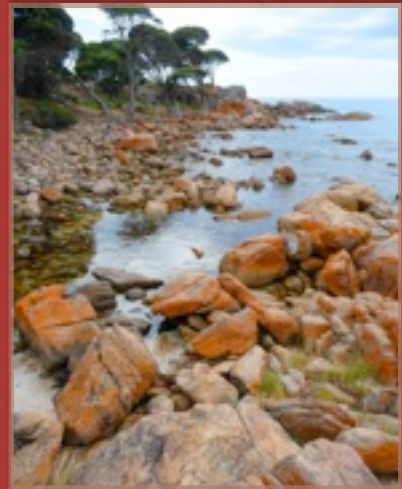


# CAPE NATURALISTE



We enjoyed Cape Naturaliste and the nearby town Dunsborough . We left the Margaret River area and headed back to Fremantle where we intend to spend a day bike riding and getting ready to fly back home.

## WA In Retrospect

We were surprised at the barren country only 30 mins drive out of Perth and surprised also at the lack of population in the south of the state. We were surprised at the quantity and quantity of magnificent eucalyptus forests in the south. This is partly why there are so few people – the country has been saved because of the vast National Parks. Brilliant aqua waters compliment the blue skies and red soils. The

WA coast is beautiful and essentially undeveloped but we still prefer the eastern coast of Australia and its milder climate.

## What We Have Learned

We live in a fantastic country. Its huge!! The range of hopping animal species is amazing - so many different sizes – from large kangaroos to the tiny hopping species. The variety and extent of the flora and fauna in the south western area of Western Australia is greater than most places in the world. There are plants and animals we knew nothing about, including a long list of endangered species. This trip has been a real education. For example, we knew Australia had

a rabbit proof fence (completed 1901) but we did not realize the extent of it (running 3259kms from norther to south) and we did not know there are two others (taking off from the original fence to the west coast). But unfortunately, despite a huge effort to keep them out we still saw many rabbits on our travels. Western Australia is full of surprises - it has second largest tree in the world after the sequoa – and it has the marron – the world's largest fresh water lobster.

We will come back one day to see Western Australia in bloom. They say the wild flowers in spring are absolutely amazing.