

OUTDOOR TRAVEL

THE ACTIVE HOLIDAY COMPANY

WALKING HOLIDAYS IN AUSTRALIA

2024-2025

SOUTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA – CAPE TO CAPE TRACK

8-days / 7-nights guided walking based in Margaret River



Walk the length of Western Australia's iconic Cape to Cape Track on this 8 day tour. Starting at the lighthouse at Cape Naturaliste and ending at the waterwheel and lighthouse at Cape Leeuwin, the Cape to Cape Track covers 135km, predominantly along the ridge of the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park. Accompanied by spectacular views and never far from the glorious Margaret River coastline, each day offers a plethora of cliff-top vistas, white sand beaches and seascapes. The scenery changes as the route turns inland through the coastal heath with its pretty wildflowers in the season, towards an entirely different landscape, with peppermint and banksia trees to the tranquil, breathtaking beauty of the tall timbered karri forest, so unique to Australia's southwest.

Carrying only a day pack, you are free to enjoy the sights of one of Australia's greatest multi-day walks. With transfers included to and from the track, each day the walk resumes from where it left off the day before, so you only unpack once. By walking the Cape to Cape Track as a series of day walks with experienced, knowledgeable guides, those with a moderate level of fitness can enjoy and complete the entire walk. On some days there are options to walk half a day and you are always welcome to take a day off, should you prefer.

A perfect complement to the day's activity, the guides prepare delicious, home-style meals ideally suited to walkers. Stay in the heart of the famous Margaret River wine region with chance to purchase the local wine and we do recommend you take the opportunity to buy some of Western Australia's great wines such as their globally recognised Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon to enjoy with dinner.

Cost from: **\$2800** per person twin-share (March & April 2024 departures only) Single supplement from \$580
 \$3040 per person twin share (all other departure dates) Single supplement from \$700

Prices are based on twin share accommodation. Single travellers may share with another single traveller of the same gender at no extra cost. Single use rooms are available at extra cost.

Departs: **2024:** 18, 24 March; 9 April; 3, 9, 11, 15, 17, 19, 23 September
 2025: 15, 17, 19, 23, 25, 27, 31 March; 2, 4 April

Includes: 7 nights in comfortable motel accommodation with ensuite bathroom; 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 4 dinners; trail snacks; transfers from and back to Perth CBD, transfers to and from the track; expert knowledgeable guides with a satellite phone, full first aid kit and emergency support.

Grade: Moderate to challenging up to 8 hours' walking per day, 12 to 25km per day, with ascents and descents and across uneven ground and sand. The challenge of the Cape to Cape is the distance; there are a few long beach sections, some rocks and some hills but regular walkers do not find the terrain too difficult. On some days there are opportunities to shorten the walks. A good level of fitness is required, best acquired by regular walking.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1: Transfer from Perth, Start at Cape Naturaliste to Yallingup

Walking @ 14km

Meet in Perth CBD in time for your 8am departure for Cape Naturaliste, the starting point of your Cape to Cape walk. Please arrive in your hiking clothes, with your day pack and ready to walk (your main luggage will be transferred). After a picnic lunch on the lawn at the Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse, set off on the Cape to Cape track for a relatively easy cliff-top and beach walk. Keep an eye out for dolphins! At the day's end, the coach will meet walkers at Yallingup and transfer to your accommodation for the next 7 nights, located in a quiet corner of the township Margaret River.

Day 2: Yallingup to Moses Rock

Walking @ 18km (or 10km option)

Start the day with a beach walk and then continue along the path with continuous coastal views. The red granite boulders, white sand beaches and turquoise waters offer a contrasting landscape of great beauty. Enjoy lunch overlooking the surfing Mecca of Injidup and in the afternoon visit Quinninup Falls at Wilyabrup. Finish at Moses Rock, a surf break with rocky outcrops and tidal pools.

Day 3: Moses Rock to Gracetown

Walking @ 16km

Today offers relatively easy walking with a few hills and some sandy patches. The magnificent sweeping views of the coast from cliff-top vantage points, and the towering red rocks of Wilyabrup are two of many highlights. If the weather's nice, you might enjoy a swim in the sheltered bay at Gracetown. Or just soak those feet as you reflect the day on the Cape to Cape track. Dinner at own arrangements this evening.

Day 4: Gracetown to Margaret River mouth

Walking @ 20km (or 12km option)

Easy walking among coastal heath to Ellensbrook historic homestead, for morning tea and to explore the grounds. Built in 1857, the homestead embodies the history of the south west and is a testament to traditional Wadandi knowledge, resilience and the changing ways of life. The track then heads inland through peppermint and banksia trees. After lunch the route is back on the coast for a beach walk to Cape Mentelle. Finish the day at the Margaret River mouth – a good place for a swim. Dinner at own arrangements.

Day 5: Margaret River mouth to Boranup Forest

Walking @ 25km (or 14km option)

A varied walk today, firstly heading inland with morning tea beside Boodjidup Brook. Take a beach walk to Redgate for lunch and then a stretch of cliff-top walking reaches shady Contos Campground in time for afternoon tea. The final stretch is through the cool, peaceful forest on firm, easy tracks to end a great day on the Cape to Cape track. Once again you are free to make your choice for dinner from the many great restaurants in Margaret River.

Day 6: Boranup Forest to Cosy Corner

Walking @ 21km (or 14km option)

This morning we continue through the tall timber of the Karri forest before making our way down towards the crystal waters of Hamelin Bay. The next 6km is along a beach stretch where you can appreciate the peace, the view and the moment as you walk around Hamelin Bay and enjoy picnic lunch on the beach. After lunch it's a short but challenging hike up to the tiny Foul Bay Lighthouse to complete the day.

Day 7: Cosy Corner to Cape Leeuwin

Walking @ 21km

Much of the walking today is along a limestone ledge close to the sea, complete with blowholes. There is a long beach stretch before heading inland, occasionally sighting the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse. The Cape to Cape track 'end to end' journey officially finishes at the Cape Leeuwin waterwheel but continue on up to the lighthouse if time permits to the most south-westerly point on the mainland of Australia.

Day 8: Transfer to Perth

A leisurely breakfast before a visit to Margaret River township, enjoy a coffee and maybe some shopping. Pick up some take-away lunch (at your own expense) before the transfer back to Perth, arriving by mid-afternoon.

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Outdoor Travel offer a wide range of guided walking experiences in Australia and New Zealand including the **Great Ocean Walk** in Victoria, the **Freycinet Walk** in Tasmania and the rugged and remote **Kimberley** region of North Western Australia. In New Zealand try the **Milford Sound Track** guided walk, **Abel Tasman Walk** or **Sea-Kayak** or **Queen Charlotte Walk**.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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