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Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

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Code of the Coral Coast

We trust that your stay here will be relaxing and memorable. To help achieve that and ensure the environment is protected for future users we have developed the following **coral coast code.**

Sanctuary zones Remember that nothing (living or not) is to be taken from these zones.

Collecting Removal of shells is not permitted anywhere in the marine park.

Dangerous currents can occur For your safety, check sea conditions or contact Milyering Visitor Centre for information before you enter the water. If there are strong currents, stay on or near the beach. Please read the signs for your safety.

Wildlife sanctuary This area is for the protection of significant fauna species and their habitat. Visitor access is prohibited.

Spear guns and gidgies These are not to be used in Ningaloo Marine Park between Winderabandi Point and Tantabiddi Boat Ramp and in the Ningaloo Commonwealth Marine Reserve. Refer to the marine park fishing regulations for more information.

Fish offal All offal is to be buried a minimum of 300mm deep in the sand or placed in an appropriate disposal container where available.

Generators Please note that areas where generators are not allowed include North Neds, North T-Bone, North Mandu, Kurrajong, Bungarra and South Osprey.

Campfires Do not light campfires in Cape Range National Park. This includes the use of heat beads. Gas cookers only are permitted.

Toilets Park toilets provided use bio additives to help break down wastes. Please do not place any chemicals, including porta potty wastes or detergents in the toilets as this will kill any helpful bacteria. Wastes from chemical toilets should be removed from the park and disposed of according to the manufacturer's instructions. Contact Exmouth Visitor Centre for disposal points.

Wildlife Do not feed the wildlife (including fish) as this can cause them to become aggressive and dependent on an unnatural food source.

Driving Avoid driving on beaches and sand dunes. These environments are delicate and easily degraded. Driving on beaches can disturb turtle nests and disorientate turtle hatchlings trying to reach the sea. If it is necessary to drive on sandy tracks, please reduce tyre pressure to reduce damage and make driving easier. The park's speed limit is 80km per hour.

Anchor only in sandy areas Coral is delicate and once damaged may take many years to regrow. Avoid standing on coral formations and touching marine organisms.

Pets and firearms are not permitted in Cape Range National Park.

Further information

Parks and Wildlife staff are pleased to share their knowledge and offer helpful suggestions about places to go and things to do and see.

More information is available from the department's Exmouth or Perth offices.

Parks and Wildlife Exmouth District Office
22 Nimitz Street (PO Box 201)
Exmouth WA 6707
Phone: (08) 9947 8000 exmouth@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Milyering Visitor Centre (Cape Range National Park)
Phone: (08) 9949 2808 milyering@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Parks and Wildlife Headquarters
Locked Bag 104
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983
Phone: (08) 9219 9000
dpaw.wa.gov.au

Department of Fisheries
10 Maley Street
Exmouth WA 6707
Phone: (08) 9949 2755 headoffice@fish.wa.gov.au

Exmouth Visitor Centre
PO Box 149
Exmouth WA 6707
Phone: (08) 9949 1176 reservations@exmouthwa.com.au

Emergency contacts

Parks and Wildlife Exmouth District
Phone: (08) 9947 8000

Pilbara Regional Head Office
Phone: (08) 9182 2000

Milyering Visitor Centre
Phone: (08) 9949 2808

Exmouth Police
Phone: (08) 9947 8700

Exmouth Hospital
Phone: (08) 9949 3666

Milyering Visitor Centre and park staff have radio contact with the Parks and Wildlife Exmouth Office.

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This publication is available in alternative formats on request.

Department of Parks and Wildlife

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

Photos by *Parks and Wildlife, Tony Howard, Axle Passeck, and Tourism WA.*

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Parks of the Coral Coast

Cape Range National Park Ningaloo Marine Park and Muiron Islands

Marine Management Area

Visitor guide

Department of Parks and Wildlife

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

RECYCLE Please return unwanted brochures to distribution points

Above Point Maud, Coral Bay.

Parks of the Coral Coast

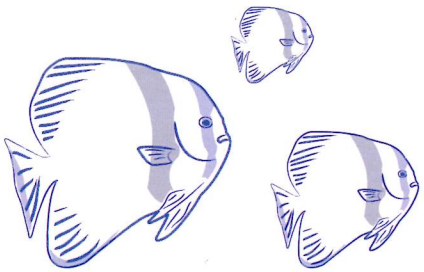
Parks of the Coral Coast are ideal locations for recreational activities and learning about the natural environment. Whether you want to hike through rugged gorges, snorkel in lagoons or lay on the beach, the Coral Coast has something for everyone.

A variety of natural communities is represented in the parks. The rugged limestone landscape of Cape Range provides a stark backdrop to the turquoise waters of the Ningaloo Reef with the two features divided by coastal plains and drifting sand dunes.

Long inhabited by Aboriginal people, the Coral Coast has also been witness to historic expeditions, devastating tropical cyclones, military activity and a variety of maritime industries. The parks now provide an opportunity to see once-hunted whales and turtles protected in an unspoiled environment.

Today the major growth industry for the Coral Coast is tourism, with increasing numbers of visitors every year. However, other industries such as fishing, wool production and oil exploration still continue.

Muiron Islands Marine Management Area has classified areas called conservation areas which are similar to sanctuary zones in marine parks. The unclassified area of the Muiron Islands Marine Management Area is similar to general use zones in marine parks.



Planning your visit

Ningaloo Marine Park is serviced by Exmouth, Carnarvon and the small coastal settlement of Coral Bay, which make excellent bases for visitors.

Ningaloo Marine Park begins about 1000km north of Perth. Commercial flights arrive daily at Learmonth airport (37km south of Exmouth). Coaches and commercial tour groups service Exmouth and Coral Bay. Visitors planning to drive to the Coral Coast should be cautious travelling after sunset, when large numbers of kangaroos and other animals make driving hazardous.

The Coral Coast is in the hot and arid tropics of north-west Australia where summer temperatures can reach more than 47°C. Occasionally tropical cyclones are experienced from November to April and summer visitors are advised to listen for cyclone warnings.

Sea turtle nesting occurs along many of the beaches of Ningaloo Marine Park in summer. Most visitors prefer to come during the winter months when temperatures range from the low 20s to the low 30s.

Creeks entering the Coral Coast rarely flow, and visitors need to carry drinking water. Although the cloudless skies are a delight, the low rainfall supports very few trees and shade is scarce. The use of heavy duty fabrics as shade and for windbreaks is recommended.

Above Wildflowers at Cape Range National Park.

Comfort and safety

- Hot dry weather dehydrates your body quickly, so always carry plenty of water.
- Protect yourself from the sun, whether in or out of the water. Remember to always wear sunscreen and a hat.
- Take adequate fuel when driving and boating (fuel can only be obtained at Exmouth and Coral Bay).
- When boating, swimming and snorkelling remember that ocean conditions can become hazardous quickly, especially near gaps in the reef. If in doubt don't go out.

Above Scuba diving in Ningaloo Marine Park.

Services and facilities

Exmouth offers a range of shops, caravan parks and other accommodation, entertainment and services including limited banking, a post office, hospital and police station. Contact the Exmouth Visitor Centre for more information and for accommodation or tour bookings (08) 9949 1176 or freecall 1800 287 328.

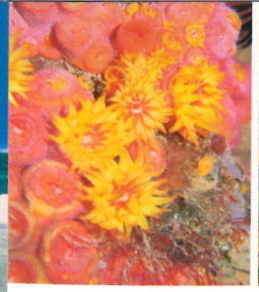
Coral Bay has two caravan parks, chalets, a hotel/motel and a range of other accommodation. Public telephones, fuel, food and other supplies are also available.

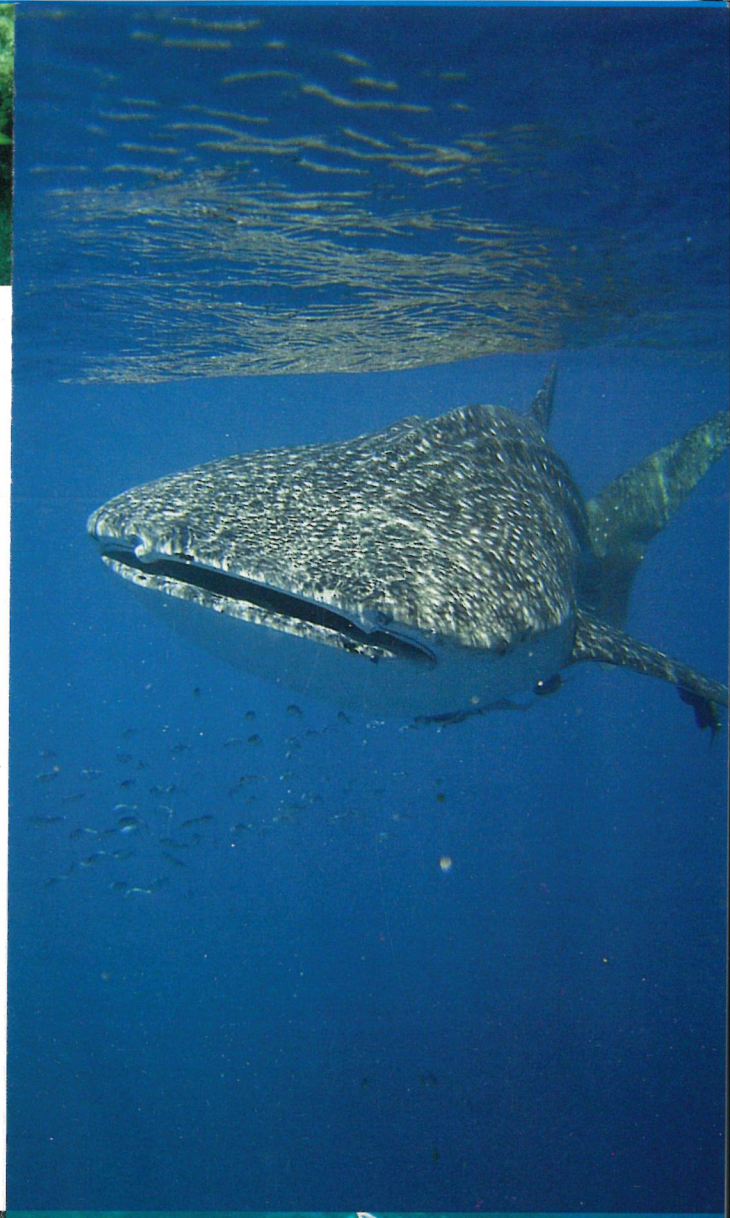
Milyering Visitor Centre in Cape Range National Park is open every day 9am to 3.45pm, except Christmas Day. Displays, brochures and videos explain the natural communities of the Coral Coast, and a small library provides information for those with special interests. Light refreshments and souvenirs are available from the adjoining shop or the centre (seasonal). A public telephone (phone card only) is located next to the centre.

Commercial park tours are conducted in both Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park from Coral Bay and Exmouth. Activities include snorkelling, diving, glass bottom boat tours, sea kayaking and four-wheel-drive tours. Contact the Exmouth Visitor Centre for more information (08) 9949 1176 or freecall 1800 287 328.

Boat ramps are located at Exmouth marina, Bundegi and Tantabiddi. Unsealed boat launching areas for smaller vessels can also be found at Coral Bay and several locations in Cape Range National Park (see map for details).

Diving is a great way to experience Ningaloo. Instruction and compressed air and equipment hire are available at both Exmouth and Coral Bay. Contact the Exmouth Visitor Centre for more details.





Above Sea life of Ningaloo Marine Park.
Below Snorkelling in the park.
Below right Turtle.
Right Whaleshark.

Ningaloo Marine Park

Ningaloo Marine Park protects Australia's largest and most accessible fringing reef system. The shallow lagoons formed by the reef, and the deeper offshore waters, create a diverse array of habitats for a multitude of colourful corals and more than 500 species of fish.

Many other creatures are found in the park, including whale sharks (the world's largest fish), turtles, dugongs, dolphins, manta rays and humpback whales.

Ningaloo Marine Park provides an excellent opportunity to fish (outside sanctuary zones), swim, snorkel, dive, observe marine life and relax on the beach.

Ningaloo has been divided into management zones (see map) to reflect the distribution of natural resources and separate conflicting recreational uses.

Sanctuary zones are 'look but don't take' zones. No extractive activities are permitted in these zones, which means no recreational or commercial fishing is allowed. Mining activities are also prohibited.

Special purpose (benthic protection) zones are also 'look but don't take' zones. However, recreational 'troll' fishing is allowed.

Special purpose (shore-based activities) zones are established alongside sanctuary zones to allow shore-based recreational fishing for finfish only (no other extractive activities are allowed).

Recreation zones are managed for nature conservation and recreation, including recreational fishing.

General use zones are managed for nature conservation while allowing for sustainable commercial and recreational activities.

Fishing is permitted in general use and recreational zones in accordance with fishing regulations. **Exmouth Gulf Landing zone** applies to the landing of rock lobster. Special fishing rules apply in order to conserve fish stocks. Daily bag limits apply as does possession by limits. Make sure you have a copy of the *Zone Guide for Ningaloo Marine Park* before wetting a line. Copies are available from Parks and Wildlife and Department of Fisheries offices.

Remember — No fishing is permitted in sanctuary zones.

Above Fishing on the beach at Ningaloo Marine Park.
Below Snorkelling at Ningaloo Marine Park.

Cape Range National Park

Cape Range National Park is dominated by a rugged limestone range, the remains of an ancient sea floor thrust upwards by movements of the Earth's crust. The range descends to sea level along the coast with arid coastal plains and sand dunes predominating.

This diverse landscape is rich in wildlife. Kangaroos, echidnas, emus and large lizards are common, along with smaller mammals and other reptiles. More than 160 species of bird have been recorded in the area.

The park provides a variety of recreational opportunities to walk, camp, canoe, observe nature, picnic, take photographs and much more.

Where is it? The northern entry point provides the main access to Cape Range National Park and is about 36km from Exmouth. Entry from the south is via Ningaloo Station and requires a four-wheel-drive vehicle in order to cross Yardie Creek. Yardie Creek is subject to intermittent saltwater flooding – contact Milyering or Exmouth visitor centres for conditions.

Roads The major access road into and through the park (south to Yardie Creek) is sealed. Access roads to individual sites comprise both sealed and unsealed roads. Most of these access roads are suitable for two-wheel-drive vehicles. However, road conditions deteriorate rapidly with rain and access may become restricted.

To protect wildlife, the maximum driving speed is 80km per hour, and night driving should be avoided.

If unavoidable, please dip high beam headlights when you see any animals ahead on the road. This allows the animals to move away.

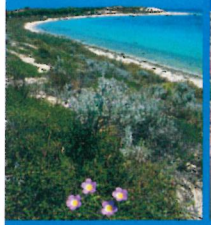
Below Wildflowers of Cape Range National Park. **Right** Gorges are found throughout the park.

Above Yardie Creek.

Camp sites can be found at selected locations along the length of Cape Range National Park (see map). All sites have limited facilities, with no power or water and most with no shade. The maximum time that campers may stay in the national park is 28 days. Camping fees apply and visitors must vacate sites by 10am on the day of departure.

To camp outside the park on pastoral lands, you should contact the station manager. **Camping or entry fees apply in many of these areas.**

Below (left) Main beach at Coral Bay. **Centre** Boat at Yardie Creek. **Right** Black-footed rock-wallaby.



Water is available from Ned's bore in the national park in limited amounts. However, this water supply is not suitable for human consumption and visitors must bring their own drinking water.

Visitor fees are payable and can be paid at the park entry station, Milyering Visitor Centre or Parks and Wildlife office in Exmouth. If you are planning to visit the park more than once, or intend to visit other national parks in the State then please ask about the various extended park pass options available.

Walk trails are established in several locations in Cape Range National Park. For more information contact the Milyering Visitor Centre, Parks and Wildlife office in Exmouth or ask a park ranger (see map for details).

Right (top) Emus. **Right (centre)** Yardie Creek Gorge. **Right** Termite mounds.

Muiron Islands Marine Management Area

Ningaloo Marine Park

0 10 20 30 kilometres

Positions on this map are referenced to the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94). For GPS use, GDA94 approximates WGS84.

This map is for illustration purposes and not for navigation.

Ningaloo Marine Park
Cape Range National Park

0 100 200 kilometres

Exmouth
Cape Range National Park
Ningaloo Marine Park
Coral Bay
Carnarvon
NORTH WEST COASTAL HWY

21°39' 55.36"S 114°00' 4.72"E
21°39' 55.36"S 114°13' 4.70"E
21°46' 55.37"S 113°50' 4.73"E
21°46' 55.36"S 114°19' 4.69"E
22°39' 55.39"S 113°29' 4.76"E
22°56' 55.39"S 113°37' 4.75"E
23°05' 55.4"S 113°34' 4.76"E
23°33' 55.42"S 113°34' 4.76"E

Ningaloo Marine Park Boundary

South Muiron Conservation Area
North Muiron Conservation Area
Muiron Islands
Sunday Island
Sunday Island Conservation Area

Lighthouse Sanctuary Zone
North West Cape
Vlamingh Head
Pt Murat
Murat Sanctuary Zone
Jurabi Sanctuary Zone
Bundegi Coastal Park
Bundegi
Bundegi Sanctuary Zone
Jurabi Pt
Jurabi Coastal Park
Tantabiddi Sanctuary Zone
Naval Communications Station Harold E. Holt
Tantabiddi Creek
Exmouth
Park Entrance
Mangrove Sanctuary Zone
Mangrove Bay
ROAD
Lakeside Sanctuary Zone
Milyering Visitor Centre
SHOTHOLE CANYON ROAD
Cape Range National Park
Mandu Special Purpose (Benthic Protection) Zone
CHARLES KNIFE ROAD
Mandu Sanctuary Zone
Kailis Fisheries
EXMOUTH GULF
INDIAN OCEAN
Mandu Creek
Osprey Sanctuary Zone
YARDIE CREEK ROAD
Learmonth RAAF Base and Airport
Potshot Memorial Solar Observatory
Wapet Creek
Bay of Rest
Yardie Creek
Exmouth Gulf Station
Winderabandi Sanctuary Zone
Bundera Coastal Protection Area
Commonwealth Defence Land
Access to Coast through Exmouth Gulf Station not permitted
Gales Bay
Winderabandi Pt
Lefroy Bay
Ningaloo Station
Pt Edgar
Fraser Is
Bullara Station
BURKETT
Ningaloo Homestead
NINGALOO ROAD
Giralia Station
Pt Cloates
Cloates Sanctuary Zone
CARDABIA NINGALOO ROAD
Marrilla Station
Bruboodjoo Pt
Cardabia Station
Bateman Sanctuary Zone
Cardabia Homestead
Pt Maud
CORAL BAY ROAD
Maud Sanctuary Zone
Coral Bay
MINILYA
14 Mile
WARROORA NORTH ROAD
Pelican Sanctuary Zone
Pelican Pt
Warroora Station
EXMOUTH ROAD
Mia Mia Station
Alison Pt
Warroora Homestead
Bulbarli Reef
Amherst Pt
Cape Farquhar Sanctuary Zone
Cape Farquhar
Gnaraloo Station
WEST COASTAL HIGHWAY
Gnarraloo Bay
Gnarraloo Bay Sanctuary Zone
Gnaraloo Homestead
Minilya Station
3 Mile Sanctuary Zone
3 Mile Camp
Turtles Sanctuary Zone
Ningaloo Marine Park Boundary
Red Bluff
GNARALOO ROAD
Quobba Station
Lake Macleod

Tantabiddi
Tantabiddi Sanctuary Zone
Entrance Station
Mangrove Sanctuary Zone
Mangrove Bay
Low Point
Neds Camp
Mesa Camp
Limited Water - not suitable for drinking.
T-Bone Bay
Kori Bay
Milyering Visitor Centre
Lakeside
Lakeside Sanctuary Zone
Varanus Beach
Trealla Beach
Tulki Beach
Turquoise Bay
Thomas Carter Lookout
Wapet Oil Well No.3
"Dangerous currents can occur, please contact Milyering Visitor Centre for information."
Mandu Special Purpose (Benthic Protection Zone)
Mandu Sanctuary Zone
Cape Range National Park
Oyster Stacks
North Mandu
South Mandu
Mandu Mandu Gorge
Bloodwood Creek
Kurrajong
Pilgramunna
Pilgonaman Creek
Sandy Bay
Osprey Bay
Bungarra
Osprey Sanctuary Zone
Yardie Creek Gorge
Boat Tour
Wildlife Sanctuary No public access
1k Camp
Boat Harbour
"Yardie Creek Crossing - can be subject to seasonal and tidal flooding. Check conditions with Exmouth Visitor Centre or Milyering Visitor Centre."
Bundera Coastal Protection Area
Commonwealth Defence Land
Exmouth Gulf Station

Legend

- Conservation area
- Marine management area
- National park
- Ningaloo Commonwealth Marine Reserve
- General use zone
- Recreation zone
- Sanctuary zone
- Special purpose zone (benthic protection)
- Special purpose zone (shore-based fishing)
- Wildlife Sanctuary
- Road
- Track
- Exmouth Landing zone
- Foothills
- Reef edge
- Station boundary
- Walk trails
- Bird watching
- Boat launching
- Bush walking
- Camping
- Caravan area
- Historic site
- Information
- Picnic facilities
- Ranger station
- Search and rescue
- Snorkelling
- Toilets
- Vistas
- Water
- No camping
- No generators
- No vans and trailers

0 2 4 6 8 10 kilometres