



“ Breathe
... it in!”

One of only 34 bio-diversity hotspots in the world, the region is home to towering Tuart trees, rare orchids and bird species as well as an abundance of native plants and animals.

Forest

The *Ludlow Tuart Forest* is the only natural stand of Tuart left in the world. Take a leisurely drive and capture the beauty of these rare giants of the forest. Picnic areas allow you to soak up the relaxing and peaceful setting. Further south, the majestic *Boranup Karri Forest*, is also worth a visit.

Wildflowers

Delicate wildflowers are at their dazzling best between September and November. There are over 150 orchid species, many found only in this region. Best viewing is along the Cape to Cape Track, with Meelup Regional Park and Ambergate Reserve also filled with the bursts of colour that the wildflower season brings.

Wildlife

Listed as 'Wetlands of International Importance' by the Ramsar Convention, the *Vasse-Wonnerup Wetlands* are a bird watchers dream! Native wildlife, including kangaroos, emus, possums and woylies, are also regularly seen within local National Parks and bushland.

Caving

Beneath the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge lies a labyrinth of cave systems. A guided tour through *Ngilgi Cave* (see page 46) showcases stunning stalactite, stalagmite, helictite and shawl formations. For the more adventurous, descend into the 'wildest' parts of the Cave which are normally not seen by the public.

One of the best ways to explore the region is on foot. Pack a picnic lunch and uncover the beauty of this natural playground!

Walks and Trails

Stretching 140kms from Cape Naturaliste to Cape Leeuwin, the *Cape to Cape Track* showcases the stunning coastline including natural wonders such as Sugar Loaf Rock and Canal Rocks. The first 2kms have been fully sealed, allowing easy access for prams and wheelchairs. Shorter walks include the *Cape to Cave Trail* (see page 43), *Meelup Trail* (Meelup Regional Park), *Meekadarabee Falls Walk*, *Rails to Trails* and tracks through-out *Cape Naturaliste National Park* and *Ambergate Reserve*.

