GOLDFIELDS TRAIL

From Perth, journey via Merredin and on to Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Through Eucalypt woodlands and sand plains, the past is ever-present in the landscape creating the character that is at the heartland of Australia’s Golden Outback. While towns and settlements here have been shaped by both history and fanciful legends of the gold rush, the region’s natural beauty can be found in its wildflowers, trees and plant life.

1 Merredin
Call into the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre for the latest wildflower information, drives and tours available. Tours commence daily from late August and operate subject to weather conditions until October. Enjoy the Merredin Peak, Tamra Parkland, and Totadgin Conservation Parks bush walks. The area has a diverse range of flora suited to granite outcrops, sand plains and salt lake country which all surround Merredin. See: Verticordias, Cricket Ball Hakeas, Merredin, and salt lake country which all surround.

2 Sandford Rocks Nature Reserve
Discover a variety of wildflowers in this 806 hectare reserve which is made up of interesting granite outcrops and pools set in scrub and bushland. You can also look for purple Peacock Beetles here. See: silver Mallee and purple Peacock Beetles.

3 Boorabbin Rock
The water reserve here is a fascinating example of hand-built dams, aqua ducts and catchment areas that provided water for steam trains and for the early colonial settlements. See the remains of the Number Eight Pump Station where water was once pumped from Mundaring, east of Perth, to Kalgoorlie-Boulder. See: Granite Rock poison plant, Firebush and Goldfields York Gum.

4 Caenya Rock
The Banksia variety found here, known as Swordfish Banksia, was first discovered by the Elder Expedition in 1891. You’ll notice the sudden environment change from Eucalypt to heathland at Caenya Rock. See: Grass trees and Swordfish Banksia.

5 Kalgoorlie-Boulder
With its gold mining history, adventurous character and legendary tales of fortunes made and lost, Kalgoorlie-Boulder

requires time for sightseeing. Include Karrikuta Bushland Park and visit the Department of Environment and Conservation Arboretum to see a range of Goldfields trees. See: Gimlet and Salmon Gums.

6 Goongarrie Siding and Comet Vale
Goongarrie Siding which is 90 kilometres north of Kalgoorlie is salt lake country to the east while Comet Vale features red sand and Spinifex country flora that flower from November to December. See: 15 Eucalypt species can be found and Grevilleas and Girardia.

7 Menzies
Around 35 kilometres north of Menzies is the sprawling Jeedamya Flats which is covered in a variety of Saltbush and Bluebush species. The Kookynie road, which leads to Niagara Dam and Kookynie, is both bitumen and gravel often abounding in flowering Mulga tree species and perennial shrubs. Heritage listed Niagara Dam has two walk trails with some amazing plant species often in flower. Visit Lake Ballard, home to the 51 internationally renowned Gormley Sculptures. Camping, toilet and picnic facilities are available here. See: Everlastings, purple and green Mula Mula, Perennial Serranis, Eromophila, Hop bush and Mulga species.

8 Leonora - Gwalia
The Leonora Loop Trails are a great way to see the local sights. There are two self drive trails; the Agnew Loop and the Darlot Loop. Also Malcolm Dam, 12 kilometres from Leonora is a fresh water retreat for yabbies. Gwalia is three kilometres from Leonora and boasts the Herbert Hover museum whom later became president of the United States. Visit the Leonora Visitor Centre for more information on these sights. See: Seasonal wildflowers can be seen through the district subject to good rainfall.

MUST SEE AND DO
• Take in superb views of Kalgoorlie and learn about the C.Y. O’Connor water pipeline from Mt Charlotte
• Visit the largest outdoor gallery and see the 51 Antony Gormley Sculptures at Lake Ballard, Menzies
• Look out for local birdlife at Malcolm Dam, Leonora
• Drive the Golden Quest Discovery Trail north of Kalgoorlie
• Visit the Leonora-Gwalia Museum, Leonora
• Pan for gold at the Proectors and Miners Hall of Fame, Kalgoorlie