

# Geraldton and Shark Bay



Geraldton is about 500km from Perth. We drove here from Monkey Mia - a short trip – about 400kms!! The trip was very boring with kilometer after kilometer of stunted bushes, red sand and barren rocky earth. We were hoping that the south west region south of Perth would be more interesting.

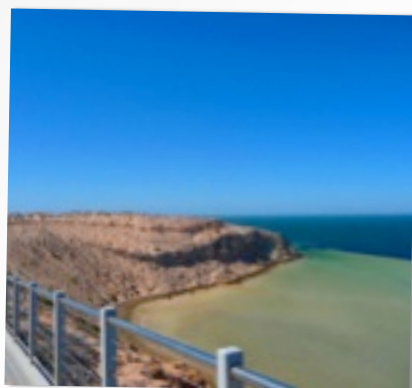
On the drive out of the Shark Bay area we came across Eagle Bluff with its high vantage point

with views across the largest sea grass area in the world. It's a place from where one can view an amazing array of birds, sharks, dolphins, dugongs and fish schools below. Unfortunately the tide was out so, despite having binoculars, there were few animals to see. Nevertheless, we felt privileged to be part of this magnificent scene. We were the only ones here on this cloudless but windy day.

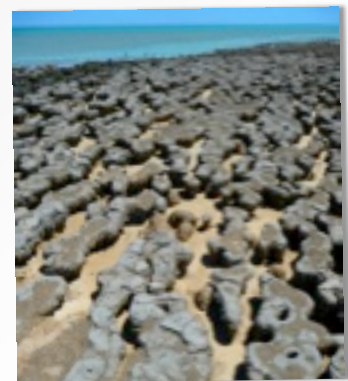
We also saw an interesting phenomenon at Hamelin called stromatolites. These fragile rocklike formations are actually one cell creatures that existed 2000 million years ago and evolved into more complex life over millions of years. They take thousands of years to grow only a few centimeters. We walked out on a winding jetty and sat a while admiring a number of these strange features at low tide.



EAGLE BLUFF



SHARK BAY



STROMATOLITES