

Dampier Archipelago and Murujuga Sea Kayak Expedition



trip highlights

Travel this stunning coastline in your self-sufficient sea kayak - an amazing and unique way to immerse yourself in the ancient landscape and get back to nature

As we sea kayak around the islands of the Dampier Peninsula north of the Burrup Peninsula, we'll catch glimpses of incredible petroglyphs. With over 1 million individual engravings, we'll be paddling amongst the largest outdoor art gallery in the world!

Between June and September, humpback whales are commonly seen in the Dampier Archipelago whilst migrating between their Antarctic feeding grounds and Kimberley calving grounds.

Four species of turtles (flatback, hawksbill, loggerhead and green) can be seen in the area, with flatback, green and hawksbill turtles nesting on several of the outer islands.

Osprey and white-bellied sea eagles are a common sight, and if you look carefully you may be lucky enough to spot the shy Rothschild's rock wallaby on some of the larger islands.

Camp at island camp sites in your very own 'million-star hotel' each night: enjoy the peaceful lapping of the waves, spectacular west coast sunsets and clear night skies



Trip Duration	6 days	Trip Code: EAD
Grade	Moderate to Challenging	
Activities	Sea Kayaking	
Summary	5 nights beach camping	

welcome to World Expeditions

On a World Expeditions adventure you can expect great value, high quality, active, expedition style adventure travel experiences on all seven continents.

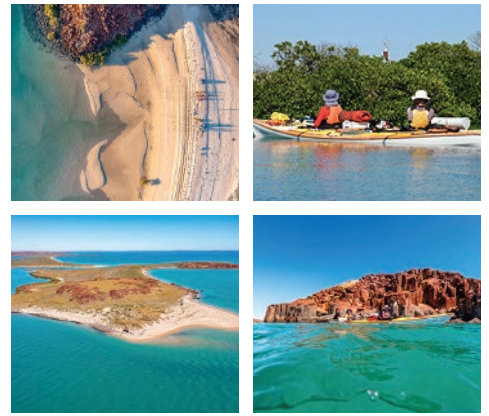
Our story began 50 years ago, when the mountains of Nepal inspired our first trek.

Since then, we've pioneered many adventure travel firsts, all driven by our goal to provide active and adventurous travellers with BIG adventures that leave a small footprint on the people and places we visit.

If you're curious to wander down the paths less travelled, we invite you to join us on our Dampier Archipelago and Murujuga Sea Kayak Expedition.

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Explore one of the most diverse marine environments in Western Australia by kayak



the trip

The Dampier Archipelago and Murujuga National Park are located in the Pilbara area of north western Western Australia, adjacent to the town of Karratha. The traditional custodians of Murujuga, the Ngarluma-Yindjibarndi, Yaburara-Mardudhunera, and Wong-Goo-Tt-Oo have taken the lead in putting this area forward for inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List in early 2023 – this is currently pending approval.

The tour is an expedition-style tour for guests who have prior sea kayaking experience; you will spend 6 days and 5 nights exploring Murujuga/Dampier Archipelago Islands, camping on beaches as you go, carrying everything in the kayak with you. The focus area of this tour is the islands immediately to the north of the Burrup Peninsula and Murujuga National Park: Angel, Gidley and Dolphin Islands, and Flying Foam Passage.

Join us to explore a sea kayaking paradise, with numerous islands, tidal channels, mangrove creeks and sweeping beaches to explore. The combination of an incredible cultural landscape, checkered European history, and diverse marine ecosystems make this tour one not to be missed.

at a glance

DAY 1	JOIN KARRATHA
DAY 2	CULTURAL AWARENESS PRESENTATION, SEA KAYAK EXPEDITION - FLYING FOAM PASSAGE
DAYS 3-5	SEA KAYAK EXPEDITION
DAY 6	SEA KAYAK EXPEDITION, RETURN KARRATHA

what's included

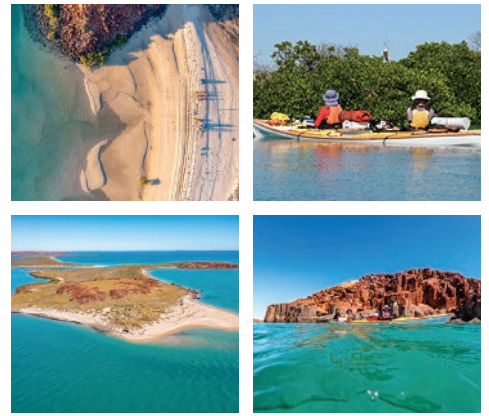
- Complimentary Karratha airport or Karratha city pick up to Dampier town camping accommodation on Day 1
- Transport to and from KTA Karratha Airport (only for flights indicated in the itinerary)
- Cultural Awareness presentation and rock art tour delivered by Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Indigenous rangers
- Double sit-inside expedition sea kayaks with rudder for comfortable cruising, paddles
- PFDs (life jackets), spray decks and gloves
- Long sleeve sun shirts and broad-brim hats
- Camping gear includes: twin-share tents, pillows, self-inflating mattresses, sleeping bags and liners, camp chairs
- Dry bags for packing clothing, sleeping gear, etc.
- Snorkelling gear: snorkel and mask
- All meals - 5 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 4 Dinners + Snacks
- National Park entry and camping fees
- Qualified and experienced guides
- Group first aid kit, risk management, emergency planning and communications
- Complimentary tour photos taken by your guide

what's not included

- Flights to and from departure points
- Pre or post tour accommodation
- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Alcoholic beverages (BYO welcome)
- Group dinner at Dampier restaurant SOAK on the first night

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trip dates

2026 23 Aug - 28 Aug

2027 22 Aug - 27 Aug

important notes

NB: - All pricing is on a twin share basis. For those wishing to have a private 'solo' tent, a single supplement applies. You are welcome to bring your own lightweight, hiking style tent to avoid the single supplement, as long as it is compact and will be appropriate for the trip (please provide details of the tent to confirm).

NB: - We are happy to cater for vegetarians and other special dietary requirements. Please note that there is a small surcharge for dietary requirements (other than vegetarian) including vegan, gluten free/coeliac, FODMAP etc, due to the costs of sourcing special ingredients from our small, remote town. You are welcome to bring your own alternatives to avoid this surcharge. Please contact us if you have any questions.

NB: - Experienced sea kayakers may request exclusive use of a single kayak for the duration of the tour (limits on how many we can provide each departure) for an additional supplement. You may be asked to provide evidence of past multi-day experience successfully paddling a fully loaded single expedition sea kayak in a variety of sea conditions for this option.

NB: - Child pricing is for ages (14 – 17)

fast facts

Countries Visited:
Australia

Leader:
Expert local leader

Advice for people with limited mobility
This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

detailed itinerary

Please be aware that whilst the following itinerary can be used as an approximate guide, it is subject to weather conditions, local government regulations, and participant abilities. Whilst every effort will be made to adhere to the itinerary as described, some circumstances may require alterations of or delays to the below itinerary.

DAY 1 Join Karratha

Guests fly into Karratha (KTA) airport at 3.20pm. Our staff will meet you at Karratha airport arrivals area, and after a brief stop in town for any last-minute essentials, transfer you to our campsite (in Dampier town) for the night. For guests arriving in Karratha a day early, pick up can be arranged from a central Karratha city location at approximately 3.45pm. Upon arrival at our campsite, your guides will ensure you are familiar with your camping equipment, and we set up tents for the night. Dry bags for packing personal items will be issued, and if time allows we will fit some of our activity equipment. At approximately 6:30pm we'll head to a local Dampier restaurant for a group dinner (at own expense), where we can discuss the plan for the next 5 days.

meals: NIL

DAY 2 Cultural awareness presentation, sea kayak expedition - Flying Foam Passage

We have an early start this morning, as we have to pack up our camp, have breakfast, load the bus and drop off our excess luggage for storage, all before 8am. This morning we head to the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC) at 8am to participate in a Cultural Awareness presentation, followed by a rock art tour at Nganjarli. The presentation will provide guidance on how to be culturally safe and enjoy the wonders of Murujuga; provide an insight to the history and management of the area, as well as the opportunity to yarn with one or more of the Indigenous rangers. At the conclusion of the rock art tour, we take the 15-minute drive to our expedition launch point. Your guides have a lot of talking to do today, as the group navigates getting the kayaks and gear packed and prepped to be self-sufficient for the next 5 days. Following a paddle briefing and safety talk, we'll launch our kayaks and head north towards Flying Foam Passage. Along the way we may stop to look at some more incredible examples of rock engravings and a late picnic lunch on the beach, before we arrive at our campsite for the night. After setting up camp there may be time for a swim or some beach combing before we start dinner prep for the evening meal. Enjoy your first night of island life under the stars!

meals: B,L,D

DAYS 3-5 Sea kayak expedition

The prevailing weather conditions determine the exact itinerary for this tour: every tour will be different depending on the forecast wind, tide and swell. Luckily there is plenty to explore amongst the Dampier Archipelago Islands: shallow mangrove habitats alive with juvenile turtles, rays and baby reef sharks; jumbled rock piles etched with thousands of years of artwork; sandy coves and turquoise water tucked amongst towering cliffs, and remains of early European pearling operations are some examples. If conditions allow we may enjoy a snorkel (either by anchoring the kayaks and sliding over the side, or swimming from shore) at some locations.

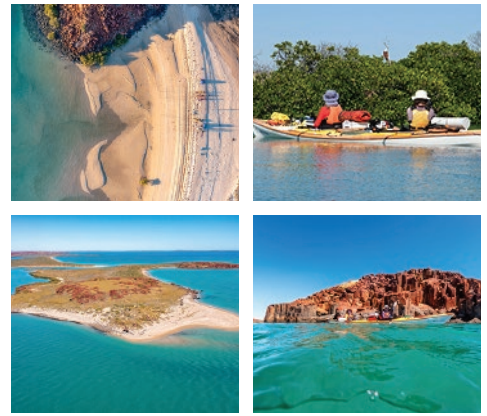
meals: B,L,D

DAY 6 Sea kayak expedition, return Karratha

We pack up our tents for the last time this morning and begin the paddle back to the mainland. We aim to arrive back at our launch site by noon, to allow ample time

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thoughtful 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 to Challenging

This tour is suitable for those with a good level of fitness and agility, and prior experience participating in a sea kayaking expedition. Group members will be asked to assist in carrying at least a 20kg share of loaded sea kayaks up and down the beach each day, sometimes over soft sand or extended distances (200m+) and helping to carry group gear to and from the kayaks each morning and afternoon. Participants must be able to embark and disembark their kayak independently in an efficient manner.

The distances that you will paddle each day will mostly be between 10 to 14km per day with one day being approximately 20km. The distances and daily paddle time will depend on the conditions and the group. The group will try to paddle for a couple of hours at a time with 4 to 6hrs of active paddling per day which might be crossing bodies of water between islands or easier paddling near the shore.

Due to the remote location of this tour, and the variety of paddling conditions we may experience (including tidal currents, wind and swell), this tour is only available to guests who have previously participated in a multi-day sea kayaking tour or expedition.

Suggested preparation: We recommend one hour of aerobic type exercise, four times a week. Hill walking with a pack in variable weather conditions, kayaking or road cycling is also recommended depending upon the activity you plan to undertake.

to unpack our kayaks, load them on the trailer, and return to town to pick up extra luggage, before we drive to the airport around 3pm for the 5pm Qantas Karratha to Perth flight.

meals: B,L

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

climate

Murujuga and the Dampier Archipelago/Karratha area are in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. The area experiences a desert-like climate, with an average of only 313mm of precipitation per annum. With warm days and cool nights, the average minimum temperature in August is 14 degrees Celsius and average maximum is 28 degrees Celsius. However, be prepared for cooler temperatures (it can get below 10 degrees C in winter) and the effects of wind chill.

dietary requirements

We are happy to cater for vegetarians and other special dietary requirements. Please note that there is a \$25 surcharge for dietary requirements (other than vegetarian) including vegan, gluten free/coeliac, FODMAP etc, due to the costs of sourcing special ingredients from our small, remote town. You are welcome to bring your own alternatives to avoid this surcharge. Please contact us if you have any questions.

accommodation on the trip



The sites that we use on this tour are publicly accessible 'wilderness' camp sites on Angel, Gidley and Dolphin Islands. We operate under a strict 'minimal impact' ethos – we pack all of our waste out with us (yes, even human waste). There are no facilities at any of the campsites; we have developed a good system involving a portable camp toilet to take care of business. All of our camping gear is carried with us in the kayaks. Camping equipment supplied includes twin-share (3-person) hiking dome tents (private 'single' tents are available for a \$100 single supplement), self-inflating Thermarest-style mattresses, sleeping bag and liner, inflatable pillow and camp chair. No fires are permitted at any of our camp sites, however the star gazing opportunities are second to none!

pre and post tour accommodation

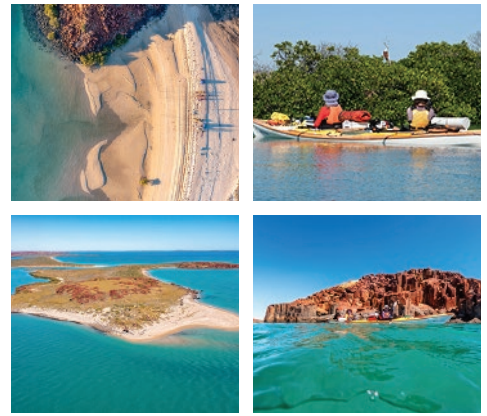
There is a broad range of accommodation options in Karratha. Karratha International Hotel and Karratha Central Apartments are both walking distance to the shops and restaurants of downtown Karratha. Comfort Inn & Suites and Ibis Styles are also in Karratha, as are the more budget-friendly options of Cattrall Park Motel, Econo Lodge, Discovery Parks cabins and Karratha Backpackers.

what you carry

As we carry everything in the kayaks with us for 5 days, it is important to keep personal gear to a minimum. Everything that needs to stay dry will be packed into dry bags and then packed into

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adventure travel

As the saying goes, be careful when you book an Adventure Travel tour, you may just get it! 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

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

the waterproof hatches in the kayaks. A comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information provided on booking.

equipment required

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

non exclusive trips

Please note that this trip is not exclusive to Australian Walking Holiday clients and is operated by our partners in Western Australia. You will be joining a group of adventurers from across Australia and around the world.

visas

Most visitors to Australia require a visa obtained prior to arrival.

Passport holders from the following countries can apply for the Australian Tourist Visa online prior to their arrival which allows you a stay in Australia for up to 3 months:

Canada

United States

United Kingdom

Other nationalities can check their eligibility for an e-visa here:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601#Eligibility>

New Zealand passport holders do not need to obtain a visa prior to arrival they will be granted a visa on arrival.

*All other nationalities should check with your nearest embassy or consulate.

webinars & events

Catch a Webinar – Live or On Demand - to learn more about a particular trip. Make sure the trip you choose is right for you. Watch them live, so you can ask our presenters a question, or catch the recording later at your leisure and watch it On Demand. Visit our website or keep an eye on our newsletter for upcoming presentations.

private groups

The adventures that you see on our website are just a starting point. We operate many of our trips, which means we can be flexible and create an itinerary to suit your interests and dates. Talk to our team, you'll be surprised how much more affordable it can be when you get a group of friends, colleagues, a club – you name it, to travel with you!

subscribe to our e-newsletter

Never miss another deal or spot on an exciting new trip! Be part of our adventure community, head to our website to subscribe to our free newsletter.

social networking

Learn more from our community at [Facebook.com/AustralianWalkingHolidays](https://www.facebook.com/AustralianWalkingHolidays) or on Instagram/[AusWalkingHolidays](https://www.instagram.com/AusWalkingHolidays)

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trip availability

We operate small group adventures, which means availability is always worth checking early. Check trip availability online or call our team who might be able to dig a little deeper for you to find what you want, when you want.

Many adventures require services that, if not available at the time you book (like an internal flight or permit) could mean the trip is unavailable. So, book early to avoid missing out on your dream adventure.

how to book

To book this 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, or if you prefer, download a booking form from the website and return to us by email, or mail your booking form and deposit to Australian Walking Holidays.

If you have any questions please call Australian Walking Holidays or your nearest World Expeditions office.

AUSTRALIAN WALKING HOLIDAYS

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