

IN THE WILD

nature & wildlife tours

small groups
2 to 8 people

Photo of Koala Smoky:
Mark Helle, Australia

**TOURS
PROGRAM**
2010 - 2012



ECHIDNA
WALKABOUT
MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

In 1993 **Janine Duffy** and **Roger Smith** founded Echidna Walkabout to foster respect for Australia's wildlife and to ensure its wild and free-living future. Tours depart Melbourne and travel to carefully chosen wildlife locations in south eastern Australia.

Our **Nature Guide** training ensures Guides are knowledgeable and enthusiastic interpreters of wildlife. They are also trained in tour leadership, first aid and logistics and organise everything for you on our fully guided and catered journeys.

Our **Wildlife Team** provides support to our tours. Their research is passed on to you and to the National Parks Service, Field Naturalists Clubs & the Atlas of Australian Birds.

Echidna Walkabout respects our **Indigenous Cultures**, and is grateful to the Wathaurong and Gonnai communities for their support over many years

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Group size - 8 adults maximum
- Pick-up & drop-off : central city/ downtown Melbourne
- Inclusions - Nature Guide, transport, most meals and overnight accommodation on tour as shown
- Exclusions - Flights, alcoholic beverages
- Grade/Difficulty - easy to medium - a reasonable level of fitness and the ability to walk
- Tours run on request with a minimum of two passengers. Booking ahead is essential as tours fill quickly.
- Child rates apply to 13 years
- For further information please see tour descriptions on our website: www.echidnawalkabout.com.au

GROUPS & SPECIAL TOURS

Tours in this brochure can be a starting point for Extended and Group tours – all can be modified for groups (large or small), special interests or for private touring. Or we can help you join tours together or design a special itinerary just for you.

Possibilities include:

- Half day wildlife tours
- Evening wildlife tours with dinner
- Full day wildlife tours with Aboriginal Culture included
- Four to ten day fully supported walking tours
- Extended touring through south-eastern Australia
- Specialist wildlife or research tours (eg. mammals or birds)




UNDERSTANDING AUSTRALIA'S WILDLIFE... IN THE WILD

All animals we visit are wild. Wildness is dynamic! We'll help you experience nature at its best, where each day is a new mystery and each encounter is unique. Where what matters most of all is the wildlife.

You'll see the natural behaviour of these wild animals by approaching slowly & quietly without disturbing them.

While we focus on the big mammals – kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, possums & wombats – we're also keen to show you birds, reptiles, frogs and insects too!



Highly trained Nature Guides, Field Guides and a comprehensive research program ensure you will see the best wildlife possible. Over the past 3 years we've seen wild koalas and kangaroos on every Savannah Walkabout!




LIKE TO HELP A WILD KOALA?

How would you like to become part of an important study into the behavior of Koalas? Simply by joining one of our tours you are helping the world to understand the life stories of koalas.

For the past 12 years Echidna Walkabout has tracked and monitored the movements and life of dozens of wild koalas. Part of your tour cost will help us with this important study PLUS you can assist on your tour by helping to spot koalas in the wild.

If you'd like to know more (or to see some of our koala friends) go to the koala research page on our website:

www.echidnawalkabout.com.au



"Koalas are amazing. I spend most of my time with them & they surprise and delight me constantly!"

Mary, Koala Researcher



Photo of Koala Merle:
Martin, Nature Guide



Tour 1: **Wildlife Walkabout** 4 Days

OVERVIEW

Most of our big mammals, many reptiles and over 300 bird species make their home in the wild forests beside the rivers, estuaries and coastline of south-eastern Australia.

Journey into the REAL home of the Kangaroo, Wallaby, Wombat, Koala, Gliding Possum, Cockatoo, Lyrebird, Fairy Wren, Honeyeater, Goanna, Water Dragon and much more!!

During our quest we visit magnificent stands of giant eucalypt forest, walk in rainforest, along endless untouched ocean beaches and beside secluded rivers and waterways.

Your accommodation throughout is at a genuine Australian homestead.

DETAILS

DAYS OF DEPARTURE:

Sundays September thru May except through Christmas Day

MEALS INCLUDED:

4 lunches, 3 dinners, 3 breakfasts

ACCOMMODATION:

3 nights B&B at "Snowy River Homestead" overlooking the Snowy River

See page 2 for general details....

Or download a full itinerary and prices at

www.echidnawalkabout.com.au

"This is such a complete wildlife experience - mammals, reptiles and birds"

Martin, Nature Guide



Tour 2: Savannah Walkabout 1 Day

OVERVIEW

Spot **WILD** koalas in a gum tree forest & learn about them. Search for **WILD** kangaroos in their natural environment.

Stroll through a national park looking for wild koalas, cockatoos and kookaburras. Your Nature Guide & Koala Researcher will explain the behaviour & individuality of each of the Koalas you meet.

Walk quietly up to a wild mob of Kangaroos on the plains and in open Bushland. They are thrilling animals to watch. Their natural instinct is to flee humans, but with care we often get close enough to observe their complex social life.

We may also find parrots, fairy-wrens, emus, honeyeaters, wallabies and reptiles. Your Nature Guide will help you understand them all.

DETAILS

DAYS OF DEPARTURE:

every day except Christmas Day.

MEAL INCLUDED:

a substantial picnic-style bush lunch with traditional Billy Tea

See page 2 for general details....

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Photo: Jeroen Wolfslag
the Netherlands

"This tour is the best way to see wild Kangaroos and Koalas as they really are"

Bill, Nature Guide





Photo: Phillip Island Nature Park



Tour 3: Australian Fur & Feathers 3 Days

OVERVIEW

See the famous wildlife of Melbourne in the wild - Kangaroos, Koalas and Penguins!

Your expert Nature Guide will help you find mobs of wild Kangaroos, join our wild Koala Research Project, and walk quietly near wild Little Penguins as they emerge from the ocean in the evening.

Enjoy a relaxing night on Phillip Island, near Melbourne, and learn about the early history of this region.

During this tour your Guide will introduce you to many more wild animals and birds.

DETAILS

DAYS OF DEPARTURE:

On request; except through Christmas Day

MEALS INCLUDED:

2 lunches, 1 dinner, 1 breakfast

ACCOMMODATION:

1 night B&B on beautiful Phillip Island

See page 2 for general details....

Or download a full itinerary and prices at

www.echidnawalkabout.com.au

"Enjoy our beautiful wild koalas one day, then see them up close the next - and Penguins too!"

Donna, Koala Researcher



Tour 4: Great Ocean Road 3 Days

OVERVIEW

Wildlife abounds on the golden grasslands & rocky cliffs of the famous Great Ocean Road.

Pockets of forest are home to Koalas, Kangaroos graze the plains, and Echidnas amble through dense coastal heathland. Sea-birds and outback cockatoos share the rocky cliffs. Waterbirds are found on the largest permanent lakes in Australia contained in the huge craters of extinct volcanoes.

This 3 day tour gives you quality time to enjoy the wildlife and scenery of this magnificent area with your experienced Nature Guide.

DETAILS

DAYS OF DEPARTURE:

On request; except through Christmas Day

MEALS INCLUDED:

3 lunches, 1 dinner, 2 breakfasts

ACCOMMODATION:

2 nights B&B on the Great Ocean Road

See page 2 for general details....

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"The wildlife we see on this trip is brilliant! Every time it's something different"
Jo, Nature Guide

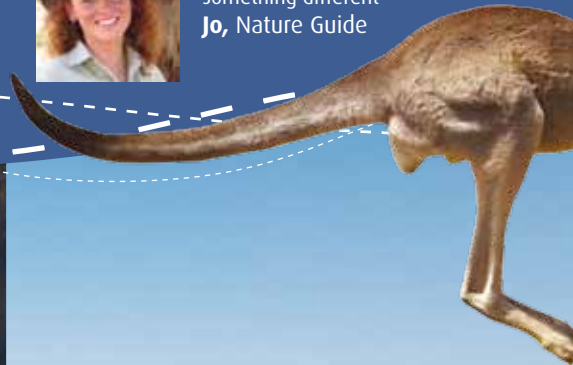


Photo: jim Stimac, USA



Tour 5: *Croajingolong Journey* 4 Days **PRIVATE TOUR**

OVERVIEW

Relax in luxury, surrounded by wildlife beside Croajingolong National Park!

See wild koalas, watch wild kangaroos and enjoy the chorus of parrots, cockatoos, swans and honeyeaters – all within a short distance of your luxury apartment. There's no rush on your private journey.

Your experienced Nature Guide will take you into the secret spots in this magnificent wilderness. Wander through gum-tree forests full of birds, cruise a quiet coastal lake, stroll along a remote beach gazing at the wild Southern Ocean.

The tour begins with a short flight from Melbourne or Sydney, so this tour can be part of a through journey: Melbourne to Sydney or Sydney to Melbourne.

DETAILS

DAYS OF DEPARTURE:

On request; except through Christmas Day

MEALS INCLUDED:

3 lunches, 3 dinners, 3 breakfasts

ACCOMMODATION:

3 nights at Gipsy Point Lakeside Boutique Resort

See page 2 for general details....

Or download a full itinerary at

www.echidnawalkabout.com.au

"So much wildness & wildlife
in one place – I love it.
Croajingolong is paradise"
Janine, Nature Guide



Tour 6: Mungo Outback Journey 3 Days

PRIVATE TOUR

OVERVIEW

Discover the animals and history of the Outback at Lake Mungo in the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area. Travel expansive red dirt plains sprinkled with Kangaroos, Emus and Pink Cockatoos. Walk in the shade of Desert Pines searching for brilliant parrots and sleepy lizards. Climb ancient sand dunes with an Aboriginal Guide who will show you the stone tools and artifacts of his culture.

Your private journey is conducted by experienced Nature and Aboriginal Guides who reveal Mungo's arid land wildlife and ancient Aboriginal Heritage.

Experience the peace of the Australian Outback whilst staying at 4 star Mungo Lodge in the bush beside the vast dry bed of Lake Mungo.

DETAILS

DAYS OF DEPARTURE:

On request; March thru November

MEALS INCLUDED:

3 lunches, 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts

ACCOMMODATION:

2 nights at Mungo Lodge

See page 2 for general details....

Or download a full itinerary at

www.echidnawalkabout.com.au



"Seeing a vast horizon filled with Kangaroos and walking the same land as generations of Aboriginal People - this is my Australia"
Roger, Nature Guide

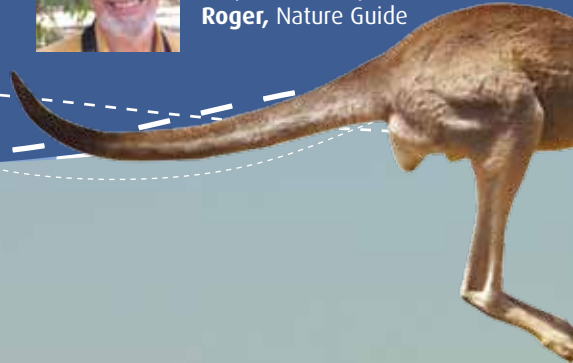


Photo: Harry Nanya Tours



Mungo
Mungo
Outback
Journey

Mildura

Mungo

Flight

V I C T O R I A

Savannah
Walkabout

You Yangs

Little River

Geelong

Inset Melbourne Region

See Inset



North



100km

Melbourne

Geelong

Apollo Bay

Great
Ocean
Road

Melbourne

Australian
Fur &
Feathers

Cowes

Phillip
Island

Come
with
us to...

Sydney

Canberra

Flight

I A

Merimbula

Croajingolong
Journey

Orbost

Mallacoota

Wildlife
Walkabout



ECHIDNA
WALKABOUT
MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

CALL: Int'l +61 3 9646 8249
enquiries@echidnawalkabout.com.au

How to book

CALL: International: +61 3 9646 8249 In Australia: 03 9646 8249

EMAIL: enquiries@echidnawalkabout.com.au

Office hours are 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday. Outside of those hours a phone message can be left on our answering machine and will be responded to promptly.

To confirm your booking a payment of 10% of the total tour cost is required. Full payment is required 45 days prior to departure. Payment can be made to Echidna Walkabout by Mastercard or Visa - please call or email us.

Prices are available on our website, or contact us. On extended tours prices and accommodation are based on twin share. An additional fee (single supplement) is charged for single bookings and single rooming.

What to bring:

Savannah Walkabout day tour: Strong, fully enclosed walking shoes or boots (sandals & open shoes are not recommended), rugged clothing to suit variable weather conditions (please check weather forecast), sun hat, rainproof coat, insect repellent, minimum 15+ sunscreen and 1 litre water bottle. Cameras and binoculars are recommended.

Extended tours: also bring a small torch, daypack. Baggage Limit: 1 soft duffel-type bag (preferred) or suitcase and 1 small carry-on or day pack per person.

Changes or cancellations: As a quality small group tour operator, we thoroughly plan your tour. Experienced Nature Guides, Koala Researchers and support staff prepare for your tour well in advance. If you need to cancel or change a booking please let us know as soon as you can. We will always endeavour to accommodate changes made well in advance.

If there is no option but to cancel, please note our cancellation policy:

Day tours: cancellation made:	48 to 0 hours before tour - no refund
Extended tours: cancellation made:	Over 45 days before tour starts - Deposit lost,
	44 to 30 days before tour start - loss of 30%,
	29 to 10 days before tour start - loss of 50%,
	9 to 0 days before tour start - no refund.

We do not operate on or through Christmas Day (December 25)

General Terms and Conditions:

Cancellations: We reserve the right to cancel any trip at any time due to unforeseen circumstances. In the event a trip is cancelled, alternative arrangements will be offered. If the alternative is unacceptable, the cost of the cancelled component only will be refunded. Refunds are limited to the cost of the cancelled component and will not be extended to cover any additional cost, travel or accommodation expenses that may be incurred.

Minimum Numbers: Tours run with a minimum of 2 people. We endeavour to operate all tours, however we reserve the right to cancel, or offer an alternative trip, if the minimum numbers are not met.

Insurance: It is highly recommended that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance.

Itineraries: In the event of unforeseen circumstances itineraries may be altered without notice.



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