

Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef Fact Sheet

Camp Address (postal)

P.O. Box 471 Exmouth WA 6707

Camp direct: +61 (0) 8 9949 4173 Exmouth Office: +61 (0) 8 9949 1776 After hours mobile: 0427 022 456

www.salsalis.com.au

Reservations Office

Suite 9, Upper Level Jones Bay Wharf 26-32 Pirrama Road Pyrmont Sydney NSW 2009

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Location

Located on the North West Cape, Sal Salis is an hour's drive (70 kms) from Exmouth, in the Cape Range National Park. The tents are situated just 50 metres back from the beach amongst the low lying coastal dunes. Two km behind the camp lies the limestone range of the Cape Range National Park, dissected by spectacular gorges.

Access to the property From Perth: - 1,270 kms

Skywest Airlines operate a daily service between Perth and Exmouth and a weekly service (on Sundays) between Broome and Exmouth. Qantas operate a flight between Perth and Exmouth six times per week, twice a day. Road transfers and air transfers from Exmouth Airport are available and should be pre-booked. Guests can self-drive to the camp; from Perth it will take as much as 13 hours, from Exmouth Airport the drive is 2 hours and from Exmouth town it is one hour. Driving at dusk is not recommended because of the large amount of wildlife in the National Park.

When to go/Climate April to June

This time of year is cool in the mornings with an offshore breeze and warm during the day. This is the beginning of the season for swimming with whale sharks. Evenings are cool and still.

October to December

Temperatures are hot throughout the day, with a cool sea breeze. The humpback whales return south and turtles begin their nesting.

July to September

Nights will be cool with warm days. Humpback whales are regularly sighted offshore, having migrated north from Antarctica to breed in these waters, and Manta Rays can be found offshore.

January to March

The warmest time of year with occasional rainfall (usually associated with cyclonic conditions offshore). The first turtle hatchlings of the season make their way to the ocean.

Opening and closing

Sal Salis is closed from 16th January – 9th March 2012 inclusive.

World Heritage Area

On Friday, 24th June 2011 the Ningaloo Coast was granted World Heritage status. Over 600,000 hectares have been incorporated in the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area, including Ningaloo Reef itself and the Cape Range. The listing officially recognised:

- the aesthetically striking coastal and terrestrial environment of Ningaloo Reef adjacent to Cape Range
- the lush and colourful underwater scenery and its contrast with the arid and rugged land
- the annual aggregation of whale sharks, one of the largest in the world
- the important aggregations and diversity of other fish species, marine turtles and marine mammals
- the rare and diverse subterranean creatures
- the diversity of reptiles and vascular plants in the dry lands

Accommodation - 'Wild Bush Luxury'

In keeping with our philosophy of 'Wild Bush Luxury', the focus of your stay at Salis Ningaloo Reef is the wilderness around you and its marine and land inhabitants. Your accommodation is designed to expose you to the sights and sounds outside your tent ... a Red Kangaroo grazing amongst the dunes, the beautiful song of a Butcherbird or a Humpback Whale breaching just beyond the reef. However, we also appreciate that while an exclusive bush experience does not need to be 5 star in the traditional sense, there are a few key comforts that are crucial: a supremely comfortable bed, 100% cotton linen (500 threadcount), a choice of pillows, soft bath towels, an en suite bathroom, delicious food & wine and great hosting.

The camp has been designed to operate in tune with the fragile environment of Cape Range National Park and as such we abide by strict principles of minimal impact and sustainability. All of our power is solar generated, each en suite bathroom has a natureloo (marketing jargon for state of the art composting loos!), water usage is very carefully managed and no waste material escapes into the surrounding ecosystem.

Rooms

The camp has nine wilderness tents built amongst the sand dunes in the Cape Range National Park at Ningaloo Reef. Native herb soaps and ecologically sound shampoos are provided. The tents are spacious, simple and naturally comfortable – they are not intended to be 5 star hotel rooms in the bush so do not offer TVs, telephones, minibars or other typical hotel room appliances.

- Check in to your wilderness tent is from 2pm
- Check out from your wilderness tent is required by 11am

Lodge Building

The main camp building is raised above the sand and coastal scrub with views out to the reef and breakers beyond. Dinner is hosted against a back-drop of rich orange sunsets over the Indian Ocean and in the cool of the evening kangaroos and wallaroos appears from the bush for their evening graze. A bar and open lounge area with a small reference library provides a great spot to sit out the heat of day or enjoy a quiet sundowner. Our chef provides contemporary Australian cuisine with hints of bush food and native produce. Guests may help themselves to the self-service bar at any time.

Dining

Meals are included in the rates and will feature a three course dinner, incorporating native ingredients, a light breakfast with a selection of cereals, croissants, muffins and juice and a light lunch. Guests can help themselves to beverages from the camp fridge. Premium wines and Australian beers are included in the rate.

Children

While the camp is a great family destination the facilities and activities are not geared for children under 4 years of age. This is partly acknowledging the small size of the camp; additionally there are several safety considerations. If the camp is booked exclusively and suitable supervision is arranged then children of any age will be permitted.

Please note there are no child minding facilities available at Sal Salis. All guests dine together.

Transfers

Airport transfers can be arranged at an additional cost of \$250 return per adult and \$150 return per child (5-16 years).

Please note that transfers for optional excursions such as nature cruises are not available unless purchased as part of our Whale Shark or Whale Watching package with the nature cruises taking place on Tuesday or Friday only.

For guests who would like to participate in nature cruises on any other day or for dive excursions will need to arrange car rental from Exmouth for their stay. The car rental companies located in Exmouth are Avis, Budget or Europear. The drive from Exmouth town takes 1 hour and from Exmouth airport takes 90 minutes to reach Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef.

We have negotiated a special rate with AVIS for our Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef guests. To book your car hire with AVIS please click here (you then need to embed that link below in the <u>click here</u>.

We strongly recommend to book in advance to secure your preferred car type and rate. Vehicle pick up instructions: Upon arrival into Learmonth Airport, an Avis representative will meet you to fill out the appropriate paperwork and provide you with the keys. To return your hire car to Learmonth Airport, please return keys by dropping them in the drop box labeled AVIS which is on the right hand side as you enter the departure lounge. For further information, please call Avis Exmouth on 08) 9949 2492.

Scenic Air Transfer

If you take a scenic air transfer from Learmonth Airport (additional cost) you will land at the historical Yardie Creek Station where you will be met and transferred to Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef by car (approx. 20 mins). On arrival to Learmonth airport, please collect your baggage and make your way to the Budget Car rental booth inside the terminal where your pilot will be waiting.

Self Driving

Guests who self-drive to camp are asked to check their footwear on arrival at the South Mandu car park to ensure that they are not bringing any seeds into the camp and surrounding country. Guests are also asked not to feed any of the animals in the park, as this goes against all principles of wildlife management in a natural area.

You will need to stop at the Rangers Station to pay \$11 for your car to enter the National Park. You do not need to pay the per person park fee as this is included in your room rate and we pay this directly to National Parks. If there is no Ranger at the Ranger Station you should stop anyway as

there is a safe box in which you can drop the \$11 fee along with a note detailing your car number plate etc.

Activities

Activities focus on the reef and the natural environments and our activities may include, sea kayaking to some of our secret spots on the reef where you will see huge schools of fish, reef sharks and coral formations, a drift snorkel just a few metres offshore (all snorkelling gear is provided), wildlife and bird spotting and guided gorge walks at Mandu Mandu gorge and a boat trip up Yardie Creek in search of the Black-footed Rock Wallabies. Activities available at an extra cost include: private boat charters for fishing or snorkels to the sections of the reef further afield like the Muiron Islands, whale shark charters (April to July) or whale watching cruises (July – October).

Private Fishing Charters

With the continental shelf being only a few kilometers offshore Ningaloo Reef is a spectacular and diverse fishing destination. Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef can operate private guided fishing charters for guests. This is an activity available at an extra cost and must be pre booked. Ningaloo Reef is truly a fisherman's playground. Ningaloo Reef is recognised as Western Australia's premier game & reef fishing destination. For more details please visit our 'Fishing Page' on www.salsalis.com.au

Whale Shark charters

April to July is the season to swim with the Whale Sharks as they migrate through these waters. Sal Salis, in conjunction with Ocean Eco Adventures offers Whale Shark Packages during these months on a shared charter basis. Sal Salis will provide complimentary transfers to/from Tantibiddi boat ramp to join an Ocean Eco Adventures whale shark cruise on Tuesdays and Fridays only - as part of our 'Whale Shark Packages'. Guests who would like to join a whale shark swim on another day or with another operator will need to make their own arrangements for transfer to the boat.

Avis, Budget and Europear have car rental offices in Exmouth.

Yardie Creek

Take a guided cruise or walk through this spectacular multi-coloured gorge in search of Black-footed Rock Wallabies. Yardie is the only gorge in the area with permanent water and its mangrove areas provide roosting sites for many bird species while the sheltered waters are a sanctuary for marine animals.

Indigenous History

Archaeological evidence points to Aboriginal occupation of the North West Cape and Ningaloo coast for at least 30,000 years. Two and probably three tribal groups occupied the Ningaloo coast and adjacent inland areas. The Jinigudira people inhabited large areas along and adjacent to the northern end of the Cape. The Baiyungu people inhabited coastal and inland areas south of the Cape while the Thalandji people are also believed to have occupied parts of the central Ningaloo coastal area and adjoining land further to the east. The area is important in that it is the earliest recorded area of marine resource exploitation by humans in Australia. The journal of two Croatian sailors who survived a shipwreck off the Ningaloo coast near Point Cloates in 1875 with the assistance of the two local tribes provides valuable evidence of aboriginal culture at the time of early European occupation of the North West Cape.

The Jinigudira were reported to have died out through disease introduced by pearlers and other workers around the time of early European settlement. The Baiyungu, although presumably also affected by disease, remained in the area and took up roles on nearby pastoral stations and in the pearling industry.

Evidence of aboriginal historical occupation is found in numerous aboriginal sites such as burial sites, areas of geological significance, midden sites and fish traps. Over 110 sites have been identified in the Cape Range area alone. Aboriginal people would have exploited the area's rich food resources and used the shelter offered by the rock overhangs, cave and gorges of the cape. Unfortunately the indigenous cultural history and culture of the area has not been well documented and much remains to be learned about the area's first inhabitants.

What to bring

- Light clothing is more suitable in the summer months. Long sleeves will offer better protection against the sun.
- In winter warm clothes including wind protection against the afternoon breezes is essential. (the nights can get cold)
- A wide brimmed hat
- Sunglasses
- Binoculars for keen wildlife or bird enthusiasts
- Insect repellant
- Light walking boots or trainers for the gorge walk

Camp Facilities

- Snorkelling equipment for guided and self-guided excursions
- Kayaks for guided excursions
- Well-stocked library of reference literature

Dress Code

The dress code is smart casual.

Pets and Wildlife

Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef does not permit pets.

Guests staying at Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef are not permitted to feed the wildlife.

Communication

Please note that there is no mobile coverage or internet access available at Sal Salis. In case of an emergency family or friends will be able to contact you on the Sal Salis telephone number +61 (0)8 9949 4173. Please note that this phone is not attended 24 hours.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted at the Main Lodge or inside the wilderness tents. Ashtrays are provided for the viewing deck and enclosed ashtrays are available from staff for use at the beach. No smoking on any tour activities is permitted.

Power

The majority of power in the camp is 100% solar generated and usage of it is carefully managed. Australia operates on 240V and uses a 2 or 3-pin plug. It is important to know that while each tent has a light, there are no power points available in them. Cameras and laptops can be recharged in the main area.



Water

There is no fresh water mains supply within the Cape Range National Park and all water provided at camp is brought in manually via 20 litre water containers from



Exmouth- So the water supply at Sal Salis is most certainly a precious commodity.

Guests are allocated 20 litres of water per day for showering and washing purposes. Water for the showers is gas heated and for most of the year guests can enjoy a warm shower in the late afternoon. A thermos of hot water is also provided daily in the bathrooms for the guest's convenience of washing and shaving.

Luxury Lodges of Australia

Sal Salis, along with other Wild Bush Luxury properties are proud to be founding members of Luxury Lodges of Australia – a collection of independent luxury lodges and camps offering unforgettable experiences in Australia's most inspiring and extraordinary locations.

Department of Conservation and Environment (DEC)

Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef operates under a licence agreement with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) in Western Australia, in what is a role model partnership between National Parks and private sector tourism with the ultimate aim of conserving the region's natural environment through educational and environmentally sound tourism operations. In addition to the park entrance fees, 4% of the business's turnover goes to DEC and their conservation work across Western Australia.

Deposits and Payments

Full payment must be made 30 days prior to guests' arrival. For bookings made within 30 days, payment must be made within 48 hours of booking.

Cancellation Policy

As a small property, our business depends on maximising occupancy and cancellations often result in empty rooms due to booking lead times. For cancellations the following penalties apply;

- More than 45 days prior to arrival; \$50 handling fee + any charges incurred by us from credit card fees
- Within 45 days of arrival the deposit will be forfeited
- Within 30 days of arrival all monies will be forfeited
- Cancellations must be advised in writing and will take effect from the date they are received by our Sydney Reservations office (<u>info@salsalis.com.au</u>)

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