

Library

From: WA Parks Foundation <info=ourwaparks.org.au@cmail19.com> on behalf of WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 29 March 2023 10:42 AM
To: Library
Subject: A world first, a lightscape, open days and more...

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks.



March 2023



WA Parks Foundation's stand at the Perth Caravan and Camping Show 2023

Saying hello at the caravan and camping show

Initiatives such as the WA Parks Foundation's innovative Smartreka digital mapping program drew interest from the many visitors to our stand at the Perth Caravan and Camping Show.

“The downloadable smart maps use GPS to help navigate some of Western Australia’s most beautiful national parks as well as displaying information on campsites, trails and other features,” said WA Parks Foundation Chair, the Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO.

“Our presence at this very popular event was also an opportunity to promote the Foundation’s role in connecting people with WA’s national parks, building awareness and appreciation of these natural assets and helping to conserve them for present and future generations.”

The WA Parks Foundation’s attractive [prize draws](#) for new members and new subscribers to our newsletter closes 31 March 2023. Find out more about Smartreka maps to keep you on track when offline in a national park [here](#).

[Read more](#)

Government House open day invitation



Government House first opened its doors in 1863. Photo credit: Government House

Government House is hosting an Open Day event for Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 April 2023 as part of the Boorloo Heritage Festival. This is an opportunity for community members to explore Government House and its beautiful grounds. Entry is free. Gates open at 10.00am and close at 3.00pm.

There will be free children's activities, garden tours, educational displays, live music and dance performances each day. Government House and the Ballroom will also be open for self-guided tours on both dates. Enjoy a sausage sizzle or bring along your own picnic.

While the garden and outdoor activities are available to everyone, tour spaces are very limited so please book your preferred time via the Government House website.

[Read more & book here](#)

Lightscape set to amaze and delight



Kings Park Botanic Gardens will be a canvas for a 'Lightscape' of light, colour and sounds in winter. Photo credit: Lightscape Perth

The highly anticipated first visit of Lightscape to Western Australia is planned for mid-year. From 16 June to 30 July, this internationally acclaimed immersive experience will use beautiful Kings Park (Kaata Koomba) as its canvas.

The Lightscape masterpiece has captivated millions of people in cities around the world and no two installations are the same.

Visitors journeying along a 1.8 kilometres trail in an after-dark setting will find themselves in a winter wonderland of light, colour and sound. They will experience spectacular features such as the 100,000 tiny, twinkling illuminations of the Winter Cathedral, and the brilliant colours of the Neon Night Gardens with its jumbo-sized floral light sculptures.

[Read more](#)

World first climate resilience strategy for Ningaloo



Ningaloo Reef is one of the longest near-shore reef systems in the world. Photo credit: Dept of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Western Australia's spectacular Ningaloo Coast has become the first UNESCO World Heritage site to finalise a resilience strategy to adapt to climate change.

Taking a holistic view, it proposes actions to support thriving, resilient ecosystems, an educated and empowered community as well as sustainable development of this tourism hotspot.

Coral reefs are critically important ecosystems for the planet. Occupying less than one percent of the ocean floor, they support 25% of all marine life and the livelihoods and wellbeing of almost one billion people.

The Ningaloo Coast Resilience Strategy was developed through a community-driven process led by the Resilient Reefs initiative, supported by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions in consultation with the Baiyungu, Thalanyji and Yinikurtura Traditional Owners, scientists and local businesses.

[Read more](#)

Rottnest visitor surge



Rottneest Island. Photo credit: Tourism Western Australia

Record visitor numbers show that Rottneest continues to be a favourite destination for local, interstate and the now returning international visitors.

Total visitation statistics rebounded to more than 570,000 in 2022 and visitation records were broken this summer, with 119,554 visiting the island in January, up 24 percent from January 2020.

The draft [Rottneest Island Management Plan 2023-28](#), now open for public comment, sets out the Rottneest Island Authority's priorities for the island's natural and cultural resources, facilities and visitor experience during the next five years.

It includes the draft Rottneest Island Land Use Plan which defines the proposed land uses within the settlement and importantly classifies the remaining 85 percent of the island as a reserve for the purpose of conservation and recreation.



Classified A Class Reserve, Rottnest is abundant in flora and fauna, including thousands of endearing quokkas. Five marine sanctuary zones surround the island. Photo credit: Scoop Digital

[Read more](#)

Dream run for WA tourism businesses in national awards



Ningaloo Marine Park is an important feeding and breeding area for manta rays, sea turtles, dugongs, sea birds and several different cetaceans such as humpback and southern right whales. Photo credit: Tourism Western Australia

Western Australia's tourism businesses enjoyed great success at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards, scooping up a total of 12 awards. This includes five golds, five silvers and two bronze medals. The awards, held in Sydney, celebrate innovation and exceptional standards in Australian tourism.

The gold medals were indicative of the wide range of diverse experiences across the State, with the successful businesses located in Exmouth, Broome, Rottnest Island, Bunker Bay and Perth. The medal winners ranged from cultural walking tours to 5-star hotels, and from whale shark experiences to pearl farming.

"The Australian Tourism Awards reinforce why Western Australia is the place to see in 2023," said WA Tourism Minister Roger Cook.

Read more to find out who WA's award winners were in the 25 categories at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards.

[Read more](#)

Kimberley National Parks Tourism Update



Dalmanyi (Bell Gorge) in the Kimberley's Wunaamin Miliwundi Ranges Conservation Park. Photo credit: The Gibb River Road Tourist Information Centre.

The WA Government's assistance package to help impacted communities following the unprecedented floods in the Kimberley includes discounted flights, holiday voucher incentives and a national marketing campaign to send the message that the region is open for tourism.

The package aims to encourage visitors to the Kimberley this year while supporting the local tourism sector as it responds to the recent flooding.

Most of the Kimberley's national parks will be open this tourism season, including Purnululu National Park World, Dulundi (Silent Grove), Walarra Mindi (Mt Hart), and Lennard Gorge. Dimalurru (Tunnel Creek) will also open, but may have a later opening date.

Significant flood damage to visitor infrastructure and post-flood visitor safety risks at Danggu Geikie Gorge National Park and Bandilngan (Windjana Gorge) National Park mean they will remain closed for the rest of 2023.

[Read more](#)

Our supporters



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.

Become a member

Donate

Volunteer

Become a partner

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



The WA Parks Foundation is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission. Any donations of \$2.00 or more are eligible for a tax deduction under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



 Share

 Tweet

 Share

 Forward

© 2021 WA Parks Foundation

WA Parks Foundation News

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)