## Exploring Opportunities for Wildflower Tourism in WA

October 2021





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## Background & Methodology

## Background

Tourism WA was seeking more insights to inform the strategic development and marketing of WA as a wildflower destination across domestic and international markets.

This research was conducted to inform key decisions and priorities by understanding the potential market, and build a picture of the different types of potential wildflower audiences in order to better prioritise, attract and target them.



**Overall Objective:** The overall objective of this research was to understand the market potential towards wildflower tourism in WA and build a picture of the different types of potential wildflower audiences in order to better prioritise, attract and target them.



#### The specific objectives of this engagement:



Understand the market size of the opportunity for wildflower tourism in key source markets, including testing latent demand



Identify meaningful and differentiated visitor segments and profile of each



Understand current and potential economic impact of wildflower tourism



Explore current awareness, perceptions, knowledge and attitudes to wildflower tourism



Uncover the key motivations and barriers to identify opportunities and levers for growth, including the specific role of wildflowers in driving visitation



Identify aligned experiences for cross-activity opportunities



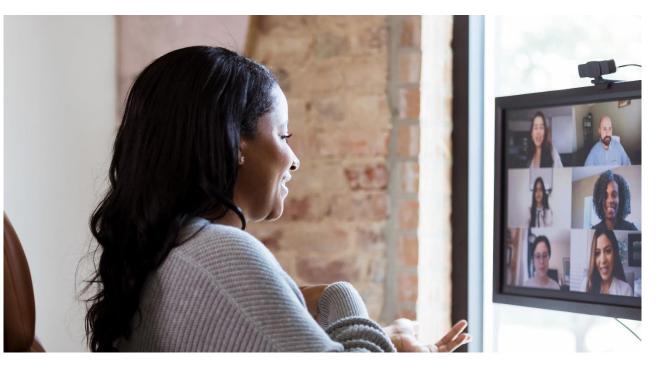
# **Intercept Interview** Sample Breakdown:

	n=	%
Male	109	45%
Female	135	55%
18-34	15	6%
35-54	34	14%
55+	195	80%
Total	244	100%

## Methodology

#### **Intercept Interviews with visitors**

15-minute face to face interviews were conducted in Western Australia's Wildflower Country. Interviews were conducted between 26 August and 29 September with visitors who had engaged in wildflower tourism throughout their trip. An online version of the survey was also distributed through flyers and posted in visitors centres and online. A final sample of n=244 was achieved, with n=189 face to face interviews and n=55 online completes.







## Methodology

#### **Quantitative Online Survey**

A 15-minute online survey was conducted between 27 September and 13 October nationally (WA, NSW, VIC, QLD) and internationally (Japan, Singapore and Malaysia). Surveys in Singapore and Malaysia were conducted in English, while those in Japan received a translated / in-language version of the survey.

A final sample of **n=2,803** was achieved, providing a **margin of error of ±4.9%** for each state / country. Outright rejectors of WA travel were excluded from the survey.

Australian sample was weight to ABS census data, while age and gender for international audiences were weighted to their respective country's census data.



#### Online Survey Sample Breakdown:

	n=	Weighted %
Male	1,370	49%
Female	1,433	51%
18-34	865	31%
35-54	1,021	36%
55+	917	33%
WA	400	14%
NSW	402	14%
VIC	400	14%
QLD	401	14%
Japan	400	14%
Singapore	400	14%
Malaysia	400	14%
Total	2,803	100%



# **Executive Summary**

## Key findings: The Wildflower Tourism Opportunity

Overall, there is **broad interest in wildflower tourism**. However, depending on **current knowledge and exposure**, potential travellers have **varying definitions** of wildflower tourism.

Those who are **less familiar** with wildflowers and wildflower tourism have a **general interpretation**. They consider wildflower tourism as almost any appreciation of **nature and the outdoors**.

#### The research identified two clear audiences for wildflower tourism:

#### 1. Current Audience:



#### **Definition:**

- Niche audience
- Tend to be older (55 years plus)
- Wildflowers are a key driver of travel/trip decisions
- Rely on hyper local information (visitor centres)
- Knowledgeable about wildflowers and seasonal considerations

#### The Opportunity:

- Opportunity to increase trip frequency and length
- Opportunity to improve the visitor experience
- Limited ability to grow audience with the current product

#### 2. Growth Audience:



#### **Definition:**

- Broad audience
- Tend to be younger (under 35 years)
- Driven by tourism, experience and the opportunity to see and do something new
- Wildflower aesthetics and photo opportunities are key
- Limited knowledge about wildflowers

#### The Opportunity:

• Opportunity to grow this audience and their wildflower engagement by positioning wildflower tourism as a complementary tourism activity



## Key findings: <u>Current</u> Wildflower Tourism Audience

#### **Summary**

#### **Considerations**

Consider opportunities to engage pre- trip	The most engaged wildflower audiences stay up to date through Facebook groups, local communities and online forums. Visitor centres play a key role in planning for those in region.	The reliance on in-region information could be a barrier for some. Core wildflower tourists require detailed information about routes and flowers through websites, forums and local experience. Visitor centres must be informed and up to date throughout wildflower season.
Experience improvements to increase engagement	Wildflower experiences (e.g. viewing, photography, trails) are prioritised by current visitors, and while visitors to Wildflower Country were broadly satisfied with the experience, the variety of accommodation, and variety and quality of dining earn low satisfaction scores.	Wildflower fanatics are often willing to sacrifice dining and accommodation options for wildflower experiences, and many have set realistic trip expectations. However, addressing this barrier would likely broaden the audience and strengthen the visitor experience.
Prioritise towns with strong amenities	Among current visitors, there is strong engagement with Wildflower Country and towns. Visitors plan to visit 4-5 towns on average, with Mullewa, Dalwallinu, Three Springs, Moora and Minegrew providing the most incremental uplift on visitation.	Prioritise itineraries and towns that already offer strong tourism facilities and experiences in addition to wildflowers. Clearly define and communicate the wildflower and tourism experience in each town.



## Key findings: Growth Wildflower Tourism Audience

#### Summary

#### **Considerations**

Overcome awareness and information gapsIn the general population, awareness of specific WA wildflower locations (including Wildflower Country) and experiences is limited. Wildflower experiences can require significant base-level knowledge to engage and ensure a positive experience. With such limited familiarly, there is work be done to get wildflower tourism in the consideration set.Address information gaps for the uninformed but interested. Educate about opportunities to better understand and participate in wildflower tourism overall and within key destinations.Piggyback communications for other tourism information passively though social media or search. Clear and accessible information would be required from here to drive planning.Piggyback communication and imagery highlighting experience will be needed to drive consideration, with further detail required to assist in trip planning following initial exposure.	Highlight activities and experiences	<ul> <li>Growth audiences often take a simple view of wildflower tourism and consider it as part of a broader tourism offering.</li> <li>For this audience, the quantity and general aesthetics of the wildflower offering is more important than the specific types of wildflowers on offer. Among the general public, most see wildflowers as a <u>complementary</u> tourism experience, rather than a primary reason to visit a destination.</li> <li>Tourism facilities, amenities and complementary experiences are an important consideration for the growth audience.</li> </ul>	Offer wildflower experiences with low barriers to entry (e.g. local, complementary activities). Consider opportunities to integrate or append wildflower tourism activities to other offerings, including dark sky tourism, agritourism, hikes, photo opportunities and the ability to engage in new and unique experiences. The lack of accommodation and tourism facilities in key wildflower locations will likely be a barrier for emerging audiences and could limit growth. Ensure expectations are managed and consider creative ways to overcome this barrier.
	awareness and information	<ul> <li>wildflower locations (including Wildflower Country) and experiences is limited. Wildflower experiences can require significant base-level knowledge to engage and ensure a positive experience. With such limited familiarly, there is work be done to get wildflower tourism in the consideration set.</li> <li>Growth audiences would expect to receive information passively though social media or search. Clear and accessible information would be required</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>interested. Educate about opportunities to better understand and participate in wildflower tourism overall and within key destinations.</li> <li>Piggyback communications for other tourism activities to grow engagement. Focus on promoting the scale of the offering and overall aesthetics.</li> <li>Broad information and imagery highlighting experience will be needed to drive consideration, with further detail required to assist in trip</li> </ul>



## Key findings: Market Opportunities

#### Summary

#### **Considerations**

Australia	Interestingly, Australians have lower interest in wildflower tourism, and tend to be more polarised on the spectrum of interest. With wildflowers on our doorstep, some Australians appear to take wildflowers for granted.	Educate and inform Australian audiences of the full breadth and scope of wildflower tourism in WA, and opportunities to integrate with other natural wonders and tourism experiences. Convey a point of difference compared to other, more general outdoor experiences.
Malaysia	Malaysian audiences appear to have a strong affinity to wildflower tourism, with strong self reported interest and the greatest latent demand. Potential audiences skew younger, and they are open to a variety of tourism activities, including and outside of wildflowers.	Build awareness of WA's wildflower and integrated tourism opportunities. Promote guided tours to reduce barriers to access given lack of local knowledge. Consider the photo opportunities, and other
Singapore	Singaporean travellers have a solid interest in wildflowers and WA's wildflower tourism offering. They are interested in typical Australian activities including beaches, walks, farm gates and dark sky tourism.	unique Australian tourism and lifestyle experiences. Promote regions / trails with more established accommodation and other tourism facilities.
Japan	With the furthest travel time, and most significant language and cultural differences, Japan has the most significant barrier to access. They are more open to tours, less interested in the outdoors and look for standard accommodation options (e.g. hotels).	Focus on growing the Japanese market through tour operators and travel agents. Promote regions / trails with more established accommodation and other tourism facilities and comfortable, visual and accessible complementary tourism activities.



## Wildflower Segments

The research identified potential travellers can be grouped into five segments. Two of the segments would be motivated to travel for wildflowers and together equate to approximately one-third of travellers; Flower Fanatics and Wildflower Wunderlust. The former are more motivated by wildflowers themselves, while the latter are driven by new and unique experiences and have a desire to learn more about wildflowers.



#### Flower Fanatics

#### Wildflower driven

- Mix of ages
- Skew towards male
- More likely to engage in wildflower and nature based activities
- Strong knowledge and engagement with wildflowers
- Familiar with WA



#### Wildflower Wunderlust

#### Experience driven

- Mix of ages, but skew younger
- Skew towards female
- More likely to engage in tourism activities – attracted to new experiences
- Interested in wildflowers, but current knowledge and engagement is limited



#### Budding Enthusiasts

#### Information driven

- Mix of ages
- Skew towards female
- Interested in history and natural attractions
- Information seekers
- Interested in tours, need planning support



#### Firmly Planted

#### Convenience driven

- Skew older
- Males and females
- Knowledgeable about wildflowers, and interested
- Unlikely to travel for wildflowers, or engage in wildflower tourism



#### Wildflower Rejectors

#### Comfort driven

- Skew older
- Males and females
- Not interested in wildflowers or the outdoors
- Prefer comfort and indulgence when on holiday

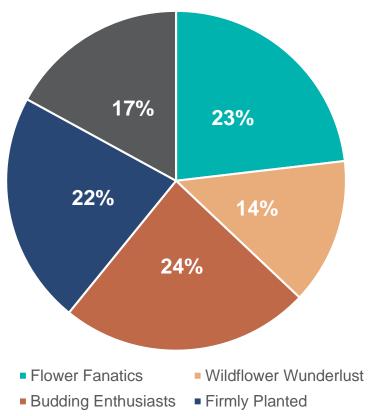
**Closed audience** (39% of total sample)



**Primary audience** (37% of total sample)

# Primary segments were most prominent in Malaysia and Singapore

% of total sample



Wildflower Rejectors

			(#	
Flower Fanatics	21%	34%	28%	15%
WildIflower Wunderlust	12%	22%	16%	12%
Budding Enthusiasts	23%	20%	25%	32%
Firmly Planted	23%	16%	18%	27%
Wildflower Rejectors	21%	9%	12%	14%
Primary wildflower tourism audience	33%	56%	45%	27%
Adjusted to total market (including WA rejectors)	27%	44%	42%	15%



## Awareness and Perceptions of Wildflower Tourism

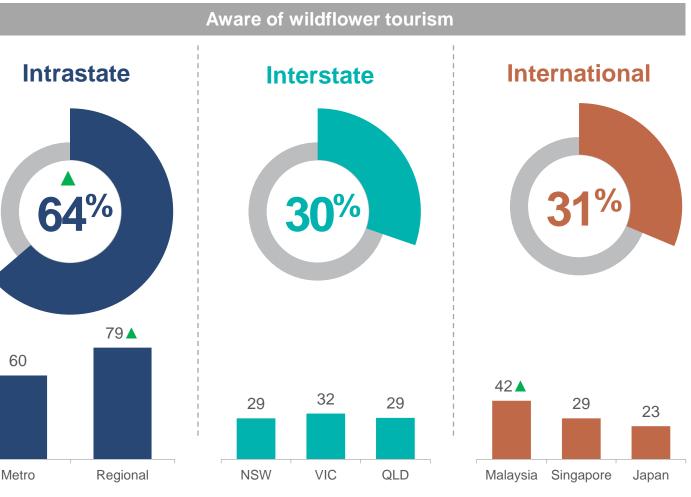


# There is opportunity to **grow awareness** of wildflower tourism in other states and countries

Awareness of wildflower tourism in **WA** is stronger among **older audiences** (77% among those 55+, 64% among those 35-54 and 49% among those 18-34).

Conversely, in **Malaysia** awareness is strongest among a **younger audience** (56% among those 18-34, 34% among those 35-54 and 25% among those 55+).

For other states and countries, awareness is broadly consistent across these age cohorts.



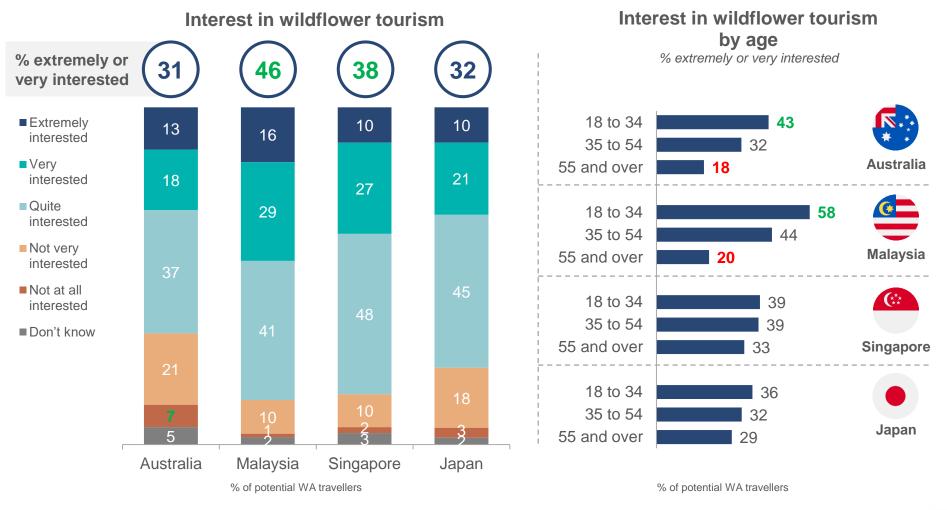
% of potential WA travellers



Base: Intrastate n=400 | Interstate n=1,203 | International n=1,200 Q4. Have you heard of wildflower tourism before today?

▲ ▼ significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

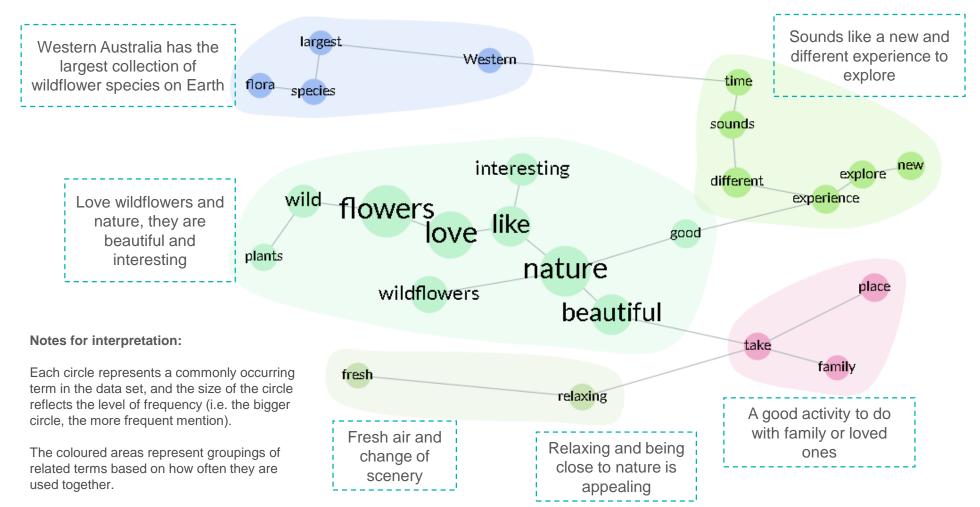
# There is **substantial interest** in wildflower tourism, particularly among younger potential travellers



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## **Reasons** behind wildflower tourism interest



The positioning of terms and concepts further illustrates how related they are.

Base: Potential travellers to WA interested in wildflower tourism n=875

Q7. Tell me why you say you are interested in wildflower tourism? (Those very of extremely interested in wildflower tourism overall)

▲ ▼ significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval



## Potential travellers from Malaysia have the strongest affinity to wildflower tourism

Four in ten say they plan their travel around wildflower tourism, and there is strong interest in learning more. Current knowledge levels are on par with Australians.



% of potential WA travellers



Base: Australia n=1,603 | Malaysia n=400 | Singapore n=400 | Japan n=400

Q9. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about wildflowers and wildflower tourism?

## **Driver Analysis**

Driver analysis is used to understand which aspects of wildflower tourism have the greatest impact on overall interest.

The basic objective of any driver analysis is to **rank a series of statements in order of importance**, based on their impact upon an overall performance variable, in this case interest in wildflower tourism.

This allows us to identify which **behaviours and attitudes toward wildflowers are levers of interest** to determine drivers that should be **prioritised** by Tourism Western Australia in communications and development to drive positive sentiment increased tourism to the region.

When interpreting the driver analysis, it is the ranking of individual statements that is of interest, not specific scores or results.



# There is an appetite to learn more about wildflowers and the variety

While learning more about wildflowers and the different species is the strongest drive of interest, there are those who plan their trip around wildflowers, enjoy searching for specific types and those who want a year-round offering as well.

1 <sup>st</sup>	I'm interested in finding out more about wildflowers and different	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	I plan my travel around wildflowers	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	I enjoy searching for specific types of wildflowers	
4 <sup>th</sup>	I wish I could enjoy more wildflowers all year round	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Wildflower tourism is good value for money	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Wildflower tourism offers something for everyone	
7 <sup>th</sup>	I'm not that interested in wildflowers	
8 <sup>th</sup>	I am knowledgeable about wildflowers	
9 <sup>th</sup>	I know what the wildflower seasons are and when is the best time to	
10 <sup>th</sup>	Wildflowers are just something pretty to look at	

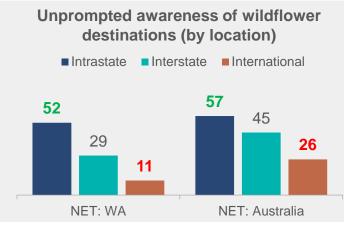
#### Importance scores for wildflower interest



### Few intrastate and international travellers are able to recall specific locations or towns

A fifth of potential interstate travellers have a general association with WA and wildflowers, but it is often one of a few states that come to mind with Tasmania, Northern Territory and local offerings commonly mentioned.

Unprompted awareness is even lower among international travellers.



% of potential WA travellers

22

Base: Intrastate n=400 | Interstate n=1,203 | International n=800 | Malaysia n=400 | Singapore n=400 Q5. What **destinations** come to mind when you think about wildflower tourism?

Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval NOTE: Japan has been excluded from our analysis due to language barriers.

#### Unprompted awareness of wildflower destinations

	Intrastate	Interstate		(c)
Other WA region, town or attraction	23	3	1	1
Wildflower country / mid-west	13	1	1	1
Perth	12	3	5	8
Western Australia - unspecified	10	22	6	4
General tourism / wildflower mention	9	6	7	5
Interstate location	6	21	3	6
Australia - unspecified	0	1	8	13
Singapore	0	0	0	2
Malaysia	0	0	15	1
Japan	0	0	6	10
Other international location	2	3	17	19
Other	3	1	0	0
Don't know	30	45	34	35

% of potential WA travellers





## Wildflower Behaviours and Intentions



# Three in ten would be motivated by wildflowers to some extent, but most would enjoy **passively**



Base: Intrastate n=400 | Interstate n=1,203 | International n=1,200 | Malaysia n=400 | Singapore n=400 | Japan n=400

Q8a. Have you ever booked a trip specifically to look at wildflowers?

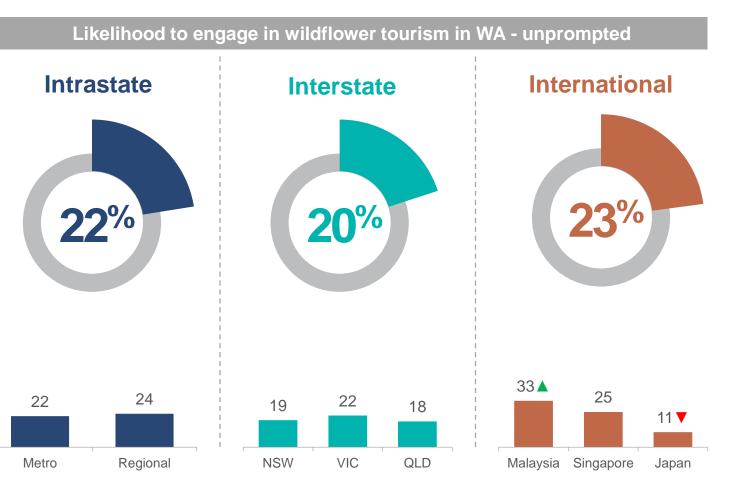
Q10. Which of the following best describes how you would participate in wildflower tourism? Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

# **One in five** would take a trip to or within WA to take part in wildflower tourism

Across all locations, openness to visiting WA for the purpose of wildflower tourism is strongest among younger audiences, with the potential audience at odds with current visitors.

Among Australians, intentions are strongest among those aged 30-39 (33%), dropping off among the over 50s (12%).

Among an international audience, intentions are strongest among younger Malaysians (48% among those aged 25-34), Singaporeans (33% among those 30-34) and Japanese aged (19% among those 25-39).



% of potential WA travellers



Base: Intrastate n=400 | Interstate n=1,203 | International n=1,200

Q11. [INERNATIONALS | INTERSTATE] How likely are you to visit Western Australia to take part in wildflower tourism?

[INTRASTATE] How likely are you to take a trip or holiday in WA to take part in wildflower tourism?

▲ ▼ significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

Potential travellers were shown the following description and images of WA's wildflower tourism offering to inform their response

Western Australia is famous for its wildflowers and is home to one of the largest collections on Earth, more than half of which cannot be found anywhere else on the planet.

There are multiple wildflower hotspots along Western Australia during the fleeting season these unique and beautiful flowers are in bloom, including Kings Park and Botanic Gardens, Wildflower Country, Araluen Botanic Park, Karijini National Park, Coalseam Conservation Park Porongurup National Park and areas along the Bibbulmun Track among many others.

Wildflower tourism offers visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves among vibrant colourful carpets of wildflowers, relax under

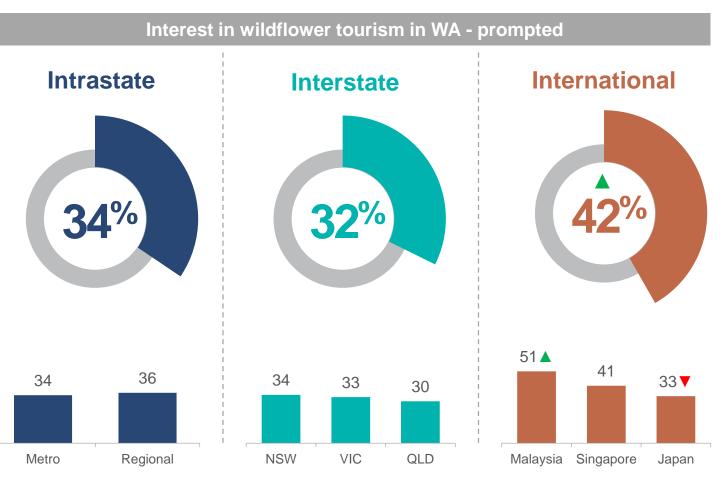
a clear country night sky filled with stars, and experience the raw natural beauty, rich history and slower pace of life that Western Australia has to offer.





## There is opportunity to engage Malaysian and Singaporean travellers through wildflower tourism

A third of Australian potential travellers are interested once prompted. This remains largely consistent across key states.

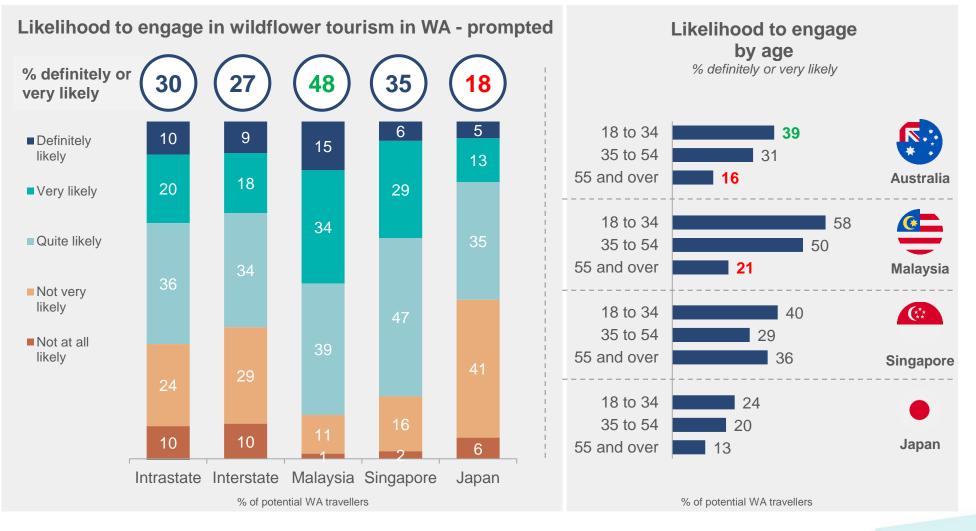


% of potential WA travellers



Q13. Based on what you know, and what you have just read and seen, how interested are you in wildflower tourism in Western Australia?

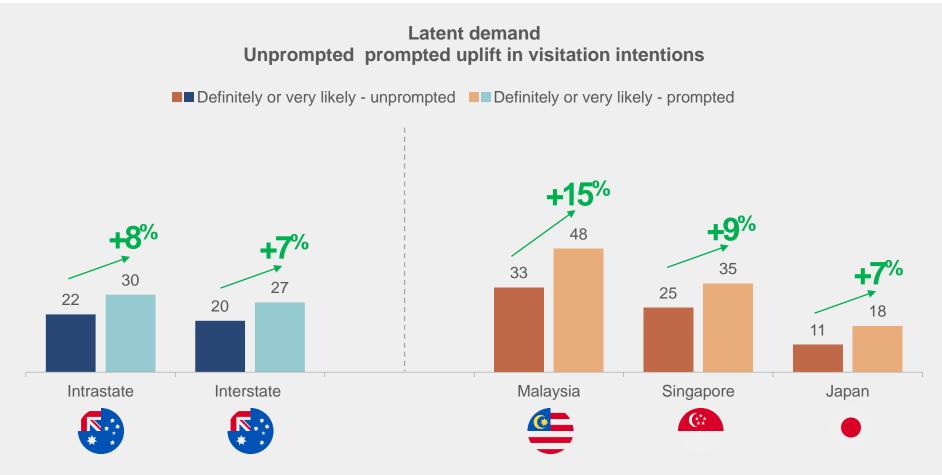
## Younger potential travellers are more inclined to travel to engage in wildflower tourism once prompted





Base: Intrastate n=400 | Interstate n=1,203 | International n=1,200 | Malaysia n=400 | Singapore n=400 | Japan n=400 Q14. [INERNATIONALS | INTERSTATE] How likely are you to visit Western Australia to take part in wildflower tourism? [INTRASTATE] How likely are you to take a trip or holiday in WA to take part in wildflower tourism? Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

### There is a slight uplift in engagement intentions once prompted, most notably among Malaysian audiences



% of potential WA travellers

Base: Intrastate n=400 | Interstate n=1,203 | International n=1,200 | Malaysia n=400 | Singapore n=400 | Japan n=400

Q11. [INERNATIONALS | INTERSTATE] How likely are you to visit Western Australia to take part in wildflower tourism? [INTRASTATE] How likely are you to take a trip or holiday in WA to

take part in wildflower tourism? [Q14. [INERNATIONALS | INTERSTATE] How likely are you to visit Western Australia to take part in wildflower tourism? [INTRASTATE] How likely are you to take a trip or holiday in WA to take part in wildflower tourism?



29

### Wildflower aesthetics are the key motivator for potential travellers

This is particularly true among international audiences, who are more likely to mention the colour and scope of WA's wildflower offering as a reason to visit.

Local Australian travellers are more likely to connect to the notion of outdoor experiences and exploration.



Reasons to vis wildflower to			(÷
Wildflowers are beautiful to look at	51	46	51
Wildflowers are colourful, seasonal and extensive variety	37	50	46
WA is an appealing place to visit	27	28	28
Exploring nature and outdoor activities	20	13	14
Wildflower tourism seems like an interesting activity	16	23	25
Something different and new to experience	13	14	12
WA is a biodiversity hotspot	9	18	14
To take pictures	6	5	9
To visit with family and friends	2	2	1
Stargazing opportunities	1	2	1
Other	12	9	8

% of potential WA travellers likely to visit

Base: Australia n=993 | Malaysia n=347 | Singapore n=326 Q15a. Why are you likely to visit Western Australia for wildflower tourism? What in particular is appealing? Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

NOTE: Japan has been excluded from our analysis due to language barriers.

## Reasons to visit WA for wildflowers

The **beauty**, **colours**, **different species and seasonality** of wildflowers make them very appealing to some and are a reason to visit WA. Exploring nature and outdoor activities are appealing to some, with this new and unique experience being compelling to nature-lovers.

Would get to see natural sights that are seasonal and cannot be found elsewhere, images **look beautiful** and **would like to see them in person**.

Wildflowers with their large varieties, colours and shapes would make viewing an interesting experience.

The **beauty and rarity of wildflowers** in Western Australia would be breathtaking to see.



**Exploring and learning** more about flowers would be a **good activity to do during a holiday**.

I like the fact that it's **very different** from what I am use to. The colourful flowers are very attractive and enticing to me!

It's something I haven't done before and would love to do. To experience the natural beaty of it would be so special.



WA is an appealing place to visit offering a coastline and other experiences, or having existing family to visit. Wildflower tourism may strengthen WA's attraction as a tourism destination.

Wildflowers are a phenomenal sight and well worth the effort of travelling there. Also **many other things to see and do in WA** during this time.

I could visit relatives at the same time.

Sounds like a great adventure and way to explore the WA coastline.

Would be **something to do** while exploring Perth's attractions.

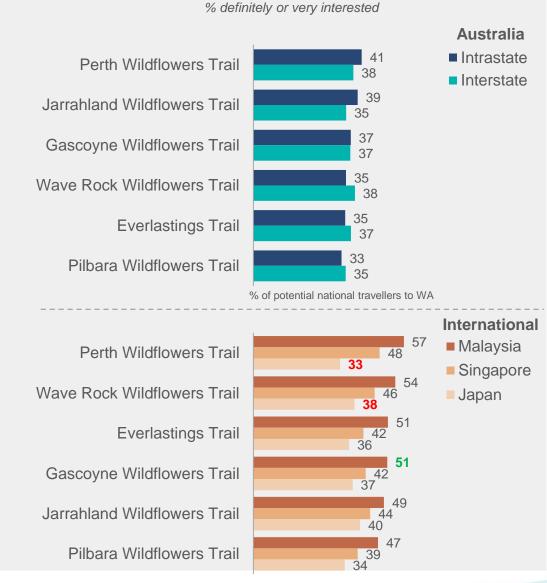




## Interest is largely consistent across a variety of wildflower offerings

The Perth Wildflowers Trail is most appealing locally and internationally, but potential travellers are open to variety of wildflower and tourism experiences.

The Pilbara Wildflowers Trail is marginally less appealing compared to other trails.



Interest in wildflower trails

% of potential international travellers to WA





## Wildflower Tourism Holiday Preferences



Those from Malaysia have the strongest interest in most complementary tourism activities

Exploring natural attractions, observing local wildlife, and visiting a restaurant, pub or café are the other experiences travellers would most like to undertake during a wildflower tourism holiday.

Interest in tourism activities % extremely or very interested						
Intras	state	Interstate	*			
Exploring natural attractions			68 70 69	76	68	65
Observing local wildlife			63 63 <b>63</b>	67	58	51
Visiting a restaurant, pub or café			63 62 <b>62</b>	55	53	58
Looking at wildflowers		59		64	53	56
Visiting a beach		53 6	1 <b>59</b>	67	44	44
Visiting historical buildings / museums		55 56	56	51	42	52
Stargazing		50 50	50	56	46	53
Taking and sharing photos of wildflowers		48 50	49	63	49	44
Hiking / walking trails		49 48	49	49	44	41
Attending a wildflower tour		<b>41</b> 51	48	59	52	48
Learning more about Aboriginal culture and heritage		42	47	49	39	34
Visiting a farm or farm gate		48 45	46	58	53	28
Attending a festival or event		43 45	44	58	38	34
Fishing		32 29	30	25	19	22

% of potential travellers interest in wildflower tourism

Base: Intrastate n=301 | Interstate n=870 | Malaysia n=373 | Singapore n=359 | Japan n=315

Q18. Below is a series of tourism activities you could do as part of a wildflower tourism holiday. How interested are you in each of these?



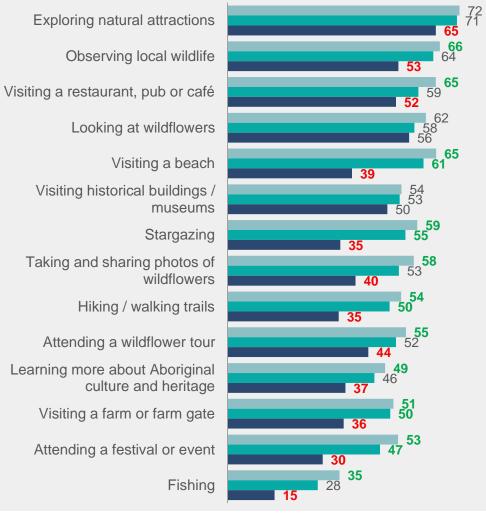
## Those **over 55** are less interested in tourism activities than other age groups

Overall interest is strong, even for wildflower specific activities for younger groups with eight in ten interested. This declines slightly for those 55 or older, with two thirds interested in wildflower activities.

#### Interest in tourism activities by age

% extremely or very interested

■ 18 to 34 ■ 35 to 54 ■ 55 and over



% of potential travellers interest in wildflower tourism



Base: Overall n=2,218 | 18 to 34 n=746 | 35 to 54 n=812 | 55 and over n=660

Q18. Below is a series of tourism activities you could do as part of a wildflower tourism holiday. How interested are you in each of these?

Quality accommodation and other activities and attractions in the area are key to attracting visitors.

The quantity of wildflowers is more important than the specific types in bloom

Lookouts and photo opportunities are of particular importance to Australian and Malaysian potential travellers.

Importance in trip planning S					
Quality of accommodation		72	77	69	72
Activities and attractions in the area		70	79	66	46
Variety of accommodation options		70	76	69	62
Rest areas and facilities for visitors		69	79	69	61
Availability of pre-trip information for planning		69	77	69	66
The quantity of wildflowers in bloom		67	73	67	61
Lookouts and photo opportunities		66	72	56	51
Availability of restaurants, pubs, cafés etc.		66	68	62	61
Quality of restaurants, pubs, cafés etc.		65	64	61	62
Walking trails	Ę	59	64	60	45
The specific types of wildflowers in bloom	53		66	57	51

% of potential travellers interest in wildflower tourism



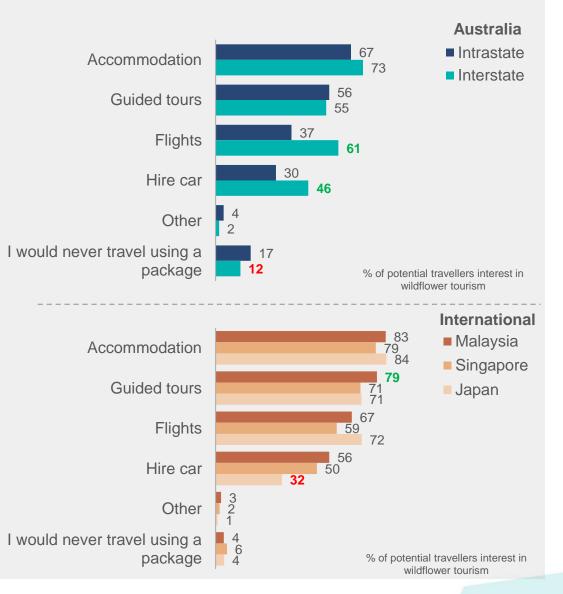
Q19. How important are each of the following when planning a wildflower tourism holiday in Western Australia?

**International audiences** are more open to tourism packages, with accommodation and tours the most important

Young Australians are less likely to look to packages for accommodation and guided tours, with the latter more likely to appeal to the over 55s.

Package elements have more consistent appeal among international audiences of different ages, though hire cars are less appealing to older audiences (particularly those among those living in Japan).





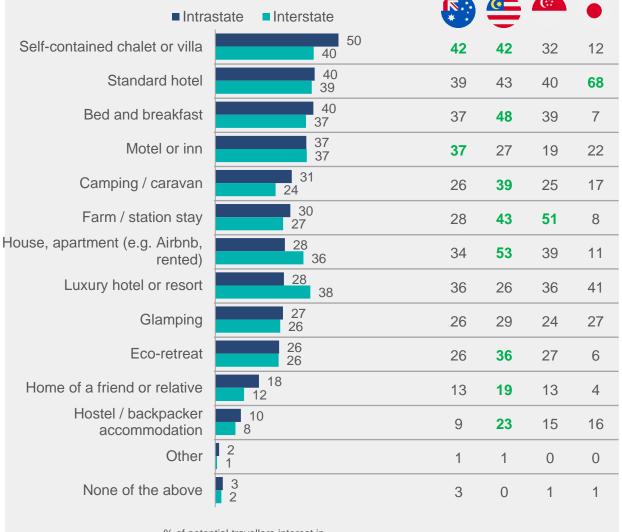


Q20. If you were to design your ideal wildflower holiday package, which of the following would you include?

Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

### Accommodation preferences varies by source markets

### Accommodation preferences



% of potential travellers interest in wildflower tourism

Base: Intrastate n=301 | Interstate n=870 | Malaysia n=373 | Singapore n=359 | Japan n=315

Q21. Which of the following types of accommodation would you be most likely to stay in on a wildflower tourism holiday?

Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval



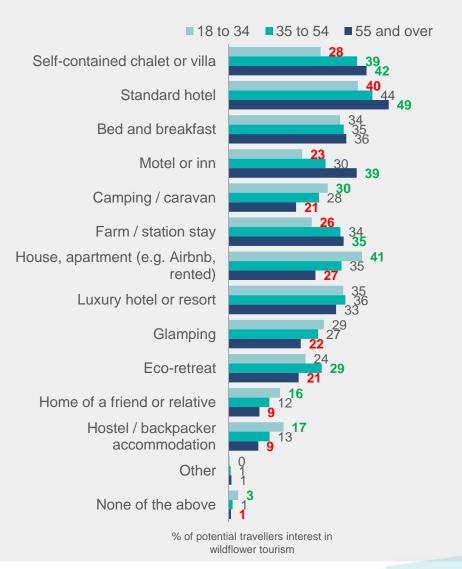
### Accommodation type also varies by age, with more mature audiences and those 18-34 having conflicting preferences

Those aged 18 to 34 are likely to go camping, stay in a house or apartment, friend or relatives home or a hostel/backpacker accommodation.

While those 35 and over prefer to stay in more standard types of accommodation, such as a self-contained chalet or villa, or hotel.



### Accommodation preferences by age



**P**metrix



Q21. Which of the following types of accommodation would you be most likely to stay in on a wildflower tourism holiday?

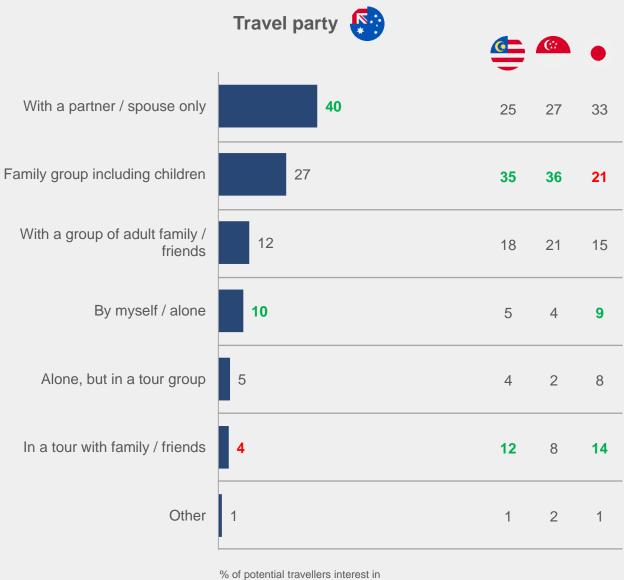
Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

### Those in **Japan** and Malaysia are more likely to travel in a tour

Australian's are much more likely to travel with their partner/spouse (40%) compared to other countries.

While Singapore and Malaysia are more likely to travel in a family group, Japan is less so - instead opting to travel alone or in tours.

40



wildflower tourism



Tourism WA's website is preferred by almost half Australians



41

Preferred source of information about WA wildflower tourism					
Tourism Western Australia website	47 45	45	55	51	42
Visitor centres in the region	37	33	24	24	12
General internet / Google search	37	41	51	39	55
Television	36 35	35	33	22	31
Local tourism websites	35	36	48	41	35
Facebook	31 27	28	51	36	10
Advertising about wildflowers	29 27	27	34	23	21
Newspaper	<b>26</b>	17	17	18	8
Recommendations from friends / family	23	21	31	28	11
Tour operators	23 22	22	27	19	40
Travel agent	22 28	26	35	26	38
Instagram	22	19	45	27	21
Travel magazines or flyers	<b>20</b> 26	25	33	25	47
Groups / forums on social media	12 10	10	25	18	14
Blog posts / online articles	10	11	35	24	16
People I follow on social media	99	9	22	13	8
I don't want to hear	5 5	5	1	2	2
Other	2 1	1	3	2	2

Base: Intrastate n=301 | Interstate n=870 | Malaysia n=373 | Singapore n=359 | Japan n=315

Q24. Where would you like to hear about, or see information on wildflower tourism in Western Australia?

Green and red coloured text significant difference between groups at the 95% confidence interval

% of potential travellers interest in wildflower tourism



## Exploring the Wildflower Country Experience



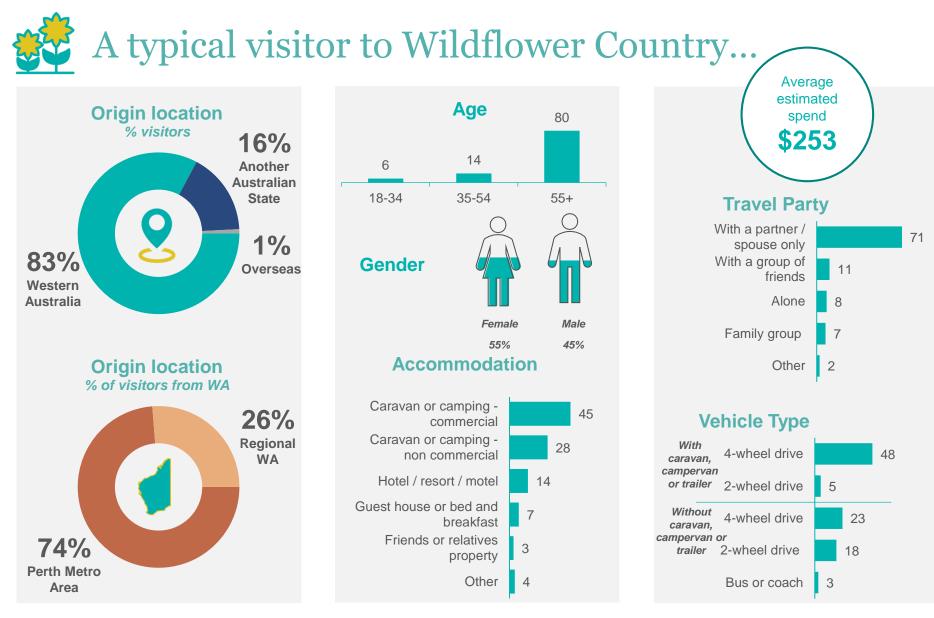
Although interest in wildflowers is high among a younger audience, actual engagement within WA's Wildflower Country was stronger for those 55+

In general, younger people are more interested in outdoor tourism offerings and experiences, however the typical Wildflower Country visitor skews older.

Awareness of wildflower country among WA residents was higher for those over 55 (62%, compared to 42% aged 18 to 34 or 51% aged 35 to 54).

A knowledge gap seems to act as an entry barrier for the younger audience to become aware and engage fully, while those who have previous life experience have a deeper understanding and potentially more time to participate in wildflower activities.





<sup>%</sup> of visitors to Wildflower Country

**P**metrix

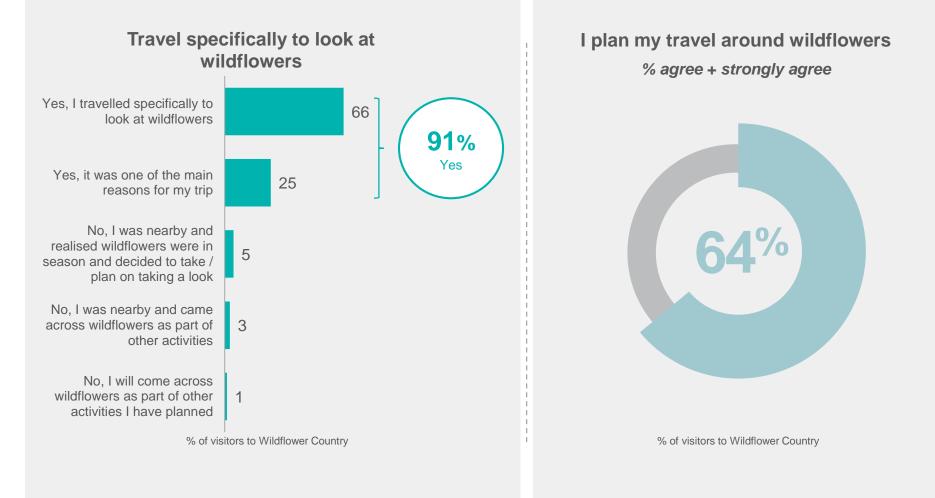
Base: Visitors n=244

S1. Do you live in Western Australia, or are you a visitor from another state? S2. And do you live in the Perth metro area, or somewhere else in WA? S3. What age group do you fit into? Q3a. Who are you travelling with on this trip? Q5. What type of accommodation are you staying in? Q8. What vehicle are you travelling in on this trip? Q11. As part of this trip, how much do you estimate your travel party will spend in total per person in WA's Wildflower Country?

44

# Two thirds of visitors to Wildflower Country travelled specifically to look at wildflowers







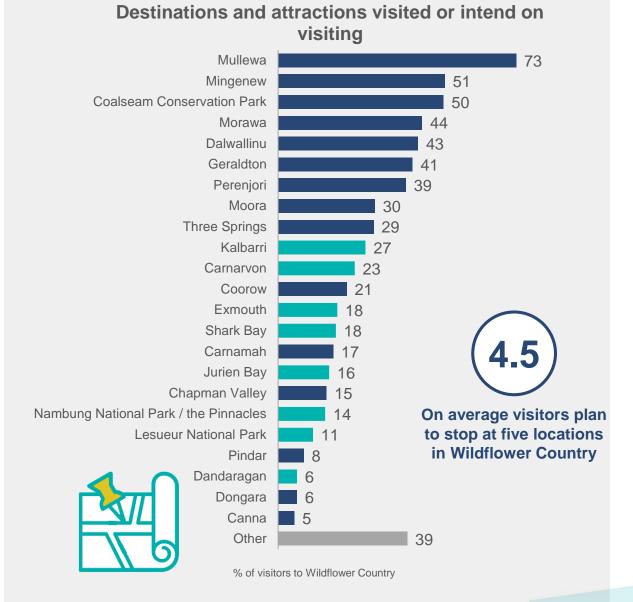
Base: Visitors n=244

Q1. Did you travel to <location in Wildflower Country> specifically to look at wildflowers?

Q16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about wildflowers?

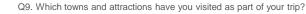
### Most visitors intend to visit multiple towns in Wildflower Country

Nearly half have visited or plan to visit key wildflower destination, Coalseam Conservation Park.



Base: Visitors n=244

46



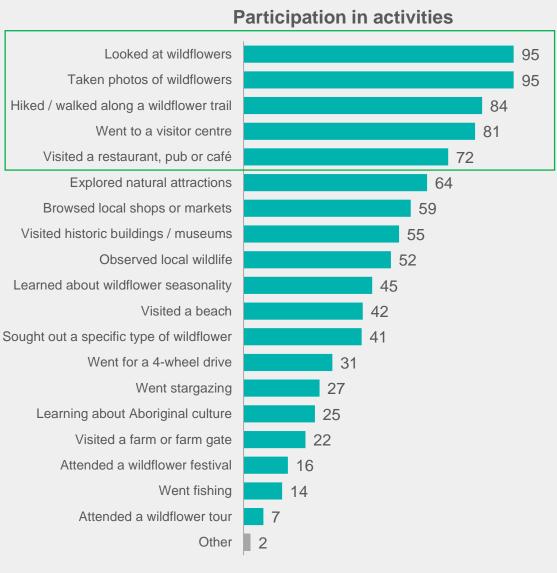
Q9a. And which towns and attractions do you intend on visiting as part of your trip? NOTE: Majority of interviews were conducted in Mullewa and Dalwallinu

The most popular activities when visiting Wildflower Country include viewing and photography

These are closely followed up hiking wildflower trails, going to visitor centers and visiting restaurants / pubs or cafés.

Almost two thirds explored natural attractions.



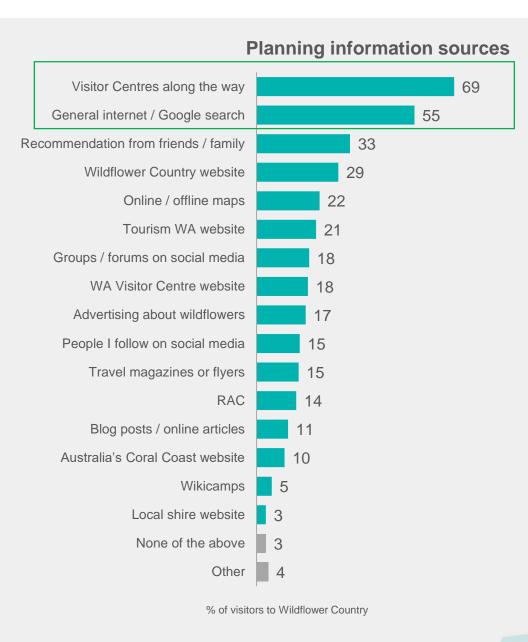


% of visitors to Wildflower Country



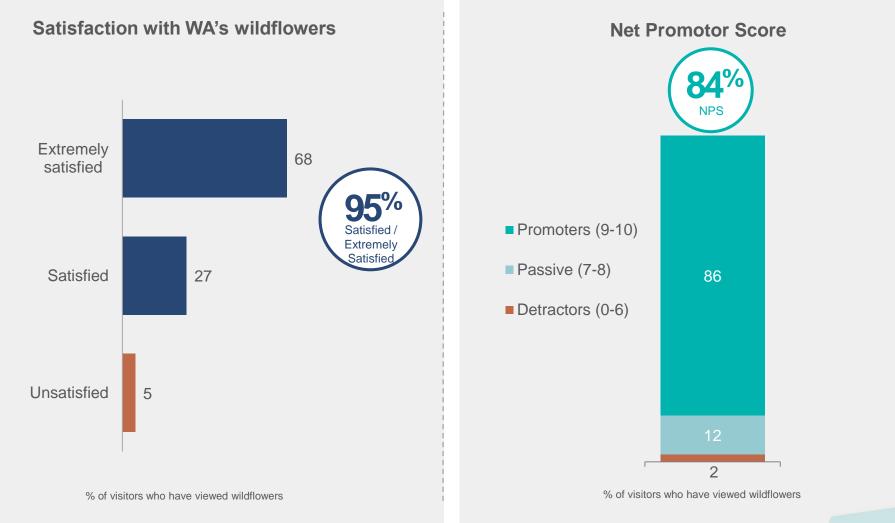
Visitor Centres when in the region or a general internet search are the most common planning sources







### Satisfaction and likelihood to recommend Wildflower Country is extremely high





Base: Visitors n=226

Q12. Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience of WA's wildflowers?

Q13. On a scale of 0 to 10, how likely are you to recommend WA's Wildflower Country and Season to other visitors?

### However suggested improvements include greater availability of facilities and longer opening hours

The openness of the visitor's center, dining and accommodation during the season could be improved, with many mentions of the closed nature of these businesses during the peak period. Others recalled the lack of businesses in towns, such as different type of accommodation or dining locations. Other suggested improvements included a pamphlet with information regarding opening hours, flower types and other important information being appreciated and rubbish management.

Need a good balance between free camping and paid accommodation.

Accommodation options are limited, lots of shops closed on weekends which was surprising.

More coffee shops or cafes, as we were hungry when we got back and even the hotel had stopped selling food at 2.30pm.

Clean up the rest areas all along the roads, as the bins are overflowing with rubbish and need to be emptied more often. This needs to be done at most rest areas in Wildflower Country.

A brochure which gives more information about different types of flowers and on each walk.





# With low performance, accommodation and dining are key areas to monitor and address



Maintain communications and investment into areas that inform trip planning, including information, visitor facilities, walking trails and photo opportunities.

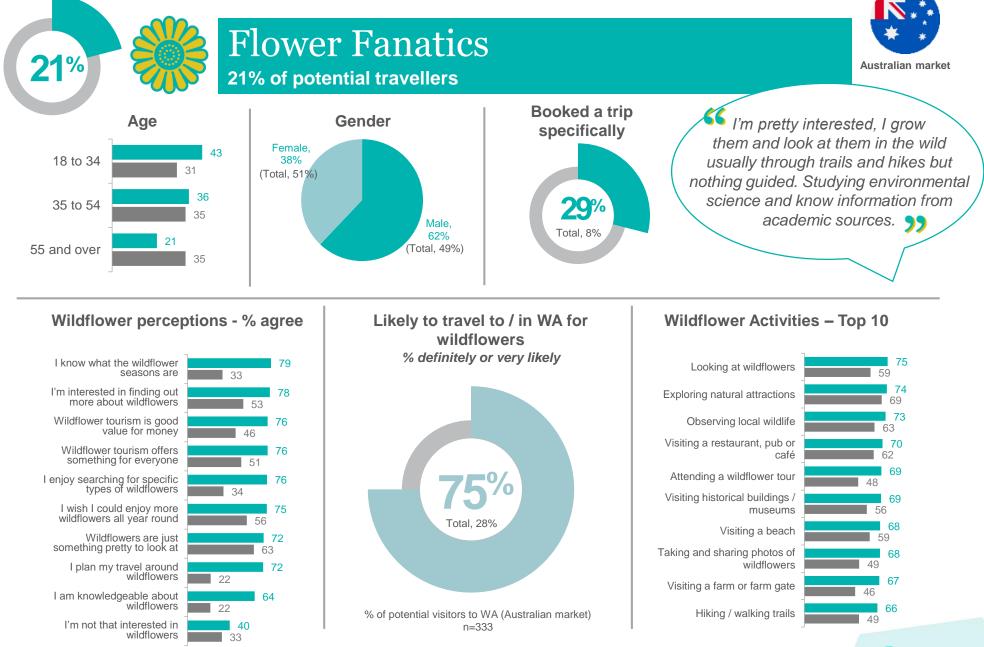


Q12b. How satisfied are you with the following specific aspects of your wildflower experience? Performance (% satisfied + extremely satisfied): n=226 Q15. How important are each of the following when planning your trip to WA's Wildflower Country? Importance (% very + extremely important): n=224



# Profiling Key Segments Australian Market





Flower Fanatics Total potential travellers

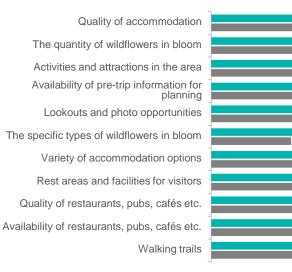


### Flower Fanatics

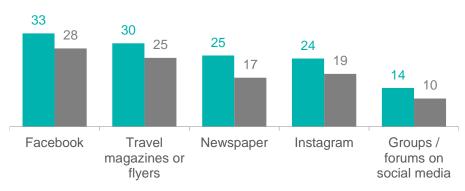
21% of potential travellers



Planning Importance – Total Important

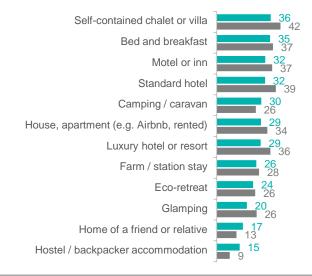




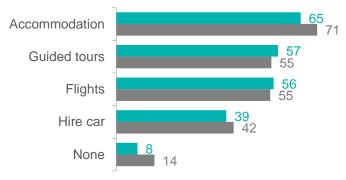


Flower Fanatics Total potential travellers

#### **Preferred Accommodation**



### Ideal package

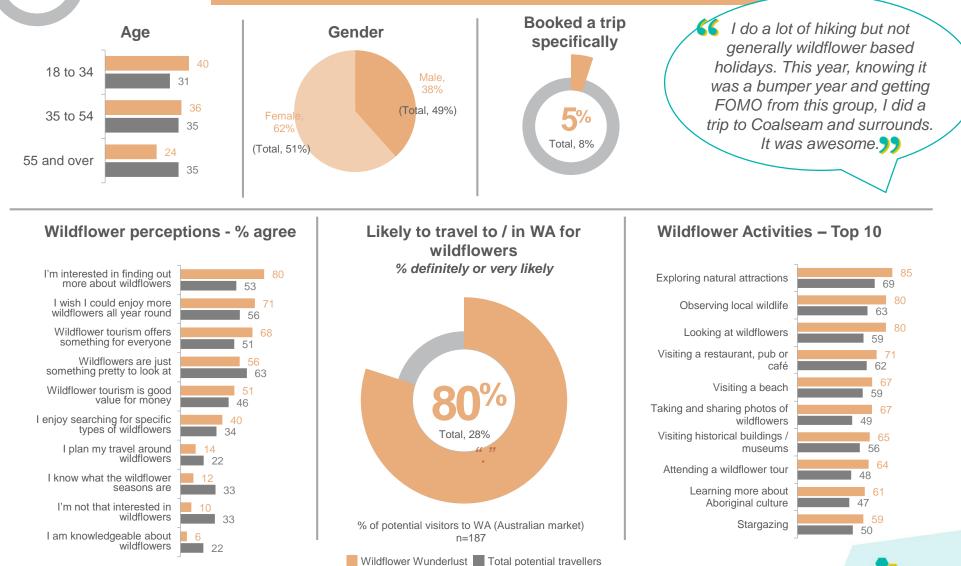




### Wildflower Wanderlust

### 12% of potential travellers





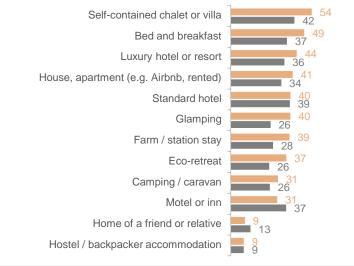


### 12% of potential travellers

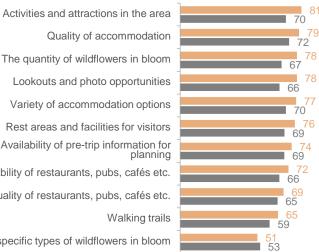


Wildflower Wunderlust Total potential travellers

#### **Preferred Accommodation**



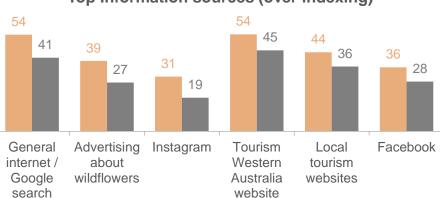
### **Planning Importance – Total Important**



The quantity of wildflowers in bloom Lookouts and photo opportunities Variety of accommodation options Rest areas and facilities for visitors Availability of pre-trip information for Availability of restaurants, pubs, cafés etc. Quality of restaurants, pubs, cafés etc.

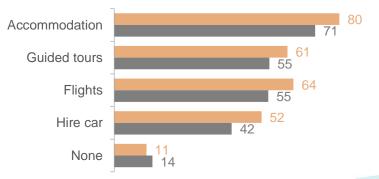
2%

The specific types of wildflowers in bloom



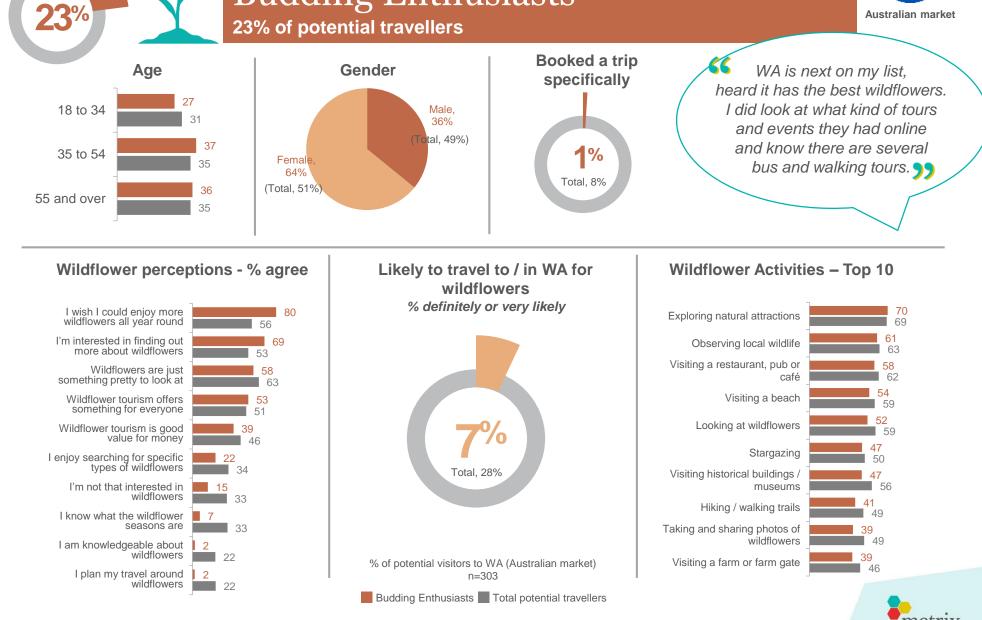
#### Top Information sources (over indexing)

### Ideal package



### **Budding** Enthusiasts 23% of potential travellers



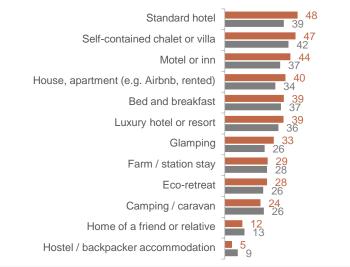


### Budding Enthusiasts 23% of potential travellers

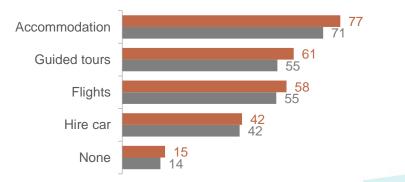


Budding Enthusiasts Total potential travellers

#### **Preferred Accommodation**

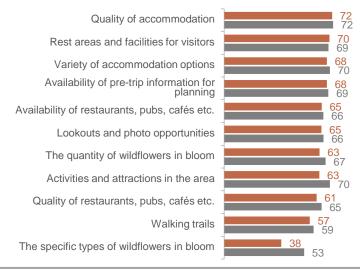


### Ideal package

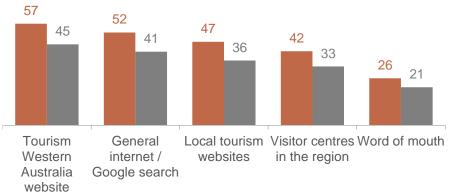




#### **Planning Importance – Total Important**



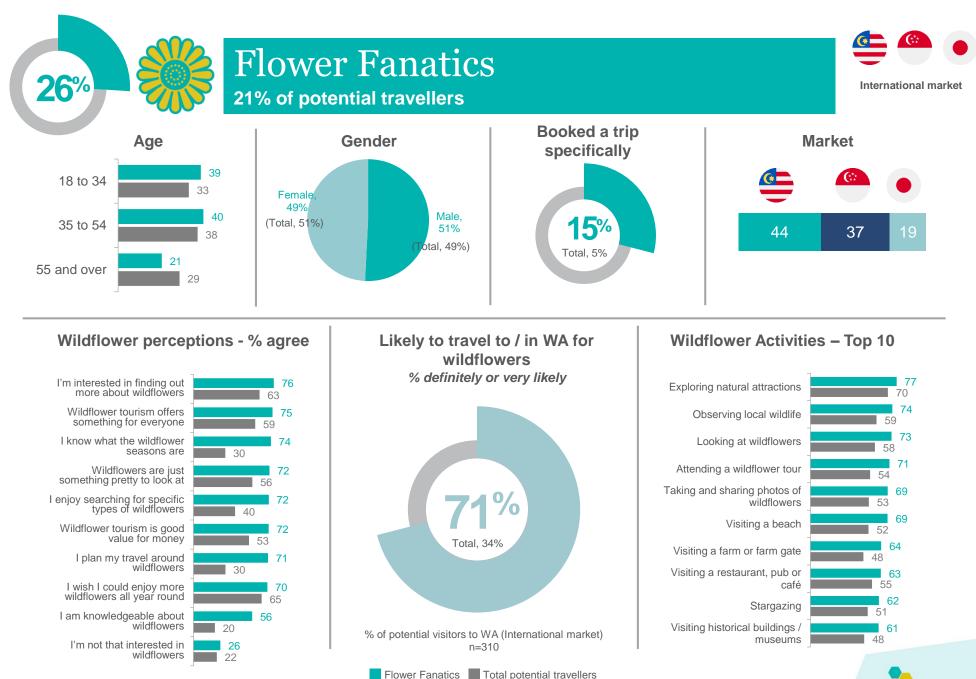


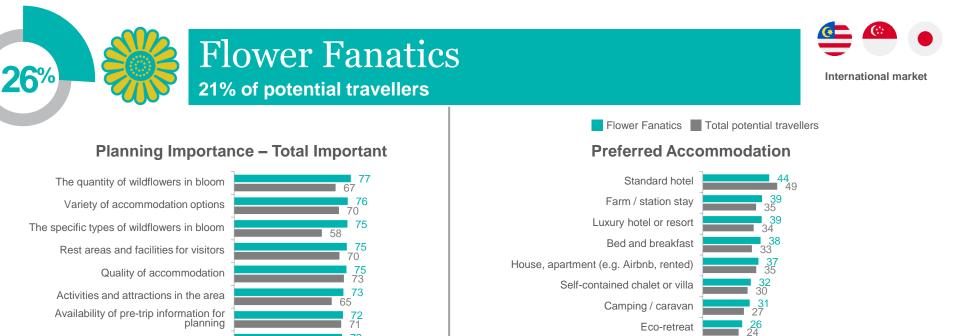


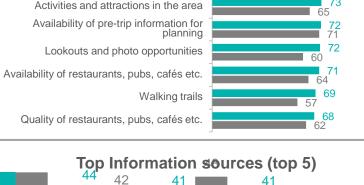
**23**%

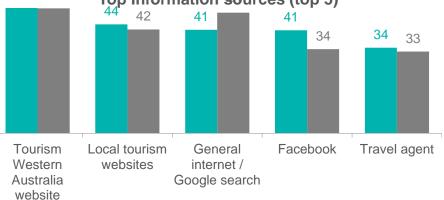
# Profiling Key Segments International Market











#### Ideal package

Glamping

Motel or inn

Hostel / backpacker accommodation

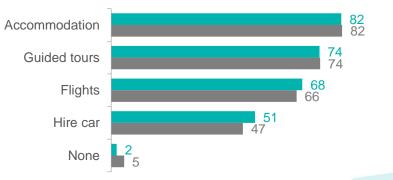
Home of a friend or relative

25 27

24 22

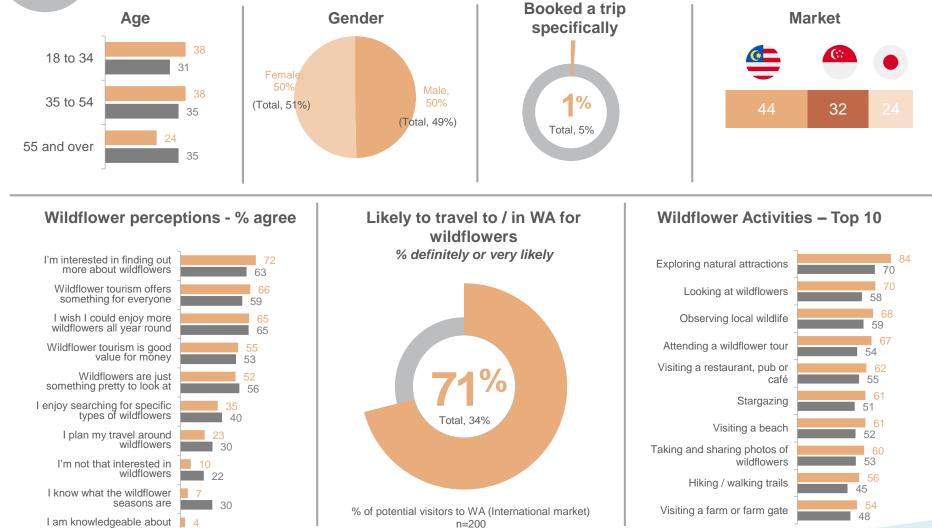
18

12 12





### Wildflower Wanderlust 12% of potential travellers



wildflowers 20 Wildflower Wunderlust Total potential travellers

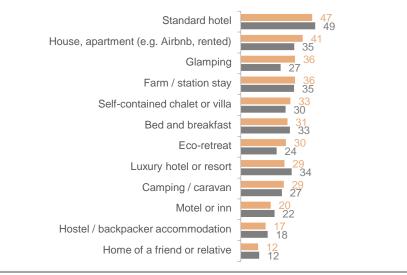
### Wildflower Wanderlust

### 12% of potential travellers

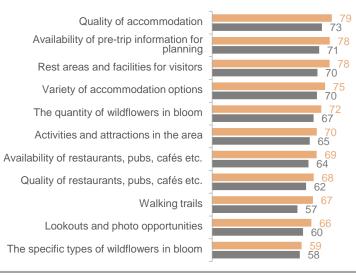


Wildflower Wunderlust Total potential travellers

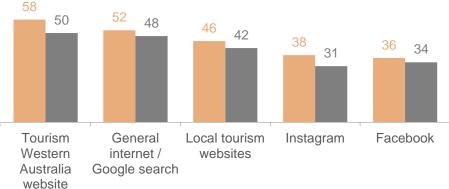
#### **Preferred Accommodation**



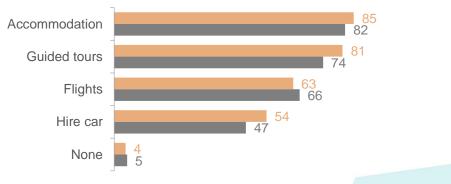
### Planning Importance – Total Important







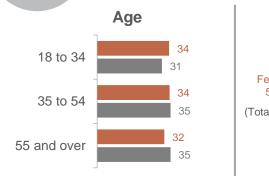
### Ideal package





## Budding Enthusiasts

### 23% of potential travellers



I wish I could enjoy more

wildflowers all year round

more about wildflowers

Wildflower tourism offers

Wildflower tourism is good value for money

Wildflowers are just something pretty to look at

I enjoy searching for specific types of wildflowers

I'm not that interested in

I plan my travel around

I know what the wildflower

I am knowledgeable about

wildflowers

wildflowers

seasons are

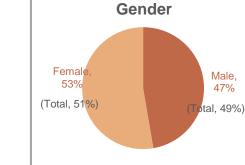
wildflowers

something for everyone

I'm interested in finding out

Wildflower perceptions - % agree

25%



87

75

63

58

59

48

47

40

24

30

30

10

22

8

7

2

20

53

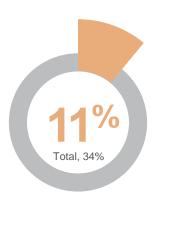
56





International market

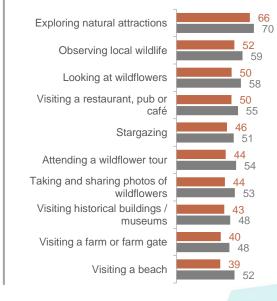
Likely to travel to / in WA for wildflowers % definitely or very likely



% of potential visitors to WA (International market) \$\$n=305\$

Budding Enthusiasts Total potential travellers

#### Wildflower Activities – Top 10





### Budding Enthusiasts 23% of potential travellers

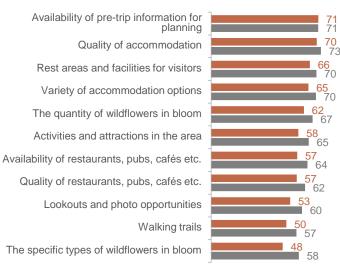


Budding Enthusiasts Total potential travellers

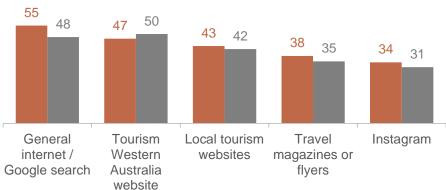
#### **Preferred Accommodation**



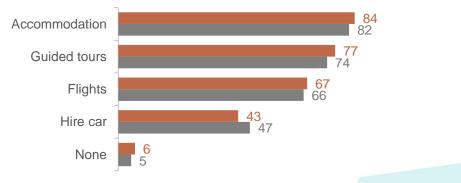
### Planning Importance – Total Important







#### Ideal package



metrix

**25**%

### Metrix Consulting metrixconsulting.com.au



