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Conservation and Attractions

Wish you were here? You can be. Find out more about [Yardie Creek Gorge](#).

## Issue no: 41

Friday 16 November 2018

Welcome to *Touring WA*, where we share some of the latest news from DBCA's Parks and Wildlife Service for visitors to Western Australia's national parks.

In this issue, book your campsite online for beautiful Cape Le Grand National Park, check out parks and trails online before you leave home, get some great tips for enjoying parks in summer and more.

- [Exciting news! Book your beautiful Cape Le Grand National Park campground online](#)
- [Say hello to your friendly campground hosts](#)
- [Explore parks and trails from the comfort of your home with Google Street View](#)
- [Bushwalking safety this bushfire season](#)
- [Tips to enjoy national parks in summer](#)
- [Camping close to Perth](#)
- [Snake safety](#)
- [Have you got your Spring issue of LANDSCOPE?](#)
- [Congratulations to the Tourism Award Winners 2018](#)

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## Exciting news! Book your beautiful Cape Le Grand National Park campground online



Cape Le Grand National Park is famous for its spectacular coastal scenery with the whitest beaches (in the world!) and crystal blue waters.

It's no surprise then that campsites at Lucky Bay and Le Grand Beach are in extremely high demand, especially in summer.

We know some of you may have set off on the long journey to Cape Le Grand National Park, 50km south-east of Esperance, with the car packed full and bursting with excitement, only to arrive at the destination and see the dreaded 'campgrounds full' sign.

But no more! All campsites in the national park must be booked online before you go.

Make this the first thing on your 'to-do' list when planning your next holiday to the spectacular south coast. Visit the [Explore Parks WA website](#) for more information.



### Say hello to your friendly campground hosts

If you have ever visited one of Western Australia's national parks chances are, you've met some special volunteers known as campground hosts.

They are the smiling faces that greet you when you arrive at your campsite and help make your stay an unforgettable one.

Campground hosts support national park rangers to help with a variety of roles such

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explore, relax and enjoy the peace and quiet of the park.

There are opportunities all over WA to get involved in our Campground Host Program – to find out more or to let us know if you've met a super campground host send an email to the [Volunteers and Community Unit](#).

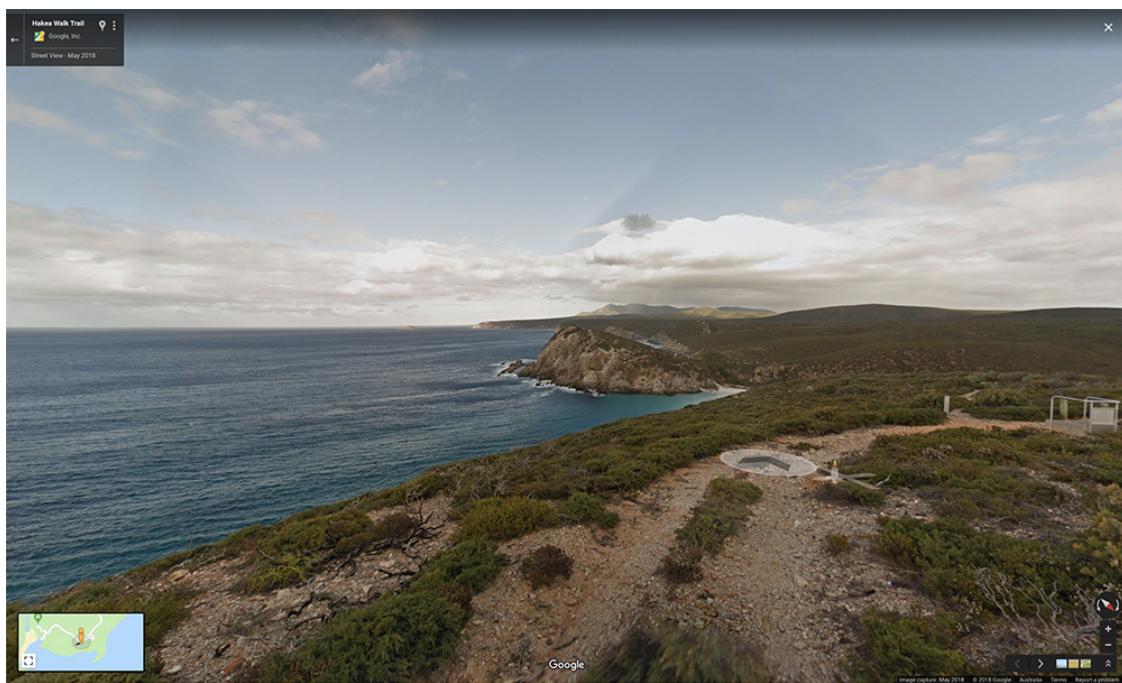


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Give the gift of nature this Christmas. Click here to purchase a National Parks Pass online.

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**Explore parks and trails from the comfort of your home with Google Street View**



Now you can see stunning 360-degree panoramic views of walk trails in WA's magnificent national parks without leaving home.

For the past few months, we have been working with Google to capture imagery of WA's trails, campgrounds and attractions.

Beautiful 360-degree imagery of more than 150 trails and attractions has been captured and now 33 of those are online for you to sit back and enjoy.

[website.](#)

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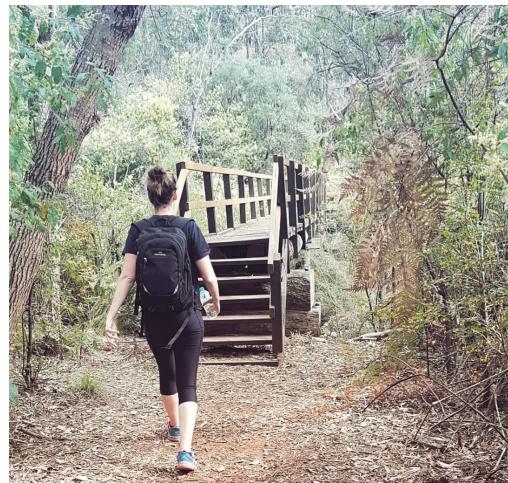
## Camping at Christmas? Pack some solar fairy lights to give your campsite some festive cheer!

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### Bushwalking safety this bushfire season

There is nothing quite like strapping on a backpack and walking WA's magnificent trails. Here are some tips to keep yourself safe this bushfire season:

- Plan your visits for cooler periods of the year, avoiding the hot summer months.
- Check the [Fire Danger Rating](#) and do not go on or remain on the trails if the forecast is Very High or above.
- Do not do extended multi-day trips as it is not possible to keep up with changing conditions (with extremely limited mobile phone coverage) and it is difficult to self-evacuate from the trail at short notice.
- Avoid remote sections of the trail where there is limited vehicle access.
- Abide by all trail closure signage, and any instructions from Parks and Wildlife Service and other emergency staff.
- Your safety is our concern, but it is your responsibility.



For more information on staying safe visit the [Explore Parks website](#).

Watch this [bushwalking safety video](#).

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### Tips to enjoy national parks in summer

Summer is the perfect time to be out enjoying WA's beautiful national parks but it's also the season when bushfires most commonly occur.

Here are some tips to help you stay safe while enjoying getting away from it all.

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those with water or with plenty of natural shade. If you travel inland, plan for high temperatures and take precautions.

- If you plan to camp at a busy time like the Christmas/New Year festive season or a long weekend do some research and make sure you book early or have back-up accommodation.
- At this time of year, you won't be able to light a fire. 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 picnic areas and campgrounds with gas barbecues in Park Finder online or download the ParkFinder WA app for free from [iTunes](#).
- Be prepared to modify your plans if the weather is hot and windy. Use the Emergency WA website for access to emergency information and community safety warnings. Be aware that on days of very high to catastrophic fire danger ratings, parks and reserves may be closed.
- [Download the Emergency + app](#) to your phone. The app uses GPS to help a Triple Zero (000) caller provide critical location details to emergency services.



## Camping close to Perth

Are you thinking about getting away for the weekend but want to stay close to Perth?

There are lots of campgrounds so close to Perth you can pack on Friday afternoon and still get a great weekend of camping in.

Places like:

- [Yançep National Park](#)
- [Logue Brook Campground](#) and
- [Wellington National Park](#) (pictured) are no more than a 2 hour drive from Perth.



For a list of awesome places to camp close to Perth visit the [Explore Parks website](#).

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Snakes love the sunshine so as the weather becomes warmer, they become a lot more active.

Western Australia's national parks are home to a variety of snakes and they are an integral part of the natural environment.

Here are some tips to help you take care if you come across one.

- Take care in bushland and grassy areas.
- Walk and/or cycle in cleared areas only, where you can see the ground.
- When bushwalking, wear long trousers and boots or other enclosed footwear that preferably cover the ankles.
- Keep a watchful eye on the ground about a metre ahead of where you are walking, and avoid entering areas of long grass, rushes and undergrowth.
- Learn the correct treatment for snakebite.
- Download the free [Emergency+ App](#).

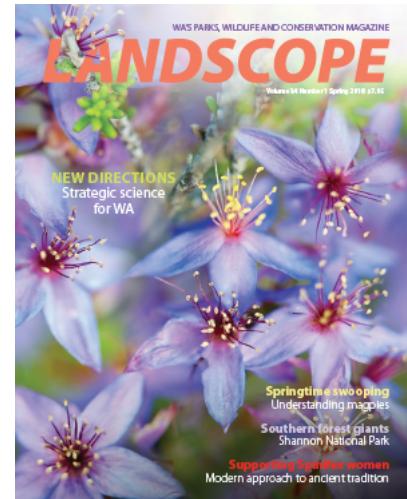


## Have you got your Spring issue of *LANDSCOPE*?

It's full of incredible stories such as magpie behaviour, the beautiful Shannon National Park and a new walk trail in the Swan Canning Riverpark.

Other stories include:

- Collecting seeds and capturing culture – Supporting a time-honoured tradition.
- Remote refuges: Pilbara inshore islands - Havens for threatened and protected species.
- Adventure out: Geikie Gorge National Park (Danggu) – A new way to discover an ancient landscape.
- Touched by nature: Doug Coughran - Remembering WA's 'Wildlife Warrior'.



To purchase your copy visit the [WA Naturally online shop](#).

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**Learn more about minimising your impact when you visit a national park - Leave No Trace**

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## Industry news

### Congratulations to the Tourism Award Winners 2018

Congratulations to this year's WA Tourism Award winners.

The WA Tourism Awards recognise operators for their innovation and commitment to excellence and provide recognition and exposure to recipients.

The Parks and Wildlife Service proudly sponsors two categories in recognition of the vital role that the tourism operators play in enhancing visitor experiences and, the importance of ecologically sustainable tourism.

Congratulations to the winner of the Ecotourism Award, [Cape to Cape Explorer Tours](#) (pictured) and, the winner of the FACET Golden Guide Award, Scott Connell of [Kimberley Spirit Tours](#).



To view the full list of winners and medallists visit [Tourism Council WA](#).

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#### Image credits

All DBCA except and special thanks to:

Banner image Tourism Western Australia. Other images Instagram @leowings, @hom35slice, @taybeaar, World of Travels with Kids – Ariana Svenson.

If you would like your image featured please send it to us at [touring.wa@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:touring.wa@dbca.wa.gov.au)

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For more information see the department's website [www.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au)



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[touring.wa@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:touring.wa@dbca.wa.gov.au).

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