

5. Bolgart West Road 17 km

An attractive tree-lined drive with a tunnel effect in places.

Note the patch of Firewood and Slender Banksias near the junction with Old Telegraph Road. Orange Eremaea, purple Kunzea and the silvery Slender Tea-tree provide splashes of colour in late spring, while Christmas Trees are magnificent in summer.

Common along this road is a small, scruffy, short-lived almost leafless tree with orange pea flowers in spring. This is Stinkwood, so-called because it smells strongly of unwashed urinals if it is burnt! If sheep graze it, the meat tastes that way too, so it's not a favourite in paddocks! However, it has large seeds which are able to cope with weed competition, so it is often seen on roadsides.

6. Old Telegraph South Road 9 km

This is another very attractive rural road, with verges that retain native trees and shrubs, including lovely Christmas Trees.

Boodadong Nature Reserve is a small area of winter-wet depression dominated by Honey Myrtles, and some Wandoo woodland. In early summer it is most attractive with pink, white and yellow flowered shrubs and the ground covered in small white and yellow everlasting.



Anigozanthus humilis

7. Bolgart to Calingiri 22 km

There are attractive patches along this road through long settled country especially where Salmon Gums, Wandoo, York Gums and various wattles form stately avenues.

Look out for a number of salt land regeneration plantings which you can see on surrounding farmland.

A short detour off the main road brings you to the undeveloped part of Wyening townsite, which is Wandoo woodland over a very rich low heath. Many different orchids and other small plants such as Cottonheads, Cats Paws and trigger plants can be found here. It's a good place for a picnic and wildflower ramble.

8. Calingiri - New Norcia Road 28 km

An attractive drive through pleasant farmland. The multi-stemmed, rough-barked trees are York Gums which mark the good clay-loam soil that was settled very early on. White-barked Wandoo occur in more gravelly country. A variety of shrubs persist in areas beneath the trees, adding colour to the roadside.

REMEMBER THE COUNTRY CODE!

Take nothing but photographs
Leave nothing but footprints

TRAFFIC SAFETY

When stopping by the roadside, signal your intentions in plenty of time to alert other traffic.
Do not park on crests or curves, or where traffic visibility is poor.
If crossing a road, keep control of children and pets.

BEST TIMES FOR TRAVEL

Most wildflowers are at their best from August to January, although there is something in flower all year round.

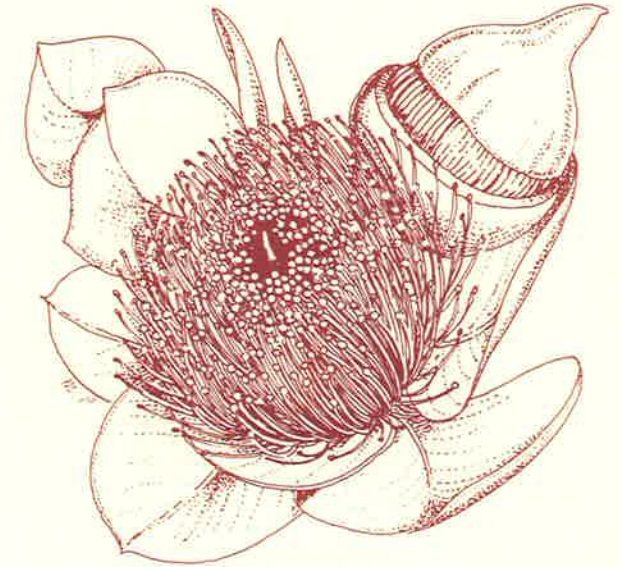
FACILITIES AVAILABLE

BOLGART	Food, fuel, caravan park, hotel, cafe
CALINGIRI	Food, fuel, caravan park
NEW NORCIA	Food, fuel, hotel

FURTHER INFORMATION

Victoria Plains Tourist Information Centre
Calingiri (096) 28 7004
New Norcia (096) 54 8056

Wildflowers in Victoria Plains



Mottlecah
Eucalyptus macrocarpa

Roadside Conservation Committee



Roadside Conservation Committee



WILDFLOWERS IN VICTORIA PLAINS

The Shire of Victoria Plains is a great place for wildflowers! Throughout our long history of settlement, residents and visitors alike have been enthralled by the natural beauty around them.

Follow in the footsteps of the pioneering botanist James Drummond, and see if your camera can capture the delicate beauty of the plants.

This brochure is your guide to attractive drives between historic places, but there are other lovely roads too. Why not try them?



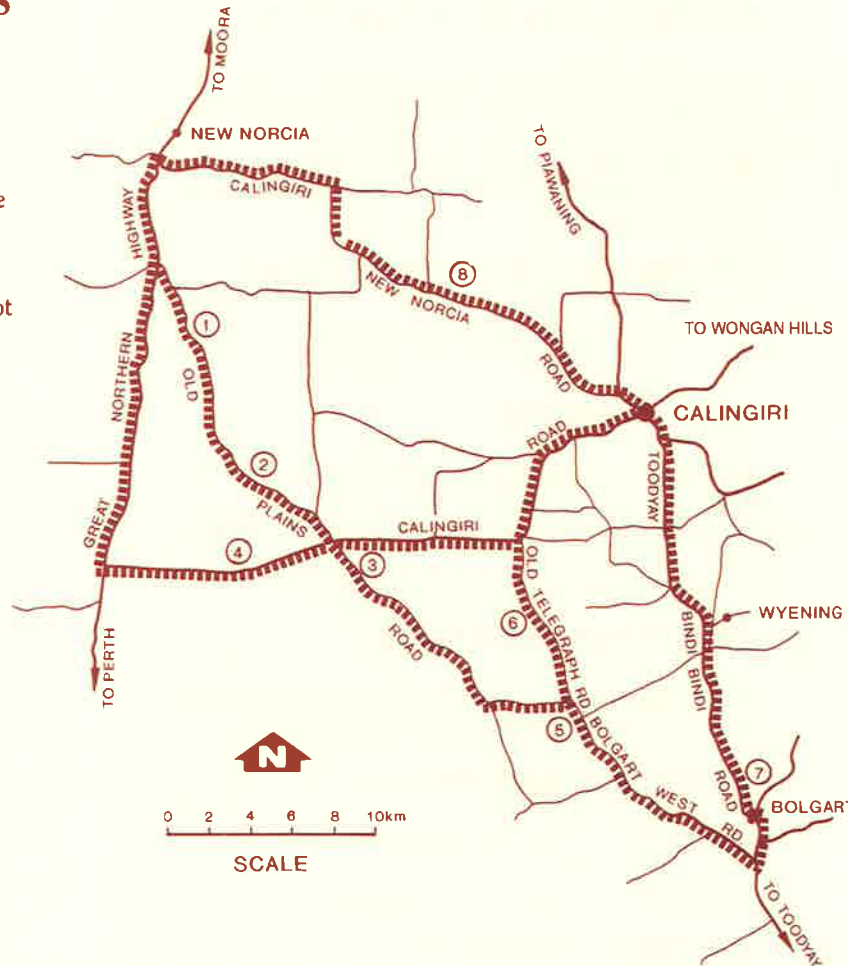
Dryandra nobilis
Golden Dryandra

1. Old Plains Road 29 km

In the early days, there was no direct route to Perth from the north, so travellers left the Benedictine Mission at New Norcia for Toodyay along a track, first blazed by Bishop Salvado, that became known as the Old Plains Road.

Lovely farming scenery and magnificent wildflowers make this historic road one of the finest rural drives in WA. Remains of old wells and campsites exist in the small reserves which are scattered along the road. They also preserve good examples of unaltered vegetation.

South of Yenart Road an area of York Gum gives way to heath where wattles and Wandoo Poison cluster together becoming a mass of brown and gold in late winter. Later, cream-coloured Grevilleas, Hakeas and Dryandras bloom, while grey Smokebush and blue Dampiera continue on into summer.



2. Old Plains Road Nature Reserve

A five kilometre strip of land, 60 metres wide, along the road forms Old Plains Road Nature Reserve. This area was reserved in the early 1960s after a plea from the Country Women's Association to preserve the roadside wildflowers. It is a diverse area of woodland that supports many species of birds and lizards. Echnidas can also be found.

3. Rica Erickson Nature Reserve

Open woodland grows over low heath in this nature reserve. The Spider Orchids are particularly good in spring. In early summer look for the unusual Blue-eyed Smokebush and the bright purple pea flowers of *Gompholobium shuttleworthiana*.



Conospermum densiflorum
Blue-eyed Smokebush

4. Calingiri Road 29 km

The eastern part of this road has little remaining native vegetation except for a few lovely Mottlecah, a bushy grey-leaved eucalypt with enormous red flowers. However, west of Old Plains Road it is shaded by Marri and Wandoo and there is a dense shrubby understorey of Woolly Bush, Parrot Bush and Yellow Featherflowers.

Stop at the parking bay and wander along the various tracks - this is an exceptionally rich wildflower area.

Spring is the most beautiful time with a colourful mass of shrubs including Dryandras, Honey-myrtles, Hibbertias and various peas. The soft salmon pink of the low growing Crinkle-leaf Poison is prominent. In the shade of the shrubs, delicate plants such as Blue Squill, Sundews and Orchids flourish.

In early summer you will see a magnificent display of the pale, blue-flowered *Lechenaultia floribunda*, a stiffer bush than the better-known Blue Leschenaultia.



Gastrolobium villosum
Crinkle-leaf Poison