

# WILDFLOWERS

## NARALING HALL - 100 YEARS

### Overview

The Naraling Hall, the sole surviving structure of the abandoned Naraling townsite, has become one of the Shire of Chapman Valley's most recommended stops for viewing wildflowers, drawing self-drive tourists during the region's spring flowering season. Sitting at the northern edge of the Chapman Valley wildflower region, the site benefits from its position along the historic Geraldton–Yuna corridor, making it a convenient roadside attraction on broader wildflower touring routes through the Mid West's "Wildflower Country". Naraling's wildflower appeal today stands in direct contrast to its now-vanished townsite, giving the old settlement a quiet second life as a nature-tourism waypoint rather than a working community.



### Naraling Hall as a Wildflower Stop

The Shire of Chapman Valley formally lists the Naraling Hall among a small number of official wildflower viewing points across the district, describing it as "a pleasant place to stop and discover a blanket of flowers". This makes it one of only five specific locations named in the Shire's official visitor guidance, alongside a spot opposite the Bella Vista turn-off on Nanson Howatharra Road, the Nabawa–Yetna Road roadside stretch, Nolba Road and the Old Nolba Stock Route, and the Wandana Reserve near Yuna. Travel writers covering the Coral Coast wildflower region likewise single out "the area around the

Naraling Hall (in the north of the region)" as one of the best wildflower locations across the whole of Chapman Valley, placing it on par with the larger Wandana Nature Reserve.

### **Wildflower Season and Timing**

Wildflower season in the Chapman Valley generally runs from late July through to September or October, though the Shire's own guidance narrows the peak display window to between the end of August and the beginning of September. This timing aligns with the broader Mid West "Wildflower Country" season, which typically spans August to October across the region as a whole. Visitors are advised that conditions vary from year to year depending on rainfall, meaning the exact peak at Naraling and surrounding sites can shift slightly within this window.



### **Flora Found in the District**

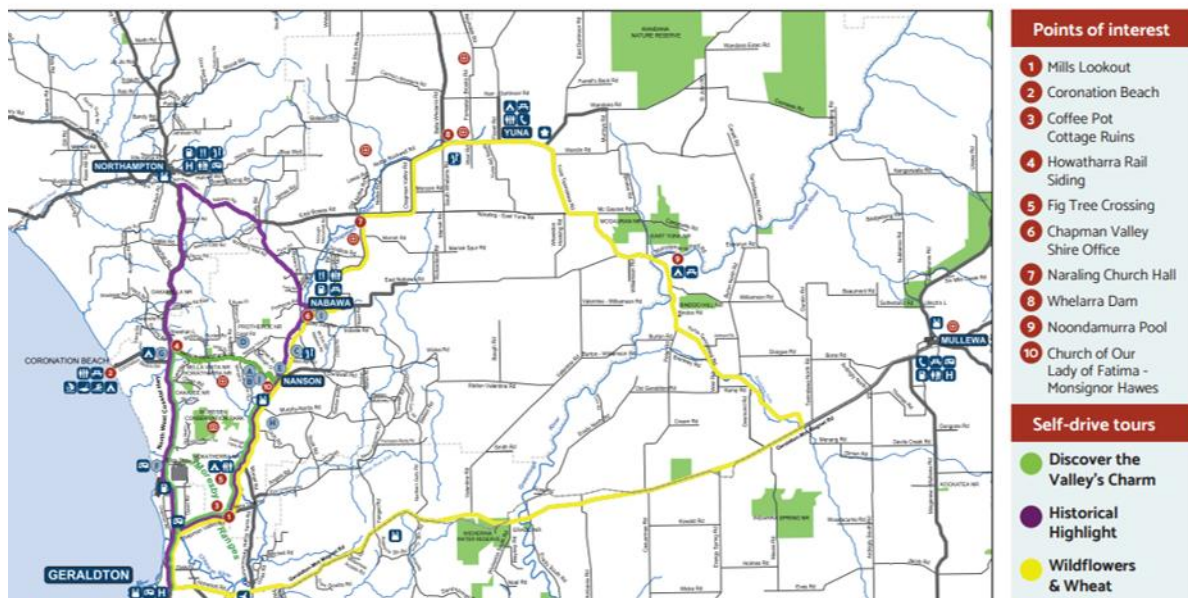
Wildflower displays around Naraling and the broader Nanson-to-Yuna stretch of Chapman Valley are known for carpets of pink, blue and white everlastings, which colour the rolling farmland during peak season. The area is also home to an abundance of other native flowering species, including *Dampiera*, *Grevillea*, *Hibbertia* and *Melaleuca*, giving the district a broader botanical diversity beyond the iconic everlasting displays typically associated with Mid West wildflower tourism. This diversity reflects the varied landscape of the district, which ranges from cleared farmland around Naraling itself to the more intact bushland of the nearby Moresby Range and Wandana Reserve.

### **Naraling's Place on Regional Self-Drive Routes**

Naraling features prominently on Chapman Valley's official self-drive tourism routes. The Shire's tourism map places the town on a "Wildflowers & Wheat" drive of 212km, which takes visitors through rolling paddocks of crops on the way to Yuna, where massive stockpiles of wheat are stored, with wildflowers recommended for viewing at either the Wandana Reserve north-east of Yuna or "Naraling Hall, closer to Nabawa". The Shire's

separate day-trip itinerary also routes travellers directly past Naraling, describing a drive that gradually climbs the Victoria Plateau "via the vacant townsite of Naraling" en route to the small farming town of Yuna, folding Naraling's ghost-town character directly into the broader nature and heritage tourism experience. Regional tourism material for the Coral Coast similarly recommends detouring through Chapman Valley specifically to see wildflowers along the roadside on the way to historic Northampton and Kalbarri, reinforcing Naraling's position within a much larger tourism corridor.

### Chapman Valley Tourism Map



### Wider Tourism Context: Wildflower Country and the Coral Coast

Naraling's inclusion in local wildflower guidance situates it within the much larger "Wildflower Country" tourism brand covering the Mid West, which extends from Dandaragan and Badgingarra through Eneabba, Carnamah, Coorow, Three Springs, Mingenew and Mullewa. Geraldton itself is promoted as the "gateway to wildflower country" from July to October, and Chapman Valley — including Naraling — is one of the named stops on multi-day Coral Coast wildflower drive itineraries published by tourism bodies, sitting alongside larger drawcards such as Coalseam Conservation Park and the



Mullewa Wildflower Walk. While Naraling itself remains a minor, low-key stop rather than a major destination, the Shire of Chapman Valley's local planning strategy explicitly recognises wildflowers and associated landscape features as adding "significantly to the tourist resource" of the district, albeit describing current wildflower tourism potential as "limited" and "low-key" in scale.

### **Complementary Attractions Nearby**

Visitors stopping at Naraling for wildflowers are typically directed toward a cluster of nearby attractions that round out a day trip through the district. These include the Chapman Valley Museum at Nanson, historic churches (including one designed by celebrated architect-priest Monsignor Hawes), Mills Lookout over the Moresby Ranges, and bird-watching opportunities across the Shire's more than 200 recorded bird species, including the endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoo and rare Mallee fowl at nearby Wandana Reserve. The Chapman River Friends volunteer group also runs free guided wildflower walks on weekends through the flowering season at the nearby Chapman River Regional Park, and maintains a wildflower identification app that visitors touring through Naraling and the surrounding district can use to identify species encountered along the way.

For more information in relation the Attractions within the "Chapman Valley, visit the Shire Website [Chapman Valley Attractions](#)

***Note: All information sourced from available records, anecdotal information and may be subject to minor change.***