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Issue no: 21

September 2014

Welcome to this issue of *Touring Western Australia*. Spring is one of the best times of year to be outdoors and connecting with nature in Western Australia's world-class parks.

Please enjoy the latest Parks and visitor information and current Industry news.

- Great Aussie Camp Out 2014
- Seasonal park closures in the Kimberley
- Camp site availability
- LANDSCOPE magazine Spring 2014
- See your photo in print!
- Perth Observatory tours
- Across the Wilderness holiday program
- School holiday activities Perth
- International Tourism Studies Association Conference
- State Trails and Outdoors Conference

# Parks and visitor information

## **Great Aussie Camp Out 2014**

Spring has sprung and it's a great time to get outside and go camping. The Great Aussie Camp Out, a highlight of <u>Outdoors</u> <u>October</u>, is happening on 11 October across the country. There are many different ways to participate in the GACO - from camping in



your own backyard to staying at one of Australia's beautiful national parks.

Register at <u>GACO</u> and share your campout with thousands of Australians to be in the running to win some great prizes.

Why not connect with nature and camp in one of WA's world-class parks? Use 'Camp finder' to find a campsite.

#### Seasonal park closures in the Kimberley

Some national parks in the Kimberley will soon be closed for the wet season,

re-opening when weather and road conditions permit. If you plan to travel in the area between September and April, please check ahead.

For information on any park closures check <u>Parks</u>, <u>trails and road closures</u> or download the <u>Alerts app</u>.



## Camp site availability

National park campgrounds can be quite busy in the south-west of Western Australia, especially on long weekends and in school holidays.

Parks and Wildlife is trialling a system on the popular <u>Park Stay</u> <u>website</u> that shows the availability of popular campground at the busiest times of the year. <u>See how it works</u>.

Find out more about this trial.

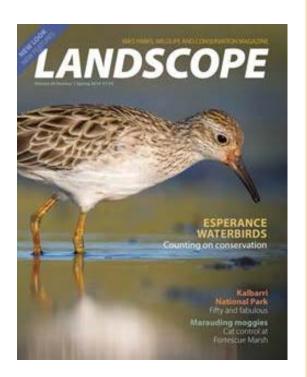


#### LANDSCOPE magazine - Spring 2014

In this edition:

- restoring Dirk Hartog Island
- celebrating 50 years of Kalbarri National Park
- giving hope to wildlife at Fortescue Marsh
- successful reintroductions to Montebello Islands
- facility upgrades showcase magnificent Karijini National Park
- studying the unique reef systems of the western Kimberley
- waterbird monitoring in the Esperance lakes area, and
- geocaching in Yanchep National Park.

Available online at <a href="mailto:shop.dpaw.wa.gov.au">shop.dpaw.wa.gov.au</a> from good bookstores, newsagents, visitor centres, Parks and Wildlife offices including 17 Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington or by phoning (08) 9219 9071.



WA Naturally Publications are offering five free copies of LANDSCOPE to Touring WA readers. To enter the draw, just email <u>Touring.WA@dpaw.wa.gov.au</u> and put "I'd love a copy of LANDSCOPE" in the subject line.

### See your photo in print!

LANDSCOPE magazine is well-known and respected for its incredibly imagery of nature at its finest. Have you snapped a fantastic photograph that you think would be worthy of being published in LANDSCOPE?

Email it to *LANDSCOPE*, along with a 100-word description and it could appear in an issue of WA's parks, wildlife and conservation magazine.



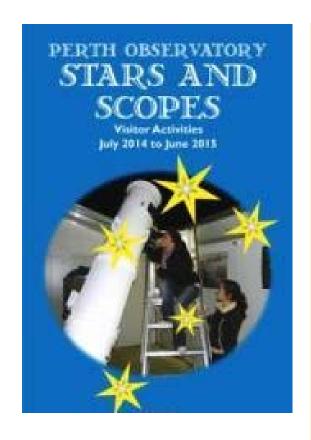
### **Perth Observatory tours**

Stars and Scopes Visitor Activities 2014-2015 lists day and night tours for the new season at WA's oldest observatory.

<u>Download a copy</u> or pick one up from the Observatory, Zig Zag Cultural Centre in Kalamunda, Perth Visitor Centre, Armadale Visitor Centre, Perth Hills Centre or Mundaring Visitor Centre. You can also phone (08) 9293 8255 and ask to be sent a copy.

Visit the <u>Perth Observatory website</u> to find out more about the tours, the history of the Observatory or to tour the online museum.

Visit the <u>Perth Observatory Facebook page</u> to follow what's happening in the Perth night sky and for the latest astronomical news and events.



#### Across the Wilderness holiday program

A full program of engaging and interactive activities for children, families and adults in the spectacular Walpole Wilderness these spring holidays includes:

- the free self-guided Gondwana Fossil Dig
- park ranger walks and talks
- pop-up appearances by Spingle the Tingle Spider (pictured)
- · seeing the tingle forest in moonlight, and
- many more.

Program details are online at <u>parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/whats-on</u> or <u>parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/site/tree-top-walk</u>. For more information contact the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk on (08) 9840 8263 or email <u>ttw@dpaw.wa.gov.au</u>



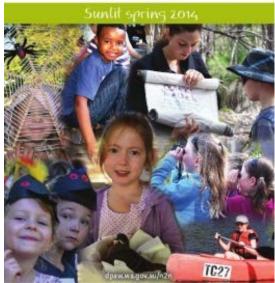
## School holiday activities - Perth

Get the kids out and about exploring nature these school holidays.

The team at *Nearer to Nature* has put together activities across the metropolitan area. <u>Download a copy of *Sunlit Spring 2014*</u> to view the whole program.

More information and bookings are available on (08) 9295 2244 between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday.





# **Industry news**

#### **International Tourism Studies Association Conference**

The International Tourism Studies Association Conference runs from November 26-28 at Parks and Wildlife, Kensington office, and focuses on the theme of '*Tourism*, *Cities and Environment in the Asian Century*'.

China's leading experts on the country's outbound tourism market will discuss how to raise the profile of WA and effectively position Perth in the China market.



Read more and register here

#### **State Trails and Outdoors Conference**

Trail managers, advocates and trail users are invited to attend the State Trails and Outdoors Conference on 10 October, 2014 at the All Saints College, Bullcreek.

Topics include:

challenges of outdoor education

- creative funding of trails maintenance
- local government trails agenda
- land use planning in the south-west, and
- trails master planning at Rottnest Island.

A highlight of the conference will be a presentation from mountaineer Andrew Lock.

<u>Email Janelle Cuthbertson</u> at the Department of Sport and Recreation to register.

















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