

May 2021



Image credit: Live Ningaloo

The greenest way to end the financial year

As 30 June approaches, please consider a taxdeductible gift to the WA Parks Foundation.

Your donation will be used to promote and support Western Australia's incredible national parks.

Park experiences hold deep meaning and value and our natural environment is vitally important to our physical and mental wellbeing. Supporting the conservation of our natural treasures is a gift to our children and future generations.

Be the change, please give generously today.

Park Guide now on our website



The Granite Skywalk is a suspended walkway on the huge granite outcrop of Castle Rock in the Porongurup Range.

A wonderful guide to more than 900 parks, sites and campgrounds in Western Australia can now be viewed on the WA Parks Foundation website.

The availability of this comprehensive database has been made possible through an agreement between the WA Parks Foundation, the Parks and Wildlife division of the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and Scoop Digital.

The information in the guide is from DBCA's comprehensive and regularly updated database on the Explore Parks WA website and is delivered via localista – Scoop's online lifestyle and travel network. It includes images, videos and interactive mapping.

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Houtman Abrolhos plan – public comment invited



The Houtman Abrolhos National Park off WA's mid-west coast has an abundance of wildlife, spectacular landscapes and a rich maritime heritage, surrounded by crystal clear waters and tropical coral | credit: Nathan Greenhill, DBCA

The Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park draft management plan 2021 is now available for public comment. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions has coordinated the preparation of the plan under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984.

The plan can be inspected or obtained through the website.

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Expanding, supporting and

promoting Aboriginal cultural tourism



Learning about the history and culture of the Djugun-Yawuru (Kimberley saltwater people) and the internationally significant biodiversity of Roebuck Bay's mangrove forests | credit: Narlijia Experiences Broome

A \$20 million tourism fund and action plan recently announced by the State Government aims to make WA the nation's premier destination for aboriginal cultural experiences.

According to Visitor Experience and Expectations Research 2019/20, 81 per cent of visitors to WA wanted an Aboriginal tourism experience but only 17 percent accessed one.

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Quendas – ecosystems engineers helping plant regeneration



W.A.'s quendas are threatened species but these busy little marsupials are often spotted in Kings Park | credit: Bernard Katthagen

Western Australia's quendas (Isoodon fusciventer), a type of bandicoot, are undeniably cute. These quirky marsupials with pointy snout, round rump and short tail are also known to be great little ecosystem engineers.

Recent research by Dr Leonie Valentine and Professor Richard Hobbs from the University of Western Australia, in collaboration with a Kings Park Science researcher Dr Katinka Ruthrof, has found the diggings of the quenda alters soil nutrients and microbial activity, creating more productive conditions for seedling growth.

Read more

Explore



Take the scenic route

The South West Edge is an outstanding road trip around the edge of Western Australia's South West. It meanders through wine regions, towering forests and along marine-life rich coast before looping through the outback.

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Danggu Geikie Gorge boat tours resume

Boat tours are a highlight of any visit to the ancient Danggu Geike Gorge but were on hold until recently due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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Forest Therapy - reconnecting with nature



An ethereal sunrise over the forest | credit: Charlene Camilleri

Forest bathing is a translation from a Japanese word Shinrin-yoku. It is about taking in the forest atmosphere through all your senses, combining mindfulness techniques and the therapeutic powers of being in the natural environment.

This has been shown to have a positive effect on mood, stress levels, powers of concentration and creativity, as well as assisting with depression and anxiety.

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Make a difference

Uniting the community through a shared love for our WA Parks to protect and conserve them for our physical and mental health, and so they can be enjoyed into the future.

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Get in touch with us info@ourwaparks.org.au



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