

Bibbulmun & Beyond



21 – 28 May 2012



8 Day Moderate Level Trek

Thank you for inquiring about the Bibbulmun & Beyond Tour conducted by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation.

The Bibbulmun Track Foundation is a not-for-profit, community-based organisation established to provide support for the management, maintenance and marketing of the Bibbulmun Track. We have been conducting guided walks on the Bibbulmun Track for a number of years and are pleased to be able to offer this extended itinerary as an alternative to our 8-day Bibbulmun Highlights Tour.

The Foundation manages over 350 volunteers who each 'own' a section of Track assisting the Department of Environment and Conservation to maintain the Track and facilities to world-class standards.

The Foundation is self-funded and all proceeds from this trip support the ongoing sustainability of the Bibbulmun Track.

The Bibbulmun Track

The Bibbulmun Track in Western Australia is one of the world's great long-distance walk trails, stretching almost 1000kms from Kalamunda in the Perth Hills to Albany on the south coast. The Track passes through some of the most beautiful and peaceful coastal, forest and rural areas of Australia's south west. Over the years the Bibbulmun Track has won several WA and National Tourism Awards.

Along the Track, 48 campsites each provide a three-sided wooden sleeping shelter, tent sites, pit toilet, picnic table and water tank.



Tour overview

This itinerary has been carefully compiled to enable you to experience a cross section of the Bibbulmun Track from the giant boulders and jarrah forests in the northern section, through the magnificent karri and tingle forest to the spectacular ocean views and coastal heath-lands and national parks of the Great Southern.



We have selected a range of full and half-day walks and our bus will transport you to and from the Track each day. You will also experience some unique eco-tourism attractions in the region. Each evening we will return to comfortable accommodation in the rural towns and villages along the Track to relax and enjoy dinner.

On the walks, you will need to carry only a small daypack containing your lunch, camera, water bottle, etc. From the rocky escarpments that provide exhilarating views, to the tranquillity of the tall forests, our itinerary caters for walkers with bushwalking experience.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Mon 21 May Mt Cooke & Sullivan Rock (15km - moderate walk)

Leaving Perth by 7am, we travel 80km south along the Albany Highway to the Monadnocks National Park. The walk features one of the more spectacular sections of the Track with the ascent and traverse of Mt Cooke and the large granite dome of Sullivan Rock. Please have breakfast before we depart.



We will enjoy a picnic lunch at a Bibbulmun Track campsite at the base of Mt Cooke and then drive to Collie via the township of Williams (for a short break). We check into our accommodation in the late afternoon and get to know each other better over a meal at a local restaurant.

Located 211km south of Perth, Collie is nestled in beautiful jarrah and marri forests. Coal was discovered on the banks of the Collie River in 1883. Mining began in 1889 and the promise from the Government to purchase 75,000 tonnes of coal annually for use by the WA railways, assured the future of the young town. The coal-fired Muja Power Station east of Collie is now one of the main supplier of electricity to WA. Collie has a population of around 7,700.

Tue 22 May Lowden-Grimwade Road to Tower Road (10.7km moderate walk)

With an early start, today's beautiful walk partly along a sweeping rail formation offers an insight into recent history in the forests and an opportunity to enjoy easy gradients, attractive views and some magnificent mature yarri (blackbutt) trees.

A 2½ hour drive, via a stop in Balingup for lunch, will transport us to our accommodation at Donnelly River Village. We then have time to relax and enjoy a hot shower before dining together at the village.



Donnelly River Village is an old timber milling town, now operating as a tourist village. It has quite basic but comfortable accommodation in two-to four-bedroom old mill workers' cottages, a small general store and public phone but few other facilities. You will have some time over the next two days to enjoy the peaceful surrounds of the village, nestled deep in the karri forest.

Wed 23 May Donnelly River Village to Karri Gully (16.6km easy to moderate walk)

There is no driving to the start of the walk today as the walk starts from the village. Breakfast this morning will be in one of the cottages.

The walk starts at the Village and follows close by the river for several kilometres. We walk through some beautiful and varied forests. The transition from jarrah and yarri to karri reflect the various soil types and underlying geology of the area. This section of the Track also gives glimpses of a history now rapidly fading through logging rail formations and bridges, another mill site and the remains of an old arboretum. Lunch will be at a picnic area on the Track.



We should be back at Donnelly River Village by mid-afternoon, where we will spend our second night.

Thu 24 May One Tree Bridge to Chappel's Bridge (9.3km easy walk)

We pack up after breakfast and a short drive takes us to the start of our walk. , Here the Track crosses the river before continuing south along the east bank of the Donnelly River, mostly on a narrow winding walk trail. Remnants of several old trestle bridges can be seen along the way.

After a picnic lunch at the old Chappels Bridge camping area, we drive to our accommodation (which incidentally is only about half an hour's walk out of Pemberton) where we will freshen up before the bus takes us to town. The rest of the afternoon can be spent sightseeing before we head back to our accommodation to freshen up before a restaurant meal in town.

Pemberton is located 335km south of Perth, in the heart of karri country. It is a quiet town, which enjoys a cool climate. Its streams are crystal clear, its soils are rich and its wines are famous. Pemberton began as a timber town but in the last 20 years, ventures related to tourism have sprung up, including a variety of quality accommodation venues, art and craft galleries, trout and marron farms, wineries and 4WD tours. Pemberton has a population of about 1,400.

Fri 25 May Donnelly River Cruise and Mt Pingerup walk trail (5km moderate walk)

This morning, we cruise along a 12 km section of the Donnelly River, in the pristine D'Entrecasteaux National Park. We traverse a diverse eco system that is only accessible by boat, from the lush jarrah and karri forests, through the paper-bark and wetlands, to the limestone cliffs and majestic Southern Ocean.

After a picnic lunch we drive about 1½ hours towards Walpole to the start of our walk to the summit of Mt Pingerup. The walk offers views of Broke Inlet and a very good panorama of this fascinating part of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park, including the swamps of the Pingerup Plains and the Woolbale Hills.

After a short drive, we will check into our accommodation and enjoy dinner in the small town of Walpole.

The attractive town of Walpole, which has a population of about 500, is positioned on the banks of the Walpole Inlet and is surrounded by Walpole-Nornalup National Park.

Sat 26 May Peaceful Bay to Conspicuous Beach (16.2km easy to moderate walk)

A short drive takes us to Peaceful Bay where we start our westbound walk on a spectacular section of the Track which encompasses some of the best rugged coastal scenery anywhere in WA. The first part of the walk is on the beach crossing intervening rocky headlands. The traverse of Castle Rock provides rewarding breathtaking views. The remainder of the walk is just north of but parallel to the coast. Soon after Rame Head campsite where we have lunch, we descend from the top of the limestone cliffs offering more remarkable views to Conspicuous Beach.

Peaceful Bay is a very small, quiet settlement of about 60 people for much of the year, but the population balloons to over 2000 at the peak of the summer holiday season. The bay is ideal for swimming, fishing, boating and diving, and the long areas of beach are great for walkers. Wildflowers and birds are abundant in the surrounds of Peaceful Bay, which is the original habitat of the red flowering gum.

After a picnic lunch at the end of our walk, we will be transported back to our accommodation in Walpole and will enjoy a free afternoon. There are a few short walk trails available if you wish to explore. Dinner will be at a local restaurant.

**Sun 27 May****Cosy Corner****(7km easy walk)**

A short drive via the town of Denmark takes us to the small settlement of Torbay and the West Cape Howe National Park. Within the park are a number of walk trails, including the Bibbulmun Track. Almost completely covered in heathland and forest, it contains the most southern point in Western Australia, Torbay Head.

We begin our walk from a spot on Shelley Beach Rd and walk north toward Torbay Campsite. Not far after the campsite we reach Cosy Corner where the walk ends and lunch awaits. Here you have the opportunity for a swim at a beautiful white sandy beach. On the other side of the bay, the Albany wind farm is visible and for those walking the Bibbulmun Track end-to-end, it signals that the end of their walk is almost in sight.

A two-hour drive will take us to our rammed earth accommodation located in the Stirling Range, north-east of Albany. We will have dinner in a re-constructed 1924 federation style railway station.

Mon 28 May**Ascent of Bluff Knoll (1095m)****(6km very challenging walk)**

Bluff Knoll is the highest point in the south-west of WA and is situated in the Stirling Range. The Range offers some of the best bushwalking in WA. All peaks provide excellent views and walkers discover flowering plants at any time of year. Bluff Knoll, 1,095m above sea level, is one of the very few places that snow has been reported in WA. The view from the summit encompasses the Stirling and Porongurup mountain ranges, as well as the coast near Albany. Today we have a very early start for our ascent.

The walk will be followed by a picnic lunch. We will then start our five hour drive to Perth, arriving at about 6.30pm.



The itinerary should be used as a guide only as it can vary due to weather, client preferences, trail conditions and unforeseen circumstances. Our local guides have a profound knowledge of the Bibbulmun Track and will seek out the best alternatives where necessary.

TOUR PRICE JOINING FROM PERTH CBD

Tour cost per person

\$2450 (twin share basis)

Single supplement

add \$265 per person to the tour cost (see notes below).

All prices include GST. Minimum numbers must be reached before the tour is confirmed.

TOUR COSTS INCLUDE

- Motel/Cottage/Mill-cottage accommodation predominantly on a twin share basis (shared facilities Donnelly River Village). Accommodation varies in standard according to what is available in each town.
- All meals from lunch on day 1 to lunch on day 8.
- Snacks for each day's walk
- Souvenir Bibbulmun Track day pack and water bottle per person.
- All transport by private bus.
- Entrance fees and permits to national parks and attractions including Donnelly River Cruise.
- A Bibbulmun Track guide and driver/guide.



TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS

- Items of a personal nature.
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.
- Optional excursions.
- Personal travel insurance.
- Pre and post tour accommodation.
- No full single supplement available in Donnelly River Village due to the style of available accommodation.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This tour is operated solely by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation. The vehicle we use for transport is an air-conditioned Rosa Bus. We take a maximum of 15 passengers plus a driver/guide and guide. All luggage is carried on the bus. We prefer that you have two smaller 'soft shell' bags rather than one large cumbersome bag.

We have selected a range of accommodation including motels and cottages/chalets. The rooms are twin-share and some facilities (such as bathroom and common areas) may be shared with more participants on our tour. While we use the most appropriate accommodation available, participants should note that some of the towns through which the Track passes have very limited options for accommodating tours such as this.

Accommodation at Donnelly River Village is comprised of a number of basic but unique timber mill workers' cottages – no one cottage is the same. The cottages are in process of being upgraded so whilst some may have had renovations, others have not. The guides try to make the accommodation allocation as fair as possible.

The itinerary indicates the walking distances for each day. Some days are easier than others. We walk from valleys to ridge lines, and therefore there is a reasonable degree of undulation in all walks. Participants should have previous day-walk experience walking in the bush and a reasonable to good level of fitness.

Our guides are experienced outdoor leaders who are responsible for your comfort and safety. As much as possible we will try to take a leisurely pace, allowing plenty of time to look at the diverse scenery and ecology. *Participants must remember that we walk as a group, going only as fast as the slowest walker.* Please approach the guides about any concerns you have. They will do everything possible to ensure that you get the most out of the trip.

CLIMATE

The sections of the Bibbulmun Track on which we will be walking are greatly influenced by the cold Southern Ocean. In May temperatures can range between 10°C at night and 18°C during the day on the south coast. Northern sections of the Track can have temperatures from around 5°C to 20°C.

FOOD AND WATER

Lunches, snacks and drinking water will be supplied for each day's walk. You will be expected to carry your own water (about 1.5 litres on most days) and some lunch items that will be shared out amongst the group to carry to lunch on some days. Breakfast and dinner will be eaten at our accommodation or a restaurant in town. If you have any particular dietary requirements (eg. vegetarian, vegan, allergies, etc) please advise us when you return your personal details form - we are happy to cater for you.

ACCOMMODATION IN PERTH

You will need to book your own pre and post tour accommodation. For options in the Perth CBD visit www.westernaustralia.com and search for accommodation under the travel section. Previous participants recommend the YMCA on Godderich St and the Perth YHA on Wellington St.

HOW TO MAKE A BOOKING

Please find a booking form at the end of this document. If you require any assistance please contact us on (08) 9481 0551 or events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au. Please note that all bookings are subject to availability at the time the completed booking form is received with a deposit. If the tour is full you will be contacted and also placed on a waiting list. We require a minimum of participants before the tour will proceed.

PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION

After receipt of your booking form and deposit, we will forward more detailed pre-departure information. This includes recommended clothing lists, documentation and other details to help you prepare for the trip ahead.

INSURANCE

Current comprehensive travel insurance is highly recommended. The tour may be cancelled if minimum numbers are not reached. Whilst you will receive your moneys for the tour, other costs incurred such as airfares and accommodation will not be reimbursed by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation. The cost of travel insurance does not form part of the advised price and must be paid additionally. Visit www.travelinsurance.com.au for a range of insurers and packages. Please note this website does not represent an endorsement of insurance provided.

FINAL PAYMENT

Final payment is due 45 days prior to departure. Final payment cannot be made by credit card. For further information please refer to the booking form.

TWIN SHARE BASIS AND SINGLE TRAVELLERS

The tour price is based on two people sharing a bedroom. If you are travelling on your own, then we will twin share you with someone of the same gender unless you specify on your booking form that you would like to occupy a single room (please note that only one single supplement is available on each tour). In case of the latter, we are obliged to charge a 'single supplement'. This will entitle you to your own bedroom each night although you may still have to share a bathroom on two nights.

Once the single supplement is taken, we can only confirm further individual bookings once another person of the same gender also makes a booking as they will need to share the same room. We hope you understand that we are limited by the available group accommodation that the smaller towns offer.

REFUNDS

Please note that deposits are strictly non-refundable (unless the tour does not proceed). If you wish to cancel after full payment has been made you will forfeit the following amounts:

- Cancellation of 21 days to 45 days before tour departure, 50% of total price.
- Cancellation of 10 days to 20 days before tour departure, 75% of total price.
- Cancellation of within 10 days before tour departure, no refund.

HEALTH AND FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

Participants must be in good health and in good physical condition. Participants will be required to walk distances and terrain as per the itinerary. If there is any doubt, participants should contact their physician and the Foundation for advice. Each participant will be required to complete a medical and indemnity form when making a booking. It is vital that participants with medical conditions make them known on this form. Some walks are in remote areas and there can be considerable delays in reaching medical support. Evacuations can be prolonged and expensive. Medical and evacuation expenses will be the responsibility of the participant. International participants must have comprehensive travel/medical insurance but we recommend all participants consider taking out travel insurance.

DELAY, CANCELLATION OR ALTERATION OF TOUR

Prior to a tour departure, the Bibbulmun Track Foundation reserves the right to cancel, delay or alter any tour due to circumstances beyond the control of the Foundation including but not limited to dangerous weather conditions, dangerous Track conditions, or the inability of a contractor to fulfill any obligations. Under the circumstance of a cancellation a full refund will be made. If a tour has already commenced, and a tour is terminated a proportion of paid funds, deemed to be appropriate by the Foundation will be refunded to the client. No refunds will be made (in whole or in part) if an event is altered or delayed or any payment made by the Foundation for other cost incurred by the client.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

The Bibbulmun Track Foundation reserves the right to take photographs of the participants and use those images for promotional purposes. In booking a tour, you give the Foundation the right to use images for such purposes.

Please contact us should you have any questions, we look forward to speaking with you.

Bibbulmun Track Foundation

TEL: (08) 9481 0551

FAX: (08) 9481 0546

events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au

www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au



Bibbulmun & Beyond - May 2012

Registration Form



Personal Information

Your details

Your travelling partners details

Full Name:		
Preferred Name (if applicable)		
	Date of Birth / / Sex: M / F	Date of Birth / / Sex: M / F
Occupation:		
Address:		
	City:	State:
Email:		
Telephone:	Hm: Wk: Mobile:	Hm: Wk: Mobile:
Special Dietary Requirements (be specific)		
Travel Insurance#	Company: Policy/Receipt Number:	Company: Policy/Receipt Number:
Single Supplement	(add \$265 per person) Yes No	
Previous Bushwalking Experience		

If you do not yet have your travel insurance details, please forward them as soon as possible.

Payment

Deposit necessary for booking \$500 *per person* - non refundable

Tour cost per person \$2450 (twin share basis) All prices include GST.

Single supplement

add \$265 per person to the tour cost (shared bathroom and common areas in Donnelly River Village).

Payment Options (please tick one):

- Cheque/money order enclosed to value of \$ _____ payable to the Bibbulmun Track Foundation
 - Direct Credit. Contact your financial institution with the following details to deposit moneys into our account. Deposit moneys into Bibbulmun Track Foundation, Bankwest 853 Hay St, Perth, BSB: 306-061 Acc Number: 017312-4. **Please let us know when you have done this.**
 - Debit my credit card for the deposit only (\$500 per person) Visa or MasterCard**

Expiry date: _____ / _____

Name on the card: _____ Signature: _____

***Full amounts or remaining amounts after deposit cannot be paid via credit card.*

Send registration and payment to: The Bibbulmun Track Foundation, PO Box 7605, Cloisters Square, Perth, WA, 6850, or fax if paying by credit card to 08 9481 0546. Enquiries: 08 9481 0551 or email events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au.

Please complete the medical form over.

Bibbulmun & Beyond Tour
Medical / Indemnity Form



1) I _____ (full name) and _____ (full name of traveling partner if applicable) acknowledge and assume all risks associated with participating in the Bibbulmun and Beyond Tour, and will hold the Bibbulmun Track Foundation & its Board, Executive Director, employees, servants, agents & members free from all liability, causes of action, debts, claims, & demands of every kind & nature whatsoever which may arise out of, or in connection with using the Foundations facilities or equipment, or participating in this tour.

2) My family doctor is _____ TEL: _____

Address _____

3) Medicare Number participant a) _____ participant b) _____

4) During the tour I am likely to be taking the following prescribed medication:

Participant a) _____

Participant b) _____

for the following ailment(s):

Participant a) _____

Participant b) _____

5) Do you have any medical conditions: (please specify any allergies inc those to specific food types, diabetes, epilepsy, heart conditions, etc) other than already declared above?

Participant a) _____

Participant b) _____

6) Have you been in hospital or suffered any significant illness or incapacity in the last five years? If yes, please give details (date, condition etc).

Participant a) _____

Participant b) _____

7) In an emergency, please contact _____

Relationship _____ Tel (h) _____ Tel (w) _____

Address _____

I understand that the Bibbulmun & Beyond Tour is a group activity and I agree to abide by the decisions of the walk leader. If I do not participate, or if I decide to leave the group for any reason I understand that I am not liable for recompense or recoup of fees and I will hold the event organisers free from any liability which may arise from my departure from the group.

To the best of my knowledge I am in good health and will be fit enough to participate in the tour.

In signing this form I declare that I have read, understood and agree with the above and the booking terms and conditions as stated in the tour dossier. Also in signing this form I declare that to the best of my knowledge all I have written is true and correct.

Participant a) SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ / _____ / _____

NAME _____

Participant b) SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ / _____ / _____

NAME _____

Please complete the registration form over.