

# Mountain Country in Style – 4 Day and Daily Tours

## a) Mountain Country in Style – 4 Day Hiking and Drive Trails (Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024)

Tag-along drive and walking trails with a combination of nature based bushwalking and driving experiences enjoying Mountain Country in style. We visit a variety of locations within the **Stirling and Porongurup Range** such as climbing **Bluff Knoll, Mt Trio and Mt Hassell** along with a 20+km walk through the amazing ranges followed by a walk up **Castle Rock Skywalk** viewing the incredible Great Southern landscapes.

### Itinerary

#### **Day 1 “Place of Many Eyes” (Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September)**

- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Travel to **Bluff Knoll car park lookout** to take in the incredible views
- **Bluff Knoll**, the highest peak being 1099 metres above sea level. It is known as the ‘place of many eyes’ or **Pualaar Miial**, by Indigenous Noongar people. We enjoy the panoramic views of the surrounding plains and see if we can spot black cockatoos, birds of prey, purple-crowned lorikeets, scrub wrens and other birds in their natural habitat
- We meet our local Indigenous guide who will tell the local **Goreng** story of the mountains before we climb to the peak and enjoy the stunning views and rugged terrain taking a lunch break before we head back down the mountain
- Once we arrive back in the carpark we take a coffee break at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** before heading across the road for a visit and walking tour experiencing local fauna and flora with local owners Virginia and Darren at the nearby **Stirling Range Retreat** which has some interesting accommodation and other features
- We then depart for our accommodation at various locations to end the day

#### **Day 2 Mt Trio, Ranges and Trails in Mountain Country (Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October)**

- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Travel to **Bluff Knoll car park lookout** to take in the incredible views
- We then head to **Mt Trio** to prepare to climb the mountain to take in the mountain vista from another perspective
- We climb to the peak and enjoy the stunning views and rugged terrain taking a lunch break before we head back down the mountain
- Once we descend we drive around to another trail and **Mt Hassell** to climb for some afternoon fun
- Later that afternoon we take a coffee break (time permitting) at the local **Bluff Knoll Cafe** before settling in to our accommodation to end the day

#### **Day 3 Bushwalking seeing Nature at its Best (Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October)**

- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Then we assemble for a big day of trekking taking our packed lunch and all the extras to see us through a big day out in nature – experiencing the enchanted beauty of the **Stirling Range** with a long walk along one of the tracks
- We drive to **White Gum Flats Picnic Area** where we commence a walk along the **Nth Henton** track past **Mt Magog** and then take a lunch break
- After a refreshing break we commence to walk along the **Yetemerup Track** between **Twin Hills** and **The Abbey** back to **Stirling Range Drive**
- We arrive back at our original starting point and return to our base – so a trek of around 22kms
- Later that afternoon we take a coffee break (time permitting) at the local **Bluff Knoll Cafe** before we take a return trip to **Mt Trio Bush Camp** for a similar visit to meet Margot and Partner along with a walk around viewing their property – viewing the accommodation and fauna and flora

- We then depart for our accommodation at various locations

**Day 4 Day of Trails and Fun!** (Thursday 3rd October)

- The **Shire of Plantagenet**, named after the Anjou region in France, offers gorgeous landscapes, quality produce and spectacular views. Learn about the Plantagenet and adjoining regions, its early colonial past and first nation's peoples, view stunning landscapes and experience a meeting with a local vigneron
- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Travel to **Bluff Knoll car park lookout** to take in the incredible views
- Then travel south toward the **Kalgan River** (with a stop and talk) on the way to **Castle Rock Skywalk** for a walk up the Skywalk
- Late lunch is taken at **Ironwood Winery** where tastings and a glass of wine provides an experience of a local vigneron with the intense varietal fruit flavours of the mineral-rich wines of the local **Porongurup Range** wine producer
- We then depart down **Knights Road** and along the **Kalgan River** back to the Stirling Range and our accommodation at various locations

**Meet at Bluff Knoll Cafe 9.00am with departure at 9.30am and return by 4.30pm each day (minimum 15 adults)**

<b>Price per Person:</b>	Adults	\$200/adult
	Children 5 years +	\$no charge
	Pay as you go with lunch, morning and afternoon teas etc	

**b) Local Daily Sightseeing Tours Featuring different Themes – Cultures, Food and Wine, Nature and Wildlife and Artwork (Tag-along tour)**

**Day 1 Features of Ongerup - the Malleefowl Centre and Railway Museum** (Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October)

- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Travel to **Bluff Knoll car park lookout** to take in the incredible views
- Travel via **Borden** with a stop and talk at the **Pallinup River** on the way to **Ongerup** and the **Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre** for lunch and a tour of the **Sanctuary** - the sanctuary is part of the **National Malleefowl Recovery Program** to protect endangered Malleefowl and their habitat.
- This country is known for the massive deforestation or clearing of vast ecologically rich and diverse Eucalyptus Mallee country. The **Education Centre** has some wonderful displays of the history of the region
- We then take a walk to view wildflowers on the trail outside the Centre followed by a visit to the **Ongerup Railway Museum and Wildflower Display** (usually part of the **Bloom Festival**) along with afternoon tea
- We then depart for our accommodation at various locations

**Day 2 Features of the Porongurup Range** (Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October)

- The **Shire of Plantagenet**, named after the Anjou region in France, offers gorgeous landscapes, quality produce and spectacular views. Learn about the Plantagenet and adjoining regions, its early colonial past and first nation's peoples, view stunning landscapes and experience a meeting with a local vigneron
- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Travel to **Bluff Knoll car park lookout** to take in the incredible views
- Then travel south toward the **Kalgan River** (with a stop and talk) on the way to **Castle Rock Skywalk** for a walk up the Skywalk
- We then travel just up the road for a late lunch and wine tastings at **Ironwood Winery**
- The return trip is down **Knights Road** along the **Kalgan River Valley** back to the Stirling Range
- We then depart for our accommodation at various locations

**Day 3 Features of the Shire – the Horsepower Highway, Gnowangerup and other Unique Features of the Local Region (Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October)**

- Meet for morning tea at **Bluff Knoll Cafe** at 9.00am
- Travel to **Bluff Knoll car park lookout** to take in the incredible views
- Then travel across the road for a visit and walking tour experiencing local fauna and flora with local owners Virginia and Darren at the nearby **Stirling Range Retreat** which has some interesting accommodation and other features
- We take a tour along the **Horsepower Highway** to **Gnowangerup** with stops at various locations to inspect and take photos of the art work with the tractors and water tanks
- We then arrive in Gnowangerup to visit the **Indigenous Art and Cultural Centre** where lunch is taken with a local community group
- After a nice lunch and meet and greet we take a return trip to **Mt Trio Bush Camp** for a similar visit to meet Margot and Partner along with a walk around viewing their property – viewing the accommodation and fauna and flora
- We then depart for our accommodation at various locations

**Meet at Bluff Knoll Cafe 9.00am with departure at 9.30am and return by 4.30pm each day (minimum 15 adults)**

**Price per Daily Tour:** Adults \$55/adult  
Children 5 years + \$no charge  
Pay as you go with lunch, morning and afternoon teas etc