

AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST

HOLIDAY PLANNER 2026



AUSTRALIA'S
Coral Coast



WESTERN
AUSTRALIA
WALKING ON A DREAM

WELCOME TO AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST

A place where coastal wonders meet ancient landscapes and the open road beckons you to adventure.

Where gentle marine giants (whale sharks, humpback whales and manta rays) invite you to cruise alongside them in their underwater paradise. Where pristine islands, spectacular rock formations and arid outback landscapes create a kaleidoscope of colour like nowhere else on earth. Wander ancient tracks to relive thousands of years of aboriginal history through the eyes and culture of our traditional owners.

Feel the sand beneath your toes on endless white beaches and lose yourself amidst ancient gorges, dazzling carpets of colourful wildflowers and untouched coral reefs teeming with marine life.

Stretching along 1,100km of breathtaking coastline from Cervantes, two hours north of Perth, to the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef, you'll find some of the best known and most loved attractions in Australia. From the Pinnacles, a bubble-gum Pink Lake, Kalbarri National Park and Shark Bay World Heritage Area to Monkey Mia and the mesmerising Ningaloo Reef. Australia's Coral Coast is a boundless marine wonderland with open skies and otherworldly landscapes tied together by the Coral Coast Highway — one of the greatest road trips on earth.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Australia's Coral Coast acknowledges the First Nations' people throughout the region and their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture. We pay our respect to all Aboriginal peoples; Elders past, present and emerging.

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Front cover image by CJ Maddock
♀ POT ALLEY, KALBARRI

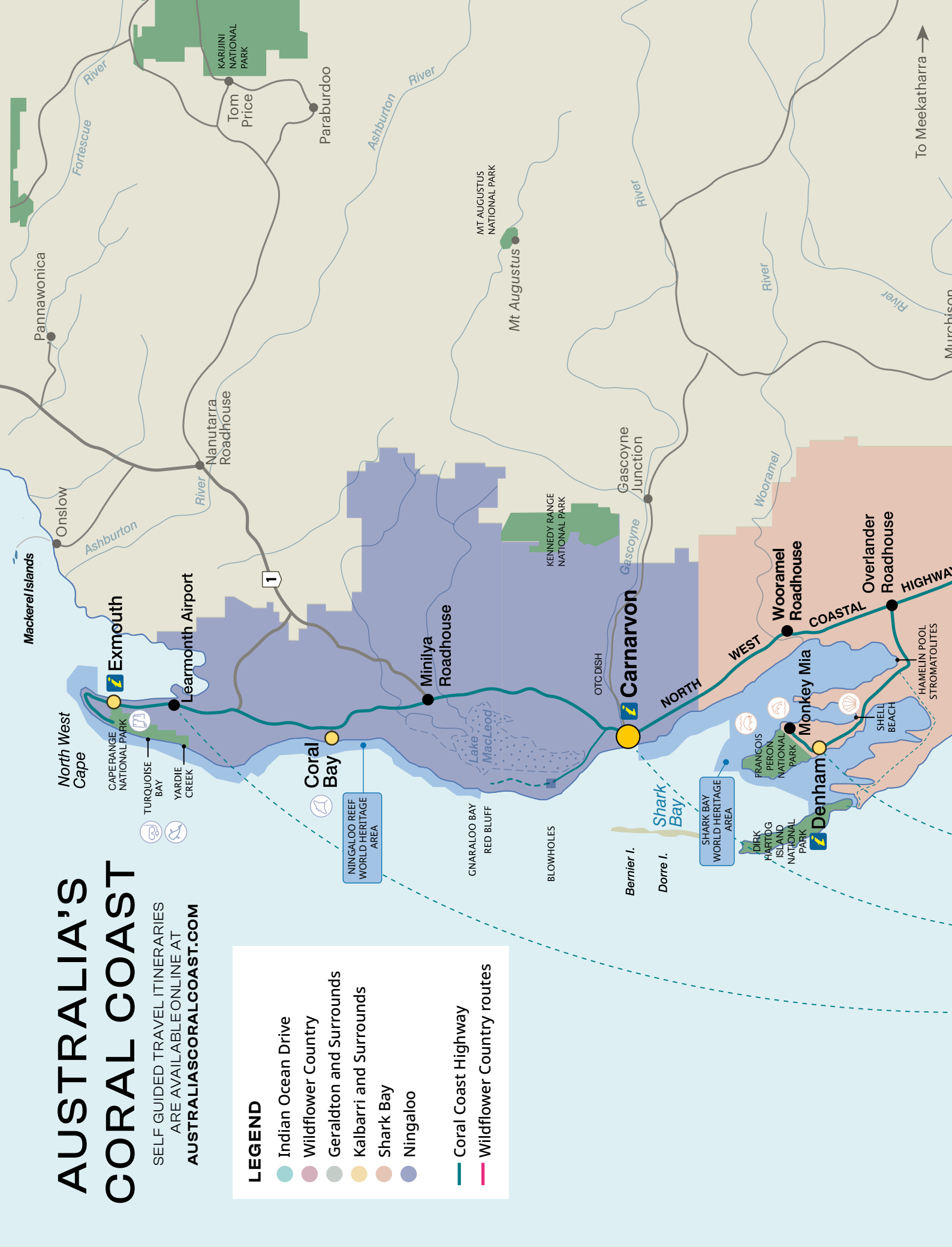
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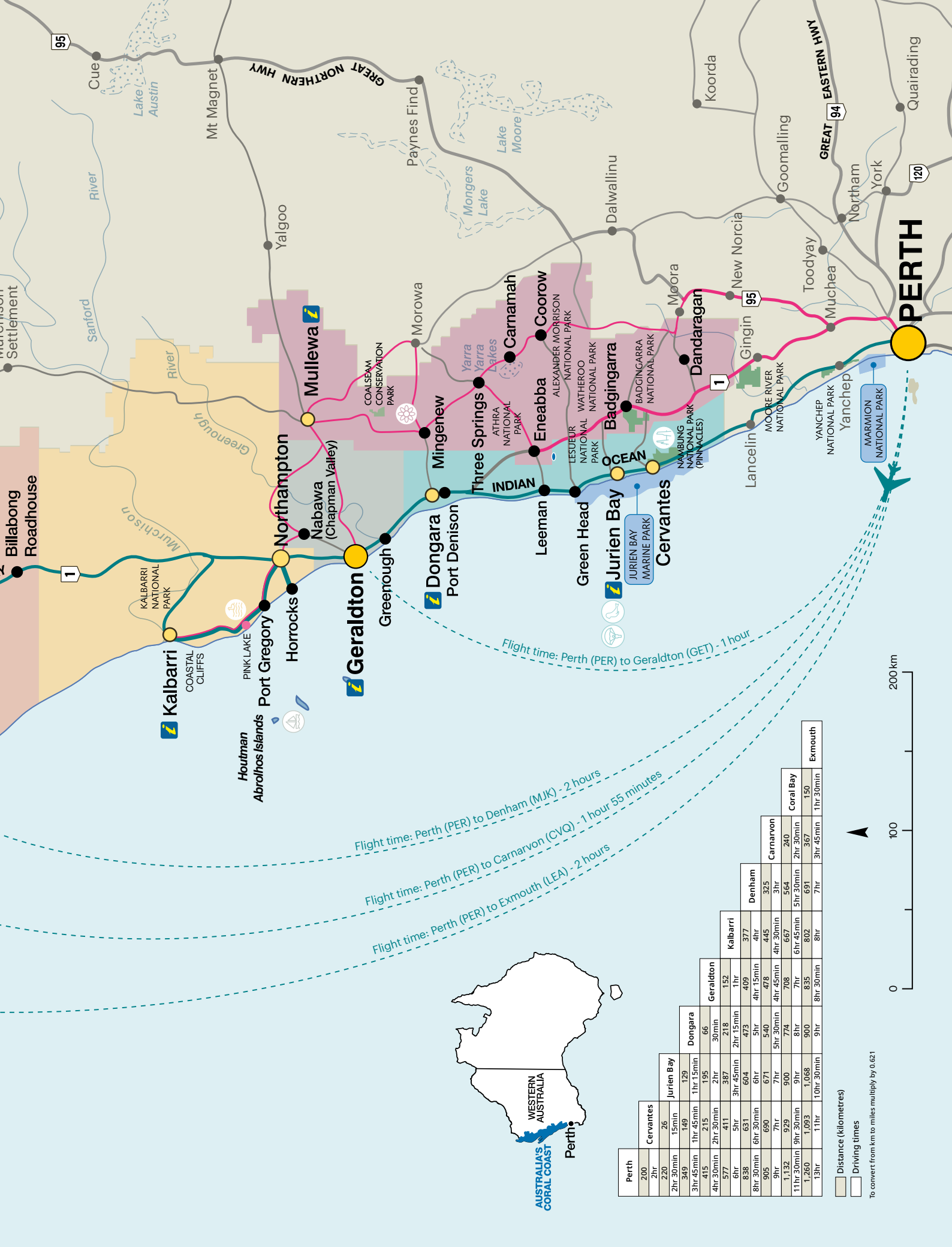
AUSTRALIA'S CORAL COAST

SELF GUIDED TRAVEL ITINERARIES
ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
AUSTRALIASCORALCOAST.COM

LEGEND

- Indian Ocean Drive
- Wildflower Country
- Geraldton and Surrounds
- Kalbarri and Surrounds
- Shark Bay
- Ningaloo
- Coral Coast Highway
- Wildflower Country routes





Perth	Cervantes		Jurien Bay		Dongara		Geraldton		Kalbarri		Denham		Carnarvon		Coral Bay		Exmouth	
200	2hr	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
220	2hr 30min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
240	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
260	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
280	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
300	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
320	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
340	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
360	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
380	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
400	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
420	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
440	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
460	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
480	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
500	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
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700	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
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800	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
820	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
840	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
860	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
880	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
900	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
920	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
940	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
960	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
980	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr
1000	2hr 45min	26	15min	149	129	66	152	377	409	473	540	671	708	774	835	900	9hr	13hr

Coral Coast HIGHWAY

🕒 14 DAYS

The 1,250km (800 miles) Coral Coast Highway between Perth and Exmouth is one of Australia's great scenic drives, and has been referred to as one of the Greatest Road Trips on Earth. Along the way, you will discover some of Australia's best known and most loved attractions and two of Western Australia's three World Heritage Areas - Shark Bay and Ningaloo.

Your journey starts with charming fishing towns, the otherworldly Pinnacles Desert, friendly sea lions, hidden caves and picturesque wildflower country. Wander along walk trails, and be awestruck at night by billions of stars before arriving at vibrant Geraldton with its rich maritime history.

Soak up the city's culture, and take a flight or cruise to the pristine Houtman Abrolhos Islands.

Continue on to explore the ancient gorges and striking coastal cliffs of Kalbarri, and take in the breathtaking landscapes, rich marine life, and remote beauty of Dirk Hartog Island in Shark Bay. Carnarvon, WA's food bowl, is the southern gateway to Australia's largest fringing reef - Ningaloo, where you can swim with the 'Big 3': whale sharks, manta rays and humpback whales with tours departing Exmouth and Coral Bay.

Coral Bay is a marine-lovers paradise, while Exmouth juxtaposes the beauty of the reef with the rugged splendour of Cape Range National Park.

Landscapes of every colour, incredible wildlife and marine interactions, foodie experiences and carefully crafted brews await.



REVERSE IT! THIS ITINERARY CAN ALSO BE DONE IN REVERSE.
VISIT [AUSTRALIASCORALCOAST.COM](https://australiascoralcoast.com) TO LEARN MORE.



♀ CHARLES KNIFE CANYON

NEED WHEELS?



4xploring Rentals, Defender Adventure, RedSands Campers, Adventure West 4x4 Rentals, Exmouth Camper Hire, AVIS Australia

DAY 1:

FLY PERTH TO LEARMONTH AIRPORT, EXMOUTH

Take a morning Qantas flight from Perth to Learmonth Airport, the northern gateway to Ningaloo, and collect your hire car from Avis.

Head north to **Exmouth** and make your first stop the **Ningaloo Aquarium and Discovery Centre** to learn more about the region's history and marine life, book your tours or hire snorkelling gear. Spend the afternoon exploring the town's **craft breweries**, cafes, and boutiques.

Consider driving from Exmouth town to the **Ningaloo Reef** for a snorkel. If you're time poor, the closest beaches to town and best for swimming are Bundegi and Town Beach.

Stay: Exmouth

DAY 2:

SWIM WITH SOMETHING BIG!

Allow a day to immerse yourself among **Ningaloo's** marine wonders. Join a full-day tour to swim with **whale sharks** (March to August and beyond – they've been known to hang around until November), **humpback whales** (July to October), **turtles** (Year-round with mating season tours running October to March), or **manta rays** (year-round). Tours depart from both **Exmouth** and **Coral Bay**.

Feel like an island escape? Extend your trip to the Mackerel Islands, flying out of Exmouth with Ningaloo Aviation.

Alternatively, spend the day enjoying a **scenic flight** over the reef. Keep an eye out for the elusive Dugong and you may even tick off **Ningaloo's Big 5**.

Stay: Exmouth or Coral Bay

DAY 3:

EXPLORE CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Begin your day with a spectacular sunrise at **Charles Knife Canyon** - one of the rare places where you can witness both sunrise and sunset over the ocean. Spend the day exploring the sights of **Cape Range National Park**, or join a single or multi-day **guided tour**. Drift snorkel at **Turquoise Bay**, visit the **Milyering Discovery Centre**, picnic at **Osprey Bay**, or hike/cruise **Yardie Creek** where you may spot the rare black-footed rock wallaby.

For a different perspective, glide across the Ningaloo Reef with **View Ningaloo's** semi-submarine or hop aboard a **Ningaloo Glass Bottom Boat** tour - perfect for spotting turtles, rays and vibrant coral gardens without getting wet.

If fishing is more your thing, jump aboard **Blue Horizon Fishing Charters** and try your hand at Red Emperor, Coral Trout, Goldband Snapper, Spangled Emperor, just to name a few.

End the day at **Vlamingh Head Lighthouse** for sunset views or experience the wonder of the night sky on a tour with **Ningaloo Stars**.

Stay: Exmouth

DAY 4:

EXMOUTH TO CORAL BAY (152KM / 1.5HRS)

Leave Exmouth early and drive south to Coral Bay. Stop in at **Bullara Station** for homemade scones, barista coffee, and a taste of outback charm.

Arriving in **Coral Bay**, consider an afternoon snorkelling tour, exploring secret and hard-to-reach Ningaloo Reef locations. Don't want to get in the water? Join a **glass-bottom boat tour** of the reef with snorkel opportunities optional.

Dive or snorkel with Coral Bay's resident manta rays on a guided tour with **Ningaloo Reef Dive & Snorkel**, or opt for a multi-day sailing escape with **Sail Ningaloo** to explore remote reef sites in comfort.

Treat yourself for a day well done with some delicious gelato from **Sweet Ningaloo**.

Stay: Coral Bay

DAY 5:

CORAL BAY TO CARNARVON (238KM / 2.5HRS)

Enjoy a laid-back start with a beachside breakfast, then snorkel at Bill's Bay or take a **quad biking tour** along the coast. Then start the drive south to **Carnarvon**. Visit the OTC Dish at the **Carnarvon Space and Technology Museum**, then explore the **Fruit Loop Drive Trail** to sample tropical produce straight from local plantations, including the famous chocolate-coated bananas.

For a cultural experience, visit **Gwoonwardu Mia** Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Centre, which celebrates the region's Aboriginal heritage or join a cultural tour with **Wooramulla Eco Cultural Journeys**. Discover more of Carnarvon's



DID YOU KNOW?

Ningaloo Marine Park, off the coast of Exmouth and Coral Bay, is the only place in Western Australia where you can experience an in-water interaction with whale sharks, humpback whales and manta rays.



♀ MONKEY MIA

PLAN YOUR
ROAD TRIP



fascinating history with a visit to the **Carnarvon Heritage Precinct**.

Take a pic at the popular **Cactus Garden** and end the day with a picnic by the Fascine.

Have some time up your sleeve? Stay an extra night and head up Carnarvon's incredible coastline. Heading north, you can snorkel at the **aquarium**, watch the **blow holes** explode and take the iconic photo in front of the King Waves Kill sign. Further up, you'll find **Quobba Station** and **Red Bluff**, great off-grid accommodation for fishing and surfing enthusiasts (4WD recommended for visiting Red Bluff).

For a bird's-eye view of this dramatic coastline, jump on a helicopter tour with **Coral Coast Helicopters** - an unforgettable way to take in the colours and contours of the outback meeting the sea.

Stay: Carnarvon or Quobba Station

DAY 6: CARNARVON TO SHARK BAY (335KM / 4HRS)

Get up early to grab a coffee or kombucha with a snack at **6701 Waterfront Cafe** along the fascine before exploring some incredible beaches around Carnarvon. Approximately 40km south of Carnarvon, stop at Bush Bay and New Beach for a swim and picnic.

Consider a stay or stopover at **Wooramel River Retreat** for an artesian soak or a wander along their quirky tip trail.

Turning right onto World Heritage Drive, stop at **Shell Beach** before visiting the **Shark Bay Discovery & Visitor Centre** to learn about the area via displays, soundscapes, footage and interactive multimedia. Travelling with children? They will love the nature playground opposite

the Centre. Enjoy a **sunset wildlife cruise** from Monkey Mia before dinner.

Stay: Denham or Monkey Mia.

DAY 7: EXPLORE SHARK BAY

Wake early to greet the **Monkey Mia bottlenose dolphins** as they visit the shores daily from 7.45am.

Spend the rest of the day exploring Shark Bay's natural attractions. Join a **4WD tour** into **Francois Peron National Park** or a scuba/snorkel experience with **Shark Bay Eco Tours**, take an Aboriginal guided tour, with **Wula Gura Nyinda Eco Cultural Adventures**, or explore **Dirk Hartog Island**. Prefer a slower pace? Paddle in Little Lagoon, enjoy a picnic lunch at Big Lagoon or relax on one of the many private beaches.

Finish off the day with a **Shark Bay Pizza** on the beach or Denham foreshore - the sunsets over the Indian Ocean never disappoint.

Stay: Dirk Hartog Island, Denham or Monkey Mia

DAY 8: SHARK BAY TO KALBARRI (385KM / 4.5HRS)

Wake up early, pack drinks and a snack and head out to the highway. Follow signs to **Eagle Bluff** for expansive views over the Indian Ocean. Between Eagle Bluff and Denham, stop in at **Ocean Park Aquarium**, a marine life rehabilitation centre, with stunning views from its restaurant Oceans which overlooks Tinkerbell Flats.

Continue towards **Kalbarri** via the Ajana-Kalbarri Road, which bursts with wildflowers from July to October.

Families will love swimming in the sheltered waters of **Chinaman's Beach**, while the foreshore's **Nature Playground** will keep the kids well occupied. Snorkelling at Blue Holes is popular with big and small kids in Kalbarri. Hike the **Bigurda Trail** along the Kalbarri Cliffs coastline, past Shellhouse Grandstand to Island Rock and Natural Bridge.

Stay: Kalbarri

DAY 9: KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK

Get up early to spend the morning in Kalbarri National Park. Be sure to bring plenty of water and snacks.

Visit **Nature's Window**, walk the Loop or Z-Bend **trails**, and experience the towering **Kalbarri Skywalks** suspended high above the Murchison River. For a more relaxed visit, join a **guided tour** with **D'Guy Journeys** or enjoy a **scenic flight** over Kalbarri and the pink lake, Hutt Lagoon.

Take to the water with **Kalbarri Wilderness Cruises** for a peaceful morning or sunset cruise along the Murchison River.

Continue the adventures with a **Quad Biking tour** at Wago Beach, about 20km south of Kalbarri or from **Murchison Station**, 12km east of the town.

Wrap up your day with dinner at **Finlay's**, a local favourite.

Stay: Kalbarri

DAY 10: KALBARRI TO GERALDTON (218KM / 2.5HRS)

Start your day at the daily **pelican feeding** on the foreshore from 8.45am. Drive south along the Kalbarri Coastal Cliffs. Continue down George Grey Drive towards Geraldton but don't miss a stop at the pink lake.

As you drive through Northampton, make sure you take a break and discover the town's rich history and Indigenous culture.

Travelling with kids? Visit **Chapman Valley Fishing Park** and add in a stop for lunch at **Burnt Barrel**, known for its smoked meats and family-friendly vibe.

Once in Geraldton enjoy a sunset on the marina with fresh local seafood at **Skeetas**.

Stay: Geraldton

DAY 11:

EXPLORE GERALDTON

Explore Geraldton's mix of culture, history, and adventure. Take a **scenic flight** over the **Abrolhos Islands** or for the more tactile experience book a full-day tour or **multi-night cruise** around the islands. Dive into maritime history at the **Museum of Geraldton**, shop for locally farmed pearls at **Latitude Jewellers** or **Chimere Pearls**, and visit the HMAS Sydney II Memorial. For active travellers, Geraldton is a hotspot for kite surfing, windsurfing, and paddleboarding.

If visiting between July and September, take a detour inland to **Coalseam Conservation Park** for incredible wildflower displays - tours also available from Kalbarri and Geraldton.

You will be spoilt for choice with dinner venue options from the local distillery, **30 Knots Spirits**, the local brewery, **Batavia Brewing**, the trusted family-friendly sports bar, **Bullseye Birdies**, or choose to dine with rooftop views at **Old Man & the Sea**.

Stay: Geraldton

DAY 12:

GERALDTON TO DONGARA-PORT DENISON (64KM / 45MINS)

On your way south, stop to see **Greenough's** leaning trees and meet native animals at the **Greenough Wildlife Park**. Have lunch or a swim at **Ellendale Pool** (also a great camping spot!) before arriving in **Dongara-Port Denison**. Spend some time bushwalking and spotting **wildflowers** (July to September) close by at **Lesueur National Park**. Visit the ANZAC soldier sculptures at sunset, then grab dinner on the marina at **Southerly's**, or catch a seasonal film at the drive-in cinema.

Stay: Dongara-Port Denison

DAY 13:

DONGARA-PORT DENISON TO JURIE BAY (132KM / 1.2HRS)

Start your day with coffee and a treat from a local café, then head south to **Jurien Bay**.

Take a morning **sea lion tour**, try tandem **skydiving**, or join a fishing charter to catch your own dinner.

Prefer to unwind? Visit **Sandy Cape** for beach time and sandboarding, or walk the scenic **Three Bays Walkway** in **Green Head**.

Stay: Jurien Bay, Sandy Cape or Cervantes

DAY 14:

TURQUOISE COAST

Your last day on the coast!

Spend your final day exploring **Cervantes**. Enjoy a seafood lunch, or a pot-pulling tour, or factory tour at the **Lobster Shack**. Visit the **Pinnacles Desert** in Nambung National Park, with an added visit to the **Pinnacles Desert Discovery Centre & Gallery**, and stop at **Lake Thetis** to see the ancient thrombolites.

Afterwards, return your hire car in Perth and reflect on the epic journey along the Coral Coast Highway.

Looking for an easy, immersive way to explore? Join a guided journey along the

Coral Coast - day trips and multi-day itineraries available with **Autopia Tours**, **Proudback Tours**, **WA NT Tours**, **New Leaf Connect**, **D'Guy Journeys**, **Lumineer Tours**, **Australian Pinnacle Tours**.

AVERAGE SEASONAL TEMPERATURES (°C)

	Dec Feb	Mar May	Jun Aug	Sep Nov
Cervantes & Jurien Bay	30	26	20	23
Geraldton & Port-Denison	31	28	20	24
Kalbarri	33	29	22	26
Monkey Mia & Denham (Shark Bay)	31	29	23	26
Carnarvon	31	29	23	26
Coral Bay & Exmouth	37	33	25	31

WILDLIFE CALENDAR



	Best Time	Best Spots
Whale Sharks	March - August	Coral Bay & Exmouth
Humpback Whales	July - October	Coral Bay & Exmouth
Orcas	July - August	Exmouth
Turtles	Nesting: Dec - Feb Hatching: Jan - Mar	Dirk Hartog Island, Ningaloo & Mackerel Islands
Manta Rays	Year-round	Coral Bay
Dolphins	Year-round	Abrolhos Islands, Kalbarri, Monkey Mia & Ningaloo
Australian Sea Lions	Year-round	Jurien Bay, Geraldton & Abrolhos Islands
Dugongs	Year-round	Shark Bay & Ningaloo
Emus	Year-round	Denham town, Shark Bay & Exmouth town
Kangaroos	Year-round	Nambung National Park, Jurien Bay, Port Denison, Kalbarri, Shark Bay, Carnarvon
Birdlife	Year-round	Stockyard Gully National Park, Abrolhos Islands, Kalbarri National Park & Cape Range National Park
Black Footed Rock Wallabies	Year-round	Cape Range & Kalbarri National Parks
Echidnas	Year-round	Indian Ocean Drive, Kalbarri, Shark Bay & Exmouth

TRAVELLING WITH YOUR DOG

Exploring Australia's Coral Coast doesn't have to mean leaving your four-legged friend behind. From sandy stretches of beach to cosy campgrounds and even dog-friendly cafés, there are plenty of places where pets are welcome to join the adventure.

COASTLINES MADE FOR WAGGING TAILS

Many of the region's seaside towns have designated dog-friendly beaches where pups can splash in the shallows or chase a ball along the sand.

Top beaches:

- Hansen Bay, Cervantes
- Greys Beach, Geraldton
- Jakes Point, Kalbarri
- Little Lagoon, Shark Bay
- Pelican Point, Carnarvon
- McLeod's Beach, Exmouth

CAMP UNDER THE STARS

Several station stays, holiday parks and campgrounds welcome pets, so your best mate doesn't have to miss out. Plan ahead as some locations only have a limited number of pet-friendly sites.

ATTENTION: Dogs (and other pets) are not permitted in National Parks, this is to protect native wildlife and habitats as well as your furry friend due to heavy baiting. Be sure to plan ahead if your itinerary includes any of our National Parks.

EXCEPTIONS: Your animal may travel in a boat in marine parks but must not enter or exit the boat. Certified and trained assistance animals are permitted into a National Park.

DOG-FRIENDLY PIT STOPS

From breweries to cafés, the Coral Coast has plenty of spots where pets are part of the family. Many eateries offer outdoor seating where dogs are welcome - so you can sip your morning coffee or enjoy a meal with your pup by your side. A few of our favourites:

- Lobster Shack, Cervantes
- Burnt Barrel, Nanson
- Southerly's Harbour View Bar & Restaurant
- Finlay's, Kalbarri
- Flow Café, Geraldton
- Monkey Bar, Monkey Mia
- Froth Craft Brewery, Exmouth

A HELPING HAND ALONG THE WAY

Some attractions offer kennel facilities or local sitters so you can safely leave your pet for the day. Such as Nambung National Park, where kennels are located at the Cervantes Rangers Station. Check in with the local visitor centres to find out more.



TOP 7 PET-FRIENDLY PICKS



Exmouth beaches: McLeod's Beach & Pebble Beach are local favourites for off-lead fun.



Geraldton Foreshore: Long coastal walks and pet-friendly cafés nearby.



Wooramel River Retreat (Carnarvon): Camp under the gums with your puppy by your side.



Perfect Nature Cruises: Enjoy a marine life or sunset cruise in Shark Bay with your dog.



Ocean Park Aquarium (Shark Bay): Explore the marine life, then relax at the dog friendly café overlooking the water.



Old Tramway Walk Trail (Carnarvon): This 2.5km one-way walking path follows the route of the old tramway that ran to the jetty.



Good Boy Goes North: Pet-friendly stay providing nostalgic charm and modern day luxuries in Jurien Bay.

TIPS FOR TRAVELLING WITH YOUR PET

Coral Coast is home to a range of pet friendly locations from accommodation to restaurants



EVENTS CALENDAR

With food festivals, local grower's markets, wildflower displays, sporting events, and everything in between, here are some of the events being hosted in the Coral Coast in 2026.

Dongara Markets
DONGARA TOWN PARK
First Saturday of
every month
(Check with Visitor Centre
for changes)

**2026 Wave Rally World
Championships**
GERALDTON
9 Jan – 11 Jan

GAMEX 2026
EXMOUTH
13 March – 21 March

Carnarvon Speedway
Gascoyne Series
(night 1)
25 April

Shark Bay Speedway
Gascoyne Series
(night 2)
26 April

Gascoyne Dash
CARNARVON
May
**Mullewa Muster
& Rodeo**
MULLEWA
30 May, 2026
Carnarfin
CARNARVON
May/June

Weekly Growers Markets
CARNARVON
May – October

Backroads Gravel
CHAPMAN VALLEY
8 Aug 2026

**Outback Bloom
Festival**
MULLEWA
27 – 30 August

**92nd Mullewa
Agricultural Show**
MULLEWA
29 August

Gascoyne Food Festival
GASCOYNE
August/September

**Big Sky Readers
& Writers Festival**
GERALDTON
October 2026

**Kalbarri Community
Markets**
KALBARRI
Every Monday during
school holidays

DISCOVER
WHAT'S ON



ACTIVITIES

The best spots and times:



DEEP SEA FISHING
January – September
Abrolhos Islands, Kalbarri,
Carnarvon, Coral Bay,
Exmouth



SURFING
March – October
Dongara-Port Denison,
Kalbarri, Geraldton, Red Bluff,
Exmouth



WILDFLOWERS
July – October
National Parks: Nambung,
Lesueur, Coalseam, Kalbarri,
Shark Bay and Cape Range
Towns: Mullewa, Coorow,
Three Springs, Chapman
Valley, Kalbarri



WINDSURFING
October – April
Leeman, Dongara, Denham,
Geraldton, Carnarvon,
Exmouth



**EATING ROCK
LOBSTER**
Year-round
Cervantes, Geraldton, Kalbarri



STARGAZING
Year-round
Astrotourism towns, National
Parks, Lake Thetis. Yarra Yarra
Lakes, Cape Range National
Park, Kalbarri and Carnarvon



BEACH FISHING
Year-round
Cervantes, Jurien Bay, Port
Denison, Kalbarri, Shark Bay,
Carnarvon, Exmouth



A TASTE OF THE CORAL COAST

♀ SKEETAS RESTAURANT

From ocean to outback, Australia's Coral Coast is a region where flavours are as vibrant as the landscapes.

Freshly caught seafood, seasonal farm produce, paddock-to-plate dining and locally crafted brews all tell the story of a place that is shaped by its land and sea.

Food is at the heart of life along this coastline, where fishing boats haul in lobster, prawns and snapper at sunrise, and roadside stalls brim with Carnarvon seasonal fruit and veg, think melons, tomatoes and the infamous bananas, picked daily. Across the region, passionate chefs, growers and brewers are turning these ingredients into memorable dining experiences that connect travellers to the land and the people who call it home.

REGIONAL FOOD & BEVERAGE GUIDES

To make exploring easy, our regional **Food & Beverage Guides** bring together the best local stops for each destination. Whether

it's a casual coffee by the water, a seafood feast overlooking the Indian Ocean, or a hidden country pub serving hearty meals, the guides highlight the places that locals love, and visitors return to year after year.

The Coral Coast also knows how to celebrate its produce in style. Each winter, the **Gascoyne Food Festival** transforms the region into a stage for WA's top chefs and growers, with long-table dinners under the stars, hands-on cooking events and the exciting new **Taste of the Gascoyne Food Trail**.

In Geraldton, the annual **Shore Leave Festival** brings seafood and maritime heritage to the fore, with long-table lunches, tours, and coastal feasts that showcase the ocean's bounty. Together, these events invite travellers to meet the makers, share in their stories and experience the flavours of the region at their freshest.

Whether you choose to map out your own foodie road trip or time your visit with the festival, the Coral Coast invites you to slow down, taste widely and savour the journey as much as the destination.

♀ SAILS



STATION STAYS

FIND OUT
MORE



♀ WARROORA STATION

There's a certain magic to waking up on a working station along Australia's Coral Coast.

Morning light spills across wide-open plains, the salty scent of the ocean mingles with campfire coffee, and the rhythm of station life unfolds at its own unhurried pace.

Station Stays are more than a place to rest your head - they're an invitation to slow down, reconnect, and live closer to country. Set between rugged red earth and turquoise seas, these stays blend outback hospitality with coastal wonder. From family-run cattle stations with stories spanning generations to eco-retreats where regenerative practices are a way of life, each property opens a window into living deeply connected to land.

"When you wake to ocean air, share a meal around the fire, or look up to skies filled with a million stars, you understand what makes the Coral Coast special. Station Stays aren't polished - they're authentic, grounded, and unforgettable."

– Muriel (Warroora Station)

Sustainability here isn't a trend - it's a legacy. From eco-certified coastal camping at **Quobba** to solar-powered stays on **Dirk Hartog Island**, and from regenerative grazing at **Wooleen** to heritage conservation at **Murchison House**, these stations are guardians of both land and culture. Guests are invited to tread lightly - soak in Wooramel's artesian baths, camp next to the Ningaloo coast at **Warroora**,



♀ MURCHISON HOUSE STATION

or share stories by the fire at Bullara. Every stay is a genuine reflection of place - rooted in nature, rich in culture and truly unforgettable, offering not just rest but a chance to connect with the ecosystems and traditions that define this region.

From **Bullara Station's** famous scones served straight from the homestead kitchen to nights beneath a million stars at **Wooramel River Retreat**, every stay has its own character. Yet all share one thing in common: the freedom to disconnect from the everyday and reconnect with what matters.

Station Stays are for travellers who seek more than sights - they're for those chasing stories, connection, and a sense of place. And along the Coral Coast, there's no better way to discover the true spirit of Western Australia.



♀ BULLARA STATION

HIKES & TRAILS

♀ **BADJIRRAJIRRA LOOP WALK**

Few regions pack as much diversity into 1,100 kilometres as Australia's Coral Coast. Here, landscapes shift dramatically - from sweeping white beaches and rugged red cliffs, to wildflower-draped canyons and riverbeds that wind through ancient terrain. And with every change in scenery comes a new way to explore it: on foot.

INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY

The Indian Ocean Drive forms the southern gateway to the Coral Coast, and stepping off the highway reveals a network of scenic trails. The **Three Bays Walkway** (2.8 km) meanders along the Greenhead coast from South Bay to Anchorage Bay, with opportunities to spot ospreys, sea lions and dolphins. For a longer adventure, the **Turquoise Way Trail** (14.2 km) links Jurien Bay Marina to the Hill River mouth, passing by the Jurien Bay Jetty and foreshore.

Close by at **Lesueur National Park**, trails wind through low heathlands alive with colour during wildflower season. The

Gairdner Trail rewards walkers with sweeping views to Mt Lesueur and Mt Michaud, while the **Yued Ponar Trail** challenges hikers with its winding creeks and woodlands. For those seeking a deeper immersion, the **Yonga Trail** (26 km, two nights) offers a multi-day trek through valleys and wildflower-carpeted woodlands (in season).

KALBARRI'S GORGES & CLIFFS

Kalbarri National Park is defined by the dramatic Murchison River Gorge. Trails here range from the short but striking **Z-Bend River Trail** (2.6 km) to the challenging **Loop Hike** (8 km), weaving between riverbanks, cliffs and hidden swimming spots. Along the coast, the **Bigurda Trail** hugs towering cliffs, with lookouts perfect for spotting humpback whales on their migration.

WILDFLOWER COUNTRY MAGIC

From late July to early October, the inland towns of Mullewa, Mingenew and Carnamah burst into bloom. Trails such as the **Mullewa Bushland Trail**, the **Wildflower Walk**, and **Plateau Loop Trail** in **Coalseam Conservation Park** (3.2 km) guide visitors through fields of everlastings



DOWNLOAD
OUR FREE
HIKES AND
TRAILS GUIDE



♀ **BIGURDA TRAIL, KALBARRI**

and native orchids. The **Lakes Lookout Walk** (2 km) in Carnamah ends with views across Yarra Yarra Lakes - best visited at dawn, dusk, or even under starlight.

GERALDTON & CHAPMAN VALLEY

Where coast meets culture, Geraldton offers something for every explorer. In **Chapman Valley**, trails wind through wildflowers and rugged hills, while adventure seekers can tackle the **Chapman River Regional Park Nature Trail** (9.8 km). The region is also a growing hub for **mountain biking**, with a dedicated skills park and pump track adding excitement for two-wheeled explorers. History buffs can follow heritage walks like the **West End Heritage Trail** (2 km), the **Waterfront Heritage Trail** (4 km), or the **Bluff Point Heritage Trail** (2 km), while art lovers will appreciate the bold murals of **Rocks Laneway**, where historic buildings meet contemporary creativity.

SHARK BAY COASTLINE

Shark Bay's coastal walks reveal landscapes where red earth meets turquoise seas. The **Wanamalu Trail** (3.6 km) at Cape Peron (4WD access) traces cliff tops with sweeping ocean views, while the **Eagle Bluff Boardwalk** offers a short stroll above shallow waters teeming with marine life. The **Boolbardi Walk** (600 m) and **Nicholson Point Walk** (5 km) add variety, with birdlife, bushland and tranquil Little Lagoon all highlights.



♀ KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK

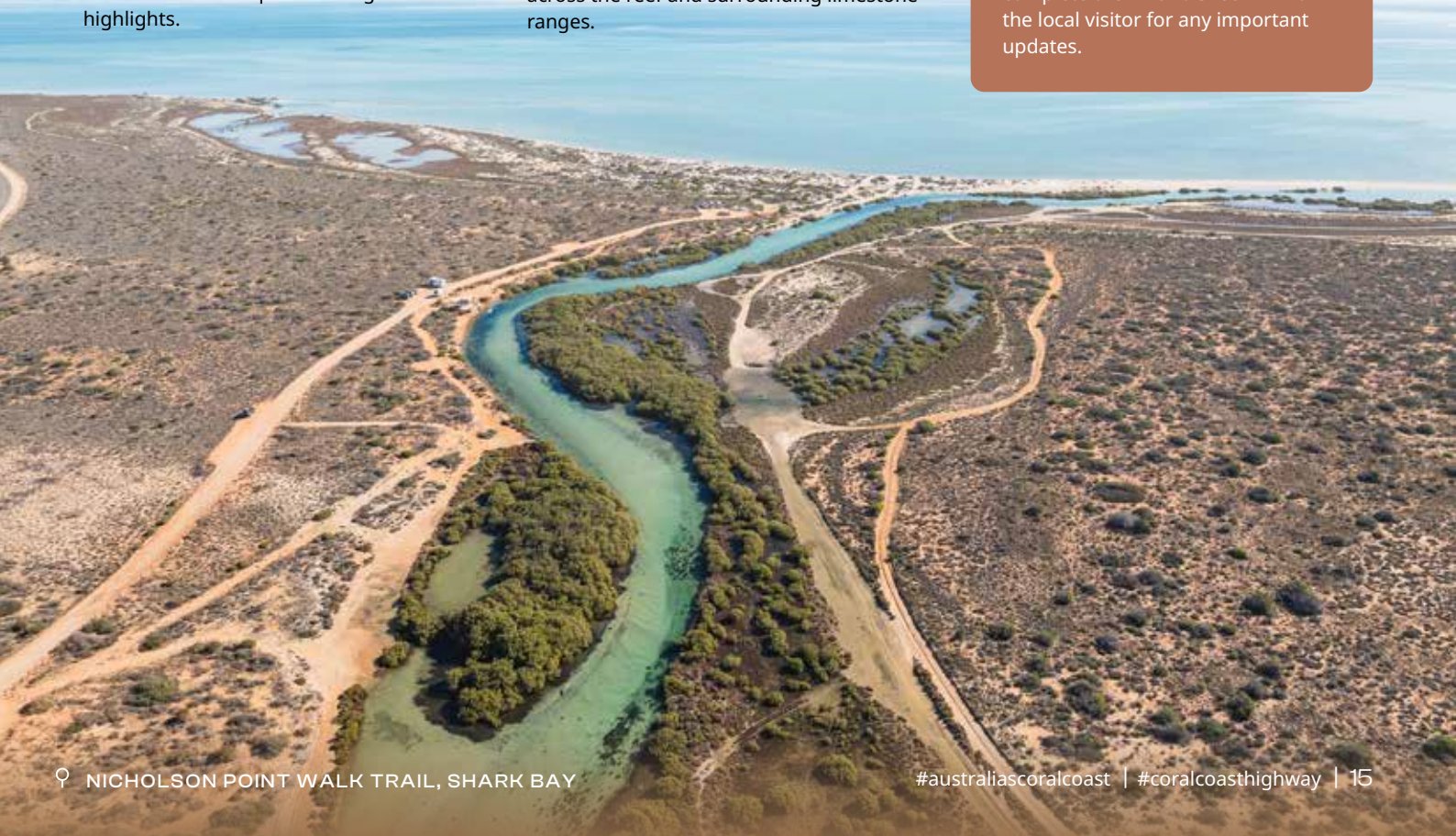
CAPE RANGE & NINGALOO

Near Exmouth, **Cape Range National Park** delivers trails framed by rugged gorges and reef views. One highlight is the **Yardie Creek Trail**, an easy walk along the rim of the gorge where deep blue waters cut through towering red limestone cliffs. It's the perfect vantage point for spotting rare black-footed rock wallabies basking in the sun and for looking out towards Ningaloo Reef. For another perspective, the **Mandu Mandu Gorge Trail** (3 km, Class 4) offers a more challenging hike with sweeping views across the reef and surrounding limestone ranges.



TIPS FOR HIKING THE CORAL COAST

Given the remote nature of many of the Coral Coast trails, visitors should come prepared. The region's many hikes and trails are best explored from March-October to avoid the extreme temperatures of the summer months, and visitors will need to carry sufficient water to complete their walk. Check in with the local visitor for any important updates.



♀ NICHOLSON POINT WALK TRAIL, SHARK BAY

UNDER CORAL COAST SKIES

Discover a world above as Australia's Coral Coast reveals some of the most stunning night skies in the Southern Hemisphere. With vast horizons, minimal light pollution and ancient landscapes as your backdrop, this region is made for stargazing.

WHY HERE?

The Coral Coast is home to several Astrotourism towns – Cervantes, Coorow, Mingenew, Three Springs and Shark Bay, as well as pristine dark-sky locations, meaning stars shine brighter here than almost anywhere else in the world. Outback gorges, red-cliff coastlines and tranquil salt lakes reflect the night sky, creating the perfect setting for both astrophotography and quiet wonder.

HOTSPOTS

- The Pinnacles, Nambung National Park
- Coorow Farm
- Kalbarri Skywalk & Nature's Window
- Vlamingh Head Lighthouse, Exmouth
- Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef, Exmouth
- Denham Beaches & Eagle Bluff, Shark Bay
- Station Stays
- Carnarvon Space & Technology Museum

JOIN A TOUR

- Autopia Tours
- Ningaloo Stars
- Australian Pinnacle Tours
- D'Guy Journeys
- Lumineer Adventure tours
- Wooramulla Eco Cultural Journeys
- Eco Abrolhos Cruises
- Star Tracks Astro Events

WHEN TO VISIT

January to March

Summer stargazing is spectacular, and dark nights are especially great times to see the Seven Sisters or Pleiades. On 3rd March, plan your Coral Coast holiday destination with a rare total lunar eclipse in mind.

April to August

Milky Way season and is the best time for seeing the vibrant core of our home galaxy. It's best seen, from Southern Hemisphere locations like the Coral Coast.

As the Milky Way shines bright – this is the best time to find the Aboriginal constellation "Emu in the Sky", formed by the dark spaces between the stars rather than the stars themselves. The emu stretches across the Milky way, with its head near the Southern Cross.

August to September

Look for Venus in the western sky after sunset. It dazzles on a Coral Coast evening and by mid-September, it will appear at its brightest for the year.

October to December

It's meteor shower time on the Coral Coast – Orionids in October, Leonids in November and Geminids in December. The moon phases are favourable, and dark night skies make the perfect backdrop to count as many shooting stars as you can!

Discover more of what's up to see in the night sky at www.astrotourismwa.com.au.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Coral Coast is home to some of the darkest night skies in the Southern Hemisphere - perfect for spotting the Milky Way.



♀ NATURE'S WINDOW, KALBARRI

REGIONAL FESTIVALS & EXPERIENCES

Gazing the Gascoyne

A unique initiative that reminds us why the Gascoyne should be WA's stargazing capital. Follow self-drive trails, join astro-tours, and take part in local events. From Carnarvon's Space Museum to Shark Bay's remote dark skies, it's a region-wide invitation to slow down and connect with the universe.

Gascoyne Food Festival

Some of the festival's most memorable dining experiences happen under the stars. From long-table banquets on station stays to chef-led feasts beneath the Milky Way, the region's food and night skies combine for evenings that are as much about atmosphere as they are about flavour.

Three Springs Silo Projection Project

Experience the Three Springs grain silos as they transform into Western Australia's largest outdoor cinema screen. Regular events feature films, live-stream stargazing, arts and multimedia by local and regional artists.

Ningaloo Sky Festival

Returning in 2027, this Exmouth-based festival blends live music, drone light shows, long-table dinners under the stars, and astronomy experiences that bring together culture, community, and science on the edge of Ningaloo Reef.

INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCES

♀ YAMAJI ART CENTRE, GERALDTON



♀ WOORAMULLA ECO CULTURAL JOURNEYS, CARNARVON

Gain a fascinating insight into the world's oldest living culture as you spend time with the ancient custodians of the land and soak up their breathtaking connection with the natural world. There are a range of indigenous experiences offered throughout Australia's Coral Coast, from guided tours to art galleries, cultural centres and drive trails.

WOORAMULLA ECO CULTURAL JOURNEYS | Carnarvon

Wooramulla Eco Cultural Journeys was born out of a lifelong dream and passion, for Rennee to share her Yinggarda heritage and culture, a passion for her country — the landscapes, the plants and the animals, and most of all, a passion for sharing this connection to country and culture with visitors to the region. With multiple tour experiences available you can share in the stories of Carnarvon including its flora and fauna, the stories of the stars in a stargazing tour or be enchanted by the Burrowing Bees (seasonal).

GWOONWARDU MIA | Carnarvon

Gwoonwardu Mia Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Centre is a multipurpose centre that celebrates the five language groups of the Gascoyne. Based in Carnarvon, the centre has worked with people from each of the local language groups to celebrate and share their stories and culture. As you walk through the interpretive centre, you'll explore many themes ranging from stories of the land to the ancient and continuing culture of the region, through to station stories and tales from the town of Carnarvon. Explore exhibits like the Sky Dome, which showcases a timelapse video of a starry sky, with commentary about the ancient art of stargazing for the Aboriginal community.

YAMAJI ART CENTRE | Geraldton

Located in the heart of Geraldton, Yamaji Art Centre provides professional services to support and develop Aboriginal artists living in the Lower Murchison region of Yamatji Country with a focus on sustaining cultural maintenance and arts practice while creating economic benefit. Yamaji Art Centre gives visitors an insight into the heritage and cultural stories of the Yamatji people.

YAMAJI DRIVE TRAIL | Geraldton

Yamatji is the name used to collectively identify Aboriginal people from the Midwest, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. The term Yamaji comes from the Wajarri language and means "man" or "human being". From the sandy beaches of Champion Bay, the tranquil waters of the Chapman and Greenough Rivers, to the red dirt landscapes of the lower Murchison, the Yamaji Drive Trail encompasses history, art and natural beauty. The Trail can be driven in 1 to 2 days, depending on how long you choose to stay at each site. Accommodation options are available in Geraldton, Greenough and Mullewa.

IRRA WANGGA LANGUAGE CENTRE | Geraldton

Housed within Geraldton's Bundiyarra Cultural Precinct, the Irrra Wangga Language Centre works to preserve, share

and promote the languages of the region's Aboriginal People. Here you can read and purchase books that recount Indigenous stories in language, with English translations, with some books coming complete with an audio pen which enables you to hear the stories in the words of the elders who spoke them. Be sure to set aside time to also visit the Aboriginal Yamatji War Memorial at Bundiyarra and pack a picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds.

WULA GURA NYINDA ECO CULTURAL ADVENTURES Shark Bay

Join Wula Gura Nyinda Eco Cultural Adventures for a unique life changing experience never to be forgotten. They offer a range of Aboriginal cultural experiences, kayak and wildlife adventures, four-wheel drive tours, and overnight and extended tours in the magnificent Shark Bay World Heritage Area. Where the red sand from the desert meets the blue water of the Indian Ocean, immerse yourself in nature and indigenous culture to discover the ancient traditions of local Aboriginal people.

NINGALOO GLASS BOTTOM BOAT Exmouth

In collaboration with Baiyungu Dreaming, join their Nyinggulu Cultural and Snorkelling Tour. Led by traditional custodians of the land, discover their deep spiritual connection with this incredible coastline and dive in for a snorkel to explore the vibrant marine life.



To discover more Aboriginal tours and experiences within Western Australia visit waitoc.com.au

INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE

The Indian Ocean Drive is a scenic journey commencing north of Perth through to the outskirts of Dongara-Port Denison. The drive allows you to enjoy the coastal towns of Cervantes, Jurien Bay, Green Head, Leeman, Port Denison and Dongara.

It is a picturesque yet relatively short road trip, making the destinations an easy weekend getaway or the first port of call on your journey north along the Coral Coast Highway.



INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE HIGHLIGHTS

-  Visit the Pinnacles of Nambung National Park
-  Explore Stockyard Gully Caves, near Leeman (4WD only)
-  Camp at eco-campsites; Sandy Cape, Cliff Head and Milligan Island
-  Catch and taste WA's famous western rock lobster in Cervantes
-  Land on pristine beaches with Skydive Jurien Bay
-  Swim with the rare Australian Sea Lion
-  Spend the day at the picturesque Hangover Bay, Cervantes
-  Explore wildflowers in biodiversity hotspot Lesueur National Park, near Jurien Bay



Best time to visit:
Year-round



Distance from Perth to the Pinnacles:
189 km



ASK A LOCAL

Turquoise Coast Visitor Centre

67 Bashford St, Jurien Bay, WA 6516

+61 8 9652 0870

✉ visitor@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

🌐 visitturquoisecoast.com.au

Dongara Port Denison Visitor Centre

9 Waldeck St, Dongara WA 6525

+61 8 9927 1404

✉ tourism@irwin.wa.gov.au

🌐 dongaraportdenison.com.au

3 MUST DO TRAILS



Three Bays Walkway, Greenhead

Iain Wilson Nature Trail, Badgingarra

Lesueur National Park Trails



Dongara
Port Denison



Leeman

Green Head



Jurien Bay



Cervantes



INDIAN OCEAN
DRIVE FOOD &
BEVERAGE
GUIDE



CERVANTES

Known across the globe for the fascinating Pinnacles Desert in Nambung National Park, Cervantes serves as the ideal base to enjoy a range of land and water-based activities. The coastal town is home to beautiful beaches for fishing and swimming as well as offering tasty fresh seafood.

THE PINNACLES

Located in Nambung National Park, just two hours north of Perth, the Pinnacles Desert is a truly unique landscape. Formed over 30,000 years, these limestone spires rise from golden sands across 17,000 hectares, creating an otherworldly scene.

Explore by car or on foot, and don't miss the Pinnacles Desert Discovery Centre for insights into geology, culture, and wildlife. Visit at sunset or join a stargazing tour to see the desert under a star-filled sky.

Prefer not to drive? Tours from Perth make the Pinnacles the perfect day trip - or the start of your Coral Coast adventure.

LEARN ABOUT LAKE THETIS & THROMBOLITES

Lake Thetis is one of only a few places in the world where you can see thrombolites, commonly regarded as "living fossils". It is believed that the lake became isolated from the sea approximately 4,800 years ago after sea levels dropped, and coastal dunes formed around the lake. Take a short walk along the 200m boardwalk (universal access) to the thrombolites where interpretive signage will give you an insight into what life was like at the dawn of time or continue along the path to complete the 1.5km loop walk around the lake.

A WORKING LOBSTER FACTORY

Whether you're here for a taste, a tour, or a touch of adventure, Lobster Shack in Cervantes has it all. Step behind the scenes on a Factory Tour, where you'll learn how Western Rock Lobsters are processed and shipped around the world. Jump aboard a Lobster Catching Tour to see the local fishermen in action, or between November and April, join a cruise to meet the playful Australian Sea Lions that call this stretch of coast home.

After the adventure, settle into the restaurant where freshly caught lobster takes centre stage.

CERVANTES ART TRAIL

The Art Trail features 23 pieces of art throughout the town of Cervantes, and references a range of topics particular to Cervantes, from its Spanish history, to its relationship with the ocean. This trail was lovingly developed by the Cervantes Historical Society and features sculptures and murals constructed from a range of materials including scrap farm machinery parts. Collect an art trail map from the visitor centre on Cadiz Street.

LOOKOUTS

The Hansen Bay Lookout offers a picturesque view of the ocean, Lake Thetis and the Cervantes town site. For panoramic views of the Indian Ocean and Mount Lesueur, check out the Molah Hill Lookout located halfway between Cervantes and Jurien Bay. Another scenic lookout can be found in Beekeepers Nature Reserve about 18km north of Jurien Bay with views of the coastline, beaches and hectares of flora.

ADMIRE THE FLORA & FAUNA

Nambung National Park is a vast expanse of coastal heathland covering over 17,000 hectares and is home to a range of amazing native plants and animals. From late winter to the end of spring, wildflowers bloom spectacularly throughout the park, with species such as wattles, quandong, yellow tail flower, thick-leaved fan flower, white clematis, cockies tongues, parrotbush and banksia species all visible. Visitors will also delight in viewing wildlife such as western grey kangaroos, cockatoos, emus, bobtail skinks and the occasional bird of prey.

HEAD TO HANGOVER BAY & KANGAROO POINT

Located in Nambung National Park, Kangaroo Point and Hangover Bay are situated a short distance from the Pinnacles Desert. Facilities at both sites include barbecues, shelters and toilets. While Kangaroo Point is a great spot to launch the boat or enjoy a secluded BBQ or picnic, Hangover Bay lends itself to snorkelling, surfing and windsurfing.

Note: the area immediately north of Kangaroo Point is a marine park sanctuary zone.

WEDGE ISLAND

Wedge Island is located north of Lancelin and south of Cervantes on the Western Australian coast some 180 km north of Perth. The Wedge Island Protection Association (WIPA) was established in 1968 and continues to this day, with its objective to ensure we enjoy and protect the environment and community and to further the common interests of the association and its members. On your way through, visit Wedge Island to get a sense of the old pioneering spirit in the self sufficient lifestyle of yesteryear, a little slice of history.



Cervantes is located just 2 hours' drive north of Perth along the Indian Ocean Drive.

JURIEN BAY

Twenty minutes drive north of Cervantes, Jurien Bay is a popular short-break destination offering a range of activities from wildflower spotting to snorkelling the Jurien Bay Marine Park, sea lion interactions and skydiving over pristine white beaches.

JURIEN BAY MARINE PARK

The Jurien Bay Marine Park is sheltered by a string of islands and reefs that make the surrounding ocean perfect for water activities. Signs at the main beach and boat harbour share information about marine species and bird life in the area. Swimming is safe in the tranquil inland harbour and beaches, with the marine park also offering excellent conditions for windsurfing, kitesurfing, recreational fishing and crabbing.

JURIEN BAY'S PLAYFUL LOCALS

Jurien Bay is home to one of the main breeding grounds for the rare Australian Sea Lion. Hundreds of sea lions live in the Marine Park, on the isolated Buller and North Fisherman Islands and Essex Rocks. Dedicated sea lion tours depart daily from Jurien Bay so you can get up close and personal with these friendly creatures.

SKYDIVE THE BAY

Get your adrenaline pumping and experience Jurien Bay from above! The multi-award winning Skydive Jurien Bay runs single, tandem and sports skydiving seven days a week.



When travelling the Indian Ocean Drive keep an eye out for Echidnas, which can often be spotted during the day between Dongara and Jurien Bay.

EXPLORE SANDY CAPE

Just 13km north of Jurien Bay, Sandy Cape Recreational Park is a sheltered haven perfect for camping adventures. Spend your days swimming, SUPing, snorkelling, fishing, or sandboarding down the dunes (bring your own board). Licensed road vehicles are permitted and can use the beach between the high and low water line. Look for signage before fishing, as there are restrictions in certain places. There are 88 campsites in the main area which are accessible by 2WD, with eco toilets available, and camping is also permitted in the 4WD-only areas to the north and south of Sandy Cape.

Reminder to book ahead and pets are welcome but must be kept on a leash in certain areas.

WWII REMAINS AT NORTH HEAD

4WD to North Head, following the tracks south from the Sandy Cape information bay, to find the well-preserved remains of a WWII radar installation with two intact shelters, original foundations and an underground tank. Due to their important military heritage, visitors are encouraged to treat the area and any remaining facilities with respect by parking in the designated parking area and walking the 300m to the shelters. Camping is not permitted and some areas are restricted fishing zones - refer to local signage.

THE TURQUOISE WAY

The 13.5km Turquoise Way trail is a sealed walking and cycling track stretching along the coast from Jurien Bay's marina to Hill River (half-way to Cervantes). Hire a bike and follow the trail for stunning coastal and Hill River estuary views. The trail is flat for the northern half of the ride with some undulations in the southern half.

LESUEUR NATIONAL PARK

Lesueur National Park is a global biodiversity hotspot renowned for its extremely high native plant diversity - the park contains over 1,100 species, amounting to 10% of Western Australia's known flora. Although stunning all year, the best time to visit is between August and October when wildflowers burst into bloom. Follow the 18.5km one-way sealed loop road to see the best that the scenic Mount Lesueur has to offer, or set off on one of the walk trails. Ranging from easy to hard in difficulty, there is a walking trail for everyone, the Gairdner Loop Trail (1.8km), Yued Pondar Trail (6km) and Yonga Trail (26km loop).

♀ SEA LION, JURIEN BAY



GREEN HEAD

Green Head is a small, friendly coastal town offering pristine beaches and a laid-back lifestyle providing the perfect holiday atmosphere. Situated on a headland, Green Head offers awesome fishing, scuba diving, snorkelling and swimming, and is home to a resident population of endangered sea lions. Green Head comes to life with colour when wildflowers bloom in spring.



♀ THREEBAYS WALKWAY

THREE BAYS WALKWAY

This 2.8km fully sealed walkway allows visitors to immerse themselves in the coastal landscape, experience its natural beauty and learn about the Aboriginal and European history of the area. The three bays along this walkway are the stunning South Bay, the picturesque and protected Dynamite Bay and the calm Anchorage Bay.

IT'S DYNAMITE

Dynamite Bay is ranked as one of Australia's best beaches. Enclosed by low-lying rocky cliffs, it's a safe swimming cove for children or novice swimmers.

MILLIGAN ISLAND

Between the towns of Green Head and Leeman you'll find Milligan Island, the only 'nature-based' short-term (maximum 72 hours) camping site within the Shire of Coorow. This eco-camping site is nestled behind a dune amongst vegetation and is ideal for RVs or self-contained travellers. Only a short walk from the campsite lies a tranquil beach, shallow reef and series of small rocky islands. The area is popular for swimming, snorkelling, kayaking, kite/wind surfing, surfing and fishing.

LEEMAN

Leeman is home to stunning turquoise waters, sandy white beaches and scattered islands harbouring diverse marine life. The coastline is popular for windsurfing and sailing, with picnic areas dotted along the way. Inland, you'll find the otherworldly Stockyard Gully National Park caves.

SURF & DIVE POINT LOUISE

The main surf break at Point Louise is a highlight for many, but its crystal-clear water is also a dream for snorkelling and diving. Marvel at the diverse array of tropical marine species along the reef or enjoy a kayak in one of the numerous bays a short drive north.

CAVING AT STOCKYARD GULLY

Discover ancient limestone caves leading to an underground river system in Stockyard Gully National Park, 20km inland from Leeman. Once used as a natural stock route for cattle in the late 1800s, today the sandy riverbed and lush vegetation guide you to tranquil picnic spots and cave entrances. Accessible by 4WD-only via the Coorow-Green Head Road and Cockleshell Gully Road, the caves are completely dark, so bring a torch and tread carefully. Keep an eye out for bats overhead and bee hives near the entrance.

Note: The area is subject to flooding after heavy rains. Dogs and camping are not permitted.



Green Head's white sandy beaches, secret islands and stunning reefs make it an ocean lover's dream

DONGARA & PORT DENISON

The twin towns of Dongara-Port Denison boast true coastal village charm, with the scenic Irwin River meandering between the two. Beautiful beaches provide ideal conditions for sailing, surfing, fishing, windsurfing, kitesurfing and swimming.

COMMEMORATE THE ANZACS

Located along Port Denison's Ocean Drive, opposite the lookout, stand 15 silhouettes of ANZAC soldiers made of sheet metal which commemorate the ANZACs and their role in WWI. The Shire of Irwin and the Dongara Retired Serviceman's League commissioned this beautiful visual memorial to serve as a tribute to the ANZACs and act as a reminder of their contribution to the country. The best time to visit is at sunset.

CAMPING AT CLIFF HEAD

Located among limestone cliffs and overlooking stunning turquoise waters, Cliff Head is a free nature-based campsite 38kms south of Dongara that's suitable for 2WD and large caravans. There are three camping sections - Cliff Head North, Cliff Head South and Cliff Head Central, the latter being the largest. Facilities include

eco-toilets, undercover area with sunk benches and tables, and a communal fireplace. Campers can stay for 3 nights within a 28-day period for \$20 per vehicle per night. Visit irwin.wa.gov.au for more information.

MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

The Dongara-Port Denison Drive-In Cinema opened in the 1960s and is among a handful of its kind still operating in Australia. It screens new movies every second Saturday night from October until May and regularly during school holidays. Tune your car radio to the movie and gather on camp chairs or snuggle in the car to watch the big screen under the stars. An onsite kiosk offers meals and snacks.

FISHERMEN'S OBELISK & SEAFOOD

For sweeping ocean views, head to Port Denison's Obelisk. Stand on the boardwalk and watch the waves roll over the reef and the activity at the fishing boat harbour during lobster fishing season. Visitors can access seafood coming in on the boats, available for purchase from the local fish market.

WEEKEND MARKETS

Stop in at the Dongara Markets to stock up on local produce, arts and crafts. Held on the first Saturday of every month from 8:30am - 12:30pm at the Dongara Town Park.

THUNGARA & HERITAGE TRAILS

Dongara and Port Denison offer six walking trails, each with a different theme and point of difference. Traverse the towns' most scenic locations; stroll the banks of the Irwin River, enjoy scenic coastal views and spot native flora and fauna. Historical trails showcase the culture of the Shire of Irwin, including a 4km Heritage Walk which takes in 28 heritage buildings throughout the twin towns. See the visitor centre for more information on the historical trails.

HIT THE BEACHES

Take a stroll along the coast or cruise along South Beach in your vehicle. South Beach is ideal for surfing, body boarding and kitesurfing, especially between November and January when shore winds and rolling waves make it perfect for downwinders, whilst Leander Reef, Granny's Beach and Nuns Pool are great for stand-up paddle-boarding and snorkelling.



CRUISE ALONG THE INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE



STAY FOR 3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS



YEAR ROUND



♀ PINNACLES, NAMBUNG NATIONAL PARK

DAY 1

PERTH TO DONGARA

(349KM / 3.75 HRS)

Rise early and make your way north from Perth along the Brand Highway to **Dongara-Port Denison** and **Greenough**, roughly a 4-hour drive. Take a detour inland to **Ellendale Pool**, a striking waterhole carved out by the Greenough River and Hill escarpment, where you can enjoy a picnic, swim or paddle. Families travelling with kids might like to stop in at **Greenough Wildlife Park** on the way back to the coast to meet some of the rescued and rehabilitated animals that call this sanctuary home.

As evening sets in, head to the coast and enjoy a sunset from the balcony at **Southerly's Harbour View Bar and Restaurant**. If you're visiting in summer, the town's Drive-In Cinema adds a nostalgic twist to the night, or you can source your own fresh catch at the Port Denison fish market for a simple DIY dinner.

Overnight: Dongara-Port Denison.

DAY 2

EXPLORE DONGARA

Begin the day with a wander along Ocean Drive to see the impressive ANZAC memorial sculptures that look out across Nunn's Pool. Those looking to dive deeper into the region can join a locally owned **New Leaf Connect tour**, one of the only

small group and transport providers in the Mid-West, offering tailored experiences from cultural insights to wildflower adventures between August and October. Continue south along the Indian Ocean Drive and stop at **Green Head** to explore the Three Bays Walkway, a scenic trail connecting Dynamite, South and Anchorage Bays where you can enjoy a beach walk or swim. Seeking a bushwalk instead? the Yued Ponar Trail in Lesueur National Park offers spectacular views, wildlife and wildflowers in season. In the evening, unwind with simple fish and chips by the beach or marina.

Overnight: Jurien Bay or Cervantes

DAY 3

JURIEN BAY TO PERTH

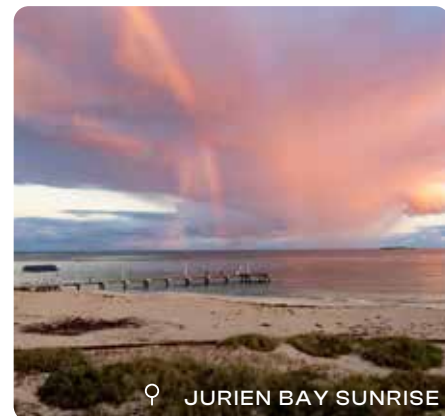
(218KM / 2.5 HRS)

Start the morning with coffee at **Screaming Mudlark Coffee Company**, a much-loved Jurien Bay favourite. From here, choose your own adventure: join **Turquoise Safaris** or **Jurien Bay Oceanic** on a **sea lion tour** to encounter the rare and playful Australian sea lions in their natural habitat, or take to the skies with **Skydive Jurien Bay**, where you'll freefall over the turquoise coastline and land right on the beach.

Driving south, pause at **Lake Thetis** near Cervantes to walk the 1.5km loop and view the ancient thrombolites that line the shore. Lunch is best enjoyed at **Lobster**

Shack, where you can savour freshly caught lobster overlooking the Indian Ocean. Beyond dining, the Shack also offers factory tours, lobster-catching trips and seasonal sea lion cruises between November and April.

In the afternoon, explore the **Pinnacles Desert** in Nambung National Park. Wander or drive among thousands of limestone spires and stop in at the **Pinnacles Desert Discovery Centre** to learn more about their geology, wildlife and Aboriginal significance. If you prefer not to self-drive, companies such as **Australian Pinnacle Tours**, **WA NT Tours**, **Lumineer Adventure Tours** and **Autopia Tours** offer return trips from Perth that highlight this unforgettable landscape. From here, make your way back to Perth, with memories of your journey along the Indian Ocean Drive.



♀ JURIEN BAY SUNRISE

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A romantic couple is seen from behind, sitting on a fallen log in a vast field of vibrant pink wildflowers. The sun is setting in the background, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. The field of flowers stretches out to the horizon, with some trees visible in the distance.

WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

Less than 2 hours drive north of Perth along the Brand Highway or Midlands Road, visitors will witness an abundance of colour as wildflowers bloom spectacularly during wildflower season (late July to early October). From Dandaragan in the south to Geraldton in the north, and the inland farming towns of Coorow, Carnamah, Eneabba, Three Springs, Mingenew and Mullewa, the region comes to life and offers a range of nature trails and heritage-focused activities along the Wildflower Way and Midlands Route.

WILDFLOWER COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



See blankets of everlastings in Coalseam Conservation Park



Enjoy a picnic and sunset on Mingenew Hill



Find the rare Wreath Leschenaultia Flower at Pindar



Stargaze the dark skies of Astrotowns found in Wildflower Country



4WD around Lake Logue near Eneabba and spot native wildlife



Learn about historical buildings on the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Trail



Hike a variety of trails in the region



Take a photo at the World's Biggest Tractor, Carnamah



3 MUST DO TRAILS



Mullewa Wildflower Trail – 2.7 km

Coorow Community Farm Trail – 1 km

Coalseam Conservation Park – 3.2 km



Best time to visit:

Late July – early October



Distance from Perth to Coalseam:

390 km



ASK A LOCAL

Dandaragan & Badgingarra

📍 Dandaragan Rd,
Dandaragan WA 6516

☎ +61 8 9651 4071

🌐 dandaragan.wa.gov.au

Coorow Visitor Information

📍 Cnr. Main & Bristol Sts,
Coorow WA 6515

☎ +61 8 9952 1266

🌐 coorow.wa.gov.au

Eneabba and Carnamah

📍 33-37 Macpherson St,
Carnamah WA 6517

☎ +61 8 9951 7000

🌐 carnamah.wa.gov.au

Three Springs (open Jul - Oct)

📍 132 Railway Rd,
Three Springs WA 6519

☎ +61 8 9954 1001

🌐 threesprings.wa.gov.au



DANDARAGAN

The Dandaragan area is home to lush pastures and plentiful crops produced from fertile farming land, meaning that the area is home to an abundance of flora and fauna. In fact, the name "Dandaragan" is of Indigenous origin, and is believed to mean "good kangaroo country". Dandaragan has a beautiful wildflower viewing area with most species flowering in late winter and spring.

THE DANDARAGAN WAY

A scenic drive from Regan's Ford through Dandaragan to Badgingarra, offers views of creeks, rolling hills, historic buildings, marri trees and flocks of white corellas and cockatoos.

ST ANNE'S CHURCH

This charming Anglican Church, constructed between 1885 and 1887 is made from local soap stone from Kayanaba, a nearby property, and features an interesting gothic arch at its entry.

WOLBA WOLBA (AGGIE'S COTTAGE)

Situated on the Badgingarra Road, 7km from Dandaragan, this brick and stone cottage was erected in 1871 and is still used today by local craft and historical groups. The cottage is neighboured by a fresh water lake, which is home to a variety of water birds.

BADGINGARRA

Badgingarra is situated north of Dandaragan at the edge of the Badgingarra National Park. Renowned for its diverse bushland, the area comes to life during late winter and spring when wildflowers bloom.

JINGEMIA CAVE AT WATHEROO NATIONAL PARK

It is believed that Jingemia translates to "Devils Hole" and once you locate it within Watheroo National Park - you will understand why! The cave almost looks like a sinkhole and is easy to view from the picnic shelter area located next to the cave's opening. It is a short grade 3 walk from the car park to the cave. Entry to the cave is not permitted due to the very steep climb in and out.

BADGINGARRA NATURE TRAIL

The 3.5km Badgingarra Nature Trail departs from and returns to the Badgingarra Road House on the Brand Highway. This two-hour walk is incredible in spring, when the bushland is bursting with colour.

MARVEL AT LESUEUR NATIONAL PARK

Covering almost 27,000 hectares, Lesueur National Park is renowned for its conservation, picturesque landscape and incredible biodiversity. Flora found within the park includes, acacias, hibbertias, leschenaultias, orchids, and kangaroo paws (including the rare black kangaroo paw).



PINK EVERLASTINGS

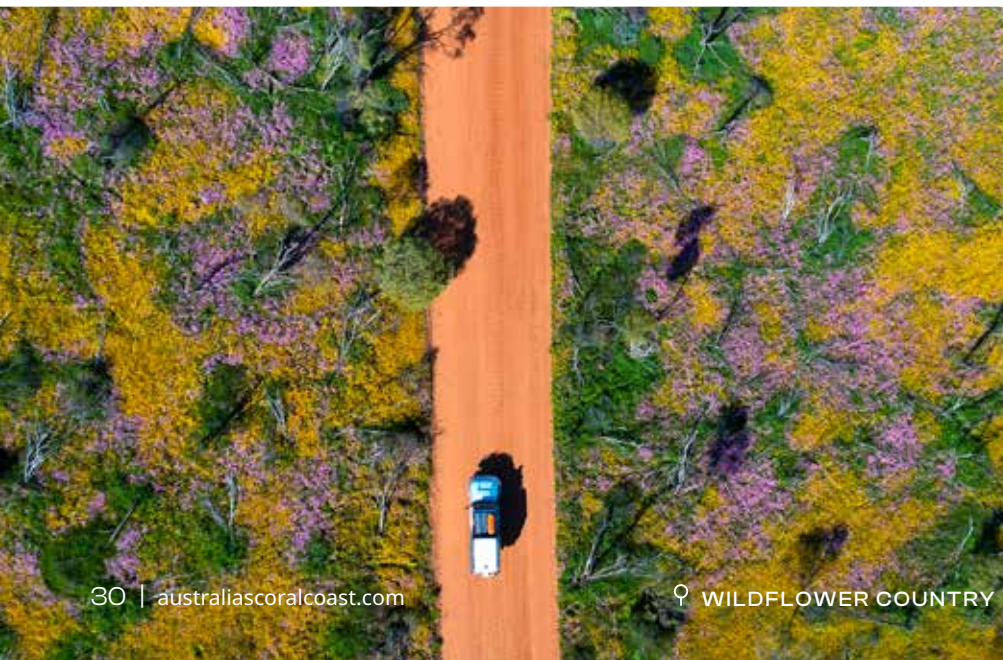
Flora flourishes in the months of spring, with beautiful wildflowers emerging from the heath. The Honey Possum is found only in the Kwongan area, in particular the Lesueur National Park. Karda Reserve is the perfect spot to set up camp and explore Lesueur National Park and surrounding parks. Other rare wildlife includes a variety of lizards, snakes, frogs & mammals. The Lesueur Scenic Drive is the most comprehensive way in which to explore the Park, as this passes the most picturesque areas, and is scattered with regular lay-bys allowing breaks to stop and take in the breathtaking scenery.

VERN WESTBROOK WALK

This 1.5km heritage and wildflower walk is situated 3.5km off the Brand Highway on North West Road, between the original Badgingarra town site and the town centre. In this area of unique biodiversity, learn about the 70 million year old history of the Yallalie Meteorite Impact Zone.

IAIN WILSON NATURE TRAIL

This 1.5km trail lies within the protected Badgingarra National Park and features many species of wildflowers including Badgingarra's emblem, the black kangaroo paw. It is also home to numerous reptiles, emus, kangaroos and a variety of birds including bustards and wedge-tailed eagles.



ENEABBA

The Eneabba sandplain is a world renowned biodiversity hotspot, supporting native vegetation known as Kwongan - the Aboriginal word for low, hard scrub and heathland. Kwongan of the Eneabba region is extremely diverse and includes many species of flora.

WALK THE WILDFLOWERS OF WESTERN FLORA

Western Flora Caravan, Camping & Tourist Park is an ideal place to base yourself when visiting for the wildflowers. It has a great number of individual species growing on the property, which can be explored via the walking trails. With plenty of space for the kids to play, and with kangaroos as neighbours, this is the ideal bush setting from which to explore wildflowers.

TATHRA NATIONAL PARK

Located north-east of Eneabba this National Park is striking during the wildflower season. During spring, the Park is full of bush flowers and kangaroo paws.

BEEKEEPERS RESERVE

Located about 20km north of Eneabba, to the west of the Brand Highway, Beekeepers Reserve is an area in which a great variety of wildflowers bloom during peak season.



FUN FACT

Tathra is a local Indigenous word meaning 'beautiful place'.

SLEEP UNDER THE STARS AT LAKE INDOON

Lake Indoon is the perfect spot to set up camp after a day of exploring. Enjoy a day on the water, then unwind beneath the stars with a stay at the onsite camping area, which includes BBQ facilities, fresh water and ablution amenities. A \$5 donation can be made in the honesty box, with a maximum stay of 72 hours. For more information, visit carnamah.wa.gov.au.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE LAKE LOGUE

Lake Logue is a large seasonal freshwater lake. The 35km track is suitable for 4WD vehicles only and provides a variety of conditions, from knee-deep sand to mud flats to rocky ridges. Animal and bird life are abundant.

COOROW

Coorow is a charming, inland farming town with a strong agricultural history - the first settlers raised sheep and horses in the area. Remnants of the area's farming history are still evident today amid beautiful gardens.

STARGAZING AT TOUCHE ROAD LAKES

Touche Road is a local gravel road where you can access a variety of outlooks across salt lakes. If you travel 8kms from town

along Touche Road, you'll come across the lake system. From this point, there are various locations along the road. In winter, water reflects the beautiful Milky Way. In summer, the salt basins create a stark landscape framed by the night sky. There are remains of old fences across some of the lakes which make an interesting addition to images.

COOROW FARM & THE BART MAILEY MEMORIAL TRAIL

Take a walk along the Bart Mailey Memorial Walk Trail (1.2km) to the historic Coorow Farm whilst enjoying the stunning array of everlastings, pink fairy orchids and a range of other wildflowers. Alternatively, the Coorow Farm also offers a picturesque wildflower drive.

ALEXANDER MORRISON NATIONAL PARK

Located on the Central West Coast Sandplain, 50km west of Coorow, Alexander Morrison National Park is home to beautiful wildflower displays, particularly from August to October. The Park consists of low scrub on undulating sandplain hills, interspersed with small streams and tall eucalypts.



♀ BANKSIA

CARNAMAH

The Carnamah area is one of the richest parts of the state for flowering plants, which burst into colour during the annual wildflower season from late July until October.

HISTORIC CARNAMAH

The Carnamah Historical Museum is located in an historic stone building, please visit their website for opening hours. Other historic buildings in Carnamah include the St Andrews Church (designed by Monsignor John Hawes), the Bank (now converted to an art gallery) and the Uniting Church (now converted to a café which is open during wildflower season).

WANDER MACPHERSON STREET

Take a stroll along Macpherson Street and learn about the town's history. Continue along the Walk Trail to Macpherson Homestead (built in the 1860s). Stop by to see the exterior of the restored homestead and its ruinous buildings. The front verandah offers a picturesque view of the Carnamah town site and surrounding farmland. The local community welcomes you to use telescopes and binoculars and enjoy an evening of stargazing here.

STARS AND SUNSETS AT SALT LAKES

Walk from the centre of town up to the scenic Lakes Lookout (found 1km out of town on Carnamah-Eneabba Road) where you can peer out over the Yarra Yarra Lake System. Time your visit at sunset to watch

the colours of the lake change. Depending on the season you might see salty pink lakes in summer, to the deep blue lakes in winter. A picnic shelter is located at the lakes lookout. As an alternative to the lookout, visitors can also access Yarra Yarra Lake via a good gravel road, approximately 16km off the Carnamah-Eneabba Road. During Spring, Yarra Yarra is a great place to stargaze. Much is visible with the naked eye and also a great time to get out your telescope.

WORLD'S BIGGEST TRACTOR

Carnamah is home to the World's Biggest Tractor, standing at 11.5 metres high and 16 metres long, you won't want to miss this awesome attraction. The tractor is a five-times replica of the Chamberlain 40K, which was the first tractor manufactured in Western Australia in 1949.

THREE SPRINGS

Located 20km north-west of Carnamah, Three Springs is a quaint country town decorated by beautiful wildflowers during late winter and spring.

DRIVE & WALK THE WILDFLOWERS

Take a drive from Robinson Road to Arrowsmith River Crossing in late July – October and witness a spectacular display of blooming wildflowers. Visitors can gain an insight into the history of the Three Springs area and see some of the region's magnificent wildflowers in season by taking a stroll along the Heritage Walk.

VISIT THE WORLD'S LARGEST TALC MINE

Take in the 360 degree panoramic view at the Talc Mine Lookout, located 10km east of Three Springs. This is the largest Talc mine in the world, with an annual production of 100,000 tonnes.

ARRINO GARDENS

Learn about native plants and "bush tucker" at the Arrino Gardens, located 20km north of Three Springs. The garden is scattered with informative panels focusing on the history of the town site and significance of the native plants in the garden.

SILO PROJECTION

Bringing art, light, and local stories together, the Three Springs Silo Projection transforms the town's iconic grain silos into a stunning night-time attraction. Illuminated in March, September and December, this installation celebrates life in WA's wildflower country in a truly unique way.

PINK LAKES

Just outside of town, you'll find a series of lakes that turn varying shades of pink during the spring. The most accessible is just south of town along the Midlands Road.



♀ THE BIG TRACTOR, CARNAMAH





♀ MINGENEW

MINGENEW

Mingenew is located in the heart of Wildflower Country with blankets of stunning everlastings and various orchid varieties. Close to Coalseam Conservation Park, the town is nestled amongst stunning natural landscapes and is known for its friendly locals.

COALSEAM CONSERVATION PARK

Located between Mingenev and Mullewa, Coalseam Conservation Park is arguably Western Australia's holy grail for wildflower lovers. Many different species transform the park into a carpet of colour in springtime showcasing the state's high diversity. Magnificent views are offered from the Irwin lookout and marine fossils are to be found embedded in the banks of the Irwin River below. All year round Coalseam Conservation Park provides a wealth of insight into the rich geological history of the region. Note: Please keep to marked trails to preserve the flowers for the future.

THE PLATEAU LOOP AT COALSEAM

The 3.2km Plateau Loop trail starts at Miners Picnic area. Pink, white and yellow

Everlastings spread out on either side of this trail as it crosses the Irwin River and takes you through a rare eucalypt woodland to the plateau ridge where you can enjoy sweeping valley views.

CAMP AMONG THE FLOWERS

Pitch a tent at the popular Miners campsite in Coalseam Conservation Park – but be prepared for crowds during weekends and in the wildflower season. A limit of a three-night stay is imposed from July – October. Overflow camping is available for tents at Breakaway. Other RV friendly sites close to Mingenev include Enanty Barn and Yandanooka Hall.

MINGENEV HILL

Located in town, Mingenev Hill is the ideal place for holiday makers to have a rest and view the stunning landscape from high above, for as far as the eye can see. Wander or drive over the railway line on Mingenev – Mullewa Road. It's perfect for wildflowers, picnics and shutterbugs alike! At the bottom of the hill is Drivers Rest - a great spot to take a break and discover Mingenev's rich droving heritage.

SUNSET ON MINGENEV HILL

Enjoy endless views across Mingenev's beautiful breakaway country while

overlooking a carpet of blooming wildflowers below. 'The Hill' is the perfect spot for a picnic lunch or a champagne sunset, the perfect finish after a day of exploring wildflowers.

DEPOT HILL

Just 12km northwest of Mingenev is Depot Hill Reserve which was used as a rifle range during World War II. Today it is enjoyed by locals and visitors alike overlooking the Irwin River. A meandering pathway on Depot Hill will give you unparalleled access to a rich, rare and colourful assortment of wildflower species. Grab lunch from the Mingenev Bakery, take a blanket and a camera and head off to discover one of Western Australia's true wildflower hotspots.

YELLOW FLOWERS AND SHINING STARS OF YANDANOOKA

Yandanooka is a tiny town located between Three Springs and Mingenev on the Midlands Road. Its name is of Aboriginal origin and thought to mean "plenty of hilly country in sight". During Wildflower season, we agree! With good winter rains Yandanooka is often blanketed in yellow everlasting carpets. RV friendly camp sites are available at Yandanooka Hall. Yandanooka is also a perfect location from which to enjoy stunning clear night skies.

MULLEWA

Mullewa is one of the northern gateways to Wildflower Country and has long been known for the stunning displays of everlastings and flowering shrubs along roadsides and in surrounding nature reserves of the district. Two of the five walk trails in Mullewa are dedicated to wildflowers and are located on the outskirts of the town centre.

DRIVE THE WILDFLOWER LOOPS

The Northern Loop and The Southern Circuit take in Mullewa's natural beauty, outlying areas and unique historical and geographical features. The trails include special wildflower locations such as Coalseam Conservation Park and the fascinating Bindoo Hill, a glacial moraine where ice smoothed rocks dropped as the face of the glacier melted around 225 million years ago. Each site features a creative rusty steel sculpture with an interpretive panel to explain the main story associated with the place. A number have picnic tables and fire-rings, and all roads can be driven in standard 2WD vehicles (with care on unsealed sections).

MULLEWA BUSHLAND TRAIL

A 2.3km loop, the trail starts and finishes at the Mullewa Scenic Lookout, or can be accessed from the Information Bay on Gray Street. Interpretation signage focuses on natural heritage and indigenous culture.

MULLEWA WILDFLOWER SHOW

The Mullewa Wildflower Show is held in late August/early September and brings the best of the bush to the town with all that is flowering in the region, including wreath flowers, daisies, hakeas, grevilleas, orchids, eremophilas, wattles and many other local species.

MONSIGNOR HAWES HERITAGE TRAIL

Celebrating the enormous contribution architect-priest John Hawes made to the region, the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Trail showcases a variety of buildings of his design and other sites significant to his life. Taking seven years to build, The Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Peter and St Paul is a fantastic example of his work with the Priest House located next to the church.

WREATH FLOWERS OF PINDAR

Drive 30kms east of Mullewa to the little township of Pindar where you can spot the rare and exquisite Wreath *Leschenaultia* flower. Once at Pindar, you drive 10kms north on the Pindar-Berringarra Road (unsealed), the flowers are located on the shoulders of the road. Made from dozens of flowers with frilled petals of red, white and pink, be sure to pull over off the road (but not onto the flowers) to ensure road safety. These beautiful flowers bloom between August and October, with September often being their optimal month.



♀ MULLEWA



♀ WREATH FLOWERS, PINDAR



EXPLORE MORE
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EVERLASTINGS TRAIL

🕒 STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS 📅 JULY TO OCTOBER

♀ CORNFLOWER

DAY 1

COOROW TO MINGENEW

Coorow is a charming inland farming town that hosts beautiful displays of everlastings and other wildflower species like the Pink Fairy Orchid. Enjoy the 1.2km **Bart Mailey Memorial Walk Trail**, or if you're not keen on walking? Take the scenic drive at **Coorow Farm**.

Heading through **Carnamah** keep your eyes peeled for the endangered Carnamah Bell that is only found within a 100km radius of the town. The surrounding farmlands put on a show of everlastings for you to admire on your way through. Feeling peckish? Stop in at **One L of a Good Feed** for lunch (Wed-Sun).

Three Springs' floral emblem is the Eucalyptus Rose Mallee, a rare species that bloom on the hospital grounds, Federation Park and along Sweetman Road. Spot this rare treat while on your everlasting hunt.

Mingenew is the true heart and soul of wildflower country where you will find yourself surrounded by spectacular breakaway country, with landscapes covered with blankets of canola set against impossibly blue skies and rich red earth. Here take the 3.2km **Plateau Loop Trail** through carpets of pink, white and yellow everlasting flowers.

Overnight: Mingenew

DAY 2

MINGENEW TO MULLEWA

In the morning take a little side quest to **Depot Hill**. The **Depot Hill Reserve**

offers stunning views across Mingenew's breakaway country while overlooking carpets of blooming wildflowers below. It is the perfect spot to stop and enjoy a picnic with a view.

Travelling north between Mingenew and Mullewa is a wildflower 'must-do' - the **Coalseam Conservation Park**. The park is a hot spot for everlasting carpets with stunning white, pink and yellow everlastings as far as the eye can see. A notable trail during wildflower season is the 3.2km **Plateau Loop Trail**, showcasing the abundant flora, fauna, and geology of the park.

In Mullewa explore the **Everlasting Cultural Trails**, rich with blooming flora and history. When entering, look along the highway for bush flowers and orange Daviesia (the bacon and egg flower). East of Mullewa is **Pindar** where the rare wreath flowers are located along the roadside and Canna where orchids and everlasting fields bloom. West of Mullewa is **Tenindewa** where yellow gentlemen's buttons and everlastings grow wild.

Overnight: Mullewa

DAY 3

MULLEWA TO KALBARRI

Continuing northwest of **Mullewa**, you will find yourself within the **Chapman Valley**, known for its fertile soils and beautiful landscapes. Take any of the scenic drives through fields of everlastings and springtime wildflowers that bloom in colours of pink, blue and white. Notably one of the best drives is between Nanson and Yuna. If travelling on the weekend,



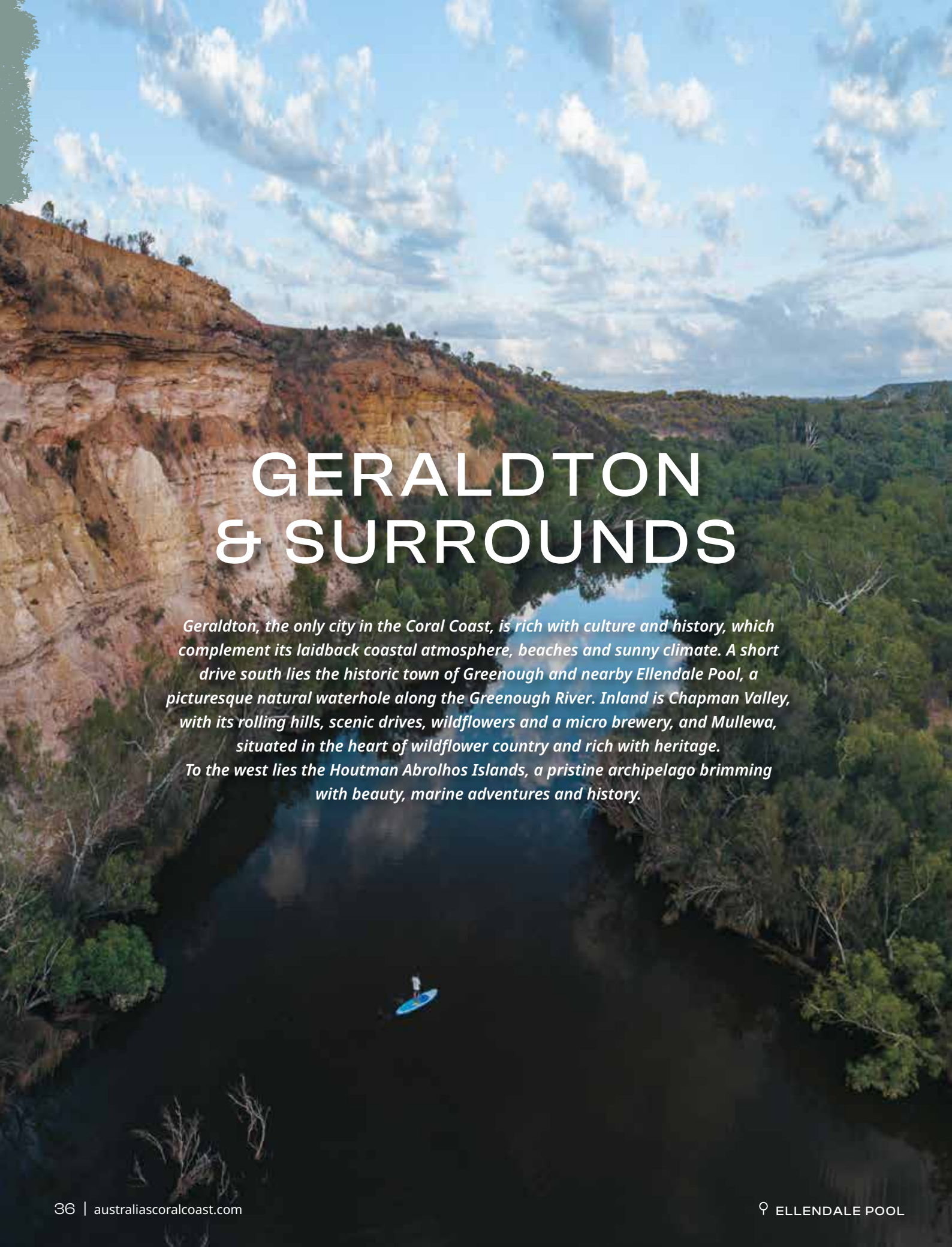
stop into Nanson and visit the **Burnt Barrel** for a gourmet outback barbecue and handcrafted beer.

Stopping through **Northampton**, one of Western Australia's oldest settlements outside of Perth, you can discover the town's rich history and wildflowers. The **Chiverton House Museum** often has a display of blooming everlastings encompassing the house, or the **Northampton Botanic Line** walking trail will have Melaleuca, Acacia, Grevillea, Verticordia and everlasting wildflowers.

Continue out to the coast towards **Kalbarri** where you should stop at **Northampton's Elephant Lookout** for wild orchids. Closer to Kalbarri you will pass the iconic **Hutt Lagoon (Pink Lake)** which is a nature lovers must, and an awesome photo opportunity.

Kalbarri National Park is home to breathtaking coastal cliffs and deep river gorges. The National Park has roughly 800 species of native flora, many of which are endemic, including the coveted Kalbarri spider orchid. Don't forget the **Coastal Cliffs**, where the walkways and trails are lit up with colour - obtain a thorough wildflower map and guide from the local Visitor Centre.

Overnight: Kalbarri



GERALDTON & SURROUNDS

Geraldton, the only city in the Coral Coast, is rich with culture and history, which complement its laidback coastal atmosphere, beaches and sunny climate. A short drive south lies the historic town of Greenough and nearby Ellendale Pool, a picturesque natural waterhole along the Greenough River. Inland is Chapman Valley, with its rolling hills, scenic drives, wildflowers and a micro brewery, and Mullewa, situated in the heart of wildflower country and rich with heritage. To the west lies the Houtman Abrolhos Islands, a pristine archipelago brimming with beauty, marine adventures and history.

**Best time to visit Geraldton:**

Year-round

Best time to visit the Abrolhos Islands:

March-October



Distance from Perth to Geraldton:

4.5 hrs or 413 km



Nexus Airlines and Qantas Airlines fly

daily between Perth and Geraldton

**ASK A LOCAL**

Geraldton Visitor Centre

📍 24 Chapman Rd, Geraldton

☎ +61 8 9956 6670

✉ info@visitgeraldton.com.au

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Houtman
Abrolhos
Islands



Nabawa
(Chapman Valley)



Geraldton



Greenough



GERALDTON & SURROUNDS HIGHLIGHTS



Marvel at the Houtman Abrolhos Islands on a scenic flight, day trip or live-aboard cruise



Discover Maritime history at the Geraldton Museum



Family fun at the Chapman Valley Fishing Park



Relax or camp at the scenic Ellendale Pool



Base yourself in Geraldton to explore wildflower hotspots



See artworks from local Aboriginal artists from Yamatji Country



Shop the uniquely coloured Abrolhos Islands pearls



Take a picture at sunset at the Horizon Ball



Visit the historical village of Greenough



Enjoy Chapman Valley for a mountain bike ride, wildflowers or walking trails



GERALDTON
FOOD &
BEVERAGE
GUIDE



3 MUST DO TRAILS



Yamaji Drive Trail – 195 km

Chapman River Regional Park Nature Trail – 11 km

Greenough River Nature Walk – 17 km



📍 YAMAJI ART CENTRE

GERALDTON

The city of Geraldton has established itself as a trendy and diverse seaside destination with vibrant cafes, great food, street art and festivals, coloured pearls and boutique jewellery, and indigenous culture and art trails.

WATERSPORTS

Geraldton's coastline offers an array of water based activities, including swimming, snorkelling, diving, surfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing and stand-up paddleboarding. The central Town Beach is great for families with BBQs, free WiFi, picnic tables, a playground and a great waterpark for the kids as well as a Youth Precinct, and during the warmer months there are opportunities for fly boarding, jet skiing, wake skiing and tubing. Consistent summer winds have made Geraldton one of the world's top locations for windsurfing and kitesurfing, with Point Moore, Sunset Beach, St Georges Beach and Coronation Beach providing excellent conditions from October to April. During winter, Back Beach has ideal surfing conditions for beginners, while

Sunset Beach, Greenough and Flat Rocks are popular for the more experienced with bigger swell. Coronation Beach, or 'Coros', is particularly popular for water sports with awesome fishing, windsurfing, swimming and kiteboarding opportunities alongside camping and BBQ facilities (nightly fee applies).

YAMAJI STORY

Immerse yourself in indigenous culture on the 195km Yamaji Drive Trail, featuring 14 sites of significance to the local Yamatji Aboriginal people of the Geraldton, Greenough and Mullewa areas. Brochures for the self-drive trail can be picked up from the Geraldton Visitor Centre.

YAMAJI ART CENTRE

The Yamaji Art Centre, located in the city centre, is an Aboriginal-owned and operated gallery supporting and developing Aboriginal artists from the lower Murchison region of Yamatji Country. The centre is dedicated to sustaining cultural maintenance and arts practice while creating economic opportunity for its artists. Please note: The gallery is only open on weekdays.

HMAS SYDNEY II MEMORIAL

A visit to the poignant HMAS Sydney II Memorial is a must. Commemorating the 645 Australian crew who lost their lives aboard the HMAS Sydney II during a WWII naval battle in 1941, the memorial comprises five symbolic elements: the Central Memorial structure, including the Dome of Souls; the Wall of Remembrance; the Wailing Woman; the Stele; and the Pool of Remembrance. Volunteer run tours commence daily at 10:30am (donations welcome). Complete the story of the HMAS Sydney II at the Museum of Geraldton, open daily from 9:30am - 3pm (excluding public holidays). A short 3D film screening takes you 2500m beneath the sea to where the HMAS Sydney II and HSK Kormoran lie resting on the ocean floor.





♀ GERALDTON FORESHORE WALK

MUSEUM OF GERALDTON

The Museum celebrates the rich heritage of the land, sea and people of the Greater Geraldton area. Discover riches from four Dutch shipwrecks – Batavia, Gilt Dragon, Zuytdorp and Zeewijk, in the Shipwrecks Gallery, and delve into the region's natural and social history in the Mid West Gallery.

THE MONSIGNOR HAWES HERITAGE CENTRE & ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL

The Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre and St Francis Xavier Cathedral provide insight into the life and work of Monsignor John Hawes. The centre's interactive video display, imagery and diverse collection of artefacts complement guided tours of the Cathedral next door, which run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Sundays at 2:30pm and on Fridays at 4pm. The Cathedral is part of the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Trail.

ART & FESTIVALS

Pick up a Public Art Trail Map from the Geraldton Visitor Centre and set off on a self-guided tour around the city to discover colourful street art, local galleries, art installations like the Ilgarijiri (emu eggs sculpture), and decorated walls, paths and bollards. Check out Horizon, a giant glass sphere at the Beresford Foreshore,

and don't forget to visit the Geraldton Regional Art Gallery, housed in the heritage listed, turn of the century Town Hall building. Open daily (excluding public holidays), check their website for opening hours. Whether it's an art and jewellery exhibit, weekend markets, music or comedy festival, or visiting museums and galleries, Geraldton always has something happening. Check the Visit Geraldton website for what's on.

EAT STREET & SHOPPING

Dine in diversity - from freshly caught seafood to Middle Eastern flavours with a twist to rooftop and gin bars and the best locally made coffee and baked goods in town, Geraldton's food and beverage scene is constantly evolving and a top reason to visit. Your visit isn't complete until you've tried fresh, locally caught Western Rock Lobster (crayfish), and it doesn't get much fresher than in Geraldton's Fishermen's Wharf. Join a local operator on a pot-pulling tour, buy seafood directly off the back of fishing boats from Brolos Fresh or enjoy lunch at Barnacles on the Wharf or at Skeetas Restaurant.

Don't forget to visit one of the pearl jewellers to purchase a unique, coloured Abrolhos Island pearl and learn about the Abrolhos pearling industry. The stores offer a range of pieces and pearl shades, including the stunning black pearl.



WONDERFUL WILDFLOWERS

Visitors travel from far and wide to base themselves in Geraldton each year for wildflower season (July to October). From the Chapman River Regional Park to the Moresby Ranges, Mullewa and Coalseam Conservation Park, there are hundreds of wildflower species to be discovered, including everlastings, pom-poms, wreath flowers, orchids and Geraldton wax. Speak to the Visitor Centre for updates on what's blooming during the season.

ABROLHOS ISLANDS

The Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park encompasses a low-lying chain of 122 islands split into three groups: Wallabi, Easter and Pelsaert. Often described as the Galapagos of the Indian Ocean, there are few places in Australia with more biodiversity, and the Islands are recognised as a Hope Spot by ocean conservation organisation Mission Blue. Nature enthusiasts flock to the islands for fishing, bird watching, snorkelling and diving. Explore the islands by air or sea - scenic flights (from Geraldton or Kalbarri) provide the opportunity to admire the coral reefs and island formations from above, or join a live-aboard experience.



WILDLIFE TIP

If you find a hurt animal and help is needed, please call the DBCA Wildlife Helpline on (08) 9474 9055 or FAWNA on 0438 526 660. Note the location, time of day and condition of the animal when you found it.

WITNESS THE SHIPWRECK COAST

There are currently 19 shipwrecks recorded off the Abrolhos Islands and another 31 lie waiting, yet to be discovered. Morning Reef is where the infamous Batavia was wrecked in 1629. Experienced divers can explore the Batavia shipwreck dependent on weather conditions.

WILDLIFE & MARINE LIFE

The islands are an important breeding ground for 35 species of sea birds, including the lesser noddie and crested terns. They are also home to another 19 species of land and shore birds, including the rare painted button quail found nowhere else, and the majestic white breasted sea eagle. Note: please keep to tracks, stay quiet and move slowly around bird colonies. Staying at least 50 metres away will help to protect young chicks and nesting birds. Found on some of the islands is the cute Tammar Wallaby. Slightly larger than the famous Quokka, these marsupials have learned to adapt to their very remote island habitat and drink seawater where no fresh water is available! The Islands are also the northernmost breeding ground of Australian sea lions. Once abundant, sea lions are now classified as 'endangered' in Australia. Keep an eye out for these cute creatures on the sandy beaches throughout the Abrolhos and at Geraldton's Foreshore groyne. Note: sea lions are wild animals. Stay safe and enjoy them from a distance.

FISHING

The waters surrounding the Abrolhos Islands are home to some of the ocean's most prized eating fish, such as baldchin groper, dhufish, snapper, coral trout and emperor fish. Fishermen often also catch octopus, scallops and the sought after Western Rock Lobster. Note: check fishing regulations and exclusion zones before visiting, or join a local fishing tour.

GREENOUGH

A once thriving pioneer community in the 19th century, Greenough is today a charming settlement with significant history, restored heritage buildings, a scenic river and the iconic leaning trees.

CENTRAL GREENOUGH HISTORIC SETTLEMENT

Take a self-guided walk through the beautifully restored stone character buildings of the Greenough Historic Settlement and visit the Walkaway Station Museum, complete with refurbished locomotive and carriage (all open daily, entry fee applies). Enjoy a coffee or a bite to eat at the historic cafe.

GREENOUGH MUSEUM AND GARDENS

Just north of Central Greenough, the Greenough Museum is located in a beautifully restored two-storey homestead built between 1862 - 1880 for John Maley. Known locally as the King of the Flats, Maley was a miller, storekeeper, hotel proprietor, entrepreneur and father of 14 children. His wife, Elizabeth, was daughter to the first German migrants to Western Australia. Open daily, the Museum examines the social life of the Greenough Flats from Aboriginal time until today. View historic trees and wander the community veggie garden. Fact sheets are available in English, German, Dutch, French, Italian, Chinese and Korean.

THE ICONIC LEANING TREES

Buffeted by prevailing southerly winds, the leaning trees of Greenough (eucalyptus camaldulensis, or red river gum) are an iconic sight for travellers. Only on the windswept Greenough flats do these trees develop their distinctive leaning shape. A purpose-built parking area is located 21km south of Greenough for travellers to safely stop and take photographs.

ELLENDALE POOL

This scenic waterhole is located 45km south east of Geraldton. On your way there visit the Walkaway Station Museum, featuring an extensive collection of railway artefacts (check opening times with the Geraldton Visitor Centre). Make your way past impressive wind turbines before arriving at Ellendale Pool, where you'll be surrounded by giant gum trees and a rocky gorge. Ellendale Pool is part of the Yamatji Drive

Trail and features interpretive signage celebrating the importance of the pool to Aboriginal and European history. Public facilities and barbecues are provided, camping permitted for a fee.

GREENOUGH WILDLIFE & BIRD PARK

Located 30km south of Geraldton, the Greenough Wildlife & Bird Park offers visitors the chance to feed a kangaroo, hold a friendly lizard and meet dingos. You might even be able to watch Douglas the crocodile eat his lunch (check their Facebook for feeding days and times). The privately owned park has been rescuing and rehabilitating Australian wildlife for over 30 years. Open daily except Wednesdays.

CHAPMAN VALLEY

20 minutes north-east of Geraldton, the scenic Chapman Valley is home to beautiful rolling hills, scenic drives through farmland and a range of local attractions, such as an outback brewery and BBQ restaurant, lavender farm, rum distillery, aquaculture fishing ventures and more.

THE ANCIENT MORESBY RANGE

The Moresby Range, formed some 50 million years ago, is an ancient exposed seabed for fossil deposits, which can be found in various places in the Range.

View the ancient landscape from Mills Lookout and Wokatherra Hill. Explore the Range's wildflowers near Naraling Hall, Old Nolba Stock Route and Wandana Reserve, and discover seasonal blooms such as dampiera, grevillea, hibbertia and melaleuca.

FOOD AND FARMS

Explore Greenough and Chapman Valley for an ideal day of eating, drinking and exploring. Taste delicious local beer and enjoy a Kansasstyle BBQ at the Burnt Barrel Outback Brewbq (open year-round, Friday to Sunday). Immerse yourself in history at the Chapman Valley Museum (check opening hours and seasonality at Geraldton Visitor Centre).

FISH, FISH AND FISH

Fish your heart out for an hour or a day at the catch-and-release Chapman Valley Fishing Park. Gear is supplied and refreshments are available, with plenty of landscaped picnic and BBQ areas.

MOUNTAIN BIKE THROUGH NATURE

The Chapman River Nature Trail at Nanson provides a habitat for the endangered Ringtail Possum and Carnaby Black Cockatoo. Along the path you'll see nesting boxes for birds, along with trail markers and interpretive signage.

GERALDTON FOUR DAY ADVENTURE



STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS



YEAR-ROUND

DAY 1

PERTH TO GERALDTON

Fly or Drive to Geraldton

Fly: Book your flight to Geraldton and arrange a hire car. **Avis** has offices at **Geraldton Airport**. Depart Perth Airport with Qantas or **Nexus Airlines** and collect your hire car on arrival.

Drive: Head north either along the Brand Highway or picturesque Indian Ocean Drive, this journey takes you through the coastal towns of **Cervantes**, **Jurien Bay**, **Green Head**, **Leeman**, and **Dongara-Port Denison** where there is plenty to experience. Just 20 minutes south of

Geraldton you will discover Greenough's historic charm and can witness the iconic leaning trees of Greenough, located approximately two kilometres north of the **Greenough Historic Settlement**. You won't want to miss a stop at the **Greenough Wildlife Park**, where you can admire and feed many of the park's inhabitants. Just south of Geraldton, you will also find the picturesque **Ellendale Pool**, the perfect stop for a picnic and water activities or you can also camp here for the night.

Once in Geraldton, start with a drive and walk around the Geraldton Marina and foreshore to enjoy stunning panoramic ocean views. Grab a breakfast snack and

coffee at one of the local coffee spots along the foreshore.

The Geraldton region is rich in Aboriginal culture. Visit the **Yamaji Art Centre** to learn how this gallery supports Aboriginal artists living in Yamatji Country. Providing a great opportunity to support the community and purchase a beautiful, authentic art piece for your home. Explore the **Yamaji Drive Trail** to 14 significant sites, with maps available at the Geraldton Visitor Centre.

Enjoy lunch at **Flow Cafe**, followed by a short walk to Marine Terrace, where you'll be able to view the city's amazing street art.

Visit the **Museum of Geraldton**, a state-of-the-art facility and learn about the region's



rich maritime, natural and cultural history, and the fascinating yet brutal Batavia story, a 'must' before your Abrolhos Island trip. See the inspiring **HMAS Sydney II Memorial** at sunset, built to honour the lost sailors of the HMAS Sydney maritime disaster in 1941.

Dinner is best enjoyed with waterfront views at **Skeetas Restaurant**, or for a more relaxed vibe try the craft brews and hearty pub fare at **Batavia Brewing**.

Overnight: Geraldton

DAY 2

SOAR, SNORKEL & SIP AROUND GERALDTON

Take a scenic flight with **Geraldton Scenic Flights** or **Shine Aviation** to the **Abrolhos Islands** or head further north to the picturesque **Kalbarri region**, including the fabulous **Pink Lake**, so make sure to have your camera ready.

The Abrolhos Island full-day adventure will land you on this uninhabited island to snorkel amongst coral and fish, view the bird life or even see if you can spot a local Tammar Wallaby (relatives to the iconic Rottne Island Quokkas) and the resident Australian Sea Lions. Enjoy a picnic lunch on one of the full-day adventures. Other

tour options are available if you want to pair the Abrolhos Islands with the Pink Lake all in one day. Or if you have more time to enjoy this marine wonderland book a live aboard experience with **Eco Abrolhos Cruises**.

Finish the day watching a beautiful Western Australian sunset at the **Old Man & The Sea** rooftop bar or sipping on award-winning gin and run at **30 Knots Spirits**. For something playful, test your swing at **Bullseye Birdies**, Geraldton's new golf-simulation and dining venue that's perfect for a fun evening with friends.

Overnight: Geraldton

DAY 3:

EXPLORE GERALDTON

Wake up and enjoy a private fishing charter with **Pelican Charters** or, if you'd prefer to stay closer to shore, head inland to the **Chapman Valley Fishing Park**, where you can cast a line and cook your catch on-site. If you've had enough of the water for now, stay dry and shop for your holiday memento at **Latitude Jewellers** or **Chimere Pearls** showcasing the uniquely beautiful Abrolhos Pearls.

Take some time to explore the beaches and landscapes surrounding Geraldton, such as **Point Moore** to see the tallest 'metal' lighthouse in Australia.

Want to experience the heart of Geraldton with a local guide? Jump on a tour with **Midwest Adventure Tours** and journey to unique and local attractions with a local and experienced guide.

Make your way to the foreshore to enjoy your final sunset at the **Horizon Ball** art installation.

Overnight: Geraldton

DAY 4:

EXPLORE GERALDTON

Start your day with a seasonal pot-pulling and harbour cruise. **Eco Abrolhos** will take you around Geraldton's harbour sharing insights into the lobster industry with pot-pulling demonstrations.

As a city of the coast, Geraldton is one of the best places for windsurfing and kitesurfing. **Coronation Beach** is a must-visit as it is considered to be one of the finest windsurfing locations in the world.

Explore the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre which provides an insight into the life and work of Monsignor John Hawes, priest and architect. The Byzantine style **St Francis Xavier Cathedral** is one of his greatest masterpieces (beautifully lit at night).

Flight: Depart from Geraldton to Perth on the afternoon flight with Nexus or drive home along the Indian Ocean Drive.



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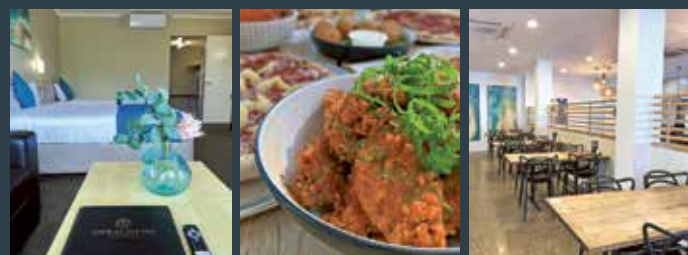
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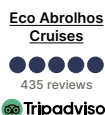
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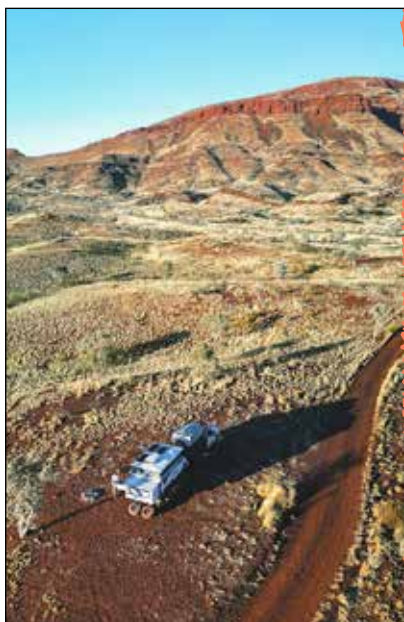
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An aerial photograph of a unique pink beach. The sand has a distinct reddish-pink hue. A lone person is walking along the shoreline, leaving a trail of footprints. The ocean is a deep blue with white foam from the waves. Rocky outcrops are scattered along the beach. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

KALBARRI & SURROUNDS

Situated where the Murchison River meets the Indian Ocean, the town of Kalbarri is surrounded by the soaring inland and coastal gorges of the Kalbarri National Park and protected swimming bays like Blue Holes, superb walking trails, and over 1000 species of wildflowers.

To the south, the seaside towns of Port Gregory and Horrocks offer laidback beach getaways with great swimming, fishing, surfing and windsurfing. Don't forget to stop at Port Gregory's iconic Pink Lake (Hutt Lagoon). Inland of Horrocks is Northampton, one of Western Australia's oldest settlements, where you can experience Indigenous art, see heritage buildings and learn about the area's fascinating history.



Best time to visit:
Year-round



Distance from Perth to Kalbarri:
6 hrs or 570 km



Qantas and Nexus fly from Perth to Geraldton airport; Kalbarri is a further 1 hour 50 minute drive north (155km).



ASK A LOCAL

Kalbarri Visitor Centre

📍 70 Grey St, Kalbarri WA 6536

☎ (08) 9937 1104

✉ bookings@kalbarri.org.au

🌐 kalbarri.org.au

Northampton Visitor Centre

📍 239 Hampton Rd,
Northampton WA 6535

☎ +61 8 9934 1488

✉ info@northampton.com.au

🌐 northampton.com.au



Kalbarri



Port Gregory



Horrocks

Northampton



KALBARRI & SURROUNDS HIGHLIGHTS



Explore Kalbarri National Park's Nature's Window and Kalbarri Skywalk



Visit Port Gregory's Pink Lake on foot, via a scenic flight



Learn about one of the oldest settlements in Western Australia, Northampton



Walk the trails of Kalbarri's Coastal Cliffs



Soak up the pristine coastline on a quad bike tour along Wagoie Beach



Swim at Horrocks Beach and enjoy great fishing, surfing and windsurfing



Meet Kalbarri's resident pelicans each morning at 08:45 for their daily feeding



Snorkel at Blue Holes and see thriving marine life and reef at this natural aquarium



Discover wildflowers in Kalbarri National Park (July - October)



Indulge in freshly caught seafood at Finlay's whilst sampling their own craft brews

3 MUST DO TRAILS

The Loop Walk - 9km



Z-Bend River Trail - 2.6 km

Bigurda Trail - 8 km one way (16 km return)



KALBARRI
FOOD &
BEVERAGE
GUIDE



NORTHAMPTON

Formally declared a town site in 1864, Northampton is one of Western Australia's oldest settlements outside of Perth. Known for its friendly country charm, Northampton's main street is lined with historic character buildings, and the town is surrounded by rich, golden agricultural lands. Be sure to visit the wonderful Rose Garden when travelling through this character-filled town.

9 LEGENDS – HOMETOWN HEROES

Here's a stop for die-hard footy fans – nine local Australian Football League (AFL) legends who made it big in the sport have been immortalised in life-size aluminium cut-outs on the main street of Northampton. Jamie and Patrick Cripps, Harry Taylor, Tarkyn and Andrew Lockyer, Daniel Chick, Paul Hasleby, Liam Anthony and Josh Kennedy are amongst the local footy heroes that have made the line up after having played for Northampton Football Club during their early years. Fans can then venture next door to the Miners Arms Hotel for a glass of 9 Legends Lager, available on tap, to round off the experience.



NORTHAMPTON RAILWAY PRECINCT

Explore the region's railway history, dating back to 1879, by venturing along the Gwalia Railway Station Walk Trail past remnants of the station and rail, and informative signage. The Mary Street Railway Precinct, opened in 1913, houses the station office, carriages, platform, weighbridge and railway memorabilia.

THE NORTHAMPTON BOTANIC LINE

The Botanic Line is a bush-garden walking trail with plantings of melaleuca, grevillea, acacia, verticordia and everlasting wildflowers, grown from local native seed. Free to the public, the trail begins in Stephen Street and follows a path along the old railway tracks, past a replica of a rail sliding house and down the hill about 400 metres.

HAMPTON ROAD HERITAGE WALK

Visit the Northampton Visitor Centre, housed in the old Police Station building, and pick up a copy of the Hampton Road Heritage Walk brochure. The walk includes buildings such as Sacred Heart Convent, Our Lady in Ara Coeli Church and the Northampton Family Store, which has continued to operate as a drapery store since 1913. See Chiverton House Museum and the Northampton Motors and Machinery Restoration Shed, home to an impressive collection of vintage motors and machinery.

VISIT WOOLEEN STATION

200km north of Mullewa and east of Northampton is Wooleen Station, located on heritage listed wetlands and home to an array of animals, birdlife and seasonal wildflowers. A 4WD is recommended, although still accessible by 2WD for those comfortable driving on gravel roads. It's perfect for those interested in ecology and the Australian outback way of life.

♀ OUR LADY OF ARA COELI CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON





♀ PINK LAKE, PORT GREGORY

KALBARRI

The town of Kalbarri is neighboured by two distinctly different landscapes – ancient rust-red inland gorges to the east, and towering ocean cliffs moated by ocean waves to the west. The town offers a wealth of activities and attractions for people of all ages and interests, from swimming, fishing, cruising, surfing and hiking, to abseiling, quad biking, scenic flights and whale watching.

BLUE HOLES BEACH

Blue Holes is renowned for its exceptional snorkelling and thriving marine life. The area is a protected fish habitat, featuring sections of reef that are permanently submerged by the ocean (sub-tidal) as well as areas that are exposed at low tide (intertidal). Fishing at Blue Holes is banned, in order to preserve the unique environment.

CHINAMAN'S BEACH

Make the most of the clear, tranquil waters of Chinaman's Beach, near the mouth of the Murchison River. This swimming spot in the heart of town is popular with families thanks to its safe swimming conditions.

CATCH A WAVE AT JACQUES POINT

Jacques Point, or 'Jakes', is renowned for its superb left-hand reef break along the point, and is popular with experienced surfers. Spectators can join in on the action by watching from the beach, whilst less experienced surfers can surf in Jakes Bay.

PINK BEACH

At Jacques Point you'll also notice something a bit peculiar about the colour of the sand. Due to naturally occurring garnet crystals, the beach takes on a pink hue most of the year. These weathered mineral deposits wash up creating the unusually pink-hued beach. As a naturally occurring phenomenon, the beach will vary in its coloured hues and intensity.

WORLD-CLASS FISHING

Kalbarri boasts some of Western Australia's best shore and boat angling. Try estuary fishing for whiting and black beam, or drop a net for blue swimmer and mud crabs. Fishing charters are great for both serious anglers and novices, regularly returning with a bounty of fish including mackerel, tuna, snapper, dhufish, coral trout and bald chin groper. Western Rock Lobster (crayfishing) tours are also popular, with patrons often able to take home part of the catch.

Season Dates for catching demersal scale fish from a boat along the coastline from Cervantes to Kalbarri will be prohibited from 1 February to 31 March (inclusive); 1 August to 15 September (inclusive); 15 October to 15 December (inclusive). Visit fish.wa.gov.au for more information.

WHALE WATCHING

Join a whale watching tour between June and November and set off to see the humpback whales in their natural environment. Keep your eyes peeled for mothers and their calves as they migrate south towards their Antarctic feeding grounds. It's common to see whales breaching, spy hopping (popping their heads up out of the water), and pec and tail slapping.



♀ PELICAN FEEDING

QUAD BIKING

For a different way to explore the coastline, ride your own quad bike or buggy along Wago Beach on a guided tour. Enjoy the wind in your hair whilst taking in breathtaking views and spotting migrating humpback whales (in season).

SOAR OVER KALBARRI

A scenic flight over Kalbarri and its surrounds offers a unique and dramatic perspective of the ancient landscapes. Take in a true scale impression of the area's immense scope and scale, and witness the wonders of the National Park, Coastal Cliffs, nearby Pink Lake and the Houtman Abrolhos Islands from the best possible vantage point – the air!

MICROBREWERY AND SEAFOOD

A trip to Kalbarri isn't complete without a fresh, local seafood meal. Head to Finlay's Microbrewery & Seafood Restaurant, a uniquely Australian outdoor dining experience with an onsite microbrewery and live music every Sunday.

NATURE PLAY

The Nature Playground on the Kalbarri Foreshore is an ideal activity for families, featuring an impressive flying fox, wooden lookout tower and shady trees to protect children from the sun. Parents can relax at picnic tables, with cafes and restaurants nearby.

PELICAN FEEDING

Meet Kalbarri's resident pelicans at 8:45am each morning, as they make their way to the grassed area on the Kalbarri Foreshore across from the Pelican Café (a great spot for breakfast). Here, local volunteers feed and share information about the pelicans whilst spectators watch on. This tradition began with a local Kalbarri fisherman, who cleaned his catch and threw scraps to the pelicans.

WILDERNESS WILDFLOWERS

From July to October, over 1,000 species of wildflowers progressively burst into bloom around Kalbarri and throughout the Kalbarri National Park, particularly along the tops of the coastal cliffs and gorges. Many species are endemic to the region, including the Kalbarri spider orchid, cats paw and Murchison Rose. Contact the Kalbarri Visitor Centre for information on where to find seasonal wildflowers, or join a local guided tour with D'Guy Journeys.

KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK

Kalbarri National Park is one of Western Australia's most spectacular parks, home to ancient gorges and otherworldly landscapes. Over 186,000 hectares in size, the park is located at the lower reaches of the Murchison River and encompasses inland gorges and coastal cliffs. Delight in a myriad of unique wildflowers in season, and find ancient traces of the first life on land.

INLAND GORGE SITES

Over the past 400 million years the Murchison River has carved its way into the landscape, creating magnificent red and white banded gorges which stretch 80km towards the ocean. Explore the depths and heights of the river gorges and admire the flora beauty of the vast, rolling sandplains.

THE ICONIC NATURE'S WINDOW

Located just 600m from The Loop carpark, Nature's Window is one of Western Australia's most iconic natural attractions. Walk down a picturesque trail to view the rock formation that perfectly frames the upstream view of the Murchison River. Nature's Window is the beginning and end of The Loop Trail, an 8km walking trail (class four hike). Please note all trails can be difficult in the summer months, due to heat.

KALBARRI SKYWALK (KAJU YATKA)

Twin skywalks project 25m and 17m beyond the Murchison Gorge rim and sit 100m above the river in the Kalbarri Skywalk Precinct. Take in mesmerising views of rust-red gorge cliffs, river and bushland from high above, and spot Nature's Window on the other side of the gorge. Situated at the Inyaja Wookai Watju site (the West Loop), the universally accessible precinct features the skywalk, carpark, interpretive signage sharing the history and culture of the Nanda people, shade shelters, toilets and an eco-friendly café (open daily with seasonal changes).

Z-BEND LOOKOUT & TRAILS

Only 600m walk from the carpark is the Z-Bend Lookout, offering what many consider to be the most breathtaking view of Kalbarri National Park. Below the lookout, the Z-Bend gorge plunges 150m down to where red river gums create a striking contrast of earthy hues of the Tumblagooda sandstone. The more adventurous and hikers will enjoy the 6km Four Ways Trail (Idinggada Yina) or Z-Bend River Trail, with steep descents and ladder climbs leading to river access with spectacular scenery. You'll even be able to view the ancient sea scorpion (Eurypterid) tracks and impressions left in the sandstone.

DRINK UP!

Drinking water is not available in Kalbarri National Park, so be sure to bring an adequate supply of 3 to 4 litres per person per day, or join an organised tour. In the summer months check with the local visitor centre for heat warnings.



Kalbarri is known as Western Australia's favourite outdoor holiday playground.

ROSS GRAHAM & HAWK'S HEAD LOOKOUT

A short walk from the carpark, Ross Graham is the easiest place in the national park to access the Murchison River's edge. It's an ideal location to enjoy a walk or picnic along the river banks, whilst the Hawk's Head picnic area and wheelchair accessible lookout boast stunning views and the chance to spot rare black footed (flanked) rock wallabies among the rocks.

360° VIEWS AT MEANARRA HILL

Sitting 207m above sea level, Meanarra Hill is the perfect vantage point for 360° views of Kalbarri and the Murchison River flowing into the Indian Ocean. The Hill has a Welcome to Country and interpretive signage about the landscape and traditional owners: the Nanda people. It's ideal for photos, especially at sunset!

COASTAL CLIFF SITES

Kalbarri's coastline features magnificent, towering cliffs which plummet 100m down to the ocean waves below. Starting at Red Bluff, just south of town, the dramatic cliffs extend 13km south to the national park's southern boundary. These national park sites are free of charge. Numerous sign-posted pathways and lookouts provide safe exploration of the rugged coastline, with great vantage points to spot migrating humpback whales between June and November.

NATURAL BRIDGE & ISLAND ROCK

Natural Bridge and Island Rock are the southernmost sites of the Coastal Cliffs, both easily accessible from their carparks. Visitors can enjoy stunning ocean views and look out over the Natural Bridge for marine life including whales and dolphins. The resilient Island Rock was once part of the shoreline and now stands against the forces of the ocean as a solitary 'sea stack', reminiscent of the Twelve Apostles. A boardwalk connects the Natural Bridge and Island Rock lookouts, providing stunning views, accessible from either carpark.

BIGURDA TRAIL & THE GRANDSTAND

Getting its name from the indigenous word for a small kangaroo, the 8km (one-way) Bigurda Trail connects Natural Bridge to Eagle Gorge and provides stunning coastal views with great photo opportunities along the way. Make sure to stop at the Grandstand, located halfway along the trail, to peer into Kalbarri's deep cavernous cliffs from the walkway above. Marvel at seasonal wildflowers from July to November, and spot dolphin pods and humpback whales frolicking in the ocean.

EAGLE GORGE

Take in views from the Eagle Gorge lookout, named after the wedge-tail eagles that nest in the area. These magnificent birds can often be seen soaring through the sky searching for prey. A stepped rocky path leads to a secluded beach so please use caution if you choose to explore this area.

POT ALLEY

Pot Alley was named by local cray fishermen after losing many pots to this hazardous cove. Enjoy spectacular ocean scenery amidst the expansive rugged gorges, or walk the short track to the remove beach below (note: swimming is not recommended).

RAINBOW VALLEY & MUSHROOM ROCK NATURE TRAIL

Informative signage takes you back 400 million years as you wander along the marked circuit that connects Rainbow Valley and Mushroom Rock. Allow between one and two hours for the walk, where you can marvel at the varied geological formations and see kangaroos feeding (best seen at dawn and dusk) amongst the coastal heath.

RED BLUFF TO BEACH TRAIL (GABA GABA YINA)

Red Bluff beach is a popular location for swimming and fishing. Featuring a picturesque white sandy beach, contrasted against striking rust red rocks, the Bluff is particularly spectacular at sunset or for whale watching from the Pederick Lookout. Follow the Gaba Gaba Yina, a 1.4km hike down from the lookout to Red Bluff beach, for amazing views across the ocean and of impressive rock formations. The track is steep with loose surfaces, so be alert.

National Park entry fees apply when visiting the inland gorge sites. All sites within the National Park are sealed and accessible by 2WD, however please note it's requested not to tow caravans, boats or trailers into the National Park as minimal parking is available. Unhitch towed items in town before entering the National Park. Pets are also not permitted within the National Park.



HORROCKS

Authentic, accessible and affordable, Horrocks is an ideal family beach destination. Sheltered waters and world class beaches offer great conditions for swimming, fishing, surfing, diving, stand up paddle-boarding, kayaking, kitesurfing and windsurfing.

BOWES RIVER

The Bowes River Mouth is a scenic beach popular among surfers and fishing enthusiasts. During the warmer months a pontoon is moored for swimmers to enjoy, and the jetty is popular for fishing and squidging. 4WDers can let their tyres down at the River Mouth and enjoy driving along the white sandy beach (note: the sand is quite soft, best for experienced 4WDers).

The River Mouth is also home to an abundance of wildlife, including pelicans, black swans, ducks, heron, egrets, eagles, terns and osprey. Migrating humpback whales are commonly spotted in season from the Whale Watching Lookout, located on the lefthand side of Horrocks Road at the top of the hill, just before you enter the township.

LITTLE BAY

4.5km north of Horrocks is Little Bay, a small, quiet campsite accessible only by 4WD. Sheltered waters, white sand dunes and an abundance of natural beauty make Little Bay a popular day trip and camping destination. Facilities include beach huts, a jetty, boat ramp, playground, grassy area and barbecue.

INDIGENOUS CULTURE

The sandstone escarpment following the river is rich in Indigenous culture. Visit the ancient Willigully Caves, near the junction of Bowes River Road and Horrocks Road, which feature a stunning granite overhang and stencilled artworks (such as hands) on the rocks. The artworks were created by the local Nanda people to communicate their traditions and beliefs.

PORT GREGORY

Originally developed to serve the area's Geraldine Mine, Port Gregory is now a scenic fishing village encircled by 5km of exposed coral reef. The town is popular for fishing, snorkelling, diving and coastal 4WDing. Guided buggy tours operate between April and November and provide fascinating insight into the town's history, the coastline and the iconic Pink Lake (Hutt Lagoon).

PINK LAKE (HUTT LAGOON)

The mesmerising Hutt Lagoon, also known as Pink Lake, is an iconic sight along the picturesque coastal road between Port Gregory and Kalbarri. The dreamlike lake draws visitors from near and far, and astounds onlookers with its vivid waters. The lake gets its colour from the presence of *dunaliella salina*, a carotenoid producing algae, with the shade ranging from hot pink to red to lilac depending on the time of day, season and cloud cover.

The best time to visit is between 10am - 2pm when the sun is at it's highest point, cloudless days will also benefit the colour of the lake. It's hard to predict what the lake will look like at certain times of year, as it's a natural phenomenon controlled by the elements. Summer provides more intense sunlight and less cloud coverage, but could also lead to less water in the lake. On the other hand, winter would see a fuller lake but more cloud coverage.

A dedicated, unsealed parking area located along Port Gregory Road is the best place to stop to see the lake from the ground. Or, take a scenic flight for otherworldly views of the lake from above. Flights depart from Geraldton with Shine Aviation or choose to fly with Nationwest Aviation - Kalbarri Scenic Flights, departing from both Geraldton and Kalbarri.

LYNTON CONVICT HIRING STATION

Tucked away at the foot of rolling hills, the Lynton Convict Hiring Station's stone buildings once housed convicts who worked on the Geraldine mine and local pastoral stations. The convict facilities were built in 1853, and some of the buildings have been carefully restored. Stop by to stretch your legs and learn about the history of the station through informative signage.



PRO TIP

Keep an eye on the hashtag #HuttLagoon on Instagram for current Pink Lake shots. There are dozens of photos posted every day, so you can get an idea of how the lake is looking.



EXPLORE KALBARRI

🕒 STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS 📅 MARCH-OCTOBER

DAY 1

PERTH TO KALBARRI
(50 MINUTE FLIGHT & 162 KM DRIVE)

Flight: Before booking flights, arrange to hire a car with **Avis Australia**. Depart Perth for Geraldton Airport with Qantas or Nexus Airlines. Collect your hire car and drive north to the **town of Kalbarri**.

Drive: Alternatively take the coastal route, just over 6 hours north of Perth to Kalbarri.

Take the Nabawa-Northampton road north of the airport, which takes you through the Chapman Valley area (spectacular driving during wildflower season). If you are travelling with kids, the **Chapman Valley Fishing Park** is a 25-minute drive north of Geraldton.

Pop through Northampton to check out the 9 footy legends along the main drive. Make sure to take the scenic coastal drive into Kalbarri to see the **Pink Lake**, Hutt Lagoon. It is its most vibrant in the middle of the day when the sun is highest.

Overnight: Kalbarri

DAY 2

KALBARRI

There are just too many things to see, do and experience – but with two full days in Kalbarri you will be able to cross off a few of our favourites:

- Explore Kalbarri National Park's ancient inland sites, including the **Kalbarri Skywalk**, Nature's Window, the Loop Trail, Z Bend Lookout and River Trails.
 - Go **Quad biking** at Wagoe Beach.
 - Scenic flight to the nearby Abrolhos Islands and over the Pink Lake with **Kalbarri Scenic Flights**.
 - Snorkelling **Blue Holes beach**.
 - Sunset cruise along the Murchison River with **Kalbarri Wilderness Cruises**.
 - Canoe the Kalbarri National Park gorges.
- End the day at Kalbarri's microbrewery, **Finlay's**, which also serves fresh, locally caught seafood from Kalbarri and Shark Bay.

Overnight: Kalbarri

DAY 3

KALBARRI

Another day to tick off anything you couldn't cover yesterday and to continue exploring the beautiful landscapes of the area. Explore Kalbarri National Parks coastal gorges, **Red Bluff Lookout**, **Pot Alley** and venture across the **Boardwalk** that connects **Natural Bridge** to **Island Rock**.

Enjoy one of the many walking trails available along the coast and keep an eye out between July and October for Humpback Whales breaching the surface as they make their annual migration along the Coral Coast.

Take a cruise up the Murchison River or explore the upper river and inland gorges in a canoe/kayak. Finish the day with a **stargazing** experience at the Kalbarri Skywalk with **D'Guy Journeys**.

Overnight: Kalbarri

DAY 4

KALBARRI TO PERTH
(162 KM DRIVE & 50 MINUTE FLIGHT)

Start your morning right with a coffee or breakfast from the **Pelican Café** and stroll across the road to witness the **Pelican Feeding** at 8:45am daily. Run by volunteers this is an informative and enjoyable experience for the whole family.

As you drive into Geraldton for your afternoon flight leave the North West Coastal Highway, and turn onto Dean Street, following it to the foreshore to **Horizon Ball**, Geraldton's #instaworthy art sculpture.

Have more time? Pop into Latitude Jewellers or Chimere Pearls to admire the amazing Abrolhos Pearls and collect yourself a holiday memento.

Flight: Depart Geraldton for Perth.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME IN KALBARRI WITH



Experience the best of Kalbarri
with our premier GUYded tours.

Our Day Tours:

- Kalbarri Skywalk Tour
- Inland and River Gorges Tour
- Pink Lake and Coastal Cliffs Tour
- Kalbarri Skywalk Sunset and Stargazing Tour
- Kalbarri Stargazing Tour
- Kalbarri Wildflower Tour – Seasonal

Join one of our multi day tours:

- Kalbarri Escape (3 Days)
- Best of Mid West Wildflower Getaway (5 Days)
- Exquisite Coral Coast (7 Days)

*Talk to us to customise
your experiences*

*We'll create a private trip
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Book Now!



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www.dguyjourneys.com
bookings@dguyjourneys.com



Pink Lake



Stargazing



Wildflower



FINLAY'S BREWING CO

Indulge in our craft beers, brewed onsite to capture the spirit of Kalbarri. Whether you're a craft beer aficionado or a curious newcomer, our refreshing range has something for everyone.

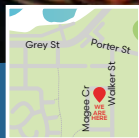
Sample four flavours with a beer paddle
or grab a few cans to take home!

Pair your drinks with a meal at our seafood restaurant, where we serve fresh, local catches in a quirky, open-air setting.

Join us for live music every Sunday arvo.
Everyone's welcome - kids and fur babies too!



A uniquely Australian award-winning
outdoor seafood restaurant and brewery



Please head to our website for
further info and bookings

13 Magee Cr, Kalbarri
finlayskalbarri.com.au



Mini golf
Casual eats
Local brews
Beachside fun

Step into Kalbarri's newest coastal hangout — The Salty Putter!

A playful mix of mini golf, good vibes, and great food, right next door to Finlay's.

Grab a club, sip a cold one, and tee off surrounded by sea breezes and salty laughs.

Perfect for families, friends, or anyone chasing a good time under the Kalbarri sun.



15 Magee Cr, Kalbarri

0403 287 862



Idyllic location, just 4-minutes walk to the beach, town's best restaurants/cafes, taverns, bakeries and shopping area.

Shady, lush green lawns, heated swimming pool, campers kitchen, TV Room, BBQs, playgrounds, jumping pillow with friendly atmosphere. Choose from modern villas, cabins and studios, RV, ensuite, powered and unpowered sites.

Book at kalbarritudor.com.au, phone 9937 1077 or email bookings@kalbarritudor.com.au

10 Porter Street, Kalbarri, Western Australia



Central Kalbarri Town location, offering self-contained and well-appointed studio apartments along with spacious 1 & 2 bedroom spa apartments with deck and private BBQ. Free Wi-Fi and Foxtel.

Stroll into town or relax by the resort pool with guest BBQ area and a giant chess game.

Experience sensational dining at our locally renowned Edge Restaurant.

22 Porter Street, Kalbarri

☎ (08) 9937 0000

✉ info@kalbarriedge.com.au

🌐 kalbarriedge.com.au



KALBARRI

Far away, closer.

kalbarri.org.au

SHARK BAY

Known as Gathaagudu, meaning 'two waters' to the local Malgana people, Shark Bay is a World Heritage Listed Area. The Bay is rich with indigenous culture and home to the iconic Shell Beach, quaint town of Denham, peaceful Monkey Mia, otherworldly Francois Peron National Park, idyllic Dirk Hartog Island and the westernmost point of mainland Australia – Steep Point.

SHARK BAY HIGHLIGHTS

-  Explore the Francois Peron National Park by 4WD
-  Visit the world-famous Shell Beach
-  Experience Dirk Hartog Island, offering stunning natural beauty and untamed wilderness
-  Meet the Dugongs of Shark Bay on a wildlife cruise
-  Wonder at the local marine life at Ocean Park Aquarium
-  Spend a day at Little Lagoon
-  Visit the Shark Bay Discovery Centre to learn more about the region
-  Discover local Aboriginal culture and history
-  Meet the friendly local dolphins at Monkey Mia
-  Learn to Dive in this World Heritage Listed Area

3 MUST DO TRAILS

-  Wanamalu Trail (4WD access only) – 3.6 km
-  Nicholson Point Walk Trail – 5 km
-  Eagle Bluff Boardwalk – 300 m



SHARK BAY
FOOD &
BEVERAGE
GUIDE



Best time to visit Denham & Monkey Mia:
March-October

Best time to visit Dirk Hartog Island:
March-October (weather)
August-September (wildlife)



Distance from Perth to Denham:
8.5 hrs or 838 km



Regional Express flies Perth to Monkey Mia
(Shark Bay) airport



ASK A LOCAL

Shark Bay World Heritage
Discovery and Visitor Centre
📍 53 Knight Tce, Denham WA 6537
☎ +61 8 9948 1590 or 1300 367 072
✉ sbdc@sharkbay.wa.gov.au
🌐 sharkbayvisit.com.au

Dirk Hartog
Island



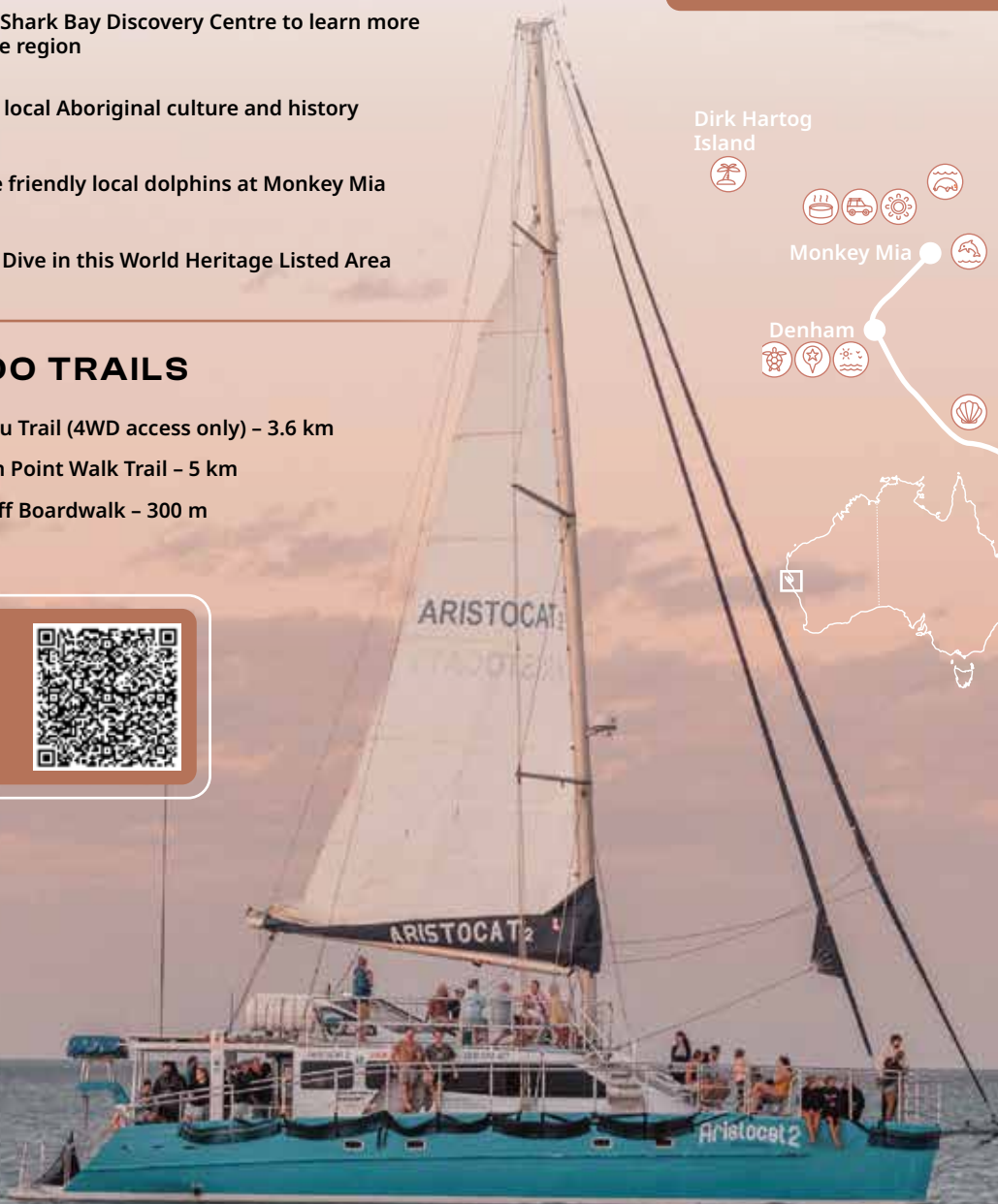
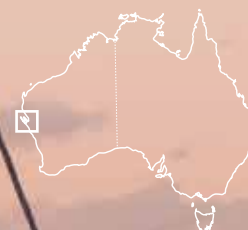
Monkey Mia



Denham



North West Coastal Hwy



SHARK BAY WORLD HERITAGE AREA

A wonderland of world-class natural attractions, the Shark Bay World Heritage Area covers over 22,000sq km, 66% of which is marine based. The colourful and diverse landscapes, endemic flora and fauna and world-class examples of the Earth's ecological processes rank the area as one of our planet's most important wilderness regions.



DUGONGS

The 12 species of seagrass found in Shark Bay cover over 4,000 square kilometres (approximately the size of the Perth metropolitan area), and support a high diversity of fauna such as dugongs, dolphins, fish, turtles and crustaceans. This sea grass is a vital food source for one of the most stable dugong populations in the world - over 10,000 dugongs, or 10% of the world's total dugong population, inhabit the Shark Bay region. Dugongs can be found year round but are most active between September – May and can be encountered on a wildlife cruise.

TURTLES

Loggerhead and green turtles can often be spotted from wildlife cruises through the Shark Bay Marine Park. An estimated 70% of loggerhead turtles found in Western Australia nest in Shark Bay, at Dirk Hartog Island's Turtle Bay, Steep Point's Shelter Bay and Dorre Island. Dirk Hartog Island is home to Australia's largest, and one of the world's five most important, loggerhead turtle breeding colonies.

HAMELIN POOL STROMATOLITES

Head to Hamelin Pool to see the world's oldest living lifeforms – the 3.5-billion-year-old stromatolites. Hamelin Pool is one of just two locations on earth where living marine stromatolites exist, and the

location contains by far the world's largest colony. To get up close to the Stromatolites, book a 4WD & snorkelling tour taking you to exclusive access pristine beaches and stunning clear waters. Note: the Hamelin Pool Stromatolites Boardwalk is currently closed. The Stromatolites can be seen from the Hamelin Pool quarry or from above on a scenic flight.

STUNNING SHELL BEACH

Stretching over 70km with a depth of 10m, the pristine Shell Beach is made up of billions of tiny cockle shells and was named a top beach by National Geographic. On a still day, the ocean at Shell Beach transforms into a palette of intense greens and blues – and the water is incredibly salty, making it easy to float.

SUNSET AT EAGLE BLUFF

Located south of Denham, Eagle Bluff features spectacularly high cliffs and stunning views across the Denham Sound. A 200m walkway provides a great vantage point to lookout for turtles, rays and large fish cruising around in the shallows. Time your visit with sunset for an extraordinary experience.

AUSTRALIA'S WESTERNMOST POINT

Accessible only by experienced four-wheel drivers, Steep Point is known by Western

Australians as a top land-based game fishing location. The area is also a great diving location full of rays, fish and colourful corals, and features the magnificent Zuytdorp Cliffs, which tower 200m above sea level. Steep Point offers camping at various locations and breathtaking views, including False Entrance and Thunder Bay Blowholes, and is the departure point for the barge to Dirk Hartog Island. Visit for the day on tour by boat, 4WD or scenic flight.

CRUISE THE BAY FOR WILDLIFE

Explore the Shark Bay Marine Park on an eco-tour from Denham or Monkey Mia. Home to more than 320 species of fish, cruises of the Marine Park always impress with turtles, dolphins, manta rays, humpback whales (in season) and dugongs spotted on tour.

EXPLORE WITHOUT GETTING WET

Explore the Shark Bay Marine Park on an eco-tour from Denham or Monkey Mia. Home to more than 320 species of fish, the Marine Park is teeming with life. These cruises always impress, with the chance to spot turtles, dolphins, manta rays, humpback whales (in season) and the region's famous dugongs in their natural habitat.

DIVING & SNORKELLING

Divers are spoilt for choice in Shark Bay. The jewel in the crown has to be a day at Steep Point, exploring Monkey Rock, while the crystal-clear waters of Dirk Hartog Island offer excellent snorkelling conditions. Thrill seekers can try an up-close, no-cage dive in Ocean Park Aquarium's tank with lemon and sandbar sharks, or simply snorkel with the locals in the turquoise waters at Bottle Bay and Shelter Bay. For those new to the underwater world, Shark Bay is also a fantastic place to learn to dive, with calm, clear conditions perfect for beginners.

SCENIC FLIGHTS

Explore the Shark Bay World Heritage Area on a scenic flight over the coast and landscape. There are ample opportunities to see manta rays, turtles, humpback whales (seasonally) and the elusive dugongs whilst flying over the area's iconic destinations. Watch the cliffs of Francois Peron National Park glow red and orange with a sunrise or late afternoon sunset flight. Flights depart from Monkey Mia Airport with a variety of tours on offer.

LITTLE LAGOON

Denham's Little Lagoon is a spectacular stretch of calm water ideal for swimming, kayaking, and kite surfing. Laze about on the sandy beach, stroll around the lagoon and enjoy excellent BBQ facilities along the south shore. Home to multitudes of marine creatures and birds, the winding Little Lagoon creek is a good spot to practice the 'Shark Bay Shuffle' to avoid stone fish in the area.



♀ SHELL BEACH

DENHAM

Denham is the gateway to the Shark Bay World Heritage Area. Positioned on the beachfront, the town offers a mix of accommodation, cafes and restaurants, and is a departure point for cruises and tours.

SHARK BAY WORLD HERITAGE DISCOVERY & VISITOR CENTRE

The Shark Bay World Heritage Discovery & Visitor Centre celebrates Shark Bay's ecosystem biodiversity and explores the area's World Heritage listing, history, natural landscapes and animals. Visit the HMAS Sydney II memorial and the Fire on the Water exhibition, with a 15-minute 3D film and accompanying exhibit telling the story of the battle between the HMAS Sydney II and HSK Kormoran, tracing the events of this World War II naval battle 200km off the coast of Shark Bay. The Rose de Freycinet Art Gallery houses visual art and photography of the region and touring exhibitions of celebrated artists. The centre is open daily except Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Good Friday.

FUN ON THE FORESHORE

Kids will love the shipwreck themed playground on Denham's Foreshore, with a nearby pontoon to jump off and swim around the bay.

WALKING TRAILS

The 5km Nicholson Point trail meanders from Denham along the beach to Little Lagoon, showcasing a large range of plant species and bird life. Denham's Discovery Trail will take you past sites of historical significance in town, covering 2.3km.

KITE SURFING

Shallow waters and summer winds make Shark Bay an ideal kite surfing destination for beginners and experts alike. Book a lesson or join a kite surfing safari from Denham.

YEAR-ROUND FISHING

The lure of catching the coveted pink snapper and many other species of fish attracts many recreational fishers to Shark Bay, and the area's protected waters sustain extensive seagrass beds which are key nursery areas for fish, prawns and scallops. Fishing tours from Denham are a great way to access the best local spots. Stop by the Visitor Centre for current fishing information.



Feeling peckish?
The Old Pearler Restaurant
offers a unique dining
experience.

FRANCOIS PERON NATIONAL PARK

Otherworldly is an accurate description of Francois Peron National Park, where the desert meets the sea. The National Park is renowned for its contrasting red desert cliffs, white beaches and turquoise blue waters, along with its free roaming wildlife such as mammals, lizards and birdlife. Francois Peron offers a wilderness experience through arid shrublands, rolling sandplains and coastal scenery.

FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE ECO-TOUR

No 4WD? No problem! Explore Francois Peron National Park on a 4WD eco-tour. Shark Bay is a wildlife haven, home to 17 species of mammals, 98 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 230 species of birds. Spot bungarra and thorny devil lizards, emus and cormorant (birds) in this spectacular World Heritage area, and keep an eye out for the National Park's famous hydroplaning dolphins - an unusual technique for catching fish.

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL TOURS

Guthaagudu (meaning 'two waters') is the Aboriginal name for Shark Bay, which is home to the Malgana people. Gain an Indigenous perspective into Shark Bay by joining a guided tour with a local Malgana guide. Learn about the area's history and its many plants and animals, try your hand at animal tracking, discover which plants make good bush tucker and medicine, and visit sites that have held cultural significance to local Indigenous people for thousands of years.

HOT TUB AT THE HOMESTEAD

Only 7km into the Francois Peron National Park, the Peron Homestead is a historic site with a small interpretive centre, walk trail and 'hot tub', where visitors can soak in warm artesian waters that once supplied water to stock on the former Peron Station. The Homestead is accessible by 2WD vehicles and offers a glimpse into life in the 1950s, when the Park was a working sheep station. The interpretive centre depicts stories of Indigenous inhabitants, European colonisation and the highly successful conservation program, Project Eden.

The nearby lawn and barbecue are great for picnics. Guided tours operate from Denham, or take a self-guided walk using the Homestead's informative signage.

CAMP ON RED DIRT BY BLUE WATERS

A range of designated basic campsites are located in Francois Peron National Park, most notably at Herald Bight, Big Lagoon, Bottle Bay and Gregories. Gas barbecues are supplied. Many campsites lead to top fishing spots along the coastline and are great places to spot marine life or bird colonies. You'll find prints left by emus, reptiles and mammals such as endangered bilbies. Note: campfires and pets are not permitted in Francois Peron National Park, and visitors should bring their own water and remove their own waste.



Road access is via the Peron Homestead and high clearance 4WDs are essential for travel further north into the park. Deflate your tyres by the Homestead, where a tyre compressor station is conveniently located.



DRINK UP!

Drinking water is not available in Francois Peron National Park, so be sure to bring an adequate supply of 3 to 4 litres per person per day, or join an organised tour.



♀ THORNY DEVIL

CAPE PERON & SKIPJACK POINT

Cape Peron and Skipjack Point are found at the northern end of Francois Peron National Park and are joined by a 1.5km cliff-edge trail, the Wanamalu Trail. The trail provides excellent views of the coastline whilst informative signs along the way provide an introduction to the features of the area. Two viewing platforms at Skipjack Point offer striking coastal views and the opportunity to view Shark Bay's abundant marine life.

BEAUTIFUL BOTTLE BAY

Located on the western side of Francois Peron National Park, slightly south of Cape Peron, Bottle Bay is home to plunging red sea cliffs which frame a coastal landscape of red, white and blue. Bush camping, 4WD-

ing and beach fishing are popular here in addition to swimming and boating.

SALT-LAGOON BIRRIDAS

An unusual feature of Shark Bay is its gypsum clay pans, known as Birridas. These land-locked saline lakes support specially-adapted plant and animal species. The sea has also re-flooded some coastal Birridas, creating the inland bays of Big Lagoon and Little Lagoon, which are known for their beauty and thriving ecological significance. Big Lagoon is home to dugongs, dolphins and green turtles, and offers camping (4WD access only), whilst Little Lagoon is a natural nursery for crabs and whiting, and offers day-access only with BBQ facilities. Kayak the lagoons or see them from above on a scenic flight.

MONKEY MIA

Monkey Mia Conservation Park is home to the world-famous Monkey Mia dolphins, and is a must-visit destination for families, kayakers and nature lovers.

THE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS

The Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins of Monkey Mia are famous for their daily ritual (stretching back over 40 years) of swimming to shore, giving you the opportunity to see wild dolphins up close. Stand at the water's edge of the 'dolphin experience area' and enjoy the thrill of dolphins approaching you in the shallows under the supervision of a Park Ranger. Being wild animals, the number of dolphins and time of day they visit varies, however they often visit the shore between 7:45am and 12pm. Arriving at 7:30am is recommended for the best experience.

NATURE CRUISE

Take a cruise into the bay in search of dugongs, dolphins and other endangered marine life who call this World Heritage Area home.



Visitor fees apply when visiting Monkey Mia, including resort guests. National Park passes are not valid for Monkey Mia Conservation Park.



DIRK HARTOG ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

For those who love a little seclusion, Dirk Hartog Island National Park offers a peaceful retreat featuring beautiful scenery and white sandy beaches. The island was the site of the first recorded landing on Australian soil by Europeans in 1616. Now a National Park, the island's environment is being restored with the removal of all feral animals and the reintroduction of many rare and endangered animals in the Parks and Wildlife Service's Return to 1616 project.

Air or boat transfers and accommodation must be arranged in advance. 4WDs are required and vehicle access is from Steep Point via barge. Prior bookings are essential. Fishing and 4WD day tours depart from Denham.

STAY ON THE ISLAND

Visitors with high clearance 4WD vehicles can choose to camp at National Park campsites on the island (park entry and camping fees apply). Alternatively, guests can stay in a range of accommodation offered by the Dirk Hartog Island Lodge, located within the original limestone shearers' quarters built over a century ago.

PINK LAKES AND SECLUDED BEACHES

Water in every direction! Visit the impressive False Bay Blowholes and Surf Point Sanctuary Zone, where you can spot countless nervous sharks in the shallows. Guided and self-guided walks depart from the Lodge's Homestead and go past Rose de Freycinet Lake, aptly named due to its rose colour (best seen August – May). Day tours from Denham also offer the opportunity to go fishing, snorkelling and 4WDing.

WILDLIFE SPOTTING

Head to Turtle Bay to spot the endangered loggerhead turtles, but be mindful not to disturb them – especially if you are visiting during the mating, nesting or hatching seasons (December – April). A variety of lizards, birds and frogs also inhabit the island, and rare mammals like the banded and rufous hare-wallabies are bouncing back from the brink of extinction in the absence of feral cats. Wildlife can be spotted from the secluded National Park campsites or on 4WD day tours or guided walks.

HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Dirk Hartog Island was the site of the first recorded European landing on Australian soil, placing Australia on world maps for the first time. Captain Dirk Hartog arrived on the 'Eendracht' on October 25, 1616 leaving a pewter plate nailed to a wooden post at the site now known as Cape Inscription. Visit the site of Dirk Hartog's landing and the Cape Inscription Lighthouse, built between 1908 and 1910, on a guided day-tour to the exclusive northern end of the island, leaving from Denham (March - September). Learn more at the Shark Bay Discovery Centre in Denham.

ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE

You can spend your time doing as much or as little as you like at Dirk Hartog Island. Popular activities include fishing near the Blowholes, 4WDing and exploring the Wild Walks and Rockpools, swimming at secluded beaches like Surf Point, watching the last sunset in Australia on top of 600ft high cliffs and enjoying a BBQ beneath the stars.

SHARK BAY FLY AWAY

🕒 STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS MINIMUM 📅 MARCH-OCTOBER



♀ DIRK HARTOG ISLAND

DAY 1

PERTH TO SHARK BAY

(2hr flight or 9hr drive)

Flight: Depart Perth with Regional Express (REX) to Monkey Mia Airport, arriving mid-afternoon. Pre-arrange a hire car or transfer for easy access to **Denham** or **Monkey Mia**.

Ease into "Shark Bay Time" with a swim or a refreshing drink on the beach before heading out on a **sunset sailing tour** with **Perfect Nature Cruises**. Watching the sky ignite over the bay is one of the most spectacular introductions to this World Heritage-listed wonderland. Afterward, enjoy a relaxed dinner at the **Shark Bay Hotel**, or grab a pizza from **Shark Bay Pizza** to finish the evening stargazing on the beach.

Overnight: Denham

DAY 2

EXPLORE SHARK BAY

Start the day at the **Shark Bay World Heritage Discovery & Visitor Centre**, where interactive exhibits reveal the cultural and natural stories that earned Shark Bay its UNESCO listing.

From here, choose your own adventure:

- **Join Shark Bay Eco Tours** to explore Francois Peron National Park by 4WD, kayak its sheltered bays, or spot dugongs and turtles on the water.
- Take to the skies with **Shark Bay Scenic Flights**, offering breathtaking views of the lagoons, cliffs, and winding inlets.
- Or dive beneath the surface on one of Shark Bay's unique diving tours.
- Discover Aboriginal culture through an experience with **Wula Gura Nyinda Eco Cultural Adventures**.

In the evening, savour a beachfront dinner at one of the two onsite restaurants at **RAC Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort**.

Overnight: Monkey Mia or Denham

DAY 3

DIRK HARTOG ISLAND ESCAPE

Aboard a boat with **Island Life Adventures** for a day trip full of marine and 4WD experiences or extend your trip by staying at the eco-tents on **Dirk Hartog Island**. This rugged island offers wild beauty at every turn: limestone cliffs, sweeping beaches, turtle nesting grounds, migrating whales (in season), and excellent snorkelling in sheltered bays like Surf Point and Turtle Bay.

Explore by 4WD, hike through dramatic landscapes, or simply unwind and enjoy the seclusion. End the day with a gin in hand at the **Inscription Bar & Café**, watching the sun sink into the Indian Ocean from one of the most remote islands in Western Australia.

Overnight: Dirk Hartog Island or Shark Bay

DAY 4

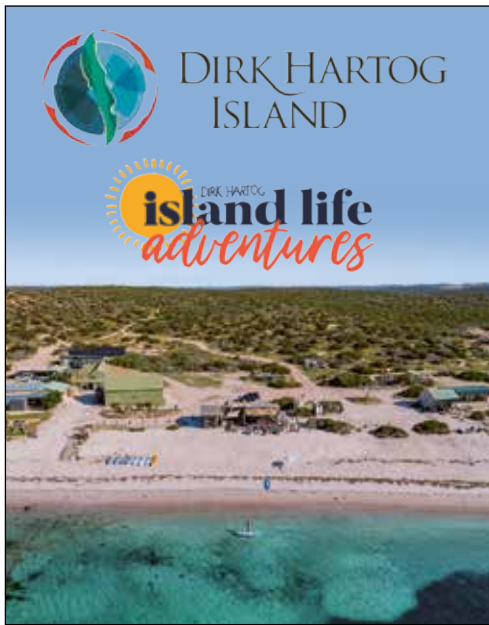
EXPLORE SHARK BAY

No visit to Shark Bay is complete without meeting the famous **Monkey Mia dolphins**, who swim to shore most mornings, with the first feeding at around 7:45am.

Continue your wildlife encounters at the **Ocean Park Aquarium**, where you can take a guided tour, see shark feedings, and enjoy lunch at the onsite café. For more time on the water, join a wildlife cruise to spot dugongs, dolphins, rays, and turtles in their natural habitat.

Prefer to stay on land? Head to **Little Lagoon** or **Big Lagoon** - two tranquil spots perfect for kayaking, walking, picnics, or a laid-back BBQ by the water.

Flight: Depart Shark Bay for Perth



DIRK HARTOG ISLAND

island life adventures



DISCOVER AUSTRALIA'S LAST ISLAND WILDERNESS

Spoil yourself with a stay in the rustic luxury Eco Lodge or our private self-contained villa.

Explore Dirk Hartog Island in your own 4WD, camp out in the National Park or at the Homestead Campgrounds.

Join a guided 4WD day tour from Denham and discover the island's natural beauty.

BOOK NOW! ☎ 08 9948 1211

✉ stay@dirkhartogisland.com.au

dirkhartogisland.com.au



Aboriginal cultural tours along the stunning Coral Coast

Enjoy bush yarns and breathtaking views at Kalbarri National Park.

Learn to play didgeridoo around a campfire at Shark Bay World Heritage Area or experience a spectacular Ningaloo sunset at Cardabia Station.




sharkbayvisit.com.au | #discoversharkbay

SHARK BAY WORLD HERITAGE DISCOVERY VISITOR CENTRE

General Information
3D Film 'Fire on the Water' HMAS Sydney II
Tour and Accommodation Bookings
Rose de Freycinet Art Gallery & Museum

53 KNIGHT TERRACE, DENHAM, WA. PH: 08 9948 1590



Visiting Wirruwana / Dirk Hartog Island National Park?

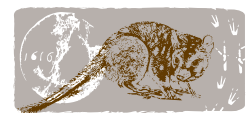


Shark Bay Bandicoot



THREATENED FAUNA
DRIVE SLOWLY
DUSK TO DAWN

Learn how the Return to 1616 Project is re-wilding the island!



RETURN TO 1616

DIRK HARTOG ISLAND NATIONAL PARK



Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions



DISCOVER GERALDTON, KALBARRI & SHARK BAY *FROM ABOVE*

Fly from Geraldton, Kalbarri or Shark Bay to the Abrolhos Islands, Monkey Mia, Pink Lake, the River Gorges and Dirk Hartog Island – all with your own window seat!

Book your flight today and let the wonders of Geraldton, Kalbarri and Shark Bay take your breath away



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HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE ULTIMATE HOLIDAY

MOBILE/CELL PHONE RECEPTION

It is recommended you purchase a Telstra SIM card as your phone carrier, given their regional coverage is more efficient in the Coral Coast.

DRIVE ON THE LEFT

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

ROAD CONDITIONS

Sealed roads are easily accessible, but be aware that heavy rainfall can lead to road closures due to flooding. Unsealed roads are less reliable, especially during periods of high rainfall. Updates on road conditions can be found through Main Roads Western Australia (mainroads.wa.gov.au) or the local visitor centre.

ROAD SAFETY

The Coral Coast region is home to long stretches of road. Make sure you stop regularly to take a break from driving. We recommend sharing the driving where possible. The speed limit for open roads is 110km per hour, and 50km per hour in towns and built up areas. However, pay close attention to road signs along the way. When driving, refrain from using mobile devices, ensure you are always wearing your seatbelt, and never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

CALL AHEAD

Where possible it's best to book ahead as tours, restaurants, accommodation and attractions may be booked out. You

can plan or take inspiration from the information on australiascoralcoast.com or call ahead to one of the visitor centres.

ROAD TRAINS

When travelling through the Coral Coast, you're bound to come across road trains or extra-large trucks spanning around 60m in length. Only overtake if you can see clearly ahead, and be cautious that dust and stones can flick up on unsealed roads.

FUEL UP & CHARGE UP

We highly recommend tracking your fuel and stopping when possible. Food and fuel can generally be found every 100 - 300km, but LPG Gas and Electric charge stations are not available in all areas. Please keep in mind that not all fuel/petrol stations are open 24 hours. Check where to find electric car charging stations here: australiascoralcoast.com/plan/getting-here-around

WATCH OUT FOR WILDLIFE

Particularly at dawn and dusk - make sure you're extra vigilant when driving. It is not uncommon to encounter wildlife such as kangaroos and emus, or stock such as cattle and sheep wandering the road. Numerous cattle stations are unfenced, but if you do come across a gated road, be sure to leave the gate as you found it, (i.e. open or closed).

STAY SUN SMART

Be mindful of your exposure to the sun, particularly between 10am and 3pm when UV radiation is the most intense. Be sure to cover your skin where possible, and apply sunscreen regularly, especially if swimming. Also remember to drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.

PICK UP A PARK PASS

Visitor fees apply at national parks in the Coral Coast region and a range of passes are available to suit your holiday. Park Passes can be bought online and are also available at a range of outlets including selected visitor centres. Selected national park camp sites can be prebooked at parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/park-stay. This guarantees a great campsite in a range of incredible locations. For more information visit parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au or contact Parks and Wildlife on +61 8 9219 9000.

HOLIDAY PARK PASS

Holiday passes are available for five days, fourteen days or four weeks, depending on the length of your trip, and are a great option for short trips.

Fee: \$30 for a five day pass, \$50 for a fourteen day pass and \$70 for a four week pass. Passes are valid for one vehicle with up to twelve occupants.

ANNUAL PARK PASS

For those planning extended or multiple trips, annual passes offer great value.

Fees: \$30 for an annual local park pass, or \$130 for an annual all parks pass providing unlimited entry to any WA park for twelve months. Passes are valid for one vehicle with up to twelve occupants.

Note: Park passes do not include camping and separate fees apply.

FLYING A DRONE

Check the Parks and Wildlife website (exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au/drones-parks) before flying drones, as there are regulations in place to protect areas of Aboriginal significance, and areas with protected wildlife and flora.

NINGALOO'S BEST KEPT SECRET

BY CAROLYN BEASLEY

♀ TURQUOISE BAY

Visit the Ningaloo coast in spring to be rewarded with frolicking whales and vibrant wildflowers.

Spring on Ningaloo Reef is a time of renewal, when the humpback highway teems with 40,000 acrobatic whales, turtles gather in the shallows to breed, and on the land, wildflowers erupt in vibrant colour. The season is often overlooked by visitors for autumn and winter, but with fewer visitors in town, spring also offers a wider choice of accommodation.

SPRING SURPRISES

Most travellers visit Ningaloo between April and July, timing their stay for peak whale shark season. But spring at Ningaloo offers many marine wonders, including other migrating megafauna.

Take a spring dip with humpback whales as they journey south towards Antarctica for summer. It's a time where tour operators switch from whale shark swims to eco or megafauna tours. If wildlife conditions are right, guests on these boats may slip into the ocean with the curious cetaceans for an unforgettable encounter.

Other members of Ningaloo's Big 5 may also be spotted in spring. Manta rays, the elegant filter-feeders of the deep, reside at Ningaloo year-round. Sea turtles are plentiful in spring, and lucky visitors may even spot dugongs grazing on seagrasses.

As for the famous whale sharks, although most have departed Ningaloo by August, spring holds a little-known secret. In recent years, a sprinkling of whale shark sightings has continued right through to November.

BEYOND THE BIG 5

As impressive as these big animals are, Ningaloo offers a plethora of experiences. Paddle a sea kayak through the glimmering, shallow lagoon with Exmouth Adventure Co, or step aboard a Ningaloo Glass Bottom Boat. And families will love the Ningaloo Discovery Centre and Aquarium, with giant tanks and kid-friendly displays.

Take a break from the water and visit the simply awe-inspiring Cape Range National Park. Yardie Creek Boat Tours explores the limestone gorge of Yardie Creek, where black-flanked rock wallabies bounce across cliff walls.

In spring, Cape Range is a wildflower bonanza, with bright red Sturt's desert peas blooming, wattle bushes decked in golden baubles, and fluffy, purple mulla mulla, rippling in the breeze.

For an immersive Cape Range experience, join Trek Ningaloo for a single or multi-day hike. Alternatively, tour with Exmouth Bus Charters to the rugged Charles Knife Canyon and Vlamingh Head Lighthouse, where you may spot breaching whales.

Make time for the 1.5-hour journey south to Coral Bay, and don't miss a pit stop at Bullara Station for their legendary coffee and scones — a true outback treat. Once you roll into Coral Bay, adventure awaits. Feel the thrill of the dunes with Coastal Adventure Tours, where you'll ride quad bikes across golden sands, weaving between pristine bays and spotting an abundance of wildlife along the way.

Prefer something a little smoother? Set out on the turquoise waters with Coral Bay Eco Tours, offering incredible coral and marine-life encounters, or unwind aboard the luxurious sailing catamaran with Sail Ningaloo for an unforgettable experience at sea.

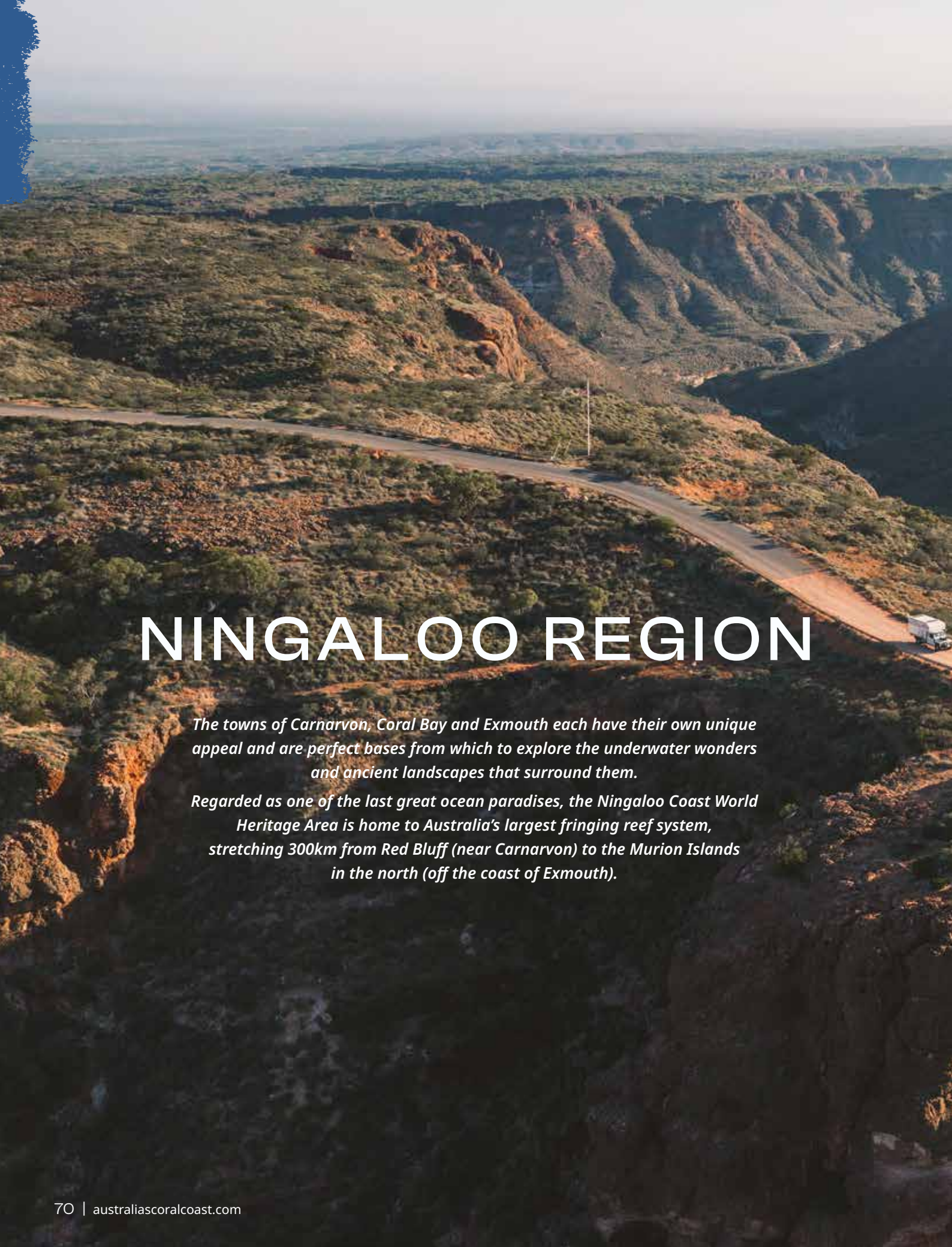
NINGALOO SKIES

For the highest vantage point possible, strap in for a thrilling ride in a microlight aircraft with Birds Eye View. Your unobstructed vista may reveal dugongs or manta rays in Exmouth Gulf, before you cross the labyrinth gorges of Cape Range and the glorious Ningaloo coastline.

As the clear cobalt sky drains to night, Ningaloo's pristine, dark skies are dazzling. Join Ningaloo Stars for star gazing through mobile telescopes, observing planets, deep-sky objects and constellations.

Start planning now, your spring Ningaloo adventure awaits.

♀ WHALE SHARK



NINGALOO REGION

The towns of Carnarvon, Coral Bay and Exmouth each have their own unique appeal and are perfect bases from which to explore the underwater wonders and ancient landscapes that surround them.

Regarded as one of the last great ocean paradises, the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area is home to Australia's largest fringing reef system, stretching 300km from Red Bluff (near Carnarvon) to the Murion Islands in the north (off the coast of Exmouth).



Best time to visit Ningaloo:
March-October



Perth to Carnarvon: 9 hrs or 905 km
Perth to Coral Bay: 11.5 hrs or 1132 km
Perth to Exmouth: 13 hrs or 1260 km



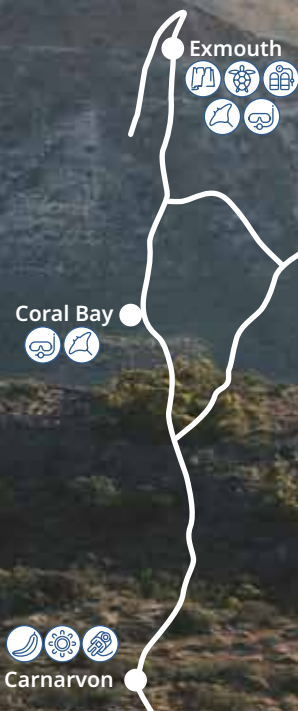
Qantas flies to Exmouth's Learmonth Airport from Perth (year round).
Regional Express flies Perth to Carnarvon (via Monkey Mia).



ASK A LOCAL

Carnarvon & Coral Bay
Visitor Information
📍 21 Robinson St, Carnarvon WA 6701
☎ +61 8 9941 1146
✉ info@carnarvon.org.au
🌐 carnarvon.org.au

Ningaloo Visitor Centre
📍 2 Truscott Cres, Exmouth WA 6707
☎ +61 8 9949 3070
✉ reservations@exmouthwa.com.au
🌐 visitningaloo.com.au



NINGALOO REGION HIGHLIGHTS



Spot Ningaloo's Big 5! Whale Sharks, Humpback Whales, Manta Rays, Turtles and Dugongs



Visit the Space & Technology Museum in Carnarvon to discover the town's space history



Join a glass-bottom boat tour to see the incredible coral gardens of Ningaloo Reef



Experience outback life at a Coral Coast Station Stay



Hike Cape Range National Park's rugged canyons and gorges



Explore Exmouth's Ningaloo Aquarium and Discovery Centre



Visit Gwoonwardu Mia and learn about the five Aboriginal language groups of the Gascoyne Region



Dive world class sites at Muiron Islands, Lighthouse Bay, and Exmouth's Navy Pier



Taste Carnarvon's produce along the 'Fruit Loop Drive Trail'



Fish from Carnarvon to Exmouth on a range of fishing experiences and tours

3 MUST DO TRAILS



One Mile Jetty Heritage Walk – 2.5 km

Mandu Mandu Gorge Trail – 3 km

Yardie Creek Gorge Trail – 2 km



♀ CARNARVON



CARNARVON
FOOD &
BEVERAGE
GUIDE



CARNARVON

Ideally situated between the Shark Bay and Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Areas, Carnarvon is a hub of adventure and simultaneously a great place to rest, relax and recharge. Enjoy an abundance of fresh fruit, vegetables and seafood in the subtropical oasis whilst learning about the Gascoyne region's Indigenous and colonial pioneering heritage.

♀ LIGHTHOUSE, CARNARVON



THE CACTUS GARDEN

South River Road is home to the #InstaFamous "Cactus Garden". Why is it there? It's one man's hobby garden! The first cacti were planted some 15 years ago and now there are over 30 cactus plants – some of which are over 5m tall. Someone took a picture and put it on Instagram, and now the Cactus Garden is a must-see for visitors to town.

WEEKEND MARKETS

The Gascoyne Growers Markets operate every Saturday morning from late May to early October in front of the Visitor Centre. Market stalls offer local tropical fruits, homemade ice-creams, ready to eat meals and a wide variety of vegetables, herbs, honey, cakes, jams, relishes, plants and handmade crafts. The markets are plastic bag free, so don't forget your reusable bags!

FASCINE WATERWAY & THE HMAS SYDNEY II MEMORIAL

Carnarvon's scenic central waterway, known as the Fascine, features several grassed picnic areas with barbecues, a swimming pontoon and children's playground, and is an ideal spot to catch the sunset whilst enjoying some local produce. Along the Fascine is an HMAS Sydney II Memorial, featuring 645 plaques to commemorate the lives lost aboard with WWII naval ship. The memorial was opened in early 2016 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the ship's sinking on 19 November 1941.

WALKING TRAILS

Carnarvon is best explored on foot, with two walking trails offering a window into

the town's history, colour and coastal charm. Pick up a guide from the Visitor Centre and follow the Carnarvon Heritage Walk Trail, where you'll uncover historic landmarks, local stories and cultural touchpoints. Then continue your journey along the Carnarvon Mural and Art Trail, showcasing vibrant public artworks – including the impressive 26-metre mural along Robinson Street that brings the town's narrative to life. For a longer wander, follow the 2.5km Carnarvon Tramway Walk Trail to the Heritage Precinct, passing interpretive signage and crossing the historic Tramway Bridge.

CARNARVON HERITAGE PRECINCT

Immerse yourself in fascinating local history in the Carnarvon Heritage Precinct, home to the Kimberley Steam Train, Lighthouse Keepers Cottage, Shearers Hall of Fame and the One Mile Jetty Interpretive Centre. The Precinct is an ideal spot for birdwatching or a sunset picnic amongst the mangroves, and you can even enjoy a coffee or light bite with views of the old jetty at Kestrel Café. For access to the museum, tickets can be purchased from the refurbished railway carriage located next to the carpark on Annear Place. Open Tuesday – Sunday, 9am – 4pm.

CARNARVON SPACE & TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM

Visit Carnarvon's Space & Technology Museum to learn about the town's little-known role in NASA's manned space program and Australia's telecommunications history. The Museum is located at the OTC Satellite Earth Station and has various interactive displays and experiences including the Apollo (capsule)

simulation, planetarium movies, NASA memorabilia, the space theatre and space shop. Open daily between 9am – 4pm, April to September and between 10am – 2pm, October to March.

GWOONWARDU MIA – GASCOYNE ABORIGINAL HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Gwoonwardu Mia – Gascoyne Aboriginal Heritage & Cultural Centre is a multipurpose centre which celebrates the region's five Aboriginal language groups. Discover the Gascoyne region's Aboriginal history, art, heritage and culture through the Centre's permanent collection, exhibitions, Artist-in-residence program and ethnobotanical garden.

THE FOOD BOWL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Carnarvon produces 80% of Western Australia's total fruit and vegetable crops, and much of its seafood with a thriving prawn, scallop, crab and fishing industry. A drive along the North and South River Roads, aptly known as "the Fruit Loop", will take you past working plantations and roadside stalls where you can purchase a wide range of fresh produce, preserves and tasty snacks including dried fruit and ice-creams – make sure to try a choc-coated banana! Between March and November, freshly caught seafood can be purchased directly from local outlets and cooked prawns and crabs can also be purchased to take away.

KITESURFING IN THE WARMER MONTHS

Carnarvon has become increasingly popular for kitesurfers, particularly in the warmer months between November and January. The warm winds at Pelican Point make it the perfect location to explore by board during the day, with time to chill out at the local pub in the evening. Another popular spot is Tombstones at Gnaraloo Bay (150km north of Carnarvon). Travel is via an unsealed road (4WD recommended).

PICTURESQUE SHORELINES

Travel a little out of town to discover quiet, secluded beaches. 40km south of Carnarvon you'll find Bush Bay and New Beach, perfect for a swim and picnic. For a truly exclusive experience, join Coral Coast Helicopter Services on their Golden Cliffs Heli-Snorkel tour to Cape Cuvier, accessible only by boat or helicopter.



This coastline can be dangerous, so keep a wary eye on the tides and be careful of king waves.

CARNARVON GOLDEN CLIFFS

KENNEDY RANGE AND HONEYCOMB GORGE

160km east of Carnarvon lies the mighty Kennedy Range National Park, home to a variety of scenic walk trails of varying difficulty and the iconic Honeycomb Gorge – a rock face covered with hexagonal holes carved out by wind and water spray from a seasonal waterfall. The Range is 75km long and up to 25km wide, and is popular for photography, bush camping and hiking. 4WDs are required to explore the National Park, or you can join a guided coach tour.

HELICOPTERS & HIDDEN SHORELINES

Just 40 kilometres south of Carnarvon, Bush Bay and New Beach offer peaceful, crowd-free spots perfect for a swim or picnic by the water. For a next-level adventure, take to the skies with Coral Coast Helicopters, where scenic flights reveal the dramatic Golden Cliffs of Cape Cuvier, remote coastlines, and the sweeping beauty of the Gascoyne. Depending on the season, you may even spot humpback whales migrating along the Coral Coast. With options ranging from short flights over Carnarvon to extended journeys showcasing rugged shores, marine life and endless horizons, it's a breathtaking way to see this part of the world.

MIND-BLOWING BLOWHOLES

Located just 75km north of Carnarvon, the Quobba Blowholes are a dramatic spectacle; watch as the ocean is forced

PRODUCE SEASON IN CARNARVON

Bananas & Papayas
Year-round

Seafood
Year-round

Tomatoes, Chillis, Cucumbers, Butternut Pumpkins
Year-round

Winter Vegetables
May - August

Melons
October - April

Grapes
November - January

Mangoes & Tropical Fruits
November - March

through sea caves before shooting up through holes in the rock. Depending on the swell, the spray often reaches up to 20m high. Fresh water is not available at the Blowholes, so be sure to pack an adequate supply before leaving town. Make a day of it and pack a picnic and snorkel at the nearby aquarium.

SNORKELLING THE 'AQUARIUM'

Located 1km south of the Quobba Blowholes, Point Quobba is a pristine beach protected by a coral reef. This calm, coral filled lagoon is fondly known by locals as 'the Aquarium'. The area is popular for snorkelling, swimming, sun bathing, and picnics.

NINGALOO COAST WORLD HERITAGE AREA

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area covers more than 600,000 hectares and includes Red Bluff, Gnaraloo, the Ningaloo Marine Park (encompassing the Ningaloo Coastal Reserves and Ningaloo Reef), Cape Range National Park, the Bundegi and Jurabi Coastal Parks and the Muiron Islands Management Area. Home to around 300 species of coral and 500 species of fish, the Ningaloo Reef - one of the world's largest fringing reefs - is just a few metres from the shore in places and easily accessed by snorkellers. The magnificent gentle giants of the sea - whale sharks - alongside manta rays, humpback whales, turtles, dolphins and an abundance of fish attract visitors from across the globe. The Ningaloo Coast and Exmouth Gulf are a designated 'Hope Spot', which are global locations considered critical to the health of the ocean. The concept was introduced in 2009 by marine science organisation Mission Blue, run by legendary oceanographer Dr Sylvia Earle.

SWIM WITH THE BIG 3: WHALE SHARKS, HUMPBACK WHALES & MANTA RAYS

Whale sharks, manta rays and humpback whales are the marine 'Big 3', and Ningaloo is one of only a few places in the world where you can swim with all three from a single location - sometimes on the same day! Whale sharks are the world's biggest fish, growing up to 18m long, and cruising alongside one of these completely harmless giants is a bucket list experience. Ningaloo

has the world's highest reliability rate of whale shark interactions, with tours departing from both Coral Bay and Exmouth between March and September (the season finishes slightly earlier in Coral Bay than in Exmouth). Check with a Visitor Centre or local operators for precise season dates. Humpback whales visit the Ningaloo Coast between March and September (with the season often extending until November) each year, on their annual migration along Western Australia's coastline. Tourists can join a humpback whale interaction tour or whale watching tour from Coral Bay between July and October, and from Exmouth between August and October. Manta ray interaction tours depart from Coral Bay year-round, a manta ray 'hotspot' and one of the few places in the world lucky enough to have a resident manta ray population - approximately 80 manta rays reside here. Manta rays are the largest of the ray family, growing to have a wing span of several metres wide and are harmless to humans (their tails have no barb). Coral Bay is one of the worldwide hubs for 'Project Manta', an identification and tracking program researching these majestic creatures.

HOW DO WHALE SHARK AND HUMPBACK WHALE TOURS WORK?

Whale shark and humpback whale interaction tours are full day experiences - you can expect to depart your accommodation at around 7am and return around 4pm or 5pm (courtesy coach transfers included to/from town). Both



Please visit australiascoralcoast.com/see-do/marine-interactions/sea-turtles to read the "Turtle Watcher's Code of Conduct" to guide you on how to best experience breeding season without disturbing their activity.

tours commence with safety briefings and a snorkel on the inner reef, whilst spotter planes locate the whale sharks or humpback whales (depending which tour you're on). Small groups are dropped into the water at suitable distances from the mega fauna, with a dive master as your guide to ensure you keep a safe distance, and tell you when you put your head into the water and start swimming! This 'drop' repeats several times throughout the day, with lunch and refreshments provided as part of the tour.

SWIM WITH A SEA TURTLE

Six of the world's seven species of sea turtle can be found in the waters of the Ningaloo Coast, with green, loggerhead, flatback and hawksbill turtles the most common. Sea turtles can be encountered year-round and are often snorkelled with on Ningaloo Reef's inner lagoon. Hatchlings may be sighted during turtle hatching season.

Check sanctuary zones before fishing, or ask the nearest Visitor Centre for fishing guidelines in the Ningaloo Marine Park.



TURTLE NESTING

The Coral Coast is home to major turtle breeding sites, where turtles come ashore to lay their eggs. These locations are Dirk Hartog Island in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, the Ningaloo Coast (in particular, the Quobba Coastline north of Carnarvon, Maud's Landing in Coral Bay and Jurabi Coastal Reserve near Exmouth), the Muiron Islands and the Mackerel Islands. Turtles nest annually between November and March.

TURTLE HATCHING

Just 6 weeks after nesting, turtle hatching begins! Hatchlings can be seen venturing down the beaches and into the oceans. Exmouth's Jurabi Turtle Centre, located just south of Vlamingh Head Lighthouse, provides information and guided turtle nesting tours from December to January. Guided tours allow participants to watch turtles nesting or hatching on a night tour in Cape Range National Park, under the guidance of an experienced Park Ranger.

LEARN TO DIVE

Ningaloo Reef's calm waters are the ideal location for your first attempt at SCUBA diving, or to continue your diving education. Operators in Coral Bay and Exmouth are PADI certified, offering half or full day lessons. Ningaloo has a range of dive site types, including shore, night, wreck, deep, reef and cave dives.

THE REEF THROUGH GLASS

Explore the reef without getting wet! Daily glass bottom boat tours depart from Coral Bay and Exmouth, with guides explaining how special the Ningaloo Reef is. Learn about the Reef's ecosystem, ancient coral formations and how we can protect it, and watch marine life cruise around the shallow lagoon water. Some tour options include snorkelling opportunities and can be an hour, half day or full day in length.

CRUISE THE REEF

Set sail across the turquoise waters of Ningaloo from Coral Bay or Exmouth. Day tours and sunset sails let you soak up the beauty of the reef from the deck, with the chance to spot dolphins, turtles, rays and, in season, migrating humpback whales. There's nothing quite like watching the sun sink into the Indian Ocean with the sails up and the reef as your backdrop.

FANTASTIC FISHING

With a diverse range of game, sport, reef and fly fishing on offer, Ningaloo is recognised as one of the world's best fishing destinations. The waters surrounding Exmouth are home to over 40 different game fish, including all six Australian species of billfish. Fish from the shore, from a boat or cast a line from Exmouth's Learmonth Jetty. For beach fishing, try Point Maud in Coral Bay. Hire a boat or book a fishing charter from Carnarvon, Coral Bay or Exmouth, or try balloon fishing from Quobba Station and Red Bluff. Visit Exmouth in March for the annual GAMEX fishing competition.

SCENIC FLIGHTS OVER NINGALOO

Take to the air and view the contrasting landscapes and Ningaloo Reef seascapes, spotting humpback whales and whale sharks (in season), manta rays, turtles and dolphins from above. These unforgettable sights are possible from light aircraft scenic flights from Coral Bay and Exmouth.

SECLUDED SOUTHERN GATEWAY

Along the coastline north of Carnarvon you'll find some of Ningaloo's most remote coastal wilderness locations, from Point Quobba to Gnaraloo Bay. Located at the southern end of Ningaloo Reef, this scenic stretch of coastline is home to towering cliffs, beautiful beaches and plenty of wildlife. Camp, 4WD or visit for a day to enjoy great fishing, surfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing, snorkelling and wildlife encounters.

OUTBACK STATION STAYS

The Coral Coast is home to a number of Station Stays – working cattle or sheep farms where you can stay overnight. Many stations are found in the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area, such as Wooramel River Retreat, Quobba Station and Red Bluff, Warroora Station and Bullara Station. Stay in your caravan, pitch a tent, or occupy refurbished shearer's quarters with comfy beds. Some stations also have eco-tents and glamping options. From relaxing in artesian fed hot tubs to taking a hot shower under the stars, our stations stays guarantee a unique Coral Coast experience.



NINGALOO
FOOD
& BEVERAGE
GUIDE



CORAL BAY

Coral Bay is a marine lover's paradise, with accommodation directly opposite the Ningaloo Reef and its calm bays. Aptly named Coral Bay due to the mesmerising coral gardens which lie mere metres from the pristine white sandy beach, this tiny, laidback seaside town is a must-visit destination for nature and wildlife lovers.

MESMERISING CORAL FORMATIONS

Many of the best coral formations are only accessible with the help of a snorkel, dive or kayaking tour operator. Marine life is plentiful and you're likely to encounter timid reef sharks, dugongs and turtles among the expansive coral gardens, as well as resident manta rays. You'll be impressed by the cabbage coral formations at Asho's Gap, which are 5m in diameter!

SNORKEL THE BAYS

Situated on the doorstep of Coral Bay's accommodation, Bill's Bay and Purdy Point are calm and protected swimming locations ideal for families. This is a sanctuary zone, where fishing is prohibited, meaning there is plenty to be seen while snorkelling. South of Purdy Point is the aptly named Paradise Beach, with white sand, crystal clear waters and a shallow drift snorkel trail.



♀ MANTA RAY

LIVE-ABOARD ADVENTURES

Explore the Ningaloo Reef in style aboard Sail Ningaloo's luxury catamaran, with extended overnight journeys departing from Coral Bay. Spend your days swimming, snorkelling, or scuba diving among untouched coral gardens teeming with marine life, and encounter gentle giants like whale sharks and manta rays in season. Each night, fall asleep to the sound of the ocean and wake to a new horizon on the Coral Coast - an unforgettable way to experience Ningaloo at its most pristine and unhurried.

GAME FISHING

Jump on board a fishing tour with Coral Bay's expert fishing operators. Experience the excitement of sport fishing using top of the range quality tackle. Catch rates are impressive among the operators, meaning you're sure to have an action-packed fishing adventure!

4WD ADVENTURES

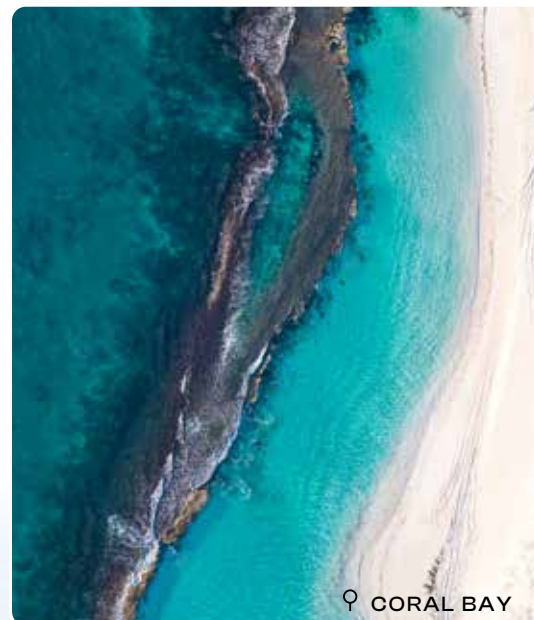
Coral Bay offers some exhilarating 4WD journeys to secluded coastlines and beautiful beaches. Head south to discover Five Fingers Reef, or North to Oyster Bridge, both are ideal locations for snorkelling the Ningaloo Reef just off the shore. If you're an experienced 4WDer adventure further North along the Cardabia Ningaloo Road up to the Cape Range National Park. Be sure to check tides when attempting to cross Yardie Creek along the beach.

SEASIDE DINING

Enjoy dining within walking distance of the beach - pick up breakfast from the bakery, enjoy a tasty meal at Fin's, try a delicious pizza at The Reef Restaurant, or try Bill's Bar; offering lunch and dinner in a modern setting with an alfresco area, beer garden and sports bar.

COASTAL THRILLS

Join a guided quad trek to explore Coral Bay's sweeping dunes and remote beaches, with the option to snorkel in crystal-clear waters along the way. Or hop on a jet ski to discover hidden bays and vibrant marine life. Sunset views? That's a bonus.



♀ CORAL BAY





EXMOUTH

The northern gateway to the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area, Exmouth is the perfect base from which to explore the otherworldly landscapes of the Cape Range National Park and the underwater wonders of the Ningaloo Reef. Eternally sunny, Exmouth enjoys approximately 320 days of sunshine each year!

EXPLORE THE NINGALOO AQUARIUM AND DISCOVERY CENTRE

The Ningaloo Aquarium and Discovery Centre is located in the Ningaloo Centre, Exmouth's state of the art visitor, research, education and community hub. Learn about the region's unique environment and history in the three engaging interactive display areas showcasing the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef, Cape Range National Park and Exmouth. The impressive 55,000 litre aquarium is one of Australia's largest live coral exhibits and is home to over 50 different species of animals native to the Ningaloo Reef. Enjoy seeing marine life and reptiles in their respective exhibits, ride the Red Bus, experience the Cyclone Room, discover the mysteries of a cave system, design and release your own digital fish and much more for all ages. Open daily.

GULF SIDE SWIMMING

Situated along the Exmouth Gulf, Town Beach and the Gulf-side shores at Bundegei provide a great alternative to swimming on the Ningaloo Reef within the national park. These relaxed coastal spots are perfect for a morning walk or beachcombing session, with local food trucks serving up delicious beachside breakfasts.

SPOT AN EMU

Emus are regularly seen along the Coral Coast, particularly in the towns of Denham and Exmouth, where you'll see them wandering around the streets. Chicks will hatch around August, accompanied by their protective fathers. Please do not feed or approach emus, and be sure to give them the right of way on streets and paths.

WATER PLAY AT THE SPRAY PARK

Located in Exmouth's town centre, the Water Spray Park is a fun place for children to play and learn about the amazing animals that call the Ningaloo coastline home. As well as being a great shaded place to cool off, each element of the Water Spray Park tells a story about the cultural or natural heritage values of the Ningaloo region.

JURABI TURTLE CENTRE

The outdoor Jurabi Turtle Centre is open yearround and shares information about the marine turtles found along the Ningaloo Coast. From December to March, guided Turtle Eco-Education Tours take visitors to search for nesting and hatching turtles in a safe and sustainable way.

SCENIC VIEW OF CHARLES KNIFE CANYON

21km south of Exmouth, the razor-backed ridges and multi-coloured gorges of Charles Knife Canyon are an otherworldly spectacle. Whilst the Canyon is stunning from a scenic lookout, it can be fully appreciated from a light aircraft flight which truly showcases the mesmerising heights and depths of the gorges. The Range above Charles Knife Canyon is 320m high above sea level – the same height as the Eiffel Tower!

SPECTACULAR SHOTHOLE CANYON

Witness the stunning Shothole Canyon and take in breathtaking views from the base of the Range whilst 4WDing. A marked walking trail allows you to get closer to the fossil laden layers of the sheer canyon walls – but be mindful to stay on existing walking trails. Alternatively, explore the gorge system and area's history with Ningaloo Safari Tours and Ningaloo Reef to Range Tours. The best time of day to visit the canyon is early morning or late afternoon.

DIVE EXMOUTH'S NAVY PIER

Just north of Exmouth's township, the Exmouth Navy Pier is one of Australia's top dive sites, and considered one of the best shore dives in the world. Around 200 species of marine life inhabit the water beneath the pier. Night dives are equally amazing and are offered to advanced divers when tides are conducive. Dives can only be undertaken with Dive Ningaloo, the sole licensed operators. The Pier is on US Military soil, so your passport is required for entry.

EXMOUTH FISHING

Whether your fishing preference is beach reef, game, sport, flats or fly, the Ningaloo region will deliver your needs. Enjoy a day out on the water with Blue Horizon Charters or try your luck solo – but be sure to check the recreational fishing restrictions, as fishing is strictly prohibited in several sanctuary zones, visit parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/park/ningaloo for more. Feeling competitive? Don't miss out on WA's premier fishing tournament, GAMEX held in March.

VLAMINGH HEAD LIGHTHOUSE

Located a short drive from Exmouth, the historic Vlamingh Head Lighthouse is over 100 years old. The Vlamingh Head summit is accessible by 2WD vehicles, and offers a great vantage point to witness both sunrise and sunset. Don't forget to keep an eye out for migrating humpback whales between June and November! Vlamingh Head also houses the remains of a World War II radar and anti-aircraft post, as well as informative signage offering a range of information on the history of the North West Cape, the Ningaloo World Heritage Area and local industry and wildlife.

DIVE THE NORTHERN BAYS

There are a number of dive sites in the Lighthouse Bay area, offering a wide variety of diving opportunities including the fascinating SS Mildura shipwreck site. The Labyrinth has a turtle cleaning station, Gullivers is a manta ray cleaning station and Dibley's Drop-Off is an amazing deep dive location reaching 27m. Other popular sites in Lighthouse Bay include Blizzard Reef and Helga's Tunnels. Divers to these sites enjoy views of coral formations, schools of tropical and pelagic fish, reef sharks and turtles.

A DAY AT THE MUIRON ISLANDS

Situated just 9.8 nautical miles off the North West Cape, the waters surrounding these two uninhabited islands is teeming with marine life. Amazing corals, fish, manta rays and snorkelling opportunities make the Muiron's well worth a visit. With great coral bommies and protected reef, the Muiron's also offer world-class diving. Dive and snorkelling tours to the Muiron Islands operate from Exmouth.

CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Covering more than 50,000 hectares, the ancient Cape Range National Park features deep canyons and mesmerising gorges, with limestone ridges providing a dramatic contrast to the 50km of unspoilt Ningaloo Reef coastline. Wildlife such as emus, red kangaroos, dingoes, echidnas and a variety of birds and reptiles are regularly sighted. In winter, the park comes to life with an abundance of wildflowers and boasts over 630 species of native flora. The Sturt desert pea and green bird flower are highlights.

LUXURY GLAMPING AT SAL SALIS

Just metres from the water's edge, on a remote stretch of the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef, lies Sal Salis, an exclusive eco-friendly beach safari camp with 16 spacious wilderness tents. Dine under the stars and spend long, wonder-filled days underwater cruising alongside manta rays, whale sharks, humpback whales and sparkling shoals of fish that call this remarkable place home. Enjoy guided activities including kayaking and gorge walks, or simply relax and soak up the pristine environment that surrounds you. Open from March to November annually.

NATIONAL PARK CAMPING

There are a number of camping bays available for a small fee, pre-booked online

via parkstay.dbca.wa.gov.au. Most sites are accessible by 2WD vehicles. There are limited facilities and no power, so be sure to pack drinking water and supplies.

GETTING AROUND

Exmouth Bus Charter makes getting around simple, with reliable transfers, private charters, and group transport across Exmouth and Ningaloo. Alongside airport pickups and customised itineraries, they also operate a Cape Range tour, showcasing the national park's highlights. With local drivers and a modern fleet, it's a comfortable and stress-free way to explore the region.

MILYERING DISCOVERY CENTRE

The Milyering Discovery Centre is located just inside Cape Range National Park and features informative displays and videos about the wonders of the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area. Check up on tide conditions with the Milyering Discovery Centre before snorkelling Turquoise Bay or 4WDing across Yardie Creek.

FAMILY FRIENDLY BEACHES

Located near the Milyering Discovery Centre, Lakeside offers some of the best snorkelling in the Ningaloo Marine Park and is ideal for families. The Lakeside Sanctuary Zone markers are situated around 500m south of the parking area. South of Lakeside, Sandy Bay's wide stretch of shallow, clear waters are great for children and a favourite with kite surfers during summer. Osprey Bay is a top spot for turtle snorkelling, with camp sites and picnic facilities available.



Cape Range National Park is the northern gateway to Australia's Coral Coast.

DRIFT SNORKEL AT TURQUOISE BAY

Consistently regarded as one of the most stunning beaches in the world, Turquoise Bay earned its place as number 11 globally in the 2025 World's 50 Best Beaches rankings - the highest-ranking beach in Australia. It's not hard to see why - this dazzling stretch of white sand gives way to crystal-clear turquoise waters and coral reef gardens just metres from shore. Spend the day lazing on the sand, splashing in the shallows, or experience Ningaloo's famous drift snorkel. Enter at the southern end of the beach and let the current carry you over vibrant coral teeming with marine life. The drift snorkel isn't recommended for weak swimmers, and fins are advised to help with exiting the water. Always check tide information at the Milyering Discovery Centre before entering. You can explore on your own or join a guided snorkelling tour for extra insight into this world-class reef system.

OYSTER STACKS SNORKELLING

This snorkel site offers great views of marine life, but only at high tide. Be careful when entering the water as the oyster shells and rocks can be sharp. It is best to enter the water at the end of the track and then snorkel north or south. Check with the Milyering Discovery Centre for tide times.

HIKE AND CAVE THE CAPE RANGE

Hike a number of walking trails or explore hidden caves in the Cape Range National Park on tour with Trek Ningaloo. Most caves are well hidden, can only be found with the help of a local, experienced guide and are home to local wildlife. Check at the Ningaloo Centre for ways to explore the caves.

GET GORGE-OUS AT MANDU MANDU

Mandu Mandu Gorge has a fantastic 3km loop walking trail, which follows the rim of Mandu Mandu Gorge before descending into the gorge itself. Mandu is the third main layer of limestone and is the most easily visible layer in the National Park. This trail is steep in sections, but offers beautiful panoramic views of the stunning rugged landscape. Start your hike early in the day and keep your eyes peeled for the resident population of rare black-footed rock wallabies on the gorge walls.

BOATING ALONG YARDIE CREEK

Venture through the rugged landscapes of Cape Range National Park to find Yardie Creek, located at the southern end of the park. This rust-red gorge is home to an assortment of wildlife, including the rare black-footed rock wallaby. Explore the gorge along a walk trail, or sit back to enjoy the view from the comfort of a Yardie Creek boat tour.



MACKEREL ISLANDS

For those looking to extend their Ningaloo trip, the nearby Mackerel Islands make a fantastic addition to the itinerary, accessible via Exmouth and Onslow. The islands offer a different underwater experience to the Ningaloo Reef, with snorkelling, diving and marine encounters in a remote, untouched setting. The best time to visit is March to October, though the quieter months also deliver incredible nature experiences, including the chance to see turtle hatchlings.



Currents can be strong at Turquoise Bay; be sure to follow safe snorkelling guidelines and to exit the water well before the northern point of the beach or the sandbar.

EXPLORING NINGALOO



STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS



MARCH-OCTOBER



♀ WHALE SHARK, NINGALOO



DAY 1

PERTH TO EXMOUTH
(2 HOUR FLIGHT)

Flight: When booking flights, arrange to hire a car with **Avis**. Depart Perth for Learmonth Airport with Qantas. Collect your hire car and drive north to Exmouth town.

On the drive into town, consider stopping at **Charles Knife Gorge** and **Shothole Canyon** - you won't fully appreciate the size of this mountain range until you're on top or driving through it.

Depending on your arrival time, visit the **Ningaloo Aquarium and Discovery Centre** to learn about the town's history, Cape Range National Park and the Ningaloo Reef (see some of its marine life!).

Book yourself in for a **sunset sailing cruise**.

Or if you want to experience life out on the ocean and immerse yourself in the reef we recommend joining one of the **liveaboard** tours departing Coral Bay and Exmouth.

Overnight: Exmouth

DAY 2

EXPLORE EXMOUTH

With a full day in Exmouth, there are just too many things to see, do and experience - but here are a few of our favourite full-day tours:

- **Whale shark swim** (March - August or even up until November!)
- **Humpback whale swim** (August to October)
- **Turtle and Reef snorkel** (October - March)
- **Dive** the Marine Park - either the Navy Pier or Lighthouse Bay
- Single day or multi-day hikes with **Trek Ningaloo**
- **Kayak and Reef snorkel**
- View and snorkel the reef on a **glass bottom boat tour** or onboard a **semi-submersible**.

Only have half a day? Our top picks for half-day tours include boating **Yardie Creek**, a **Bus Tour** of Cape Range National Park highlights, Kayaking the **Bundegi Sanctuary Zone** or a suggested activity when not on tour is drift snorkelling at **Turquoise Bay**.

As night falls, swap reef adventures for stargazing with **Ningaloo Stars**, where expert guides take you on a journey through the southern skies. With minimal light pollution, the Ningaloo region offers some of the clearest night skies in the world.

Overnight: Exmouth

DAY 3

EXPLORE CORAL BAY

Head south to Coral Bay where you can continue to observe and admire the stunning beaches and coastline and explore more of the Ningaloo Reef. Some of our favourite activities are:

- **Manta Ray swim** (year-round)
- **Glass Bottom Boat Tour** (year-round)
- **Buggy and Reef snorkel**

Return to Exmouth for dinner at **Froth Craft Brewery** to get a taste of why Western Australians love craft beers and finish the night off with a sweet treat from **Sweet Ningaloo**.

Overnight: Exmouth

DAY 4

EXMOUTH TO PERTH
(2 HOUR FLIGHT)

Wake up early and have your breakfast at one of the local cafes or restaurants.

Tempted by one last snorkel? Drive out to the **Cape Range National Park** for one last dip at any of the incredible beaches with note-worthy snorkelling at **Oyster Stacks** and **Lake Side**.

Or for the thrill seekers who want to witness the National Park and Ningaloo Reef from above, **Ningaloo Aviation** or **Birds Eye View** have got you covered.

Flight: Depart Exmouth/Learmonth airport for Perth.

CARNARVON'S OUTBACK COAST



STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS



MARCH-OCTOBER

♀ RED BLUFF

DAY 1

PERTH TO CARNARVON

Take an early flight to Carnarvon from Perth with **Regional Express Airlines**, who depart Perth for Carnarvon twice a day from Terminal 2 at **Perth Airport**. Flight time is approximately 2 hours. Pick up your **hire car** to get the most out of your time in Carnarvon and to fully explore the surrounding areas. **Budget** and **Avis** have offices at the Carnarvon Airport.

Upon arrival in the lovely sub-tropical seaside town of Carnarvon, ease into the relaxed pace of life with a stroll along **The Fascine** – a palm-fringed walkway beside the waterfront. Stop for a drink or bite to eat at **6701 Waterfront Cafe** or at any of the waterfront hotels before settling in.

Check out the weekend markets, on every Saturday morning from late May to early October, in front of the Visitor Centre.

The Gascoyne region is rich in Aboriginal culture. Visit **Gwoonwardu Mia Cultural Centre** and learn all about the early history of Carnarvon and have a bite to eat at the Sunset's café. Join an engaging and informative cultural tour with **Wooramulla Eco Cultural Journeys**.

After lunch, visit **Carnarvon's Space & Technology Museum**, where you will learn all about Carnarvon's role in NASA's Apollo Moon landings and early Space programs.

Overnight: Carnarvon

DAY 2:

EXPLORE CARNARVON AND SURROUNDS

Get up early and spend a day exploring Carnarvon's surrounds, with many choices of things to see, do and experience.

Pick up the **Fruit Loop Drive Trail** guide at the Carnarvon Visitor Centre and treat yourself to locally grown local produce

or caught seafood, including the famous chocolate-coated bananas for breakfast.

Head south to **Carnarvon's Heritage Precinct**, where history comes alive at the site of the iconic **One Mile Jetty**. Once the lifeline for trade and transport in the Gascoyne, the jetty precinct is home to a fascinating railway museum, lighthouse keepers' cottage and an interpretive centre showcasing Carnarvon's pioneering past. Learn about the region's role in the pastoral industry, the Second World War, and even the 1969 Apollo space landing, before wandering the historic grounds.

Just a few minutes further south you'll find **Pelican Point**. This is a favourite amongst the locals for fishing and swimming. Continue 40km south of Carnarvon and discover **Bush Bay** and **New Beach**, perfect for a swim and picnic.

Keep heading south of Carnarvon and an hour drive will bring you to **Wooramel River Retreat**, a unique station stay campground nestled under the majestic gum trees on the bank of the Wooramel River. Relax in the naturally heated therapeutic artesian bore baths from the Birdrong aquifer; enjoy the space; abundant birds and wildlife; private camp fires; amazing night skies and the friendly outback atmosphere. The station is 120 kms south of Carnarvon, 2 kms off the North West Coastal Highway.

Overnight: Wooramel River Retreat

DAY 3:

EXPLORE THE CARNARVON COASTLINE

Head back up to Carnarvon and pass through heading towards the Carnarvon Coastline. Or take your adventure to new heights with **Coral Coast Helicopters**. Offering scenic flights over Carnarvon's striking coastline, the mighty Blowholes,

and the dramatic Golden Cliffs (Spotting humpback whales in season). At the coastlines edge, roughly 75kms North of Carnarvon, you will be welcomed by the **Blow Holes**, and the memorable 'King Waves Kill' sign.

Just south of the Blow Holes is **'the Aquarium'**, a popular swimming and snorkelling lagoon. Enjoy your very own rock pool, choose to take a dip, explore the surrounding area on foot or sit back and relax on the beach.

The drive to Quobba Point and the famous Blowholes is around 75kms north of Carnarvon. **Quobba Station** has its own shell beach which is great for beachcombing and finding mostly Cowry shells.

If you're having too much fun, stay another night, recommended to camp at Quobba Station or **Red Bluff**, or depart from Carnarvon on the afternoon flight.

♀ CACTUS GARDEN





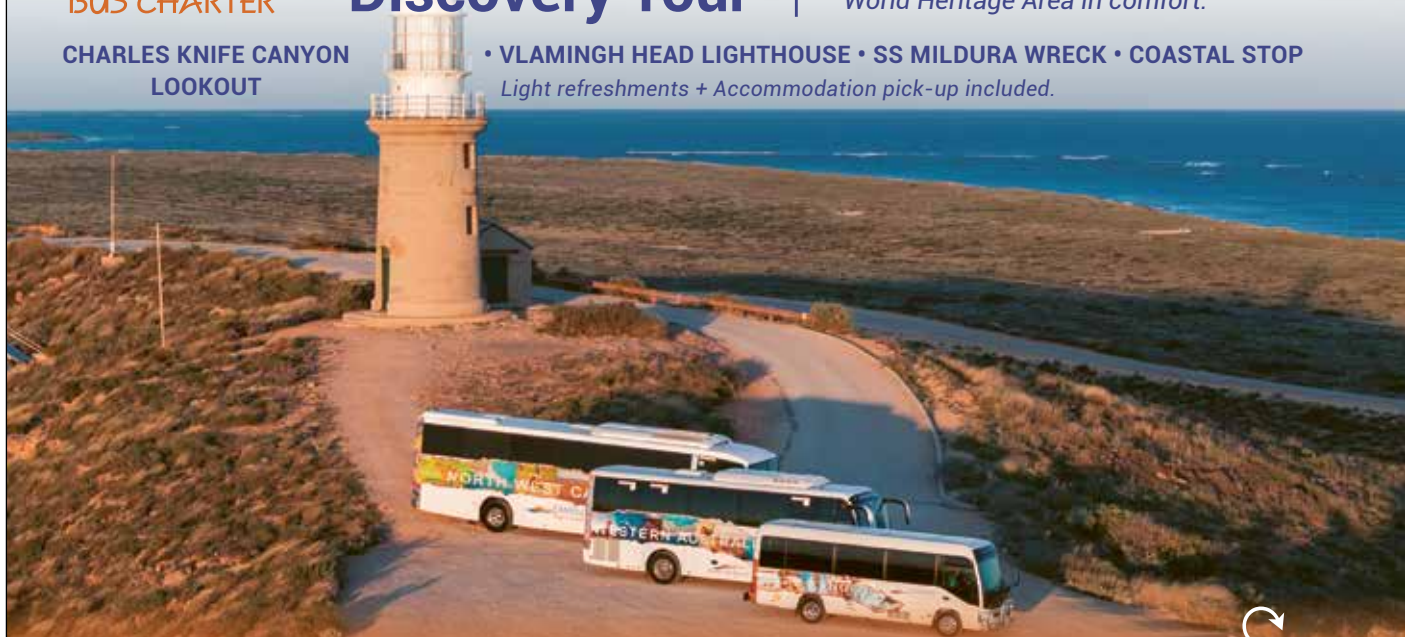
Cape Range Discovery Tour

HALF-DAY GUIDED EXPERIENCE

Explore the highlights of the Ningaloo Coast
World Heritage Area in comfort.

CHARLES KNIFE CANYON
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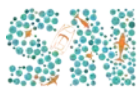
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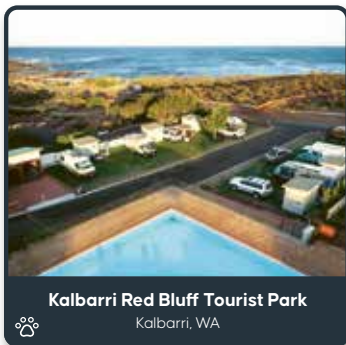
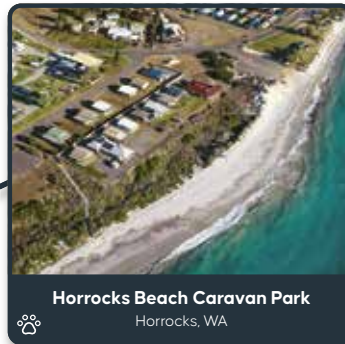
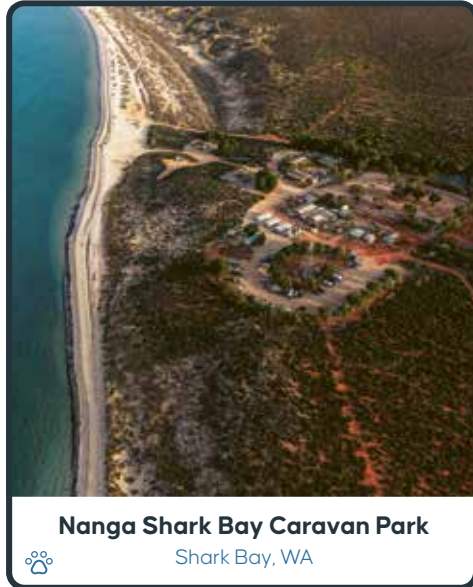
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