



# TOURISM WESTERN AUSTRALIA MEDIA KIT 2024/25

WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA  
WALKING ON A DREAM

♀ COCKBURN RANGE, THE KIMBERLEY

- AUSTRALIA'S NORTH WEST
- AUSTRALIA'S GOLDEN OUTBACK
- AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST
- AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST
- DESTINATION PERTH



**NATIONAL PARKS / FEATURE LOCATIONS**

- 1** EL QUESTRO
- 2** LAKE ARGYLE
- 3** MITCHELL FALLS
- 4** BUNGL BUNGL RANGE
- 5** HORIZONTAL FALLS
- 6** DAMPIER PENINSULA
- 7** KARIJINI NATIONAL PARK
- 8** MOUNT AUGUSTUS
- 9** NINGALOO REEF
- 10** CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK
- 11** FRANCOIS PERON NATIONAL PARK
- 12** KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK
- 13** HUTT LAGOON
- 14** NAMBUING NATIONAL PARK (PINNACLES)
- 15** LAKE BALLARD
- 16** WAVE ROCK
- 17** TREE TOP WALK - VALLEY OF THE GIANTS
- 18** WOODY ISLAND
- 19** CAPE LE GRAND NATIONAL PARK

# CONTENTS

## OVERVIEW

- Tourism Western Australia	10
- About Western Australia	12
- Perth	14
- Western Australia's South West	16
- Western Australia's Golden Outback	18
- Western Australia's Coral Coast	20
- Western Australia's North West	22
- Drive the Dream in Western Australia	24

## DESTINATION NEWS

- What's new and what's in store for 2024/25	32
- Tiny stays	34
- Bigger stays	36
- Dreamlike flavours	46
- Regional wonders	52
- Epic adventures	56
- Ancient tracks	66
- Wellness wonders	72
- Dream events	74
- Easier access	78

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S DREAMERS

- Destination Perth	84
- Australia's South West	88
- Australia's Coral Coast	92
- Australia's North West	96
- Australia's Golden Outback	100

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S DREAM LIST

- Road trips	106
- Natural experiences	110
- Wildlife encounters	116
- Eating and drinking	120
- Art and culture	126
- Beaches and lakes	130
- Hikes and trails	134
- Aboriginal tours and experiences	140
- Luxury experiences	148
- Dream events for 2024/25	152



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Tourism Western Australia acknowledges Aboriginal peoples as the traditional custodians of Western Australia and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal Western Australians and honour their continuing connection to Country, culture and community. We recognise and appreciate the invaluable contributions made by First Nations peoples across many generations in shaping Western Australia as a premier destination.



# OVERVIEW

An aerial photograph of a vast, undulating sandy dune landscape. The dunes are light beige and feature subtle, rhythmic ripples across their surfaces. A prominent, winding path or ridge of sand curves from the upper right towards the lower left. In the bottom right corner, a small portion of a blue body of water is visible, bordered by dark green trees and vegetation.

♀ YEAGARUP DUNES, PEMBERTON



An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a lighter, sandy beach. A small boat with several people is visible in the lower right corner, moving along the shore. The overall scene is serene and scenic.

# TOURISM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Tourism Western Australia (Tourism WA) is responsible for promoting Western Australia (WA) as an incredible holiday and events destination. We work with a range of people from the public and private sector to develop and promote WA's iconic tourism experiences, to attract events to the State and help the tourism industry thrive. We have three core functions:

1. We deliver innovative marketing campaigns at home and overseas to raise awareness of WA's destinations and experiences, and attract more people to the State.
2. We attract and support a broad range of sports, arts, cultural, culinary and business events, which give people a compelling reason to visit our State.
3. We work closely with government and industry partners to improve destinations in terms of access, accommodation and tourism experiences for visitors.

For more information on Tourism WA, visit [www.tourism.wa.gov.au](http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au)





# ABOUT WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australia — it's big, beautiful and billions of years old.

Around the size of Western Europe, WA accounts for one-third of the Australian continent. It boasts over 12,500 kilometres of coastline (20,000 including islands), the world's oldest minerals and a host of natural wonders found nowhere else on Earth.

Of the State's population of 2.7 million people, around three-quarters live in the Perth region. With more than 3,000 hours of sunshine per year, Perth (Boorloo) is Australia's sunniest capital city. The city's spectacular natural surroundings are rivalled only by its vibrant city life.

WA's Aboriginal history dates back more than 60,000 years — making it one of the world's oldest living cultures. Almost a third of Western Australians are born overseas and 15 per cent of the population speaks a language other than English at home.

Dreamlike experiences and natural wonders await you in every region of this grand and diverse State, and the varied climate — Mediterranean conditions in the south through to the northern tropics — means you'll always find summer somewhere in WA.



# PERTH

Sitting pretty on the banks of the Swan River (Derbarl Yerrigan), Australia's sunniest capital city effortlessly blends urban cool with raw natural beauty. Its heart is bustling with bars, restaurants, hotels, shopping and cultural spaces, and is also home to one of the world's most beautiful inner-city parks. Within 30 minutes of the city centre, visitors can be exploring Western Australia's oldest wine region, experiencing a dreamy Indian Ocean sunset, cycling around an island paradise or exploring Perth's port city of Fremantle (Walyalup).

Check out:

## Perth's sparkling new attractions

An array of new public spaces and revitalised buildings have activated Perth City (Boorloo) and surrounds. The vibrant waterfront precinct of Elizabeth Quay (Gumap) boasts riverfront views, alfresco and rooftop dining, public art and playgrounds, plus new hotels, restaurant openings such as Lantern on Quay and 6HEAD Steakhouse, and an exciting new hotel opening to be revealed in 2024. Linking Perth CBD to Northbridge, Yagan Square connects people to place and is a celebration of WA's heritage. Currently undergoing a multi-million-dollar redevelopment, 2024 will see it transform into a five-storey hospitality mecca and a vibrant new precinct catering to all ages. Not to be missed is the spectacular WA Museum Boola Bardip, located in the Perth Cultural Centre. Across the Swan River, connected by the Matagarup Bridge, is the multiple award-winning and world-class 60,000 seat Optus Stadium, which hosts major sporting events and concerts throughout the year.

## A stellar line-up of city beaches

Home to 19 pristine metropolitan beaches, it's easy to find your own piece of paradise to enjoy one of Western Australia's famous coastal sunsets — whether that be from the sand, a picnic area, or one of the coast's many dining options. From Bathers Beach in Fremantle to the iconic Cottesloe Beach and the popular City Beach — both just 20 minutes from the CBD — Perth really is unlike any other capital city on Earth. Its dazzling stretch of endless sand, crystal-clear blue waters, coastal trails, dune vegetation and sustainable development approach is unparalleled. While taking an ocean dip and relaxing on the sand may be the ideal beach activity for some, the more adventurous can enjoy a range of water sport tours such as jet skiing, sea kayaking, kite surfing, parasailing, and catamaran hire, plus sunset cruises.

Discover more of Perth, a city rich with natural wonders, [here](#).

## **Wining and dining**

Head into Perth's city centre and its urban hubs of Northbridge, Leederville, Mount Lawley, Victoria Park, Subiaco and South Perth, plus the port city of Fremantle, for an ever-expanding range of small bars, restaurants, breweries and distilleries across rooftops, laneways, heritage-listed buildings and new venues. Just a 30-minute drive from the CBD, or a cruise along the Swan River, will take you to WA's oldest wine region, the Swan Valley. Tantalise your taste buds at over 40 world-class wineries, breweries, cideries, distilleries and gourmet artisan producers. Venture into the Perth Hills to pick fruit from grower's orchards year-round. Celebrate Perth's love affair with the coast by enjoying local seafood and sipping on a cool beverage whilst the sun sets over the Indian Ocean at one of the many coastal dining options.

## **An island playground**

Famous for its laid-back atmosphere and home to 63 beautiful beaches and 20 bays, Rottnest Island (Wadjemup) is a unique island paradise located just a short ferry ride from the mainland. Explore the island by scenic flight, segway, skydive, hop-on hop-off bus, walking tour, water taxi or kayak; grab a snorkel or join a tour to discover the abundance of spectacular marine life, and meet the world's friendliest animal — the quokka. The A Class Reserve is a car-free zone, and hiring a bicycle is the best way to get around. The island has recently welcomed a number of new experiences for summer and will soon see a new and refurbished accommodation option, with the former Rottnest Island Lodge undergoing a major redevelopment and opening as The Lodge Wadjemup in late 2024.

## **An eclectic port city**

Discover maritime history, a World Heritage-listed prison, café culture, lively bars and hundred-year-old markets in the port city of Fremantle — located less than 30-minutes from Perth CBD. Known as 'Freo' to the locals, here you can explore narrow streets lined with historic buildings, enjoy fresh seafood at the Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour, sample local brews at one of the many breweries and choose from a variety of funky cafes, boutique bars and top restaurants. Join a guided walking tour or a rickshaw through the streets to discover the city's colourful maritime history, bohemian culture and vibrant street art.

## **Natural attractions**

Overlooking the Swan River and Perth city skyline, the stunning Kings Park and Botanic Garden (Kaarta Komba) is one of the largest inner-city parks in the world. At 400 hectares, it's bigger than Central Park in New York, and is home to more than 3,000 species of the State's native flora. Tour its botanic gardens and spring wildflowers solo, or on a guided tour. Alternatively, discover the park's rich culture and history with an Aboriginal guide. Within an hour of Perth's CBD, you can swim with wild dolphins at Rockingham, cruise the estuary and canals in Mandurah (Mandjoogoordap), discover crystal caves in Yanchep National Park or hike the trails in the Perth Hills. A little further afield, take an early morning drive to the Avon Valley for hot air ballooning over farmlands, native bush and fields of flowers.

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST

Here you'll find world-class food and wine, beautiful beaches, surfing, cave systems, tall timber forests, whale-watching, wildflowers and the famous Margaret River wine region on Wardandi Noongar country. As one of only 36 bio-diversity hotspots on Earth, the South West has thousands of plant species found nowhere else in the world.

Check out:

## **World-class wine and fresh local produce**

Home to six distinct wine regions including world-famous Margaret River with over 100 cellar doors. Many of the region's wineries have restaurants on site, serving up some of Australia's best 'paddock to plate' fresh produce from the South West. Enjoy fresh marron, trout, venison, chocolates, cheeses, cherries, boutique craft beers and ciders, as well as the rare black truffle — more of them are produced in Manjimup than anywhere else in Australia. The inaugural Pair'd Margaret River Region event will celebrate the culinary delights of the region, paired with local wines, in November 2024.

## **Surfing, swimming, snorkelling**

The South West is world famous for its spectacular coastline sheltered lagoons, consistent surf and magnificent swimming beaches. Follow in the footsteps of the world's best surfers who flock to the perfectly named Surfers Point for the annual Margaret River Pro. For more tranquil conditions, you'll find some of Australia's top swimming spots at Dunsborough, Eagle Bay, Denmark and Albany (Kinjarling). Witness the wonders beneath the water through shipwreck diving, or stay dry at the eight-metre-deep Underwater Observatory located at the end of the 1.8-kilometre Busselton Jetty. The new underwater sculpture trail and artificial reef has added another submerged experience for divers, swimmers and snorkellers.

Discover more of the South West, where adventure and indulgence meet, [here](#).

## Culture, arts and history

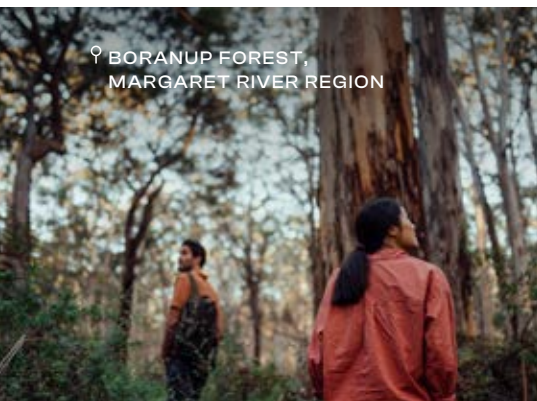
Learn more about Aboriginal customs and history of the South West's first inhabitants through a number of Aboriginal centres, art galleries and tours across the region. Forage for traditional bush foods, discover ancient traditions or experience the magic of a live didgeridoo performance inside an underground cave. You'll also find exceptional South West artistic talent including painters, sculptors, furniture makers, jewellery designers and hand-blown glass artists. Head to the coastal city of Albany and the multi award-winning National Anzac Centre for a deeply personal connection with Australia's ANZAC history.

### Towering timbers

The South West is also home to giant jarrah, karri, marri and tuart trees, and you can experience a bird's eye view of these towering timbers in the Valley of the Giants. Located between Denmark and Walpole, the world-first 600 metre Tree Top Walk is suspended 40 metres above the forest floor on Menang Noongar country. In the Margaret River Region, the towering karri trees in Boranup Forest offer one of the dreamiest drive trail experiences in the region.

## Wildlife and adventure

Get hiking along the spectacular coastal Cape to Cape Track, the bushland Bibbulmun Track, or out to the Porongurup Range's Granite Skywalk. Take off on two wheels along the Munda Biddi off-road cycling experience and other world-class mountain biking trails through Collie and Margaret River or head underground at Ngilgi, Mammoth, Lake and Jewel caves to explore mesmerising labyrinths decorated with limestone crystal formations. Above ground at Ngilgi Cave, the new Ancient Lands Experience takes visitors on a journey to discover 600 million years of stories associated with the land and its people, on Wardandi Noongar Country. From January to April, take an orca tour from Bremer Bay to see the southern hemisphere's largest orca pod. Between June and November, witness the annual migration of humpback, southern right and blue whales from the South West's shores, or hop on a whale watching cruise and get up close to these gentle giants. Witness the surging power of the Southern Ocean at The Gap in Torndirrup National Park near Albany, and experience the views of one of Australia's most exposed coasts through the nearby Natural Bridge.



♀ BORANUP FOREST,  
MARGARET RIVER REGION



♀ NGILGI CAVE, YALLINGUP

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S GOLDEN OUTBACK

Discover historic townships, spectacular desert wilderness, quirky outback charm, gold-rush history and the Southern Ocean's perfect white beaches.

Check out:

## White beaches, islands and rainbow lakes

Home to Australia's whitest beach, and voted the World's Best in 2023, Lucky Bay in Cape Le Grand National Park (Mandoowernup) just out of Esperance (Kepa Kurl) is so relaxing even the kangaroos sunbathe on the sand. For the full outdoor experience, follow the coastal walk trails or set up at some of Australia's most picturesque beachside campsites, and be wowed around every corner along the 40-kilometre Great Ocean Drive. Take a scenic flight over the hundreds of islands in the Recherche Archipelago and be mesmerised by the snow-white sands and dreamy blue hues. Starting to catch the eye of photographers are the rainbow lakes near Esperance, a collection of salt lakes, quite often bubble-gum pink, but change colour regularly — and are a fascinating sight from above.

## Australia's largest outdoor gallery

The striking salt flats of Lake Ballard form the backdrop of *Inside Australia* — a truly unique installation of 51 life-sized steel statues by acclaimed sculptor Antony Gormley, inspired by residents of the nearby town of Menzies on Wongutha country.

Discover more of the Golden Outback, and explore an otherworldly outback, [here](#).





## Outback station stays

Immerse yourself in the rural life and landscapes of WA, escape the daily hustle and experience country living on a working station or farm. Accommodation ranges from luxury rooms in grand station homesteads to rustic shearing quarters and camping facilities on huge cattle stations. Visit during wildflower season — from July to October — when the rugged outback plains burst into a kaleidoscope of colour.

## Wildflowers and wave walking

Wave Rock (Katter Kich), near Hyden on Ballardong country, is a remarkable 110-metre, multi-coloured granite cliff that resembles a huge wave about to crash into the bush. There's also Hippo's Yawn (which, you guessed it, resembles a hippo yawning), the Humps, and Mulka's Cave with its collection of Aboriginal rock art. In spring, you'll be surrounded by beautiful blankets of wildflowers in full bloom, with 60 per cent of the species unique to WA.

## The unexpected

Journey along the Golden Quest Discovery Trail from Perth to Coolgardie and Laverton on Wongutha country to discover fascinating gold-rush history. Highlights include legendary country pubs, the fascinating Gwalia ghost town and Kalgoorlie's (Karlkurla's) famous Super Pit, one of the world's largest open-cut mines. Experience a touching tribute to man's best friend at the Corrigin Dog Cemetery, country quiriness along the Tin Horse Highway — a collection of 70 equine artworks in and around Kulin, wheat silos adorned with giant, colourful murals, and the world's longest golf course — the 1,365-kilometre Nullarbor Links.



# WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST

Home to incredible marine life, endless stretches of white sandy beaches and the warm, waters of the turquoise Indian Ocean, this region covers 1,100 kilometres from Cervantes to Exmouth (Warnangoora) and boasts two UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites; Ningaloo Marine Park (Nyinggulu) and Shark Bay (Gathaagudu).

Experience:

## Snorkelling at Ningaloo Reef

Where the outback meets the reef, step off the beach and into the underwater wonderland of the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef. An absolute must do when visiting Exmouth, Coral Bay or the ocean-side pastoral stations north of Carnarvon. Dive into the pristine turquoise waters to discover more than 500 species of tropical fish and 300 species of colourful coral in one of the most biologically diverse marine environments on the planet.

## Swimming with gentle giants

Join a whale shark tour from Exmouth or Coral Bay for the ultimate bucket list wildlife encounter — swimming with the world's largest fish. Whale sharks visit Ningaloo from March to the end of July; then from July to October you can swim with gentle humpback whales as they cruise through. Year round, you can also swim with acrobatic manta rays from Coral Bay, while keeping an eye out for green and loggerhead turtles.

Discover more of the Coral Coast, and dive into a world of exhilarating marine adventure, [here](#).

## Friendly dolphins and a World Heritage-listed Area

One of the world's most reliable places for witnessing wild dolphins — the curious bottlenose dolphins at Monkey Mia have been playing on the shores of Malgana country for more than 40 years. While in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, you can also spot sea turtles and dugongs, admire the world's oldest and largest living fossils — Hamelin Pool's stromatolites — and fish, snorkel and dive. Don't miss a trip into Francois Peron National Park, where striking red desert cliffs meet the turquoise sea.

## Wildflowers and pink waters

Head inland to explore some of WA's most magnificent wildflower country, particularly between July and October when carpets of blooms paint the landscapes in a kaleidoscope of colour. While spotting some of WA's 12,000 wildflower species, check out the dreamy colours at Hutt Lagoon (Pink Lake) near Port Gregory, where the water can be red, bubble-gum pink or lilac depending on the conditions. The lagoon is located between other Coral Coast highlights — the seaside city of Geraldton (Jaminu) and its diving, snorkelling and fishing drawcard, the Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park.

## Extraordinary rock formations

Experience an otherworldly landscape of incredible limestone spires rising eerily from the sand at the Pinnacles in Nambung National Park. Further up the coast, discover the seaside town of Kalbarri (Wurdimarlu), surrounded by dramatic coastal cliffs and the incredible river gorges in Kalbarri National Park. Step out onto the 100-metre high Kalbarri Skywalk (Kaju Yotka) for breathtaking and uninterrupted views beyond the rim of the Murchison River Gorge. Follow the many walking trails and take a photo through the famous Nature's Window, hike along the dramatic red sandstone gorges or canoe along the flowing river to experience the depths and heights of the 400-million-year-old landscapes.



# WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S NORTH WEST

A billion years in the making, the North West is one of the world's last true wilderness areas. Here you'll find ancient gorges, thundering waterfalls, remote stretches of coastal paradise and rich Aboriginal culture and history.

Check out:

## Otherworldly wonders

Discover Australia's only Horizontal Waterfalls (Garaan-ngaddim), created when massive tidal movements squeeze through narrow cliff passages. Aerial tours from Broome (Rubibi) and Derby enable you to circle the phenomenon from above, alongside other scenic wonders of the Buccaneer Archipelago, where turquoise blue water contrasts with rugged red cliffs. Land nearby on a seaplane and witness the power of these sacred falls, then stay overnight on a houseboat. Discover incredible natural wonders such as the world-famous sunsets at Cable Beach (Walmanyjun), ancient dinosaur footprints, some of the biggest tides in the world and the natural phenomenon of the Staircase to the Moon.

## The pearling capital of Australia

A laidback tropical oasis, a melting pot of culture and the western gateway to the Kimberley. Broome's unique pearling history dates to the late 1800s, when workers from Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Japan and Europe flocked to the town for the prized *Pinctada maxima* oyster and its mother of pearl shell. Today Broome is one of the world's finest producers of Australian South Sea pearls, and its fascinating history coupled with the culture of the Yawuru people offers a truly unique melting pot of Aboriginal and Asian heritage. Pearl farm tours offer an insight into the history and process of modern pearl farming or visit the pearl showrooms in historic Chinatown and take home your own piece of pearl jewellery. Celebrate Broome's unique multicultural and pearling history at the annual *Shinju Matsuri* (festival of the pearl), held during August and September each year.

Discover more of the North West, one of the Earth's last true wilderness areas, [here](#).

## **Aboriginal experiences**

The North West offers a range of profound Aboriginal tours to experience the world's oldest living culture. Join an Aboriginal guide to explore ancient rock art galleries, forage for bush tucker, go mud crabbing and spear fishing and listen to Dreamtime stories. Located throughout the Kimberley, in towns and remote desert communities, are a number of Aboriginal art galleries providing opportunities for cultural expression and economic independence. North of Broome, the Dampier Peninsula has the highest concentration of Aboriginal tourism offerings in Australia. In the Pilbara region, join an Aboriginal guide on the Burrup Peninsula in the soon to be World Heritage-listed Murujuga National Park to witness the most prolific rock art engraving (petroglyph) site in the world. The North West is also home to Australia's first Camping with Custodians sites, offering self-drive visitors the chance to interact with local communities while staying at campsites run by Aboriginal people on Aboriginal lands.

## **Unforgettable outback adventures**

Get off the beaten track at two of WA's most spectacular national parks. At Karijini National Park, in the Pilbara region, ancient rocks have been shaped into mountains and escarpments, awe-inspiring gorges and tree-lined watercourses. Stay in the heart of the park at Karijini Eco Retreat's luxury tents. The World Heritage-listed Purnululu National Park near Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang) in the east of the Kimberley is home to one of the world's most striking geological features, the Bungle Bungle Range. The striped, beehive-like mounds are breathtaking from the air, or camp nearby to explore hidden gorges and pools.

## **Remote resorts and Kimberley cruising**

Escape the well-known and well-trodden, and truly get away from it all at one of the Kimberley's remote luxury resorts. Australia's most remote luxury lodge experience, Berkeley River Lodge can only be reached by air, Kimberley Coastal Camp is the ultimate wilderness adventure only accessible by helicopter or float plane, El Questro Homestead is cantilevered atop Chamberlain Gorge, and — true to its name — Faraway Bay is so remote you won't even find it on a map. For the ultimate wilderness adventure, experience the luxury of a Kimberley expedition cruise and discover the wild untamed beauty of the Kimberley coast. Cruise by sheer rugged cliffs, meander through secluded gorges, get up close to cascading waterfalls — then retreat to the comfort of your own private suite.

## **The hub of the eastern Kimberley**

Kununurra on Miriwoong country is the perfect backdrop for an outback adventure and the gateway town to exploring the eastern region of the Kimberley. Base yourself here and join one of the many tours to experience the region's awe-inspiring attractions including the Bungle Bungle Range in Purnululu National Park, Mitchell Falls (Punamii-unpuu), El Questro and the mighty Lake Argyle. Start your epic Gibb River Road journey here, or venture around the town to discover vast, stunning landscapes, remarkable waterways and waterfalls, lush farmland, Aboriginal art galleries and Western Australia's oldest operating still.

# DRIVE THE DREAM IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Drive the Dream is an invitation to leave the everyday behind, hit the open road and connect with something unspoilt in Western Australia.**

Western Australia is brimming with wondrous road trip adventures. Tourism WA's global campaign encourages High Yield Travellers to embrace the freedom of a road trip — an adventure that unlocks one-of-a-kind experiences and the chance to truly reconnect. Drives that take you through dreamlike landscapes and into wondrous worlds. A place where connecting with the land helps you reconnect with yourself.

The campaign is led by West Australian Formula 1 driver Daniel Ricciardo, who showcases the State's dreamlike landscapes and wondrous experiences through a road trip from Perth (Boorloo) to the South West with his best mate Blake, inspired by the South West Wine and Nature Drive.

Drive the Dream is designed to turn awareness into action and move a West Australian road trip to the 'must do' list by showing WA is the best destination for a road trip adventure — and now is the time to do it.

# DRIVE THE DREAM

## WITH DANIEL RICCIARDO

The cinematic short film captures the unscripted and authentic moments as Daniel Ricciardo and his best mate, Blake, embark on a West Australian road trip adventure. Last year, Daniel and Blake took their first-ever road trip along the Coral Coast Highway. In 2024, the duo embark on an epic adventure to the South West. From the tall Karri forests, to the world-class surf breaks, Daniel and Blake savour the incredible natural features of Western Australia's premium wine region, delighting all the senses. Connection with Aboriginal culture, dreamlike stays under a million-star sky, and the freedom of the open road. Daniel's journey is one of wonderment, anticipation, joy and reconnection — with Western Australia and his best mate. His global reach, profile and pride for his home State will connect with High Yield Travellers to inspire their driving holiday in Western Australia.

Watch Daniel Ricciardo Drive the Dream [here](#).



# DREAMING OF THE NEXT WEST AUSTRALIAN ROAD TRIP

WITH DANIEL RICCIARDO

**Daniel it's a huge pleasure to be back with you again! It's been the longest F1 season ever so getting any downtime must be extra special. Describe the feeling you get when you get to come home?**

Western Australia still feels like home which is nice. I've made a lot of second homes around the world over the years. Europe is a big part of that, but home is still Western Australia for me. It's where I still get that flood of nostalgia and those memories. It's still the place that makes me smile so it's really nice to get back

**You're back with another short film that documents your life off the track and even sees you going surfing with your best friend for the first time, how much of a bucket list moment was that for you and what were some of the key highlights from this road trip?**

We had a lot of fun. ...Surfing was one of the activities we were doing. I'd done it a couple times in my life — which isn't enough for an Australian — but then Blake had never surfed, ever, so I was really excited for him. Everyone who surfs knows how fun it is, especially where we're doing in down in Margaret

River — it's so beautiful down there, just to be in the water, it's already so relaxing. For both of us to see each other stand up and obviously the waves are very small for us, but just to do that, for him to have that experience and for us to share that together it's kind of cool — that's what best friends are for, right? I was really happy for him. I was like, I don't know if he'll be able to stand up that easily, but he got up well.

**This time, you and Blake experienced the spectacular Margaret River Region — Australia's premium wine region. With such amazing local produce and vineyards, do you have any dining highlights?**

We spent time in the Margaret River Region and we had like a beautiful walk through the vineyards at Amelia Park, and then they treated us to a beautiful lunch full of local and fresh produce. We had an absolute spread and we got to sample a few of the wines which, yeah, thoroughly enjoyed. We do have some amazing produce down there ... Lamont's Smiths Beach, Swings and Roundabouts, Chow's Table was another on... the list goes on. I can't say I have a favourite, but they were all great meals, and in great company.



**In the film you mention Margaret River as being somewhere that you might like to retire one day, why is it so special about this place that makes it the perfect place for that?**

It's a feeling. There's like an aura when you arrive, and for me that feeling is, the obvious thing is happiness but it's like a lightness, and it's like whatever weight you carry, that weight just lightens when you're in some of these places — Margaret River is a place I get that.

From the beauty side, I love the tall Karri trees... you've got the forests and then you've got this beautiful coastline. At parts, calm pristine beaches but then beyond a reef break, there's these massive waves that attract world class surfers. I don't know, it's just everything about it. People also make a place and I think everyone is just so connected down there to the place, to the land... everyone just feels so free and happy. The way of life there is just my vision of retirement.

**Western Australia is known for its incredible sunsets, how special of a moment was it to experience that with your best friend on the Cape to Cape Track?**

I'm a sucker for sunsets. It's one thing that when I'm home over Christmas and it's normally my time to kind of unwind and switch off. I make a point to go out and watch sunsets as much as I can.

When we got to that part of the Cape to Cape, we walked out over the cliffs and ...the pictures and the film don't do it justice because it really is breathtaking.

That was probably the most beautiful place I've ever been able to watch a sunset. It was awesome getting to do some of the Cape to Cape, and just understanding a little bit more about that, and how you go from the coast, to the forest. One day I'll do the whole thing and try to experience that.

**Just one of the many amazing things about the Margaret River region is its Aboriginal cultural experiences. You took part in one yourself, just describe what that was like?**

We went down to the Ngilgi Caves with Josh (Whiteland) from Koomal Dreaming which, again, I had an idea of probably what the caves would offer, but it was so much more. It was mind blowing how deep and far down they go. I haven't really experienced that before and I was kind of figuring out how this makes sense. Josh found a quiet corner in the cave and played the didgeridoo for us and that was really cool. It's so peaceful down there as well and it's such a powerful instrument — for him to give us a little a little show, it was cool. Everything was just very surreal about that experience.

**Going on a road trip is a lot of fun, but can also be quite tiring. How did you spend your downtime?**

The downtime was really nice. We got to stay in some amazing spots. One night we were at the Heyscape Tiny Cabins... it was really cool. They're situated by themselves so it's like you've got your own little cabin, on your own little farm. What I loved was being there at night.

Before going to sleep you just look up to the sky, and it's littered with stars ... I really enjoyed that. It's so peaceful, and you can hear like little crickets and frogs ...you're just very much at one with nature. So that was beautiful.

We also got treated to the Injidup Spa Retreat. Blake and I got spoiled. That was great. It had like a little plunge pool. We may have got a massage there, and some nice spa treatments... so it was good. Very, very nice down time I must say.

**If you could experience a West Australian road trip with any other F1 driver, past or present, who would you love to take along?**

I semi-randomly got to show Lando (Norris) a little bit of home. He was in Bali for New Years' and then made a little three day trip out to WA at the start of January. I showed him a little bit of the coast and then the farm. He saw some emus and kangaroos, which is cool, and he was quite taken back by that. I guess Lando's experienced a little bit of it — I would happily show him more. He loved it. We couldn't drag him in for dinner, because he was out playing on the bikes. He was very much just a kid outdoors and enjoying our long days and warm nights. I think he'll definitely be back. He's one that would happily return and love to see more of Western Australia.

**Who would drive?**

I was very proud to drive around. I have an old an old Land Cruiser, and, in a way what feels like kind of iconic, older Aussie car. It was cool to drive around, and show him that. Also, when it's your when it's your home, you want to be the host, so the passenger seat is for the guests.



# DESTINATION NEWS







# WHAT'S NEW AND WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2024/25

Australia's largest State continues to welcome a mix of dreamlike new projects, products and experiences. Below is a comprehensive rundown of what's new and what's to come in Western Australia (WA) for the year ahead.



# TINY STAYS

Disconnect from the everyday and surround yourself in the beauty of nature with the feeling of being 'off-grid.' With today's fast-paced lifestyle, travellers are enjoying the feeling of being able to switch off in a tiny stay. The increase in popularity has seen these tiny stays popping up throughout WA.

In 2023 several **Heyscape Tiny Cabins** popped up on wineries in the Margaret River Region, with three in Busselton (Undalup) and another three in Yallingup; and in an exciting new addition to WA's Golden Outback region, four cabins have opened in the coastal town of Esperance (Kepa Kurl). Two of the cabins are located near the spectacular coastline of Cape Le Grand National Park (Mandoowernup) — home to one of the world's best beaches, Lucky Bay, with the other two nestled amongst the surrounds of Yirri Grove — a working olive farm.

Since launching in 2019, Heyscape has opened 26 cabins across eight locations and is set to add another two cabins in 2024. Popping up on an active cattle farm, the two cabins will be located in the Bunbury Geopraphe region in the South West, close to the towns of Donnybrook and Balingup.

In the Margaret River Region, **Edge Luxury Villas** started welcoming guests in December 2023. The four adults-only luxury villas are built over the property's stunning lake, offering expansive and tranquil views from each of the villa's private decks. All are equipped with self-sufficient kitchenettes, lounge

area, king beds spacious bathrooms with freestanding stone baths, and luxury fittings. One of the villas is also fully accessible, providing a seamless experience for those with mobility considerations.

Near the Great Southern town of Denmark, **Upland Farm** has recently introduced two new one-bedroom cabins, 'Forest' and 'Wren', which seamlessly blend rustic allure with modern comforts on the 107-acre working cattle farm. Both cabins feature a natural wood fireplace, open-plan kitchen, outdoor shower, and a bespoke round concrete bath.

**Hidden Cabins** offers one-of-a-kind short stay accommodation experiences nestled in secret locations within three hours of Perth. The three cabins on offer are completely off-grid, providing guests with a unique, eco-friendly and immersive experience that embraces the natural surroundings. In 2023, the third cabin was added to the collection. Margot is the first family and dog-friendly cabin, located two hours south of Perth in the Ferguson Valley and accommodating up to four guests







## BIGGER STAYS

### NEW CITY STAYS

Perth's (Boorloo) accommodation offering continues to grow, with several new hotel developments opening in 2024, and more on the way.

**Pan Pacific Perth's** extensive refurbishment will open in October 2024, and is expected to elevate the CBD hotel to a new standard of understated luxury. The multi-million-dollar investment will transform the iconic Perth hotel and elevate the accommodation offering in the city. The refurbishment includes a redesign of 392 guest rooms and suites, revitalisation of 96 Pacific Club rooms and suites, full refurbishment of the impressive ballrooms and meeting rooms on the convention level, the entire arrival experience including the lobby and porte cochère, and the exclusive Pacific Club lounge.

**Hyde Perth** will open in 2024 — the first Hyde Hotel in Australia. Located on Pier Street in Perth's CBD, the former Seasons of Perth will be transformed with that Hyde signature festival feeling. Hyde Perth will offer 120 bohemian-chic guest rooms, including 18 spacious suites, two dedicated meetings and event spaces, innovative dining concepts with

a destination restaurant and bar, and a lively café that opens onto an outdoor pool area surrounded by lush, tropical landscaping. The new hotel will draw inspiration from WA's rich palette of colours and will offer a curated program of music and live performances in keeping with Hyde's festival vibe.

**Courtyard Perth, Murdoch** opened its doors in February 2024, located just 10 minutes south of Perth's CBD in one of the city's fastest growing urban catchments. The new-build hotel offers 150 guest rooms with a contemporary fit-out, a fitness centre, flexible workspaces and meeting space with balcony for functions and an artisanal café and restaurant for a 'grab and go' bite or sit-down meal, plus a bar for drinks and cocktails. The hotel is the hospitality centerpiece of the new Murdoch Health and Knowledge Precinct.

**Baileys Parkside Motel** in East Perth has been revived with a modern restoration showcasing the motel's retro 60s style appeal. The recent takeover of Baileys Parkside Motel by Vetroblu Group of Hotels has seen the hotel go through an expansive refurbishment, with pops of neon colour, retro-inspired



furnishings and modern amenities. The motel offers a range of room types and configurations, with all rooms equipped with coffee machines, kitchenettes with fridge, toaster and microwave and ensuite bathrooms with WA amenities by The Sandalwood Shop.

The \$35 million refurbishment of **The Duxton Hotel** in Perth's CBD is due to be completed in September 2024. It includes upgrades to all the rooms, club rooms, event spaces and meeting rooms.

In Fremantle (Walyalup), a new five-star luxury accommodation offering will open early next year. **Garde** is a newbuild hotel, located within the historically significant and World Heritage-listed Fremantle Prison heritage precinct, utilising a mix of styles from brutalist to heritage. It will offer 83 luxury rooms and suites, along with event and function spaces, and a new bar and restaurant — Anglesea. Garde will become part of the existing **Warders Hotel** historic boutique accommodation offering, which opened in 2020, and welcomed the opening of additional hotel rooms at **Warders Cottages Block 2** in July 2023 — former prison warder cottages transformed into boutique hotel rooms.

Once opened, the precinct will be known as **Garde & Warders Cottages**.

In exciting news for Perth's island playground Rottnest (Wadjemup), a major redevelopment of Rottnest Island Lodge site will be opening over the 2024/25 summer season. **The Lodge Wadjemup** is a multi-million-dollar development which will offer a range of new accommodation, including affordable and premium options consisting of 46 new boutique-style rooms and 56 refurbished rooms. The redevelopment will also feature new food and beverage facilities — including a restaurant with a focus on WA produce, café, gelato bar, community space and two pools.

Also adding to the accommodation upgrades, the popular **Stay Rottnest** at Geordie Bay is also undergoing an extensive refurbishment. The existing 51 units are currently being renovated and will receive modernised kitchens and bathrooms, fresh bedrooms and living areas, new flooring and upgraded balconies and courtyard amenities. The accommodation will re-open at Geordie Bay in September 2024.

## WHAT'S TO COME...

Perth's Elizabeth Quay will soon welcome an exciting new multi-level hotel development at the sparkling waterfront precinct. The name has been revealed as The Elizabeth Hotel and Residences, paying homage to its waterfront location on Elizabeth Quay. Further details on this highly-anticipated project will soon be announced, but it is promising to be a globally-recognised, luxury hotel offering — and an exceptional new experience for Perth.







## BIGGER REGIONAL STAYS

From new hotels to glamping retreats, luxury lodges to caravan parks and resorts, there are a range of new accommodation offerings opening across regional WA.

In the Margaret River Region, the highly anticipated **Hilton Garden Inn Busselton** officially opens its doors in February 2024 in the coastal city of Busselton (Undalup). The five-storey new build property offers 112 rooms, heated outdoor pool, a 24-hour fitness centre, and event space. Ideally located on the shores of Geographe Bay, it sits directly adjacent to the iconic Busselton Jetty, with Shelter Brewing and the Busselton Foreshore precinct all within easy walking distance.

Also in Busselton, one of the city's oldest motels has gotten a Mediterranean inspired makeover, jumping onto the trend of old motels undergoing modern retro revivals. Located on the banks of the Vasse River, the former Comfort Inn Busselton River Resort has been transformed into **The Timothée Resort**,

and reopened its doors in January 2024. It offers 34 thoughtfully crafted rooms with bespoke design and retro charm, featuring local artwork and recycled plastic homewares by Margaret River Precious Plastics. There's also an outdoor heated pool with all the retro charm, on-site restaurant, barbecue area and tennis court — paying homage to the beloved motel era.

Just 15-minutes south of Busselton is a new boutique glamping accommodation offering for the region, **Willow Wood Glamping Retreat**. The adults only retreat includes 10 sustainable eco-tents nestled amongst nature on a hundred-acre farm, each with a king or queen-sized bed, ensuite bathrooms and kitchenettes. The retreat also has a dedicated wellness tent, offering massages and spa experiences using Aboriginal botanical spa product, Larn'wa.

Also in the Margaret River Region, **Southcamp** is a new village-style of accommodation located in the town



centre of Dunsborough. It offers 18 cosy timber cabins set amongst the bush, with king-sized beds, ensuites and outdoor decks, plus the option of two side-by-side connecting cabins with a central private deck — perfect for families or groups of friends. There's also two comfortable apartments for those looking for a longer stay, with fully equipped kitchens, laundry, bathroom and indoor and outdoor dining and living areas. The Southcamp precinct also includes a Brewhouse bar and kitchen serving in-house brewed beers and food, centred around a large green beer garden. There's also a café serving up great coffee, plus a continental gourmet grocery all in the same complex.

In the southern Margaret River Region, **Chambre Estate** is a newly renovated luxury lodge offering set on three hectares of charming native bush and farmland. The accommodation includes seven luxurious suites with private ensuites, a private two-bedroom lodge, three cabins offering a range of two and three-bedroom options, plus a

honeymoon suite. Guests can wander along the nature trails or soak in one of the property's outdoor wood-fired hot tubs.

Further south in the Great Southern region, **Chimes Spa Retreat** near Denmark has reopened its doors following an extensive two-year renovation. The adults-only luxury wellness escape offers a new level of rejuvenation and relaxation. Featuring 10 guest rooms, each with deep freestanding circular baths and a luxurious, locally led design, the retreat includes daily continental breakfast and stunning tranquil gardens to soothe the soul. The Day Spa at Chimes can accommodate up to five guests simultaneously, including two double treatment rooms. Guests can indulge in a traditional Finnish sauna, steam deck, Vichy shower, and a refreshing cold plunge pool.

In WA's Kimberley region, **Discovery Parks Broome Holiday & Caravan Park** has undergone a \$10 million redevelopment. Ideally located adjacent to Broome's (Rubibi) Town Beach, and overlooking Roebuck Bay (Yawuru Nagulgun) with prime waterfront views, guests can now choose from 22 brand new deluxe two-bedroom and studio cabins, with either ocean or pool views. All cabins have kitchenettes, bathrooms, air-conditioning and balconies to enjoy the views; and two of the cabins are accessible. The redevelopment also included a new resort pool overlooking Roebuck Bay.

In Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang), the gateway to the eastern region of the Kimberley, **The Cambridge** hotel has been going through a redevelopment, with construction due to be finalised in 2024. Phase one of the development has been completed, which entailed a full refurbishment of the existing rooms, plus a newly renovated on-site restaurant and bar.

In Karijini National Park, one of WA's most rugged and adventurous National Parks, the accommodation offering **Karijini Eco Retreat** has welcomed four new deluxe eco tents for the 2024 season. The tents include fully enclosed ensuite bathrooms, king sized beds with quality bedding, daily room servicing and a front deck offering spectacular views over the park. Karijini Eco Retreat is 100 per cent Aboriginal-owned by Gumala Enterprises, proudly representing the Banjima, Yinhawangka and Nyiyaparli people of the Pilbara region. Access to Karijini National Park and its ancient gorges, crystal-clear water holes and cascading waterfalls has also been improved for the 2024 season, with 41 kilometres of road now sealed, helping to boost and improve access to and between Weano Gorge, Dales Gorge and the Karijini Eco Retreat.





## WHAT'S TO COME...

Plans have been unveiled for the \$70 million redevelopment of **RAC's Ningaloo Reef Resort** in Coral Bay on WA's Coral Coast. The proposed redevelopment involves the demolition of the current resort to make way for 90 new holiday units, along with a new pool and sunlounge area, restaurant, bar and alfresco dining, and function spaces. The capacity of the resort is proposed to increase from 160 to 270 people, with a mix of new accommodation options, from hotel rooms to one, two and three-bedroom units offering stunning panoramic views of the ocean. The new design concept reflects the unique landscapes of the Ningaloo (Nyinggulu) region, with the use of local stone, natural timber and colourful native flowers. Sustainability is also a key focus, with a considerable investment in solar energy and the inclusion of electric vehicle chargers. Works began in early 2024 and are expected to take around 24 months to complete.



Also in Coral Bay, the **Ningaloo Coral Bay** holiday village is undergoing renovations. Adding to the existing villa accommodation will be a number of spacious two- and three-bedroom villas, which are expected to be completed in 2024. The new villas will be a mix of ground floor and first floor units, with four new three-bedroom villas and 16 new two-bedroom villas. Each of the villas will have private decks and balconies with outdoor furniture, with the upstairs units accessible via external staircases. All villas are self-contained, with kitchens and bathrooms and new furniture.





# DREAMLIKE FLAVOURS

## CITY DINING

Perth (Boorloo) CBD and neighbouring Northbridge continue to welcome a flurry of new hospitality offerings, including multi-level venues, fine-dining restaurants, eclectic bars in heritage buildings, urban wineries, suburban eateries, plus exciting new city bars and restaurants.

Nestled between the Perth CBD and vibrant Northbridge, the beating heart of the city has been transformed with the addition of **Stories** — a five-storey hospitality mecca with a variety of different offerings. Patrons can embark on a journey of different discoveries, with **Stories Pourhouse** offering an industrial vibe with 20 different beer taps, **Stories Front Yard** boasts the CBD's largest beer garden, and **Stories Rooftop** brings the late-night party vibes. Also within the venue is the signature restaurant Alba, serving up modern Italian fare; **KARLA** offering modern Asian cuisine; and **Ugly Baby** brining fun and Middle Eastern flavours. Hidden within the venue is **Fat Controller** — a hidden speakeasy cocktail bar; and for the morning patrons there's **ground.** — a hole in the wall takeaway coffee window also serving pastries and toasties.

Another hotly anticipated 2024 opening was **Gibney** — a sophisticated brasserie and grill located by the water just south of the iconic Cottesloe beach. With capacity for up to 160, the restaurant is formal in its approach with tablecloths, jacketed wait staff, all soft furnishings, marble, brass and high-end tableware. The menu draws inspiration from traditionally classic steakhouses and

brasseries throughout Europe, London and New York — and with a 45-metres oceanfront façade, it provides stunning views from South Cottesloe Beach to Rottneest Island.

Perth's CBD has welcomed a variety of different hospitality venues in the past year. **Papi Katsu** is a modern Japanese eatery that opened its doors on St Georges Terrace. The subterranean izakaya draws inspiration from contemporary Japanese cuisine, with a focus on seasonal produce and locally sourced seafood. A premium caviar service and a daily selection of sashimi features on the menu, alongside larger dishes. With a cyberpunk-inspired interior of neon lights and modern wooden furnishings, the venue is designed for fun with a menu that encourages sharing,

At Perth's sparkling waterfront dining destination Elizabeth Quay, several new venues have opened their doors bringing a new level of vibrant energy to the precinct. **Lantern on the Quay** is a new Cantonese restaurant offering a sophisticated dining experience with a lantern-inspired 140-seat dining room located in the new One The Esplanade high rise development. The menu showcases WA's premium seafood offering — including lobster, abalone, scallops and crab, plus local wagyu beef.

Also in the One The Esplanade development, **6HEAD** Perth opened its doors in November 2023. After opening in Sydney in 2019, the premium steakhouse will serve up its signature sharing steaks at the new Perth venue, alongside a menu of quality seafood and elevated classic dishes.



Taking over the former Flour Factory and Arara space in Perth's CBD is **Spring**, a vibrant multi-level 450-person venue. It offers a modern restaurant with a menu encapsulating all corners of the globe alongside multiple DJ areas. Upstairs is a late-night dance spot, a dark neon-filled space designed for fun. Nearby **Sassy Mamma** is another new late-night aperitivo and cocktail bar, merging Italian flair with delectable bites — plus a dance floor with giant disco ball.

Offering neighbourhood hospitality nestled in the heart of the CBD is **COPIA** — an intimate community-driven space located in the lobby of the 12-storey OneNinety building. The venue offers multiple indoor and outdoor spaces, and serves up artisanal coffee, a curated global wine selection, grab-and-go breakfast options, casual all-day snacks and small plates designed for sharing.

Adding to the CBD's selection of Asian-fusion restaurants, Melbourne's award-winning modern Asian restaurant **Miss Mi** has opened its doors as the signature restaurant for Novotel Perth Murray Street hotel. The menu showcases a mix of dishes influenced by South East Asia, and using the traditional art of Asian grill.

In the cultural hub of Northbridge, **Fallow Liquor and Eatery** opened its doors in May 2024, taking over a multi-storey heritage building. Following two years of renovations, the long-vacant heritage building has been transformed into a 248-seat modern bar and kitchen. Fallow offers an open kitchen experience with a wood-fired oven and hearth, along with a unique meat vault that showcases dry-aged cuts.

Also in Northbridge, the team behind the city's Foxtrot Unicorn and Fremantle's Nieuw Ruin has opened **Edward & Ida's** along popular William Street. The two-storey bar offers a corner pub aesthetic at ground level, with a cocktail den unearthed in the building's basement. Originally built in 1922, the historic venue offers a gastropub feel in the main bar, with downstairs serving up weird and wonderful cocktail concoctions amongst an eclectic collection of taxidermy and vintage wares.

Further south along William Street, an American-inspired diner dedicated to Nashville hot chicken has opened its doors. **South Bird** combines fried chicken, beers and cocktails with jazz, blues and hip-hop music.



Perth's neighbouring suburb Subiaco has been going through a renaissance this past year, with the opening of several new venues including **Subiaco Continental** — a 300-seater European-inspired bistro and tavern; **Bar Banter** — a backyard-inspired beer and cocktail garden tucked in a laneway; and Greek restaurant **Yiomas**. In the neighbouring suburb of Shenton Park, Bacco offers an authentic and intimate dining experience, with a modern spin on classic Italian, and nearby in Leederville, **Romulus** is a new wine bar serving up Mediterranean delights.

South Perth welcomed its newest hospitality precinct in December 2023. **The Station** — located in the heritage-listed former South Perth Police Station, is a captivating urban food and beverage venue, blending European charm with modern flair. With a below ground French-inspired restaurant and a ground-level modern pub with leafy alfresco, the 500-person hospitality venue is part of the \$400 million Civic Heart development. Once completed, it will offer 25 ground-floor food and beverage venues, retail tenancies in the commercial precinct, and 300 luxury apartments.

In Fremantle (Walyalup), the State's first urban winery has opened its doors. **H&C Urban Winery** is a bar, restaurant, events space, cellar door and fully operational winery all under one roof. Brought to life by a collective of owners across Perth's hospitality and drinks scene, the concept of the urban winery means parcels of grapes are sourced from WA, then crushed, stored and fermented on-site, and produced through collaborating with some of the State's best wine makers. There's also a focus on spirits — plus beer taps pouring local brews, and a food menu inspired by 'Modern Fremantle' with a focus on fresh local produce designed to share.

Also opening in Fremantle's bustling east end is **Shirley's**, a cosy wine bar serving local and international wines alongside spirits and creative cocktails, with bar snacks and more substantial bites. In the historic West End, **Ode to Sirens** is an eclectic new venue offering good music and a selection of wine, tap beer, craft cans, cocktails and Greek-centric cuisine. A tape deck and record player add a nostalgic touch, blending in with the venue's 1970s aesthetic. And for lovers of West Australian rock lobster, **The Cray Seafood and Grill** restaurant

has opened in the heart of Fremantle. Serving up iconic seafood platters, it allows visitors to enjoy the delights of local WA seafood.

Also adding to Fremantle's bustling hospitality scene this past year include Italian eatery **Vin Populi**, Mexian cantina **Frida Mexicana**, neighbourhood beach bar and restaurant **Al Lupo**, pizzeria **Lolas**, and cozy backyard-style bar **Patio**.

In Perth's northern beachside suburbs, **Hillarys Beach Club** opened in December 2023. The huge 1400 square metre multi-level venue is home to multiple spaces including a restaurant, traditional gastro-style pub, a kiosk for grab-and-go food, a large function space and what's sure to be one of the best balconies to watch an Indian Ocean sunset.

In Perth's Swan Valley wine region, **The Tapas Bar** is serving up Australian-inspired tapas-style dining alongside Olive Farm Wines and local beers and spirits from Swan Valley craft producers.

City breweries continue to be trending here in Perth, with several venues opening this past year. **Phat Brew Club** opened a 400-capacity clubroom with taphouse and on-site brewery, outdoor beer garden and restaurant in West Perth. Nearby, multinational brewery **BrewDog** has taken over the former Gordon Street Garage venue to become the fifth location to open in Australia. The 600-capacity venue has 40 beers on tap, and serves BrewDog's signature burgers, wings and pizza.

Another inner-city brewery has had a recent makeover. Blasta Brewery reopened as the **Blasta Collective**, spanning across two buildings and

joined by a picturesque laneway in the suburb of Burswood. The sprawling new 1400-capacity venue is home to a gastrobrewery, a beer hall, alfresco area with children's playground, florist, patisserie, bottle shop and a café — with multiple dining zones and a private dining greenhouse.

Taking over the former Blasta Brewery venue is **Fox Friday Brewing Co.** After successful Fox Friday openings in Tasmania and Melbourne, the owner is connecting back with his WA roots by opening a venue in Perth.

In North Beach, **Froth Craft Beach** is a 120-capacity craft beer taphouse with dreamy 180-degree views over the Indian Ocean. After opening in the Coral Coast town of Exmouth in 2017, Froth has since opened Froth Craft Bunbrewery in Bunbury mid-last year, and now brings its laid-back and welcoming vibe to Perth's coastal suburbs.

Further afield in the city of Mandurah (Mandjoogoordap), WA owned and operated craft brewery **Wedgetail Brewing** has opened a new Tap Room, pouring a range of craft brews and wood-fired pizzas.

In winery news, **Redgum Wine Estate** has opened near the town of Dwellingup in the Peel Wine region southeast of Perth. Formerly known as Newbliss Winery, the estate underwent a four-year transformation led by the new owners, reviving the existing vines, which boast seven grape varieties, and opening a new cellar door. The winery now offers a stunning cellar door overlooking the Marrinup State Forest and offering panoramic views of the Dawesville estuary and the Indian Ocean.







## REGIONAL WONDERS

From north to south new restaurants, cafes, breweries and distilleries continue to add to the ever-growing list of regional epicurean options.

In the famed Margaret River Region, a new premium destination dining experience has opened its doors. Ideally located on the main street of Margaret River town, **de'sendent** is a new culinary venture for the former owners of Arimia Estate. With capacity for only 35 diners, the new restaurant offers a seasonal, refined dining experience with a darker, more intimate atmosphere, and a commitment to high-quality, local, organic produce sourced from like-minded producers with shared values. The menu features premium WA ingredients, including abalone, Wagyu beef, marron, and uni (sea urchin).

Also in Margaret River town, **Sons of Naples** is a new modern Italian restaurant serving up Neapolitan-style woodfired pizza, traditional pastas, share plates and desserts. The restaurant offers a dark and moody vibe with an eclectic mix of modern artwork, while the rustic alfresco area is designed for patrons to enjoy a local wine or brew. And in the neighbouring town of Witchcliffe is **Dear Darnell's** — a quirky new bar and bistro with an eclectic and fun fit-out filled with repurposed furniture and mismatched wooden features.

Nearby in the town of Dunsborough, **Wayfinder Wines** has opened a unique tasting and dining concept. The new cellar door and restaurant are located in a freshly renovated space with clean

aesthetics paired with earthy colours. The menu features fresh produce from the Wayfinder vineyard and farm and locally sourced meat and seafood, with an ever-changing, seasonal menu designed to share and pair with the tailored wine selection. **Little Iris Cafe** is also in full bloom, offering a laidback and relaxing café with an indoor and outdoor garden setting and serving up locally sourced condiments and preserves.

A local continental grocer, wine store, café, deli and flower shop has opened its doors in the heart of town, serving up gourmet produce from the region and beyond. **Dunn Bay Continental** is located within the new Southcamp precinct. Visitors can expect house-baked bread and pastries, sandwiches, free-range roast chicken, small-batch coffee, cheeses, cold-cut meats, salads and ready-made meals. Also in the same venue is a florist, plus a natural wine store with a loft bar is on the way.

A Swan Valley brewery has opened a second venue in Dunsborough, taking over the former Clancy's Fish Pub. **Bailey Brewing Co** offers easy-drinking beers and family friendly vibes, with a menu of simple beers, local wines, and hearty food.

Further north in the Margaret River Region, the coastal town of Busselton (Udalup) has welcomed a hospitality boom, with several exciting new venues opening over the past year. A major redevelopment of Busselton Central Shopping Centre has made way for a new entertainment and dining precinct.



**Inara** was the first to open its doors in November 2023, a contemporary restaurant and bar specializing in Levantine Middle Eastern cuisine, promising to take diners on a culinary adventure that celebrates the flavours and food traditions of the Middle East.

Forming the centerpiece of the Busselton Central redevelopment is the **Busselton Pavilion**, which opened in early 2024. The 500-capacity multifaceted pub and dining destination is a bold new venture from award-winning WA hospitality stalwart John Parker from Parker Group, with ex-Vasse Felix head chef Brendan Pratt as the creative culinary director. The menu showcases fresh local seafood and produce, with a rotating drinks menu of local beer and wine and an in-house distillery which will produce bespoke spirits, liqueurs and low ABV products. Attached to the Pavilion is the boutique **South West Wine Shop**, with curated local and eclectic wine selection, retail goods and a wine bar.

On the Busselton foreshore, **The Goose** is back and once again serving locals and visitors with an all-day dining menu overlooking the iconic Busselton Jetty. The popular restaurant was destroyed by fire in 2021, but the owners were always committed to rebuilding, and reopened its doors in July 2023.

**Beyond Distilling** has opened its doors in Busselton for tastings, offering an award-winning range of spirits created using sustainably sourced grains from farms in WA's Mid-West, and sustainably grown botanicals from across WA. The unique and truly WA range includes three gins, a vodka and specialty small batch spirits such as bourbon and absinthe.

In WA's Golden Outback region **Wooleen Station** — a working cattle station offering an authentic outback station stay experience — has transformed an historic 100-year-old shearer's shed into a new café and reception. Known as Milimanmanha, the café serves coffees and snacks, and includes a shop for local creators and producers to showcase and sell their products.

Along the Golden Outback coastline, **Yirri Grove** olive farm has opened a newly refurbished restaurant and farm shop near the town of Esperance (Kepa Kurl). The restaurant offers an authentic paddock to plate experience, featuring the farm's best olives and oils, fresh vegetables from the farm's garden and home baked treats. Guests can also purchase local preserves, gifts and artwork, or take part in olive and olive oil tastings.



Parked up on the shores of Lucky Bay in Cape Le Grande near the town of Esperance is **Lucky Bean Café**, which has recently reopened after being acquired by new owners. The opening hours are determined by the weather, but visitors can enjoy barista coffee, snacks and cold drinks with their feet in the sand, watching the local kangaroos.

In WA's North West, the Kimberley town of Broome (Rubibi) welcomed the opening of **Spinifex Brewery Cable Beach** in December 2023. Located near the iconic Cable Beach, the new multi-million-dollar venue caters for up to 600 guests, offering a unique family-oriented venue with a children's playground, outdoor beer garden with large LED screens, a stage for live performances and onsite brewery. The kitchen serves up a modern Australian menu utilising fresh seasonal produce, alongside woodfired pizzas. Spinifex Brewing Co is Australia's first part Aboriginal and veteran-owned craft brewery. The brewery uses native ingredients that support Aboriginal producers, with ingredients such as lemon myrtle, wattle seed, pepper berries and Kimberley gubinge flavouring the brews.

Just up the road, **Zookeepers Broome** has reopened its doors. The vibrant, family-owned cafe is serving up freshly made pastries, sandwiches, cinnabuns and locally roasted coffee, with dine in and grab-and-go options. The café has also just recently opened for dinner, serving up an Asian-fusion inspired menu. And nestled in the heart of Broome's Chinatown precinct, **Haven** is a new fresh and vibrant café offering specialty coffee and dine-in or grab-and-go brunch options, and on Broome's iconic Cable Beach, the former Zanders venue has reopened its doors as **Cable Beach House** following a revitalisation to reflect a more modern era.

For flavours of the liquid kind, **Ferngrove Wines** in Frankland River, north of Denmark, has opened its Cellar Door for three unique new tasting experiences sharing the passion for the cool climate wines from the Great Southern region. The tasting experiences include a tasting introduction to six wines; a museum tasting experience of special back-vintage wines; and a Bespoke Tasting Flight of 10 wines across the portfolio. And in Esperance in the Golden Outback region, **Esperance Distillery** has launched its own gin school where guests can enjoy creating and concocting their own gin to take home.



## EPIC ADVENTURES

Western Australia is brimming with unforgettable adventures ready for any discerning traveller looking for their next unique experience. From nature and wildlife encounters, discovering ancient lands above and below ground, expedition tours on land and water, hikes and trails, and big ship cruising, there are so many new adventures to be had across the State.

**Matagarup Mini Golf** is the latest new offering to open at Perth's (Boorloo) Burswood Park. Ideally located on the picturesque banks of the Swan River (Derbarl Yerrigan), between the Matagarup Bridge and the Zip+Climb experience, and The Camfield hotel and Perth's state-of-the-art Optus Stadium. With a West Australian inspired 18 holes set amongst native landscaping, a 50-metre creek, artwork and leafy trees — it's Perth's biggest mini golf course. The first nine holes are also wheelchair accessible and pram friendly. An on-site kiosk is available for food and drinks, with a café currently under construction, due to open in late 2024.

In Perth's Swan Valley wine region, The Vines Resort has launched the **Kangaroo Safari experience**. The tour offers guests the opportunity to immerse themselves in the natural beauty of the region while getting up close and personal with the iconic Australian kangaroos. Tours begin during dusk aboard motorised buggies, venturing through the resort's picturesque golf course to spot the native marsupials, and finish with a sunset drink and a round of 18 holes of mini golf.

Fly Esperance has expanded its offering to Perth, with **Fly Perth** now offering a range of new aerial tour packages across the city and beyond. Highlights include aerial tours to Rottnest Island (Wadjemup), with scenic views over the city and a two-hour stop on the island, plus a full day experience with breakfast at Rottnest and lunch at a winery in Perth's Swan Valley. Extended experiences include flights to the Margaret River Region for wine tastings and lunch, or charter flight packages to Esperance (Kepa Kurl), Albany (Kinjarling), Busselton (Undalup), Geraldton (Jambinu) or Kalgoorlie.

Perth's island playground Rottnest welcomed several new tours over the summer season. **Cicerellos Jet Adventures** is now running parasailing tours for thrill-seekers to experience the wonders of the island from 100 metres above the ocean. **Major Blue Air** introduced another scenic flight offering from the island utilising a new fleet of aircraft, and **Fly Perth** has started offering packaged tours from Perth to Rottnest. A new water taxi service by **Rottnest Water Taxi** provides another option to get around the island, departing from Thomson Bay. Stop in for a treat at The Basin at a new pop-up venue **Simmos** and **HAVZA**, with ice-creams, tapas and cocktails on offer. Relaxation awaits with in-house massages offered by **Mobile Massage Rottnest Island**, pampering Stay Rottnest accommodation guests. Families will find respite in the newly launched kids holiday care by **MBA Rottnest Kids Club**, catering to children aged four to 12. Lastly, **Segway Tours WA** has started operating out of the settlement.



**Peddle Perth** has taken its fun and immersive rickshaw experiences to the streets of Perth's port city of Fremantle (Walyalup), offering informative and scenic tours of the city's iconic locations, as well as brewery, bar and cocktail tours — all on the back of a rickshaw. Departing from Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour, parasail whale watching with **Cicerello's Jet Adventures** is a thrilling and unique way to experience WA's humpback whale migration as they pass along Perth's coast from September to November each year.

South of Perth in the coastal city of Mandurah (Manjoogoordap), **Mandurah Cruises** is now operating a year-round sightseeing cruise to discover **Thomas Dambo's Giants of Mandurah** exhibition from aboard a boat.

In the Margaret River Region, the iconic **Busselton Jetty** welcomed the opening of a new family friendly **Marine Discovery Centre** in July 2024. The 30-minute indoor, interactive experience gives visitors the chance to drive a virtual submarine, make their own fish habitat, hear the mesmerising calls of whales in the open ocean and more.

The discovery centre allows visitors to discover what lies underneath the jetty when they don't have time to make the 1.8 kilometre journey to the underwater observatory at the end.

The longest timber-piled jetty in the Southern Hemisphere also saw the installation of 13 underwater sculptures in 2023, creating a sculpture trail and artificial reef at the end of the 1.8-kilometre icon. The **Underwater Sculpture Park** is a submerged experience for divers, swimmers and snorkellers, while the sculptures creating new habitat for local marine wildlife.

Near the town of Dunsborough, the historic **Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse** welcomed the opening of the **Lightkeepers' Museum**, a new interpretive centre housed in one of the lightkeepers' original cottages. The museum showcases the history of the lighthouse and region, including the Wadandi people's 60,000-year custodianship and the influence of weather and whaling which set the scene for enthralling stories of shipwrecks and lightning storms. The museum's opening is the final part of a five-year redevelopment project at Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse.





In an exciting first for the Margaret River Region, truffle hunting experiences have launched this winter. The **Margaret River Truffle Farm** is a family owned and operated property, producing the highly prized Black French Truffle. For the 2024 truffle season the owners have partnered with Forage Safaris and Go in Style to offer truffle hunting tours from June to August — with the goal of providing a bookable product in 2025.

Set above-ground at the site of the historic **Ngilgi Cave**, the **Ancient Lands Experience** takes visitors on a journey to discover 600 million years of stories associated with the Margaret River Region and its people. The \$3.6 million attraction opened to the public in November 2023 and offers a series of interactive installations woven throughout the natural bushland which pay homage to the landscape's formation, the limestone caves, the 60,000-year custodianship of the Wadandi people, and the flora and fauna found in the region. Visitors seeking a deeper cultural experience can explore Wadandi country through the eyes of traditional custodians with **Koomal Dreaming** at a new purpose-built Meeting Place.

Discover the aquatic wonders of the Margaret River Region with a new and unique experience by Swimming Women that launched in January 2024. **Swimming Holidays** invites women travellers to explore the region in a 'watery way.' The new tour goes beyond swimming, exploring unique aquatic spots intertwined with regional tales and nourishing food. As locals for two decades, the guides are swim coaches who share their favourite places, including rockpools, rivers and the Indian Ocean.

In the Great Southern Forests and Valleys region, an aerial ropes adventure course has opened in the town of Pemberton. Located amongst the giant Karri Trees in Gloucester National Park, **Aerial Adventure Pemberton** is a multi-level treetop experience with high ropes and an all-glide-line — including a 100-metre flying fox — reaching up to 25 metres in the trees. A welcoming area and café are set to open at the precinct later in the year.

**Scenic Helicopters** took flight from Albany (Kinjarling) over summer, providing aerial tours over the picturesque landscapes of the Great Southern region. Launching from



Albany Town Jetty, visitors can indulge in a 20-minute scenic flight, taking in stunning views of the coast, rolling countryside, and iconic landmarks. Packages are also available that combine a Spa Day at Chimes Spa Retreat, a leisurely lunch at The Dam in Denmark, or an immersive Great Southern Winery tour with a Scenic Helicopter ride.

**Ningaloo Aviation** in the Coral Coast town of Exmouth is now offering an exclusive chartered escape to the **Mackerel Islands** in the Pilbara Region. The new three-day seasonal experience begins with a scenic flight departing from Exmouth that soars directly over the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef (Nyinggulu), spotting whale sharks and humpback whales. Guests will then spend their days kayaking, snorkelling or stand-up paddle boarding with a personal guide, then enjoy dinner under the stars at their beachfront island cabin.

Setting sail in the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef region, **Sail Ningaloo's** vessel, Shore Thing, has received a fresh new upgrade. With sustainability, privacy and culinary extravagance in mind, guests will enjoy a luxurious overnight sailing adventure on the reef.

In the Pilbara region of WA's North West, explore the stunning Dampier Archipelago on a new jet ski tour with **Lethal Adventures**. Helmed by experienced skipper and passionate local Leith Rowe, tours depart from the Dampier Foreshore, just a short drive from the town of Karratha. Guests can choose to set out on an adventure to explore the hidden gems and islands of the Archipelago, encountering sea turtles, dugongs, seabirds, and seasonal humpback whales along the way, or enjoy the sheltered waters of the Hampton Harbour with the 1.5-hour cruise exploring Sam's Island, the port and salt export facilities, and the locally famous Pirate Cove.

Also in the Pilbara region, **Karijini Eco Retreat** in the picturesque Karijini National Park has released three guided tour experiences. Guests can choose from a sunset or sunrise walk, taking guests to the top of Joffre Gorge (Jijgunha) for spectacular views and refreshments. There's also the option to journey to the bottom of the gorge to experience its waterfall and discover the geological history. A guided night sky tour allows guests to discover the celestial wonders of the universe in a clear night sky, and get a closer look at



the stars, planets, and constellations through a telescope.

In the Kimberley town of Broome (Rubibi), Willie Creek Pearls has released new multi-day **Adventure Getaway Packages** on-board a custom-built houseboat for the 2024 season. Partnering with Kimberley Getaway, the family owned and operated pearl farm is offering two action-filled packages to explore the best parts of Willie Creek Pearl Farm. Guests will stay onboard a spacious three-level custom built houseboat accommodating up to 12 guests. With three-day or five-day experiences available, the fully catered packages include a pearl farm tour, and a range of action-packed activities including fishing, mud crabbing, and a wildlife cruise onboard a private catamaran.

**Go Wild Adventure Tours** has introduced the Ultimate Ord River Experience to its tour offerings in the Kimberley region. Departing from Kununurra (Goornoorang), this new all-inclusive guided canoe tour includes five days of canoeing along the mighty Ord River, with camping in private and remote campgrounds and guided hikes to secluded waterholes and cascades.

With such a vast abundance of breathtaking natural sights and striking landscapes, exploring WA by foot or by bike is one of the best ways to take in its beauty. With world-class multi-day hikes and cycling trails, and short guided routes through lush botanic gardens, bushland and national parks, there's a trail experience to suit everyone. The **State Government has invested \$46 million** into the development of trails and other recreational facilities, including the completion of the iconic Wadandi Track in the South West, extending the multipurpose walking and bike riding trail to nearly 110 kilometres, making it one of the longest trails in Australia.

For guided hiking experiences, **Cape2Camp** has launched a unique self-guided and fully catered hike and tenting experience on the iconic Cape-to-Cape track in the Margaret River Region. Travellers looking to take on the 123-kilometre trek can do so without extensive planning — just carry a day pack and enjoy the spectacular views. Camping equipment, transfers, plus food and drinks from the region are included. Hikers will have their camp set up at various locations, allowing for starlight dinners and a comfortable night's sleep on a quality mattress.



In the Coral Coast region, there are several new multi-day guided hiking experiences. Embark on a women's only walking wilderness adventure through the ancient and rugged Murchison Gorge in the spectacular Kalbarri National Park with eco-tourism company **Edgewalkers**. The seven-day tour package departs from Perth, and includes four days of camping and five days of hiking along the ancient riverine gorge carved over millions of years by the lower reaches of the Murchison River on Nanda Yamatji Country.

Small group eco-touring company **Exmouth Adventure Co** has launched two new multi-day expedition tours. In partnership with **Trek Ningaloo**, the new Ningaloo Odyssey Tour is a four-day adventure through the wonders of the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Marine Park, with two days of guided trekking in Cape Range National Park, followed by two days of guided sea kayaking over Ningaloo Reef. Explore rugged gorges and majestic landscapes, then traverse across coastal plains to swap trekking gear for a sea kayak and snorkelling equipment, all while camping under the stars. Exmouth Adventure Co has also launched a new five-day Dampier Archipelago and Murujuga National Park sea kayaking and island camping

expedition, exploring one of the most diverse marine environments in WA, and one of the most significant and diverse collections of Aboriginal rock art in the world at Murujuga National Park.

**The Hike Collective** has launched another women's only tour in the stunning Karijini National Park in the Pilbara. The five-day Karijini Journey, commencing in October 2024, includes hikes in striking gorges, swimming in natural pools and watching the sunrise atop Mount Bruce aiming to boost the feeling of empowerment and connection through introspection and adventure — connecting with the landscapes and like-minded individuals.

In the Golden Outback region, a new hiking festival will take place in the coastal town of Esperance (Kepa Kurl) from September 20 to 22. **GROUNDLED | Esperance Hiking Festival** will offer five carefully crafted hikes to choose from — designed for beginners through to seasoned hikers to explore the diverse hiking trails that wind through the spectacular coastlines of Cape Le Grand National Park.



For the independent rider, cycle through the Perth Hills on a new **Pedal and Pint trail**, taking in the area's stunning scenery with the rich history of its pubs and taverns along the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail. Stretching over 59 kilometres, the cycle trail weaves through lush forests, historic towns, and a disused railway tunnel. Explore the whole trail in a day, or sections at a time, and stop in at the historic pubs and hotels along the way.

For road tripping adventures, hiring a 4WD camper vehicle to explore WA's incredible coastlines and epic outback landscapes has now become easier thanks to the recent introduction of two new rental companies. **4exploring Rentals** offer premium off-road rental vehicles with rooftop tents for hire, plus a six-person camper trailer. Pick-up is only available in Perth, with drop-off locations in Exmouth, Broome, Kununurra and Darwin. **Adventure Rentals** has increased its fleet and depot locations into WA, with depots in both Perth and Broome. Offering premium 4WD camper vehicles for hire, travelers can fly into Broome and explore the outback wonders of the Kimberley region and the rugged Gibb River Road.

For camper van adventures, **JUCY Campervan Hire** has opened a new Perth branch, ideally located just up the road from Perth Airport. Perth is also now available for one-way bookings in and out of any other mainland Australia branch and is opening its door to welcome other vehicles such as the Star RV Polaris 2, Polaris 2+2 and Cruiser. **RedSands Campers** has released a flagship product in 2024 — **The Wanderer**. Offering a more luxurious 4WD campervan, the two-person vehicle includes a comfortable queen-sized bed, an indoor seating and dining area, a large fridge, storage space, solar power and a long-range diesel tank. Unlike standard campervans and motorhomes, The Wanderer provides the freedom to travel on unsealed roads without any restrictions.

For the eco-conscious road trippers, **Australia's longest EV highway** is set to be completed in 2024. A State Government initiative helping to support the future of cleaner, greener electric vehicles into the future, the WA EV Network includes 98 new electric vehicle fast charging stations and back-up chargers at 49 different locations, all due to be fully operational in by 2024. The charging stations will connect Perth and regional WA — stretching over

7,000 kilometres from Kununurra in the north, to Esperance in the south, and all the way east to Eucla, with an average distance between charging stations of around 160 kilometres, allowing drivers of most electric vehicles to explore this magnificent state.

In cruising news, **Scenic Eclipse II** is bringing a new level of luxury cruising to the Kimberley in 2024 as the only ship sailing the region with two helicopters on board, allowing for unparalleled exploration of its ancient wonders. The new Discovery Yacht launched in May 2024, and brings a 6-star ultra-luxury experience catering for up to 228 guests, with spacious all veranda suites, personalised butler service, a spa, two vitality pools, up to 10 dining experiences, next-generation Zodiacs and the two state-of-the-art helicopters.

**Coral Expeditions** has announced a new Whales and Trails of WA itinerary exploring the stunning coastline of the South West. Setting sail in October 2024, the 10-night voyage onboard the Coral Adventurer expedition ship will follow the annual migration of the Humpback, Southern Right and Blue Whales across the Indian and Southern Oceans with their calves. Departing and returning from Fremantle, each day guests will step ashore to explore the South West region's awe-inspiring trails.

French-flagged expedition cruise line PONANT and luxury pearling company Paspaley has debuted a new boutique expedition motor yacht **Paspaley Pearl by PONANT** in the Kimberley this year. Having started its inaugural Kimberley season in June 2024, the 30-guest vessel brings a new era of luxury explorations in the Kimberley. It's the newest and

only boutique expedition motor yacht in the Kimberley with private balconies, with the highest level of environmental and technical systems, offering a new standard of excellence in the region.

For smaller cruising adventures, with a maximum of 12 passengers across six cabins, **Blue Juice Charters** has added a range of new and redeveloped tours to its offerings in WA's Coral Coast. Originally a fishing charter, the offering has been tweaked to include more adventures, with a new luxury vessel making the tours more comfortable for guests. The new Abrolhos Islands wilderness adventure departs from Geraldton, guests can immerse themselves in island life with activities including catching crayfish, snorkeling the reef, witnessing the abundance of marine life and discovering the island's history. A new tour in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area is also on offer, setting sail from Monkey Mia and Denham and taking in the wonders of the region, including Dirk Hartog Island.

**Eclipse Expeditions** is a new boutique cruise charter offering tours of WA's North West and South West Regions. Accommodating up to eight guests, there are four itineraries to choose from ranging from three to eight days in length. Explore the Kimberley coast or the islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago, journey to the Montebello Islands off the coast of Dampier or enjoy a South West safari in the Margaret River Region. Guests will travel in style onboard a brand-new vessel — a sailing catamaran equipped with four ensuite queen cabins, a main deck and sun lounge







# ANCIENT TRACKS

**Camping with Custodians** in WA is an Australia-first program that develops high quality public campgrounds on Aboriginal lands, which are then owned and operated by the Aboriginal community. The seventh site opened to the public in May 2024.

**Lombadina** is located on the Dampier Peninsula, just over a two-hour drive north of Broome (Rubibi). It's the first Camping with Custodians site to be based within a remote Aboriginal community. The campground has up to 35 campsites, a camp kitchen and ablution facilities. Several Aboriginal cultural tours are also available from Lombadinda to enrich the visitor experience, including mud crabbing tours, ancient footprint tours to discover the history of the Lombadina Mission, kayaking tours, and four-wheel-drive tours to Cygnet Bay, Swan Point and One Arm Point to visit the communities and trochus hatchery.

Several new Aboriginal tourism operators have also begun operating in 2024, proudly sharing their fascinating stories, distinctive cultures and traditional lands with visitors through a variety of authentic experiences.

**Beelya Cultural Tours** is a new three-hour river cruise along the Swan River (Derbal Yerrigan) in Perth (Boorloo). Operated aboard a Sealink Vessel, guests will discover the cultural significance of the Derbal Yerrigan from a Traditional Owner, discovering the history of sites and landmarks, learn about the ecosystem and the bush foods, plants and medicines that can be found along the banks, all whilst enjoying gourmet style bush tucker.

Located in Toodyay, just over an hour drive from Perth in the Avon Valley region, **Dudja Dreaming** is a new cultural tour providing immersive experiences to enhance cross-cultural learning and reconciliation practices through truth telling. With four different hour-long tours to choose from, travellers can either stroll along the Avon River, head out to scenic lookouts or participate in the Newcastle Gaol Museum Experience.

In the Golden Outback region, **Red Ochre Dreaming Cultural Tours** offers a half-day experience in the Dryandra Woodland National Park, a two-hour drive from Perth. Walk on Dryandra Country, connect with the land's spirit, and explore local bush tucker with Wilman Noongar man, Ross Storey. Discover tracking skills for native wildlife, identify bird calls, uncover essential bush survival techniques, plus traditional spear and boomerang-throwing, offering a connection to Noongar heritage.

Also in the Golden Outback region, proud Ngadju Wangkatha man and internationally-acclaimed Aboriginal artist and advisor Jason Dimer has recently launched **Kalgoorlie Aboriginal Cultural Experiences (KACE Tours)**. The walking tours take guests through the Goldfields city of Kalgoorlie-Boulder to discover the art, history and cultural connections to the lands, including one of the largest First Nations outdoor art installations.

**Injiid Marlabu Calls Us** is a new cultural tour offering at El Questro in the Kimberley region. Operating daily, it offers guests a heartfelt Welcome to

Country Cultural Immersion experience that introduces the cultural, spiritual, physical, and economic relationship of the Ngarinyin Aboriginal people with the vast expanse of the land and waters of the Kimberley. Discover ancient family rituals and listen to stories that have been passed down from generation to generation whilst seeing El Questro through the eyes of its Traditional Owners.

In Walyalup, the port city of Fremantle on Perth's coast, **In Culture Tours** is operating an immersive walking tour that delves into the Moorditj Noongar stories of the Mammong Bidi (whale pathways). These unique tours uncover the history and Aboriginal culture of the historic city, led by a passionate Whadjuk guide.

**Wooramulla Eco Cultural Journeys** is a new tour exploring the Yinggarda history and culture of WA's Gascoyne region. Departing from the town of Carnarvon in the Coral Coast, tour options include half-day tagalong tours through the Gascoyne, including the spectacular blowholes of Quobba Station, and overnight tours of Mundathurra Kennedy Loop. There are also three-hour cultural town tours of Carnarvon to discover traditional bushfoods, medicine and wildlife; stargazing story tours; wildflower walkabouts and burrowing bee tours.

**Wula Gura Nyinda Eco Cultural Adventures** in Shark Bay has launched a new multi-day tour offering in the region. Join Darren Capewell on a three-day Shark Bay World Heritage Walking Tour, learning the cultural stories about the ancient creation of Wilybidi (Francois Peron National Park) and Wirruwanna (Dirk Hartog Island National Park).

On the Dampier Peninsular near Broome in the Kimberley, join Jabirr Jabirr Ngumbarl man Jayden Howard to discover the colours of this spectacular coastal region. **Bunda Bunda Tours** is a new cultural tagalong tour that takes guests along dirt tracks to discover mangrove ecosystems, freshwater springs and the white sandy beaches of Carnot Bay. Spend the day fishing in secret lagoons and foraging for shellfish whilst learning about traditional hunter gatherer techniques.

There has also been a trend of women's only cultural tours emerging across the State. In the Kimberley town of Broome Pat Torres from **Jarndu Ngaank Tours** has been running women's talk tours of Broome and beyond, providing an Aboriginal women's-led cultural immersion experience that helps to amplify Aboriginal women's voices as carers and custodians of the land. Pat offers a women's only Reddell Beach walk and talk experience, immersing guests in a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Water Ceremony, women's stories, and sampling local bush tucker known for their healing properties in women's health. Other tours include a Broome Town Beach walk and talk tour and a Quandong Point tag-a-long tour.

In Perth (Boorloo), **Nyungar Tours** has recently added a women's only Yorgars Basket Weaving Workshop to its tour offerings. Located in the picturesque Mindeerup Scented Gardens, this basket-weaving workshop is a traditional female only experience, celebrating the strength and artistry of women within Noongar culture.



## WHAT'S TO COME...

**Murujuga National Park** has been nominated for a World Heritage-listing, as lodged by the Federal Government to UNESCO, in partnership with the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation and West Australian Government. Murujuga is presented as a living cultural landscape, with potential 'Outstanding Universal Value' demonstrated through the extensive petroglyph collection, the living cultural traditions and the deep time histories of land and sea use.

Murujuga (meaning 'hip bone sticking out' in the Ngarluma language), refers to the Burrup Peninsula, 42 islands of the Dampier Archipelago and surrounding sea country, located near the towns of Dampier and Karratha in the Pilbara region. The Traditional Owners and Custodians for Murujuga comprise five groups who have come together to care for Murujuga. These groups are the Yaburara, Mardudhunera, Ngarluma, Yindjibarndi, and Wong-Goo-Tt-Oo peoples, who can be referred to collectively as Ngarda-Ngarli. The **Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation** is leading the charge on the World Heritage-listing and is made up of members from these five groups.

With an estimated one to two million images, Murujuga is home to one of the largest, densest and most diverse collections of rock art engravings, also called petroglyphs, in the world. It is the only place on Earth where the story of the people and their changing environment has been continuously recorded through art for more than 50,000 years. The nomination for the Murujuga Cultural Landscape is only the second nomination by Australia that has been driven by Traditional Owners and Custodians. The earliest the nomination is likely to be considered by UNESCO is mid to late 2024.

Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation currently operate tours of the site, as well as Ngarluma/Yindjibarndi man, Clinton Walker of **Ngurrangga Tours**.



alchemy saunas

# WELLNESS WONDERS

With such wide-open spaces, endless stretches of pristine coastline, big blue skies and expanses of native flora and fauna, Western Australia is abound with opportunities to disconnect from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and reconnect with yourself. New tourism experiences are also providing travellers with an opportunity to relax and heal the mind, body and soul.

In Perth (Boorloo) Novotel Perth Murray Street has partnered with **Keishi Spa** to bring more wellness offerings to the CBD. Relocating from The Vines Resort in the Swan Valley to the CBD location, Keishi Spa is located on level 12 of the hotel, offering four spacious treatment rooms — including couple's rooms — as well as a deluxe manicure and pedicure lounge, available to both hotel guests and the public.

Perth-based company **Alchemy Saunas** is expanding its popular sauna offering to another two scenic and iconic beach side locations, Scarborough and City Beach. With existing locations across the city including Fremantle (Walyalup) and West Leederville — and more sites earmarked for expansion in 2024 — the popularity of this ancient tradition with a modern twist adds to the growing trend of wellness experiences in WA. Alchemy Saunas also has an outdoor sauna in Busselton (Undalup) in the Margaret River Region, positioned right on the foreshore overlooking Geographe Bay. Guests can create their own hot and cold therapy with a plunge in the ocean after the session.

The Margaret River Region in WA's South West is fast becoming a wellness mecca, with many passionate and skilled individuals offering truly immersive experiences.

**MEND Margaret River** opened its doors in December 2023, offering a luxurious and welcoming premium recovery centre and spa that combines ancient practices with modern technology to provide a holistic health and wellness experience. With hot and cold therapy, as well as massages to align mind, body and spirit, it provides a truly restorative experience.

Another truly unique and restorative experience in the region is **Joy Trails Forest Bathing**, offering guests the opportunity to completely reset and appreciate the breathtaking natural wonders of the region through guided nature immersion. These tailored, small-group guided experiences are held in stunning secluded locations within the Karri forests and the region's beaches, grounding and connecting the mind and body.

In the magical Kimberley region, the iconic **El Questro** is offering guests the chance to relax and rejuvenate with a new **Freycinet Massage experience** available for the 2024 season. Three Freycinet massage specialists, who have come all the way from Tasmania's Freycinet Peninsula for the season, will offer a range of luxurious treatments including deep tissue, remedial, aromatherapy or pregnancy massages and nourishing hair treatments. Guests can choose to have their treatment either in-room or in the peace and tranquility of the riverside massage tent.

TIME • RONE

♀ ART GALLERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH | BOORLOO





## DREAM EVENTS

WA plays host to an incredible range of world-class cultural, arts, sporting and culinary events each year, with several exciting new major events coming to Perth in 2024/25.

Perth (Boorloo) launched a new winter arts and culture festival this July. **RE//Perth** boasts a program of events and experiences designed to celebrate creativity, urban exploration, and the revitalization of forgotten spaces across Northbridge.

The inaugural **EverNow** festival lit up Perth last year with five nights of sound, light and fire, and is set to return from October 3 to 7, during the Noongar season of Kambarang. The multi-sensory festival celebrates WA's rich Aboriginal culture and breathtaking biodiversity.

WA's newest homegrown culinary event has recently been announced, taking place on Wadandi (Saltwater) country from November 14 to 17. **Pair'd Margaret River Region** will showcase the uniqueness of the world-renowned wine region and tantalise tastebuds with a blend of incredible local produce paired with wines harvested from local vines.

In a global exclusive, acclaimed Australian street artist Rone is bringing his immersive art experience to Perth. Running from 1 July to 30 September 2024, the **TIME • RONE** exhibition will take over 12 rooms at The Art Gallery of Western Australia (AGWA), with brand-new spaces specifically for the WA exhibition, two new mural works exclusive to Perth, plus sensory bar and dining experiences.

In WA's South West region, Australia's largest destination film festival **CinefestOZ** will return to the Margaret River Region from August 31 to September 8; and in the Kimberley, Broome's (Rubibi) annual **Shinju Matsuri** (festival of the pearl) will return in 2024, celebrating the town's unique multicultural and pearling history from August 17 to September 1.

WA will host four elite women's football teams for the **Perth International Football Cup** in August and September in an Australian exclusive. The major new event will see Women's Super League (WSL) teams Manchester City, West Ham United and Leicester City, and France's Paris Saint-Germain playing in a week-long competitive exhibition tournament held at HBF Park and Optus Stadium.

Perth has also been confirmed as the host of the inaugural **HoopsFest** event — Australia's largest basketball festival. From 19 to 22 September 2024, Perth will exclusively host all opening round matches of the Australian National Basketball League (NBL) season, the preseason competition for the Women's NBL, plus the Under 18s Club Championships, alongside supporting events such as Australia's largest sneaker culture festival, Sneakerland.

**The West Test** will then return to the award-winning Optus Stadium — voted Australia's Best Stadium in the 2023 Stadium Awards — with Australia taking on archrivals India from November 22 to 26 in the opening Test cricket match of the summer.

On the sporting calendar for 2025, Perth will once again host the Australian leg of the **HSBC SVNS** (formerly known as HSBC Rugby World Sevens Series) in 2025, following its success in 2024. The Australian-exclusive global rugby event will take place in January at Perth's rectangular stadium, HBF Park. The **British and Irish Lions Tour** will return to Australia for the first time in 12 years for a festival of rugby across the country. The 2025 tour will kick off in Perth on June 28, with Perth team Western Force hosting the visitors at Optus Stadium.

Other standout events to keep an eye on for 2025 include the annual **FRINGE World Festival** (January 17 to February 16, 2025) and **Perth Festival** (February to March, 2025), which both deliver a vibrant program of live music, theatre, visual arts, comedy, dance and family friendly events throughout Perth's festival of summer.







## EASIER ACCESS

WA's global and domestic aviation network continues to grow, improving access for visitors to explore the dreamy wonders across the State.

Parisians will say bonjour to WA's pristine beaches and sunny skies on a new direct flight to Perth. On July 12 **Qantas** launched a new direct flight service from Paris and Perth, with the 17-hour flight operating four days per week during the European summer and the Paris Olympics on a Qantas Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft. Services will move to three per week from mid-August 2024. The route will also provide seamless connections for more than 70 destinations across the region, including Athens, Barcelona and Frankfurt. The new direct service also provides a great opportunity for east coast travelers to have a 'stopover in Perth' on their way to Europe.

Direct flights from Vietnam to Perth took off in late 2023, with both **Vietjet** and **Vietnam Airlines** now flying direct between Ho Chi Minh City and Perth (Boorloo). This is a new route for both carriers, with Vietnam Airlines operating three flights per week, and Vietjet two.

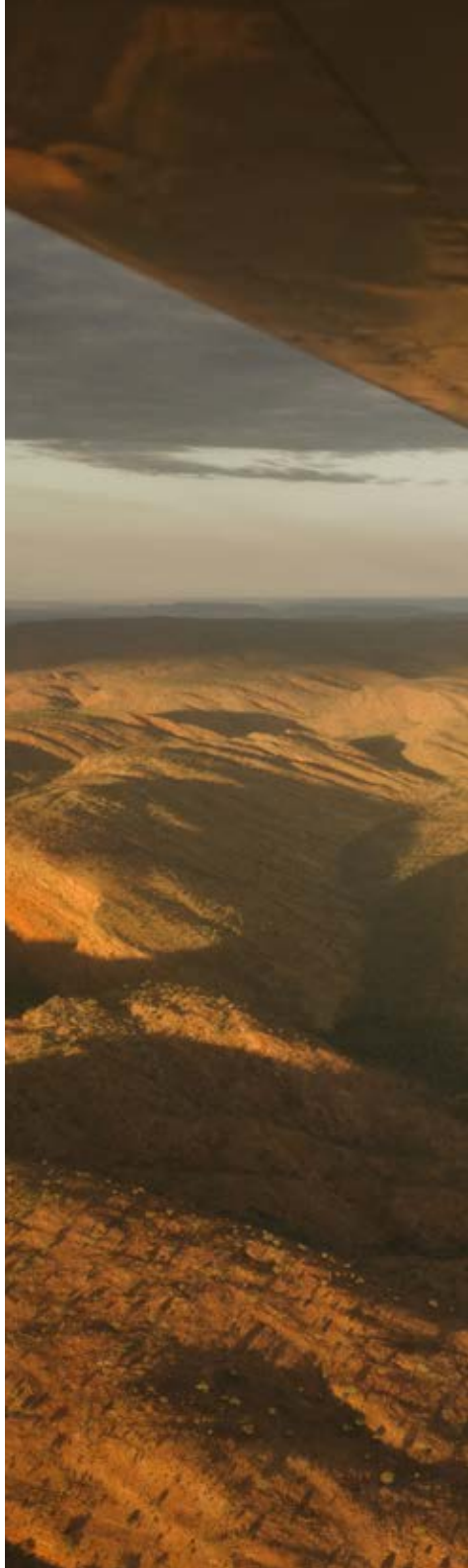
**Thai Airways** recommenced its daily service between Bangkok and Perth in March 2024, and South African Airways non-stop flights between Johannesburg and Perth returned in April, operating three times a week.

**China Southern Airlines** will recommence its non-stop service between Guangzhou and Perth from 28 November 2024. The airline will operate the service three times per week on a B787-8 aircraft, bringing an additional 41,000 inbound seats to WA each year. The resumption of this service marks the 20th international destination connected to Perth with new or resumed non-stop flights since borders reopened. Adding to this, **Emirates** has announced it will relaunch a second daily flight between Dubai and Perth from December 1, 2024 — further strengthening Perth's status as Australia's Western Gateway.

Connecting international travellers direct to the Kimberley is a new non-stop seasonal service between Singapore and Broome (Rubibi) with **Jetstar Asia**. The new international gateway into regional WA will operate twice weekly from June 25 to October 26, 2024 on an Airbus A320 aircraft. With existing aviation networks through Jetstar Asia and other carriers across Asia, the new service will provide visitors increased connectivity into the Kimberley via Singapore's international transport hub, Singapore Changi Airport.

In domestic news, Sydneysiders can now fly non-stop to the iconic Margaret River region thanks to a new **Jetstar** route connecting Sydney and Busselton-Margaret River Airport which took off in March 2024. Following the success of the Melbourne non-stop flights launched in 2022, the new non-stop five-hour Sydney service operates three times a week — providing east coast visitors with easier access to the Margaret River Region.

**Nexus Airlines** took off on its inaugural flight on the Northern Route in July 2023, departing from Broome, bound for Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang) before heading onwards to Darwin. The Northern Routes flight provides daily air services between Broome, Kununurra and Darwin — and has been developed to allow for same day connections from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide to the ancient wonders of the Kimberley.





An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. The top half of the image shows a rocky shore with large, light-colored boulders and dark, jagged rock formations. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, with white foam from breaking waves creating a stark contrast. The bottom half of the image shows a darker, deep blue sea. The overall scene is dramatic and scenic, capturing the raw beauty of a coastal environment.

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S DREAMERS



📍 TORNDIRUP NATIONAL PARK



## DESTINATION PERTH

### ADIE CHAPMAN | OH HEY WA

By the time Adie Chapman finished her mechanical engineering degree, she knew it was not for her.

“I fell in love with walking tours when I was travelling, it was the first thing I would do in a new city,” Adie says.

She founded Oh Hey WA, which offers walking tours of Perth (Boorloo) through hidden laneways, lost stories and local bars. Recently, Adie has added Fremantle (Walyalup) walking tours, exploring the art, history and culture of the port city.

“Fremantle’s got the highest concentration of Victorian architecture outside of the UK, and there’s all these layers of history, art and music that give it a real good vibe,” Adie says.

Adie is a recipient of the WA Tourism Young Achiever Award, and while visitors learn from her insights, she also thrives on these interactions.

“For a few hours, I get to be someone’s best mate and a big part of their adventure and show them the best of my local city, it’s just such a joy.”



## DESTINATION PERTH

### TONY HOWELL | EXECUTIVE CHEF, SEAWEST

Chef Tony Howell served luxurious meals at iconic Cape Lodge in Margaret River for 20 years, placing it into Conde Nast Traveller's top 20 hotel restaurants worldwide, three times.

Today, Tony is a consultant executive chef, including for Sea West, a company offering seafood cruises in Mandurah (Mandjoogoordap), Dunsborough, Rottnest Island (Wadjemup) and Broome (Rubibi).

Growing up in Perth's beachy Scarborough, the ocean is a constant in Tony's life. At Sea West, he delights in visitors experiencing quintessential West Aussie moments; meeting dolphins in Mandurah before feasting on crabs, tasting pearl meat off Broome at sunset, or catching lobsters (called 'crays') near Rottnest Island.

"Pulling up the crays at the side of the boat and eating them — that's an experience not many people get to have."

Although he travels for work, Tony relishes returning to Margaret River.

"Driving down to 'Margies', I get this relaxed feeling in my shoulders," he says. "When I get there, I'm chilled out, there are kangaroos in my backyard eating my veggies — it's just amazing."



# AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST

## JOSH WHITELAND | KOOMAL DREAMING

It's not every day you hear the sounds of a didgeridoo wafting out of an ancient limestone cave system. But 15 years ago, some tourists did, and when they followed the sound, they found Josh Whiteland.

"In the early days, I was playing in Ngilgi Cave because for me, it's quite spiritual and very grounding in there, it wasn't for tourism," the Wardandi man explains.

The tourists' appreciation led Josh to start multi award-winning Koomal Dreaming, a tour company in the Margaret River Region.

Josh got his start in tourism 23 years ago at an Aboriginal cultural centre, before starting Koomal Dreaming, the name inspired by the Wardandi word for brushtail possum, Josh's totem.

"Tourism is a great vehicle to continue to share and practice culture, while working on country," Josh says.

Today, Josh delivers moving didgeridoo performances inside Ngilgi Cave, and introduces bush foods, and fire-making. He proudly guides guests through the new Ancient Lands Experience above Ngilgi Cave, featuring Aboriginal interpretive material that Josh helped develop.



## AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST

**SEAN BLOCKSIDGE** | MARGARET RIVER DISCOVERY CO.

Sean Blocksidge of Margaret River Discovery Co. is passionate about connecting visitors to the sights, sounds, and sips of the South West. He particularly relishes introducing tourists to the actual Margaret River (Wooditchup).

“Floating down the Margaret River in a canoe is massage for the soul,” Sean says. “A truly magical experience, drifting by towering eucalyptus forest.”

Sean started his career in hospitality management and wine tourism, but in 2008 he answered the call of the wild and started his nature and wine tours.

Sean's Discovery Tour caters for just six guests. It incorporates a hike on the spectacular Cape to Cape coastal track, four-wheel-driving, paddling the dreamy river, and an exclusive winery experience, touching on local Aboriginal and surf culture.

Margaret River Discovery Co. is Eco Tourism certified, and rated the best tour in Western Australia on Trip Advisor's 2023 Travellers Choice Awards. But despite the success, expansion does not appeal.

“The dream for my business is to keep it small and personalised, and more deeply connect people to what makes Margaret River wine so special,” Sean says.





# AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST

## DARREN 'CAPES' CAPEWELL

| WULA GURA NYINDA ECO CULTURAL ADVENTURES

Shark Bay (Gutharraguda / Gathaagudu) is a place of striking contrasts, where red sand dunes meet aqua seas. It's World Heritage-listed for its nature, but Darren 'Capes' Capewell says this is also a spiritual place.

Capes is descended from the Nhandu and Malgana people, who have thrived here for 35,000 years. His tour business is Wula Gura Nyinda Eco Cultural Adventures, meaning 'you come this way', a traditional term for sharing stories. Tours include walks on country, kayaking, a didgeridoo night dreaming tour, and overnight camping.

"We want to introduce people to country so they understand the responsibility of looking after country," Capes says. "And our tourism business allows us to do that."

Next year, Capes plans to introduce two-day walking tours, through Francois Peron National Park and on Dirk Hartog Island (Wirruwana), giving visitors an even greater connection to Shark Bay.

"We don't see nature, we feel it," Capes explains. "You're born with the gift to be able to have an emotional connection to the planet."



# AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST

## EDWINA SHALLCROSS | BULLARA STATION

When Edwina Shallcross married Tim, joining the Bullara Station (Punurrba) family, she already had red dust in her veins, having grown up on a station near Cue.

Out of necessity, Bullara, near Exmouth (Warnangoora), diversified into station stays in 2010.

"I still remember our first guest," Edwina recalls. "Like a puppy, I sprinted down the driveway and tapped on his windows and asked him to have a cup of tea. He declined, but handed me a \$50 note, and I thought, 'Wow, I can do this again.'"

Bullara Station Stay now offers accommodation and camping options, damper tasting, burger nights and unforgettable sunsets.

"This landscape, it's just so vast, unfiltered and raw. The scale of the night skies makes you feel how insignificant you are."

A local Aboriginal elder recently gave Edwina goosebumps when she explained Bullara has always been a meeting place.

"There's something bigger than all of us that makes this place unique, I feel it when I drive over the grid," she says.



# AUSTRALIA'S NORTH WEST

## CLINTON WALKER | NGURRANGGA TOURS

After working in the resources sector, Clinton Walker a Ngarluma / Yindjibarndi man, changed direction.

“I wanted to be able to educate people about the significance of Aboriginal heritage and culture so that we could protect it for future generations,” he says.

His company Ngurrangga Tours guides people through Millstream-Chichester National Park, and the world’s largest collection of rock art, carvings called petroglyphs at Murujuga National Park.

“The rock art, and Murujuga itself is the beginning of many songlines that are connected to other Aboriginal groups across Australia,” Clinton says. “Murujuga should be a world wonder. I’m hoping that soon we’ll have World Heritage listing and it’ll get more people visiting the area.”

Clinton’s dreams for the future include obtaining land for guest accommodation, multi-day tours on horseback, and even helicopter tours.

While he has won many awards, Clinton’s greatest reward is seeing the younger generation enter tourism. His two nephews are employed with him, ensuring culture will continue to be shared.



# AUSTRALIA'S NORTH WEST

## JOSH MELVILLE

| GOURMET CAMP OVEN EXPERIENCE

Josh's passion for cooking started at the age of 10, as the self-appointed head chef in his family home. Though his love for cooking stemmed more from a firm belief that the chef doesn't do the dishes.

Fast forward to today, and New Zealand-born Josh has been able to combine his love for cooking with the magical wonders of the Kimberley region.

The inspiration for the camp oven experience struck Josh while running 4WD tours at Lake Argyle Resort, near Kununurra, and discovering several camp oven pits at a former stockman's camp.

"I researched camp oven cooking experiences around the country, and none of them were exclusive and intimate. I discovered the potential to offer visitors an iconically Australian blend of fine dining and outdoor adventure" Josh says.

Now, alongside his wife Tamsyn (the two met at Lake Argyle Resort), Josh has the privilege of rolling out the red carpet under a starlit Kimberley sky, taking guests on a four-course Ord Valley culinary journey with the ultimate outback chandeliers. And to show off his full bag of tricks, he even performs an acoustic guitar solo as guests cackle fireside, making memories and new friends.





# AUSTRALIA'S GOLDEN OUTBACK

## JAIMEN HUDSON | ESPERANCE ISLAND CRUISES

Jaimen Hudson's company Esperance Island Cruises tours the wild coastline and islands around dreamy Esperance (Kepa Kurl), and despite being born here, Jaimen knows it's remarkable.

"It's the contrast of colours between the turquoise water, the white sand and granite rocks, and then you've got sealions, dolphins, and eagles flying around," Jaimen says. "We take people to the most untouched, beautiful coastal part of the world, and I'm not joking."

Jaimen also shares Esperance's marine wonderland through his drone imagery.

Multiple accolades acknowledge his work, including West Australian Young Achiever of the Year, a finalist for Young Australian of the Year and Esperance Tourism Business of the Year.

A wheelchair user himself, Jaimen strives to make tourism accessible. His wheelchair accessible vessel is complemented by an accessible four-wheel-drive van, and soon, two accessible holiday apartments will be built.

"It's really important to me to make sure that everyone gets to use our product, not just people in a wheelchair, and not just able-bodied people," he says.



# AUSTRALIA'S GOLDEN OUTBACK

## FRANCES POLLOCK | WOOLEEN STATION

Frances grew up in Victoria and moved to Western Australia to chase her dreams of working in the tourism industry, landing with her feet firmly in the red earth of Wooleen Station.

Alongside her husband David, they took over the outback cattle station with the ambition to offer guests an experience of reconnection — with the land, food production, sustainable practices and themselves.

With a deep passion for conservation and sustainability, Frances has a strong vision for the future.

“Our dream is to continue restoring the Wooleen landscape to benefit all who use it and enjoy it. Plants, animals and humans. Our dream is to continue to explore ways to produce food in a healthy and sustainable fashion that gives back, rather than takes away,” says Frances.

Restoring the country takes time, which is also one of the joys of staying at Wooleen and immersing into station life at The Homestead Stay.

“Time stands still here. The blue skies, the red earth, the kaleidoscope of colours in wildflower season, the chorus of birds at dawn and dusk. Everything about being here awakens your senses, it helps to clear your mind, and create space for the things most important.”





**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA'S  
DREAM LIST**

📍 ZEBEDEE SPRINGS, THE KIMBERLEY



# ROAD TRIPS

Leave the everyday behind and hit the open road in Western Australia on drives that take you through dreamlike landscapes and into wondrous worlds. From captivating 4WD tracks to surreal coastal highways, WA is brimming with boundless road trip adventures. Read on to discover some of the State's top road trip itineraries.



## CORAL COAST HIGHWAY

One of the greatest road trips on Earth, leave the everyday behind and hit the open road to Ningaloo Reef (Nyinggulu). The Coral Coast Highway is one of the world's most colourful and spectacular road trips, extending across 1,200 kilometres of stunning coastline from Perth (Boorloo) to Exmouth (Warnangoora) and adjoining two UNESCO World Heritage-listed regions, Ningaloo Marine Park and Shark Bay (Gutharraguda / Gathaagudu).

This unique self-drive adventure takes you to otherworldly landscapes, ocean wonders and World Heritage-listed treasures. From the surreal pink hues of Hutt Lagoon (Pink Lake), to the exhilarating marine wonderland of the world's largest fringing coral reef, this really is the road trip of your dreams.

The Coral Coast region is famous for its uninterrupted stretches of white sandy beaches, untouched coral reefs just metres from the shore, breathtaking gorges, rugged coastlines, a dazzling array of colourful wildflowers, and bucket-list marine life adventures including swimming with whale sharks, humpback whales and manta rays.

Further details on this dreamy coastal itinerary can be found [here](#).

## GIBB RIVER ROAD

Australia's most iconic four-wheel drive adventure, the Gibb River Road is a true open road outback experience that takes travellers through the heart of the Kimberley. An adventure that will

live with you forever, this 660-kilometre road trip takes in spectacular gorges, thundering waterfalls, secluded swimming holes, ancient rock art and endless wildlife encounters.

This 10-to-14-day pilgrimage through the heart of the Kimberley's red-dirt wilderness is one of Australia's bucket-list outback four-wheel drive adventures, best experienced from May to October.

Further details on the itinerary for this four-wheel drive adventure can be found [here](#).

## SOUTH WEST EDGE

Embark on an epic coastal adventure along the South West Edge from Perth to Esperance (Kepa Kurl).

Wind your way through towering karri forests, premium wine regions and marine life-rich coastlines before looping across the golden outback. An otherworldly blend of nature, wildlife, coastlines and culture — lifelong memories are yours to collect on this truly iconic drive.

Take the time to relax, soak up the scenery and discover the incredible food and wine on offer on this 8-to-14-day adventure that traverses 1,500 kilometres showcasing the best of what the region has to offer.

Further details on the itinerary for this epic coastal adventure can be found [here](#).

## SOUTH WEST NATURE & WINE DRIVE

A journey of adventure and indulgence, the South West Nature and Wine Drive takes you through the epicurean delights and natural wonder of the Margaret River Region.

A spectacular coastline is the backdrop to this four-day road trip adventure. Traverse towering forests, stand in the stillness of ancient caves, and enjoy premium wine and exquisite local produce.

Journey through the epicurean delights of three different wine regions — Geographe, Margaret River and the Southern Forests, sampling world-class wines with more than 100 cellar doors to choose from, and a bounty of fresh produce including black Périgord truffles, fresh fruits and marron.

Further details on this indulgent wine and nature itinerary can be found [here](#).

## PERTH DAY TRIPS

There are plenty of exceptional road trip adventures right on Perth's (Boorloo's) doorstep.

From the naturally charming Swan Valley and Perth Hills, home to WA's oldest wine region, to coastal Mandurah's (Mandjoogoordap's) captivating beach to bush drive, you'll quickly discover your dream day trip is closer than you think.

Further details on some of Perth's most popular day trip itineraries can be found [here](#).





# NATURAL EXPERIENCES

Western Australia's national parks, State forests and marine parks provide visitors with the opportunity to interact with some of the world's most diverse and unique flora, fauna and landscapes. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of nature-based experiences.

## **NINGALOO REEF**

Easily accessible from shore, you don't need to travel by boat to snorkel this World Heritage-listed underwater wonderland. The world's largest fringing mainland reef is home to brilliantly coloured coral and tropical fish, sea turtles and manta rays, plus one of the world's top shore dives at Exmouth's (Warnangoora's) Navy Pier. Whale sharks and humpback whales visit each year, and visitors are able to swim with these gentle giants of the ocean, with tours operating out of Coral Bay and Exmouth.

## **PURNULULU NATIONAL PARK**

In the Kimberley, another World Heritage-listed gem, Purnululu National Park on Gija and Jaru country, is home to the otherworldly Bungle Bungle Range — a cluster of 350-million-year-old giant, beehive-like striped mounds. Scenic flights offer breathtaking views, and you can explore the park's long narrow chasms and hidden gorges on foot, keeping an eye out for native animals and 130 unique bird species.

## **SHARK BAY**

Awarded World Heritage status for its outstanding natural beauty, biological diversity, fascinating ecology and unique insights into the Earth's history, Shark Bay (Gathaagudu) and surrounding Malgana Country is where you'll find one of the world's largest dugong populations, the world's largest plant in the seagrass meadows, and Monkey Mia's friendly dolphins. You can experience pristine waters and one of only two beaches in the world formed entirely of tiny white shells, or time

travel with the oldest living fossils — the stromatolites at Hamelin Pool. Francois Peron National Park is a colourful wilderness adventure, where red desert cliffs meet the turquoise sea.

## **VALLEY OF THE GIANTS**

Experience some of the tallest trees on Earth at canopy level — 40 metres above ground — at the Valley of the Giants Treetop Walk, near Walpole in the South West. One of the first walk trails of its kind in the world, the 600-metre walkway extends through the majestic and ancient red tingle forest where you may be able to spot western grey kangaroos, bandicoots, woylies and quokkas.

## **KARIJINI NATIONAL PARK**

Two billion years in the making, Karijini on Banyjima, Kurrama and Innawonga Country in the North West is home to massive gorges, crystal-clear rock pools and waterfalls, as well as rock wallabies, red kangaroos, echidnas, and huge termite mounds. Explore tunnels of marbled rock, clamber over boulders, squeeze through narrow tunnels, paddle through waterways and descend deep into ancient chasms; then stay overnight at the Karijini Eco Retreat.

## **STOP AND SEE THE WILDFLOWERS**

It's a staggering sight to behold — over 12,000 species of wildflowers in bloom, more than half of which are found nowhere else on Earth. The wildflower season lasts for six months, commencing in June in the north and sweeping down the State to finish with a flurry on the south coast in November.



## KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK

More than 183,000 hectares of outback adventures, dramatic gorges and dazzling seasonal wildflowers make Kalbarri National Park one of WA's most popular places to visit. Its magnificent deep red and white banded gorges have been created over 400 million years from the flow of the Murchison River, and to experience these from a dramatic perspective, step out onto the 100-metre high Kalbarri Skywalk (Kaju Yatka). Experience stunning vistas of the Murchison River Gorge, as it extends 17 and 25 metres beyond the gorge rim at the Inyaka Wookai Watju (West Loop).

## KINGS PARK AND BOTANIC GARDEN

One of the world's largest inner-city parks, this 400-hectare expanse of bushland, parks and botanical gardens is a short walk or bus ride from central Perth (Boorloo). From its family-friendly play areas amongst nature, to an art gallery, restaurants, monuments, outdoor concerts, theatre and movies in summer; it's easy to see why Kings Park

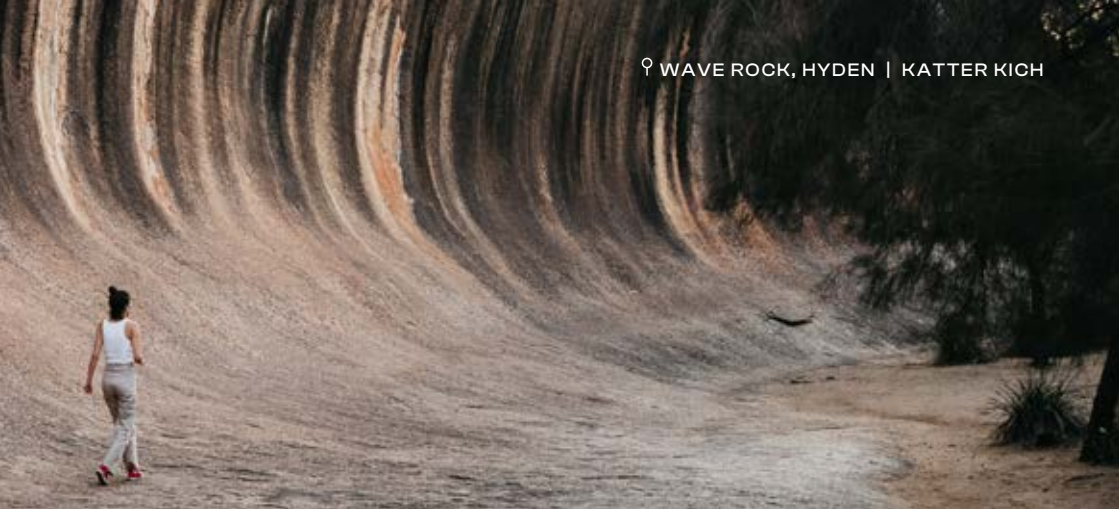
and Botanic Garden (Kaarta Koomba) is the most popular visitor destination in WA. Read more about why Kings Park is the king of all parks [here](#).

## THE PINNACLES

The lunar-like Pinnacles form one of Australia's most unique and otherworldly natural landscapes. Formed over millions of years, thousands of tall limestone spires rise eerily from the yellow desert sands of Nambung National Park, changing colours in different lights.

## FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK

One of only a handful of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves, this 300,000 hectare national park is WA's own lost world — three-quarters of its 1,800 species of plants are found nowhere else on Earth, and share the environment with 84 bird species, 22 mammal species and more than 50 reptile and frog species. Located on the south coast, it is a perfect spot for bushwalking, wildflower spotting, canoeing, fishing and whale watching.



## HORIZONTAL FALLS

Talbot Bay in the Kimberley is home to Australia's only horizontal waterfalls, created when massive tidal movements squeeze water through narrow cliff passages. Aerial tours from Broome (Rubibi) and Derby enable you to circle the Horizontal Falls (Garaan-ngaddim) phenomenon from above, alongside other scenic wonders of the Buccaneer Archipelago, where turquoise blue water contrasts with rugged red cliffs. You can also land and witness the power of the sacred falls up close on a boat tour, with the option of staying overnight on a houseboat.

## ANCIENT CAVES

In the Margaret River Region, an extraordinary network of more than 100 limestone caves lay beneath the surface of the Leeuwin Naturaliste Ridge on Wardandi Noongar Country. Venture underground on a guided or self-guided tour and marvel at the reflections of Lake Cave's permanent lake, be dwarfed in Jewel Cave's enormous chambers and

go at your own pace inside Mammoth Cave. At Ngilgi Cave, marvel at the incredible stalactites and stalagmites, learn about the cave's fascinating history, be mesmerised by a didgeridoo performance from an Aboriginal guide, and discover 600 million years of stories associated with the land and its people at the new Ancient Lands Experience.

## SURF WAVE ROCK

Wave Rock (Katter Kich), near Hyden on Ballardong country, is a remarkable 110-metre-long, multi-coloured granite cliff that rises 15 metres from the ground and resembles a huge wave about to crash into the bush. Otherworldly encounters continue at nearby Mulka's Cave with its incredible collection of Aboriginal rock art.

## SWAN RIVER

Sitting pretty on its banks, Perth's Swan River (Derbarl Yerrigan) is one of WA's most celebrated and historic natural assets. Throughout the year, visitors and locals alike will walk, cycle, jog or picnic along its shores. River cruises, ferry rides, fast boats and waterbike tours allow you to experience the city from a different perspective. Cruise the calm waters to the port city of Fremantle (Walyalup) on a scenic lunch tour, or head to its upper reaches to sample the delights of the Swan Valley — WA's oldest wine region and the only one in Australia that can be accessed via river from a capital city.

Read [here](#) to discover some of the best adventures on and around the Swan River.

## CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Where the outback meets the reef, Cape Range National Park is a spectacular landscape of rugged limestone ranges, breathtaking deep canyons and 60 kilometres of pristine turquoise beaches that are home to the underwater wonders of World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef (Nyinggulu). Wildflowers and wildlife are abundant, with over 630 species of plants and more than 100 species of land birds and native marsupials. Cruise along Yardie Creek on a boat tour and spot rock wallabies, or take a hike along Shothole Canyon or Charles Knife Canyon for spectacular scenic views.

## WATERFALL WONDERS

The replenishing tropical summer rains send waterfalls thundering and cascading throughout the ancient wilderness landscapes of the Kimberley region, creating inviting rock pools and enchanting oasis of plant and animal life. The best time of year to witness these waterfall wonders is in the early months, with several spring-fed falls that flow year-round. Favourites include the spectacular four tiered Mitchell Falls (Punamii-unpuu), the thundering King George Falls, the terraced Kings Cascade that fan out across the rocks, and popular Bell Gorge (Dalmanyi) which can be accessed along the Gibb River Road. Scenic flights offer awe-inspiring aerial views, or take a heli-hike to experience them up close. For the ultimate waterfall experience, a Kimberley expedition cruise is a must.





# WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

From marine life to marsupials, Western Australia boasts an incredible range of unique and unforgettable wildlife experiences. Swim face to fin with the world's biggest fish, sunbathe with kangaroos on the beach, frolic with wild dolphins and manta rays, or meet the world's friendliest animal. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of epic wildlife encounters.

## **SWIM WITH GENTLE GIANTS**

Exhilarating marine experiences await at World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef (Nynggulu) — one of only a handful of places on Earth where you can swim with the world's biggest fish, the whale shark, and the majestic humpback whale. Whale sharks visit Ningaloo each year between March and July. Tours from Exmouth (Warnangoora) and Coral Bay will take you into the reef's turquoise waters for an unforgettable encounter with these gentle giants. Humpback whale interaction tours run from July to October, while up-close tours with another big and beautiful Ningaloo local, the manta ray, operate year-round.

## **MEET THE WORLD'S HAPPIEST ANIMAL**

Just off the coast of Perth (Boorloo) lies Rottneest Island (Wadjemup), an island playground for visitors and locals, and home to the world's happiest animal — the friendly quokka. Found only in Western Australia, these cute marsupials roam care-free on the car free island and Class A Reserve. Known for pulling a cute grin for the camera, these photogenic furry animals have become a social media sensation in recent years — just be sure to follow quokka etiquette when getting that winning shot.

## **GET UP CLOSE WITH WILD DOLPHINS**

Perth Wildlife Encounters in Rockingham (45 minutes from Perth) and the redeveloped Dolphin Discovery Centre in Bunbury (two hours south of Perth) — offer the chance to swim with wild bottlenose dolphins. The playful and curious animals may choose to approach the boat and swimmers, providing a unique, up-close encounter. Monkey Mia (850 kilometres north of Perth), on Malgana Country, is famous for friendly bottlenose dolphins that regularly visit the shore, while further north in Broome (Rubibi), boat tours enable visitors to see Australia's largest known population of the rare snubfin dolphin.

## **ONE OF THE WORLD'S LONGEST WHALE WATCHING SEASONS**

WA is home to the 'humpback highway', as 30,000 gentle giants move up and down the west coast during the Southern Hemisphere's largest whale migration. WA has one of the world's longest whale watching seasons — from May to December — and a range of tours and coastal lookouts will help you spot humpbacks, southern right and even blue whales. September to late-November is the prime time for whale tours off Perth (Fremantle, Hillarys and Rottneest Island), while other hotspots include Albany (Kinjarling), the Margaret River Region (Augusta, Dunsborough and Busselton), Broome (Rubibi), Geraldton (Jambinu), Exmouth, Denham, Kalbarri (Wurdimarlu) and Esperance (Kepa Kurl).



## **ORCA EXPEDITIONS**

On Western Australia's south coast, the Bremer Canyon's marine-rich pocket attracts hundreds of orcas (killer whales) between January and April. Tours operate from Bremer Bay with Naturaliste Charters and Whale Watch WA providing guests the opportunity to see a plethora of marine life, including other whales, seals, seabirds and giant squid. Learn about the fascinating research into the orcas and join the researchers in observing and photographing the highly social family groups and larger pods.

## **TURTLE NESTING ALONG NINGALOO**

The World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Marine Park (Nyinggulu) is one of the world's major breeding areas for sea turtles. From November to March, both green and loggerhead turtles will make their arduous journey up the beach to lay their eggs, with hatchlings emerging about six weeks later around dusk, dawn or through the night; making their dash to the sea. Visit the Jurabi Turtle Centre for a guided turtle spotting tour to find females making their way up the beach, or turtle hatchlings emerging from their nests.

## **SWIMMING WITH PLAYFUL SEA LIONS**

WA continues to deliver with incredible wildlife encounters, thanks to a licensed swimming with sea lions trial recently approved at Shoalwater Islands Marine Park in Rockingham, less than an hour from Perth (Boorloo), and Jurien Bay Marine Park on the Coral Coast. Four tour operators have been chosen to take part in the trail, including Perth Wildlife Encounters for Shoalwater Islands Marine Park; and Turquoise Safaris, Jurien Bay Oceanic Experience and Lobster Shack for Jurien Bay Marine Park — providing guests with an unforgettable experience with these playful Australian sea lions.

## **KANGAROOS ON BEACHES AND OTHER WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS**

An easy day-trip from Perth (Boorloo) takes you to Shoalwater Marine Park in Rockingham, home to little penguins on Penguin Island, seabirds and the rare Australian sea lion. Jurien Bay Marine Park, a three-hour drive north of Perth, is another marine life hotspot, while south at Hamelin Bay near Augusta, you can get close to smooth stingrays, black stingrays and eagle rays in the shallow



water. Within Cape Le Grand National Park (Mandoowernup) on WA's south-east coast, Lucky Bay's local kangaroos like to sunbathe on the white sand of the recently voted World's Best Beach, while nearby Woody Island is a haven for New Zealand fur seals, Australian sea lions, sea eagles and dolphins. In the State's far north, an experienced guide can help you spot mighty saltwater crocodiles and their freshwater cousins from a safe distance in the Kimberley.

### **NUMBAT SPOTTING IN DRYANDRA WOODLAND NATIONAL PARK**

Western Australia's newest national park, located near the town of Narrogin in the Wheatbelt region, Dryandra Woodland is one of the best places for spotting the native numbat. It is also home to more than 100 species of birds and 24 mammals, including some of Australia's rarest and most vulnerable wildlife such woylies, brushtail wallabies, chuditch, and quenda.

### **KIMBERLEY BIRD SPOTTING**

In the Kimberley region, excellent bird spotting opportunities await birding enthusiasts year-round. Broome's (Rubibi's) Roebuck Bay (Yawuru Nagulagun) in the North West is regarded as one of the best spots in Australia to view shore birds, with an estimated 175,000 birds roosting and feeding there every year before returning to their arctic breeding grounds. More than 325 species are recorded in the region, with all of their distinct habitats found relatively close to Broome town. In Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang) and the eastern Kimberley region, keep an eye out for dancing Brolgas, the water-walking Comb-crested Jacanas, Magpie geese and Australia's indigenous stork, the Jabiru.

# EATING AND DRINKING

Western Australia's exceptional food and drink, including its nine wine regions, top restaurants, fresh produce and culinary events, can be found across the State from top to bottom. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of eating and drinking experiences.

## WORLD LEADING WINES

From Perth (Boorloo) to the rugged Southern Ocean coast, WA is home to nine wine regions, which can all be explored on a range of guided wine tours.

Regarded as Australia's premium wine region, the Margaret River Region is renowned worldwide for producing top quality, award-winning wines, amongst some of the most scenic vineyard country on Earth. The region's first commercial vineyards were planted more than 50 years ago, with Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon the heroes of the region. Along WA's scenic south coast, Albany (Kinjarling), Denmark, Frankland River, Mount Barker and Porongurup are highlights of the Great Southern wine region, which is particularly well known for its exceptional Riesling and Cabernet Sauvignon.

The Geographe wine region is also starting to turn heads, with a number of boutique wineries popping up in the charming sub-regions of Ferguson Valley, Donnybrook, Capel and Harvey — producing excellent Shiraz, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon.

In amongst towering karri forests, the towns of Manjimup and Pemberton in the Southern Forests wine region are renowned for Pinot Noir, and more recently sparkling wines.

At more than 185 years old, the picturesque Swan Valley is the State's oldest wine growing region. Just 25 minutes from Perth city centre, it's the closest wine region to any capital city in

Australia and can be accessed on a cruise along the Swan River (Derbal Yerrigan). Specialty premium wines produced in the Swan Valley include Chenin Blanc, Verdelho, Shiraz and fortified wine.

A short journey from the city will also take you to the Perth Hills, where local families and progressive vintners produce stand-out Shiraz and Viognier, and the Peel wine region, known for its Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Read more about how to discover Perth's local wineries in a weekend [here](#).

## TRUFFLES — A RARE DELICACY

Black truffle is one of the world's most expensive food items, and 70 per cent of the Australian supply comes from Western Australia's tranquil Southern Forests around Manjimup and Pemberton, some 300 kilometres south of Perth. As well as sampling the rare delicacy and learning about its painstaking cultivation, you can watch the Australian Truffle Traders and Truffle Hill's specially trained dogs in action, sniffing out the underground delights on a truffle hunt tour from June to August. In Manjimup each June, a lively festival — Truffle Kerfuffle — presents a weekend of hands-on activities and leading culinary talent in the heart of truffle country. In an exciting first for the Margaret River Region, truffle hunting experiences have launched this winter at the Margaret River Truffle Farm.



## **GRAZE YOUR WAY THROUGH PERTH'S RESTAURANTS**

Perth's (Boorloo's) world-class dining scene offers a diverse and delicious range of signature restaurants showcasing the best of WA's fresh and abundant produce from across the State. With an influx of new hotels over the past 10 years comes the opening of fine-dining restaurants across the city including Miss Mi at Novotel Perth, Hearth at The Ritz-Carlton Perth, Nobu at Crown Perth, Santini Bar & Grill at QT Perth, Garum at The Westin, and Wildflower at COMO The Treasury. Local hospitality heroes are also creating a buzz across the city, with new and trending dining options such as Gibney, Alba, Papi Katsu, Fallow, Edward & Ida's, Vin Populi, Yiamas, Nieuw Ruin and Vin Populi.

## **SAMPLE SUCCULENT SEAFOOD**

WA seafood and freshwater fish are among the finest and freshest you'll ever try. Be sure to sample Geraldton (Jambinu) and Rottnest Island's (Wadjemup's) western rock lobster; South West marron, yabby and trout; North West barramundi; Exmouth (Warnangoora) prawns; Shark Bay (Gutharraguda / Gathaagudu) scallops; Mandurah (Mandjoogoordap) crab;

Fremantle (Walyalup) octopus; Albany (Kinjarling) akoya oysters, and; Broome (Rubibi) pearl meat. Add in a sunset view and a cool boutique beer or a crisp local wine, and it's a true west coast experience. You can learn about the State's rock lobster industry in Geraldton and Cervantes, or hook your own catch of the day on deep sea, game or beach fishing adventures all along the coast. For a unique seafood experience on the water, Sea West offer luxury dining cruises across the State, from pulling up live western rock lobster off the coast of Rottnest, eating blue swimmer crab in Mandurah, experiencing the tastes of the South West in the bays of Dunsborough, to harvesting live pearl oysters and sampling rare pearl meat on the Kimberley Coast in Broome.

## **GET CRAFTY WITH LOCAL BEERS**

Fremantle is the birthplace of Australia's flourishing craft beer scene, with the first big-flavour, small production brews poured at the Sail and Anchor bar. It's also where Gage Roads Brewing decided to open its first public facing venue. Now a popular icon at Fremantle's Victoria Quay, the 100-metre-long venue resides in the historic A Shed building. Check out other unique and seasonal craft beers at Fremantle's Little Creatures, Running with Thieves, or Beerpourium. Closer





to the city, head for Blasta Brewing Co., Bright Tank, Longneck, Phat Brewing or Little Creatures at The Camfield. The Island at Elizabeth Quay (Gumap) and Pirate Life are also two fantastic options located right in the CBD, and a scenic drive up the coast will take you to the Indian Ocean Brewing Company. You can also see how local beers and cider are bringing extra flavour and attitude to traditional wine regions such as the Swan Valley (Bailey Brewing Co, Valley Social or Mash, for example) and the Margaret River Region (Wild Hop Brewery, Beer Farm or Shelter Brewing Company, to name a few). Western Australia is home to more than 60 craft breweries across the length of the State, from the new Spinifex Ale House in Broome down to Lucky Bay Brewing in Esperance (Kepa Kurl), so there's a few for beer lovers to work through!

## FEAST FROM WA'S FOOD BOWLS

Western Australia's fertile soils and perfect climate make it a haven for horticulturalists, and you can experience 'the State on a plate' at gourmet events or straight from the farm. In the Kimberley, tours of Lake Argyle reveal the massive reservoir's role in the Ord River's vast irrigated patchwork, which is a hub for everything from chickpeas and corn to melons and mangoes.

Further south, head to the Coral Coast town of Carnarvon to tour banana plantations and meet the farmers behind tropical fruits and vegetables. In WA's South West, Genuinely Southern Forests offer food and farm tours around Manjimup and Pemberton to sample a smorgasbord of fresh produce such as apples, avocado, cherries, lime and honey, as well as marron and beef. In Perth, venture into the Perth Hills to pick and purchase fruit from grower's orchards year-round.

## LAZE LIKE A LOCAL AT A SUNDAY SESSION

Wrap up the weekend the WA way by relaxing with mates on a Sunday afternoon with food, a tippie or two and live music at a waterfront or alfresco style pub. Perth's top spots for a Sunday Session (or 'sesh' if you want to sound like a local) include the Cottesloe Beach Hotel in Cottesloe, The Standard and Henry Summer in Northbridge, Gage Roads Brewery, Bathers Beach House and The Left Bank in Fremantle and The Breakwater at Hillarys. Enjoying a meal and a drink while watching the sun set over the Indian Ocean is a WA institution.

Read on to discover some of top sunset dining options across the State [here](#).

## JOIN THE NATURAL WINE MOVEMENT

Perth is welcoming an increase in boutique bars and restaurants offering naturally produced and minimal intervention wines, with favourites such as Wines of While in Northbridge and Madalena's in South Fremantle. The range of national and internationally sourced varieties are complemented by the growing number of Western Australian wineries producing organic and naturally produced varieties, such as Blind Corner, L.A.S. Vino, Cullen and Dormilona in the Margaret River Region, Express Wine Makers in the Great Southern and Swan Valley Wines in the Swan Valley.

Read [here](#) to discover some of WA's top-shelf sustainable wineries.

## REGIONAL AND URBAN DISTILLERIES

Regional small batch distilleries can be found all across Western Australia, from Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang) in the north to Esperance (Kepa Kurl) in the south, each producing their own distinctive character and style. Kununurra in the Kimberley is home to WA's oldest operating legal still — The Hoochery Distillery, famous for its Ord River Rum (and rum cakes!). In Broome (Rubibi), Moontide Distillery produces gins and spirits using native ingredients, and produces the first gin in the world to use pearl oyster as a botanical. In the Coral Coast town of Geraldton (Jambinu), Illegal Tender Rum Co. produces premium rum using only dark brown cane sugar. At Giniversity in the Margaret River Region, visitors

can make their own gin with local native botanicals, and Limeburners near Albany (Kinjarling) in the Great Southern region produces single malt whisky using premium Western Australian grain and pure Albany water from limestone aquifers. In Esperance on the south-east coast, Esperance Distillery Co. produces gin distilled with native botanicals that showcase the floral diversity of Esperance and the Fitzgerald Biosphere. In Perth (Boorloo) you can discover some of the best urban distilleries on walking or bus tours, with Spirit of Little Things, Whipper Snapper Distiller, Republic of Fremantle some city favourites.

## BUSH TUCKER EXPERIENCES

Aboriginal people have been living by the seasons for thousands of years, practicing sustainable hunting and gathering methods and using local foods for medicinal, nutritional and cultural significance. Aboriginal cultural tours will allow you to discover 'nature's supermarket' in each region of Western Australia. Forage for native bushfoods in Perth on Whadjuk Country, learn traditional fishing methods in the South West on Wardandi Country, and dig for honey ants — the sweetest of bushfoods — in the Golden Outback on Wongatha Country. On the Dampier Peninsula in the Kimberley, the local Bardi people will teach you traditional spear fishing techniques and mud-crab hunting in the mangroves, before you cook the catch on the beach.

Discover five unforgettable Aboriginal dinner dates [here](#).

## A GENEROUS SERVING OF UNFORGETTABLE EVENTS

The State's bounty of fresh local produce is celebrated throughout the year with a number of regional foodie events. In the Margaret River Region, multi-day festivals such as Cabin Fever and Fine Vines celebrate the region's food and wine offerings, and in the nearby Ferguson Valley Lost & Found showcases the up-and-coming wine region. In the south-east corner, Taste Great Southern unearths the incredible variety of produce. In the Coral Coast, sample fresh seafood at Shore Leave Festival in Geraldton. Broome's Shinju Matsuri celebrates the pearling town's rich multicultural history, and the Ord Valley Muster shines a spotlight on the tropical agriculture in Kununurra's Ord River Irrigation Scheme. In Perth, the annual Mandurah Crab Fest showcases the native blue manna crab that the Mandurah (Mandjoogoordap) region is well-known for.



# ART AND CULTURE

Home to modern museums and galleries, captivating street art, outdoor murals, heritage buildings and the world's oldest living culture — Western Australia's unique art and cultural offerings are reflected in its sheer diversity of natural landscapes and cultural heritage. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of art and culture experiences.

## **PERTH CULTURAL CENTRE**

Meaning ‘many stories’ in local Noongar language, the WA Museum Boola Bardip is a landmark building for the Perth Cultural Centre, showcasing the State’s extraordinary people, places, cultures and stories through state-of-the-art technology and innovative exhibits. The museum celebrates Western Australia’s rich Aboriginal heritage and landscape and takes a unique people first approach to its curation, with the stories and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people taking centre stage in its exhibitions. Located where Perth City (Boorloo) meets Northbridge, the Perth Cultural Centre precinct also includes the Art Gallery of WA, State Library of WA, The Blue Room theatre, PICA (Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts) and the State Theatre Centre of WA — a vibrant hub for all things art and culture.

## **CONNECT WITH ABORIGINAL CULTURE**

For more than 60,000 years, Western Australia’s Aboriginal people have lived in harmony with nature, sourcing food, shelter and medicine from the land. Experience their rich cultural heritage as one of the oldest surviving cultures on Earth on one of the many authentic Aboriginal tours operating across the State. From the ancient lands of the Kimberley to the cave systems of the South West and stunning coastlines of the Golden Outback — discover ancient stories, forage for traditional bush tucker, and experience the celebrations of traditional music and dance. Explore Aboriginal art galleries

throughout regional Western Australia that showcase the traditional and contemporary works of local, national and international Aboriginal artists; or join an Aboriginal guide to discover ancient rock art galleries, and the largest collection of petroglyphs (rock engravings) in the world.

## **URBAN STREET ART**

Tucked down laneways and splashed across buildings, Perth’s (Boorloo’s) captivating street art offers a vibrant glimpse into the heart and soul of the city. New works are appearing regularly across the city as the urban art scene evolves, and in recent years, the city has gained worldwide attention with internationally renowned street artists painting the walls of some of the city’s iconic and lesser-known buildings. Join a walking tour in Perth, Northbridge or Fremantle (Walyalup) to discover the artist stories behind some of these incredible works.

## **HERITAGE BUILDINGS**

Travel back in time with a visit to Western Australia’s iconic heritage buildings; immersing yourself in the State’s gold rush, colonial and pearling histories. Architecture buffs will delight in Perth’s historical buildings which sit alongside modern brutalist architecture. Visit the iconic State Buildings, a collection of former heritage government buildings that have been reimagined and reinvigorated as a vibrant civic hub of retail and dining offerings; home to one of Perth’s top luxury hotels, COMO The Treasury. Discover historic tales at the Round House in Fremantle — the area’s

first-ever building, take a step back into Western Australia's gold rush history through the grand monuments and architecture in Kalgoorlie (Karlkurla), or visit Broome's (Rubibi's) Chinatown for an insight into the town's rich pearling history.

## **OUTDOOR GALLERIES AND MURALS**

The striking salt flats of Lake Ballard near the Golden Outback town of Menzies form the backdrop of Inside Australia — one of Australia's largest outdoor galleries. This truly unique installation of 51 life-sized steel statues by acclaimed sculptor Antony Gormley celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2023. In a celebration of regional Western Australia, FORM's Public Silo Trail takes art out of galleries, transforming country infrastructure into sites of world-class mural art. Emblazoned across colossal grain silos, transformer boxes and iconic farming infrastructure at seven locations from Perth through the Golden Outback and South West regions, the epic works showcase monumental depictions of each town's community and what makes it unique. In the town of Collie, marvel at the world's biggest dam mural at Wellington Dam. The 8,000 square metre mega-mural Reflections, represents how the waterways are culturally significant to both locals and visitors.

## **REGIONAL MUSEUMS**

In regional towns across Western Australia, many fascinating museums preserve the stories, history and artefacts of our rich culture, landscapes and past. Discover hidden treasures and tales from the cultured to the kitsch and everything in between. Head upstairs above a Chinese restaurant in Broome to discover a personal collection of pearling history, experience Aboriginal culture at centres like Bilya Koort Boodja in Northam, or marvel at Australia's largest private collection of shells and coral in the Margaret River Region.

## **A WORLD HERITAGE-LISTED PRISON**

One of Western Australia's most fascinating and significant cultural heritage sites and tourist attractions, Fremantle Prison is the State's only World Heritage-listed building. Built by convicts in the 1850's, the prison was used as a place of incarceration for 136 years before being decommissioned as an operating maximum security gaol in 1991. Now an iconic tourist attraction, visitors can 'step inside and do time' with Fremantle Prison's experienced guides on a range of tours highlighting convict and prison life, daring escapes and colourful characters; or descend 20 metres below the prison to discover the labyrinth of tunnels.

## FREMANTLE'S MARITIME STORIES

The port city of Fremantle (Walyalup) is also home to a rich maritime history — which can be discovered at the WA Maritime Museum, ideally located at Fremantle's historic Victoria Quay. The museum houses several unique galleries that explore the moments, voyages and vessels; plus the artefacts, people and stories that shaped Western Australia's maritime relationship. Dive even further into the State's maritime past at the nearby WA Shipwrecks Museum — recognised as the foremost maritime archaeology museum in the southern hemisphere. Steeped in history, the galleries house hundreds of relics from ships wrecked along Western Australia's coastlines over hundreds of years, including the original timbers from the Batavia (wrecked in 1629).

## ANZAC HISTORY

The multi-award winning National Anzac Centre in the coastal city of Albany (Kinjarling) is Australia's foremost museum honouring the Anzac legend. Set within Albany Heritage Park in the South West town, the centre offers visitors a deeply personal connection to Australia's Anzac history, which dates back to 1914 when more than 40,000 Australians and New Zealanders left the shore of Albany, bound for the Great War.



# BEACHES AND LAKES

The waters off WA's 20,000 kilometres of mainland coastline and islands are some of the most pristine in the world — home to pure-white sands, crystal clear waters, fringing reefs and a myriad of marine life. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of beaches and lake adventures.



## A SPARKLING BEACH MENU

Western Australia's beaches are regularly voted among the best in the world, and with 20,000 kilometres of pristine coastline, the sheer diversity and range of different coastal options is like no other destination on Earth. In Perth (Boorloo), there are 19 stunning beaches all located within easy reach of the city — Cottesloe Beach, City Beach and Scarborough Beach are visitor favourites. Venture to the southern corner of WA where the crystal-clear blue waters of the Southern Ocean contrast with granite boulders, rocky outcrops, pure white sand and adjoining green vegetation. Here you'll find Australia's whitest beach, Lucky Bay in Cape Le Grand National Park (Mandoowernup), home to friendly sunbathing kangaroos. The Coral Coast boasts Exmouth's (Warnangoora's) dazzling Turquoise Bay and is where the outback meets the reef, with the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef (Nyinggulu) creating an underwater playground against the rugged gorges of Cape Range National Park. Another World Heritage-listed area, Shark Bay (Gutharraguda / Gathaagudu) is where you'll find Monkey Mia's friendly dolphins, and a beach made entirely of tiny white shells. In the North West, Broome's (Rubibi's) iconic Cable Beach (Walmanyjun) is famous for its golden glow sunsets and camel trains. The colours of the Kimberley coastline are like nowhere else in the world, with its red pindan sands, white beaches and azure blue waters. Here you'll also find incredible untouched wilderness, with the 1000-plus islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago all waiting to be explored on a Kimberley expedition cruise.

## PERTH'S RELAXED ISLAND PLAYGROUND

The crossing to Rottnest Island (Wadjemup) takes as little as 30 minutes by ferry, or try something different with a trip by helicopter or small plane. You'll soon have the pleasant dilemma of choosing from "Rotto's" 63 beaches and 20 secluded bays, or being enchanted by the Island's unique marsupial resident, the friendly quokka. The car-free island is easy to explore by bike, Segway, bus or on foot — or head into the water to see fish, coral and shipwrecks at some of the best snorkelling and diving sites this close to a capital city.

## NINGALOO REEF

Easily accessible from shore, you don't need to travel by boat to snorkel this World Heritage-listed underwater wonderland. The massive fringing reef is home to brilliantly coloured coral and tropical fish, sea turtles and manta rays, plus one of the world's top shore dives at Exmouth's Navy Pier. Whale sharks and humpback whales visit each year, and visitors are able to swim with these gentle giants of the ocean, with tours operating out of Coral Bay and Exmouth.

## MAKE SOME WAVES SURFING

Take the word of the world's top surfers who flock to WA's shores for some of the best waves on Earth. The famed Margaret River region, on Wardandi Noongar Country in the South West, is home to more than 100 surf spots ranging from powerful reef breaks to fun beach surf. Other surfing hotspots include Exmouth (Warnangoora), Gnaraloo, Quobba and Red Bluff along Ningaloo Reef (Nyinggulu), Esperance (Kepa Kurl), Kalbarri (Wurdimarlu) and Rottneest Island (Wadjemup). If you're into different types of boards, an easy 90-minute drive north of Perth (Boorloo) takes you to the windsurfing mecca of Lancelin (Wangaree) — where you can also try out sandboarding on the white dunes.

Read [here](#) to discover pro surfer Jack Robinson's top five surf breaks in WA.

## WRECKS, REMOTES SHOALS, REEFS AND SNORKEL TRAILS

World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef, where you can wade out from the beach and be snorkelling over superb coral gardens teeming with colourful fish, manta rays and sea turtles, is one of the largest fringing reef systems in the world. Navy Pier, at the Ningaloo gateway of Exmouth, is rated as one of the world's top 10 shore dives. North of Ningaloo Reef, the Mackerel Islands offer an island playground of secluded fringing reefs. In the Margaret River Region, you can explore Busselton Jetty through snorkel, dive, observatory or undersea walking tours. A new

Underwater Sculpture Trail and Artificial Reef Trail at the jetty offers a unique underwater experience. WA is also home to extraordinary shipwreck dives including HMAS Swan at Dunsborough, HMAS Perth in Albany (Kinjarling) and 19 wrecks around the Houtman Abrolhos Islands off Geraldton (Jambinu), including the Batavia, which sunk in 1629 and led to one of the darkest chapters in WA history. In Perth, the Omeo shipwreck at Coogee has become 'insta famous'. Follow the underwater snorkel trails at Little Salmon Bay on Rottneest Island or the Marmion Marine Park near Trigg in Perth, where underwater plaques guide snorkellers and divers on an interactive journey to discover fish and marine species. A little further afield, take a tour to the 'aquarium in the middle of the ocean' at Rowley Shoals, 300 kilometres west of Broome (Rubibi), and dive among coral gardens with giant clams and schools of tuna and mackerel.

## RAINBOW PINK LAKES

WA's photogenic bubblegum pink lakes have to be seen to be believed. The most easily accessible is the dreamy Hutt Lagoon, near Port Gregory — located between the Coral Coast towns of Geraldton and Kalbarri. Best viewed between April and October, the waters could be red, bubble-gum pink or lilac depending on the conditions. On the south coast, the small salt lakes near Esperance are a dreamy sight from a scenic flight. Known as the rainbow lakes, they are quite often bubble-gum pink, but the colours can change regularly.

## TIDAL PHENOMENON — STAIRCASES TO THE MOON AND WATERFALL REEFS

The Kimberley coast has some of the biggest tidal movements in the southern hemisphere, with the daily ebb and flow of the tropical tides creating some of the region's most dreamlike attractions. From March to November, when conditions are just right, visitors to Broome are treated to a breathtaking natural spectacle — the Staircase to the Moon. The phenomenon occurs around three times a month at extremely low tide when the full moon rises over the exposed mudflats of Roebuck Bay (Yawuru Nagulagun), creating the optical illusion of lunar stairs. The staircase phenomenon can also be experienced at other north-west locations including Karratha, Port Hedland and Onslow. Near Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm on the Dampier Peninsula (north of Broome on Yawuru Country), tidal movements create the spectacular Waterfall Reef, where exposed reefs at low tide create a waterfall in the middle of the sea. On a Kimberley expedition cruise, witness a coral reef rising from the ocean in a torrent of cascading water during the tidal changes at Montgomery Reef, the world's largest inshore reef.



# HIKES AND TRAILS

From steep and winding mountain biking trails to world-class multi-day hikes and gentle hills, there's a trail experience to suit everyone. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of the best hikes and trails in the State.



## **CAPE TO CAPE TRACK, MARGARET RIVER REGION**

One of Australia's most iconic and varied trails, the Cape to Cape Track runs for 135 kilometres between the operational south-west lighthouses of Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin on Wardandi Country. Mostly following the coast, the track alternates between spectacular sweeping clifftop views with stretches of pristine beach and majestic karri forest. Allow five to eight days to tackle the whole walk; however, there are sections that make full day and half day walks, and several tour operators that offer fully-guided walks. Tour operators such as Cape to Cape Explorer Tours, Inspiration Outdoors and Walk into Luxury combine the best of the track with gourmet food and wine, and a range of accommodation.

## **BIBBULMUN TRACK, PERTH AND SOUTH WEST**

One of the world's greatest long distance walks, the Bibbulmun Track spans 1,000 kilometres through some of Australia's most stunning scenery, including magnificent karri and tingle forests, rivers, valleys, ancient bushland and dramatic cliffs. From Kalamunda in the Perth Hills to Albany (Kinjarling) on the south coast, walkers can do the entire track, or shorter sections in a day or over a few days. Join Inspiration Outdoors for guided multi-day tours and The Hike Collective for track experiences as short as two hours.

## **MUNDA BIDDI TRAIL, PERTH AND SOUTH WEST**

As the premier off-road cycling trail in Western Australia, this 1,000-kilometre trail meanders through scenic river valleys, towering eucalyptus forests and ancient, unspoiled bushland from Mundaring in the Perth Hills to Albany in the South West. Joined by a purpose-built track, the Munda Biddi (which means path through the forest in the Noongar language) has sections suitable for cyclists of all ages and experience levels. The trail is easily accessible by car, so you can begin your journey wherever it is convenient.

## **LANE POOLE RESERVE, DWELLINGUP**

Located in the Peel Region, just under 1.5 hours' drive from Perth (Boorloo), Lane Poole Reserve hosts the Murray Valley Mountain Bike Trails, catering for beginner, intermediate and advanced riders. The downhill trails can be accessed by the easy and moderate climbing trails, or via the shuttle road off Murray Valley Road. The trails offer stunning scenery and views over the valley, plus a diverse range of native flora and fauna.



## **ARKLOW TRAIL NETWORK, COLLIE**

The Arklow Trail Network is located just five kilometres from the town of Collie in WA's South West. Designed for mountain bike enthusiasts, the trail network winds its way through the stunning Arklow forest, totalling 36-kilometres — of which 26-kilometres is new or upgraded trail. Six kilometres of the trail has been built to accommodate hand cycles, allowing mountain bike riders with disabilities the opportunity to enjoy even more of the area.

## **MOUNT LENNARD TRAILS, WELLINGTON NATIONAL PARK**

The Mount Lennard Mountain Bike Trail Circuit contains approximately 40 kilometres of trails offering varying difficulties for mountain bikers of all levels. The trails tightly weave through the mature jarrah forest and granite outcrops to provide spectacular views of the lower Collie River Valley in the South West. The highlight is the 'Grizzly Trail' — a narrow trail with obstacles and technical mountain bike features for those who are up for the challenge.

## **LOOP WALK, KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK**

The challenging Loop Walk in Kalbarri National Park on Yamatji Country in WA's Coral Coast highlights the erosive power of the Murchison River and its magnificent red gorges; the iconic 'Nature's Window', a natural rock formation which frames the Murchison Valley; the Bigurda Trail boardwalk, where you can spot whales and dolphins; and the impressive new Kalbarri Skywalk (Kaju Yatka), showcasing the Murchison River Gorge at one of its highest points.

## **WADJEMUP BIDI, ROTTNEST ISLAND**

Traverse unique landscapes of Rottnest Island (Wadjemup) along Wadjemup Bidi — a series of walk trails in the A-class reserve, off the coast of Perth (Boorloo). Take on the whole 45-kilometre journey, or choose your own adventure, with five to 10-kilometre sections offering a new way to experience the Island's stunning inland lakes, coastal headlands, Aboriginal art sculptures, WWII tunnels, snorkel spots and local wildlife, including the cute quokkas.



## **HERITAGE CYCLE TRAIL, SWAN VALLEY**

Only a 25-minute drive from Perth, the scenic Swan Valley Heritage Cycle Trail is made up of three routes, suitable for riders of all ages and fitness levels. The trail passes many interesting places including fresh produce stalls, picnic spots, galleries, lively cafes, wineries, microbreweries, distilleries and restaurants. You will find many opportunities to stop, relax and enjoy an abundance of experiences.

## **THE KALAMUNDA TRAILS NETWORK, PERTH HILLS**

About a 40-minute drive from Perth, the Kalamunda Trails area is the most popular mountain biking destination in Western Australia. With excellent facilities and more than 40 kilometres of fully signed single-track, the Kalamunda Trails have something for everyone. The two kilometre Scorpion descent is the most popular, known for its wooden berms and rollercoaster corners.

## **PURNULULU NATIONAL PARK, KIMBERLEY**

The World Heritage-listed Purnululu National Park is home to the awe-inspiring Bungle Bungle Range. 350 million years in the making, its ochre and black striped domes make it one of the most unique and captivating ranges on Earth. The area's best day hikes include Cathedral Gorge and Echidna Chasm, while the five-day Piccaninny Gorge Walk offers spectacular and secluded scenery.

## **BLUFF KNOLL, STIRLING RANGE NATIONAL PARK**

Located north of Albany (Kinjarling) in the Stirling Range National Park (Warrungup), Bluff Knoll (Koi Kyeunuruff) is the highest and most spectacular peak in WA's South West, sitting at 1,098 metres above sea level. Requiring some fitness, the moderate five kilometre return hike is a picturesque three to four-hour journey to the panoramic views from the bluff, before the descent to the base. The Stirling Range National Park is a biodiversity hotspot, home to 1,500 species of magnificent and colourful flora, many of which are unique to the area.

## CASTLE ROCK, PORONGURUP NATIONAL PARK

The massive ancient granite domes of Porongurup National Park in WA's South West rise 670 metres above the landscape, surrounded by a sea of giant Karri trees. Home to the Castle Rock Granite Skywalk, a walking gantry mounted high out from the magnificent Castle Rock, the 4.4 kilometre return hike offers sweeping views of the stunning landscapes and surrounding plains near Albany (Kinjarling).

## KARIJINI GORGES AND TRAILS, KARIJINI NATIONAL PARK

Two billion years in the making, Karijini National Park in the Pilbara region is one of WA's most spectacular natural attractions offering amazing hiking trails through ancient gorges. An adventure lover's paradise, explore tunnels of marbled rock, clamber over boulders, squeeze through narrow tunnels, paddle through waterways and descend into ancient chasms — often featuring secret waterfalls. There's also easy access to stunning lookouts and walk trails for varying levels of fitness and experience. Some of the most popular trails include Dales Gorge, Fortescue Falls, Weano Gorge and Oxer's Lookout.

## CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK, NEAR EXMOUTH

Located within the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Coast (Nyinggulu), Cape Range National Park's rugged limestone ranges and breathtaking deep canyons are surrounded by pristine beaches. Keep an eye out for wildlife such as emus, kangaroos and a variety of

birds on one of the many walk trails through the park, and wonder at the earthy tones of the arid landscapes. Join Exmouth Adventure Co. for guided overnight walking tours of the gorges and coastline, including camping in the national park and snorkelling on Ningaloo Reef.

## BOLD PARK, PERTH

At 85 metres above sea level, the seven-kilometre trail through Bold Park in City Beach offers spectacular views over the Indian Ocean, Perth City (Boorloo), Kings Park and Botanic Garden (Kaarta Koomba), and even glimpses of the Swan River (Derbarl Yerrigan). Join a guided hike group tour with The Hike Collective to meet other like-minded walkers, and visit during spring to spot a spectacular array of wildflowers.

## FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK, GOLDEN OUTBACK

Bushwalking along one of the many trails in this botanical wonderland is the best way to explore the incredible variety of plant life and spectacular rugged landscapes of granite cliffs, limestone ridges, valleys, woodlands and pristine beaches. Fitzgerald River National Park boasts a rich diversity of native and rare plant species, and is one of Australia's largest parks — home to 75 species of endemic plants, found nowhere else in the world. Visit during wildflower season and join a tour with the likes of Edgewalkers to discover this rich biosphere of unique flora and fauna.

Read more about flowing and shredding on the Collie and Dwellingup Trails [here](#).





# ABORIGINAL TOURS AND EXPERIENCES

The rich and unique culture of Western Australia's Aboriginal people stretches back at least 50,000 years — making it the world's oldest continuing living culture. Across coastal, urban and outback Western Australia, more than 130 Aboriginal tourism operators proudly share their fascinating stories, distinctive cultures and traditional lands with visitors through a variety of authentic experiences.

# ABORIGINAL TOURS

Here's 20 fascinating tours on offer across the State.

## BAIYUNGU DREAMING

**Baiyungu Dreaming** is the first Aboriginal tour experience on offer in the Ningaloo (Nyinggulu) region. Join Baiyungu woman Hazel Walgar on a 4WD tagalong tour from the Aboriginal-run Carbadia Station in Coral Bay to explore hidden locations along the Ningaloo coast, discover culturally significant places and hear the stories connected to them. Explore the coastal plains near Coral Bay to discover shell middens and a sea turtle nursery, learn how to find fresh drinking water, or listen to ancient stories by a sunset campfire.

## WOORAMULLA ECO CULTURAL JOURNEYS

**Wooramulla Eco Cultural Journeys** is a new tour exploring the Yinggarda history and culture of WA's Gascoyne region with passionate guide and local Yinggarda woman Rennee Turner. Departing from the town of Carnarvon in the Coral Coast, tour options include half-day tagalong Tours through the Gascoyne, including the spectacular blowholes of Quobba Station, and overnight tours of Mundathurra Kennedy Loop. There are also three-hour cultural town tours of Carnarvon to discover traditional bushfoods, medicine and wildlife; stargazing story tours; wildflower walkabouts and burrowing bee tours.

## GO CULTURAL TOURS & EXPERIENCES

**Go Cultural Aboriginal Tours & Experiences** is a Perth-based, 100 percent Aboriginal-owned company. With several iconic tour locations within easy access of Perth City (Boorloo),

visitors can experience Aboriginal heritage and culture in the heart of the CBD, Kings Park and Botanic Garden (Kaarta Koomba), or at idyllic Rottneet Island (Wadjemup). Go Cultural Tours' interactive cultural walking tours offer visitors the opportunity to learn about Perth's history, whilst their knowledgeable guides explore the deeper significance of the land, its elements and resources from a local Aboriginal perspective. All tours include a traditional Welcome to Country and Aboriginal language, song and storytelling with a local Noongar guide.

## DABUNGOOL CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Experience the rich cultural history and nature of Kepa Kurl (Esperance) with new eyes on this cultural heritage and bush tucker tour. Walk along the nature trails in the Kwongkan heathland and bushland with **Dabungool Cultural Experiences**, discovering the abundance of native flora and fauna that are used as bush tucker and traditional medicines, and experience the true taste of Kepa Kurl Noongar Boodjar.

## KOOMAL DREAMING

The Margaret River Region's big drawcards — beaches, caves and dining — come together on tours led by local Wardandi man, Josh Whiteland. With **Koomal Dreaming**, you'll journey into Ngilgi Cave for ancient stories and unique didgeridoo acoustics, as well as forage for, and taste, native food and medicine. The menu could include kangaroo, emu, quandong, emu plum and salt bush.



## MIMBI CAVES

One of Australia's best-kept secrets, the vast subterranean labyrinth of **Mimbi Caves** (Jarlarloo Riwi) is part of a 350-million-year-old Devonian reef system, which houses a significant collection of Aboriginal rock art and some of the most impressive fish fossils in the Southern Hemisphere. The Mimbi area is a place of strong spiritual significance for the traditional owners, the Gooniyandi people. Spectacular limestone formations, brilliant colours and crystal clear freshwater pools set the scene for a guided tour laced with ancient stories and bush tucker.

## NARLIJIA EXPERIENCES

Engaging tours by Broome (Rubibi) born-and-bred Yawuru man Bart Pigram offer an Aboriginal and multicultural perspective of the pearling town and its fascinating history. You'll learn about saltwater people, the seasons, the land and the food that sustained this ancient coastal culture for thousands of years. Scour for oysters and other tasty morsels in Broome's mangroves, where you can spot mudskippers, mud crabs and a variety of birds at low tide. Visitors can also experience the Staircase to the Moon phenomenon with the best seats in Broome, with **Narliija Experiences** offering tours twice a month.

## NGALANG WONGI ABORIGINAL CULTURAL TOURS

Bunbury's original inhabitants, the Noongar people, hunted and fished throughout the Koombana Bay area for thousands of years. Join international artist and storyteller Troy Bennell from **Ngalang Wongi Aboriginal Cultural Tours** as he weaves his cultural knowledge into an array of ancient stories and whimsical yarns about traditional and contemporary Aboriginal life, sacred sites, the Noongar six seasons and Dolphin Dreaming, linking to Koombana Bay's population of wild bottlenose dolphins.

## NGURRANGGA TOURS

This unique archaeological area houses the world's largest collection of ancient Aboriginal rock carvings, with more than one million petroglyphs dating back as far as the last ice age. Tour this amazing outdoor art gallery and surrounding coastal landscape with Clinton Walker from **Ngurrangga Tours**, a descendant of the local Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi people, who has spent his entire life learning about his ancestors and culture.



## MABU BURU TOURS

**Mabu Buru Tours** is an Aboriginal owned and operated tourism business that provides an Aboriginal perspective to the landscape in and around Broome and introduces guests to the ancient culture of the Yawuru and Karajarri people. Mabu Buru Tours delivers authentic Aboriginal experiences and offers very personal journeys that share culture through traditional methods such as bushfood and bush medicine demonstrations, storytelling, and traditional songs and dances.

## OOLIN SUNDAY ISLAND CULTURAL TOURS

Join Rosanna Angus — a Jawi woman whose family lived on Sunday Island during the early mission days — to discover Bardi Jawi culture, as well as the Dreaming stories connected to Sunday Island and the turbulent waters that separate it from the mainland. Departing from Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm, **Oolin Sunday Island Cultural Tours** retrace the ocean journey from Bardi Country on the mainland through the network of islands and tidal passages that make up Jawi Country, and through the whirlpools and eddies between Jooloom and Jayirru to learn how these massive tidal currents were used by the Jawi people to hunt, fish and trade.

## WARRANG-BRIDIL

This walking tour reflects **Warrang Bridil's** vision to 'close the gap' on knowledge and understanding of Noongar people's heritage, as they share their culture with visitors. Explore the shores of the spectacular Swan River (Derbarl Yerrigan) overlooking Perth City (Boorloo), Matagarup Bridge and the Optus Stadium precinct. Discover in depth insights into the history of the Noongar nation and the importance of culture, language, values, relationships, responsibilities and social structures.

## WARINGARRI ABORIGINAL ARTS

Located in the heart of Miriwoong Country in Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang), **Waringarri** was the first Aboriginal owned art centre established in Western Australia. It is a place for Aboriginal artists to share the importance of their country and culture, and supports more than 100 painters, printmakers, wood carvers, boab engravers, sculptors and textile artists. The centre also offers cultural tours and didgeridoo performances to complement the visitor experience, with a rich insight into Miriwoong culture.

## GOLDFIELDS HONEY ANT TOURS

Join an authentic on-country bushfood foraging experience with an Aboriginal family in the heart of WA's Golden Outback with **Goldfields Honey Ant Tours**. On this family picnic outing, sample the sweetest of bushfoods, the prized honey ant, forage for witchetty grubs, discover seasonal nuts and fruits, and learn about bush medicine plants. After the foraging, gather round the campfire for billy tea, damper and slow cooked stew whilst being captivated by cultural stories about the traditional lifestyles and art of the Tjupan people and how they still practice cultural ways on country.

## WULA GURA NYINDA ECO ADVENTURES

Francois Peron National Park is a picturesque peninsula of acacia-cloaked red dunes and shrub surrounded by turquoise water. Teeming with marine life such as dolphins and rays, the tranquil lagoons are perfect for kayaking and snorkelling. Join award winning guide Darren 'Capes' Capewell from **Wula Gura Nyinda Eco Adventures** for an inside view of the deep spiritual connection between the local Nhanda and Malgana Aboriginal people and this breathtaking saltwater paradise. Most recently, Darren has introduced scenic SUP Tours and an exclusive escape to Australia's westernmost point, Dirk Hartog Island (Wirruwana), to his tour offering.

## BORRGORON COAST TO CREEK TOURS

Bardi man and fourth-generation pearler Terry Hunter combines traditional knowledge with his experiences growing up on a remote pearling farm on this walking tour with a difference on the Dampier Peninsula. On **Borrgoron Coast to Creek Tours**' signature experience, you'll learn about how the Bardi (land) and Jawi (island) people have lived in harmony with the land and sea for millenia, with a two hour walk through the mangroves, creeks and tidal flats of King Sound. Along the way, Terry will also share his deep knowledge of the pearling trade and treat you to a tasty bush tucker snack.

## KINGFISHER TOURS

**Kingfisher Tours** pairs luxurious Kimberley region sightseeing with the deep knowledge of their Traditional Custodian guides. Local Aboriginal guides are at the heart of all experiences, be it flying over the beehive shaped domes of the Bungle Bungle Range in Purnululu National Park, before exploring the World Heritage-listed landscape on foot; or bouncing along in a 4WD to visit remote communities, learning stories of the land and its people along the way.

## KIMBERLEY CULTURAL ADVENTURES

Join Robert Dann, a proud Kimberley man, for an incredible three-hour cultural experience with **Kimberley Cultural Adventures**. He will share with you a small slice of 40,000 years of

Broome (Rubibi) and Kimberley culture. Robert promises a culturally rich journey which offers something uniquely different with a hands-on approach. After you taste his delicious Boab Iced Tea, you'll also have the opportunity to take some home with you, from his store Bindam Mie.

## DALE TILBROOK EXPERIENCES

Join Wardandi Bibbulmun woman Dale Tilbrook from **Dale Tilbrook Experiences** in a relaxed setting to learn about native Australian herbs, spices and peppers; and discover the uses of bush tucker plants, their medicinal properties and their surprising health benefits. Enjoy a bushfood-inspired morning or afternoon tea with a delectable range of savoury and sweet dishes. Explore local history and culture or experience the cultural tradition of storytelling through art.

## DJURANDI DREAMING

**Djurandi Dreaming** is owned and operated by Whadjuk man Justin Martin; a tour guide and Aboriginal artworks specialist. Justin's tours and artworks are based around history, facts and creation stories passed down from generation to generation. Djurandi Dreaming aims to positively educate, showcase and conserve Aboriginal culture, language and country. Experiences include the Dreaming in the Quay and Yagan Square Perth tours, Boya Kaarla Point Peron tour, Lake Walyungup Torchlight Tour, traditional Aboriginal art workshops and Kings Park education activities.





## ABORIGINAL ART

Aboriginal art abounds in Western Australia, from ancient rock paintings in the Kimberley and remote Aboriginal art centres throughout the region, to art galleries in Perth and fine art in the Margaret River Region. WA's vibrant and evolving Aboriginal art scene is thousands of years in the making.

Read [here](#) to discover some of the best Aboriginal art experiences across the State.

## ABORIGINAL BUSH FOODS

From fish cooked over mangrove wood to a native superfood that you can sprinkle on a smoothie.

Read [here](#) to discover five fascinating encounters you can experience with traditional Aboriginal foods in WA.

## ABORIGINAL SEASONS

In contrast to the globally recognised four seasons aligned with the Earth's orbit, Aboriginal cultural groups celebrate calendar seasons which are not strictly aligned with dates, but to the forces of nature.

The Aboriginal season calendar varies for different cultural groups throughout WA and across Australia. It acts as an extremely important guide, outlining what nature is doing at every stage of the year, and how to live safely, sustainably, and respectfully in relation to the land, plant and animal cycles and the preservation of environmental ecosystems.





Read on to discover some of the Aboriginal season across WA.

- **Aboriginal seasons of the Coral Coast**
- **Aboriginal season of Kambarang in Perth**
- **The South West season of Birak**
- **Broome's transitional season of Marrul**
- **Barrgana season on the Dampier Peninsula**
- **The Noongar Season of Makuru in Perth**
- **The Noongar Season of Djilba in Harvey**

## CAMPING WITH CUSTODIANS

Camping with Custodians in WA is an Australia-first program that develops high quality public campgrounds on Aboriginal lands, which are then owned and operated by the Aboriginal community. There are currently six Camping with Custodians sites across the Kimberley and the Pilbara, with a seventh campground currently under development at Lombadina on the Dampier Peninsula, a two-hour drive north of Broome (Rubibi), due to open in 2024. Lombadina will have up to 35 campsites, a camp kitchen and ablution facilities. Several Aboriginal cultural tours are also available from Lombadina to enrich the visitor experience.

Read on [here](#) to discover the Camping with Custodians experience.

For more information on Aboriginal tourism experiences in WA, visit the Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council ([waitoc.com](http://waitoc.com)).

# LUXURY EXPERIENCES

WA is home to some of Australia's most indulgent retreats and experiences, allowing you to enjoy paradise with privacy, pampering and maybe some diamonds and pearls. Here's your Western Australia Dream List of luxury experiences.



## **TREAT YOURSELF TO A LUXE STAY IN PERTH**

Overlooking the sparkling Swan River (Derbarl Yerrigan) is The Ritz-Carlton Perth, with luxurious amenities, stunning rooftop bar plus a dedicated spa and wellness centre. Occupying the top floors of the immaculately restored State Buildings in the heart of the city, COMO The Treasury continues to impress with its exclusive offerings including COMO Shambhala and packaged touring experiences. Stay in luxury on Perth's (Boorloo's) island paradise at Samphire Rottneest, ideally situated on Thomson Bay. The resort combines 80 architecturally designed rooms, lagoon-like pools, and a mix of dining options. In the Hibernian Place precinct, The Westin Perth offers a new level of luxury in the city's east end. Crown Perth's portfolio on the picturesque Burswood riverfront precinct includes the luxurious Crown Towers, where accommodation options include a top floor deluxe villa with butler service and panoramic views from floor-to-ceiling windows.

## **LUXURIOUS RETREATS**

Follow in the footsteps of celebrities who really want to get away from it all. The Kimberley's Berkeley River Lodge, accessible only by sea or air, is undoubtedly one of Australia's most indulgent adventures — offering luxurious rooms with 180-degree panoramas of the turquoise Timor Sea and the rugged Berkeley River. The Kimberley also offers the ultimate in exclusive luxury at El Questro Homestead, where you can enjoy a suite

overlooking Chamberlain Gorge and dine on a private clifftop under a canopy of stars. Alternatively, relax in your own private outdoor bathtub with views over the gorge. On the coast, Broome's (Rubibi's) Cable Beach Club Resort and Spa has suites themed around famous Australian artists, with private plunge pools and butler service. In the State's South West, the Margaret River Region's Injidup Spa Retreat boasts private plunge pools that overlook the Indian Ocean.

## **CRUISE OR FLY THE KIMBERLEY**

Experience the pristine waters of a true wilderness area in style on a Kimberley luxury expedition cruise or scenic flight. Small cruisers such as True North, Kimberley Quest and Great Escape can meander through secluded gorges that aren't accessible to larger vessels, passing towering red cliffs and pockets of rainforest; and larger expedition style vessels such as Silversea, Coral Expeditions and Ponant offer the ultimate in luxury cruising. After feasting on quality food and wine — which could include freshly caught seafood, such as the prized barramundi — you'll relax in the comfort of your own suite. The Kimberley is also simply spectacular from the air. HeliSpirit, Kimberley Air Tours and Air Kimberley are just some of the operators that will take you on a soaring safari like no other, with the option to land and explore remote pockets of paradises and swim in secret springs and waterfalls.

## EXQUISITE JEWELS

WA's mineral and marine wealth shines bright in the form of world-renowned Kimberley diamonds — including the elusive pink diamond — as well as Broome's (Rubibi's) South Sea pearls and Kalgoorlie (Karlkurla) gold. In Perth (Boorloo), shop for WA pearls, diamonds and gold at various spots throughout the city, including Willie Creek Pearls' showroom at Elizabeth Quay (Gumap) and The Perth Mint. Broome's Dampier Terrace is home to pearl showrooms including Kailis, Allure, Paspaley, Cygnet Bay and Willie Creek Pearls, and in the outback town of Kununurra (Goonoonoorrang), step inside Kimberley Fine Diamonds to marvel at exquisite pink and natural diamonds, and the master jewellers at work.

## WINE AND DINE LIKE A STAR

WA has the perfect ingredients for world-class food and wine experiences — top international talent combined with fresh local produce like Manjimup's rare black truffles, Pemberton marron, Broome pearl meat, Rottneest Island (Wadjemup) crayfish, Exmouth (Warnangoora) prawns, Albany (Kinjarling) Akoya oysters and, of course, the State's famous wines. Perth's dining scene continues to flourish — with recent newcomers such as Lantern on Quay, 6HEAD Perth, Stampa, Yiamas, Miss Mi and Vin Populi, creating buzz alongside favourites such as the multi award-winning Wildflower, POST, and Long Chim at the State Buildings, and more. For the ultimate in

wining and dining luxury, soar to new heights on a luxe helicopter wine and dine tour from Perth to the Swan Valley or Margaret River wine regions, or take a Swan River Seaplane adventure from Perth to the Abrolhos Islands for long table lunching on the beach, dining on delicious locally caught seafood.

## ECO-RETREAT GLAMPING AND BOUTIQUE STAYS

Enjoy the tranquillity of stress-free camping at safari or cabin-style wilderness accommodation with personalised service. After exploring the pristine natural landscapes with an expert guide, you can relax with fine linens on king-size beds, ensuite bathrooms, gourmet produce and spectacular starry night skies. Kimberley Coastal Camp, Faraway Bay, El Questro's Emma Gorge Resort, Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm, Eco Beach Broome, Bungle Bungle and Mitchell Falls Wilderness Lodges all offer the ultimate Kimberley adventure. At Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef and Discovery Rottneest Island, wake up to the sounds of the ocean in an environmentally conscious accommodation nestled in the dunes. In the South West, experience true relaxation at off-the-grid boutique stays set amongst forests and fields at new properties, such as Serenity Gully near Bridgetown, Stillwood Retreat and Upland Farm in Denmark, Latitude 35°S in Albany, Ampersand Estates in Pemberton, Binya Maya Yallingup Escape, Petite Eco Cabin, Barn Hives, Heyscape Tiny Cabins and Tree Chalets in the Margaret River Region.

## WALKING IN LUXURY

With some of the best walking tracks in the world, Walk into Luxury, Cape to Cape Explorer Tours and Inspiration Outdoors offer visitors to WA's South West the chance to walk the famous Cape to Cape Track and the Bibbulmun Track in style and comfort. The walks combine the best of nature, with gourmet food and wine, and luxury accommodation such as an oceanfront pool villa at Injidup Spa Retreat. In the magical Kimberley, join Walk into Luxury on a new signature walk through one of the last true wilderness areas on Earth. Hike to secluded swimming holes, enjoy sunset drinks at scenic gorge lookouts, heli-hike to remote waterfalls and experience the ultimate in luxury accommodation at El Questro Homestead.

Read on [here](#) to discover how to treat yourself to a little luxury, WA-style.





# DREAM EVENTS FOR 2024/25

Whether it's unmissable global blockbusters, unforgettable moments shared with the world's oldest living culture, or culinary experiences in otherworldly locations — there are wondrous events happening all year round. And with endless pristine beaches and boundless adventures, there is always something to do in Western Australia, no matter when you visit.

View the full event calendar for 2024/25 [here](#).



NATIONAL HOT AIR BALLOONING CHAMPIONSHIPS  
♀ NORTHAM, AVON VALLEY



## MEDIA CONTACT

Tourism Western Australia  
Public Relations team

Level 10, 1 William Street, Perth WA 6000  
Australia

T +61 (8) 9262 1700

F +61 (8) 9262 1702

[media@westernaustralia.com](mailto:media@westernaustralia.com)

[tourism.wa.gov.au](http://tourism.wa.gov.au)  
[westernaustralia.com](http://westernaustralia.com)

---

 Facebook:  
[facebook.com/extraordinarywesternaustralia](https://facebook.com/extraordinarywesternaustralia)

 YouTube:  
[youtube.com/westernaustralia](https://youtube.com/westernaustralia)

 Instagram:  
[Instagram.com/westernaustralia](https://Instagram.com/westernaustralia)

 X:  
[twitter.com/westaustralia](https://twitter.com/westaustralia)

 TikTok:  
[tiktok.com/westernaustralia](https://tiktok.com/westernaustralia)

[#WAtheDreamState](https://www.tiktok.com/tag/WAtheDreamState)

---



**Tourism**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Disclaimer: All information contained in this guide was correct at the time of publishing — February 2024. Tourism WA accepts no responsibility for any person claiming they have been misled or deceived by any matter published herein.