



cape to cape track fact sheet

group guided walking holiday



group guided walking...

Group guided walking holidays are a fun, informative way to explore new areas. We'll travel by mini bus from Perth then walk along the entire Cape to Cape Track, staying in comfortable accommodations along the way. Travelling south from Perth we'll pass through Bunbury and Margaret River before finally reaching the small town of Augusta. The Cape to Cape walk commences near here. After 135km of walking to the other end of the track at Cape Naturaliste, and a celebratory night nearby, it will be back to Perth on day 9, arriving at about 1pm. On this trip, group sizes vary from 12-16 people. It is easy to get to know other people on the tour, and the small numbers mean that you and your guides can have some flexibility in the daily program. We have lots of fun on these tours, and people often make good friends with other people on the trips. You will need to carry a light day-pack each day, containing basic essential items, such as lunch and water - the rest of your luggage will be transported in our trailer.

guides...

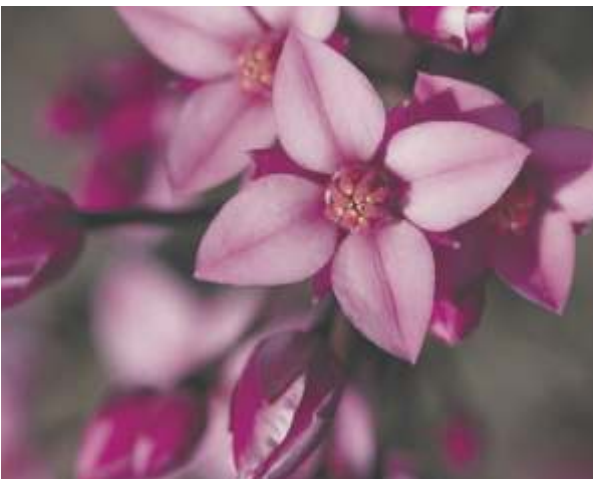
There will be two knowledgeable and experienced guides on this holiday and they are nice people to spend your holiday with. Their role is to lead the group, provide information about the environment you are walking through and generally assist you to enjoy the holiday. Having two guides allows us to offer a choice of easier and harder walks each day.

9 day trip itinerary guide...

Day 1: Starts in downtown Perth at 9.00am. We'll stop for lunch at Margaret River before continuing southwards to Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse. After a tour of the lighthouse, we'll do the first short section of the Cape to Cape track from the petrified waterwheel to Skippy Rock. Walking summary: 4km, approx 1.5 hrs, plus walking at the lighthouse complex. Accommodation: Augusta



Day 2: A full day's walk today, commencing along the top of Augusta Cliffs. This is followed by the long Deepdene Beach, where the sand is usually firm and flat. One of the highlights today is Cape Hamelin, where there is a small beautiful bay surrounded by granite boulders. Walking summary: 18km, approx 6-7 hrs. A mix of beaches, interesting rocky platforms, quiet vehicle tracks and elevated walking tracks. Accommodation: Augusta



Day 3: Today's walking is along a fairly remote stretch of coastline. About 6km is along Boranup Beach, which is usually delightfully firm, but be prepared for a slog if it happens to be soft after stormy weather. Sometimes, 4WD vehicles also use this beach for access to favorite fishing sites. The remainder is easy walking through coastal heathlands, eucalyptus and peppermint woodlands. There is also a section with masses of grass trees. Walking summary: About 20km, approx 7 hrs. Some sandy beach, mostly walking tracks. Accommodation: Margaret's Beach



Day 4: After breakfast at a cute beachside café, it's back onto more spectacular coastline, including a remarkable grotto and natural spring at Bob's Hollow. Walking summary: About 16.5km, approx 6hrs. About half the walk is through inland forest, followed by mainly an undulating walking track through coastal heathlands. Accommodation: Margaret's Beach

Day 5: Once again, a mix of walking along the coast and through inland forest. An interesting section today is the walk beside Boodjidup Brook, a meandering stream connecting Devil Pool with the ocean. Today's walk also crosses the mouth of Margaret River. Mostly this can be crossed on a sandbar, but if it is flowing hard there is a fabulous canoe crossing option! There is also a delightful café here, with great coffee and fine views up the coast.

Walking summary: about 23.5km, approx 7-7.5hrs. Mostly on tracks with a short section of sandy beach.

Accommodation: Margaret's Beach



Day 6: The walk continues past Ellensbrook Homestead, a National Trust property where the original owners also built an operational waterwheel. Limestone is plentiful in the area, and today you'll see Meekadarabee Falls disappearing into a cave. There is also another coffee opportunity at Gracetown, a small settlement overlooking Cowaramup Bay. North Point is an area of attractive lichen-covered granite, where there are pink fairy orchids in spring and a lovely stream during wetter times of the year.

Walking summary: About 17.5km, approx 7hrs. About 5km soft sand, plus a variety of tracks for the remainder of the day.

Accommodation: Smith's Beach

Day 7: Willyabrup cliffs are popular with rock climbers, and these are the walk starting point. Exciting walking today. Even though there are more soft sand beaches, there are also granite outcrops and two superb capes at Cape Clairault and Canal Rocks. The beach names along here indicate it's popularity with surfers - The Window, Wildcat and Honeycombs. Walking summary: About 19.5km, approx 7hrs. Sea views, stony sections of track. Mostly wanders through low vegetation set back from the ocean edge. Accommodation: Smith's Beach

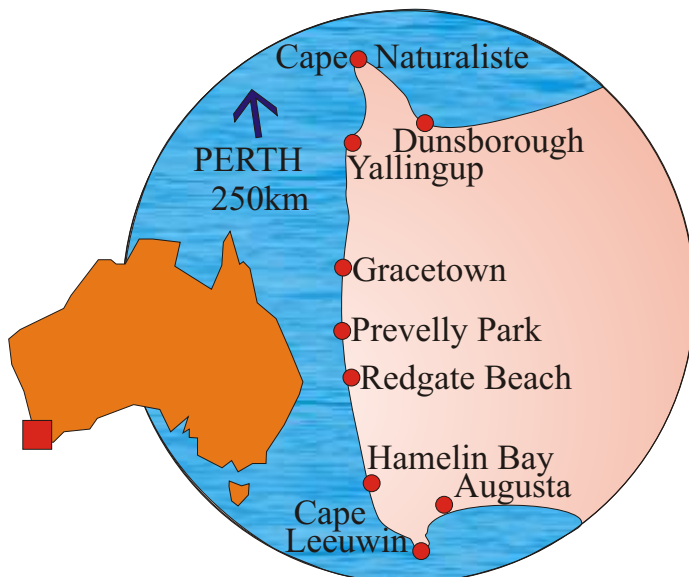


Day 8: This is the final section of track. Walk from Canal Rocks Rd to Cape Naturaliste, then to Bunker Bay for the night. You'll pass Sugarloaf Rock, summer home to red-tailed tropic birds. Much of the coast here is limestone cliff, with short beaches and low rocky areas. Along the way there are striking views of Sugarloaf Rock.

Walking summary: About 19km, approx 7hrs. Beaches are mostly firm sand, sections of soft sand inland, some sections of stony track, a couple of rocky headlands to go over.

Accommodation: Smith's Beach

Day 9: After breakfast, we'll travel back to Perth, with an arrival time of around 1.00pm.



how hard is the walking?...

You should be in reasonable shape, but there's certainly no need to be a triathlete! On some days we'll do a full day walk and on other days there may be several shorter walks. Our full day walks generally involve 5-7 hours on the track at a moderate pace, though this might be broken into two or three separate sections.

Specifics: The walking is mostly moderate with some long days of up to 24km. Mostly coastal tracks with some bushland and some sections of sandy beach. Two guides allows you to walk the entire track or shorten the distances covered each day. So, most people should find options that suit their fitness level.

For many people, the walking distances on this holiday are more than you are likely to do at home and you may be quite weary by the end of each day. The best preparation is a program of regular walking. We suggest at least one hour of walking each day, preferably in an area with lots of ups and downs. Plus a full day of walking each week. Do this for at least three weeks before the start of your holiday. Alternatively take up an active sport like aerobics, tennis or swimming. A bit of sweat now will make your walking holiday much more enjoyable.



what's included...

8 nights accommodation, most meals (8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 6 dinners), 2 guides, all transport from Perth CBD, lighthouse tour, national park fees, information booklets, insulated lunch bag, map case, notes, maps.

More details:

- Accommodation. We want you to enjoy every aspect of our walking holidays. So, in addition to finding great walks, we have also made an effort to find interesting and comfortable accommodation for you. We spend the first two nights in a comfortable motel in the small town of Augusta. The next three nights are in a coastal resort at Margarets Beach and the final three nights are in villas with water views at Smiths Beach.
- Quality dining is another important aspect of all Auswalk walking holidays. Meals will vary a lot, but they will be plentiful, nutritious and wholesome. Each day starts with a hearty breakfast - sometimes cooked, sometimes continental. On some days you will need to carry lunch on the walk, packed in an Auswalk insulated carrier bag, which we supply, to keep it fresh and cool. Dinners are provided on 6 nights and will consist of limited choice 2 course meals or buffets. When meals are not included there will be plenty of places nearby for you to dine at.
- All National Park fees. Australian National Parks charge a daily fee, which is incorporated into the cost of your walk.

We will mail you a final document package about one month prior to your holiday and after you have paid for your trip in full. It includes:

- Maps. Your guide can highlight the walking route for you.
- Waterproof map case. You can put your map and daily walking notes in this map case, so everything stays dry no matter what the weather.
- Additional information booklets. These provide useful information about the area.

If you are coming from overseas, we can mail the package to any address in Australia for no additional charge. However, if you want the documents sent overseas, we charge an extra \$20 to New Zealand and \$35 to other countries. The package weighs between 0.5kg and 1kg so we recommend mailing it to your first Australian accommodation, so you can collect it when you first arrive in the country. It is important that you receive your documents at least a few days before you start your walking holiday.

what's not included...

Alcohol, meals not listed in itinerary, drinks with meals (except tea/coffee and juice with breakfast).



weather information...

For an overview of weather conditions in this area, click on the link below:

[Bureau of Meteorology](#)

accommodations...

The first 2 nights are at a comfortable motel in the small town of Augusta.



The next three nights are staying at a seaside resort at Margarets Beach. The accommodation here is in modern self-contained villas close to the beach.



The final two nights are at lovely self-contained villas at Smiths Beach. Each features a verandah with ocean views.



what to bring with you...

- Map, and map case
- Casual clothing for dinner. Jackets and skirts are not required in most restaurants.
- Suitable footwear. Walking boots/shoes are best. They should have ankle support and a strong patterned sole. Wear thick socks, or two pair of thin ones. It is important that socks fit firmly and are NOT loose. Many of the tracks are quite rocky. Sandals are totally unsuitable for this walk.
- Day pack. The best day packs have padded shoulders and a waist/hip strap. Make sure it is large enough to carry waterproof clothing, a warm jumper, water, picnic lunch, camera etc. Most packs leak in rain so bring a plastic bag to line the pack with.
- Walk clothing for warm weather - light weight materials, shorts, short sleeved shirts.
- Walk clothing for cold weather - choose synthetics, thermals, polar fleece or wool. Don't walk in cotton trousers (eg. jeans). Cotton becomes cold and miserable if it gets wet.
- Quality waterproof coat. The best jackets are made of goretex or similar fabrics. It is important that the material is completely waterproof. Avoid padded jackets because they are too hot and usually not waterproof. Ideally your jacket should be long enough to cover your thighs and your short trousers. A large hood is essential and long sleeves are desirable. If you are unsure about the suitability of your jacket, please ask us for information.
- Waterproof overtrousers. These are optional. They are ideal for cold, wet and windy weather.
- Sun hat - choose a wide-brimmed one
- Warm hat - wool or polar fleece.
- Sunglasses
- Water bottles. On this walk, there are usually no places to refill water bottles during the day, so it is necessary to carry adequate drinking water for the entire day. Typically this is a minimum of two litres per person. On a hot day you may need even more than this.
- Sun screen (at least 15+). Apply it liberally in sunny conditions. One application will not last all day.
- Insect repellent
- Small first aid kit containing personal medications and blister kit
- Camera / binoculars (optional)
- Walking stick (optional). These are becoming more widely used as people find that the use of a walking stick helps reduce stress on knees and ankles, particularly when walking downhill. Modern collapsible models are lightweight and fit neatly into most suitcases for travelling.
- Thermos for carrying hot drinks (optional)

It will be best if you bring everything you need with you. We will pass through several country towns along the way but there will be no outdoors equipment stores.

luggage...

You can bring as many items of luggage as you wish. However, note that some of the rooms are upstairs so if you must travel with large amounts of luggage, please consider spreading it over two or more smaller bags.

insurance...

We charge a cancellation fee if you cancel your Auswalk holiday after we have confirmed it. Details are clearly listed in our AUSWALK BOOKING CONDITIONS in our brochure and web page. We strongly recommend you purchase a travel insurance policy, so you are insured if you have to cancel this tour. This can be arranged through Auswalk if you are an Australian resident or through any travel agent.



pre & post tour accommodation...

We can recommend Miss Maud's Swedish Hotel, a boutique property centrally located in Perth's CBD. The property has 52 imaginatively designed rooms and is located at 97 Murray Street Perth. They have a restaurant on site and are also close to other eating places. Ph: 08 9325 3900 or email hotel@missmaud.com.au We will also pick up and drop off at this hotel (this is the only location we can pick up from).

departure dates & prices...

These can be found on our website by clicking on these links:

[Departure dates](#)

[Prices](#)

photography...

From time to time Auswalk guides take photographs during trips for possible use in future brochures, newsletters or on our website, to promote Auswalk holidays. While we end up taking hundreds of pictures, we only ever use a few of the very best ones. If you don't want your image to be used in a photo for this purpose, please let the guide know before the trips starts. If you don't say anything, we will assume you have no objections.

other info...

There is no need to dress formally for meals. Neat casual clothing is satisfactory in all your accommodations.

Packaged drinks (eg. soft drinks and alcohol) are not included with meals, but can be purchased along the way.

For our international walkers, major credit cards are accepted everywhere in Australia, although Diners and American Express are less widely accepted. We will pass through a couple of towns with banks during the trip.



auswalk's guided group trips...

- Australia's South West - circuit trip from Perth, 9 days, featuring highlights of the Bibbulmun Track plus the Porongorups and Stirling Ranges
- Blue Mountains Hiker - starts in Sydney, 4 days, based at Blackheath
- Cape to Cape Track - starts in Perth, 9 days, coastal hike in the Margaret River region
- Carnarvon Gorge - starts in Brisbane, 8 days, also includes the Bunya Mountains & Cania Gorge
- Flinders Island - starts on the island, 7 days, stunning hiking in the mountain ranges and coastline
- Flinders Ranges - starts in Adelaide, 8 days, hike Alligator Gorge, Dutchmans Stern, Wilpena Pound
- Gold Coast Hinterland Walk - starts at the Gold Coast, 6 days, hike in the Lamington National Park from O'Reillys to Binna Burra then up to Springbrook Plateau
- Grampians Hiker - starts in Melbourne, 7 days, highlights of the region, based in Halls Gap
- Great Alpine Walk - starts in Melbourne, 7 days, traverse the Vic Alps from one village to the next
- Great Ocean Walk - starts in Melbourne, 7 days, hike from Apollo Bay to the 12 Apostles
- Great South West Walk - starts in Melbourne, 7 days, walk the highlights of this track including the Lower Glenelg River and the Three Capes section.
- Kangaroo Island - starts in Adelaide, 7 days, staying in wilderness lodge and lighthouse cottages
- Lord Howe Island - accessible by plane from Sydney or Brisbane, 7 days, hike this World Heritage Area, cruise around the island by boat and much more
- Red Centre - starts in Alice Springs, 7 days, includes Uluru, Kata Tjuta (the Olgas), Kings Canyon and sections of the Larapinta Trail in the West Macdonnell Ranges
- Roof of Australia - starts in Canberra, 7 days, hike inn-to-inn, traversing the Snowy Mountains, stay in alpine ski lodges and climb the highest mountain in Australia
- Tasmanian Coastal Hiker - starts in Launceston & finishes in Hobart, 7 days, includes Bay of Fires, Freycinet & the Tasman Peninsula
- Tasmanian Wilderness Hiker - starts in Hobart & finishes in Launceston, 9 days, includes Mt Field, Lake Pedder, Lake St Clair and Cradle Mountain
- Tropical Hiker - starts in Cairns, 8 days, includes the Daintree, Mossman Gorge, Atherton Tablelands, Mission Beach and Dunk Island
- Waterfall Way - starts in Coolangatta, 7 days, includes stunning waterfalls and escarpments of New England National Park, Dorrigo, Wollomombi Falls, Dangars Gorge, Cathedral Rock and more

PLUS Sydney's Bushtracks, Bays & Beaches - based in Sydney, guided, 5 or 7 days, starts any day except summer, for a minimum of 2 people booking together, walk in National Parks close to Sydney

we also offer inn-to-inn walking holidays...

On an INN-to-INN walking holiday, you walk from one place to the next while your luggage is moved ahead for you. They are all available self guided and some can be done guided any day of the year.

- Blue Mountains Traverse & Blue Mountains Weekender - near Sydney, there's much more here than the famous 3 Sisters!
- Cape to Cape Track - near Perth, hike from Cape Leeuwin to Cape Naturaliste in Western Australia's Margaret River wine region
- Gold Coast Hinterland Walk - near Brisbane, traverse the Lamington Plateau then hike Springbrook
- Grampians Hike - near Melbourne, Auswalk's home base and our favourite place, rugged rocky ranges, a fabulous place to hike amongst native animals
- Great Alpine Walk - near Melbourne, traverse the Victorian Alps from one alpine village to the next, hike the Razorback Ridge and walk from Falls Creek to Mt Hotham
- Great Ocean Walk - near Melbourne, long distance track from Apollo Bay to the 12 Apostles, magnificent coastal scenery, secluded beaches, tall forests and lots of koalas
- Great South West Walk - near the Vic/SA border, hike the entire 250km track or do just the highlights
- Roof of Australia - in the Snowy Mountains near Canberra, hike from one alpine village to the next, see ancient glacial lakes, climb Australia's highest mountain

how to contact us...

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