

AUSTRALIA'S  
**SOUTH WEST**  
HOLIDAY PLANNER 2024

AUSTRALIA'S  
*South West*



WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA  
WALKING ON A DREAM



# AUSTRALIA'S *South West*

- BIBBULMUN TRACK
- CAPE TO CAPE TRACK
- MUNDA BIDDI TRAIL
- NATIONAL PARK

INDIAN OCEAN



Map information is not comprehensive and is for illustration purposes only.

PLAN YOUR ROAD TRIP
DISTANCES BETWEEN TOWNS IN KILOMETRES AND HOURS

Tip: Take a break from driving every 2 hours to stay alert and avoid driving at dawn and dusk, when wildlife is more active on roads.

|                | Perth                | Bunbury              | Busseton             | Margaret River       | Augusta              | Nannup               | Bridgetown           | Manjimup             | Pemberton            | Walpole              | Denmark              | Albany               | Mount Barker         | Kojonup              | Bremer Bay           |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Perth          | —                    | 166km<br>2hrs        | 222km<br>2hrs 40mins | 262km<br>3hrs        | 315km<br>3hrs 40mins | 267km<br>3hrs 10mins | 253km<br>2hrs 50mins | 293km<br>3hrs 30mins | 323km<br>3hrs 40mins | 418km<br>5hrs        | 421km<br>4hrs 40mins | 413km<br>4hrs 30mins | 363km<br>4hrs 5mins  | 260km<br>3hrs        | 503km<br>5hrs 30mins |
| Bunbury        | 166km<br>2hrs        | —                    | 52km<br>40mins       | 101km<br>1hr 15mins  | 145km<br>1hr 40mins  | 97km<br>1hr 10mins   | 95km<br>1hr 15mins   | 132km<br>1hr 35mins  | 162km<br>2hrs        | 256km<br>3hrs 5mins  | 331km<br>3hrs 40mins | 348km<br>3hrs 40mins | 289km<br>3hrs 10mins | 197km<br>2hrs 15mins | 431km<br>5hrs        |
| Busseton       | 222km<br>2hrs 40mins | 52km<br>40mins       | —                    | 50km<br>40mins       | 90km<br>1hr 10mins   | 60km<br>40mins       | 107km<br>1hr 15mins  | 131km<br>1hr 35mins  | 138km<br>1hr 40mins  | 243km<br>3hrs        | 312km<br>3hrs 30mins | 332km<br>3hrs 40mins | 293km<br>3hrs 15mins | 217km<br>2hrs 30mins | 464km<br>5hrs        |
| Margaret River | 262km<br>3hrs        | 101km<br>1hr 15mins  | 50km<br>40mins       | —                    | 91km<br>30mins       | 70km<br>50mins       | 150km<br>1hr 30mins  | 130km<br>1hr 35mins  | 139km<br>1hr 40mins  | 114km<br>3hrs        | 325km<br>3hrs 45mins | 379km<br>3hrs 50mins | 292km<br>3hrs 15mins | 267km<br>2hrs 45mins | 478km<br>5hrs 15mins |
| Augusta        | 315km<br>3hrs 40mins | 145km<br>1hr 40mins  | 91km<br>1hr 10mins   | 40km<br>30mins       | —                    | 87km<br>1hr          | 133km<br>1hr 35mins  | 129km<br>1hr 35mins  | 124km<br>1hr 30mins  | 247km<br>2hrs 55mins | 309km<br>3hrs 35mins | 355km<br>3hrs 55mins | 292km<br>3hrs 15mins | 240km<br>2hrs 50mins | 490km<br>5hrs 20mins |
| Nannup         | 267km<br>3hrs 10mins | 97km<br>1hr 10mins   | 60km<br>40mins       | 70km<br>50mins       | 87km<br>1hr          | —                    | 46km<br>40mins       | 53km<br>45mins       | 78km<br>1hr          | 183km<br>2hrs 10mins | 252km<br>2hrs 50mins | 272km<br>3hrs        | 222km<br>2hrs 30mins | 153km<br>1hr 50mins  | 408km<br>4hrs 25mins |
| Bridgetown     | 253km<br>2hrs 50mins | 95km<br>1hr 15mins   | 107km<br>1hr 15mins  | 150km<br>1hr 30mins  | 133km<br>1hr 35mins  | 46km<br>45mins       | —                    | 37km<br>30mins       | 68km<br>50mins       | 163km<br>1hr 55mins  | 221km<br>2hrs 30mins | 274km<br>2hrs 45mins | 192km<br>2hrs 5mins  | 117km<br>1hr 40mins  | 355km<br>3hrs 55mins |
| Manjimup       | 293km<br>3hrs 30mins | 132km<br>1hr 35mins  | 131km<br>1hr 35mins  | 130km<br>1hr 35mins  | 129km<br>1hr 35mins  | 53km<br>45mins       | 37km<br>30mins       | —                    | 31km<br>20mins       | 119km<br>2hrs 10mins | 184km<br>2hrs 15mins | 213km<br>2hrs 15mins | 161km<br>1hr 40mins  | 145km<br>1hr 40mins  | 331km<br>3hrs 30mins |
| Pemberton      | 323km<br>3hrs 40mins | 162km<br>2hrs        | 138km<br>1hr 40mins  | 139km<br>1hr 40mins  | 124km<br>1hr 30mins  | 78km<br>1hr          | 68km<br>50mins       | 31km<br>20mins       | —                    | 126km<br>2hrs 20mins | 186km<br>2hrs 40mins | 239km<br>2hrs        | 182km<br>2hrs        | 184km<br>2hrs 10mins | 367km<br>4hrs        |
| Walpole        | 418km<br>5hrs        | 256km<br>3hrs 5mins  | 236km<br>3hrs        | 236km<br>3hrs        | 249km<br>2hrs 55mins | 184km<br>2hrs 10mins | 163km<br>1hr 55mins  | 119km<br>1hr 20mins  | 126km<br>1hr 30mins  | —                    | 74km<br>1hr          | 74km<br>1hr 35mins   | 127km<br>1hr 30mins  | 122km<br>2hrs 35mins | 300km<br>3hrs 20mins |
| Denmark        | 421km<br>4hrs 40mins | 331km<br>3hrs 40mins | 312km<br>3hrs 30mins | 325km<br>3hrs 45mins | 309km<br>3hrs 35mins | 252km<br>2hrs 50mins | 221km<br>2hrs 30mins | 184km<br>2hrs 10mins | 186km<br>2hrs 20mins | 74km<br>1hrs         | —                    | 53km<br>45mins       | 57km<br>40mins       | 157km<br>1hr 40mins  | 229km<br>3hrs 20mins |
| Albany         | 413km<br>4hrs 30mins | 348km<br>3hrs 40mins | 332km<br>3hrs 40mins | 379km<br>3hrs 50mins | 355km<br>3hrs 55mins | 272km<br>3hrs        | 274km<br>2hrs 45mins | 213km<br>2hrs 15mins | 239km<br>2hrs 40mins | 127km<br>1hr 35mins  | 53km<br>45mins       | —                    | 53km<br>40mins       | 155km<br>1hr 40mins  | 181km<br>1hr 55mins  |
| Mount Barker   | 363km<br>4hrs 5mins  | 289km<br>3hrs 10mins | 293km<br>3hrs 15mins | 292km<br>3hrs 15mins | 292km<br>3hrs 15mins | 222km<br>2hrs 30mins | 192km<br>2hrs 5mins  | 161km<br>1hr 40mins  | 182km<br>2hrs        | 122km<br>1hr 30mins  | 57km<br>40mins       | 53km<br>40mins       | —                    | 104km<br>1hr 5mins   | 172km<br>1hr 55mins  |
| Kojonup        | 260km<br>3hrs        | 197km<br>2hrs 15mins | 217km<br>2hrs 30mins | 267km<br>2hrs 45mins | 240km<br>2hrs 50mins | 153km<br>1hr 50mins  | 117km<br>1hr 40mins  | 145km<br>1hr 40mins  | 184km<br>2hrs 10mins | 229km<br>2hrs 35mins | 157km<br>1hr 40mins  | 155km<br>1hr 40mins  | 104km<br>1hr 5mins   | —                    | 248km<br>2hrs 40mins |
| Bremer Bay     | 503km<br>5hrs 30mins | 431km<br>5hrs        | 464km<br>5hrs        | 478km<br>5hrs 15mins | 490km<br>5hrs 20mins | 408km<br>4hrs 25mins | 355km<br>3hrs 55mins | 331km<br>3hrs 30mins | 367km<br>4hrs        | 299km<br>3hrs 20mins | 229km<br>3hrs 20mins | 181km<br>1hr 55mins  | 248km<br>2hrs 40mins | 248km<br>2hrs 40mins | —                    |





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**DON'T FORGET TO HASHTAG YOUR SOUTH WEST GETAWAY! #AustraliasSouthWest**

#### ABOUT THIS BROCHURE

This brochure is produced annually by Australia's South West, a not-for-profit regional tourism organisation proudly supported by Tourism Western Australia. Australia's South West – including its agents, officers and contractors – has made every endeavour to ensure the details appearing in this publication are correct at the time of publishing, accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracy or misdescription whether by inclusion or omission, nor does the publisher accept any responsibility for subsequent change or withdrawal of prices, details or services shown, all of which are subject to alteration without notice.





# YOUR *South West* HOLIDAY

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# WANJU (WELCOME)

Whether you're looking to feast on the spoils of nature's pantry, taste world-class drops, spot the biggest and smallest animals on Earth, surf the perfect wave or learn about the deep cultural history within the region – discover it all on your next trip to Australia's South West.

Australia's South West is an ancient land and home to one of the world's oldest living cultures, with the Noongar Aboriginal people's connection to Boodja (Country) dating back more than 50,000 years.

Traditional custodians and conservationists, the Noongar people are caretakers of Country, watching over the native flora and fauna as well as their culture's unique and rich stories, languages, ceremonies, art, song, and dance. They possess a spiritual and physical connection to the land, waters, and communities, with the protection of this and their unique tales and traditions passed down by elders for generations, hugely important to the continuation of their culture.

Visitors can easily enjoy natural beaches, beautiful vineyards, forests, caves and more, all in a single day. More than 23,000km make up the south west corner of Western Australia, with 1000 of those kilometres consisting of awe-inspiring coastline just waiting to be explored. With 24 national parks, there's plenty of nature and wildlife to see and meet, while rich soils and fertile land provide foodies with the best in fresh produce and gourmet experiences.

## CARING FOR COUNTRY

The South West is host to several language groups within its regions, including the Pinjarup, Willman, Wadandi, Pibelman, Kaneang, Menang, and Koreng Aboriginal communities. Visitors are encouraged to respect and learn about Country through their eyes, by immersing themselves in first-nations culture up close. Experience the thrill of hearing a live didgeridoo performance and learn about dreamtime stories that Aboriginal art is based on. Taste 'bush-tucker' at a native-food demonstration, discover traditional bush medicine, or join a tour led by local tour guides that explains the vast biodiversity of the region.

Learn about the six-season calendar (page 28) during your visit, still used by the Noongar people today to represent the weather changes we see across the region from January to December. Sustainability and conservation are vital to the continuation of culture. Just like the gentle coastal breezes that blow off the South West's pristine bays, we are asked to pass through Country without changing it.

*Australia's South West acknowledges and pays respect to these traditional custodians of this land, Noongar Boodja, and all their Elders past, present and future. We seek the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Indigenous Australians.*







# BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Australia's South West is more than just a destination – it's a hotbed for once-in-a-lifetime experiences, breathtaking scenery and quirky wildlife encounters. Not sure where to begin? Use this guide to help you plan your next South West road trip. Get inspired with:

- Our suggested itineraries, found on pages 15 and 31.
- A diverse offering of experiences from page 12.
- Must-sees and must-dos within each of our four sub-regions, starting on page 40.

## GETTING TO PERTH

Flights arrive into Western Australia from all Australian capital cities. East coast visitors can also access Perth via rail. For international arrivals, check [www.perthairport.com.au](http://www.perthairport.com.au)

## GETTING TO AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST

Australia's South West is located just a few hours' drive south of Western Australia's capital city, Perth, making it a great self-drive destination. There are plenty of rental car options, as well as public transport, tours, flights, cruises and airports in Albany and Busselton-Margaret River.

## ACCESSIBILITY IN THE SOUTH WEST

Australia's South West aims to be an inclusive tourist destination, and as such, is continually developing products, services, amenities and infrastructure to allow everyone to access its beautiful sights and experiences.

## BE PREPARED

Consider arranging travel insurance when travelling to cover injury or illness, and check your cover for high risk adventure activities.

## BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

### Grab a park pass

Visitor fees apply at National Parks in Australia's South West and a number of passes are available to suit your holiday. Park Passes can be bought online and are also available at a range of outlets including selected visitor centres. Selected National Park camp sites can be pre-booked at [parkstay.dbca.wa.gov.au/searchavailability/information](http://parkstay.dbca.wa.gov.au/searchavailability/information). For more information visit [exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au) or contact Parks and Wildlife on +61 8 9219 9000.

### Flying a drone

Check the Parks and Wildlife website: [dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/remotely-pilotedaircraft](http://dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/remotely-pilotedaircraft) before flying drones, as there are regulations in place to protect areas of Aboriginal significance, and areas with protected wildlife and flora.

## WHEN YOU GET HERE

### Road safety

In Australia, cars travel on the left of the road and speed is in kilometres (km) per hour. When overtaking, make sure you have a clear view of oncoming traffic and use your indicator to signal your intentions to other drivers.

### Watch out for wildlife

Particularly at dawn and dusk - make sure you're extra vigilant when driving. It is not uncommon to encounter wildlife such as kangaroos and emus, or stock such as cows and sheep wandering the road. Take note of safety signage regarding interacting with wildlife.

### Call ahead

If you don't have time to book your tours and attractions before you leave home, or plans change, we recommend calling in advance to confirm your destination is open to avoid disappointment.

### Coastal safety

Before entering the water, check if there is signage warning visitors of any danger. If you are unsure of swimming conditions, ask for advice from a visitor centre or local authority. When possible, swim between the

red and yellow flags – these mark the safest and most regularly supervised areas to swim. Avoid swimming alone, and keep an eye out for fellow swimmers. Be sure to tread carefully if stepping out on rocks on the coast as they might be slippery.

### Fire Safety

At some campgrounds, campfires are not permitted at any time. At others, they are permitted seasonally. Always be wary when lighting campfires, and never leave a fire unattended. Restrictions can be imposed without notice at any time or place, so before lighting a campfire, make sure to always check for the most up to date information, as well as information on Bushfire Advice when travelling through the region at [emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au)

## VISITOR SERVICING

 To get the most out of your Australia's South West holiday, speak to the experts at one of the many visitor centres or Community Resource Centres (CRCs) in the region. The friendly staff can offer advice on accommodation, tours, services and the best things to see and do in the region. Look for the blue and yellow italic or white and blue 'i' signs to find a visitor centre on your holiday route.

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**Emergency services** (police, ambulance, fire brigade): 000 or 112 (mobile)

**Roadside assistance** (RAC): 13 11 11

**Road conditions** (Main Roads): 13 81 38  
[mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://mainroads.wa.gov.au)

## QUALITY TOURISM ACCREDITED BUSINESS



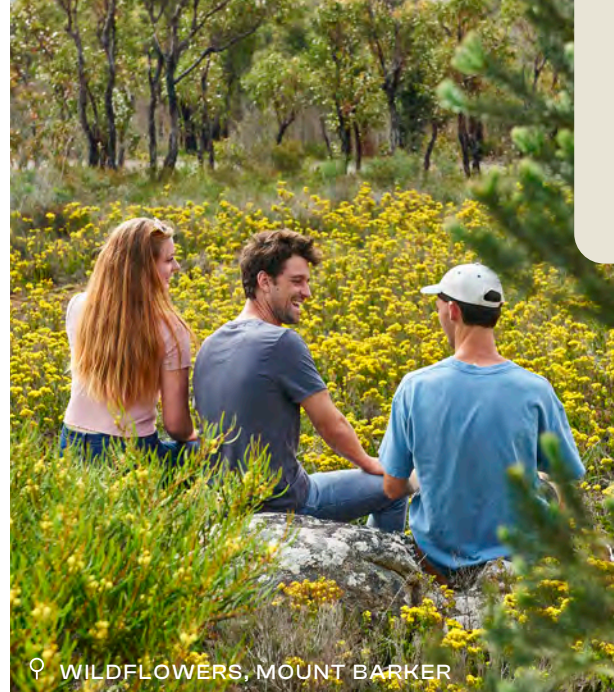
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# WHICH SEASON IS BEST FOR YOU?

♀ BALD HEAD TRAIL, ALBANY



♀ WILDFLOWERS, MOUNT BARKER

**Summer | December–February | Day 20–35°C**

## SUMMER IS BEST FOR:

- Sticking close to the coast. There's more than 1,000km of coastline to explore, from sandy beaches to rugged sea cliffs.
- Road trips with friends. Long daylight hours means you can make the most out of your days, while balmy nights make it perfect for camping under the stars.
- Spotting the largest known pod of orca (killer whales) in the Southern Hemisphere on tour in the Bremer Canyon, off the coast of Bremer Bay (January – April).

**Autumn | March–May | Day 15–25°C**

## AUTUMN IS BEST FOR:

- Charming inland drives when golden vineyards contrast against a backdrop of rolling farmlands.
- Adventure outdoors. Mild days are great for mountain biking or hiking, and the mellow winds and swell make for prime surf conditions.
- Enjoying fresh seasonal produce such as chestnuts, pumpkins, grapes and olives, or going fruit-picking for apples.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Temperatures can drop overnight, even in summer, so be sure to visit [bom.gov.au](http://bom.gov.au) for more detailed information about the South West's weather and climate.

**Winter | June–August | Day 10–22°C**

## WINTER IS BEST FOR:

- Spotting migrating whales. You can spot whales from winter through to spring at any high vantage point, or go on a whale watching tour from Albany or Augusta.
- Taking time out with loved ones – there's hearty comfort food, good red wine and plenty of cosy accommodation with fireplaces for a winter retreat.
- Attending one of the vibrant winter events, when the region comes alive with food and wine festivals, film festivals and sporting events.

**Spring | September–November | Day 18–28°C**

## SPRING IS BEST FOR:

- Wildflower season, which starts from late-August through to November, with September being the peak time to see flowers in bloom in the South West. Turn to page 26 for more. Check out the interactive wildflower tracker at [wavisitorcentre.com.au/wildflowers](http://wavisitorcentre.com.au/wildflowers) during spring.
- Spotting a beautiful array of wildlife. Dolphins frolic off the coast, while kangaroos, echidnas, and an array of birds are on the move.
- Bushwalking – the weather is mild and wildflowers add another dimension to trails.
- Joining a whale watching tour from Busselton or Dunsborough. Tours run September – November.



♀ THE CIDERY, BRIDGETOWN



♀ GOLDEN VALLEY  
TREE PARK, BALINGUP



# 2024 EVENTS & FESTIVALS

Each year Australia's South West plays host to a number of world-class events - from gourmet food feasts and film festivals, to world-renowned sports competitions and outdoor concerts. Due to the ever-changing events calendar, please visit our website at [australiassouthwest.com/events](https://australiassouthwest.com/events) for an up-to-date list.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

♀ CABIN FEVER, MARGARET RIVER REGION

## JANUARY - APRIL

### Orca Season

Join an expedition to Bremer Canyon, home to the largest known congregation of orcas in the Southern Hemisphere.

## JANUARY

### Festival of Busselton

A free family-friendly summer event set on the Busselton foreshore.

## JANUARY 19 - 20

### Karnidale Circus Festival

Acrobats, aerialists, and sideshow superstars strut their stuff in Karnidale.

## JANUARY 19 - 27

### Bunbury Fringe

Bringing cutting edge, diverse, eclectic shows from Australia and the world - to you!

## JANUARY 28

### Grapes and Gallops

Where wine meets equine in Mount Barker.

## FEBRUARY 10 - 11

### Busselton Jetty Swim

Annual open water 3.6km swim around the iconic Busselton Jetty.

## FEBRUARY 17 - 18

### Boyup Brook Country Music Festival

A family-friendly celebration of country music.

## FEBRUARY 24

### South West Multicultural Festival

This Bunbury event takes you around the world in just a few hours!

## MARCH 1 - 4

### Nannup Music Festival

A long weekend of music, markets and magic set amongst this historic timber town.

## MARCH 3

### Augusta River Festival

All day, all ages festival on the banks of the Blackwood River.

## MARCH 16

### South West Craft Beer Festival

Bask in beautiful Busselton while you sample the region's best brews.

## MARCH 16 - 17

### RAC Karri Valley Triathlon

Take in the beauty of Pemberton and surrounds during this unique racing experience.

## MARCH 16 - JULY 21

### South West Art Now

Featuring artwork by the South West's finest artists.

## MARCH 22 - 23

### Katanning Harmony Festival

A festival full of colour, culture, connection and excitement.

## MARCH 23 - APRIL 7

### Blackwood River Arts Trail

Visit artists and studios, and the Blackwood Film Festival.

## MARCH 31

### Donnybrook Apple Festival

Harvest and arts - this festival is a feast for the senses.

## APRIL 6

### Balingup Small Farm Field Day

See the best in sustainable small-scale farming and cottage industries.

## APRIL 11 - 21

### Margaret River Pro

World-class surfers ride some of the world's best waves.

## APRIL 18 - 21

### CinefestOZ Albany

Feature film premieres and star-studded events in Albany.

## APRIL 20 - 21

### XTERRA Dunsborough

Premier off-road triathlon series in Dunsborough's pristine Meelup National Park.

## APRIL 25

### ANZAC Albany

Honour Australian service men and women at commemorative services in Albany - the last port of call for many troops during the First World War.

## MAY & NOVEMBER

### Festival of Country Gardens

Southern Forests & Valleys open spectacular private gardens.

## MAY 2 - 12

### Taste Great Southern

The heart of Western Australian food and wine - taste the flavours of the Great Southern.



## MAY 4 - 5

### **Busselton Festival of Triathlon**

A weekend of triathlon for all ages and abilities taking in the iconic Jetty, Tuart Forest and foreshore.

## MAY 11

### **Margaret River Ultra Marathon**

Run past famous surf breaks, iconic wineries and charismatic coastal villages.

## MAY 11

### **SEVEN Gravel Race**

Spectacular climbs and WA's best gravel trails form the ultimate one-day cycling challenge in Nannup.

## MAY 17 - 19

### **Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival**

A 3-day storytelling spectacular featuring Australian authors, journalists and big-thinkers.

## MAY 17 - 19

### **Forest Rally**

3 days of action-packed motorsports in the forests around Nannup.

## MID MAY - EARLY DECEMBER

### **Whale Watching Season**

Spot pods of humpback and southern right whales migrate along the coast. Join a tour from Augusta or Albany in winter to spring, and Busselton or Dunsborough from spring to early summer.

## JUNE

### **Truffle Kerfuffle**

A celebration of Manjimup's famous black truffles and local produce.

## JUNE - AUGUST

### **Fridgetown Fest**

A winter festival in picturesque Bridgetown - the winter capital of WA!

## JUNE 2

### **Albany Classic "Around the Houses"**

More than 150 vintage cars compete in a race around the city streets of Albany.

## JULY

### **Albany Maritime Festival**

Immerse yourself in the nautical soul of the Great Southern.

## JULY

### **Collie River MTB Marathon**

Leave the road, take the trails with a marathon event for riders for all ages and abilities.

## JULY 7 - 14

### **NAIDOC Week**

Celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## JULY 12 - 21

### **Cabin Fever**

There's fire, food and fun at this winter foodie festival in Margaret River.

## AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

### **Wildflower Season**

Witness an explosion of colour in the South West during spring.

## AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

### **CinefestOZ Film Festival**

A festival for movie lovers across Busselton, Bunbury, Dunsborough and Margaret River.

## AUGUST 9 - 18

### **Nannup Flower & Garden Festival**

Nannup is bursting with colour during this winter floral festival.

## AUGUST 24 - 25

### **Balingup Medieval Carnivale**

Step back in time with medieval performers, parades and hand-crafted wares.

## SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

### **Bloom Festival**

The Great Southern Treasures springs to life showcasing the region's rare blooms.

## SEPTEMBER

### **South West Japan Festival**

Celebrating the art, culture, food and history of Japan, here in the south west!

## SEPTEMBER 7 - 21

### **Margaret River Region Open Studios**

The biggest art event of its kind in Australia, showcasing the region's vibrant visual arts scene.

## SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 6

### **Southern Art and Craft Trail**

Exhibitions and open studios showcasing visual arts and crafts of the Great Southern.

## SEPTEMBER 21 - 22

### **Southern Peaks**

Weekend festival in Albany for mountain bike enthusiasts and adrenaline-seekers.

## SEPTEMBER

### **Lost & Found Festival**

Eat, drink and play throughout the Bunbury Geopraphe region at more than 20 events.

## OCTOBER

### **Walk on the Wildside**

Explore the quirkiest collections Boyup Brook has to offer.

## OCTOBER

### **True Grit WA**

Run, crawl, and climb with this military inspired obstacle challenge.

## OCTOBER 5

### **Dardanup Bull & Barrel Festival**

A free family festival culminating in the 'lighting of the bull' fire sculpture.

## OCTOBER 11 - 13

### **Strings Attached: The West Australian Guitar Festival**

A 3-day festival for players, makers and enthusiasts in Margaret River.

## SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

### **Blooming Wild Festival**

Celebrate wildflower season in Southern Forests & Valleys.

## NOVEMBER

### **Geo Bay Cool Water Classic**

Point-to-point open water swim following the sandy beaches of Geopraphe Bay.

## NOVEMBER

### **Great Southern Stage Run**

3-day trail running stage race along sections of the Bibbulmun Track.

## NOVEMBER 1 - 3

### **Tour of Margaret River**

The ultimate cycling race for teams set in the South West.

## NOVEMBER 8 - 10

### **Blues at Bridgetown**

A 3-day music festival showcasing the best of blues and roots.

## NOVEMBER 9

### **Eagle Bay Epic Adventure Race**

The ultimate off-road adventure - mountain bike, ocean swim, kayak and trail run.

## DECEMBER

### **Ironman WA**

A bucket-list race for athletes in the seaside town of Busselton.

## DECEMBER

### **Manjimup Markets & More**

Celebrating the diversity of people and produce of the Southern Forests region.





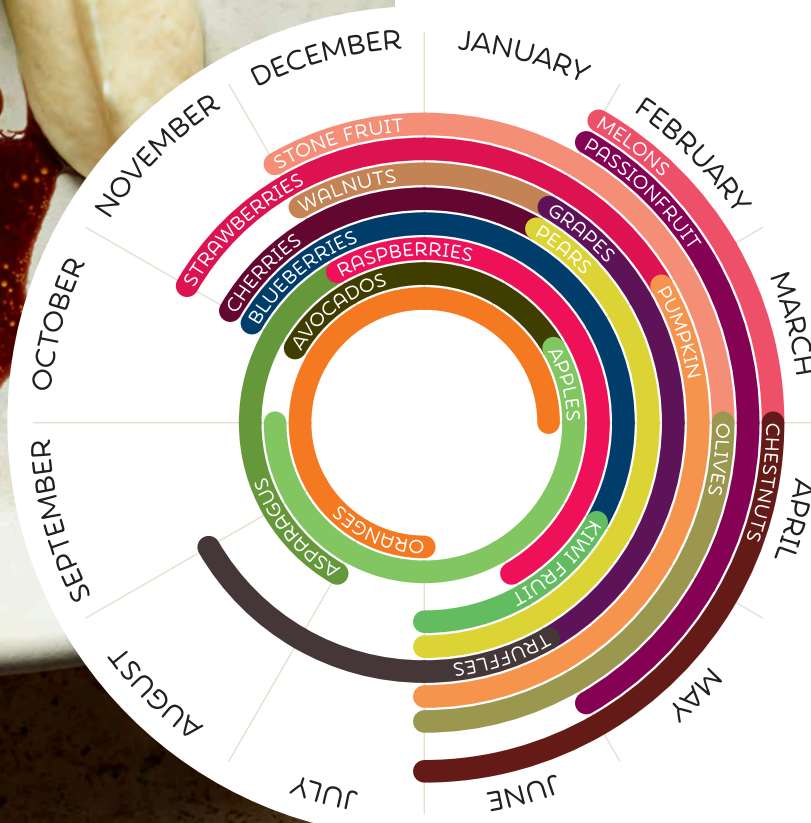
# WINE, FOOD & PRODUCE

Nature's pantry awaits you in the South West. With a vast selection of vineyards, orchards, farms and groves, the region is a one-stop shop for all things gourmet. Make the most out of your South West trip by visiting world-renowned wineries, breweries, cideries and distilleries, trawling farmers markets and roadside stalls, gathering fresh fruit, vegetables and produce.

## FARMERS MARKETS

For fresh seasonal produce visit one of the region's many farmers markets. Here's some of our picks, but check with a local visitor centre for more.

- Albany Farmers Market
- Boyanup and Districts Farmers Market
- Bridgetown River Markets
- Bunbury Farmers Market
- Busselton Foreshore Markets
- Collie Markets
- Donnybrook Station Markets
- Eaton Earlybird Farmers Market
- Katanning Farmers Market
- Manjimup Farmers Market
- Margaret River Farmers Market
- Nannup Markets
- Origins Market Busselton



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

GOURMET FOODS, MARGARET RIVER REGION



## A FEAST FOR ALL

Looking for an eight-course degustation, complete with matching South West wines? How about a decadent picnic, with equally pleasing scenery to match? Or what about a classic pub lunch or old-school bakery, designed to warm the heart and feed the belly? With a range of dining venues and options – varying from a café-style brunch or à la carte lunch, to a degustation or gourmet shared platter – there's a food option for even the most discerning eaters.

## LITTLE TUMMIES

No holiday is complete without a satisfied tummy. Lucky for you, the South West has more than enough to tantalise the tastebuds. There's plenty for big and small – from chocolate and fudge, to candy and ice cream – with many places offering free tastings. You can even pick your own fruit at farmstays and orchards in the region. Look out for kid-friendly wineries and breweries, which often have playgrounds or play corners for children (and scrumptious tipples for Mum and Dad).

## SOUTH WEST PROVISIONS

You'll find plenty of other tasty delights such as cheese, avocados, honey, olives, olive oils, marron, akoya, chocolate, cherries, chestnuts and more in cellar doors, boutiques, producers, farmers markets and farm gate stalls.

## GUILT FREE INDULGENCE

These sustainable and organic businesses are the perfect places to indulge.

### Vasse Felix, Margaret River

As of 2021, all four Vasse Felix vineyards have been certified organic. The dedication to nourishing vine and soil health naturally has been vital to the successful growth of quality, balanced and self-reliant fruit.

### Burnside Organic Farm, Margaret River

A small family certified organic and biodynamic winery that offers bungalow accommodation and farm tours.

### Gralyn Estate, Margaret River

This certified organic vineyard is small, family owned and operated with non-irrigated, low yielding mature vines and is considered one of Western Australia's most prestigious boutique wineries.

### Vasse Virgin, Margaret River

Visit this working farm and factory to shop their range of natural olive oil skincare and take a wellness workshop.

## FRESH SEAFOOD

The region has a great selection of local seafood. Think freshly shucked oysters, akoya, native fish and sweet crustaceans from unspoilt ocean waters, and freshwater delights such as trout, perch and marron. Dine at one of the regions' many fine restaurants and wineries to experience these morsels, or grab a classic serve of fish and chips to enjoy by the beach.



## DON'T MISS

Joining a foodie tour for a behind-the-scenes experience of local restaurants and wineries

Foraging for your own food on a cultural tour to taste Aboriginal bush tucker

Enjoying freshly caught marron served up at one of the restaurants in the region

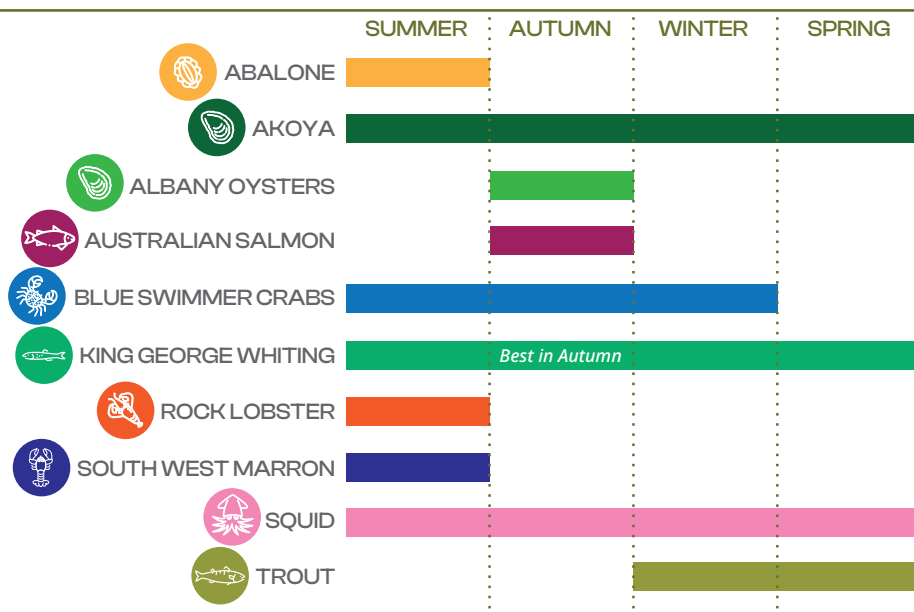
Going on a truffle dog hunt in Manjimup and watching highly-trained truffle dogs unearth the precious black gold, followed by a scrumptious meal prepared with this prized delicacy

Booking a wine and food pairing experience, such as chocolate, cheese or even nougat!

## FOOD & WINE TRAILS

Discover our South West Foodie Road Trip at [australiassouthwest.com/blog/south-west-foodie-road-trip/](http://australiassouthwest.com/blog/south-west-foodie-road-trip/)

## WATER TO PLATE



Be sure to check local guides, licences and fishing restrictions. Some recreational fishing locations and open season dates are specific and fishing outside of these dates is prohibited. Some of the above are farmed only.



# WINE TIME

The South West is one of the premium wine producing regions in Australia, with a Mediterranean climate and close proximity to the ocean creating near-perfect grape growing conditions for winemakers.

There are five distinct winemaking areas in the South West - download the Wine Adventurer booklet online at [bit.ly/wine-adventurer-booklet](http://bit.ly/wine-adventurer-booklet) for more information.

## Geographe

Only one and a half hours south of Perth, this captivating and diverse wine region has more than 20 boutique, mostly family-owned wineries. Characterised by diverse micro climates from elevated rolling hills, sheltered valleys and mild ocean breezes, you'll find some interesting varietals here like tempranillo and nebbiolo.

## Margaret River

More than 50 years' old, this award-winning fine wine region is internationally acclaimed, with almost 100 cellar doors to experience, many with renowned on-site restaurants. Specialising in cabernet

sauvignon and chardonnay, plus popular semillon sauvignon blanc blends, this region grows two percent of Australia's grapes, but produces 20 percent of Australia's premium wine.

## Southern Forests

With its ancient towering karri forests and rolling farmland, this beautiful wine region is increasingly recognised for its sparkling wine styles and sauvignon blanc. Wines grown in the Pemberton and Manjimup wine regions combine southern latitude with high altitude and a relatively cool climate, making ideal conditions for growing pinot noir and chardonnay grapes.

## Blackwood Valley

One of Australia's newest wine regions, here you'll find picturesque lush pastures, majestic trees and gentle winding rivers. It's home to 11 cellar doors with boutique wine styles including cabernet sauvignon, chardonnay, riesling, sauvignon blanc, semillon and shiraz, where you can experience charming country hospitality.

## Great Southern

Australia's largest wine region, the Great Southern is made up of five sub-regions; Albany, Denmark, Frankland River, Mount Barker and Porongurup, with more than 40 cellar doors. The region is blessed with a variety of ancient soil types, altitudes, and pristine conditions, creating a unique cool climate environment. Standout varieties are riesling and shiraz, with classic varieties chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon and pinot noir also performing well.

## WINE AND DINE

In the South West, gourmet food goes hand in hand with world-class wine. Many wineries have restaurants on site, where you'll find the region's best chefs creating unforgettable cuisine using seasonal ingredients sourced from local farmers and producers.





## CHEERS AND BEERS

We're one of the fastest growing microbrewery destinations in Australia. Make sure you visit at least one of the many craft breweries situated across the South West, where you'll find plenty of unique brews on offer. From family friendly and rustic to slick and modern, craft breweries are all the rage here in Australia's South West. Want to try them all? Order a tasting paddle to test each beverage.

## THAT'S THE SPIRIT

We haven't forgotten our spirit-loving friends – be sure to wet your whistle with award-winning spirits such as gin, whisky, bourbon and vodka. They make the perfect aperitif to a South West feast.

## APPLES IN A CAN

The key to a perfect cider is the star ingredient – apples. And you can't get a better star ingredient than the crisp, sweet fruit produced in the heart of the South West, AKA apple-growing country. Need convincing? Grab a drink at one of the many cideries in the region and tell us what you think.



♀ SHELTER BREWING CO., BUSSELTON

## SOUND ON

While on the road, listen to Margaret River's 'Wine Unearthed' podcast series, or the truffle podcast 'The Ingredient with Max Brearley', both available on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.



♀ WINE AND TASTING PLATTER, THE LAKE HOUSE DENMARK

# FOODIES ROAD TRIP

### Day 1 Perth to Great Southern

Head south along Albany Highway to the superb cool climate wine region, the Great Southern. Call into the trending Frankland River wine sub-region, then meander south visiting scenic wineries (many with altitude!) in Mount Barker and the Porongurup Range. Spend the night in one of the lovely B&Bs in the Porongurups, or drive south to Albany and overnight.

### Day 2 Great Southern

Spend the day exploring Albany and surrounds. If you're visiting on the weekend, be sure to stop by the famous Albany Farmers Market to fill your picnic basket with fruit and vegetables picked from nearby farms.

### Day 3 Great Southern to Southern Forests and Valleys

Take your time travelling from Albany to Denmark, visiting boutique wineries along the scenic Scotsdale and Mount Shadforth tourist drives. Choose from locally made gourmet condiments, cheeses, toffee, honey and chocolate. End the day with a pint of craft beer from a local brewery. Overnight in Denmark.

### Day 4 Southern Forests and Valleys

Follow the highway, lined with stunning karri forests, to Pemberton. Try local specialties such as marron and trout, or attempt catching your own on the Warren River. Join a truffle dog in its search for the black Périgord truffle in nearby Manjimup during winter. Feast and celebrate the truffle during Truffle Kerfuffle festival in June, or simply enjoy a truffle-infused meal at one of the region's trufferies. Overnight in Pemberton or Manjimup.

### Day 5 Southern Forests and Valleys to Margaret River Region

Continue your journey to the famous Margaret River wine region. Sample world-renowned wines then indulge in a gourmet winery lunch. There's almost 100 cellar doors in the region, but travel along Caves Road to explore the oldest vineyards in the area. Not a wine aficionado? There's also a plethora of breweries, cideries and distilleries to be discovered. Ensure you stop to sample cheeses, chocolates, nougat, berries and more, interspersed along the way. Want to get them all? Head to Origins Market where local creatives, makers and growers gather in a celebration of community and creativity. Don't miss the region's renowned foodie festivals such as Cabin Fever Festival in July.

### Day 6 Margaret River Region to Perth

Travel north-east towards Balingup and Donnybrook, where you can find fresh farm produce or go fruit-picking. Visit the Ferguson Valley, complete with rolling hills and several boutique wineries and breweries. Enjoy a tasty lunch before heading back to Perth, or stay for the Lost & Found food and wine festival in Bunbury and the Ferguson Valley.



# ADVENTURE

Epic coastal drives, rugged forests waiting to be explored, and campgrounds nestled under a tapestry of twinkling stars - the South West's vast landscape has it all when it comes to outdoor adventures. Behold the beauty of the road less travelled as you cruise over secluded white sand beaches, trek to the top of mountain ranges, or step inside the depths of immense limestone caverns. Heart-stopping experiences abound, from abseiling down windswept cliff faces to wandering among the canopy of ancient trees. Are you ready to answer nature's wild call?

♀ COASTEERING, MARGARET RIVER ADVENTURE CO.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

Looking for an adrenaline-filled adventure? Get your blood racing with these heart-pumping suggestions:

## COASTEERING

Afraid of falling? This one's not for you. Going coasteering allows you to climb incredible rocks and cliffs before jumping off into the water. Try something different with this exhilarating activity, designed for you to experience the stunning coastline like never before. On a guided tour with Margaret River Adventure Co., you'll reach rare stretches of coastline bounded by steep sea cliffs, caves, and ledges before splashing into spectacular clear-water bays.

## TAKE TO THE SKIES

Get a bird's eye view of the Margaret River region with Scenic Helicopters or KAS Helicopters to get your adrenalin pumping in Busselton with an aerobatic flight.

## FISHING

The region's lengthy coastline and waterways offer plenty of spots for angling. Prized delicacies such as dhufish,

nannygai, rock lobster (crayfish), abalone and marron (freshwater crayfish) call the pristine waterways home. The waterways within Australia's South West including the Blackwood River, Big Brook Dam, Warren River, Donnelly River, Collie River and Harvey Dam brim with rainbow trout, stocked by the WA Department of Fisheries, to supplement the natural fish population and keep it increasing each year. Do note, you need a WA Freshwater Licence to catch many freshwater fish, which you can obtain at [fish.wa.gov.au](http://fish.wa.gov.au).

## ABSEILING

Few people enjoy the idea of plummeting from a cliff, but if you're after a rush like no other, abseiling is for you. Head down the ropes at Bride's Cave near Margaret River or witness spectacular coastal views as you tackle the Wilyabrup Sea Cliffs. There's plenty more options to scratch any adrenaline itch, including further south along the road from Augusta to Albany. If you're experienced and want to do your own self-guided climb, you must notify a park ranger. Alternatively, join a tour run by a professional operator.

## FOUR-WHEEL DRIVING

The South West offers endless dream-worthy tracks perfect for a spot of four-wheel driving and off-road adventuring. Try the Fitzgerald River National Park near Bremer Bay, Cheynes Beach near Albany, the extraordinary Yeagarup Dunes in D'Entrecasteaux National Park, or for a bit of outback fun - the Holland Track near Broomehill. If you are using a hire car, be sure to check conditions for driving off-road, or take a tour with a professional driver.



♀ NANNUP MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS



## CARAVAN AND CAMPING

Camping is one of the best ways to experience the untouched wilderness of Australia's South West. Sheltered campsites are on offer in most national parks, and for a very small fee. Keep in mind that these campsites tend to have limited facilities, so you'll need to be well prepared. Alternatively, most towns within the South West have caravan parks with ample facilities to ensure comfort (hot shower, anyone?). Embarking on a caravan or camping adventure? Here are some helpful tips to make the best of the great outdoors.

### Be prepared

The secret to a successful caravan and camping trip is research and planning. Make sure you research the campgrounds and caravan sites you intend to visit, as well as the type of terrain surrounding the sites. An understanding of the area will allow you to prepare for the conditions you are likely to encounter during your stay.

### Expect the unexpected

Sometimes weather can be unpredictable, so it's important that you plan ahead and have alternate routes or accommodation options ready as a back-up. Some coastal areas can be windier than inland areas, so the need for extra equipment should be considered. Don't underestimate the weather conditions either. Temperatures can significantly drop at nightfall, so pack some warm clothing just in case.

### Pack the essentials

It's always a good idea to carry a first aid kit in your vehicle. We also suggest packing a container of fresh water, a jerrycan of fuel and some toilet paper, as the distance between facilities such as petrol stations and public toilets can vary. A comprehensive road map is also useful for locations that have limited mobile phone reception.

### Setting up camp

If you're camping, make sure the area you set your tent up on is free from sharp objects that are likely to damage the floor of the tent. To avoid any nasty surprises at bedtime, check you haven't set up around any ant nests, that there are no overhanging branches likely to dislodge on a windy night, and that you're not erecting your tent in a potential waterway. Don't forget to zip your tent up to keep overly-friendly creatures out.

### On departure

Before leaving the campsite or caravan park, be sure that all rubbish is removed and disposed of correctly. Visit [caravanwa.com.au](http://caravanwa.com.au) for a comprehensive list of caravan parks and camping sites across the South West. There are free overnight rest areas for fully self-contained caravans and RV's in Manjimup, as well as in Bunbury at Wyalup Rocky Point and the basketball courts on Ocean Drive.



## DON'T MISS

Camping in the myriad of campgrounds in Pemberton and waking up surrounded by towering karri trees

Experiencing the shifting sands at Yeagarup Dunes, a massive expanse of sand on the move. Jump on a tour or undertake your own four-wheel drive adventure to marvel at this spectacular natural phenomenon with Pemberton Discovery Tours

A four-wheel drive trundle down Myalup Beach in Harvey Region, where you can park up to fish and snorkel the day away

Camping at Bremer Bay, which offers nature-based camping right by the beach.







## BEST BEACHES FOR SWIMMING

### BLOSSOMS BEACH, BREMER BAY

Just one of the many turquoise beaches in the area.

### GEOGRAPHE BAY, BUSSELTON

Close to the Busselton Jetty, cafés and picnic facilities, with ocean pool lanes open in summer.

### GNARABUP BEACH, MARGARET RIVER

Tucked in a protected bay with a café on site.

### GREENS POOL, DENMARK

A shallow cove, beautiful for photos and a spot of snorkelling.

### HAMELIN BAY, NEAR AUGUSTA

Secluded camp spot great for families who love the outdoors. Also home to a number of friendly rays.

### KOOMBANA BAY, BUNBURY

Easy access, good for dolphin spotting and having a family barbecue, with a freshly developed playground and BBQ facilities.

### LITTLE BEACH, NEAR ALBANY

Squeaky white sand and breathtaking blue water.

### MARGARET RIVER MOUTH, MARGARET RIVER

This iconic beach is where the Margaret River meets the Indian Ocean.

### MEELUP BEACH AND BUNKER BAY, DUNSBOROUGH

Picture-perfect, with brilliant white sand.

### MIDDLETON BEACH, ALBANY

Calm waters with areas for BBQs and picnics. Also features ocean pool lanes during summer.

### PEACEFUL BAY, NEAR DENMARK

Great family holiday spot during summer.

### SMITHS BEACH, YALLINGUP

A long stretch of white sandy beach hugging crystal-clear blue water.

*Australian beaches are some of the best in the world. We hope you enjoy them, but please take a moment to learn about rip currents and coastal dangers at [mybeach.com.au](http://mybeach.com.au). Find out which beaches are patrolled by Surf Life Saving Australia on specific days at [beachsafe.org.au](http://beachsafe.org.au) or visit [sls.com.au](http://sls.com.au). Check tide times online at [willyweather.com.au](http://willyweather.com.au).*



♀ BUSSELTON JETTY,  
MARGARET RIVER REGION

## SURFING

With more than 100 surf breaks located along the coast, anyone from grommets to pros can ride a wave. Ready to catch a break? There are king waves fit for World Surf League champions, and gentle swells made for little beginners. Here are a few spots to get you started:

### Black Point,

#### D'Entrecasteaux National Park

Four-wheel drive access only, with southfacing beach and reef breaks.

### Shallows Beach, Yallingup

Beach that is protected from the daily southerly winds

### Contos Beach, near Margaret River

A protected beach break with southerly winds.

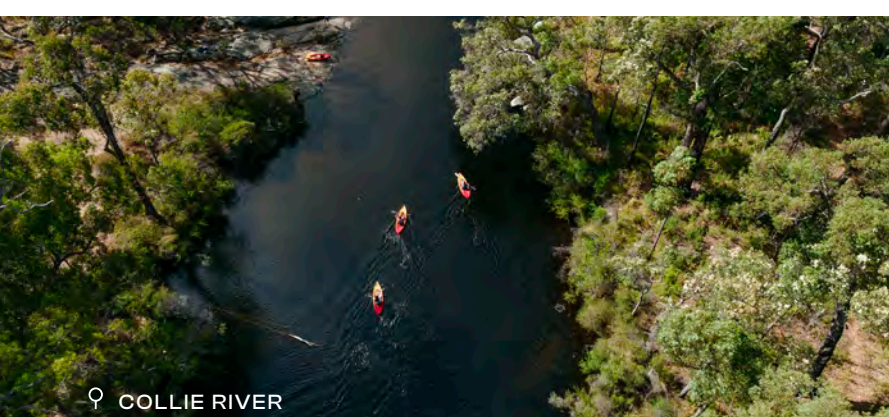
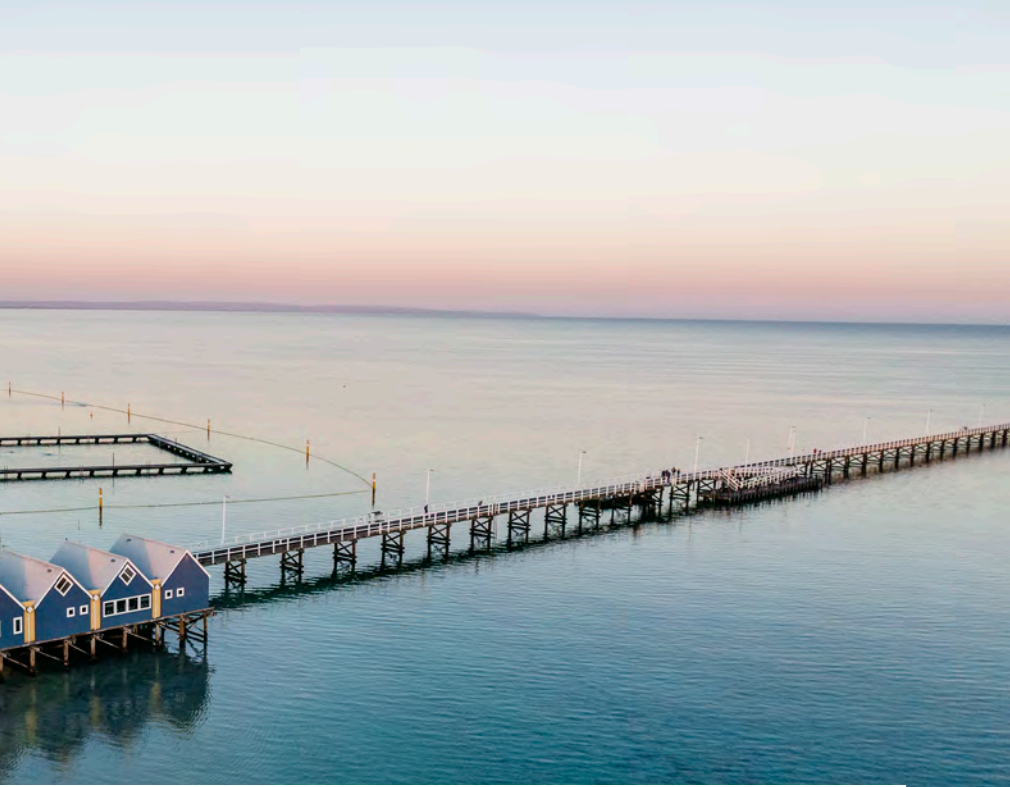
### Gracetown, Cowaramup

Three types of waves catering for beginners through to pros.

### Main Break, Surfers Point

Home of the Margaret River Pro, which sees top ranked surfers compete to win the World Surf League's World Championship Tour.





♀ COLLIE RIVER

#### Muttonbird Island, near Albany

Suitable for all surfers, with a right and left beach break.

#### Ocean Beach, Denmark

Denmark's primary surf and swim beach, good for beginners and experienced surfers.

#### Smiths Beach, Yallingup

Reef and beach, protected from southerly winds.

#### Three Bears, Yallingup

Four-wheel drive access, premier reef break, very consistent.

*Don't know how to surf? No worries. Take surfing and stand up paddle boarding (SUP) lessons at one of the many surf schools in the region. Head to your closest visitor centre to find a place to play near you. Download the SharkSmart WA app to stay alert to marine activity.*

## CANOEING & KAYAKING

The South West's many waterways are the ultimate canoeing and kayaking playgrounds. The Blackwood River is considered one of WA's premier canoeing destinations, with calm waters in summer ideal for families, and full waterways and white-water rafting conditions for adventure-seekers come winter. Bring your own canoe or hire one from the towns along the river. Hire SUPs from Cheynes Beach Caravan Park in Great Southern, or try Wellington National Park near Collie where you can hire kayaks and SUPs from local tour operator Traaverse. Explore the actual Margaret River on tour with Margaret River Discovery Co. Also seek out Deep River in Mount Frankland National Park, Walpole's Frankland River and Coalmine Beach at Nornalup.

## UNDERWATER WORLD

The marine environment around the South West is completely unique. Both warm and cool currents mix together at Cape Leeuwin, where the Indian and Southern Oceans collide. This phenomenon creates an assortment of marine species rarely found anywhere else in the world. Try these not-to-be-missed snorkel and dive sites:

#### The Lena, Bunbury

The Lena wreck is a unique dive site, with massive swim throughs and an open engine room waiting to be explored.

#### The Swan, Dunsborough

This former HMAS destroyer was scuttled to form a dive wreck and artificial reef in December 1997. The tower of the vessel is just 6m below the surface, with her base at 31m.

#### The Perth, Albany

The decommissioned former HMAS Perth II is a 133m guided missile destroyer with a distinguished service record. She encountered enemy fire during the Vietnam War and her scars from this battle can still be seen.

#### Busselton Jetty, Busselton

One of the best artificial reef dives in Australia, the mixing of warm and cold currents and the unusual underwater climate from the jetty's shadow have created unique fish and coral species. Check out their new underwater sculpture trail!



## MUST DO'S

Enjoy the serenity at **Misery Beach** in Torndirrup National Park, Albany

Meet the stingrays at **Hamelin Bay** swimming amongst the crystal clear waters

Four-wheel drive onto **Boranup Beach** and enjoy the pristine beach without the crowds

Swim in the turquoise waters of **Waterfall Beach**, William Bay National Park



## TRAILS AND TRACKS

There is no shortage of walking trails in the South West, passing through some of the region's most striking landscapes. Two of the South West's renowned trails are the Bibbulmun and Cape to Cape Track.

### **Bibbulmun Track**

The Bibbulmun Track stretches for nearly 1,000km and features areas of old growth forest, quaint farmland, rugged coastal cliffs and remote beaches.

### **Cape to Cape Track**

The Cape to Cape Track spans 124km between Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin in the Margaret River region.

It has a 3.7km disabled access section between Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse and Sugarloaf Rock, and offers beautiful coastal scenery, much of which is inaccessible by car. Take a guided hike with a local tour operator to learn about the land as you go. There are camping and accommodation options available for serious hikers, or you can pick a section of each track and book transfers and supply drop offs.

*For a comprehensive list of walking trails to suit your interests and ability, visit [trails.wa.com.au](http://trails.wa.com.au).*





## EXPERIENCE NEW HEIGHTS

Have a penchant for heights? Here are a few attractions to get you soaring above nature.

### The Gap and Natural Bridge

Experience the crashing waves of the Southern Ocean from a 40m-high vantage point at The Gap's disabled access viewing platform, then meander down to the Natural Bridge – a bridge-like granite formation that has been worn away by the sea.

### Granite Skywalk

A steep 3km-return walk trail leads you through the spectacular forests of the Porongurup National Park to the Granite Skywalk. Enjoy breathtaking, panoramic views from the 38m upper and lower lookouts atop Castle Rock, just 15 minutes from Mount Barker.

### Mount Frankland

Head to the disabled access Wilderness View Lookout at Mount Frankland for stunning views of karri, jarrah, and tingle forests, abseil down a 150m drop (permit required) or take one of the walk trails around the base of this 411m-high granite outcrop.

### Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk

Located between Walpole and Denmark, this disabled access 600m-long tree top walk rises 40m above the forest floor. Stroll through the forest canopy then, down below, visit the Ancient Empire – a grove of massive, 400-year-old tingle trees.

### Bluff Knoll

The highest peak in southern WA, located in Stirling Range National Park. A new upgraded walk trail here will take you to the summit, 1099m above sea level. Allow three to four hours (return) to conquer.

## CYCLING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING

Did you know there's an outstanding network of mountain biking and cycling trails in the South West? Here are some of our favourite trails:

### Tank 7, Nannup

The Nannup Tank 7 Mountain Bike Park provide a rough, raw and rocky experience for mountain bike enthusiasts. Designed to maximise Nannup's natural elevation and picturesque landscape, the trail suits a range of abilities from beginners to experienced mountain bike riders.

### Grizzly Trail, Mount Lennard, Wellington National Park

6km | Difficult

The Grizzly Trail forms part of the Mount Lennard mountain bike area, which contains around 40km of mountain biking trails. Challenge yourself with an obstacle course of sloped turns, set along a narrow track that winds through 6km of jarrah forest and granite outcrops.

### Relentless Blue, Pemberton MTB Park, Pemberton

4.5km | Difficult

The signature trail of the Pemberton MTB Park, Relentless Blue incorporates the lay of the land with turns, switchbacks, log rollovers, a log mountain, wall rides, earth berms and the "Hell Mile". The western side of the trail features the main climb and a series of ups and downs, while the eastern side has distinct cross-country elements.

### The Pines, Bramley Forest, Margaret River

8km | Difficult

Located right on the edge of Margaret River town, the Pines are some of the best mountain bike trails in WA. Easy fire road climbs, fast, flowing single-track descents, berms and fun table top jumps characterise these adrenaline pumping tracks, which are great options for riders of all abilities.

### Rays Trail, Arklow Trail Network, Collie

8km | Difficult

Located 4km north from Collie, the Arklow Trail Network has an 11km Adaptive Trail with disabled access. Rays Trail is a fun part of the Arklow Trail Network and offers a tight twisting, cross-country mountain biking experience not for the faint-hearted.

Start the ride with heaps of twists and turns, before encountering berms as you travel downhill. You'll then be greeted by an uphill climb and several large log rides.

### Albany Downhill Mountain Bike Trail, Albany

0.7km | Very difficult

Don't let the length of this mountain biking trail fool you... In 700m you'll experience 41 jumps, wooden berms and other technical features, a 76m drop and some of the most breathtaking views of King George Sound. Just a couple of minutes from the city centre, the trail is great for daring beginners to seasoned experts.

### Munda Biddi Trail, Australia's South West

1,000km | Varying difficulty

The Munda Biddi Trail is one of the world's longest off-road cycling trails, stretching from Kalamunda in Perth, WA, all the way down to Albany, located in the Great Southern region of Australia's South West. Expect to cycle through towering eucalyptus and karri forests, unspoiled bushland and beautiful wildflower heaths when you embark on this cycling journey. There are plenty of access points along the route, so pick your start line and get riding. There are also many pick up and drop off options with local tour operators. Ask a local visitor centre for more information.

Visit [trailswa.com.au](http://trailswa.com.au) for more South West mountain biking and cycling trails and maps.



## LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

Follow these rules to ensure our national parks and nature reserves remain places of pristine beauty.

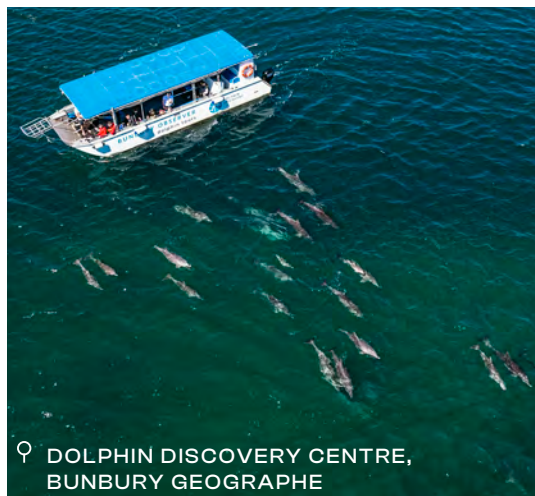
- Leave what you find, look but do not touch Aboriginal art or disturb sites of cultural significance
- Dispose of waste properly
- Minimise campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife, flora and fauna
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces





# NATURE & BIODIVERSITY

With 24 breathtaking national parks and over 1,000km of coastline to explore, Australia's South West is where nature's tapestry comes to life. One of just 36 biodiversity hotspots in the world, the South West is home to more than 8000 species of native plants and animals that have evolved in isolation for millions of years. Glimpse them as you wander pristine, sandy white beaches and wild trails. So, what are you waiting for? It's time to explore.



♀ DOLPHIN DISCOVERY CENTRE, BUNBURY GEOGRAPHE



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



♀ KANGAROO, MARGARET RIVER

## WILDLIFE

Did you know the South West is a mecca for all creatures, big and small? Spot wildlife – from woylies, kangaroos and brushtail possums; to blue tongue lizards and red-tailed black cockatoos – on walk trails, in national parks and along the coast, or join an eco or wildlife tour for an up-close experience. Here are some of our recommendations on where to see wildlife in the region:

### Wildlife Parks

- Albany's Australian Wildlife Park, Discovery Bay
- Bunbury Wildlife Park
- Eagles Heritage Wildlife Centre, Margaret River

### National Parks

- D'Entrecasteaux National Park
- Fitzgerald River National Park
- Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park
- Stirling Range National Park
- West Cape Howe National Park





♀ WHALES, MEELUP BEACH

## MARINE LIFE

Australia's South West has one of the longest whale watching seasons in the world, spanning from January to December. Catch humpback, southern right and blue whales along the coast, as well as dolphins, orcas, rays, seals and other ocean-dwelling animals. Here are some of the best vantage points to see marine life from the shore:

### Whales

- Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse and Flinders Bay, Augusta
- Cape to Cape Track, Margaret River region
- Point D'Entrecasteaux, south of Northcliffe
- Conspicuous Cliff, 15km east of Walpole
- Ocean Beach, Denmark
- Albany's Historic Whaling Station, 22km from Albany
- Torndirrup National Park, near Albany
- Point Ann, Fitzgerald River National Park, 65km east of Bremer Bay

Whale watching cruises depart daily (weather and season dependant) from Albany, Augusta, Busselton and Dunsborough. Hop on board with a local operator for this up close experience.

### Dolphins

- Koombana Bay, Dolphin Discovery Centre, Bunbury
- King George Sound, Albany
- Blackwood River and Flinders Bay, Augusta
- Eco boat cruises and swim tours (summer) run from the Dolphin Discovery Centre.

### Stingrays

- Boat ramp and old jetty, Hamelin Bay

## ORCAS IN THE BREMER CANYON

Around 50km off the coast of Bremer Bay is a deep canyon, less than half a square kilometre in size, that is home to the largest pod of orca (killer whales) in the Southern Hemisphere. Up to 100 killer whales have been spotted in the area, with the amazing deep-water ecosystem one of the few locations on our planet where offshore killer whales can be reliably encountered throughout the Australian summer months.

Between 2005 and 2013, Dave Riggs and his team participated in several oceanic surveys looking at a variety of species, including the abundance of Bluefin tuna, off the coast of southern West Australia. In a small geographical location some 50km from shore, they consistently observed large massings of the ocean's most revered apex predators. These include killer whales, sperm whales, giant squid, numerous species of shark and perhaps most significantly, beaked whales. A wide range of oceanic bird species are also prevalent at the Canyon, adding to the diversity of this marine hotspot.

By going on an expedition, you allow scientists to continue documenting and researching this amazing ecosystem. Expeditions from Bremer Bay run from January to early April. Bus transfers from Albany are also available.

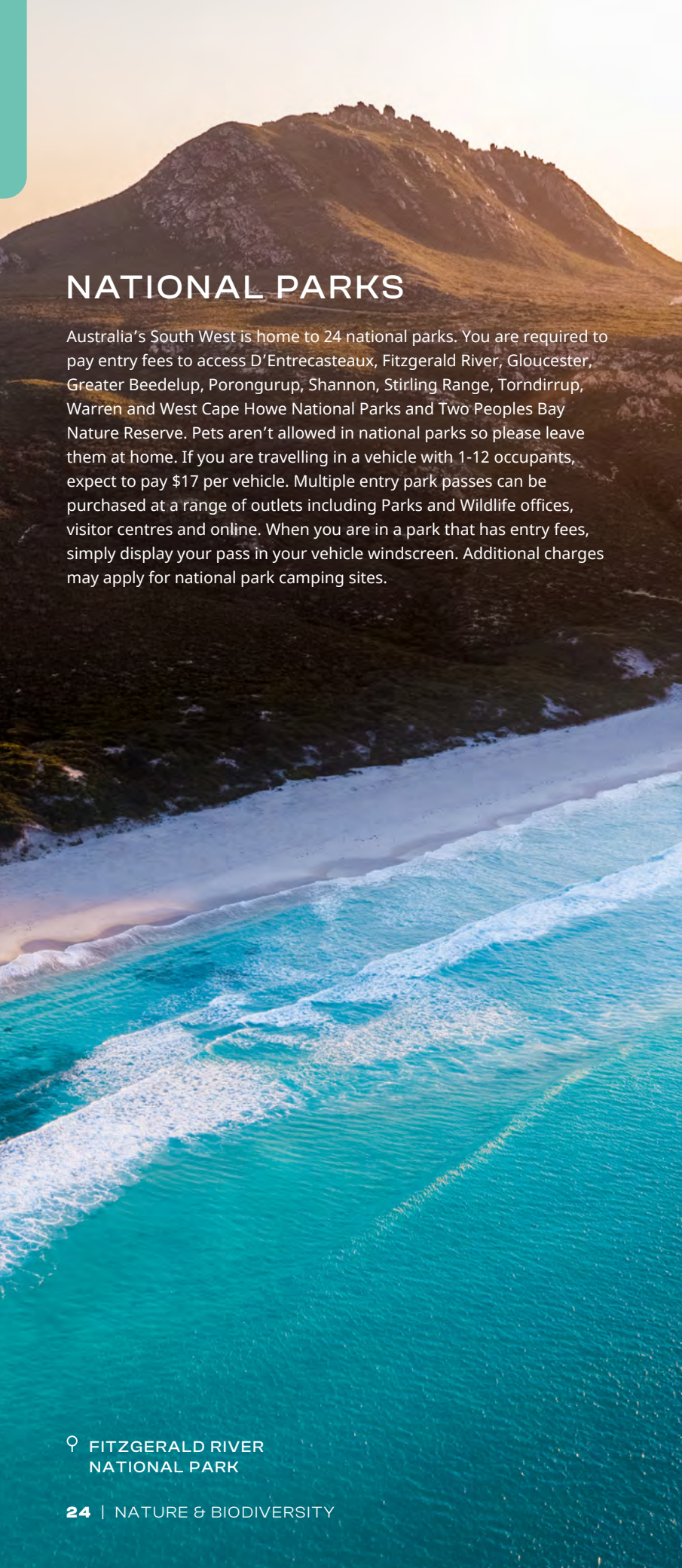


♀ RED-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO, MARGARET RIVER



♀ ORCAS, BREMER BAY





## NATIONAL PARKS

Australia's South West is home to 24 national parks. You are required to pay entry fees to access D'Entrecasteaux, Fitzgerald River, Gloucester, Greater Beedelup, Porongurup, Shannon, Stirling Range, Torndirrup, Warren and West Cape Howe National Parks and Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve. Pets aren't allowed in national parks so please leave them at home. If you are travelling in a vehicle with 1-12 occupants, expect to pay \$17 per vehicle. Multiple entry park passes can be purchased at a range of outlets including Parks and Wildlife offices, visitor centres and online. When you are in a park that has entry fees, simply display your pass in your vehicle windscreen. Additional charges may apply for national park camping sites.

📍 FITZGERALD RIVER  
NATIONAL PARK

## MUST-VISIT NATIONAL PARKS

### BORANUP KARRI FOREST

This isolated forest of 100-year-old karri trees offers one of the most beautiful drive trails in the region.

### D'ENTRECASTEAUX NATIONAL PARK

An important conservation area of wild, pristine beauty, D'Entrecasteaux National Park boasts unspoilt beaches, a rugged coastal cliffs lookout and towering karri forests.

### FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK

UNESCO recognised as an international biosphere reserve, this park has more than 1,800 beautiful and unique species of flowering plants, as well as lichens, mosses and fungi.

### PORONGURUP NATIONAL PARK

The Porongurup Range is more than 1.1 billion years old, making it one of the oldest ranges in the world.

### STIRLING RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Home to the only major mountain range within the southern half of WA and a biodiversity hotspot, this park is one of a few places in the state where snow occasionally falls.

### WALPOLE WILDERNESS AREA

Seven national parks, nature reserves and forest conservation areas (surrounded by the Walpole and Nornalup Inlets Marine Park) can be found within the 363,000 hectares of the Walpole Wilderness Area.

### WELLINGTON NATIONAL PARK

Known and loved for its beautiful waterways and rugged forest, experience the natural wonders found within the pristine 17,000 hectares of Western Australia's unique Jarrah, Marri and Yarri (blackbutt) forests.

See [parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au](https://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au) for more.

## WATERFALLS & WATERWAYS

Incredible aquatic experiences aren't just limited to the coast, with the region boasting many stunning waterfalls, lakes and rivers to enjoy. Here's where to find some of the best waterfalls and waterways:

- Wellington Dam, Stockton Lake, Black Diamond Lake and Honeymoon Pool, and the new man-made Lake Kerpwari, near Collie
- Quinninup Falls, Cape to Cape Track
- Meekadarabee Falls and Kevill Road Waterfall, Margaret River region
- Glenoran Pool, Manjimup



## COASTAL ATTRACTIONS

Experience the best of the coast at these South West attractions.

### Cape to Cape Lighthouses

Want a 360-degree view of the coast and forest? Look no further than the Margaret River region's lighthouses. The historic Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse is the tallest lighthouse on mainland Australia and is where you can see the Southern and Indian Oceans meet. Plus, experience life as a lightkeeper in The Lightkeeper's Cottage, the new interactive interpretive centre. The Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse features a café and offers fully-guided tours, with breathtaking panoramic views from the top balcony.

### Busselton Jetty

The Busselton Jetty is the longest woodenpiled jetty in the Southern Hemisphere, stretching 1.841km. Take a 20 minute walk or catch the red electric solar-powered train to the end, where you'll find the newly renovated underwater observatory, perfect for viewing the sea floor and more than 300 individual species of fish, coral, sponges and invertebrates.

### Albany Wind Farm

Part of the Bibbulmun Track and set amongst a dramatic coastline boardwalk, the Albany Wind Farm is made up of 18 wind turbines that have the capacity to produce 80 per cent of Albany's electricity needs.

### Albany's Historic Whaling Station

Learn about Albany's whaling history at this Great Southern museum, which features a giant blue whale skeleton, the world's only preserved whalechaser ship, a wildlife park and a wildflower garden.

### Canal Rocks

The full force of the ocean can be seen at Canal Rocks, just 4km south of Yallingup. Here you'll find granite rocks separated by a series of canals that have been carved out by the sea. Cross the canals via a narrow disabled access timber walkway, where you can get great views of the rushing waves below.

## GO UNDERGROUND

The South West's rich history extends beneath its surface, with more than 150 limestone caves found along the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge in the Margaret River region. These awe-inspiring natural time capsules are home to ancient fossil remains and spectacular limestone and crystal formations. Choose the caves that are best for you:

### Jewel Cave

Join a one hour fully guided tour to experience Western Australia's largest tourism cave. Jewel Cave has one of the longest straw stalactites found in any tourist cave in the world, measuring 580cm.

### Lake Cave

Dubbed Australia's best cave by Australian Geographic, this stunning crystal

wonderland is highly recommended for children and adults, especially those new to the cave experience. Explore it on a fully guided tour.

### Mammoth Cave

An audio self-guiding system allows visitors to explore this cave at their leisure, with disabled access into the first cavern also available.

### Ngilgi Cave

Ngilgi Cave offers a stunning display of stalactite, stalagmite, helictite and shawl formations, plus an interpretive area detailing the cave's rich history. Both semi-guided and fully guided adventure tours are available at Ngilgi Cave.

For more information on caves in the South West, visit [margaretriver.com](http://margaretriver.com).



♀ JEWEL CAVE, AUGUSTA

- Barrabup and Workers Pool, near Nannup
- Beedelup Falls, near Pemberton
- Fernhook Falls and Circular Pool, near Walpole
- Denmark River and Kalgan River, Great Southern
- Blackwood River, Australia's South West

*Our tip: Take an eco-cruise along the Walpole inlet. To help preserve these unique natural environments, please stay on walk trails and take all rubbish away with you. When you are travelling through remote areas, advise the local park ranger, check information about park closures, and always pay close attention to road and weather conditions when driving.*

## DON'T MISS

Spending a day at one of the many beaches where you can swim, build sandcastles, snorkel, enjoy purpose-built playgrounds, or paddle around pylons

Experiencing a hike along the Bibbulmun Track or a section of the Cape to Cape Track on a guided tour

Joining a scenic helicopter flight or openair adventure flight to see the region from a different perspective

Being rewarded with an impressive view after scrambling to the top of Bluff Knoll, one of the highest peaks in Western Australia

Surfing a world-class wave at some of the most pristine beaches this side of the equator

Canoeing down the Margaret River on a tour with Margaret River Discovery Co.

Hire an SUP or kayak to glide over the azure blue waters of Stockton Lake and Black Diamond Lake in Collie.





♀ KURRAH MIA WILDFLOWER TOUR, ALBANY

## WILDFLOWERS

Did you know that almost 80 per cent of Australia's South West's plant species cannot be found anywhere else in the world? In this biodiversity hotspot, more than 8,000 species of wildflowers and 300 species of delicate orchids bloom across the region every spring (August through to November), making it a popular time to visit.

### Stirling Range National Park

The Stirling Range National Park is home to more than 1,500 species of native plants, with 87 endemic to the region. With unique and abundant wildflowers, including Banksia, Dryandras, Queen of Sheba Orchids and Mountain Bells, plus the beauty of the mountain landscape, this park is one of the South West's most popular destinations.

### Porongurup National Park

The pathways in Porongurup National Park lead through marri, jarrah and karri forest to reach the summits of weathered granite domes. From here there are panoramic views of the coastline, the nearby Stirling Range, surrounding farmland and vineyards. Among the granite and scenic views you'll discover loads of native flora and fauna.

### Myrtle Benn

The Myrtle Benn Flora and Fauna Sanctuary is an interesting walk trail that is home to many native orchids and wildflowers along Kojonup's Historical Walk Trail.

### Torndirrup National Park

Along Torndirrup National Park's buffeted

coastline you'll find The Gap and Natural Bridge - two spectacular coastal features that have been sculpted by the powerful Southern Ocean, complemented by a display of wildflowers including the Sticky Tailflower, the pink Pimilea Rosea and blue Scaevola Nitida.

### D'entrecasteaux National Park

Explore the coastal heath on the limestone cliffs of Point D'Entrecasteaux and Windy Harbour, where you'll find Blue Beard and South Coast Spider Orchids, Bearded Heaths and Hibbertias, as well as Dunsborough Donkey, Zebra, and Cherry Spider.

### Karri Forest Explorer Drive

In October, experience the best of Pemberton's national parks along the Karri Forest Explorer Drive. Visit Big Brook Dam, Beedelup Falls, and the Cascades where you can view displays of Water Bush, Tassel Bush, Tree Hovea, White Clematis, Native Wisteria, Soap Bush and Net-leaved Wattle.

### Heartbreak Trail

Travel through majestic old growth karri forest along Warren National Park's Heartbreak Trail, where the average age of these eucalypts is 300 years old. Look for Snail, Bird and Karri Spider Orchids along the trail.

### Northcliffe Forest Park

The Northcliffe Forest Park is a 246 hectare nature reserve adjoining the Northcliffe townsite with a variety of walk, bike and drive options. Orchids can be found most of the year, but the abundance of species

- including Forest Mantis, Diamond, Karri, Leaping, and Stumpy Spider Orchids - can be spotted from mid-September to December.

### Cape to Cape Track

Heading out to the coast you can take a captivating walk along the Cape to Cape Track, starting at Cape Naturaliste and ending at Cape Leeuwin, the meeting point of the Southern and Indian Oceans. This trail has spectacular coastal scenery, fascinating geology and sensational wildflowers such as Vanilla Orchids, Wisteria, Clematis, Coastal Pimelea and Fan flowers.

### Boranup Forest

Lose yourself among the towering 60m karri trees exploring the Boranup Forest in the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park and marvel at the intricate formations of Mammoth Cave. Wildflowers in this region include deep blue Karri Hovea, trailing Clematis, yellow Cone bush and Patersonia.

### Manea Park

Just 20 minutes from Bunbury, Manea Park's Pultenaea Loop is a compacted limestone walk trail that offers the perfect vantage point for spotting Kangaroo Paws, Donkey Orchids, White Spider Orchids, Cow Slips Orchids and Jug Orchids.

### Crooked Brook Forest

There are four scenic walking trails located within the Crooked Brook Forest, ranging from a 600m disabled access path to a 10km trail with views of the coast. Pack a picnic and enjoy a day searching for Pink Myrtle, White Heath, Yellow Candles, Blue Leschenaultia and Blue Hovea.

### Wellington Discovery Forest Centre

Situated amongst the magnificent jarrah forest of the Wellington National Park, this centre offers an educational experience for young and old. While there, look for Yellow Pea, White Clematis, White Myrtle, Buttercups and Milk Maids.

*Want a memento of your wildflower experience? Take a picture, not a flower. Not only will it last longer, but you'll help preserve our native flora and will avoid attracting a \$2,000 fine.*



## ECO & SUSTAINABILITY EXPERIENCES

We love a green getaway that has us feeling good about connecting with nature and leaving no footprints. Check out these operators who promote eco and sustainability.

### **Busselton Jetty**

An ecotourism attraction of excellence, the Busselton Jetty is operated by a non-profit community organisation. A world first Pile Rehabilitation project is being carried out under the Jetty by Busselton Jetty divers, youth leaders and volunteers to rehabilitate soft corals and sea sponges.

### **Dolphin Discovery Centre, Bunbury**

A self-sustaining not for profit community organisation dedicated to the protection of marine animals and the conservation of their environment.

### **Cape To Cape Explorer Tours, Margaret River**

Authentic and invigorating eco-conscious tours that will help you leave only footprints.

### **Pemberton Discovery Tours**

Pemberton Discovery Tours currently has

two tours with Advanced Eco Accreditation certified by Ecotourism Australia, their tours are run in keeping with eco rules and regulations.

### **Naturaliste Charters**

Naturaliste Charters has set the highest level for marine experiences in the South west of Western Australia. Their strong environmental values stem from a crew who are passionate about the ocean and all its connections.

### **Tree Chalets, Busselton**

Nestled on a Rose gum plantation, these eco-friendly, sustainable and luxurious chalets in Busselton are built using Australian timbers grown on the farm, powered by the sun and fed by rainwater.

### **WOW Wilderness, Walpole**

This informative guided tour on the Walpole inlet showcases the region's rare wildlife with humour and conservation education.

### **Passel Estate, Margaret River**

This small, family owned estate features natural bushland that has become the relocation site for endangered Western



♀ AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE PARK, ALBANY

Ringtail Possums. Learn about their wildlife conservation on a wine sunset tour.

### **South West Eco Discoveries, Margaret River Region**

These unique guided tours offer insight into the marine environment, flora, fauna, geography and history of Geographe Bay and Cape Naturaliste. Take a nocturnal animal tour for a chance to observe critically endangered woylies.



♀ DOLPHIN DISCOVERY CENTRE, BUNBURY



## ACCESSIBILITY

The region is on a continual mission to educate accommodation and tour operators on how to design their business with people with disabilities in mind. This can include people in wheelchairs, to people who need to travel with support, have learning challenges or who have vision or hearing loss.

[australiassouthwest.com](http://australiassouthwest.com) has an accessibility widget that better serves our content for people with disabilities.



# CULTURE & HERITAGE

THE KODJA PLACE, KOJONUP

## THE WORLD'S OLDEST LIVING CULTURE

The first inhabitants of Australia's South West were the Noongar Aboriginal people, who have had a connection with the land for almost 60,000 years. Conservationists by nature, they were semi-nomadic hunter gatherers who followed a six-season calendar, still used by Noongar people today. The six seasons – **Birak, Bunuru, Djeran, Makuru, Djilba and Kambarang** – represent the seasonal changes we see across the South West annually.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



### **Birak | December – January**

Known as the season of fire and the young, *Birak* is very hot and dry. Burning of scrub was once done to encourage new shoots to grow.



### **Bunuru | February – March**

Long days and short nights signify *Bunuru*, the hottest of the six seasons. Traditionally this was and still is, a great time for living and fishing by the coast, rivers and estuaries.



### **Djeran | April – May**

*Djeran* is marked by cooler nights, dewy mornings and when leaves fall to the ground, *Ngari* (salmon) are prolific.



### **Makuru | June – July**

*Makuru* is the coldest season with rain, storms and long nights. There is good hunting of *yongka* (kangaroo), *wetj* (emu), *kaarda* (goanna), *koomal* (possum) and *kwenda* (bandicoot).



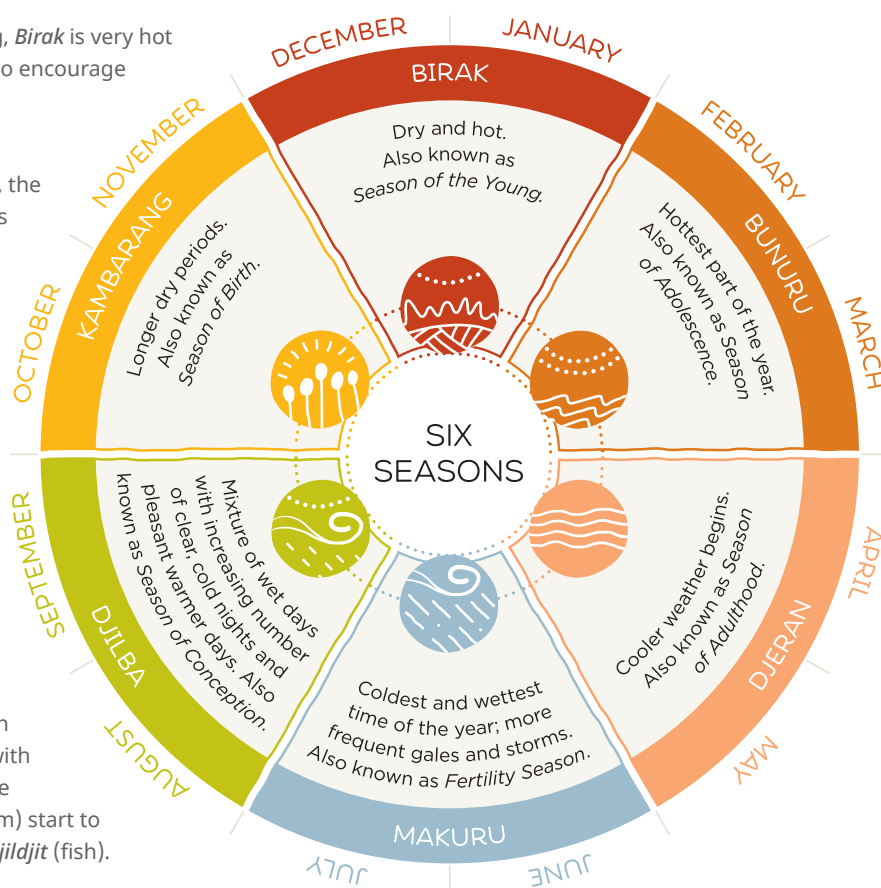
### **Djilba | August – September**

*Djilba* is a transitional time of the year, with some very cold and clear days combined with warmer, rainy and windy days. You'll notice budding *djet* (flowers) and *koola* (emu plum) start to fruit. It's also a great time to catch some *djildjit* (fish).



### **Kambarang | October – November**

*Kambarang* sees longer and warmer days and less rain. The *djet* are in full bloom and plants used for *mereny* (food), medicine, crafts, tools, *kaal* (fire) and ceremony are collected.





# DREAMTIME STORIES

Want to learn more about the bonars (seasons) and one of the world's oldest living cultures? Go on an Aboriginal cultural tour or experience in the region today.

## **Bunbury Geographe**

Join local tour guide Troy Bennell from Ngalang Wongi Aboriginal Cultural Tours as he visits significant sites in Bunbury and the Ferguson Valley and shares dreaming stories associated with the region.

After a group getaway? Roelands Village is a former mission set amidst 500 acres of rolling hills. It features refurbished timber cottages, village facilities and bushwalk trails.

## **Margaret River Region**

Visit famous landmarks like Sugarloaf Rock, Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse and more with local indigenous company, Koomal

Dreaming. Gain a deep connection to the land as Wadandi custodian Josh Whiteland teaches you about the six seasons of the Noongar calendar, the ecology of the region and how it relates to the surrounding environment. Alternatively, journey into Yallingup's Ngilgi Cave and experience a live didgeridoo performance deep inside the rock walls.

## **Great Southern**

Connect with the Great Southern land at The Kodja Place interpretive centre in Kojoonup. The centre showcases local indigenous heritage and culture, as well as the Australian Rose Maze, which explores Australia's rose-growing heritage and shares the poignant stories of the three women – Yoondi the Noongar, Elizabeth the English and Maria the Italian – who

are set into the paths of the maze. Take an Aboriginal cultural tour with Kurrah Mia to learn about how the Menang Noongar People moved throughout the land for hunting and gathering, for ceremonial rituals and daily life, and experience the culture through unique and authentic Aboriginal art. Visit the Yongergnow Australian Malleefowl Centre to immerse yourself in the mallee bushland. The name Yongergnow is made up from the Noongar words 'yonger' (male kangaroo) and 'gnow' (Malleefowl).

'Yonger' represents the location in Ongerup (place of the male kangaroo), and 'gnow' – the centre's objective to protect the Malleefowl. The Noongar words were chosen to represent Yongergnow's ties with the local Aboriginal community.







♀ NATIONAL ANZAC CENTRE, ALBANY



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

♀ LOST & FOUND FESTIVAL

Steeped in a rich historical past and thriving arts community, the South West boasts a plethora of events and festivals that draw-in the best homegrown, national and international artists, chefs, musicians, and filmmakers to West Australian shores. Discover artisan markets, stunning exhibitions, state-of-the-art entertainment precincts, enthralling Aboriginal cultural tours, and delectable food and arts festivals on your next trip.

## FEELING FESTIVE?

Australia's South West is where arts and culture collide, bringing to life the stories of the vibrant acclaimed local artists. Each sub-region is home to an eclectic community of creatives, who attract visitors to the South West through open studios and unique festivals. Go to page 10 for some of the South West's key festivals and events, or head to [australiassouthwest.com/events](http://australiassouthwest.com/events) for an up-to-date list.

## THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

Art precincts and galleries dot their way through most of the South West's cities and towns. The Albany Entertainment Centre plays host to touring and local performing arts events throughout the year. The Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre presents world-class acts and shows, while the pink, heritage-listed Bunbury Regional Art Gallery showcases dazzling creations from local and international artists. Be sure to also check out the new hub of entertainment and arts at Margaret River HEART.



♀ BUNBURY REGIONAL ART GALLERY

## DON'T MISS

Joining an Aboriginal cultural experience to learn about one of the world's oldest living cultures.

Marvelling at the world's biggest dam mural – 'Reflections' – at Wellington Dam.

Immersing yourself in the private workshops of local artists with Margaret River Open Studios.

Walking the streets of Bunbury's CBD and admiring the vibrant street art

Visit the last port the ANZACs left from and learn about their history at the National ANZAC Centre in Albany

A trip to one of the region's many art galleries for a glimpse of local creative masterpieces.







♀ WELLINGTON DAM MURAL,  
NEAR COLLIE



♀ BUNBURY GEOGRAPHE

## ART ON THE WALL

There are all sorts of creative outdoor art by internationally renowned artists to be found in each South West town. If you don't want to miss one, head to your closest visitor centre for directions. We suggest checking out the streets of Bunbury, Collie, and Katanning, as well as the giant grain silos in Albany and Pingrup along the PUBLIC Silo Trail, as well as the can't-be-missed 8,000sqm mural on the Wellington Dam wall near Collie.

For more information about the public art initiatives by Six Two Three Zero and FORM, visit [sixtwothreezero.com](http://sixtwothreezero.com), [form.net.au](http://form.net.au) and [publicsilotrail.com](http://publicsilotrail.com).

## PLAN YOUR EVENT

Searching for a wedding location, a unique conference space or a quirky events venue? Look no further than the South West. Discover a region brimming with unique experiences capable of delivering events beyond your expectations.

Visit [australiassouthwest.com/plan-your-event](http://australiassouthwest.com/plan-your-event) to plan your event down south.

## ART LOVERS ROAD TRIP

### Day 1: Perth to Bunbury Geographe

Head south for 2hrs from Perth to the art lined streets of Collie. Make a stop at Wellington Dam to view the largest regional art mural in the world, before visiting nearby Collie's extensive mural trail and the latest exhibition at the Collie Art Gallery. Then, wander the streets of Bunbury in search of vibrant street art. Admire the Aboriginal art sculpture on Koombana Bay Foreshore, or join a walking tour with Aboriginal artist Troy Bennell. Next, visit Bunbury Regional Art Gallery to catch the latest exhibitions in its six gallery spaces, as well as the historic Bunbury Museum and Heritage Centre to admire charismatic objects in their collection. Overnight in Bunbury.

### Day 2: Bunbury To Margaret River Region

Continue the drive south for 1hr to the Margaret River region and gear up for a day of gallery-hopping. Stop in at John Miller Design in Yallingup for iconic, handcrafted Margaret River artisan jewellery. Then, indulge in a spot of lunch at Vasse Felix, the oldest winery in the region, which also features the Holmes à Court Gallery. Journey further into the heart of Margaret River township to find incredible galleries, before overnighting in Margaret River. Our tip: align your trip with one of the many artistic events in the region, such as Margaret River Open Studios, Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival, or CinefestOZ Film Festival.

### Day 3: Margaret River Region to Southern Forests and Valleys

Head down to the stunning Boranup Forest on your way to Leeuwin Estate, where you can stop to sip on premium wine and check out the art gallery that inspires their labels. Then, continue your drive along Brockman and Vasse Highways through the stunning karri forests to get a glimpse of Manjimup's Power Up Electricity Museum. Continue onwards to Northcliffe, where you'll find the Understory Art and Nature walk. Beginning from the Northcliffe Visitor Centre, you'll walk 1.2km across the boardwalk trail through stunning native forest, dotted with sculptures, music, and writing artworks commissioned by nationally and internationally renowned creatives. Overnight in Pemberton.

### Day 4: Southern Forests and Valleys to Great Southern

Grab a coffee and head on over to Denmark in the Great Southern, where you can visit local art galleries before making the drive to Albany. Here, you'll learn about the local Noongar culture and history at the Museum of the Great Southern and Kurrah Mia, and can even seek out the giant painted grain silos on the PUBLIC Silo Trail. Overnight in Albany.

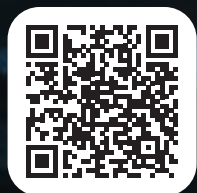
### Day 5: Great Southern to Perth

Begin your route back to Perth, but not before detouring via some not-to-be-missed art experiences in the rural Great Southern towns. If you're feeling adventurous, discover another impressive silo mural in Pingrup and explore the rustic street art of Katanning. Drive the Horsepower Highway, a 75km trail of vintage and quirky tractors from the north of the Stirling Range National Park through Gnowangerup and Broomehill. Stop in at The Kodja Place & Kojonup Visitor Centre for a cultural experience and colourful Aboriginal artwork before following Albany Highway back to Perth.



# ESCAPE & CONNECT

Tranquility and serenity trickle into every corner of Australia's South West – a wellness destination designed for ultimate relaxation. Take time out of your busy schedule to unwind and indulge in a bit of nature's grandeur, with the luxurious South West locations renowned for romantic escapes, spa and wellness retreats, and Wi-Fi-free zones, perfect for disconnecting and immersing yourself in some quality time with loved ones.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE  STARGAZING, FITZGERALD NATIONAL PARK

## STARGAZING

Take yourself away from the bright lights of the city to the South West. Blessed with many areas free from light pollution, it is an ultimate destination for astrotourism. Find a secluded spot and gaze skywards for a romantic and impressive astronomy display.

## GLAMPING

Wish you could skip the 'roughing it' part of camping? Say goodbye to sore backs with Glamping, or glamorous camping. Flourishing throughout the South West, think bell tents decked out with cosy beds, fluffy cushions, and festoon lights, plus a stunning outdoor backdrop. There are plenty of glamping options in the South West, so get ready to snuggle up!

## A FOREST BATHING EXPERIENCE

Have you heard of the practice of 'forest bathing'? Steeped in Japanese tradition, this is a form of therapy that sees people spend time in nature to increase mental wellness, boost immunity, and reduce stress. Walk among ancient trees at the Valley of the Giants or soak up the dappled sunlight in the Boranup Forest. Add some art to the mix with these unique forest trails:

### Understory Art and Nature Trail

A stunning 'art in nature' experience located at the Northcliffe Visitor Centre. Artworks created by Australian and international artists are dotted along a 1.2km walk trail through the pristine native forest. Sculptures, stories, poetry, and music explore the relationship with nature and the 'spirit of place'.

### The Swarbrick Art Loop

Located near Walpole, this trail features an impressive 39m-long 'Wilderness Wall of Perceptions', which encourages exploration of the forest and wild surrounds from a different perspective.

## DAY SPAS

In need of a bit of pampering for the soul? The South West is the perfect place to relax and recuperate. A health and wellbeing haven, the region is home to a dazzling array of wellness centres, day spas, and pilates/yoga studios. There's something to suit anyone's needs – from after hours in-hotel room massages, to secluded yoga spots surrounded by beautiful forests and coastlines. Try a Luxury Spa Retreat or for the fitness fanatics hit the beautiful running trails bordered by cliff-top views and saltwater breezes.





## WELLNESS

Rejuvenate the body and mind with a holistic holiday in Australia's South West. Treat yourself to organic paddock to plate produce or join an eco-tour to learn about growing sustainable practices throughout the region and its coastlines, forests, and waterways. Daring visitors can energize themselves with a bit of hot sauna and cold ice-bath therapy, or opt for a gentler breather with yoga, Pilates, or guided mindfulness and meditation experiences.



## SOUTH WEST HYGGE

There's something magical about curling up by a crackling wood fire. The Danish call it Hygge; cosy contentment that comes with enjoying the simple things in life. Want to experience hygge right here in the South West? The area is home to a vast array of accommodation options – think snug cabins warmed by wood fireplaces and glamping options with 360-degree views of the stars. Just bring your favourite book, a bottle of red wine, and some hot chocolate for the kids, and you'll be getting the warm fuzzies in no time at all.



♀ SUNSET, FERGUSON VALLEY

## ROMANTIC GETAWAYS

The South West is WA's go-to destination for weddings, anniversaries, and romantic escapes. The summer season sees many couples 'tying the knot' in the region, while winter is a beautiful time to enjoy a cheeky red wine by the fire. Picturesque views, lush green wineries, and surging ocean backdrops – it is no wonder Australia's South West is renowned as one of the world's top wedding destinations. Here's our pick of the most romantic things to do in the South West.

- Stay in one of the many intimate and charming accommodation options. In the South West, you can stay inside an old mill, a windmill, aboard a luxury vessel or houseboat, in glamping tents and beach houses, as well as by vineyards, farms, rivers, orchards and forests.
- Get the perfect wedding photos taken at one of the many picturesque locations throughout the region. The golden hour light truly must be seen to be believed!
- Be chauffeured around one of the South West's wine regions for a day of gourmet food tastings and delectable drops, followed by a long lunch at a winery.
- Enjoy 'his and hers' massages at a day spa or turn the trip into a luxury weekend away with a few nights stay at a retreat.
- Spend a wintery weekend sipping wine, playing board games, and watching the rain fall outside your wood cabin.
- Grab a locally produced picnic and watch the sunset from one of the many stunning vantage points along the coast.
- Have a beachside brunch on your very own secluded beach (with more than 1000km of South West coastline, it's easier to achieve than you think!).
- Go on a helicopter ride or private joy flight to experience the undulating, vineyard clad hills and endless coast of the South West from above.





📍 GOLDEN VALLEY TREE PARK, BALINGUP

## FAMILY FUN

Want to get the whole family in on the fun? The South West offers the ideal range of outdoor activities that are easily accessible, entertaining, and made for young and old.

## FUN PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS

If you're full of energy, head to one of the many fun parks, trampoline venues, skate parks, and playgrounds the South West has to offer. Donnybrook Apple Fun Park is the biggest free fun park in the Southern Hemisphere, the Manjimup Heritage Park features a giant slide, and the new All Ages Playground in Katanning is not-to-be missed. Stay cool in the summer at the new Sykes Foreshore Splash Park in Bunbury. There are also many purpose-built and refurbished skate parks free to test your skills in. Most fun parks provide free entry to spectators. Head to your closest visitor centre to find a park near you.

## GARDENS & NATURE PARKS

Looking to stretch the legs? Beautiful gardens and parks abound in Australia's South West, including the town of Nannup and the heritage-listed Golden Valley Tree Park (Western Australia's largest arboretum park) in Balingup, which holds a unique collection of interesting trees from all over the world. Head to the closest visitor centre for directions to gaze upon the great gardens in each region.

## SOUTH WEST MAZES

From a half hectare giant hedge maze to a labyrinth grown from native and exotic shrubs – spend hours unlocking the mysteries of the region's many a-maze-ing attractions with your friends and family. Don't miss these picks:

- A Maze'n, Margaret River
- Boranup Forest Maze, Karridale
- Denmark Maze, Denmark
- Yallingup Maze, Yallingup

## MEET THE ANIMALS

Want to see some of the South West's diverse creatures up close? Head to these wildlife parks and farms for a hands-on experience and learn about the diverse fauna of the regions.

- Meet native animals at Albany's Historic Whaling Station (Discovery Bay Australian Wildlife Park)
- Discover the friendly animals at Bunbury Wildlife Park
- Interact with wild dolphins and other marine life at Dolphin Discovery Centre, Bunbury
- Have a horse-riding experience at Jesters Flat, Margaret River
- Say hello to alpacas and other farm animals at Denmark Animal Farm & Pentland Alpaca Stud, Denmark

## PET-FRIENDLY

Planning your holiday around pets, especially dogs, can be tricky. It is important to note that there are many national parks across Australia's South West where pets are not permitted (approved assistance dogs excepted). Unfortunately, our beloved furry friends are a threat to native fauna, so it's important to check online for pet-friendly venues and activities before you hit the road, and always abide by signage in the region. Luckily, the South West is filled with pet-friendly accommodation, wineries, restaurants, cafes, beaches, and parks for those not wanting to leave their pooch behind.

Here are some of our top suggestions for dog-friendly spots in the South West to help you plan your adventure:

### Beaches

- Back Beach, Bunbury
- Bunker Bay, Cape Naturaliste
- Flinders Bay, Augusta
- Gnarabup dog beach, Margaret River
- Lights Beach, Denmark
- Middleton Beach, Albany
- Peaceful Bay

### Walks & Hikes

- Big Brook Dam, Pemberton
- Blackwood River Walk, Bridgetown
- Golden Valley Tree Park, Balingup
- Karri Walk Trail, Denmark
- Point Possession Heritage Trail, Albany
- Wadandi Track, Margaret River



## SOUTH WEST FARMSTAYS

Farmstays offer more than just a place to rest your head. Wake up and feed friendly farm animals, learn how a working farm operates or just sit back and enjoy a unique retreat. Here's a selection of farmstay style accommodation to consider for your next family holiday.

### BALINGUP HEIGHTS HILLTOP FOREST COTTAGES

**65 Balingup-Nannup Rd, Balingup**

Enjoy the rustic country charm of well-appointed self-contained cottages, immersed in nature atop rolling hills. Wake up to a misty morning, feed the farm animals, spot native birds, go fruit picking, or explore one of the many walking trails to discover wildlife and wildflowers nearby.

### BIG4 TAUNTON HOLIDAY FARM

**8113 Bussell Highway, Cowaramup**

Situated on a working beef and sheep farm, Taunton Farm boasts 18 fully self-contained farm-style cottages, a bushy green camping area, playground, and a large barn-style campers' kitchen.

### DONNELLY RIVER VILLAGE

**Corner Sears and Andrews Rd, Donnelly River**

A historic mill town nestled deep in the heart of karri forest, Donnelly River offers chalet-style accommodation and the chance to see a possum, feed a baby kangaroo, and make friends with an emu.

### CHESTNUT BRAE

**106 McKittrick Road, Nannup**

If you're looking for a peaceful rural retreat and a premium gourmet experience, try Chestnut Brae. Learn about the prickly burrs journey on a chestnut tour, go searching for fungi, or catch fresh water marron from the farm's dams, before taking in panoramic views of the property from the cottage's upstairs balcony.

### DIAMOND FOREST FARM STAY

**29159 South Western Highway, Pemberton**

This 50-acre farm and 3-acre dam is family and pet friendly, which means everyone – including the dog – can go on the family getaway.

### RAC KARRI VALLEY RESORT

**1 Vasse Highway, Pemberton**

Take a true nature escape beneath the karri forest and help feed the resort's resident pig, miniature ponies, rabbits, chickens, and guinea pigs daily.

### EIGHT WILLOWS RETREAT

**266 Metricup Rd, Wilyabrup**

Eight Willows Retreat offers luxurious accommodation surrounded by beautiful bushland. Spot the retreat's hand-reared joeys roaming around the grounds or watch them being fed daily.

### BURNSIDE ORGANIC FARM

**287 Burnside Rd, Burnside**

The McCall family grow or produce avocados, grapes, honey, and capers on their self-sufficient farm. Guests of the farm bungalows can enjoy products in season, as well as explore the organic vineyard, take farm walks, and feed the animals.

### MARGARET RIVER HOLIDAY COTTAGES

**185 Boodjidup Rd, Margaret River**

This family-owned and run farm has fully self-contained cottages nestled in a sanctuary of Gum and Peppermint trees. Meet their growing 'posse' of pets including miniature Irish donkeys, sheep, alpacas, chickens, and ducks.



♀ MANJIMUP HERITAGE PARK



♀ BUNBURY WILDLIFE PARK



♀ MARGARET RIVER



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- Explore off-the-beaten track in the **Fitzgerald River National Park**.



## MOUNTAIN BIKING MECCA

- Get into the zone on the iconic **Munda Biddi Trail** and complete the longest continuous off-road cycling track in the world.
- Freestyle your way through WA's mountain biking hotspots, from the **Wambenger Trails Network** in Collie, to leisure and adventure trails in Nannup, to the **South West MTB Trails** in Margaret River and beyond.



# YOUR BUNBURY GEOGRAPHE HOLIDAY

Dreaming of Indian Ocean sunsets that paint the sky purple and boutique wineries where the grapes grow kissed by morning mists? Traversing the Bunbury Geographe region, just a 2hr drive from Perth, will land you in the heart of its charming central hub Bunbury. Brimming with passionate local artisans, the fast-developing Geographe wine region is overflowing in both stories and tasty drops of alternative varieties like Tempranillo, Fiano, Vermentino and scrumptious Grenache. If trading your cup for a plate is what you prefer, this produce-rich region is also known for captivating citrus, apple, dairy, and beef produce, so pack a picnic basket and get ready to indulge.

 @visitbunburygeographe |  @visitbunburygeographe



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



## HARVEY REGION

  @harveyregion

Nestled beneath the enchanting rolling hills from the Darling Scarp to the ocean, Harvey Region beckons you to experience the dreamscape that is dairy country. Recharge your body and soul by indulging in the region's renowned produce, from sweet sips of orange juice to heavenly bites of beef and cheese. Roll up a rug, grab your picnic hamper and pack it full of farm-fresh treats to while away the hours.

## BUNBURY

  @cityofbunbury

Bound by glistening blue waters, Bunbury brings together city chic with wildlife adventures. Drift in and out of local bars, restaurants, shops, and cafés, journeying down quiet backstreets in search of insta-worthy pictures of the city's vibrant street art. A stone's throw from the CBD, the beach of Koombana Bay invites you to nourish your skin in the ocean's waves alongside friendly bottlenose dolphins at the Dolphin Discovery Centre. With an ever-increasing calendar of creative arts installations, pop-up events and family-friendly festivals, it's no wonder Bunbury is one of the fastest growing regional cities in Australia. Whether you're a wanderer passing through or relaxing on a long-weekend getaway, there's magic among the basalt rocks and sun-drenched sand dunes.

## COLLIE

 @visitcollie  @visitcollierivervalley

Collie connects the stories of old with daring adventures of the new. Soar down mountain bike trails beneath towering timberlines of jarrah, stopping to gaze over picturesque Wellington Dam and National Park. Wake to a warm brew and the whisperings of local wildlife at one of the region's many campsites, nestled beside tranquil swimming holes, lakes, and waterways. Listen as friendly locals delve into the region's historic tales at the Collie Coalfields Museum or go on your own journey of discovery with the stunning Collie Mural Trail.

## DARDANUP & FERGUSON VALLEY

 @fergusonvalley

 @discoverfergusonvalley

Dreamy views await in the stunning Ferguson Valley. Cross the train tracks into Dardanup to explore fifteen heritage sites including a school, post office, heritage park, and a nearly 100-year-old country pub. Winding your way through the valley, majestic rolling hills give way to rows of bountiful vines, home to quaint cellar doors, artisan galleries, and rustic craft breweries. Adventure through tracks bounded by wildflowers on some of WA's best mountain biking trails. While in the valley, spot the tiny creatures hidden among the tall-timber forests in Gnomesville, the magical headquarters for more than 5,000 mischievous gnomes.

## CAPEL

 @shireofcapel  @capelshire

Capel invites you to dive into the ancient world of towering 300-year-old giants, as you drive or hike through the impressive Ludlow Tuart Forest. A mellow Mediterranean climate makes for a unique local produce of cheese, fruit, and wine. After a relaxed bite, slip into the cool waters of pristine beaches or cast a line in the Capel River.

## DONNYBROOK

 @donnybrookwa

Boasting beautiful jarrah and marri landscapes alongside winding rivers and lush orchards, Donnybrook is a rural gem. The apple capital of the west, Donnybrook is home to Australia's largest free entry playground, the Apple Fun Park. Older generations eager to get in on the action can partake in a spot of fruit picking or kick back with a refreshing cider at one of the town's traditional country pubs.

## BALINGUP

 @magicalbalingup

Balingup sits at the entrance of the beautiful Blackwood River Valley, a leisurely hour's drive from Bunbury. Stunning tapestries of rippling green hills lie outside main street's charming stores, bristling with natural skincare products, locally handcrafted pottery, and eye-catching art. Visit in the Autumn to watch the sun paint the trees in rich warm hues each afternoon at Golden Valley Tree Park.







## MUST-DO'S

**1** Swim with the friendly dolphins at Koombana Bay in Bunbury.

**2** Grab a tasty picnic from the Bunbury Farmers market and watch the pastel sunsets at Wyalup (Rocky) Point in Bunbury.

**3** Discover how to weave bulrushes and mix traditional ochre paint as you learn about the world's oldest living culture on a Ngalang Wongi Aboriginal Cultural Tour in Bunbury.

**4** Visit the charming wineries within the Geographe Wine Region and taste exquisite drops from Ferguson Valley, Capel, Harvey region and Donnybrook.

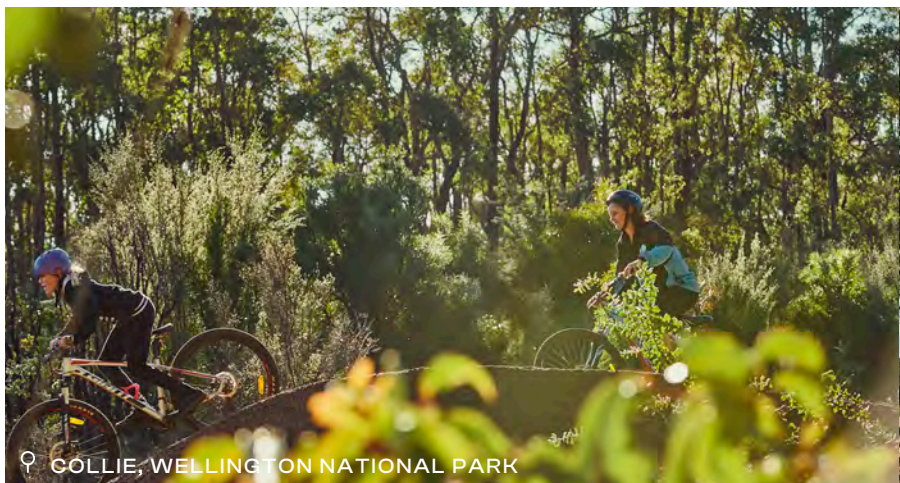
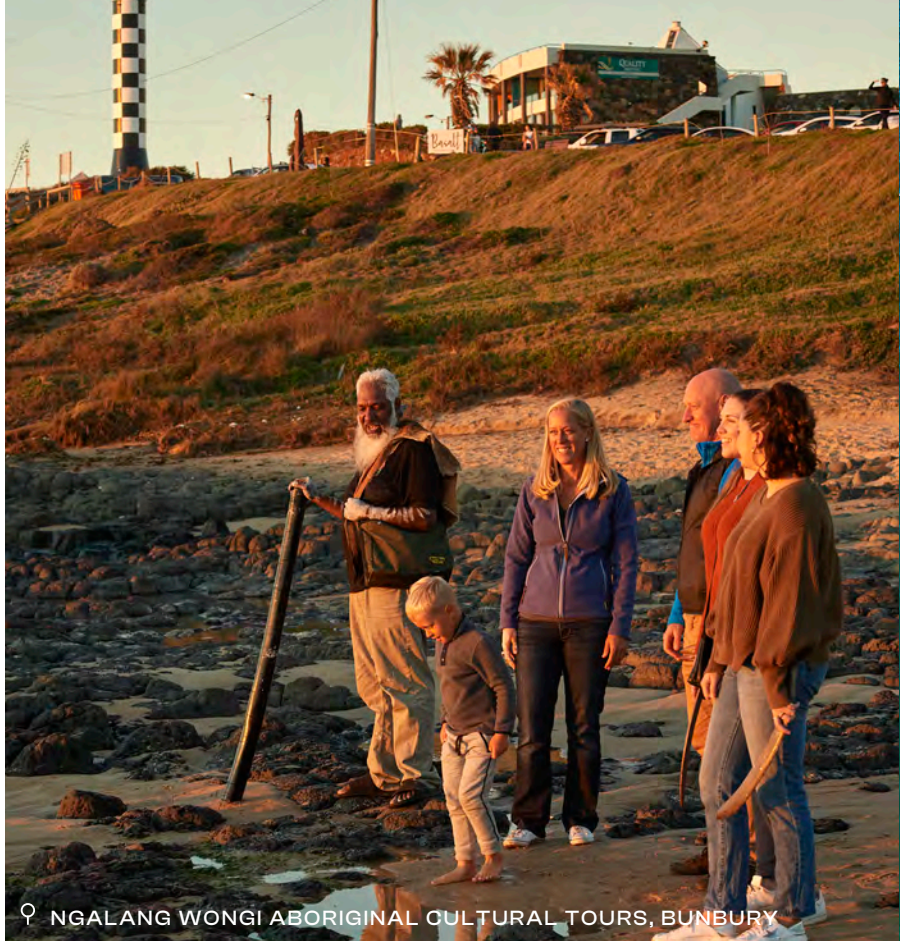
**5** Stroll across one of the world's largest murals, painted by Guido Van Helten, as you walk the spectacular Wellington Dam wall near Collie.

**6** Hit the majestic bushwalking trails in Capel, where cosy canopies of the 300-year-old tuart forest give way to dazzling ocean views.

**7** Take the family (and dogs!) to Golden Valley Tree Park in Balingup for a stroll through the 60 hectare landscaped arboretum.

**8** Pop into Stirling Cottage in Harvey, the former home of beloved children's storybook writer May Gibbs.

**9** Visit the street art scattered through Bunbury's town centre, before heading over to Koombana Bay to take in the striking five-and-a-half metre Wardandi Boodja sculpture.







♀ DOLPHIN TOUR, DOLPHIN DISCOVERY CENTRE, BUNBURY



## VISITOR SERVICING IN BUNBURY GEOGRAPHE

### **Balingup Visitor Centre**

South Western Hwy, Balingup  
Tel: (08) 9764 1818  
[balinguptourism.com.au](http://balinguptourism.com.au)

### **Bunbury Visitor Centre**

Bunbury Museum & Heritage Centre,  
1 Arthur St, Bunbury  
or Dolphin Discovery Centre,  
Koombana Dr, Bunbury  
Tel: (08) 9792 7205  
[visitbunburygeographe.com.au](http://visitbunburygeographe.com.au)

### **Collie River Valley Visitor Centre**

156 Throssell St, Collie  
Tel: (08) 9734 2051  
[collierivervalley.com.au](http://collierivervalley.com.au)

### **Donnybrook Visitor Centre**

Old Railway Station,  
South Western Hwy, Donnybrook  
Tel: (08) 9731 1720  
[donnybrookwa.com.au](http://donnybrookwa.com.au)

### **Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre**

5 Ferguson Rd, Dardanup  
Tel: (08) 9728 1551  
[fergusonvalley.net.au](http://fergusonvalley.net.au)

## SELFIE SPOTS

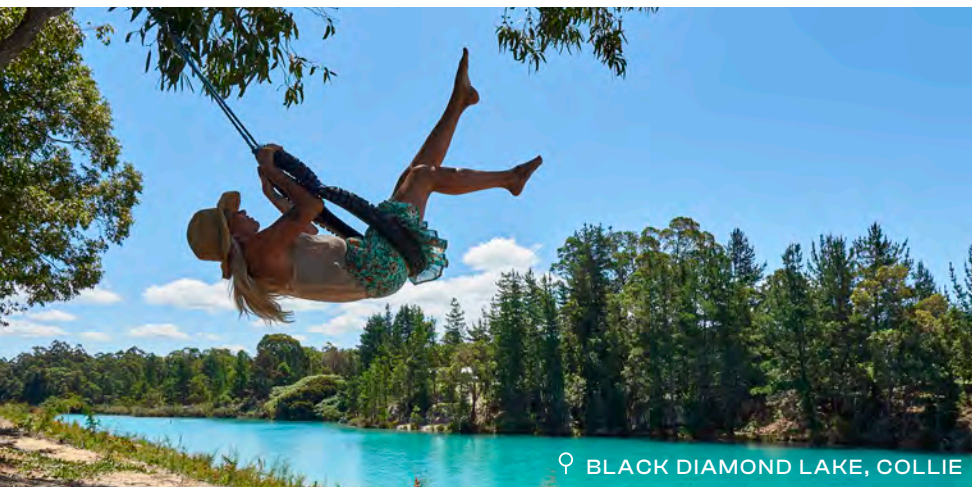
Gaze over the largest wall mural in the world at Wellington Dam lookout near Collie

Pick your own seasonal fresh produce of apples and stone fruit, at one of Donnybrook's charming orchards

Dip your feet in the white sands and blue waters of Capel's Peppermint Grove Beach



♀ BUNBURY REGIONAL ART GALLERY, BUNBURY



♀ BLACK DIAMOND LAKE, COLLIE



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Cook up a gourmet feast in your kitchen or enjoy a meal in our cafe restaurant.

Superbly located in the Ferguson Valley, nearby to Honeymoon Pool, MTB trails, just 20 minutes from Bunbury's beaches and just two hours from Perth, Evedon Lakeside Retreat is perfect for a family holiday or romantic getaway. See website for cafe restaurant opening hours - bookings essential.

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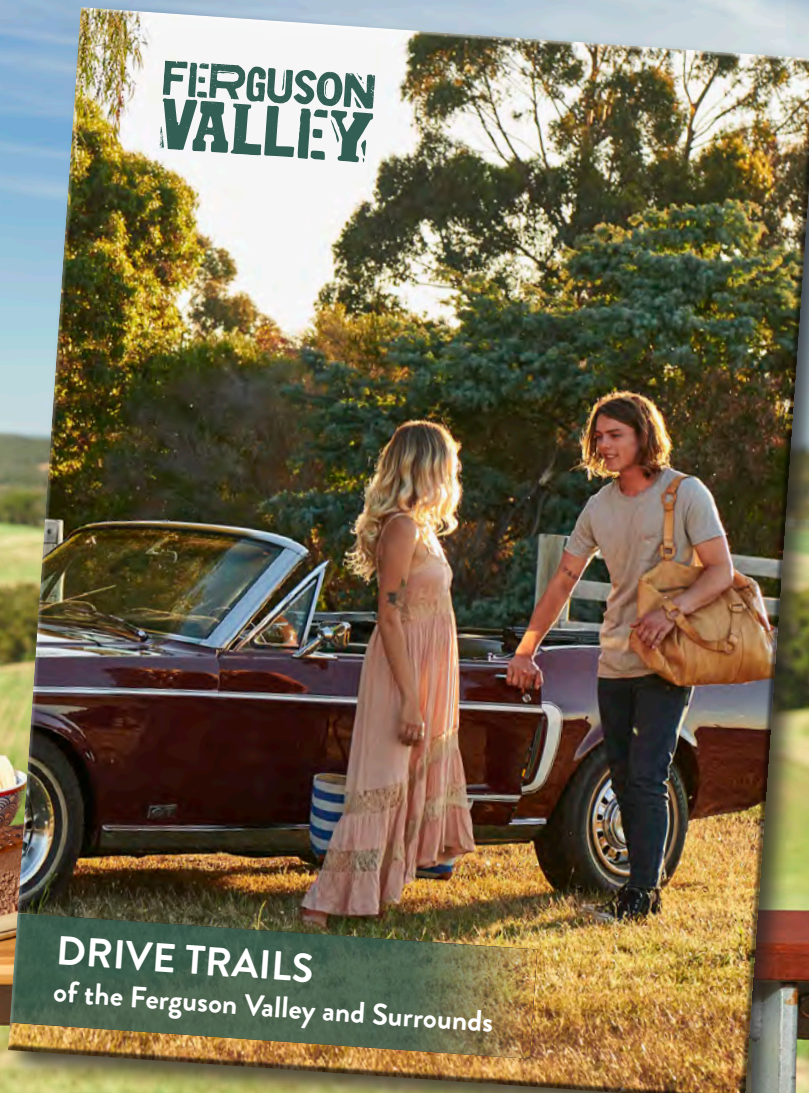
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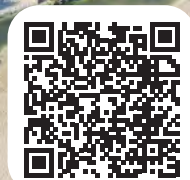


# YOUR MARGARET RIVER REGION HOLIDAY

Cool ocean breezes drift off sparkling Indian Ocean waters, infusing the plump grapes of rolling vineyards in the Margaret River region, one of the most awarded fine wine locations in Australia. The Margaret River Region is home to one of the world's longest, unbroken human occupations, resulting in an immensely deep cultural knowledge and connection to the land. For the last 60,000 years, this has been traditional land of the Wadandi (Saltwater) People. Tall timber karri forests give way to ancient underground caves, flawless beaches, and wild surf breaks. Chase the endless horizon on a day trip or a rejuvenating weekend escape, beginning just an easy 2.5hr drive from Perth in the serene seaside escape of Busselton, known for its famed 1.8km timber-pile jetty. Continue down the coastline to indulge in fresh local produce at fine-dining restaurants, signature wineries, and bespoke breweries. Seek out wildflowers along the coastal trails and relax alongside friendly wildlife happy to welcome you to their little slice of paradise.



 @margaretriverwineregion |  @margaretriver



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



## BUSSELTON

From nautical-themed parks splashed across the foreshore to trendy restaurants, bars and breweries, Busselton is a proverbial playground for the young and old. Enjoy a spot of fish and chips on soft sandy beaches before hopping the train across the ocean to the end of the Southern Hemisphere's longest wood-piled jetty. Explore the coastline's sunken surrounds from the Underwater Observatory, sneaking glimpses of shy seahorses or seals around the artificial reef. Admire Geographe Bay's luminous waters up close with a spot of snorkelling, water skiing, scuba diving, windsurfing, kayaking, or sailing, as the endless horizon beckons fishers to try their hand at catching a bite.

## DUNSBOROUGH

Step into an ethereal world of white sandy coves and wildflower-dotted national parks in Dunsborough. Shining turquoise waters contrast against ancient granite and limestone ridges along the Cape Naturaliste coast. Take a drive to the lighthouses and lookouts for a chance to see the awe-inspiring migration of whales in spring. In town, homely stores burgeoning with hand-made gifts sit beside cafes, bakeries, burger bars, and alfresco dining. If conquering the rugged terrain is more your thing, Dunsborough is also the start of the epic Cape to Cape Track, a 124km coastal trail from Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse to Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse. With the wind in your hair and sun warming your skin, you'll alternate between sweeping cliff tops, stony paths, and long secluded beaches, with nightly ocean sunsets that will take your breath away.

## YALLINGUP

Sun-kissed sands and big swells are at the heart of cosy coastal hamlet, Yallingup, known for its dramatic shorelines and world-class waves. Sea spray crashes over jagged rocks by some of the world's best surf breaks, while sheltered bays award intrepid explorers the chance to spot sealife in crystal-clear rock pools. Grab a board and plunge in at Three Bears, Smith's Beach, Rabbits, Yallingup, or Indijup breaks for barrels of fun. Venture inland and you'll understand why the Indigenous Noongar people refer to Yallingup as the 'place of caves'. Ancient stories lie beneath the brush, calling to thrill-seekers ready to descend into the dark on a guided tour. Embrace the magic of this majestic location come sunset, basking in dreamy pastel skies and golden waters.

## COWARAMUP

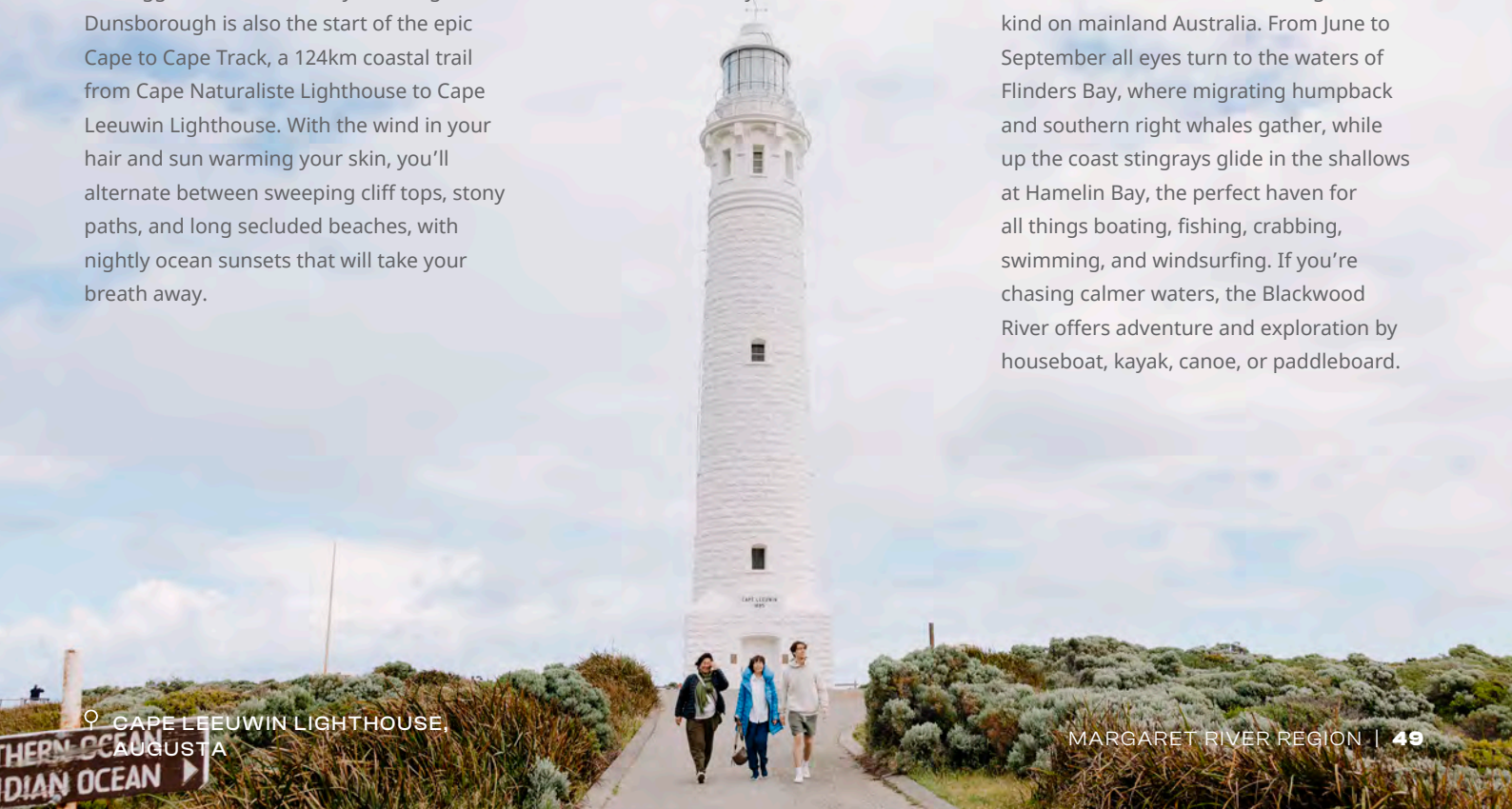
Originally a timber town, Cowaramup's moo-ve towards farming has made it a must for sumptuous fresh local produce and satiating a sweet tooth. Affectionally known as 'Cow Town' by the locals, a herd of more than 40 life-size fiberglass cows dot the streets in a fun treasure hunt. Nature lovers can walk off the delectable treats along the gentle Wadandi Track, which follows the old railway.

## MARGARET RIVER

Margaret River's jewel-like caves, tall-timber forests, and thundering surf breaks collide with culinary experiences and tantalizing wines to form pure magic. Hear it in the waves that crash against rugged reefs, sip it in masterful wines from almost 100 cellar doors, and feel it in the dim light of giant limestone caverns. Nestled on the banks of The Margaret River, it's a short drive to Prevelly, the perfect vantage point for watching local surfers take to the ocean. Skilled pros or grommets just getting their sea legs will find dream-worthy conditions at the more than 40 breaks around Margaret River, ranging from powerful barrels to fun beach dips. Spend an afternoon sampling gourmet food including berries, fudge, preserves, olive oils, and chocolate, before wetting your whistle at one of many rustic breweries and distilleries.

## AUGUSTA

Located at the mouth of the beautiful Blackwood River and kissed by sparkling Indian and Southern Ocean waters, the charming town of Augusta is where the dreams of aquatic enthusiasts come to life. Perched on the most south-westerly tip, historical Cape Leeuwin lighthouse shines across the sea, the tallest building of its kind on mainland Australia. From June to September all eyes turn to the waters of Flinders Bay, where migrating humpback and southern right whales gather, while up the coast stingrays glide in the shallows at Hamelin Bay, the perfect haven for all things boating, fishing, crabbing, swimming, and windsurfing. If you're chasing calmer waters, the Blackwood River offers adventure and exploration by houseboat, kayak, canoe, or paddleboard.





♀ BUSSELTON JETTY



## MUST-DO'S

- 1** Let the kids unleash their inner pirate as they take the wheel of the wooden shipwreck at the Busselton Foreshore Adventure Playground.
- 2** Glimpse some of the ocean's rarest and most spectacular wildlife up close on a whale watching tour from Augusta or Busselton. Listen as marine biologists impart wisdom on the migrating humpback, southern-right, and blue whales.
- 3** Sample delectable local produce such as nougat, olives, chocolate, and honey, as well as premium sips from the region's many prestigious cellar doors.
- 4** Traverse the unspoilt landscape on horseback, tackling trails amid undulating vineyards and kangaroo-dotted farmland.
- 5** Marvel at the power of the ocean as you stand high above the thundering water crashing through the naturally carved granite channels of Canal Rocks.
- 6** Climb the tallest lighthouse on mainland Australia to its dizzying 39-metre height, on a tour of Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse.
- 7** Stand in the majesty of Boranup forest, a 25min drive south of Margaret River, where sunlight dapples through towering karri trees that reach skywards more than 60m.
- 8** Head to the sunken depths of one of only 6 underwater observatories in the world at the Busselton Jetty, catching a glimpse of colourful corals, sponges, fish, and even mermaids.
- 9** Descend into the eerie quiet and explore the region's ancient natural history in one of four magnificent limestone caves – Jewel, Lake, Mammoth, and Ngilgi.
- 10** Kick up dirt on Meelup's mountain bike trails, with both beginner and advanced courses, before tucking into lunch from one of the tasty local bakeries in nearby Dunsborough.



♀ BLUE WHALE, NATURALISTE CHARTERS



♀ VINEYARD, MARGARET RIVER REGION



### DID YOU KNOW?

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♀ SUGARLOAF ROCK



♀ BORANUP FOREST

Learn about the Wadandi people when visiting the Margaret River Region. Meet Josh Whiteland from Koomal Dreaming and hear first-hand about his fascinating culture and incredible knowledge of their environment – Learn to walk softly and care for the land and respect the Dreaming spirits that have enriched the lives of the Wadandi people since time began.



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### **Margaret River Visitor Centre**

100 Bussell Highway,  
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Fishbone Wines is a boutique winery & restaurant located in Wilyabrup, Margaret River. We strive to produce wines which reflect the character, diversity & natural beauty of the region.

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Restaurant bookings recommended

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[www.capesfoundation.org.au](http://www.capesfoundation.org.au)



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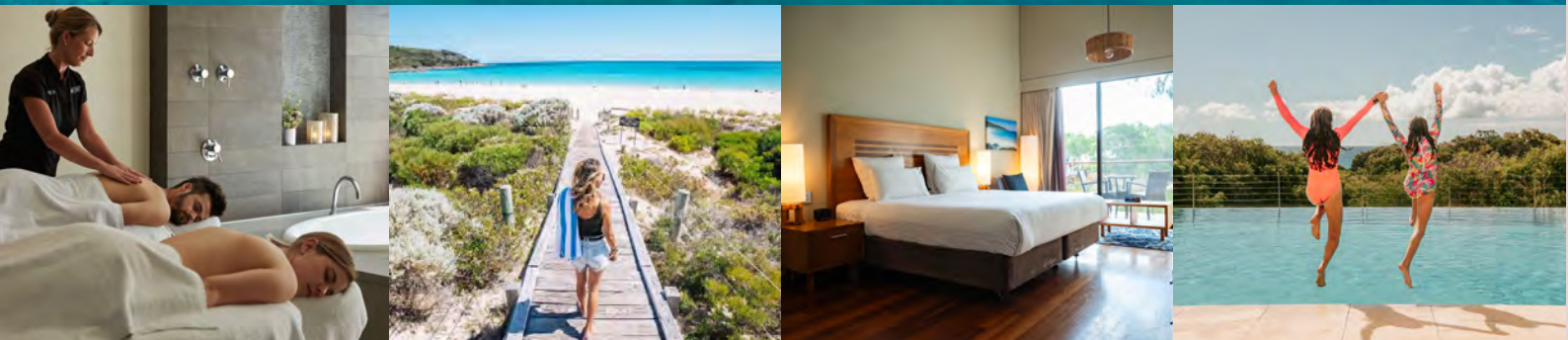
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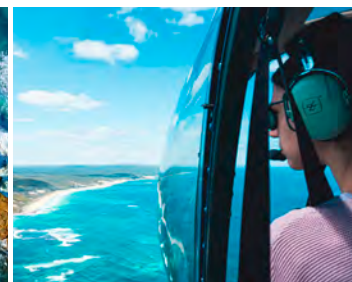
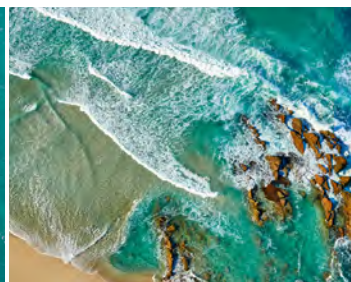
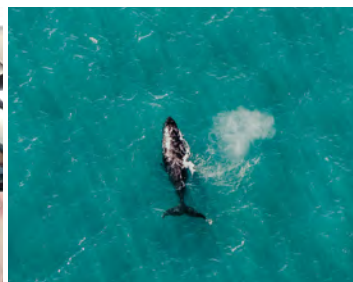
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SCAN TO LEARN MORE



## BOYUP BROOK

The twang of guitar strings reverberates through Boyup Brook, coined the Country Music Capitol of WA. Local hospitality beckons around every corner, with quiet streets, quaint shops, and a treasure trove of quirky collectables to see. Boyup Brook is home to one-of-a-kind collections of butterflies, gemstones, and teapots, as well as the Pioneer's Museum which displays the region's rich harvesting and rail history.

## GREENBUSHES

Nestled between Balingup and Bridgetown in the Blackwood River Region, Greenbushes paints the picturesque hills and valleys in emerald shades. The historic timber town is a RV friendly town, with the beautiful Greenbushes Pool offering a delightful free camp by the water. When spring rolls around, hiking boots and a wanderer's spirit bring the promise of spectacular wildflowers on the Greenbushes Loop, Waterbird Walk, and New Zealand Gully Walk trails.

## NANNUP

Where rivers and roads meet, Nannup embraces nature lovers, adventure seekers, and food fans alike. Here is a place to rest, relax, and spoil yourself with award-winning cheese, wine, honey, and olives from local farms while taking a gander at charming artisan made crafts and furniture. Brace yourself for breath-taking beauty as the town's famous tulips erupt into colour in late winter to spring, adding vibrancy to the already rich region. Let time slip away on a tranquil walk, ride, or drive through the hushed forests and along the bubbling river. Nannup is, after all, a trails town - marking the halfway point of the world-famous Munda Biddi cycling track. Mountain bike paths are particularly plentiful, so hop on, kick up some dirt, and start exploring.

## BRIDGETOWN

Bridgetown offers peaceful country living with a dash of serenity thrown in for good measure. Soft morning sunlight breaks through fog-layered treelines of the jarrah

and marri forests, which surround the heritage-listed town and its green rolling hills. Each season offers its own enchanting gifts, with misty winter mornings, breezy summer nights, blazes of fiery colour in autumn, and vibrant blossoms in spring. Stroll through budding gardens and along the banks of the commanding Blackwood River, one of the longest waterways in the region.

## MANJIMUP

Once a timber mill town, Manjimup now revels in tantalizing tastebuds with its myriad of fresh produce. Lofty karri forests intermingle with rich fertile farmlands delivering avocados, cherries, chestnuts, nectarines, finger lime, and acclaimed crunchy apple varieties throughout the year. Both the famous Bravo and beloved Pink Lady apples were developed in the region's heartland, with the ever-evolving landscape and rare climate also perfect for the growth of rare Périgord black truffles. Follow expertly trained and delightfully cute truffle dogs on a hunt as they seek out the earthly black gold during winter or catch your own prize in the shimmering nearby waters brimming with leaping rainbow trout.

## PEMBERTON

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Lose yourself among the time-worn forests of Pemberton. Here you'll find Gloucester National Park, home to the region's oldest and tallest karri forests that have watched over the land for more than 300 years. Behemoths of the landscape, in the 1930s they were once used as fire lookouts. Enjoy a laidback afternoon strolling through the pines or head onwards to the quaint streetscapes of the town, untouched from settlement days. Give in to culinary cravings with scrumptious farm gate produce and a tippie of magnificent pinot noir, chardonnay, and merlot. The visual feast continues with awe-inspiring hikes, canoeing, and off-road adventures at Yeagarup Dunes, a moving sand dune system that is slowly swallowing the surrounding forests, lakes, and woodlands.

## NORTHCLIFFE

Northcliffe is a thriving botanical wonderland, with much of its rare flora and fauna found only in this cosy corner of the world. Rising above the horizon, the granite monolith of Mount Chudalup swims amid a sea of karri and marri trees, offering 360 views from forest to coastline. Visit nearby grand national parks; Warren, D'Entrecasteaux, and Shannon, which erupt with colour come wildflower season. Enjoy a spot of bushwalking along picturesque coastal tracks or wind through their soaring trees on a mountain bike. Right at the heart of Northcliffe lies the Understory Art and Nature Trail, a 1.2km bush trek that provides an opportunity to view world class outdoor sculptures scattered throughout the wilderness.

## WALPOLE

Rich in ecological diversity, the vast natural landscape of Walpole is part of more than 363,000 hectares of protected national parks and nature reserves. White sandy beaches meld into the wild waves of the Southern Ocean, making the region a wonderland for water activities, including swimming, boating, sailing, and fishing. Uncover an adventurer's playground in the Valley of the Giants, Swarbrick, and Mount Frankland, dominated by sky-top walks among the red-tingle trees, the sweet scent of native forests, and the call of incredible wildlife including eagles, robins, and one of Australia's mainland communities of quokkas.

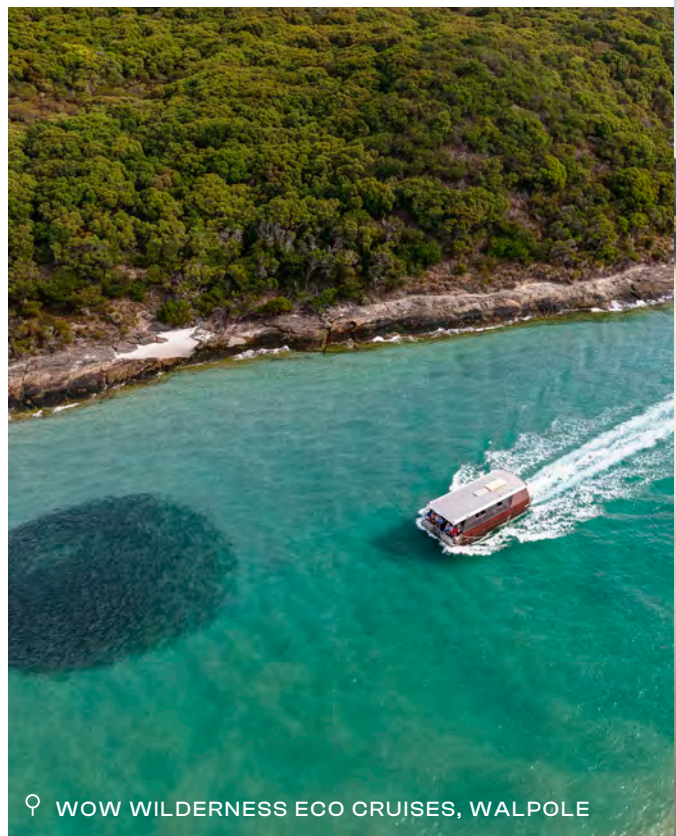


♀ NANNUP, MOUNTAIN BIKING



## MUST-DO'S

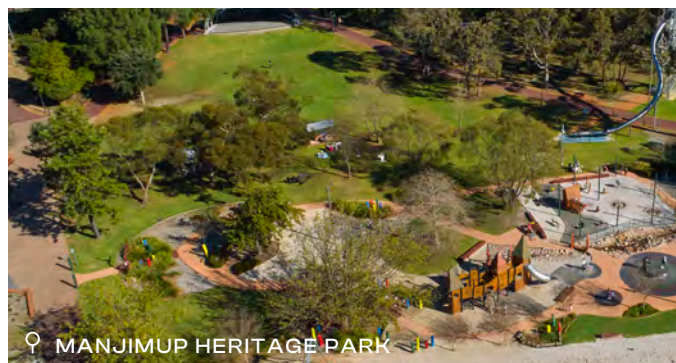
- 1** Learn all about the gold beneath the soils in Manjimup, on a hunt for Périgord black truffles during winter.
- 2** Wake up with a warm brew on a misty morning in Bridgetown at one of the area's cosy farmstays, complete with cute baby animals.
- 3** Go chasing waterfalls at Beedelup Falls near Pemberton, with the walking trail over the suspension bridge offering stunning views of the bubbling brook.
- 4** Poke your head through the hollowed-out trunk of one of the largest Eucalypts in the world at the Giant Tingle Tree in Walpole.
- 5** Bask in the perfume of spring's native wildflowers in D'Entrecasteaux National Park, home to an array of rare and stunning orchids.
- 6** Canoe or kayak along the waters of the tranquil Blackwood River or scoop up a picnic full of local delicacies to enjoy on its banks.
- 7** Climb to the top of the 187 metre Mount Chudalup, near Northcliffe, for outstanding views over the endless forests and rugged coastline.
- 8** Bust out the 4WD and spend a day bouncing around the rough terrain of the region's many national parks, including the white sand hills of Yeagarup Dunes.
- 9** Pop on a pair of hiking boots and explore a section of the 1000km-long Bibbulman track, with the walking trail overflowing in biodiversity.
- 10** Spoil your appetite in Manjimup sampling a natural bounty of fresh fruit, truffles, and marron, pairing them with excellent wines or brews.



♀ WOW WILDERNESS ECO CRUISES, WALPOLE



♀ SALMON FISHING, WINDY HARBOUR



♀ MANJIMUP HERITAGE PARK





♀ MISTY MORNINGS, BRIDGETOWN



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### **Bridgetown-Greenbushes Visitor Centre**

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### **Manjimup Visitor Centre**

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### **Northcliffe Visitor Centre**

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### **Pemberton Visitor Centre**

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## MUST SEE

Stratospheric views from  
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Fields of vivid tulips  
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White soft sands of the  
land-locked Yeagarup dunes

Kiss the heavens in the Valley  
of the Giants amid the colossal  
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♀ TRUFFLES, MANJIMUP





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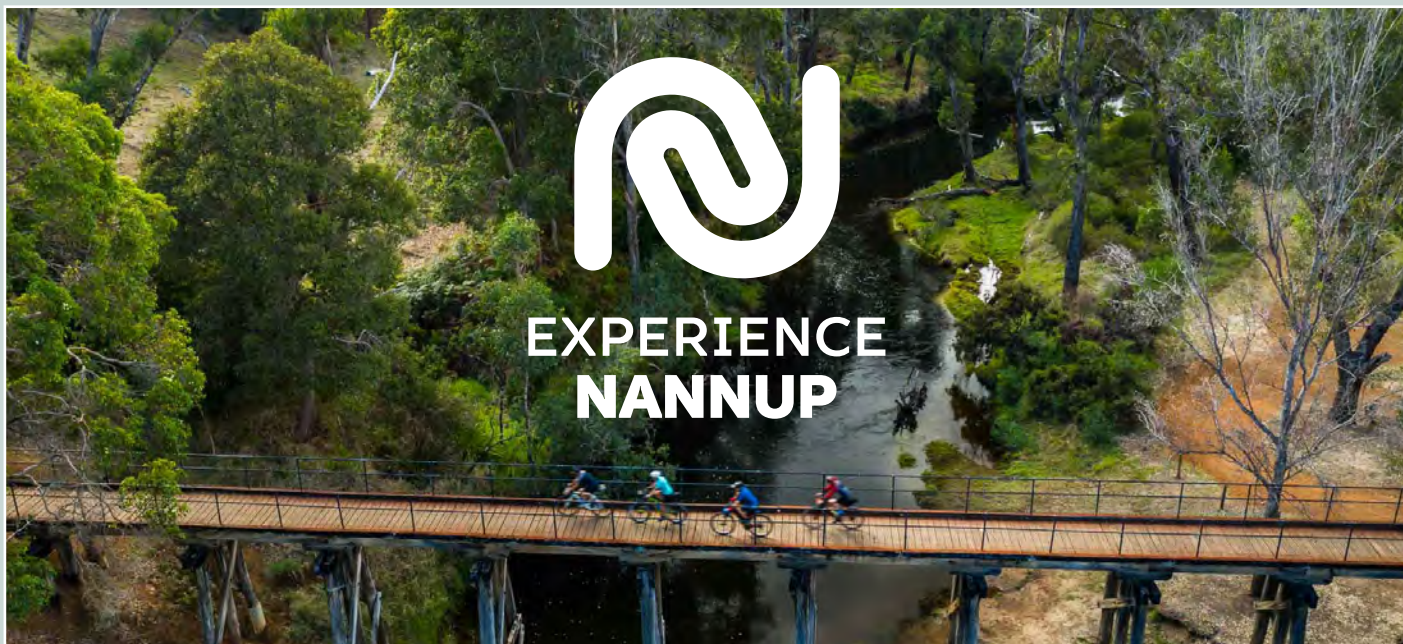
### **NORTHCLIFFE**

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## EXPERIENCE NANNUP

# EXPERIENCE ALL THAT NANNUP HAS TO OFFER!

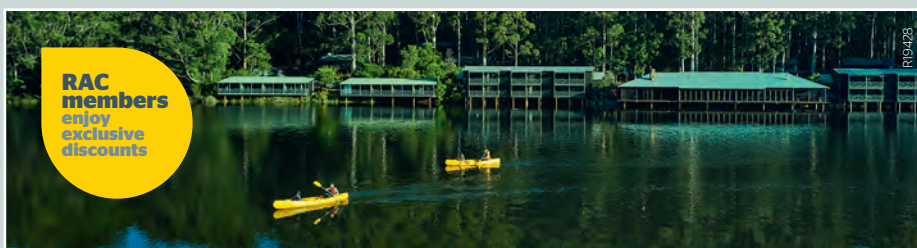


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River  
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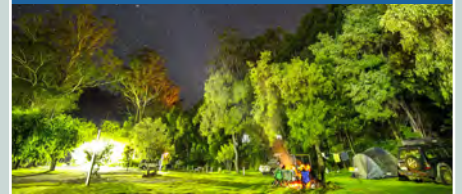


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Walking and MTB trails right from the caravan park, including the Munda Biddi and Bibbulmun track.

Pet friendly (not long weekends/school holidays).

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E: [bookings@pembertoncaravanpark.com.au](mailto:bookings@pembertoncaravanpark.com.au)

W: [pembertoncaravanpark.com.au](http://pembertoncaravanpark.com.au)



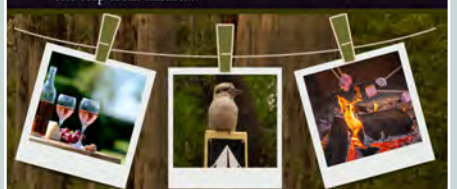
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# YOUR GREAT SOUTHERN HOLIDAY

Windswept coastlines, untouched national parks, and mighty peaks are at the heart of the Great Southern. Located 4-5 hours journey from Perth, the region is one of the largest and most biodiverse in the South West, rippling with rich history and culture. Dramatic cliffs carved by crashing waves, idyllic seaside towns, and pristine beaches offer some of the most picture-worthy spots in the world. A little further inland dappled sunlight streaks through colossal karri, jarrah, and tingle trees that hug ancient mountain ranges. Those looking to quench their thirst will be pleased to hear that the Great Southern is the largest wine-producing region by area in Australia. The breezy climate nurtures champion grapes that pair beautifully with freshly caught seafood and locally grown produce.

  @greatsoutherntreasures | @amazingalbanywa



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



## KATANNING

  @visitkatanning

Slip into country life in Katanning, a melting pot of art, nature, history, and food. Friendly locals offer a warm welcome to the town, scattered with vibrant street art and historical sites steeped in Aboriginal, colonial, and migrant history. Further afield yellow blankets of canola and carpets of green grass paint the horizon dreamy colours. A tapestry of twinkling stars awaits campers looking to reconnect with nature and breathe in the bewitching magic of the region.

## KOJONUP

Steeped in history, Kojonup offers visitors the opportunity to experience Australia's rural way of life. Discover captivating stories of the proud heritage of the region at The Kodja Place, a cultural centre sharing tales of the traditional indigenous custodians and settlers. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy the many walking trails, offering serene views of the region's undulating hills and granite outcrops.

## FRANKLAND RIVER

Ribboned vineyards weave across ironstone gravel landscapes of stunning Frankland River, one of the most distinctive wine regions in Australia. Cool nights and warm days make for a Mediterranean smorgasbord of quality olive oil and fruits, with the region's fresh produce bordered by unique native wildflowers. Here you'll discover rolling hills, productive farmland, and quaint cellar doors, ideal for a little taste-test.

## CRANBROOK

Cranbrook is the gateway to the heritage-listed Stirling Range National Park. Ripe in tradition and culture, be sure to visit Sukey Hill Lookout for spectacular views of the pastel pink salt lakes, grand mountain ranges, and bountiful farmland.

## MOUNT BARKER

 @visitmountbarkerwa

 @mountbarkervisitorcentre

Perched between two of the South West's ancient mountain ranges, Mount Barker is a friendly town rich in history and heritage. Internationally recognized for its diverse array of native flora and fauna, Mount Barker is the only place you will find every species of Banksia tree grown. The thriving town is a popular hub for trail users looking to get off the beaten path as well as wine lovers, with nearly a dozen family-owned vineyards in the region. Keep the mouth-watering delights coming at the townsite's award-winning bakery, bustling cafes, and rustic pubs.

## PORONGURUP

Towering woods, mountains engulfed by misty clouds, and mystical granite formations make up the awe-inspiring Porongurup Range. Rising from the landscape like an island surrounded by a sea of karri trees, the 12km range is 670m high and over 1 billion years old. Enjoy breathtaking uninterrupted views from the lookouts atop Castle Rock or take it in from ground level on one of the numerous bushwalking tracks and trails. Those after a tippie or two may prefer the food and wine trail, with Porongurup bounded by boutique wineries producing crisp and luscious cool-climate wines.

## DENMARK

 @DiscoverDenmarkWA

 @discoverdenmarkwa

Denmark is an idyllic town where towering forests melt into white sandy beaches and the tides of the surging Southern Ocean. Breathtaking scenery stretches from famed turquoise beach nooks like Elephant Rocks and Greens Pool all the way to the winding Denmark River. Dotted throughout the picturesque hills behind the town sits a treasure trove of boutique wineries producing sublime semillon sauvignon blanc and bold shiraz. Spend a day sipping your way through the region's cellar doors, enjoying the ambience of the laidback southern region.

## ALBANY

  @amazingalbanywa

Dramatic deep blue coastlines, award-winning beaches, craggy cliff faces, and playful whales frolicking among the waves make Albany a coastal-lovers dream. Witness the power of the Southern Ocean at The Gap and Natural Bridge or find a prime position along the coast for a spot of fishing, sailing, and diving. In town, historic landmarks Princess Royal Harbour and King George Sound tell the legends of times long gone. Discover tales of the first settlers as you jump aboard the impressive full-scale replica of the Brig Amity and pay your respects at the nearby ANZAC departure site, the last place troops stepped on Australian soil before the battlefields of the First World War.

## BREMER BAY

Dig your toes into the soft white sands of Bremer Bay, a coastal hamlet at the far reaches of the Great Southern region. Brimming with orcas, the deep water of Bremer Canyon will leave whale-watchers spellbound, while the calm cove of Point Anne offers the sweetest show of southern right whales calving.





## MUST-DO'S

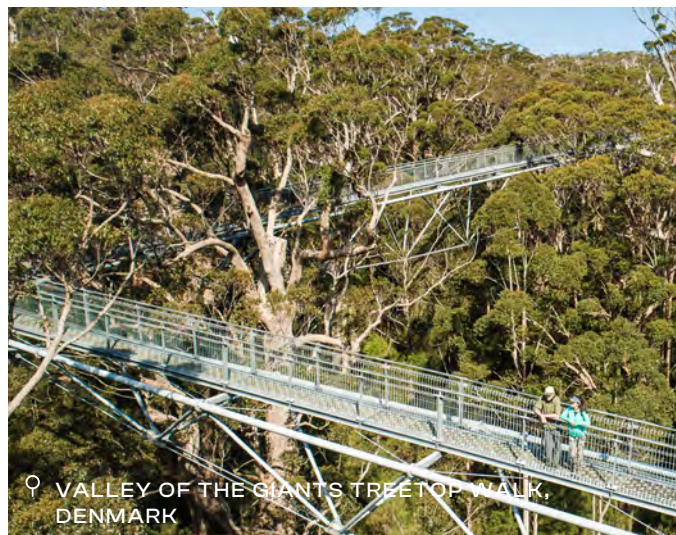
- 1** Learn about the legends of Kojonup's indigenous heritage with a leisurely afternoon stroll through the award-winning Kodja Place interpretive centre.
- 2** Test your bravery standing atop The Gap's viewing platform, hanging 40m above the wild surging seas of the Southern Ocean.
- 3** Catch a glimpse of majestic orcas in the waters of Bremer Canyon aboard a vessel from January to early April, or spot humpbacks from the shoreline of Torndirrup National Park.
- 4** Go below deck aboard the full-scale replica of the Brig Amity in Albany to discover the story of the intrepid first settlers and convicts.
- 5** Camp out under the constellations in Katanning, relaxing the night away with local produce and a world-class view of the heavens.
- 6** Touch the edge of Australia at Torbay Head in the West Cape Howe National Park, the most southerly tip of WA, with nothing but untouched ocean until you hit Antarctica.
- 7** Discover blossoming wildflowers in spring (September to November) on the numerous walking and orienteering trails around Katanning, Kojonup, and Tambellup.
- 8** Dive to the depths of King George Sound and explore the wreck of the former HMAS Perth, or pop on a pair of fins and snorkel the best beach in Australia for 2022, Misery Beach.
- 9** Visit the internationally recognised Banksia Farm in Mount Barker, the only place you will find every species of Banksia grown.
- 10** Stand beneath a canopy of 400-year-old tingle trees and wonder at the breathtaking ancient landscape of the Valley of the Giants, in Denmark.



♀ CASTLE ROCK,  
PORONGURUP NATIONAL PARK



♀ NATURALISTE CHARTERS,  
ORCA TOUR, BREMER BAY



♀ VALLEY OF THE GIANTS TREETOP WALK,  
DENMARK





♀ ELEPHANT ROCKS, DENMARK



## VISITOR SERVICING IN THE GREAT SOUTHERN

### **Albany Visitor Centre**

221 York Street, Albany  
Tel: (08) 6820 3700  
[amazingalbany.com.au](http://amazingalbany.com.au)

### **Bremer Bay Community Resource and Visitors Centre**

7 Mary Street, Bremer Bay  
Tel: (08) 9837 4171  
[bremerbaycrc.com.au](http://bremerbaycrc.com.au)

### **Broomehill-Tambellup Community Resource Centre**

34 Norrish St, Tambellup  
Tel: (08) 9825 1177  
[tambellupcrc.net.au](http://tambellupcrc.net.au)

### **Cranbrook Tourist Centre**

Gathorne Street, Cranbrook  
Tel: (08) 9826 1008  
[cranbrook.wa.gov.au](http://cranbrook.wa.gov.au)

### **Denmark Visitor Centre**

73 South Coast Highway, Denmark  
[denmark.com.au](http://denmark.com.au)

### **Gnowangerup Community Resource Centre**

47 Yougenup Road, Gnowangerup  
Tel: (08) 9827 1635  
[gnowangerup.crc.net.au](http://gnowangerup.crc.net.au)

### **Kodja Place & Kojonup Visitor Centre**

143 Albany Highway, Kojonup  
Tel: (08) 9831 0500  
[kojonupvisitors.com](http://kojonupvisitors.com)

### **Mount Barker Visitor Centre**

6/622 Albany Highway, Mount Barker  
Tel: (08) 9851 1163  
[mountbarkertourismwa.com.au](http://mountbarkertourismwa.com.au)

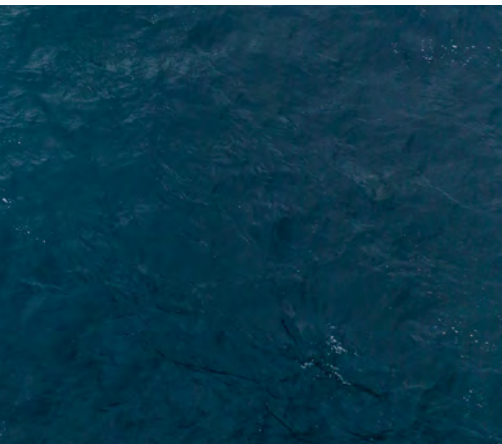
*In the towns of Frankland River, Katanning,  
Ongerup and Pingrup visitor information is  
available at the local Community Resource Centre.*

## DON'T MISS

Get 360 degree views from  
atop Mount Melville Lookout  
in Albany's centre

Dreamy pastel pink backdrop  
of Cranbrook's salt lakes

Stunning jade waters of Greens Pool  
and Elephant Rocks in Denmark



♀ WILDFLOWERS,  
GREAT SOUTHERN TREASURES



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# #INSTAWORTHY

Leave only footprints, take only memories — and in Australia's South West, we've got some incredible ones waiting.

Brag-worthy shots of crystal coastlines or enchanting dappled forests abound. Snap a frolicking whale in the surf or selfie with the glorious wildflowers.

Tag @australias\_southwest or use the hashtag #AustraliasSouthWest and you just might feature here in the future!



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

1. @seenbylexo

## ADVENTURE

1. Humpback whales, Dunsborough
2. Stingrays, Hamelin Bay
3. Black Cockatoo, Margaret River
4. Orca, Bremer Canyon



2. @lindsandrads



3. @discovermargaretriver



4. @jodie\_lowe88



1. @jarradseng



2. @vlwphotography



4. @the.little.adventurer\_



3. @lauramaryslife

## ESCAPE & CONNECT

1. Karri Forest, Pemberton
2. Sugar Loaf Rock, Cape Naturaliste
3. Bluff Knoll, Stirling Ranges
4. Camping, Nannup





1. @anton.wilk



2. @francesandrijich



4. @livinglikeafreebird



3. @symsekay

## NATURE & BIODIVERSITY

1. Fitzgerald National Park, Bremer Bay
2. Yeagarup Dunes, Pemberton
3. Bluff Knoll, Stirling Ranges
4. Bald Head Trail, Torndirrup National Park



1. @cape\_lodge



2. @theuncommoncreative



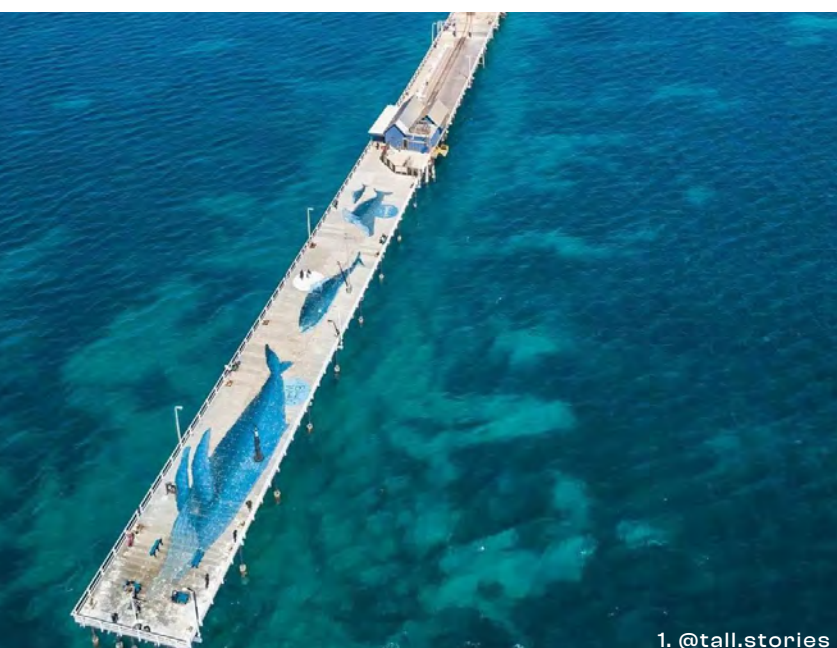
4. @passelestate

## WINE, FOOD & PRODUCE

1. High Tea, Margaret River
2. Wine, Ferguson Valley
3. Glamping, Margaret River
4. Charcuterie Board



3. @jarradseng



1. @tall.stories



2. @pinot.picnic



4. @biancaturriphoto



3. @lets\_talkflowers

## CULTURE & HERITAGE

1. Busselton Jetty Artwork
2. Pinot Picnic, Pemberton
3. Bloom Festival, Great Southern
4. Feast at the Quarry, Collie



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