

wild women on top bungle bungles piccaninny gorge trek



trip highlights

Spectacular wilderness walking
Camping under the stars with the walls of
Picanninny Gorge soaring high above us

Indigenous culture

Scenic charter flights from Kununurra to Bungle Bungles Return

Exploring and discovering Picanninny Gorge and its "fingers"

Walking through the stunning Bungle Bungle "beehive" formations

Testing the acoustics at Cathedral Gorge

Swimming in the refreshing waterholes

Trip escorted by Wild Women On Top Coach



Trip Duration	7 days	Trip Code: WWG
Grade	Moderate	
Activities	Trekking with a Full Pack, 14-18kg, Sand walking + rock scrambling, Swimming	
Summary	4 nights camping, 2 nights hotel	

welcome to World Expeditions

Thank you for your interest in the Wild Women On Top Bungle Bungles trip. At World Expeditions we are passionate about our off the beaten track experiences as they provide our travellers with the thrill of coming face to face with untouched cultures as well as wilderness regions of great natural beauty. We are committed to ensuring that our unique itineraries are well researched, affordable and tailored for the enjoyment of small groups or individuals - philosophies that have been at our core since 1975 when we began operating adventure holidays. Our itineraries will give you the very best travel experience, designed by people with incredible local knowledge who share our vision of authentic exchange and real exploration with a responsible tourism approach. We hope you will join us for a life changing experience!!

why travel with World Expeditions?

World Expeditions Top End adventures have been in continuous operation for more than 20 years, offering economical, reliable, environmentally friendly small group fully inclusive adventure holidays to some of the most beautiful pristine parts of Australia. Our trips cater to people from many walks of life, age groups and motivations. World Expeditions also offers more than 30 exclusive Australian itineraries that incorporate trekking, walking, rafting, cycling and climbing throughout Australia.

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trip cost

Joining Kununurra from departing Kununurra: \$4090

All prices are per person

options & supplements

the trip

The Bungle Bungles (Purnululu) have legendary status as one of the most unique and remote natural wonders in Australia, if not the world. This splendid isolation is a great attraction to trekkers and with specially chartered flights we can avoid the long drive, allowing us to trek deep in to the heart of the Bungle Bungles. On this exclusive Wild Women On Top trip, our expedition exploring the Picanninny Gorge offers trekkers an achievable expedition style bushwalk. This 5 day trek follows the gorge as it winds its way between the red and black beehive domes. We establish a base camp for a few nights, freeing us to leave our big packs behind and make lightweight exploratory walks high in to the upper gorge. We'll walk, stopping at waterholes and caves, soaking in the wild seclusion as the domes transform with the light of the day. Our ultimate destination is the fingers, five sandstone chasms made for rock hopping and sun soaking, looking to discover the mysteries held within this ancient and weathered land. On our final day we trek out to Cathedral Gorge before a short transfer to the airstrip and a stunning scenic flight over the Bungle Bungles and the Kimberley back to Kununurra. We hope you can join us on this exceptional trip!

benefits of a wild women on top partner adventure

Wild Women On Top helps women lead adventurous lives they love. When you join a Wild Women On Top partner adventure, you become part of an incredible team, training and hiking together to maximise everybody's enjoyment and success. Wild Women On Top support you to get the most out your Wild Adventure, making it a truly transformational challenge.

What Wild Women offer:

- A Wild Women Coach who leads and empowers the team, shares Wild Women culture and traditions and supports you in your preparation for the adventure.
- An exclusive itinerary tailored to the needs of women, prioritising magic moments of natural exhilaration and breathtaking challenges.
- T.E.A.M: Together Everyone Achieves More approach to adventure
- Training and preparation to ensure all your teammates are perfectly prepared and fit for the adventure (that means you must be, too!). If you can't join us for Trek Training in Sydney, you can prepare with the Luvmyhike 12-week online training program and check in with your coach regularly.
- Everyone must be a member of Wild Women On Top so you're guaranteed your teammates understand our culture and have like-minded goals.
- The Golden Rules to create a loving, successful and supportive environment during your adventure.
- A Facebook group to connect you with your team and encourage team-building as well as give you direct access to your coach.
- A complimentary copy of How To Prepare for World Class Treks e-book by Di Westaway

Please note: Travel Partner guides and staff are responsible for delivering your extraordinary experience during your adventure. Please direct all pre, mid and post trip feedback to Travel Partner. Your Coach is NOT the tour operator, guide, navigator or first aider.

at a glance

DAY 1	ARRIVE IN KUNUNURRA
DAY 2	SCENIC FLIGHT FROM KUNUNURRA TO BUNGLE BUNGLES AIRSTRIP, 4WD TRANSFER TO BASE OF PICANNINNY GORGE AND BEGIN TREKKING (13KM)
DAYS 3-4	EXPLORE THE PICANNINNY GORGE SYSTEM (5KM - 10KM EACH DAY, SCRAMBLING AND ROCK HOPPING)
DAY 5	TREK TOWARDS CATHEDRAL GORGE (9KM)



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trip dates

2019 26 May - 01 Jun

fast facts

Countries Visited:
Australia

Visas:
No

Vaccinations:
Please consult a travel vaccination specialist for up to date information

Private Groups:
Private group options are available for this trip*

Singles:
A single supplement is not always possible on this trip. In many instances campsite size is limited and it will be necessary to share with another team member. This also applies to mountaineering expeditions. Single supplement in hotels is available. Please contact your World Expeditions Consultant or Travel Agent for specific details relevant to your trip.

Leader:
Expert local leader

Brochure Reference:
Active Adventures

*Ask our staff for more information.

DAY 6 VISIT CATHEDRAL GORGE AND WALK OUT. MID MORNING FLIGHT TO KUNUNURRA
ARRIVING BACK TO YOUR ACCOMMODATION AROUND LUNCHTIME

DAY 7 DEPART KUNUNURRA

what's included

- 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 5 dinners
- 2 nights hotel accommodation in Kununurra (twin share)
- professional wilderness guides (2 guides)
- all National Park and camping fees
- all group camping equipment including mosquito net, sleeping mats, ground sheet (tarpaulin), stoves, cooking and eating utensils
- emergency communications and group first aid kit
- scenic private charter flights from Kununurra to Bungle Bungles and return
- Trip escorted by Wild Women On Top Coach

Local cash payments are becoming increasingly popular with many operators in the adventure travel industry. The policy seems to benefit the tour operators, more than the local economies or travellers, as it avoids local taxes and transfers the cost and risk of cash handling to travellers. In accordance with our Responsible Travel practices we have chosen a policy not to ask for such payments.

what's not included

- Airfares to Kununurra
- meals in Kununurra
- Items of a personal nature, such as laundry and postage
- Backpacks
- Sleeping Bag hire
- Alcoholic beverages
- Travel insurance

detailed itinerary

DAY 1 Arrive in Kununurra

On arrival in Kununurra, transfer at own expense to the group hotel, Kimberley Grande Resort. <http://www.thekimberleygrande.com.au/>

The guides will meet the group in the foyer at 4 pm for a pre-trek briefing.

Dinner is at own expense so everyone can make the most of the many options in Kununurra

meals: NIL

DAY 2 Scenic flight from Kununurra to Bungle Bungles airstrip, 4WD transfer to base of Picaninny Gorge and begin trekking (13km)

Early starts are normal but today begins with accommodation pick up (6 am), a bite of breakfast on the way to the airport for a dawn 7.00 am, 1 hour flight passing over the Ord River and Lake Argyle into Purnululu National Park. You'll never forget your first sight of the Bungles from the air, a maze of thousands of domes that seem impenetrable were it not for Picaninny Gorge. We jump on the transit vehicle and travel 45 minutes seeing the Bungles slowly surround us. After a last minute pack alterations we begin our full pack exploratory walk aiming to travel deep into Picaninny Gorge base camp where we will camp in solitude deep in the heart of one of the world most remote wilderness areas.

meals: B,L,D

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responsible travel

The natural environments that you'll travel through are fragile; the cultures and traditions precious and often the communities we pass through are reliant on tourism. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence, protect what is precious and where we can leave a positive impact. Learn how you can do this by downloading the Thoughtful Traveller booklet from our website.

trip grading Moderate

Participants should expect around 6 hours walking each day of this trek in potentially challenging conditions. There will be soft sand, sharp and uneven rock, scrambling over crags etc. The distances are not great however this almost irrelevant as the time and effort required is equivalent to much longer treks.

Strength and agility will be important as well as adaptability to heat.

Thorough physical and mental preparation is important for your safe participation and enjoyment of this expedition. As with any active holiday, the fitter you are for the activity, the more the attention moves from looking at your feet to experiencing your surrounds. In short, fitness enables you to do more, see more and simply relax more. The best way to train for an active holiday is to simulate the activity you will be undertaking on the trip. Train for uneven terrain by finding a rough narrow bush track, even just your local park or sports field, and go for a lovely long walk in your trekking boots (nothing spoils a trekking holiday quite as much as poor fitting boots!) - splash in the puddles or kick up the dust!

Train for pack-carrying by carrying a load similar to the one you expect to carry on the trip. Use the pack you will use during your expedition if possible. Disperse the weight

DAYS 3-4 Explore the Picanninny Gorge System (5km - 10km each day, scrambling and rock hopping)

Sheer rock walls surround us on all sides, within which there is so much to discover with the light bouncing off worn and stained sandstone. This can lift the soul and inspire your walking feet. Taking only day bag with basic supplies we disappear into the many fingers of the gorge allowing plenty of time for nature appreciation, rock hopping, photography and maybe even a dip into a cool and isolated rock hole. During these days we can go as hard or easy as the group requires allowing the most chance of immersing ourselves into a truly pristine environment where people are few and nature is boundless.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 5 Trek towards Cathedral Gorge (9km)

Today we break camp and put on the full pack again retreating out of the gorge and past "the elbow" now having another opportunity to appreciate the vast formation of domes surrounding us. We will camp in another remote location on Piccaninny creek where the light on the domes at sunset is dramatic and silencing.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 6 Visit Cathedral Gorge and walk out. Mid morning flight to Kununurra arriving back to your accommodation around lunchtime

A good walk around after dumping the packs allows for our final detour. They say the acoustics are better than the Sydney opera house inside the walled, natural theatre of Cathedral gorge. After soaking in the sounds of the gorge, we take our final leg of the trail to meet up with the transit vehicle, which drives us to the airstrip where we catch our scenic flight around and out of the Bungles passing over Piccaninny gorge and our walk, Argyle diamond mine and Lake Argyle and finally Kununurra. This is an inspiring way of wrapping up the trip and possibly one of the most beautiful scenic flights anywhere in Australia. On arrival into Kununurra, the remainder of the day is at leisure. Overnight Kimberley Grande Resort.

Please note, your Guide will depart on this day

meals: B,L,D

DAY 7 Depart Kununurra

Trip concludes

meals: B

This itinerary is subject to change with any change in Community regulations as well as Governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

suggested extensions

Explore Kakadu & Beyond

country information

You will be travelling through Aboriginal land with a living culture and rich heritage. When on Aboriginal land it is necessary to accept that there may be some conditions of travel (your guide will explain) and that local and traditional obligations take precedence over permission to travel. Consider that Aboriginal land is essentially private land and that permission is to enter is a privilege.

There is incredible diversity in Aboriginal culture and each local clan may have their own language and culture. Your guide will keep you informed of local culture, issues, and any considerations for dealing with local people.

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evenly in the pack – a couple of bricks in your pack will feel like a couple of bricks in your pack but a few phone books, a couple of towels, a jumper or two and a few kilos of flour will weigh the same as a couple of bricks but will be much more comfortable to carry and closer to your actual load on the trip. Train for multiple days of trekking by doing so – try loading up and setting out for the park for an hour or so walk every day for a week. Go early in the morning and it may not feel so strange with other people out training for their own ambitions. Enjoy your training – include friends and family, set some goals, note your progress and explore.

To discuss your training requirements for this trip call Wild Women On Top today or visit the Wild Women On Top website - <http://www.wildwomenontop.com/training>

adventure travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. In remote and developing countries do not expect standards you are used to at home. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with your consultant or travel agent.

important note

“Expect The Unexpected”. Wild Women On Top Itineraries can change at any time, depending on local conditions, group requirements and weather.

climate

Generally speaking, it is fine, rain-free and there is plenty of sun between May and October. The days are quite warm from May to November. It is possible we will experience temperatures up to 40C, however most days are closer to 30C. Evenings can be cooler (down to around 5C).

While significant rain is uncommon in May, it is possible that unseasonal rainfall may affect our plans and the itinerary.

Throughout the year we can swim in crystal clear, spring fed pools. We should get opportunities for a splash every day, however the Bungles are much dryer than the Jatbula Trail

It is essential in this climate to keep up a high fluid intake (plain water is best) to avoid dehydration. The first sign of mild dehydration is headache, which can make your holiday uncomfortable. More severe dehydration can lead to heat exhaustion, a most uncomfortable experience, and there is no ‘quick fix’ for this condition. Please ensure that you drink 4 litres per day. Your guide will point this out again when you start the trip, as mild dehydration can be easily avoided.

a typical day

Mental preparation for your trek in the Kimberley cannot be highlighted enough. Come open minded and ready for a wonderful experience whatever the weather, whoever the group, whatever your preconceived ideas. Your guides will be working to enhance your trek and maximise your safety. Each day, each group, each guide will influence itinerary details but the following will give you an idea of daily timing.

Each day will start with a hot drink call from your guides. They will then prepare breakfast, whilst you prepare for the day and pack up all your equipment. After breakfast the guides finish their last minute packing and you set off for the day’s walk. Each day is different but usually the morning walk is 3-4 hours with numerous snack, photo and water breaks along the way.

A leisurely lunch is served with a chance to put your feet up, dry socks, read or simply take in the magnificent scenery. The afternoon walk is usually shorter than the morning walk getting us to camp with plenty of daylight and time for exploring, relaxing or just enjoying a welcome hot drink and a chat. A hot dinner and dessert is served around 7pm with time to tell a few stories.

dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (at least 1 month prior to your trip) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

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accommodation on the trip



When trekking in the Kimberley dry season our camping arrangements are delightfully lightweight. As we don't have to worry about bad weather we can make the most of the clear skies and sleep under the stars. Each trekker will carry a groundsheet, self-inflating mattress and a mosquito net. We will string a line between trees and hang the mosquito nets.

The guides will carry lightweight group tarps that will act as shade or shelter in the unlikely event of unseasonal rain.

pre and post tour accommodation

We will be staying in the very comfortable Kimberley Grande Resort in Kununurra before and after our trek.

what you carry

The Bungle Bungles Piccaninny Gorge trip is a full pack unsupported trek. You will need to carry all your own personal equipment. This includes your sleeping bag, sleeping mat, ground sheet and mosquito net, plus a small proportion of the group food. On average this works out to be 15-17kgs. Your guides will conduct a gear check to ensure you are not carrying too little or too much!

equipment required

A comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information supplied on booking.

vehicles & safety

During the course of your trip, we will use a variety of vehicles, all of which are fit for purpose and the conditions encountered. It should be noted that laws governing transportation safety may differ from those in your home country and whilst wherever possible, vehicles with seatbelts are provided, on occasion some vehicles may not have seat belts fitted.

visas

«cat:Countries:visainfo»

Please bear in mind that visas may be required for countries you are visiting en route or transiting through on the way to your destination. It is important that you check the requirements of all countries you will visit. Visa costs and requirements do change regularly so we suggest you check with your travel agent or World Expeditions reservations consultant. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary visas.

private groups

Wild Women On Top Golden Rules

1. Set challenging adventure goals, write them down, train hard and you will achieve them [No excuses!]
2. Stay Positive at all times
3. T.E.A.M. Together Everyone Achieves More

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4. Expect the unexpected
5. If you have a gripe, handle it discretely, or air it politely [Don't let it fester!]
6. Buy quality gear [This will save you money and could save your life]
7. Don't come home from training or trips tired. Be energized & happy.
8. Leave no trace (The wilderness is sacred!)
9. Bring MORE than you take away. [Including chocolate!]
10. Happy endings guarantee the next leave pass!
[this one is secret!]

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how to book

To book a Wild Women On Top trip, you will need to complete a booking form and pay a non refundable deposit which you can do by using our online booking function, details of which will be provided at the time of the trip launch with Wild Women On Top. We can also help you with any additional arrangements that you require, such as competitive airfares to get you to your destination, stopovers, pre or post trip accommodation or any additional tours that you wish to take in conjunction with the main trip.

Important: You must be a financial member of Wild Women On Top to join this tour. Please go to WWW.WILDWOMENONTOP.COM, ring 0434 027 912 or email admin@wildwomenontop.com for more details on training and memberships.