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Welcome to Touring WA, a selection of the latest news from the Department of Parks and Wildlife for visitors to Western Australia's national parks. In this issue you can find out about things to do in parks, new and improved park facilities, camping opportunities and new publications.

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Parks and visitor information

Holiday camping

The April school holidays and Easter are two of the best and most popular times to go camping in WA's national parks. Planning ahead can help ensure you have a great time.

If you are heading for a campground without online booking check our [Peak Period Availability](#) guide to see if there is room before you leave home. Plan to leave as early as you can but keep an eye on things. Many people are able to move in before the holidays start.



If you can book a camp site you will have much more certainty. There are now even more places where you can book ahead, with [Martins Tank in Yalgorup National Park](#) and [Conto Campground in Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park](#) now bookable online. All campgrounds in [Cape Range National Park](#) will be online booking only after 23 March.

With Easter only two weeks away it is likely that no bookable sites will be available in most places although there may be availability for single nights in some places. Check now!

If you are going in the April school holidays you may have more options. Even so, check now and book if you can!

If you miss out you might be able to stay nearby but outside the park and make day trips. Next time be sure to book a camp site early! Bookings can be made up to 180 days in advance so be prepared to plan early and lock in your dates.

Easter is early this year and you might not be able to light a fire. Plan to use your own gas-fuelled barbecue or camping stove or use one of the many hot plates provided free for visitor use in campgrounds and picnic areas. Search for campgrounds with gas barbecues in [Park Finder](#) and take food that you can cook on barbecue.

Good luck and happy camping!

Trees Adventure

Have you been to trees adventure yet?

Here's a recent testimonial:

"Thanks for a fantastic afternoon. Courses catered for all levels of adventurers in our group. Love that you could do any course in any order. Great challenges, beautiful environment and helpful and friendly staff."



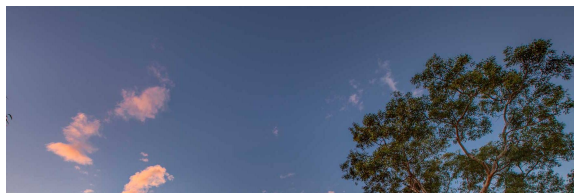
It sounds pretty good so get organised, book your group in, and make the most of the awesome WA autumn weather.

Trees Adventure Lane Poole Park is located 100km from Perth, in [Lane Poole Reserve](#) near Dwellingup. The courses are built in the beautiful pine and jarrah trees near Nanga Mill Campground and contain more than 80 challenges and 1km of flying foxes.

Bookings for two hour sessions are essential. Check out the video and all information at [Trees Adventure Lane Poole Park](#).

Featured operator – Karijini Eco Retreat

Karijini Eco Retreat is a multi-award winning, environmentally friendly retreat and campground, nestled in the pristine bushland at Joffre Gorge in the heart of the world-class [Karijini National Park](#).



Whether you are camping or glamping the retreat offers a perfect solution for travellers seeking to blend a rugged experience in the park with creature comforts that are not traditionally associated with camping. An outback-style, licensed alfresco restaurant adds glamorous flair to a 'gorgeous' day of trekking while the sunset slowly merges with an endless blanket of stars that seem to reflect the timelessness of the place.

Karijini Eco Retreat caters for guests of all ages and offers a choice of accommodation facilities ranging from deluxe eco tents or dorm-style cabins to bookable camp sites set aside for visitors who prefer to bring their own accommodation.

To check availability and book your outback adventure, visit karijiniecoretreat.com.au.

Kiosk at the Dam – Wellington National Park

The Kiosk at the Dam will be a hub for all activities in [Wellington National Park](#) when it opens on Good Friday, 25 March 2016.



The kiosk will be offering:

- Breakfast, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea with all food made in-house or sourced locally.
- Great coffee, drinks and ice creams.
- Bicycle hire.
- Complimentary phone and tablet charging station.
- BBQ packs.

Glamping will be available at the Honeymoon Pool camp site and also at Potters Gorge Campground when it re-opens later in the year. You don't need your own camping gear. Just book your deluxe tent accommodation with luxury bedding, table, chairs and kitchen essentials and turn up on the day!

Options available for glampers include:

- Breakfast at the Kiosk.
- Barbecue dinner package - everything you need to cook your own barbecue at your camp site.
- Cheese and wine package - delivered to your campsite for you to sit back and enjoy.
- Dinner at the Kiosk - let us cook and serve you dinner under the stars at the kiosk.

The kiosk will also stock items such as ice, 10L water casks, bread, milk, toilet rolls and matches for campers to purchase without leaving the park.

The Kiosk at the Dam website is coming soon. In the meantime phone **0400 525 278** with enquiries or follow [Kiosk at the Dam](#) on Facebook for news.

Nearly ready to go at The Gap

Finishing touches are being applied at The Gap in [Torndirrup National Park](#) in readiness for re-opening and everyone wants to know when they can go and have a look.



Paths and viewing areas at Natural Bridge have been complete for some time and The Gap is getting really close. Elevated walkways and the base of the main lookout structure are in place. After safety railings are installed the car park will be resealed, lines painted and the whole site cleaned up and checked.

We expect the next issue of Touring WA will have pictures of visitors enjoying the new facilities. Keep up with the latest on Facebook at [Explore Parks WA](#) and if you are lucky enough to be there when it opens we would love you to share your pictures, clips and comments.

Out-of-this-world experience at Gingin

Check out the Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory for a spectacular, amazing, fantastic, out of this world, experience.



The team at the Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory can't wait to share this experience with you and your family. It's science and astronomy through fun, interaction and absolutely intriguing experiences for everyone to enjoy.

From bugs and critters, laser displays, art exhibitions and of course the stars of the dark sky, experience your own journey within and to the far reaches of the universe.

Call to book on **(08) 9575 7577** or visit us at www.gravitycentre.com.au.

For a chance to win a family pass to the Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory, email Touring.WA@dpaw.wa.gov.au by 4pm on Monday 21 March and say "Beam me up!" in the subject line. The first reader drawn will win the prize.

New campground booking arrangements for Cape Range National Park

If you plan to camp in [Cape Range National Park](#) please be aware that from 23 March 2016 online bookings will be essential for **all** of the campgrounds in the park. You will need to have booked a camp site before you arrive.



With great beaches and access to the famous Ningaloo Reef, Cape Range is a very popular park. Don't miss out. If you want to camp in Cape Range, get in early and lock in your dates. Bookings can be made up to 180 days in advance for the peak season from March to November.

To make a booking at Cape Range National Park visit [Park Stay WA](#).

Help save our cockies

WA's black cockatoos need help.

Over the last 10 years Parks and Wildlife has banded more than 1000 black cockatoos including rehabilitated birds and nearly 900 Carnaby's nestlings. To help research into the birds' movements and population survival, people are being asked to take photos of banded birds and send them in to the department.

Digital SLR cameras with large zoom lenses are best for photographing leg bands but even small cameras with zooms at high resolution can work. Please send your photos and the location where they were taken to Parks and Wildlife via [Facebook private message](#), or by email to fauna@dpaw.wa.gov.au.

People are also being encouraged to register for the annual Great Cocky Count. This long-term citizen science survey of black cockatoos in WA is being held on Sunday 3 April and involves watching known roost sites and counting cockatoos as they come in to roost in the evening.

If you would like to join the program, please [register](#) by Sunday 20 March.

Park passes available for entry to Lane Poole Reserve, Torndirrup and West Cape Howe national parks and Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve

As advised in the December 2015 issue of *Touring WA*, entry fees will come into effect

at Lane Poole Reserve, Torndirrup and West Cape Howe national parks and Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve on 4 April 2016. The standard fee of \$12 per vehicle with up to 12 occupants, or \$6 concession, will apply.

If you, your friends or your relatives live near any of these parks, a Local Residents Park Pass at \$15 will be the best option. This pass will be valid until 3 April 2017. After this the best option will be an Annual Local Park Pass at \$22 for 12 months.

Local Residents Park Passes for Lane Poole Reserve (pass also includes Serpentine National Park) are available to residents and ratepayers of the shires of Murray and Waroona from:

- Waroona Visitor Centre
- Dwellingup History and Visitor Information Centre
- Lane Poole Reserve.

Local Residents Park Passes for Torndirrup and West Cape Howe national parks and Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve (pass also includes Fitzgerald River, Porongurup and Stirling Range national parks) are available to residents and ratepayers of the City of Albany from:

- Albany Visitor Centre.

Other passes are available at these visitor centres, at shop.dpaw.wa.gov.au, Department of Parks and Wildlife offices and selected visitor centres and retail outlets.

LANDSCOPE magazine Autumn 2016

Inside this issue:

- a spiny tale of the poaching and smuggling trade
- successful 2015 prescribed burning program
- the longest-running turtle tagging program in the proposed Dampier Archipelago Marine Park
- a chance sighting of rock-wallabies in Kalbarri National Park
- thriving mammals in Prince Regent National Park
- protecting unique flora of the Stirling Range
- river journeys along the Swan Canning Riverpark
- proposed Credo Conservation Park
- flying at the Pinnacles.

[Annual subscriptions](#) for *LANDSCOPE* are \$30 for 4 issues, including postage within Australia. Gift and Goldstar subscriptions are also available.

Single issues of *LANDSCOPE* are available from newsagencies - RRP \$7.95.

Visit us at the 2016 RAC Perth Caravan and Camping Show

Come and visit the Parks and Wildlife stand in the Webster Pavilion of the Claremont Showground, check out our big screen display and have all your questions about camping in national parks and reserves answered. If you enter our competition you might win one of three camping holidays courtesy of [WA Wilderness Glamping](#), [Wharncliffe Mill](#) or [Kiosk at the Dam](#) in Wellington National Park, a family pass to the [Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory](#) at Gingin or a daily prize of one of our park passes.

Tickets to the show are available online at [2016 RAC Perth Caravan and Camping Show](#). This will be your best opportunity all year to see everything you could possibly need for your next outdoor adventure, all in the one place. The show runs from 9am until 5pm daily from 16-20 March at the Claremont Showground.

Your tickets include free transport with Transperth. Alternatively, free parking with shuttle bus transfer is available nearby or parking is available onsite for \$5 if you need to load up new gear.

See you there!

Invitation to comment on the Proposed North Kimberley Marine Park indicative joint management plan 2016

The indicative joint management plan for the proposed North Kimberley Marine Park has been released for public comment. You are invited to have your say on how these areas will be managed into the future.

The park is being established under the [Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy](#) and once created will contribute to one of the world's largest networks of interconnected marine and terrestrial reserves. In recognition of the significant cultural values and ongoing connections to sea country, it is intended that the marine park will be jointly managed with traditional owners.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 20 May 2016.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Sign up for a 'voluntour' science safari with Global Gypsies

Enjoy an exciting, escorted, accommodated and catered hands-on wildlife experience from 17-24 April. This fun and educational working holiday is a collaboration between Global Gypsies and Parks and Wildlife.

Assist Parks and Wildlife staff to capture, 'process' and monitor a range of native marsupials at [Perup Sanctuary](#), 50km east of Manjimup in the heart of the forest. You can also work on flora-related projects, enjoy guided bush walks, go bird watching, visit local attractions and learn about the local ecosystem.

The package includes twin-share accommodation in the sanctuary's cosy rammed-earth guesthouse, '1000-star' quality catering by an experienced safari host and a donation to Perup Sanctuary to support its important ongoing conservation and rehabilitation projects.

A four-wheel-drive vehicle is not required and tents, caravans, camper-trailers or campervans are welcome. Numbers are strictly limited.

For more information, visit [Global Gypsies - Perup Conservation and Science Safari](#), phone **(08) 9341 6727** or admin@globalgypsies.com.au.

Holiday activities for kids and families

Book into fun, nature-based activities with the *Nearer to Nature* team over Easter and the school holidays.

There are lots of great activities to choose from. Here is a selection.

Family events (all at the Perth Hills Discovery Centre):

- Easter Bilby Family Fun Day on 27 March (Easter Sunday), 3 years and over.
- Nocturnal Delights night walk on Saturday 16 April, 6 years and over.
- Around the Campfire ANZAC Special event on Sunday 24 April, 6 years and over.

For 7 to 12 year olds:

- Discovering the Six Seasons at Yanchep National Park on Thursday 21 April.
- N2N Spy Kids at Star Swamp on Friday 22 April.

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

[Download the program brochures here.](#)

Industry news

How to be an award-winning tour guide

Global Gypsies have just published a brand new book based on more than 20 years of their personal experiences as successful tour guides, tour operators and tour guide trainers.

How to be an award-winning tour guide contains plenty of inside information, anecdotes and advice for both aspiring and working guides and leaders.

Read all about it and place an order at [Global Gypsies - How to be an award-winning tour guide](#).

Image credits

All Parks and Wildlife except: Trees Adventure -Trees Adventure; Karijini Eco Retreat eco tent - Karijini Eco Retreat; Glamping at Honeymoon Pool - Kiosk at the Dam; Leaning Tower of Gingin - Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory; Authors Jeremy Perks and Jan Barrie - Global Gypsies.

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