encounter.

Photos – Gary Tate



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