

TOURIST DRIVES  
of  
WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA

 **MAIN ROADS**  
Western Australia

  
**CUSTOMER  
FOCUS**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



# Message from the Minister for Transport

*Western Australia is a land of many contrasts. From the ancient rugged landscapes of the North to the unspoilt forests of the South; from the vast arid plains of the Goldfields to the charming atmosphere of cosmopolitan Perth, you can experience some of the unique Western Australian scenery and the numerous attractions along newly and specially marked Tourist Drives.*



Eric Charlton

*Tourist Drives of Western Australia is just one part of Main Roads' commitment, to enable Western Australians and visitors alike to enjoy the wealth of attractions this extraordinary State has to offer. This brochure has been compiled by Main Roads, in conjunction with the Western Australian Tourism Commission and Royal Automobile Club, to easily guide you to some of this State's premier Tourist Drives, which collectively traverse some 2,000km.*

*The publication of this brochure coincides with the completion of a new, easily identifiable road sign system, which Main Roads has introduced to mark each of the 28 Tourist Drives. This simple navigation system allows you to follow the drives identified in this brochure.*

*I'm sure you will find this guide to be an invaluable travelling companion and the new Tourist Drives concept a worthwhile aid in planning your journeys of discovery around Western Australia.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Charlton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eric Charlton, Hon. Minister for Transport.

## A Guide for the Motorist

Tourist Drives of Western Australia has been designed as a touring introduction to some of the most exciting, interesting and scenic drives this State has to offer. Each of the 28 drives and ways has its own unique attractions and individual appeal.

The difference between a Tourist Drive and Tourist Way is simply that the Tourist Drive is limited to a certain locality, whilst a Tourist Way may be longer and encompass more than one geographical area. Whatever your choice you can be assured of a pleasant and memorable journey.

Now you can plan your own self drive holiday or day-trip, around any one of the signed tourist routes which will get you to your destination. To help you easily locate these routes, Main Roads has marked each drive and way with distinguishable shields in the white and brown colours common to all tourist signs. The signs are depicted later in the brochure. In this regard, the Main Roads' publication 'Driving by Numbers' also identifies major roads which are again marked by shields for ease of navigation.

You can choose a Tourist Drive or Way for a half day or plan a complete holiday from the 28 marked and signposted routes appearing in this brochure. You may wish to be a little more adventurous and devise your own itinerary by interchanging or reversing our many suggestions. Above all, you can travel at your leisure.

Whilst the following pages endeavour to supply you with plenty of detail for you to enjoy a Tourist Drive or Way, the publications listed on page 39 of this brochure may provide additional information to add to your experience. By combining this brochure with our suggested readings, you will have a comprehensive guide on what to see and do, and how to get there, for the entire state of Western Australia.

The maps appearing in this brochure are a handy guide but cannot replace having your own comprehensive road maps, available from organisations listed at the back of this brochure.



# Contents



Roadside Wattle – Swan Valley



Caves Road – Boranup Forest



Point Moore Lighthouse – Geraldton

## BEAUTIFUL PERTH

		Page
Perth and Surrounds Map		4
Kings Park	No. 200	5
Sunset Coast	No. 204	6
Chittering Valley	No. 359	7
Swan Valley	No. 203	8
John Forrest	No. 201	9
Darling Range	No. 207	10
Heritage Country	No. 205	11
Kingsbury	No. 206	12
Rockingham Coastal	No. 202	13

## GOLDEN HEARTLANDS AND SOUTHERN WONDERS

Golden Heartlands and Southern Wonders Map		14
Midlands	No. 360	15
Avon Historic	No. 254	16
Great Southern	No. 356	18
Porongurup	No. 252	19
Albany Historic	No. 257	20
Frenchman Bay	No. 258	21
Scotsdale	No. 255	22
Blackwood River	No. 251	23
Karri	No. 259	24
Caves Road	No. 250	26
Collie	No. 355	28
Esperance	No. 358	29
Goldfields	No. 357	30

## UNIQUE NORTH

Unique North Map		31
Batavia Coast	No. 354	32
Shark Bay	No. 353	34
Cape Range	No. 352	35
Cossack	No. 351	36
Geikie-Windjana	No. 350	37
Lake Argyle	No. 256	38
<i>Further Reading and Touring Hints for New Caravanners</i>		39



# Beautiful Perth





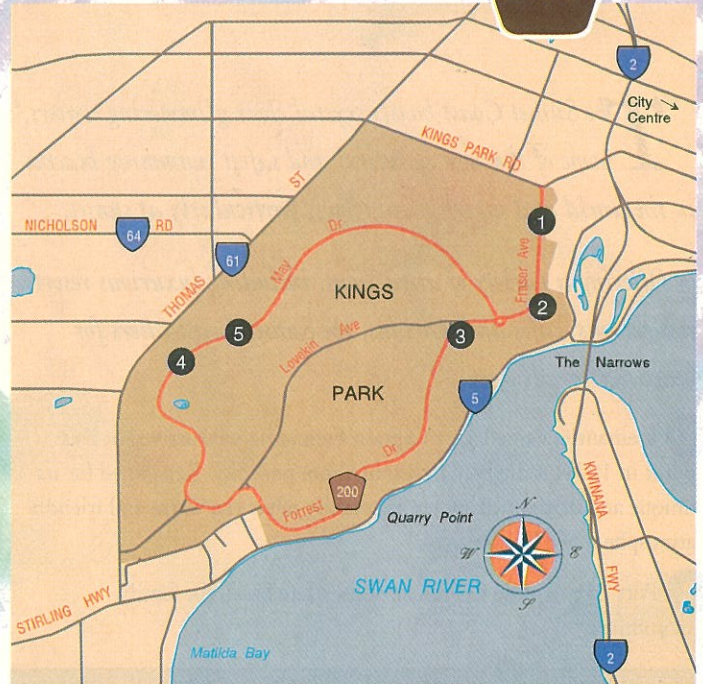
# Kings Park

Distance 7km

## Tourist Drive

200

**K**ings Park provides you with over 400 hectares of natural bushland, only a few minutes from the centre of Perth. Carefully protected for your pleasure and enjoyment, the Park has many beautiful gardens, memorials, picnic spots, playgrounds and walkways. The Park is most well known for the commanding position it has over the City of Perth and Swan River and the spectacular sweeping views it offers, particularly at night.

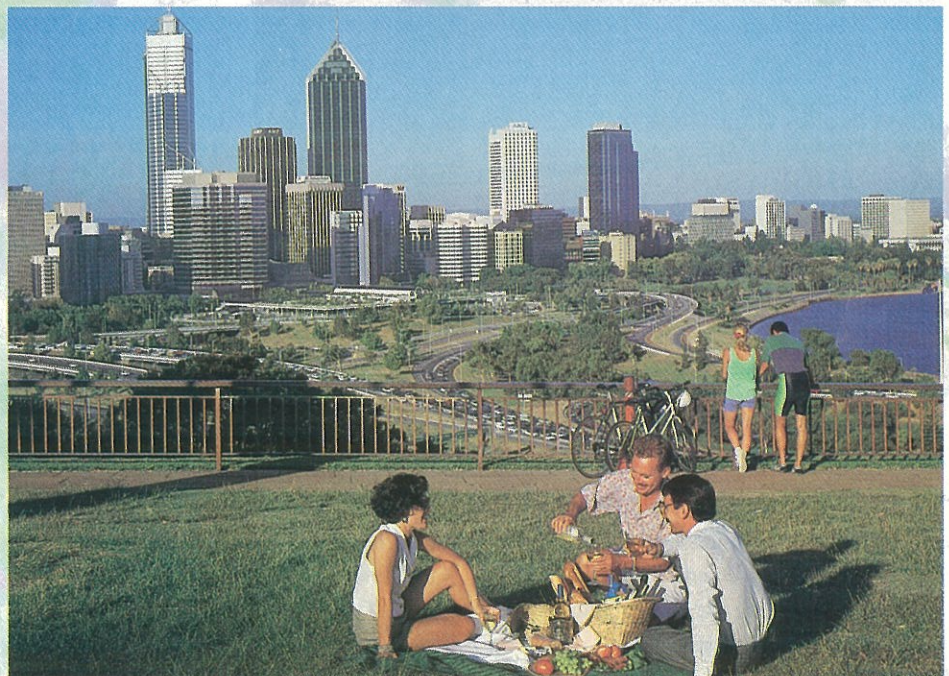


**1** Fraser Avenue features the impressive lemon-scented gums, which were planted in 1938. The Avenue provides a striking, picturesque entrance into Kings Park.

**2** The State War Memorial and Lookout honours the men and women of Western Australia, who have died in wars stretching from the Boer War to Vietnam. The Lookout also provides breathtaking views of the City, Swan River and across the coastal plain to the distant hills of the Darling Range.

**3** The Western Australian Botanic Garden was established in Kings Park in the early 1960's. The Garden now occupies an area of 17ha, of which 14ha are devoted to cultivating more than 2,000 of the State's native species. The Garden also boasts a selection of exotic species from other regions of the world with a Mediterranean climate. Guided walks are available throughout the year.

**4** Arthur Fairall Playground, located on May Drive, is an excellent place for a family picnic. The adventure playground and picnic area is situated near an ornamental lake and is set amongst landscaped gardens of kangaroo paws, bottlebrush, banksias, jarrah, peppermints, sheoaks and some exotic plants. Facilities include, wood barbecues, kiosk and toilets. The Broadwalk Vista runs from here uphill to the Observation Tower, which offers magnificent panoramic views across the Park.



*Picnic time in Kings Park.*

**5** Ernest Wittwer Playground is located on May Drive, adjacent to Saw Avenue. The playground is set among shady pine trees.

Facilities include adventure play equipment, picnic tables, wood barbecues, lighting and toilets.



# Sunset Coast

Distance 38km

## Tourist Drive

204

The Sunset Coast boasts crystal clear glimmering waters, some of the most beautiful and safest swimming beaches in the world and superb ocean views, particularly at sunset.

Offering a variety of attractions, including luxurious resorts, restaurants, cafes and marinas, the Sunset Coast caters for beachgoers of all ages.

- 1 Fremantle, named after Captain Fremantle who arrived at this point in 1829, is a vibrant, cosmopolitan port city. Renowned for its unique and distinct character, Fremantle offers the warm and friendly atmosphere of a bygone age.
- 2 Port Beach, close to Fremantle, is a safe beach for family swimming.



Take time for a beach walk along the Sunset Coast.

- 3 Cottesloe Beach, shaded by Norfolk Island pines, is a safe swimming beach with a small surf break.

Cottesloe Civic Centre was once the private residence of millionaire Claude de Bernales, famous for his entrepreneurial efforts in establishing the gold mining industry in Western Australia.

- 4 Scarborough Beach is one of Western Australia's most famous beaches and is an excellent surf beach. Scarborough boasts numerous eating establishments set back from the ocean and is the location of Perth's only 5 star international beach resort, Radisson Observation City Hotel.

- 5 Trigg Beach is an excellent fishing spot and surf beach.

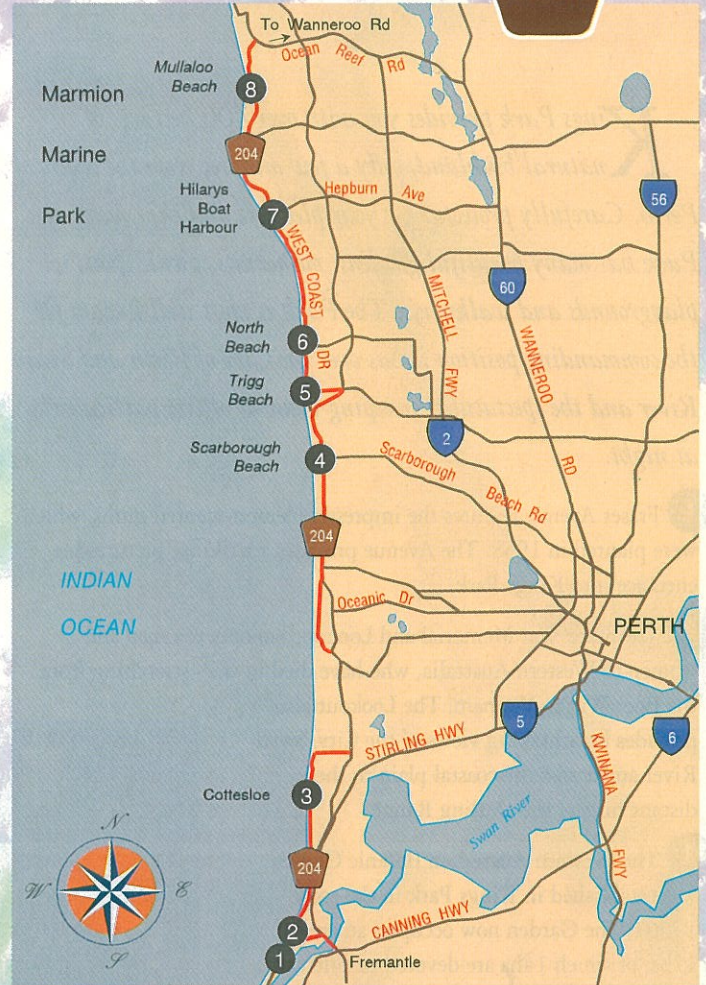
Trigg Island marks the southern end of Marmion Marine Park, a marine haven which is home to a wonderful variety of marine life. The Park covers over 9,500ha, stretching along the northern metropolitan coast line from Trigg Island to Burns Beach.

- 6 North Beach and the small bays surrounding it, are one of the more popular areas along the Drive, as they provide safe, reef protected areas for families.
- 7 Sorrento Quay sits in the sheltered bay of Hillarys Boat Harbour, in a complex that characterises a marine village lifestyle. This unique waterside environment provides a

place where you can shop, dine and be entertained in a festive holiday atmosphere.

At Underwater World, Perth's only oceanarium, travel through a submerged acrylic tunnel and come face to face with some 2,000 fascinating sea creatures that make Underwater World their home. You can also visit the Touch Pool, zoom in on the sea's tiny creatures at the Microworld Display and encounter the captivating bottlenose dolphins in their open water sea pen. Watch divers hand feeding the marine animals daily or join a Whale Watching Safari from September to November.

- 8 Mullaloo Beach is a very safe, family swimming beach with a small shore break. The main recreation area, Tom Simpson Park, has excellent shaded picnic areas.





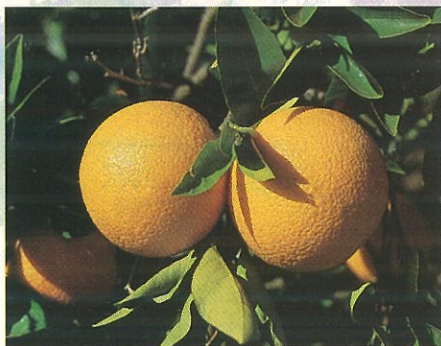
# Chittering Valley

## Tourist Way

Distance 70km

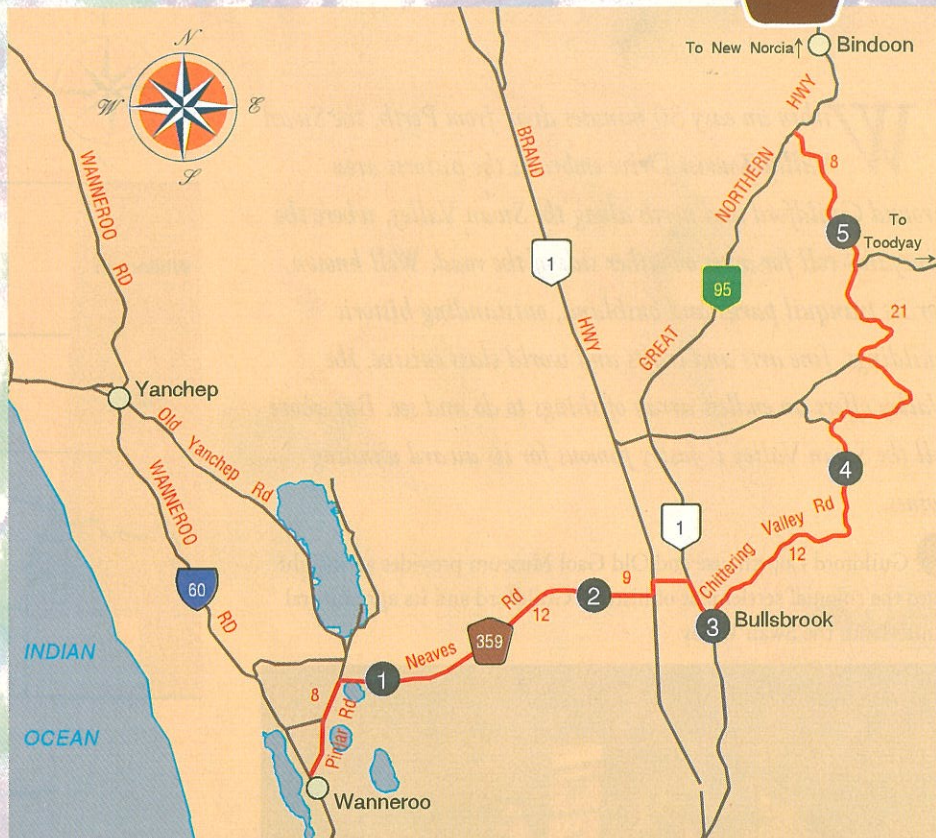
Scenic beauty abounds as you wind your way through the rolling fertile hills of the Chittering Valley, one of the earliest settled areas in the State. Travel through orchards, vineyards, grazing properties, spectacular natural forests of wandoo, marri, jarrah and magnificent displays of wildflowers in season.

**1** Cameleer Park is a camel farm that specialises in camel rides. Choose from short rides of one hour, half-day, one day treks or weekend safaris to Lancelin. Early morning or twilight rides can also be arranged. Barbecue facilities, souvenirs and refreshments are available.



Orange orchards line the hills in the Chittering Valley.

**2** The Maze is set amongst the beautiful grounds of Sequoia Park. Challenge yourself as you try and find the centre of the 2,500 square metre maze, have a game of mini-golf, observe the variety of animals, including kangaroos, emus and sheep, that can be found in the park, or simply enjoy a light snack at the restaurant. Delightful picnic and barbecue facilities are also available.

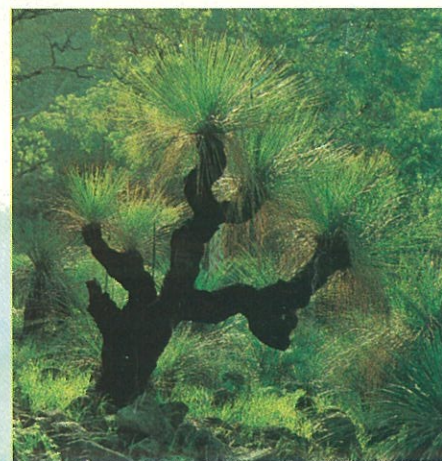


**3** Bullsbrook, situated 44km north of Perth on the Great Northern Highway, is a charming small town adjoining the RAAF Base Pearce.

Picturesque Bouer Park is a small park, set high above the Chittering Valley, overlooking the Brockman River. Paperbarks and flooded gums line the river banks. The Park offers Devonshire Teas and light lunches.

**4** At Golden Grove Citrus Farm, you can view the complete process of getting fruit from the orchard to market and the processing of oranges to orange juice. Take along a picnic, cook your own lunch on the barbecues provided or indulge in Devonshire Teas served on the weekends. Fresh produce is also for sale.

**5** Park your car and stroll along the bushwalking trails which wind their way through the unspoiled natural bushland of Blackboy Ridge. Panoramic views can be gained from the top of the Ridge and in the springtime, the wildflowers are magnificent. Picnic facilities are provided.



Blackboy Ridge is an ideal spot for a bush picnic.



# Swan Valley

Distance 31km

## Tourist Drive

**W**ithin an easy 30 minutes drive from Perth, the Swan Valley Tourist Drive embraces the historic area around Guildford and north along the Swan Valley, where the vineyards roll for acres on either side of the road. Well known for its tranquil parks and bushland, outstanding historic buildings, fine arts and crafts and world class cuisine, the Valley offers an endless array of things to do and see. But above all the Swan Valley is justly famous for its award winning wines.

**1** Guildford Courthouse and Old Gaol Museum provides an insight into the colonial settlement of historic Guildford and its agricultural hinterland, the Swan Valley.



Woodbridge House is open for public inspection.

**2** Caversham Wildlife Park is situated along Arthur Road. The Park boasts an extensive collection of rare Australian marsupials, birds and many other native and exotic animals, including monkeys and deer. For the children, there are farm animals which can be touched and fed.

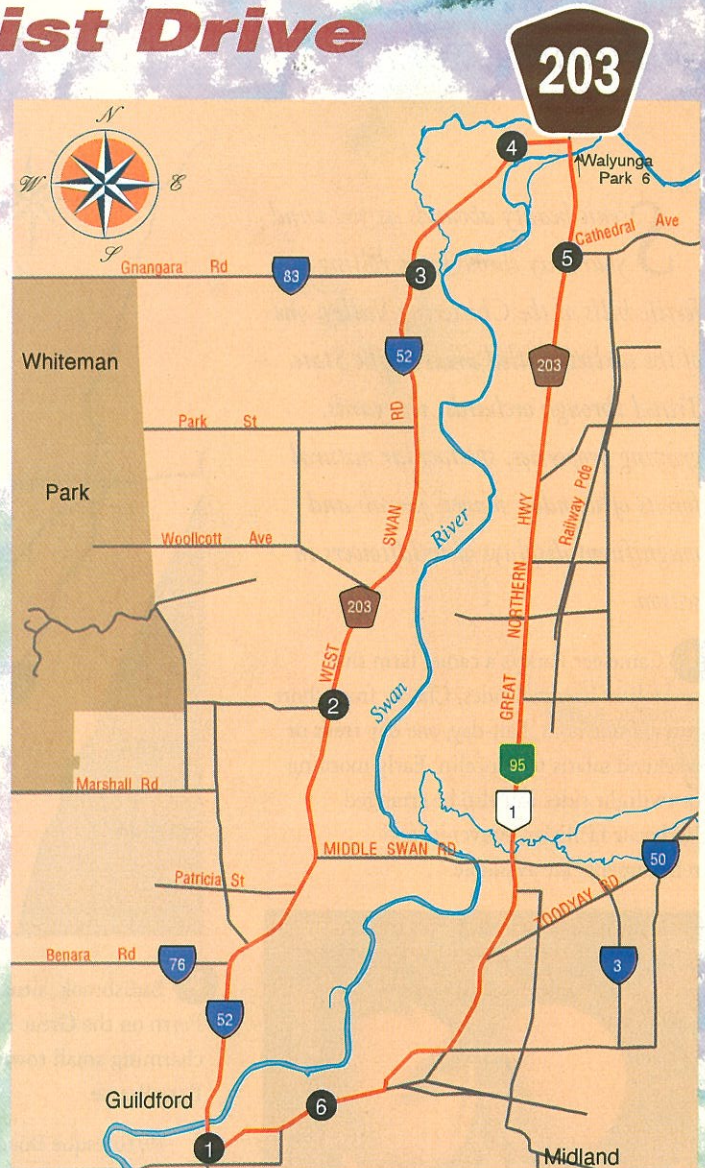
Whiteman Park, located in Lord Street, is Perth's largest regional park, set in 2,600ha of natural bush and farmland. Take a peaceful walk or bike ride through the natural bushland, enjoy a quiet family picnic by Mussel Pool, ride the vintage trains and electric trams, or watch craftspeople at work at the Craft Village.

**3** All Saints Church overlooks the banks of the picturesque Swan River. It was built in 1841 and is the oldest church in Western Australia.

**4** The Vines Resort, hidden amidst the vineyards and rolling countryside of the Swan Valley, is both a world acclaimed golf course and international class resort.

**5** The State Equestrian Centre is a world class indoor facility. Showjumping, dressage and eventing take place most weekends. In addition, indoor rodeos, speedway, supercross, tradefairs, art exhibitions and concerts all take place at various times throughout the year.

**6** Woodbridge House is a magnificent residence of the late Victorian period, set in attractive gardens on the banks of the Swan River. It was built in 1885 for Charles Harper, a publisher of the West Australian Newspaper and member of the Legislative Assembly. Fully restored by the National Trust, and open to the public, Woodbridge brings vividly to life the State's pioneering past.





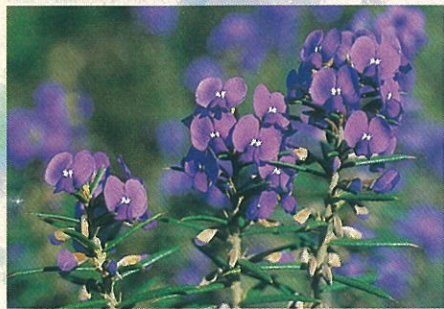
# John Forrest

Distance 10km

## Tourist Drive

201

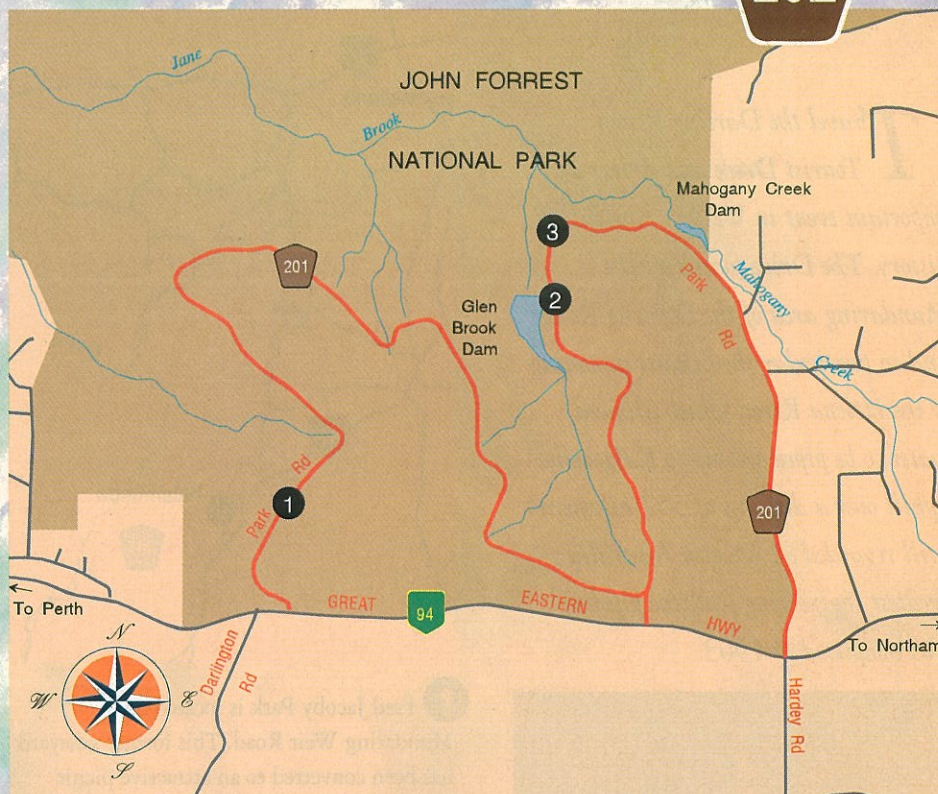
Experience Western Australia's oldest National Park as you drive John Forrest Tourist Drive, located just 26 kilometres east of Perth via the Great Eastern Highway. Here you can enjoy bushwalking, wildlife observation, photography, spectacular scenic views or a picnic.



The hovea wildflower is one of many found in the John Forrest National Park.

John Forrest National Park, originally declared an 'A' Class Reserve in 1898, was the State's first National Park and was named after one of the State's early explorers who went on to become a State Premier. The 1,580ha Park is largely undeveloped and is home to a variety of plant communities, including jarrah and marri, paperbarks, wando, dryandras, kangaroo paws and blue leschenaultia. Grey kangaroos, honey and western pigmy possums, red-capped parrots, rufous, golden whistlers and echidnas are just some of the animals that can be found. Racehorse goanna or bungarra are often visible in the open, on roads and tracks. Western bearded dragons often bask on fallen timber along walktrails. Jane Brook flows swiftly through the centre of the Park.

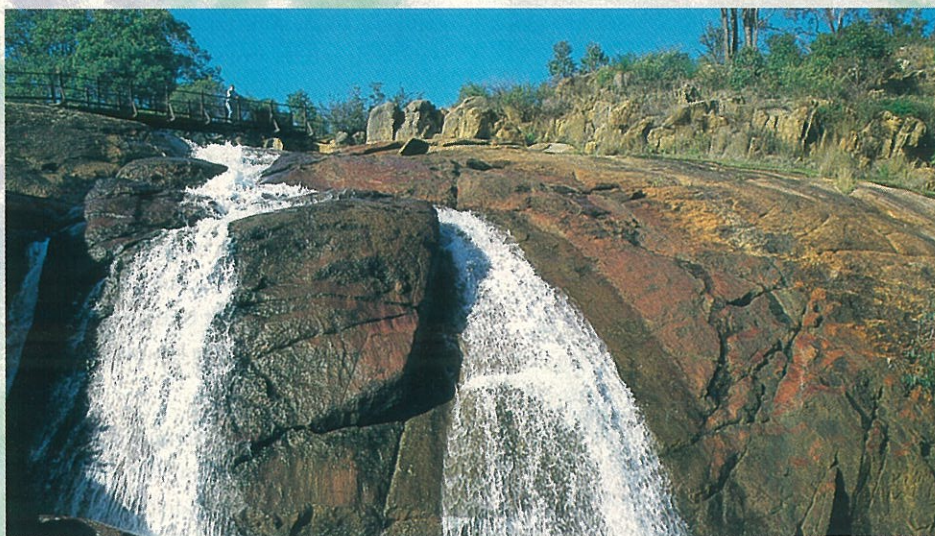
**1** From this scenic lookout, the edge of the Darling Scarp can be seen falling away to the coastal plain and Perth.



**2** Glen Brook Dam has a large picnic area and is the starting point for a number of interesting walktrails, which wind through the park to quiet pools and gentle waterfalls along Jane Brook. From the main picnic area follow the old Eastern Railway track, now

disused, for 750m north east to Hovea Falls, or wander north west to National Park Falls.

**3** The visitor area has tearooms, a tavern and restaurant, picnic facilities, barbeques, cultivated native gardens and a swimming hole.



National Park Falls is at its best after rains.



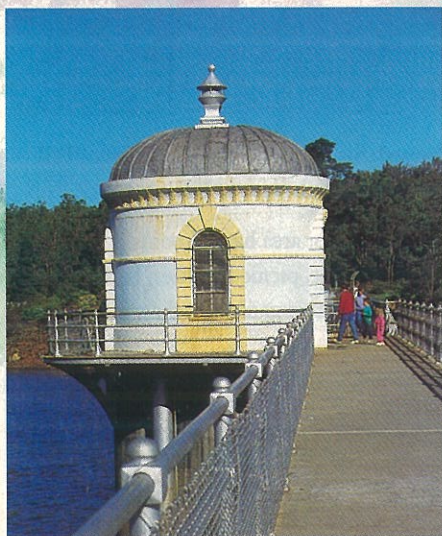
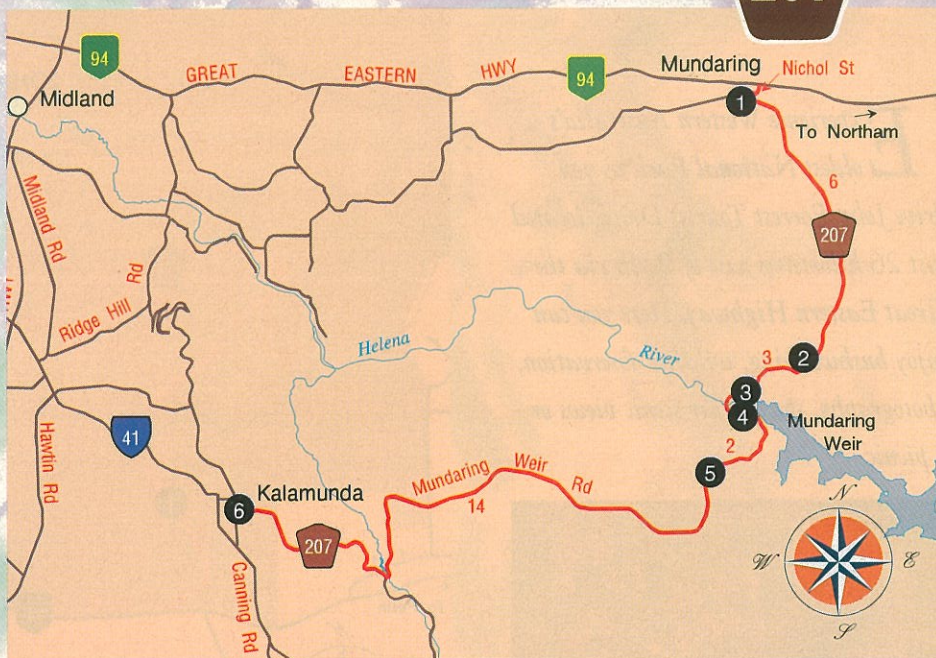
# Darling Range

Distance 25km

## Tourist Drive

207

**T**ravel the Darling Range Tourist Drive and re-live an important event in Western Australia's history. The Drive focuses on the Mundaring area of the Darling Range and in particular the historic damming of the Helena River, which allowed water to be piped inland to Kalgoorlie, uphill over a distance of 557 kilometres. Still regarded as Western Australia's greatest engineering feat, the pipeline was completed in 1903.



Mundaring Weir is surrounded by many great picnic spots.

**1** Mundaring, located on the Great Eastern Highway, 34km east of Perth, is known as the 'Gateway to the Foothills'. The town was originally established as a main centre for the surrounding area, following construction of the Perth to Northam railway. Today, the railway no longer operates and many of the former railway routes are now used as walking and bridle trails.

**2** Fred Jacoby Park is located on Mundaring Weir Road. This former vineyard has been converted to an attractive picnic area and landscaped park. The Park has been planted with trees from many parts of the world, including one of the biggest English Oak trees in Western Australia.

**3** O'Connor Museum is housed in the original pumping station at the base of the Mundaring Weir Dam. The Museum gives a graphic account of life in the Eastern Goldfields and the mammoth task of putting in the water supply pipeline to Kalgoorlie. The Museum includes the three boilers and one of the steam pumps used in 1902.

**4** Mundaring Weir Dam stores water from the Helena River, which is then circulated to the Goldfields and many towns enroute in the Eastern Wheatbelt. It boasts an attractive picnic area set in beautiful bush surrounds.

**5** Farrell Grove is situated in a pleasant area of forest near Mundaring Weir. It offers a shady picnic area and children's playground, set amongst pine trees and is an excellent spot for wildflower displays in the

spring. A short walk along a marked trail to South Ledge, provides excellent views over Mundaring Weir.

**6** Kalamunda originated as a railway town on a logging line which aided timber cutters. Today, it is the largest town in the Darling Range east of Perth and retains considerable old world charm.

Stirk Cottage is located in Stirk Park on Elizabeth Street, Kalamunda. Facilities at Stirk Park include an ornamental lake and gardens, model boat pond, children's playground and giant chess set.

Also worth a visit is the Kalamunda History Village, located at Williams Street. Here you'll find a folk museum, wood fired locomotive, original post office and school building, settlers cottage and working windmill.

Zig Zag Road follows the course of the old switch-back railway ascent of the Darling Scarp. The railway-line connecting Karragullen, Kalamunda and Midland has been disused since 1947. Zig Zag Road has since replaced the line and operates on a one-way basis, down hill. Entry is via Williams Street and then Lascelles Parade.



# Heritage Country

## Tourist Drive

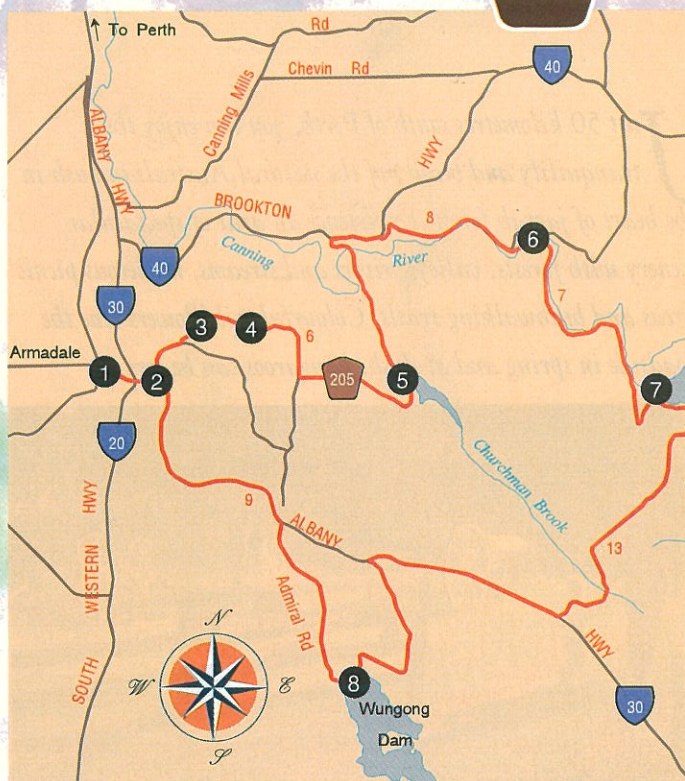
Distance 44km

205

**H**eritage Country is an area of natural beauty steeped in history, just 45 minutes south of Perth. With the backdrop of the Darling Ranges, it boasts many world class attractions, heritage buildings and thousands of hectares of National Parks and State forests, teeming with wildlife.



Two-up action at Pioneer Village.



- 1 Armadale is nestled at the foothills of the Darling Range.

The Armadale Tourist Centre, more commonly known as 'The Signal Box', dates back to the early 1900's. Relocated to Jull Street, it now houses the Burt Tyler Vintage Machinery Museum and an arts and crafts display.

- 2 Pioneer Village is located nearby, with access off Albany Highway. Step back in time over 100 years and experience the day-to-day life of our early pioneers, brought to life by this authentic reconstruction. The quaint village with its Victorian theatre, hotel, craft shops, old fashioned food vendors and tradespeople, offers a unique insight into Australian history. You'll see shopkeepers and people going about their daily occupations as they did long ago. Pan for gold, visit the living historic school or ride by horse drawn tram through the main streets.

- 3 Elizabethan Village Pub and Brewery is set in the beautiful landscaped grounds of

Stratford Park, Canns Road. The village is the world's only full sized reproduction of William Shakespeare's birthplace and Ann Hathaway's cottage. Complete with authentic "Ye Olde English" Pub, Country Kitchen Restaurant and Tearooms, the Village also has its own brewery which supplies traditionally brewed beers.

- 4 Camfield Estate is located on Canns Road. The focal point of this 12ha property, with its English Country garden setting, is the Barbara Cartland room featuring memorabilia given by Dame Barbara.

- 5 Churchman's Brook Reservoir is Perth's first earthwall dam, built in 1926. The Reservoir boasts five picnic areas, situated in scenic forest country, with excellent views of the dam and surrounds.

- 6 Araluen Park is a pleasant picnic area set amongst beautifully landscaped gardens, natural bushland, walking trails, waterfalls and a rustic pool. The area was established in

the 1930s by Young Australia League volunteers. Facilities include a licensed restaurant and kiosk. The Park is situated off Croyden Road in Roleystone.

- 7 Canning Dam is one of Perth's oldest and largest water supply dams. Completed in 1940, the Dam can hold over 90,500,000kl. A scenic picnic spot is located 1km downstream from the wall of the Dam. Walktrails lead upstream from the picnic area, passing through the site of the old dam construction camp.

- 8 Wungong Dam, located on Admiral Road, is one of Perth's newly developed catchment areas, built to supplement the city's water supply. Three landscaped picnic areas are located below the dam wall and a small lake, filled by the spillway, is suitable for swimming and canoeing.

Nearby, take a walk through the natural bushland of Bungendore Park, a place of gum blossom.



# Kingsbury

Distance 45km

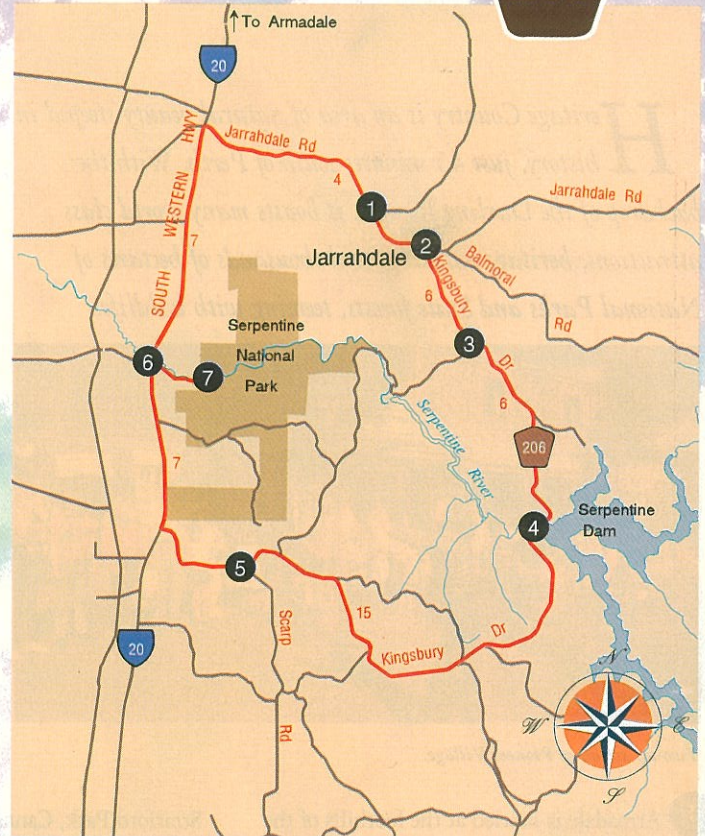
## Tourist Drive

206

Just 50 kilometres south of Perth, you can enjoy the tranquility and beauty of the natural Australian bush in the heart of jarrah forest. Experience an area of spectacular scenery with forests, valleys, rivers and streams, numerous picnic areas and bushwalking trails. Colourful wildflowers line the roadside in spring and at dusk, kangaroos can be seen.



Serpentine River Mini-Railway Park is located next to Turner Cottage.



**1** Langford Park is located off Nettleton Road. Once the site of a bauxite-mining operation in the early 1970s, it has been extensively replanted and landscaped and is now a pleasant picnic spot.

**2** Jarrahdale was once the largest timber town in Western Australia, following its foundation in 1872. Today, it is not only the last of the timber mill towns within the Perth Metropolitan area, it is also still surrounded by jarrah forest.

Gooralong Park is a large shaded picnic area and campsite in the heart of beautiful forest country. The area was originally the site of Jarrahdale's first flour mill, which operated for 20 years from 1855. Three walk trails begin at the Park and run along the remains of old roads to early farms.

**3** Pipehead Dam has a pleasant, shady picnic area, situated below the Dam, which boasts beautiful views of the surrounding valley. Facilities include wood barbecues, tables and seats, toilets and plenty of shade. Pipehead Dam is located on Day Road.

**4** Serpentine Dam is one of Perth's oldest and largest water catchments. It boasts a large picnic site set in a beautifully landscaped area. Facilities include wood barbecues, toilets, plenty of shade, kiosk, tearooms and walking trails.

**5** Kingsbury Lookout provides spectacular views over the coastal plain from the Darling Scarp.

**6** Turner Cottage is located at the corner of South West Highway and Wellard Street. Direct descendants of Edward and Elizabeth Turner have fully restored the cottage to its original condition. This pioneer cottage

offers you the opportunity to experience some of Western Australia's early history. The Cottage complex includes a restaurant for Devonshire Teas and light lunches, a craft shop, Serpentine River Mini-Railway Park and picnic and barbecue areas on the banks of the Serpentine River.

**7** Serpentine National Park is situated on the Darling Scarp and escarpment plateau. The Park abounds with birdlife and native animals and is spectacular during the wildflower season, when the hills and forest become ablaze with colour.

The Park is best known for the Serpentine Falls, a waterfall which cascades over a sheer granite rockface in winter, to fall 15m in to the deep pools below. Facilities include barbecue and picnic areas, toilets, walking tracks and a large pool suitable for swimming.

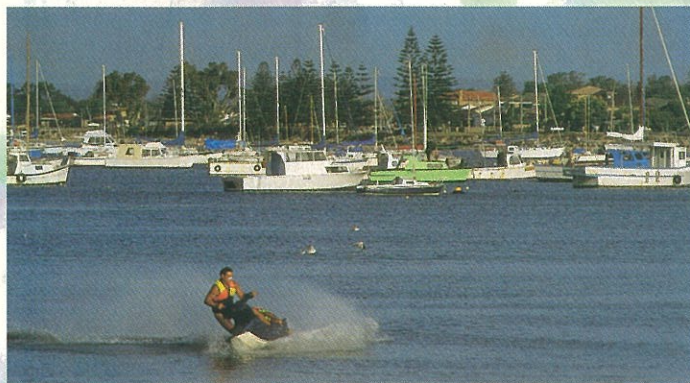


# Rockingham Coastal Tourist Drive

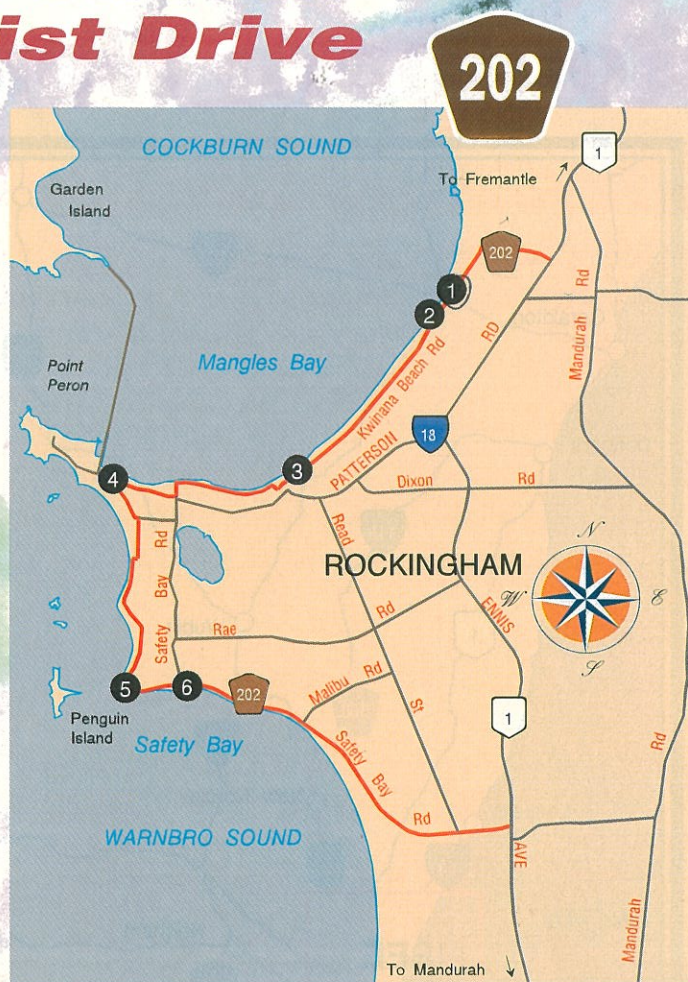
Distance 24km

**T**ravel the Rockingham Tourist Drive and experience for yourself a true aquatic playground. Renowned for its fabulous fishing, beautiful coastline, clean and safe beaches, exciting marine parks and relaxed holiday atmosphere.

With a backdrop of Cockburn Sound, and the coastline dotted with islands, Rockingham is the perfect place to swim, surf, snorkel, sail, fish or simply enjoy the sunshine.



Jet ski action on Mangles Bay.



**1** Kwinana Wreck can still be seen high and dry on Kwinana Beach. Both the beach and surrounding district have been named after the Wreck. The old Kwinana townsite was dismantled to make way for industrial complexes which now abound in the area.

**2** Co-operative Bulk Handling (CBH) is easily recognised by the huge silos and jetty grain loading facilities. CBH, owned by the grain growers of WA, is one of the largest and most modern grain terminals in the world. The Grannery Museum and tours of the plant are open to the public.

**3** Bell and Churchill Parks, located on the beachfront in the main centre of Rockingham, are perfect for those who enjoy a picnic or barbecue. Grassy verges, complete with playgrounds, barbecue facilities and amenities, extend down to Mangles Bay, a safe beach for all age groups.

**4** Point Peron, at the southern end of Cockburn Sound, is a popular holiday destination, particularly for those groups wishing to use the camp facilities provided by many community organisations. Reward yourself with a leisurely stroll along the extensive pathways recently constructed on the Cape, including a short walk to the gun emplacements of a World War II coastal battery. The lookout, which was once its main observation post, gives a commanding view of Cockburn Sound and the attractive coastline and islands of the Shoalwater Islands Marine Park. It is also an ideal location to view spectacular sunsets across the Indian Ocean.

**5** Penguin Island, situated less than a kilometre from the shore, is the largest of the small islands that form the Shoalwater Islands Marine Park. More importantly, it is

home to the northern most colony of rare fairy penguins who come ashore to breed from late March to early December. The island also supports a variety of interesting birdlife, including bridled turns, silver gulls and migratory waders, whilst dolphins and sea lions are often encountered in the surrounding waters.

Take some time to relax and swim in the protected waters, enjoy the magnificent views from the island, observe the fairy penguins or simply have a picnic on the beach. Ferries from the mainland operate regularly and during the right tidal conditions it is actually possible to wade across.

**6** Safety Bay boasts safe sheltered beaches and excellent fishing.



# Golden Heartlands and Southern Wonders



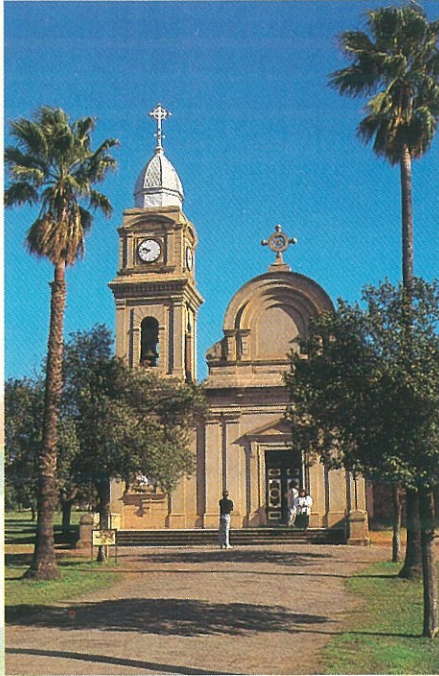


# Midlands

Distance 204km

## Tourist Way

**T**ravel through the heart of Western Australia's agricultural district and experience the gentle pace of some of Western Australia's charming rural towns.



One of the many fine examples of architecture in New Norcia.

- 1** Walyunga National Park sits on the very rim of the Darling Scarp and comprises of almost 1,800ha of virgin bushland. It is here that the Avon River becomes the Swan River, running through the centre of the Park. The Park was once the site of one of the largest Aboriginal settlements near Perth and was still in use by the Nyungar people up to the late 1800s. The Park is an ideal picnic spot in winter or spring.
- 2** Bullsbrook situated 44km north of Perth on the Great Northern Highway is a charming small town adjoining the RAAF Base Pearce.

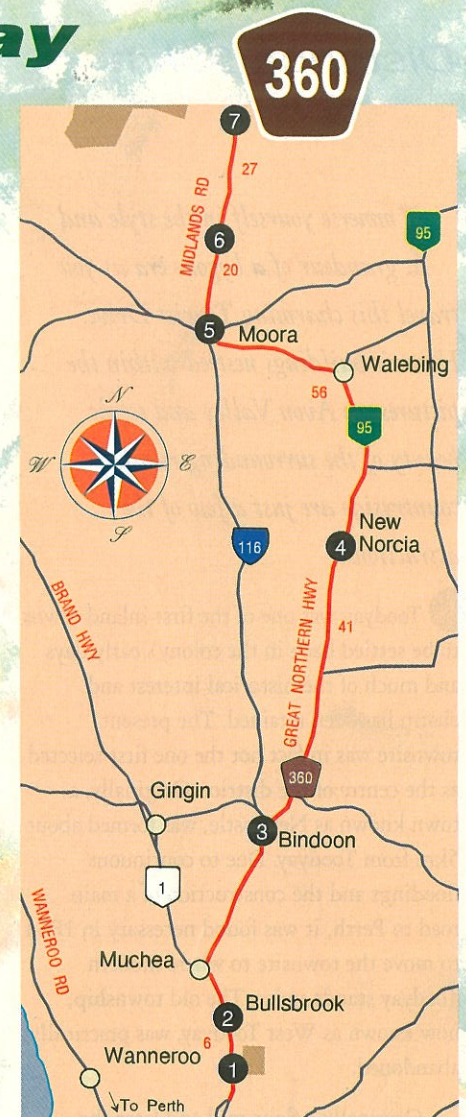
- 3** Bindoon, meaning 'a place where yams grow', is a charming rural town situated on the banks of the Brockman River. With its history, numerous attractions and picturesque surroundings, Bindoon is the perfect place to relax and unwind.

Holy Trinity Church, located opposite the Chittering Lake, was built in 1887.

Now a Catholic Agricultural College, Keaney College, was once home to orphaned and underprivileged boys. The magnificent buildings, complemented by the Stations of the Cross built along the approach driveway, provide a lasting monument to the hard work and dedication of the Christian Brothers.

- 4** Nestled in a picturesque valley, you'll find New Norcia, a slice of 19th Century Spain, home of the monks of the Benedictine Order and a treasure-house of valuable works of art, magnificent Spanish architecture and pioneer history. This imposing Spanish monastery was founded by a Spanish Benedictine Monk, Dom Rosendo Salvado, in 1846, to provide a mission for the local Aboriginal people. Today, this tiny township is a centre of education and culture but remains a private town wholly owned by the Benedictine monks who continue to live there.

Well worth a look is the outstanding Museum and Art Gallery, renowned for its magnificent collection of works by 16th and 17th Century Masters and noted Australian painters, rare books, vestments, artifacts and gifts from Spanish Queen Isabella.



- 5** Moora is situated on the banks of the Moore River in an area which was once a virgin salmon gum forest. Moora is the largest town located between Perth and Geraldton.
- 6** Western Wildflower Farm at Coomberdale, enables you to observe wildflowers growing, drying and in novel displays. The Farm is open from Easter to Christmas.
- 7** Situated 50km north of Moora, Watheroo National Park is accessible from all directions by good gravel roads. The Park is 44,324ha of sandplain country which boasts rare native flora and is also the site of Jingamia Cave.



# Avon Historic

Distance 98km

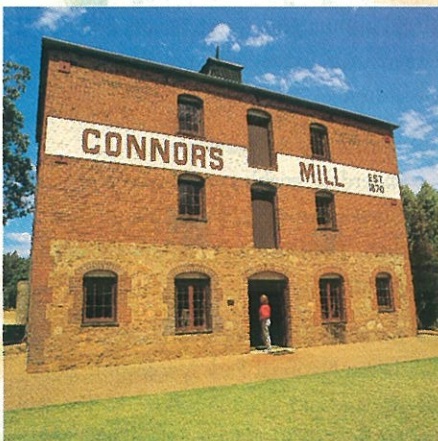
## Tourist Drive

254

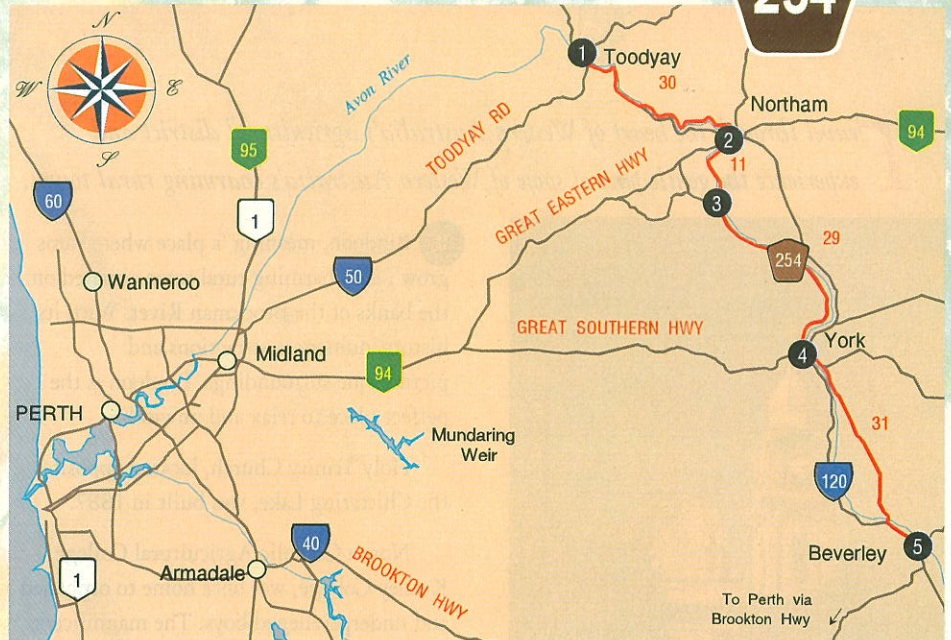
*Immerse yourself in the style and grandeur of a bygone era as you travel this charming Tourist Drive. Historic buildings nestled within the picturesque Avon Valley and scenic beauty of the surrounding rural countryside are just a few of the attractions.*

**1** Toodyay was one of the first inland towns to be settled back in the colony's early days and much of the historical interest and charm has been retained. The present townsite was in fact not the one first selected as the centre of the district. Originally, a town known as Newcastle, was formed about 5km from Toodyay. Due to continuous floodings and the construction of a main road to Perth, it was found necessary in 1864 to move the townsite to where modern Toodyay stands today. The old township, now known as West Toodyay, was practically abandoned.

Originally a flour mill and later the town's powerhouse, Connors Mill has been restored and now serves as the Tourist



Connors Mill is the home of the Toodyay Tourist Centre.



Centre. Dating back to 1870, it features a 50 year old working steam engine and display illustrating the history of the mill. The top floor is devoted to an exhibit depicting the life and times of the State's most notorious bushranger, Moondyne Joe, who roamed the nearby valley lands.

Situated in Clinton Street, the Old Newcastle Gaol was built in 1865 by convict labour. The Gaol has since been converted into a museum which offers an insight into the life and times of the days of the settlement. The old shingle roofed Gaol has the original cells on view, an old courthouse and several rooms filled with convict and local historical displays. Here you can try your hand at making a brick, bottle rubbing or have fun participating in a mock court room trial.

Pelham Reserve and Scenic Lookout is well worth the visit before heading south towards Northam. See the panoramic views of the town and Avon River, take a walk around the nature trails or simply enjoy a picnic or barbecue.

**2** Nestled in the heart of the fertile Avon Valley, Northam is an area rich in history.

From Northam's humble beginnings in 1836, it soon became the service centre in the 1890s for prospectors pursuing their dreams of fabulous wealth in the Goldfields. Today, Northam is Western Australia's largest inland town and the Avon Valley's commercial centre and adventure playground. Experience the charm of some of Northam's historic buildings, including the 1886 Railway Museum and recently renovated Shamrock Hotel.

Northam boasts a unique colony of white swans, descendants of birds brought from England at the turn of the Century. The swans are thriving on the Avon River in the centre of town, beneath the longest pedestrian suspension bridge in Australia.

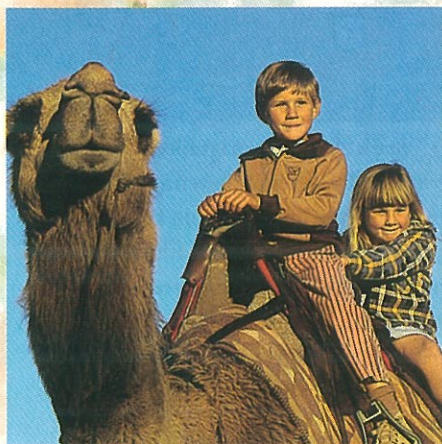
Buckland Homestead is one of Western Australia's most stately homes. Built in 1874, this magnificent historic homestead is undoubtedly one of the finest examples of a colonial country mansion in Australia. The Homestead is located on its own 450ha farm and houses the owner's priceless collection of antique furniture, silver, paintings and other objets d'art.



Hot air ballooning is unique to Northam. It's sheltered valley is ideally suited for this exhilarating but tranquil experience.

**3** Experience camel riding in picturesque bushland surroundings at Blue Gum Camel Farm, located just off the Tourist Drive, near Spencer Brook Road, Clackline. Learn to ride these strange, wonderful creatures under supervision or experience the ultimate outback trek.

**4** York is Western Australia's oldest inland town and one of its most charming. First settled in 1831, the town remains a splendid reminder of the past with its blend of colonial and Victorian architecture dating back to the earliest days of the colony. The townsite has been classified as an historic town by the National Trust and has more of its old original buildings than any other town in the State.



*Take a camel ride at the Blue Gum Camel Farm.*

Located 342m above sea level, to the east of town, Mt Brown Lookout offers spectacular 180° views of York and the surrounding countryside.

The York Suspension Bridge, built in 1906, forms an unusual foot crossing over an attractive section of the Avon River. Close by is the picturesque Avon Park which makes an ideal picnic spot, with playground and barbecue facilities.

The York Motor Museum is recognised as the finest collection of veteran, classic and racing cars in Australia. The Museum houses more than 150 classical vintage cars and



*York Motor Museum – location in Avon Terrace.*

motorcycles in a beautifully restored building situated in York's main street, Avon Terrace.

The Residency Museum is York's oldest house, constructed in 1843 as a home for the resident magistrate. It now houses an impressive collection of relics given by descendants of the original settlers of York and is an interesting reminder of the pioneering days of the settlement.

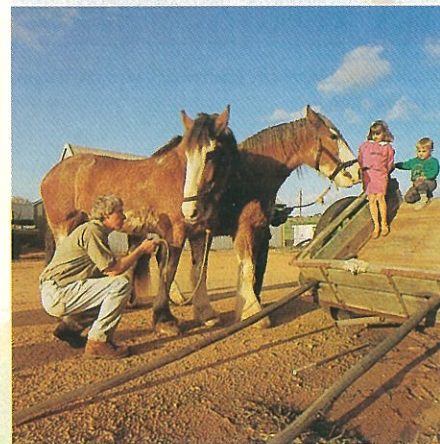
Watch a demonstration of old, fully operational printing presses at Sandalwood Press and view displays of the antique printing equipment.

Well worth a visit is historical Balladong Farm, WA's oldest inland farm. Established in 1831, the Farm has now been restored as a museum to show just what farming was like late last century. Depending on the season, witness traditional farming methods, such as horse-ploughing, sheep shearing and spinning. Wander through restored farm buildings, view horse drawn machinery, hand feed a range of animals found on a traditional mixed farm or see the gentle giant Clydesdale horses in action.

**5** Beverley stands on the banks of the meandering Avon River and is also part of the Great Southern Tourist Way No. 356. The town boasts many fine examples of the art deco era, including the Beverley Town

Hall and Beverley Hotel. Beverley Aeronautical Museum features the 'Silver Centenary', the first privately built aircraft in the State and an impressive collection of aircraft engines, parts and numerous photographs representing a complete picture of the early days of flying in Western Australia.

Avondale Discovery Farm is located 6km west of Beverley. Experience past and present farming methods, feed the farm animals and view the largest collection of farm machinery in the Southern Hemisphere.



*Meet the farm animals at the Avondale Discovery Farm near Beverley.*



# Great Southern Tourist Way

Distance 381km

356

**T**ravel the Great Southern Tourist Way and partake in a part of Western Australia's history as you follow the Great Southern Railway from Beverley to Albany. Completed in 1889, the Railway acted as a catalyst for settlement of the Great Southern, marking the beginning of many of the towns still in existence today.

**1** Beverley stands on the banks of the meandering Avon River. For further information on Beverley and its attractions refer to the Avon Historic Tourist Drive No 254.

**2** Pingelly offers rare insight into Western Australia's rich colonial heritage.

St Patrick's Church is located 10km east of Pingelly at Mourambine. Built in 1871, the historical Church is still in use today.



For an insight into early pioneer life, visit the Wagin Historical Village.

**3** Narrogin is the commercial hub of the Golden Heartlands.

The Old Courthouse Museum provides an insight into early Australian life.

Dryandra Forest is located 26km north west of Narrogin. Recognised as a bird watchers and bush walkers paradise, Dryandra is home to numerous varieties of wildflowers and our State's fauna emblem, the now rare numbat, which can often be seen in the late afternoon.

Albert Facey Homestead is located 41km east of Narrogin. Step back in time and visit

the home of the late Albert Facey, best selling author of "A Fortunate Life".

**4** Wagin Historical Village is a real pioneering village as it was 100 years ago. This complex boasts 18 buildings including a bank, one room school (built at the turn of the century), a stone kiosk, newspaper office, mud brick settler's cottage, village blacksmith, general store, wool museum and a number of old farming machines and tools, all restored to working order.

The Giant Ram is claimed to be the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.

**5** Katanning has ranked high in the production of cereal grains since the erection of the first flour mill in 1891.

The Old Mill Museum is located in the centre of town. Built in 1889, the fully restored museum features an impressive display of vintage roller flour mill machinery, some in perfect working order.

**6** Cranbrook is the western gateway to the spectacular Stirling Range National Park, formed over 1,000 million years ago when the area was a shallow sea.

Stark cliff faces, magnificent views and over 1,000 species of flowering plants, including the rare Mountain Bells are all part of the Stirling Range. Bluff Knoll, the highest peak in the Range, reaches 1,073m above sea level. The Range is one of the few places in the State where snow occasionally falls.

**7** Mount Barker is an area noted for its excellent wineries and vineyards.

St. Werburgh's Chapel built in 1872 to serve the pioneers in the district, highlights the history and early architecture of the area.

Porongurup Range National Park is claimed to be one of the oldest ranges in the world, formed over 1,500 million years ago. For further information on Mount Barker and the Porongurup National Park refer to the Porongurup Tourist Drive No 252.

**8** Albany is the oldest settlement in Western Australia and is a visitor's delight. For further information on Albany and its attractions refer to the Albany Historic and Frenchman Bay Tourist Drives No 257 and 258.



# Porongurup

Distance 30km

## Tourist Drive

252

**T**he Porongurup National Park is renowned for its beauty. Delight in the natural splendour of the Porongurup Ranges, with its many walks, spectacular views, interesting drives and abundant wildlife, in an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity.

**1** Discover the historical and distinctive charm of Mt Barker. Originally a staging



*Bottlebrush are one of the many wildflower species in the Porongurup Range.*

post for travellers between Perth and Albany, Mt Barker has now become home to a burgeoning wine industry.

The Old Police Station and Gaol was built by convicts in 1868. The police station is now a museum, preserved and furnished in the style of that period, whilst the old gaol is used by local potters and painters.

Mt Barker Hill and Lookout, easily pinpointed because of the TV Tower, is well worth the 5km drive from town. The Lookout offers amazing 360 degree panoramic views which extend from the Stirling Ranges to Albany.

Both Mt Barker and the Porongurup Range are also part of the Great Southern Tourist Way No 356.

**2** The Porongurup Range, with its massive tree-clad granite outcrops, is claimed to be



one of the oldest ranges in the world, formed over 1,500 million years ago. Twelve km long and 670m at its highest point, the Range and National Park features enchanting forests of magnificent karri trees, which were part of the vast forest which once covered most of the south of Western Australia. The Park is also home to a variety of bird and animal life, including brush wallabies and western grey kangaroos and the wildflower display during spring is simply spectacular.

Winding nature trails, varying from easy to difficult, crisscross the Range and lead up gentle slopes to several of the peaks. Walkers are rewarded by the sight of many unusual rock formations and some spectacular scenery. There are also several picnic and barbecue areas nestled within the forest.

Bolganup Dam has a pleasant picnic and barbecue area and is the starting point for the Bolganup Heritage Trail, a 600m circuit within an easy 30 minute stroll.

Tree in the Rock, as the name implies, is a karri tree growing through a large granite outcrop. This remarkable natural phenomenon can be found in the parking area, at the beginning of the walk trails which lead to the Range's numerous peaks and is an ideal place for a barbecue or picnic.

Devil's Slide and Marmabup Rock can be reached via a 2.5km nature trail which begins at the parking area at the top of Bolganup Road. From here, follow Wansborough Walk from Tree in the Rock, turn off to your right and climb 200m to the summit. You will need to allow 3 hours to complete the return journey. The trail is not recommended in wet conditions due to slippery rocks.

**3** In a wealth of natural attractions, Castle Rock, a large granite outcrop with a sheer vertical face, is probably the most photographed. A ladder and a walkway lead to the top of the rock where you will be rewarded by sweeping views to Albany.



*The walking track leading to Tree in the Rock.*



# Albany Historic Tourist Drive

Distance 6km

257

**D**iscover the history and charm of the first settlement in Western Australia, founded in 1826, by Major Edmund Lockyer, some two years prior to the formation of the Swan River Colony.

**1** Middleton Beach, with its 4km of pure white sand and sheltered waters, is an ideal place for swimming.

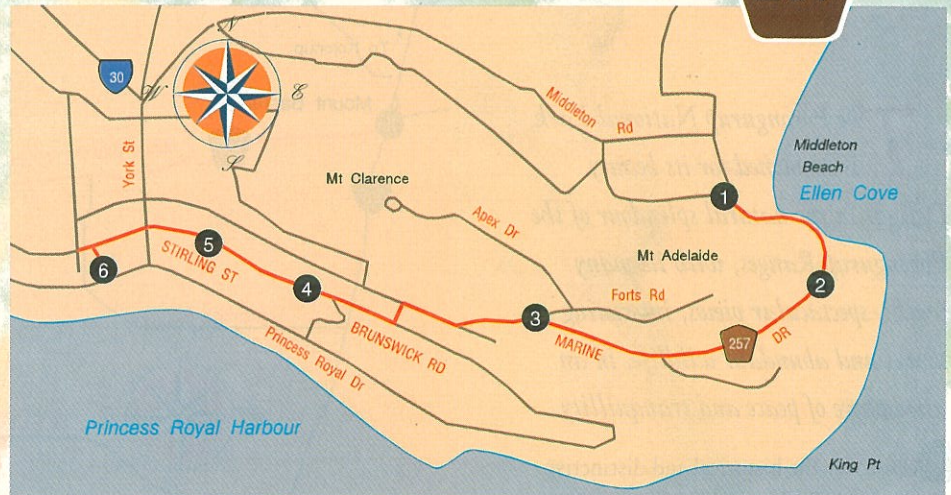
Overlooking picturesque Middleton Beach, The Esplanade Hotel has been created in the tradition of exclusive boutique hotels. This magnificent colonial-style 'hotel by the sea' offers a world-class standard of accommodation.

Adjoining The Esplanade Hotel is the unique Extravaganza Gallery. The vast and exciting exhibition features over 600 collectables, with every item in the Gallery for sale. The collection includes classic cars, paintings and prints by noted Australian artists, sculptures and much more.

**2** Skirting the foot of Mount Adelaide is Marine Drive Lookout. From here the Michaelmas and Breaksea Islands can be clearly seen as part of one of the most beautiful seascapes in Australia.

**3** A steep winding road takes you to Australia's first Federal fortress, the Princess Royal Fortress, built in 1893 to protect Albany against the threat of enemy attack. Spend a fascinating few hours exploring the barracks buildings, gun emplacements, bunkered ammunition magazine and lookouts.

Mount Clarence lookout affords an unforgettable view of King George Sound and the Princess Royal Harbour. It is here that the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial,



once located at Port Said on the Suez Canal, has been re-erected.

**4** From Lawley Park magnificent views of Princess Royal Harbour and the town jetty may be had. Also of interest is the Sir Richard Spencer Memorial.

**5** Built in 1869, the beautifully restored Old Post Office evokes memories of the old coaching days of England. Today, the building houses a restaurant and the Inter-Colonial Communications Museum.

**6** Built by convicts in 1851, the Old Gaol was originally a convict hiring depot and was later used as the region's district gaol. Now a museum, the tiny prisoners' cells and 'black hole' give an insight into the grim

conditions of prisoners during the last century.

Beside the Old Gaol is the Residency Museum. Built in the 1850s, it was originally a store for the convict hiring depot until 1873, when it served as the residence for Government magistrates. The Museum is part of a complex which includes the Eclipse Building, housing the huge 4m optic from the Eclipse Island Lighthouse and 'Sea and Touch Gallery'.

Nearby is a full-size replica of the brig Amity, used when Major Edmund Lockyer landed in 1826 for the purpose of establishing a settlement at King George Sound. Its location is just 200m from where the original vessel landed at Point Frederick.



Berthed on Albany's foreshore, the brig 'Amity' replica is open for inspection.



# Frenchman Bay

## Tourist Drive

Distance 7km

**T**ravel Frenchman Bay Tourist Drive and experience the spectacular Torndirrup National Park, best known for its rugged coastal scenery and dramatic rock formations.

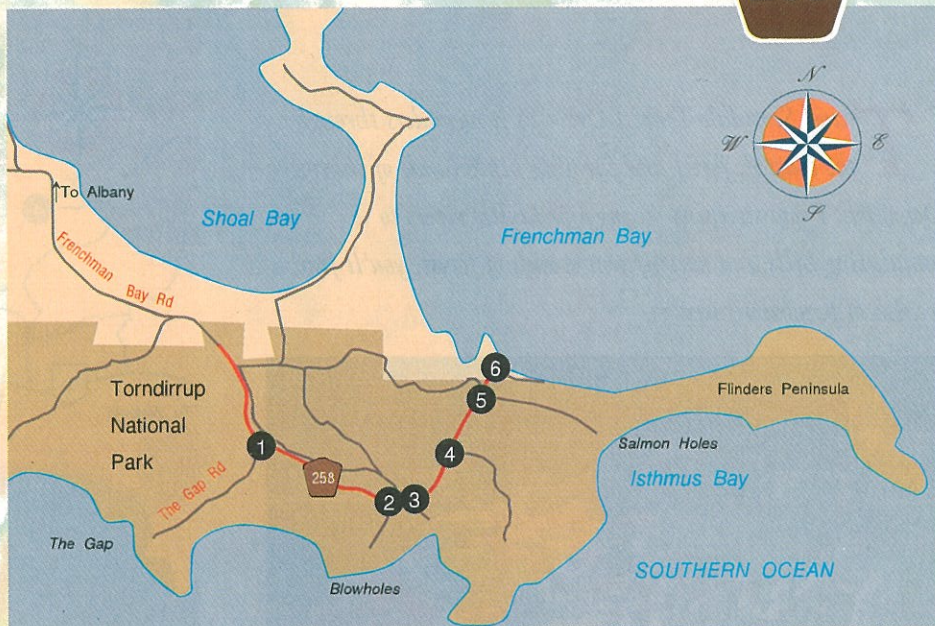
The varied bushland habitat of Torndirrup is home to many different species of native animals, including the pygmy possums, short-nosed bandicoots, kangaroos and rare dibbler. Whales once hunted along the south coast, are now often seen lazing a few hundred metres from shore.

**1** Albany's infamous Gap is an awesome example of nature's might. When the rolling swells of the Southern Ocean hit this narrow, steep sided ravine the spray is propelled many metres into the air. There is a viewing cage at the top of the Gap to enable safe observation of this seething mass of foam, spray and crashing surf 24m below.

The Natural Bridge is an enormous suspension, shaped like a bridge of giants, carved from granite rock by the massive pounding of huge waves over millions of years. When a heavy swell is running, the surging Southern Ocean, which has claimed the lives of several unwary fishermen, is an awe-inspiring sight.

**2** The Blowholes are certainly worth the short walk and are seen at their best when there is a heavy ocean swell. The occurrence is caused by an immense pressure of water forced into caves below, which blasts air through cracks in the rocks above.

**3** Jimmy Newhill's Harbour provides a colourful contrast along the rugged coastline.



Named after an early fisherman of the district who was caught in a sudden storm and driven by chance into the tiny natural harbour. This tranquil inlet, viewed from a lookout a few metres from the car park, has all the colours of the ocean from deep aquamarine to the palest blues, while the surrounding coastal heath comes alive with its own colours during the wildflower season.

**4** Stony Hill Lookout provides magnificent panoramic views of the Southern Ocean and north across Princess Royal Harbour and King George Sound, with the Porongurup and Stirling Ranges as a fitting backdrop.

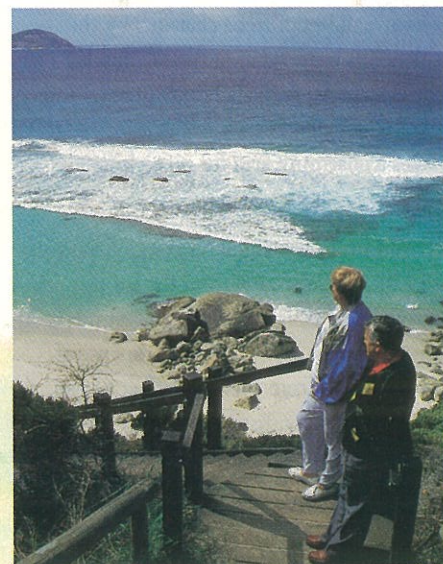
**5** Salmon Holes is a popular fishing spot for the locally known salmon which seek shelter in the calmer waters close to the beach.

**6** Jaycees Albany Whaleworld is the only whaling museum created from a former operational whaling station, which closed in 1978. The centre provides a fascinating insight into the history and operation of an industry that is now discontinued in all but a few parts of the world.

Walk the decks of the whale chaser, Cheynes IV, tour the old factory and view

fascinating displays, which include the original spotter aircraft, a 22m whale skeleton and a comprehensive collection of marine mammal paintings.

At the far end of the Drive are the sheltered beaches of Frenchman Bay and Goode Beach. The white sandy beaches offer safe swimming for children and good fishing for whiting and herring.



Salmon Holes Beach, one of the highlights of the Torndirrup National Park.



# Scotsdale

Distance 35km

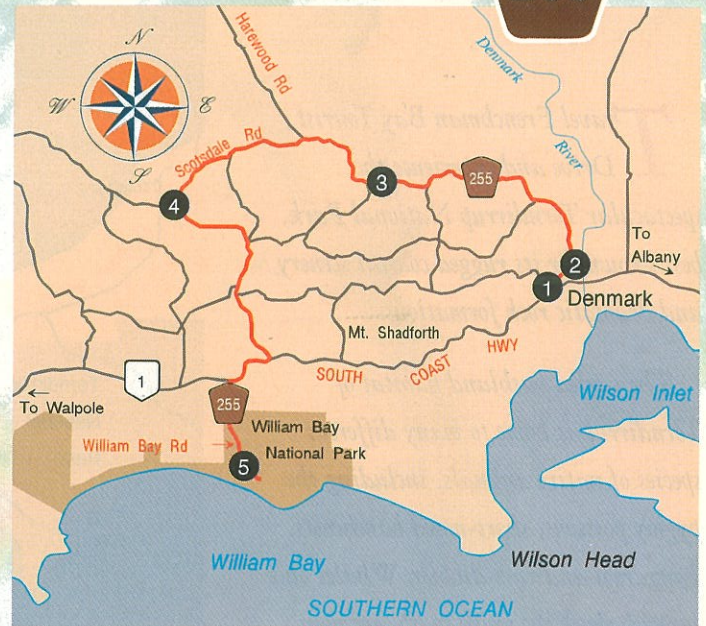
## Tourist Drive

255

**T**ravel Scotsdale Tourist Drive as it meanders through the coastal, forest and farming hinterlands of charming Denmark. From sweeping oceans and idyllic rivers to undulating hills and magnificent stands of forest, you'll find a wealth of panoramic scenery.



Feeding time on the banks of the Denmark River.



**1** Nestled on the banks of the Denmark River, the picturesque town of Denmark is surrounded by rolling hills, farmland and towering karri forests. Originally a timber town in 1884, today Denmark is home to many of the region's artists and craftspeople whose wares are readily available in town. Fine local wines are also produced.

Few could fail to be charmed by the esplanade on the bank of the Denmark River. The esplanade, with its beautiful trees and lawns that extend down to the river's edge, makes a charming area for picnicking and for children to play.

Wilson Inlet, which for most of the year is a vast lake separated from the sea by a narrow sandbar, is one of the largest inlets on the south coast. This beautiful expanse of water extends from the entrance at Ocean Beach across for a distance of some 13 km. Wilson Inlet is ideal for windsurfing, fishing, boating and waterskiing.

**2** Denmark Timber Heritage Trail follows the route of the old bush tramways, which were used to haul logs down to the Denmark

townsite, along what is now Scotsdale Road. The 20km trail is suitable for motorists, cyclists, horseriders and bushwalkers.

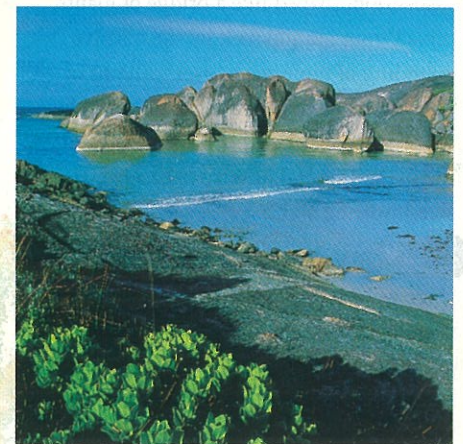
**3** Reward yourself with a short stroll, 1.2km return, along the Harewood Forest Walk Trail. This delightful trail crosses the Scotsdale Creek by footbridge and winds through regenerated karri, a bird-watcher's paradise.

**4** Pentland Alpaca Stud and Tourist Farm is a firm favourite for both young and old. Experience the exotic South American alpacas, prized for their fine and valuable fibre. Children will adore feeding a variety of farm animals, including cheeky cashmere and angora goats and miniature donkeys. Other attractions include trout fishing, scenic walks, children's playground and picnic facilities.

**5** William Bay National Park lies 15km west of Denmark and features superb coastal scenery. The Park protects 1,867ha of coastline and forest between Walpole and Denmark. Despite its small size, it contains a great diversity of natural features, from rugged coastlines and coastal dunes to heathlands and mature karri forest.

Heralded as one of the most beautiful beaches to be found, Green's Pool is a must for any visitor to Denmark. Sheltered from the ocean by a reef of granite boulders, it is a natural sea pool, which remains calm and safe for swimming all year round.

From Green's Pool car park, proceed left for approximately 3 km through the National Park to the parking area at Madfish Bay. The coastal views are excellent and there is good fishing and safe swimming for children.



Elephant Rocks located close to Green's Pool.



# Blackwood River Tourist Drive

Distance 87km

251

**F**ollow the splendid Blackwood River on part of its journey, as it meanders from its headwaters in the wheatbelt over 500 kilometres to its broad estuary at Augusta, passing through some of Western Australia's most picturesque farm country.

Winding bush drives, lush orchards, quaint farms, tall jarrah and marri forests and spectacular scenery are just some of the attractions.

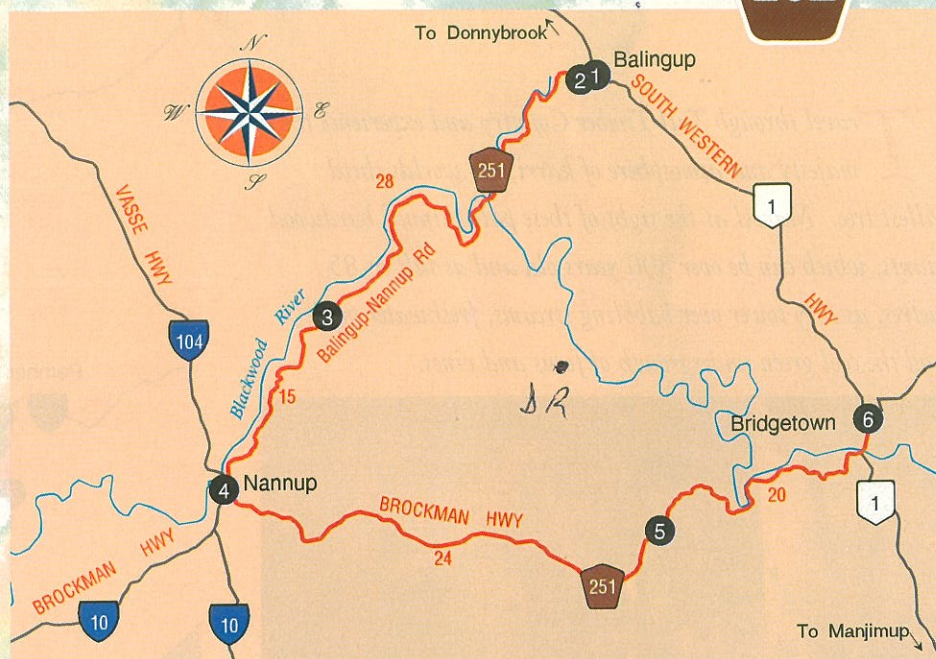


Take time to canoe the Blackwood River in Bridgetown.

**1** Set amongst rolling farmland, Balingup is a small town fast developing as the hub for art and craft within the area.

The Tinderbox, with an interesting selection of herbs and Bailiwick, with a variety of wooden toys, are well worth visiting.

Golden Valley Tree Park is located south of Balingup, off Southampton Road. This picturesque park features a collection of hundreds of beautiful trees from Australia and overseas, planted in a landscaped setting.



**2** The Old Cheese Factory of the 1930s has been recreated into the largest craft centre in the South West. The Factory features an exciting collection of works by both Western Australian and Australian artists and craftspeople.

**3** The Settlers Cottage, located at Tathra, was built over 120 years ago. Today the Cottage is open to the public as a living museum and tribute to the pioneers of the area. Tathra also boasts a boutique winery and restaurant set amongst beautiful cottage gardens.

**4** Nannup, located in the heart of the south-west's jarrah forests, has successfully retained its timber town character and peaceful old world charm. First settled between 1850 and 1860, this picturesque town has many of its original buildings still in use today. The rivers and brooks that run through the forest offer excellent canoeing and fishing, whilst the natural Barrabup Pool and Red Gully are popular swimming spots. There are also a number of bush walks which take in the spectacular scenery of the Blackwood River, the longest river in the

South West of the State and surrounding natural forests.

**5** Bridgetown Jarrah Park, located between Nannup and Bridgetown, is an ideal place to discover the moods of WA's remarkable jarrah forest. Meandering walk trails, on-site information and picnic facilities add to the enjoyment of the Park. The walk trails commemorate important innovations in the forest and timber industries' early days in the South West.

**6** Situated in the midst of one of the prettiest areas of the State is Bridgetown. Established in 1857, Bridgetown is an ideal place to take a bush walk, scenic drive or simply relax and enjoy the peaceful countryside.

Bridgedale, overlooking the Blackwood River, is the first house of any substance built in Bridgetown and the family home of the Blechynden family. Originally constructed from local materials, Bridgedale has been faithfully renovated to create the atmosphere of yesteryear. It is now vested in the National Trust and is open to the public.



# Karri Tourist Drive

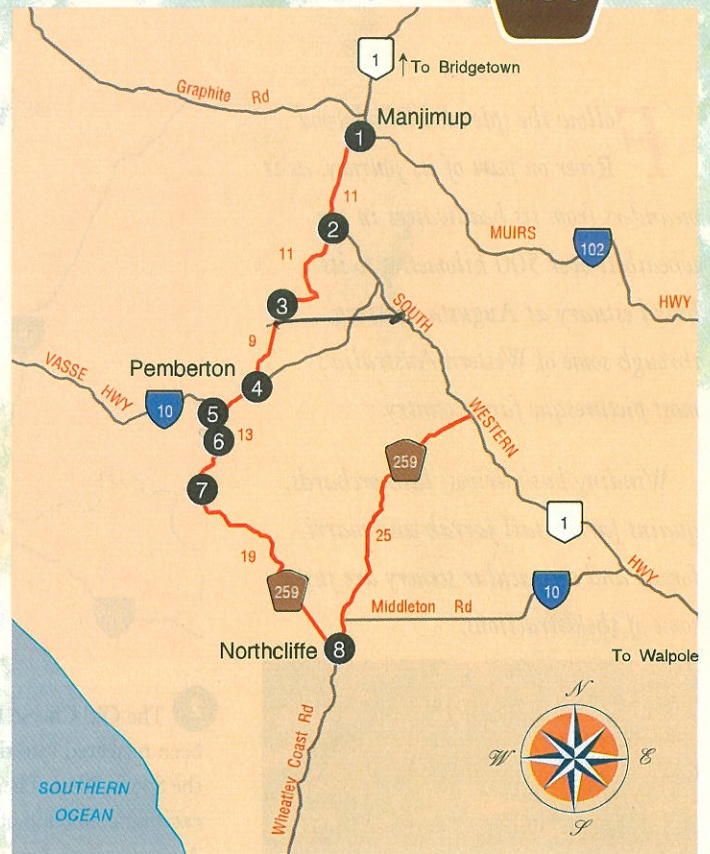
Distance 88km

259

**T**ravel through Tall Timber Country and experience the majesty and atmosphere of karri, the world's third tallest tree. Marvel at the sight of these pale skinned hardwood giants, which can be over 300 years old and as tall as 85 metres, as they tower over babbling streams, freshwater pools and the cool green undergrowth of ferns and vines.



Typical karri forest track in the Manjimup area.



**1** Manjimup is regarded as the Gateway to Tall Timber Country and is the commercial centre for the Warren District.

Witness the history of settlement and the timber industry at the Manjimup Timber Park. Climb the 18m Fire Tower Lookout for a view over the surrounding countryside. Browse amongst the arts and crafts at the Timber Park Gallery and wander through the Age of Steam Museum, the Forest Visitors Centre, Historical Hamlet and State's only Timber Museum.

In 1925 Archie Fontanini dammed Fonty's Pool for the irrigation of vegetables. Since then it has been converted into a large freshwater swimming pool set amongst beautiful gardens, lawns, picnic and barbecue areas.

One Tree Bridge, located on Graphite Road 22km west of Manjimup, was made from a single karri tree that was felled to cross the Donnelly River in 1904. Today, it is displayed on land near the original site, surrounded by walk tracks and picnic areas.

Nearby are the 'Four Aces', four giant karri trees which by a quirk of nature stand in Indian file, a short distance from the road. These magnificent trees are between 300 and 400 years old, the tallest of which is about 80m.

King Jarrah Tree, located on Perup Road, is over 600 years old. Here you'll find a Heritage Trail and delightful picnic area.

**2** At the top of the 51m karri tree, known as Diamond Tree, you will see a fire lookout. Unfortunately, the tree is no longer safe for climbing.

**3** The area where the 100 Year Forest now stands was originally cleared in 1865 to grow wheat. The project failed and in 1867 the area was abandoned. A fire in 1875 induced seedfall from surrounding trees and the karri forest was started. Today, the karri trees stand up to 70m in height.

**4** Pemberton, Top Tourism Town for 1993, is set in the heart of magnificent karri forests, crystal clear streams and, in spring, a profusion of wildflowers.

The Karri Visitors Centre, located in the old Pemberton District High School in the main street of town, houses the Tourist Centre, Pioneer Museum and Wildflower Garden and will shortly contain a Forest Discovery Centre.

The giant 61m high Gloucester Tree is reputed to be the tallest tree-mounted fire lookout in the world. If you're very energetic





*The Pemberton-Northcliffe Tramway will take you to the heart of the karri country.*

you can climb the 153 rungs that spiral the tree to the lookout platform. The view from the top is magnificent.

Take a breathtaking ride in a 1907 replica tram on the Pemberton-Northcliffe Tramway. Ride through towering karri and marri forests along one of the most scenic rail lines in Australia, crossing rivers and streams on rustic wooden trestle bridges to enjoy the tranquil beauty of the forest.

Rainbow Trail is a pleasant narrow, winding drive through picturesque karri forest. The trail follows the route of an old logging railway line up the valley of Lefroy Brook, leading to Big Brook Dam and Big Brook Arboretum.

Big Brook Dam was built in 1986 to supplement the Pemberton town and Trout Hatchery water supply. This magnificent expanse of water, set in picturesque forest, is an excellent spot for fishing, canoeing, sailboarding, bushwalking and picnicking.

Big Brook Arboretum is a tree garden featuring 32 different species of trees from overseas and the Eastern States.

**5** Karri Valley Resort offers you a country cocktail of forest forays, lakeside lazing and dining delights. There is a series of active pursuits available to help you enjoy your encounter with the environment - trout fishing, canoeing, bushwalking, horseriding and a full range of resort activities.

Beedelup Falls, situated in the Beedelup National Park, is a beautiful waterfall made up of a series of rocky cascades, which together drop some 100m to the ground. The Falls are best seen after heavy rain, from the karri log footbridge which forms part of the short walk around the Falls.

**6** The Cascades, located on Lefroy River, are most spectacular in winter when the water rages over a series of rocky cascades, but at all times of the year this is a pleasant spot for picnicking, fishing and bushwalking.

Hire a rod or bring your own and catch a rainbow trout from the well stocked dam at King Trout Farm. King Trout Cafe also offers delicious light lunches and teas of marron and fresh or smoked trout, overlooking the tranquil lake and picturesque Treen Brook.



*Wildflowers abound in springtime.*

Warren National Park, which straddles the valley of the Warren River, covers 1,400ha of magnificent virgin karri forest. The Park also boasts the tallest karri tree, some 89m high. Take an unforgettable drive on the scenic Heartbreak and Maidenbush Trails as they wind their way through the Park. Picnic and camping facilities are situated near the river. The roads are steep and winding, making them unsuitable for vehicles towing caravans or trailers.

**7** Brockman Sawpits, situated in the Brockman National Park, are restored 1865 sawpits, originally used for hand sawing of giant logs. They are complete with saw, logs and sawn lengths all over 100 years old.



*Picnic spots are everywhere in the karri forests.*

**8** Northcliffe, situated amidst virgin karri forests, is the gateway to an excellent scenic and recreation area, ideal for camping, boating, fishing and swimming.

Pioneer Museum is located in the last remaining Group Settlement School, built in 1925. The Museum houses an excellent display illustrating life during Group Settlement in the 1920s.

Experience the majesty and timelessness of the unique karri forest at Forest Park. Take a meandering drive or walk trail through the Park and experience a wonderland of soaring karri stretching up to 75m into the sky, jarrah and marri forest, amazing bird life and a kaleidoscope of colour in wildflower season. The Hollow Butt and Twin Karri trees can also be seen here.



# Caves Road

Distance 123km

## Tourist Drive

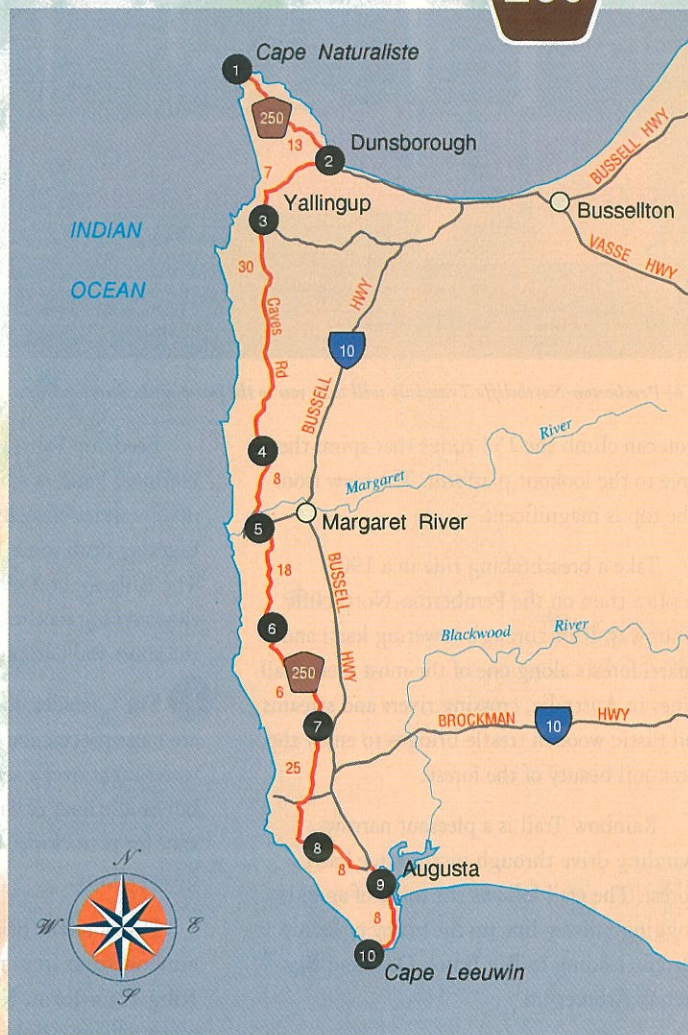
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The Cape Naturaliste to Cape Leeuwin Tourist Drive presents a dazzling array of alternatives. As well as secluded beaches and sheltered bays, world renowned surfing and dramatic coastal cliffs fronting the cool waters of the southern Indian Ocean, you'll see rolling farmlands, ancient caves and award winning vineyards.

The Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park covers the major part of the Tourist Drive, stretching 120 kilometres along the coast, from Bunker Bay in the north to Augusta in the south. The Park protects around 15,500 hectares of scenic coastline, caves, coastal heathlands, jarrah, karri, banksia and melaleuca woodland.



Surfing action is common along the South West coast.



**1** Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse is located off Naturaliste Terrace at the tip of Geographe Bay, 13km from Dunsborough. Built in 1903, the Lighthouse is named after the French ship "Le Naturaliste". Here you can gaze out over the expanse of the Indian Ocean or undertake one of the several Cape Naturaliste walk trails. The Lighthouse is open to the public.

Sugarloaf Rock is an impressive rock formation and popular fishing spot. It is also home to the endangered red tailed tropic bird.

Meelup Beach fronts Geographe Bay and is a delightful, well protected cove, with large

trees almost to the shoreline. The protected waters of this pretty little cove are perfect for safe swimming, fishing or simply exploring the rocky shoreline. Facilities include toilets, fresh water, barbecues and showers.

**2** Dunsborough is situated on a sheltered bay and is an ideal place for children with its shallow water. It also has deep water areas for launching boats and swimming.

Bannamah Wildlife Park, located on Caves Road, is a unique zoo set in natural bush surroundings. Covering 1.6ha, the Park has an excellent collection of birds and marsupials. Refreshments are available at the restaurant.

**3** Yallingup is noted for its magnificent caves, breathtaking coastal and forest scenery and spectacular surf. Rock, beach and boat fishing are also major attractions.

Yallingup Caves were discovered in 1899 by Edward Dawson, who stumbled upon a sinkhole while searching for strayed horses. Located off Caves Road, a short distance from Yallingup, they are now open to the public.

At Yallingup Beach, breakers roll into one of the best surfing beaches in Australia. Nearby, Smiths Beach is well known for its excellent swimming, surfing and fishing.

Canal Rocks, located off Caves Road in the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park, is a



series of large rocky outcrops which rise from the sea to form a natural canal. A man-made bridge has been built over the smallest canal so you can walk across this unique edifice. The area boasts excellent fishing and spectacular scenery all year round.

**4** Ellensbrook Homestead was built in 1851 by Alfred Bussell, one of the pioneers of the Margaret River district, as a home for his new bride. The house is now owned and operated by the National Trust and is open to the public.

**5** Margaret River, nestled on the banks of the river, is located only 9km from the coast. The town lies in a rich dairy, cattle and timber region and is noted for swimming, fishing and surfing. The area is also world renowned for its excellent wines.

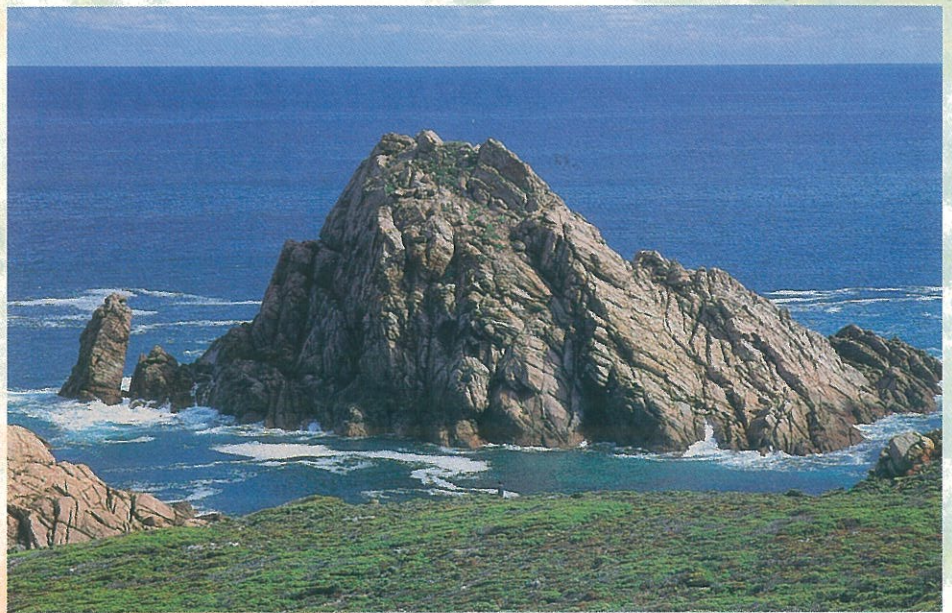
Prevelly Park is located at the mouth of the Margaret River. Here you can see the powerful surf that is conquered by both professionals and amateurs alike.

**6** Mammoth Cave, located 21km south of Margaret River, boasts numerous fascinating stalagmites and huge stalactites. This enormous underground cavern is particularly significant for the fossil remains of prehistoric animals that have been found there.



*Hamelin Bay is the ideal spot for family relaxation.*

The beautiful Lake Cave is a further 3km south and is noted for its unique suspended table formation and natural entrance. The Cave is reached by a winding staircase that leads down to a gigantic crater. Entering the cave, the sparkling underground lake, shimmering stalactites and mineral deposits on the walls, glitter like gems refracting and reflecting the artificial lights. It is a splendid sight.



*Sugarloaf Rock one of the coastline's highlights.*

**7** Boranup Karri Forest covers nearly 3,200ha between Caves Road and the coast and creates a powerful contrast with the rest of this coastline. Tall pale-barked karri trees, the world's third tallest tree, reaching 60m or more in height, dominate the hill slopes and valleys. Scenic roads suitable for 2WD vehicles wind through the forest to picnic and camping spots. Boranup is an extraordinary place given that it is a regrowth forest which is less than 100 years old. Reward yourself with a visit to the Lookout which offers sweeping views over the forest and the coast west to Hamelin Bay.

Boranup Forest Maze is located near the junction of the Boranup Scenic Route and Caves Road. This walking track through a trellis work of natural creepers is well worth visiting.

**8** Jewel Cave, located 8km north of Augusta on Caves Road, is described by many as the most beautiful ever seen. With its pure white shawls, organ pipes and magnificent stalactites, including the longest stalactite straw found in any tourist cave, it is truly an underground extravaganza.

**9** Augusta, established in 1830 on the instructions of Governor Stirling, is the State's third oldest settlement and the oldest South West settlement. Set on a high ridge, the town offers spectacular views over Hardy

Inlet, a splendid vista of trees, tranquil estuary waters and the ocean beyond. Augusta boasts safe quiet beaches, a wide choice of fishing grounds, rugged seacliffs and the peaceful Blackwood River and Hardy Inlet.

The Old Waterwheel is located just before the car park at Cape Leeuwin. The old wooden wheel supplied water from a natural spring to the lighthouse keeper's cottages until 1928. Since then deposits of salt have completely covered the wheel and petrified it in stone. A very pleasant picnic area lies under the trees between the Lighthouse and the wheel.

**10** Cape Leeuwin is the land's end of the South West and is the meeting place of two great oceans, the Indian Ocean to the west and the Southern Ocean to the south and east. From here the next land mass is the Southern Polar Cap. The Cape was named after the Dutch ship "Leeuwin", which passed this point in 1622.

The Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse sits on the South Western tip of the continent and guards the Cape. Built in 1896 and still in use today, the Lighthouse is also a vital meteorological station and is open to the public. The coastal scenery from this point is simply magnificent.



# Collie

## Tourist Way

Distance 57km

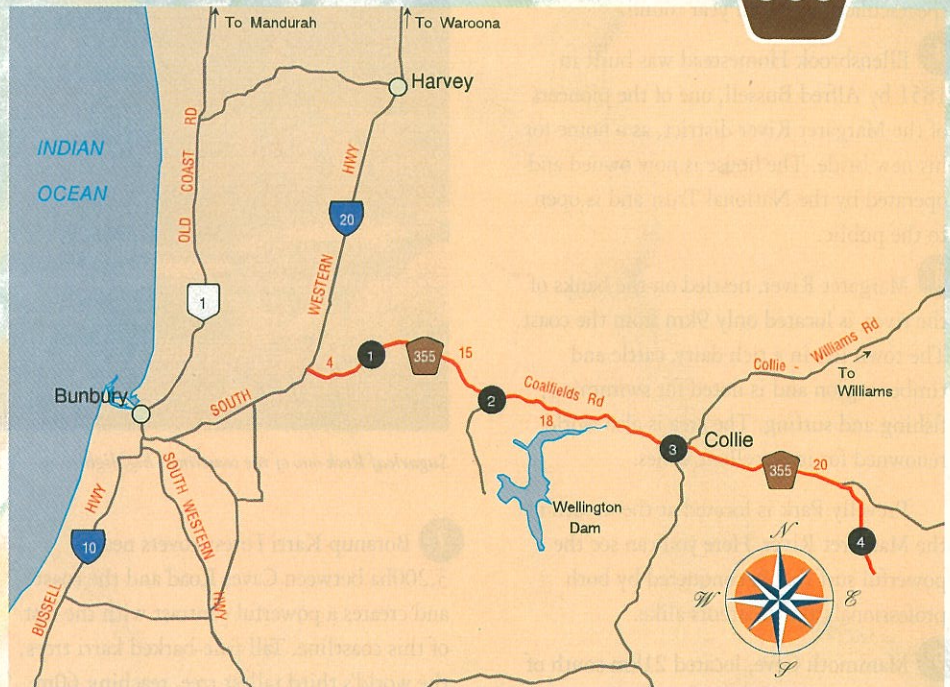
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Set in spectacular country of the Darling Range, the Collie Tourist Way not only takes you to the centre of Western Australia's largest known coalfield, it also offers you the outstanding beauty of the Collie River, picturesque Wellington Dam and scenic Ferguson Valley.



Take a tour underground into the Collie Tourist Coal Mine.

- 1 The lookout bay, located 4km from South Western Highway, provides picturesque views across the coastal plain.
- 2 Wellington Dam is set in dense jarrah country. Nestled below a huge cliff, you'll discover a picnic and barbecue area with lookouts and walking paths.
- 3 First known as Coalville and then Colliefields, Collie was declared a town in 1897. Today, Collie remains the centre of



Western Australia's largest known coal deposit.

The Historical and Mining Museum houses a collection of old photographs and interesting memoirs of Collie's pioneering days. The Museum also features a mining display which traces the discovery and development of the Collie area.

The Steam Locomotive Museum boasts an outstanding collection of historical steam locomotives, many of which were the last trains to use coal in Western Australia. Located adjacent to the Tourist Bureau, the Collie Tourist Coal Mine is a replica of an underground coal mine. The Mine was built by the Collie Rotary Club in 1983, to commemorate the centenary of coal's discovery in the region.

Harris Dam, located north of the township, is the most recently constructed dam in the Darling Range.

- 4 Coal was first discovered on the banks of the Collie River in 1883, by a shepherd, George Marsh. Today, Griffin Coal Mining Co. operates the Muja Open Cut Coal Mine,

one of the largest open cut mines in the Southern Hemisphere. The open cut was commenced in 1953 and now has nine exposed seams.

The mine supplies coal to the Muja Power Station, the base load station for electricity supply in the State.

The word Muja is the native word for the magnificent Christmas Tree, which can be found in full bloom in the later months of the year, surrounding the power station and open cut mine.

Muja Tourist Lookout offers spectacular views of the working of the coal seam.



Western Australia's colourful Christmas Tree.

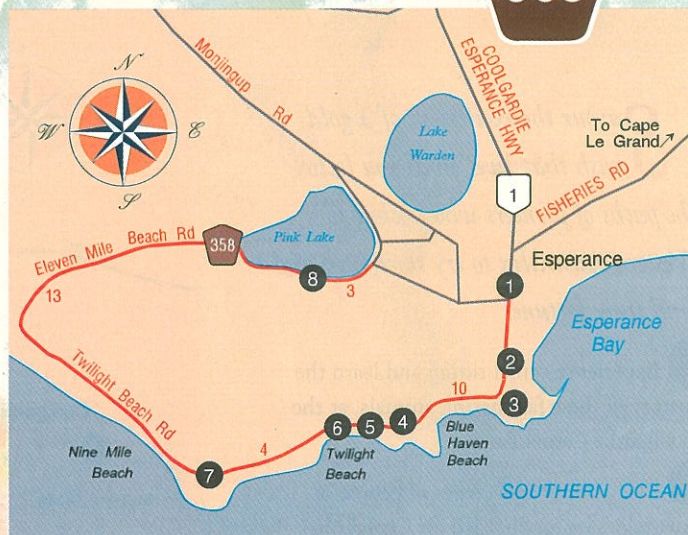


# Esperance

Distance 30km

## Tourist Way

358



**F**rom the sweeping white sandy beaches along Twilight Beach Road to the rugged grandeur of Cape Le Grand, you'll be held in awe of the unspoilt beauty of this scenic wonderland, known as the Bay of Isles. Offshore, the Archipelago of the Recherche, with its string of more than 100 fascinating granite islands dotted along the coast, provides an unforgettable sight.

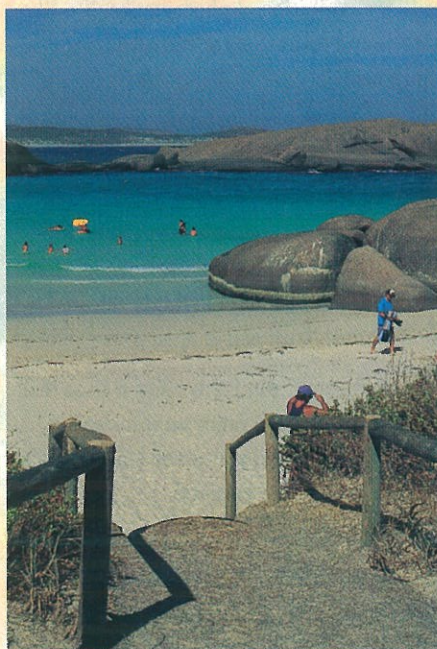
**1** Esperance Municipal Museum is acclaimed as one of the finest country museums in Australia. See photographs, machinery, farm equipment and much more from the early days. Climb aboard the fully restored steam engine for an imaginary ride into yesteryear. There is also an extensive maritime exhibition and a large, unique display of Skylab, which fell to earth near Esperance in 1979. Other historic buildings within the Museum Park house a variety of art and craft shops.

**2** The grave of aborigine Tommy Windich, the faithful friend and companion of famous explorer John Forrest, can be seen at the Port Authority Park.

**3** Rotary Lookout is set high above the town on Wireless Hill. From here the breathtaking sight of aquamarine waters of the heart shaped bay, myriad isles and the townsite of Esperance giving way to farmlands in the distance, is simply unforgettable.

**4** Towering above Salmon Beach, on a windswept coastal ridge, are six 60kw wind powered electricity generators. Each tower is 22m in height and has three blades spanning 16m. Collectively they provide energy to 200 all-electric homes.

**5** Esperance's numerous ocean beaches are claimed to be amongst the most beautiful in the world. The squeaky white sand almost looks like snow and the aqua blue sea offers excellent fishing and swimming.



Twilight Cove is one of Esperance's many beautiful beaches.

**6** Twilight Cove is a pretty, sheltered cove which boasts excellent fishing and safe swimming.

**7** It was at Observatory Point in 1792, that the French frigates, the "L'Esperance" and the "Recherche", sheltered from a storm before going on to explore the region. "L'Esperance" gave its name to the area.

**8** The colour of the famous Pink Lake is caused by the concentration of a salt-tolerant algae, *dunalella salina*, which thrives in the high salt content waters. The Lake is one of the purest salt lakes in Western Australia, if not Australia.

Wild coastal scenery, rugged granite peaks and sweeping heathlands characterise Cape Le Grand National Park, which is located some 60km east of Esperance. Its many superb bays with their snow white sandy beaches set between rocky headlands and brilliant blue water are breathtaking. The most spectacular coastal scenery is found in the south-western corner of the Park. Here massive rock outcrops of granite and gneiss form an impressive chain of peaks, including Mt Le Grand, Frenchman Peak and Mississippi Hill.

Cape Le Grand offers something for everyone. Enjoy the fabulous view across the Bay and National Park from the majestic Frenchman's Peak, the sheer beauty of Thistle Cove and the delightful beach and tranquillity of Lucky Bay, where kangaroos will eat out of your hand. Campsites with excellent facilities are located at Lucky Bay and Le Grand Beach.



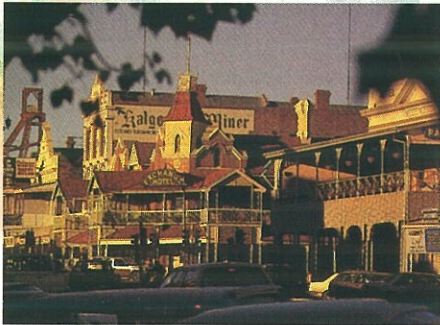
# Goldfields

Distance 45km

## Tourist Way

*Savour the excitement of a gold rush that lives on as you follow the paths of pioneers who flocked to Western Australia to try their luck and find their fortune.*

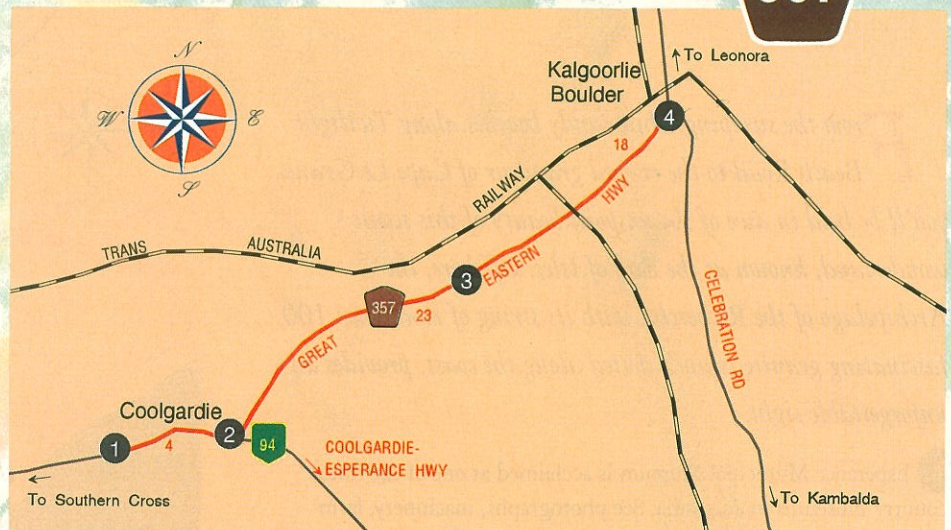
- 1 Experience camel riding and learn the history of these fascinating animals, at the Coolgardie Camel Farm.
- 2 The greatest movement of people in Australia's history headed for Coolgardie after Bayley and Ford discovered gold there in 1892. Sadly the gold soon petered out and Coolgardie was deserted almost as rapidly as it grew. Today, Coolgardie is a charming small town of just 1,500 people, which has carefully preserved many aspects of its rich and colourful past.



Typical Goldfields architecture in Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie.

Stark weathered headstones at the Coolgardie Cemetery provide a vivid reminder of the human tragedy that struck so many venturers to the Goldfields. The first burial took place in 1894 and within a decade over 1,500 residents had perished, including the famous explorer, Ernest Giles.

The Goldfields Exhibition recreates the feverish mood of the gold rush. Here the story of the prospector, his way of life, his glories and hardships unfolds through a



brilliant exhibition of photographs, life-like models and collections of authentic equipment.

In 1894, the Government authorised the building of a home for John Michael Finnerty, the man appointed first Warden and Resident Magistrate of the Coolgardie Goldfields. The imposing "Residency" as it is known, has now been lovingly restored by the National Trust and is open to the public.

- 3 Kurrawang Emu Farm offers a close look at the unusual emu. Enjoy an informative tour of the farm and see carved emu eggs and genuine Aboriginal artefacts.
- 4 Kalgoorlie- Boulder's days of glory began in 1893 when Paddy Hannan and his fellow Irish prospectors, Thomas Flanagan and Dan Shea, discovered gold near Mt Charlotte. Thousands of men soon flocked to Kalgoorlie-Boulder to discover the immense deposits of the Golden Mile, the richest square mile of gold bearing earth in the world. Today, the City, with a population of over 29,000, remains the centre of Western Australia's gold mining industry.

At Hannans North Gold Mine see the broad spectrum of mining, from the early days to modern times. Experience the thrill of a gold pour, descend underground 36m in

a gold mine, see gold mining as it was in the 1890s, wander through restored mine buildings and observe mining equipment of yesteryear. A life like re-creation of Paddy Hannan retells the Goldfield's saga from his location inside a hessian tent.

The Museum of the Goldfields tells the story of the history and people of the Goldfields and boasts an impressive collection of gold nuggets, jewellery, coins and other treasures. Ride the lift to the top of the Ivanhoe headframe for a panoramic view of the City and Golden Mile.

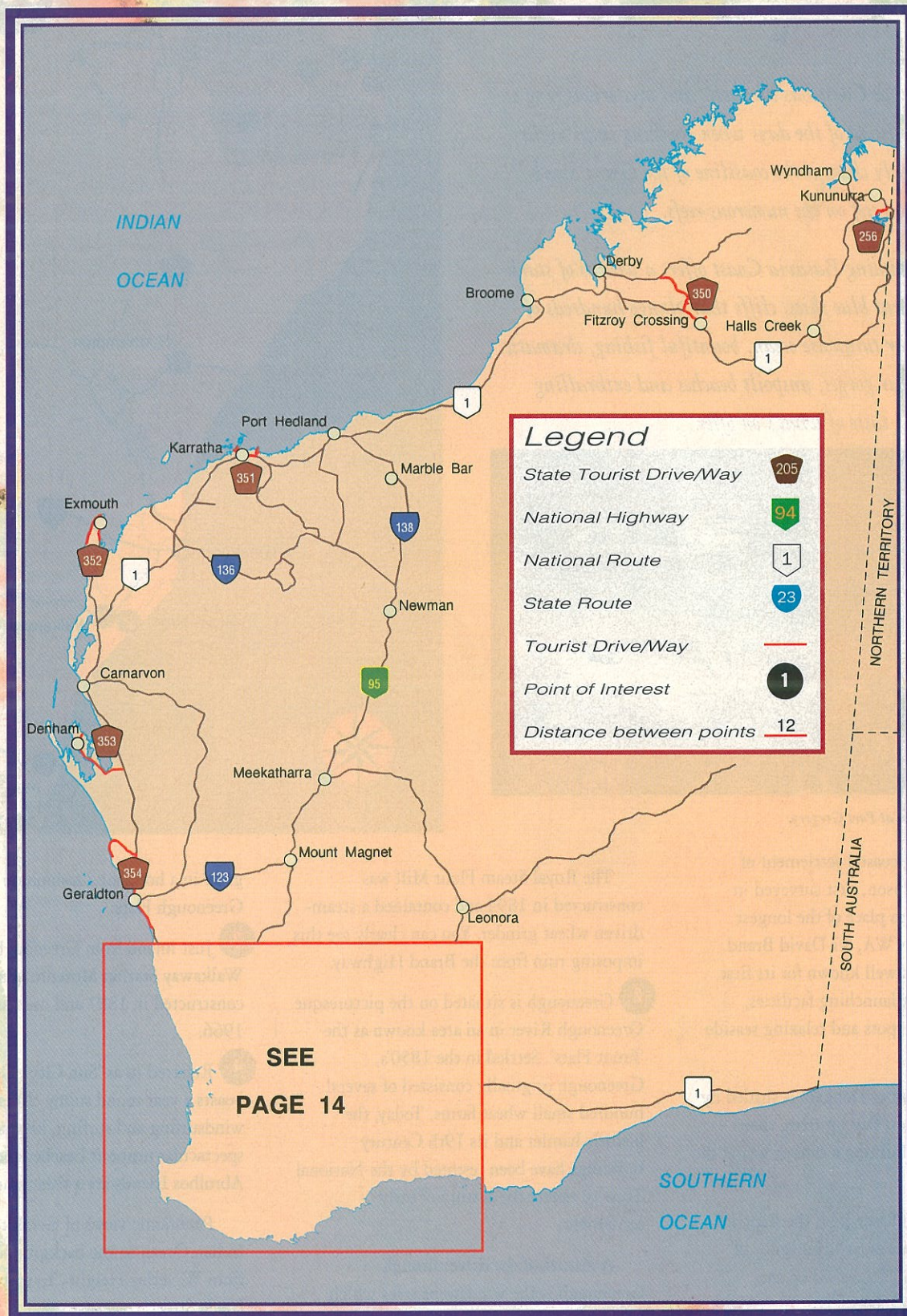
The Super Pit Lookout provides a birdseye view of the massive Super Pit, the largest single open cut mine in the world.

The Golden Mile Loophline Railway was reputed to be one of the busiest railway lines in the 1890s. Today, visitors can ride the 'Rattler' railcar around the Golden Mile.

Experience outback entertainment at Australia's only legalised bush two-up school, a ramshackle corrugated-iron shed where thousands of dollars can change hands on the toss of the pennies.



# Unique North





# Batavia Coast

Distance 244km

## Tourist Way

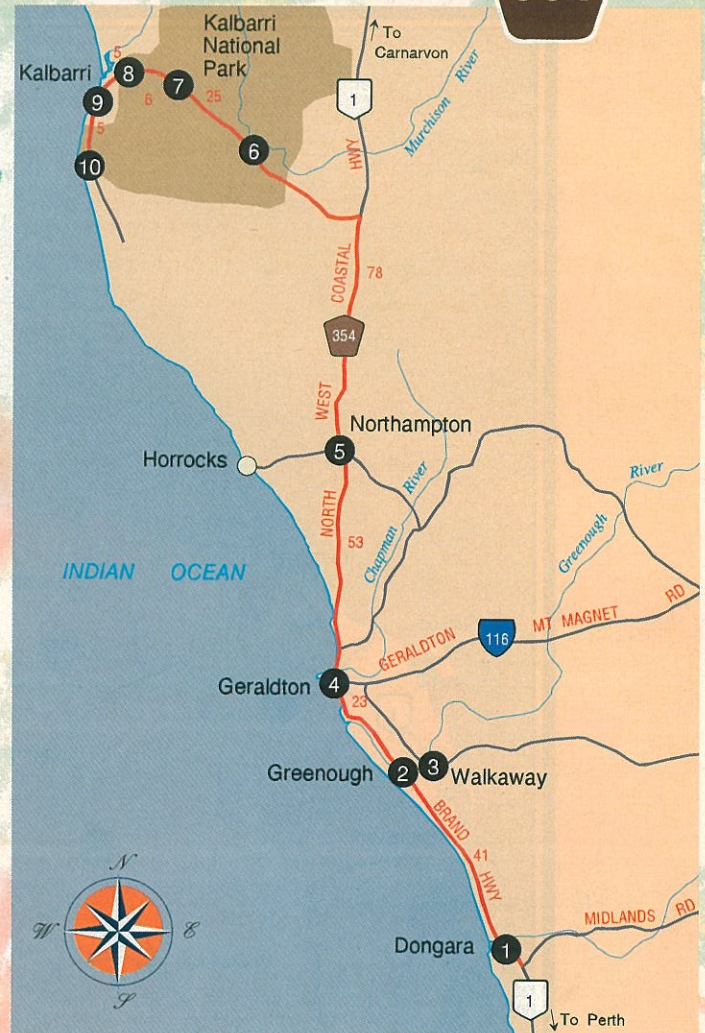
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*The Batavia Coast has an exotic and mysterious ring to it, reminiscent of the days when creaking ships under full sail tentatively charted the coastline of the Great South Land, or came to grief on the numerous reefs.*

*Today, the stunning Batavia Coast offers a wealth of stark contrasts. Brilliant blue skies, cliffs that plunge hundreds of metres into a clear turquoise ocean, bountiful fishing, dramatic scenery, spectacular gorges, unspoilt beaches and enthralling history are just a taste of what's on offer.*



Oceanfront relaxation at Port Gregory.



**1** The charming coastal settlement of Dongara-Port Denison, first surveyed in 1852, was the birth place of the longest serving Premier in WA, Sir David Brand. Today, the town is well known for its first class beaches, boat launching facilities, numerous fishing spots and relaxing seaside atmosphere.

The main street of Dongara is shaded by 85 year old Moreton Bay fig trees, their massive branches forming a canopy across the street.

The Church of Saint John the Baptist, built in 1884, features pews built out of driftwood from ships wrecked on the treacherous coastal reefs.

The Royal Steam Flour Mill was constructed in 1894 and contained a steam-driven wheat grinder. You can clearly see this imposing ruin from the Brand Highway.

**2** Greenough is situated on the picturesque Greenough River in an area known as the 'Front Flats'. Settled in the 1850's, Greenough originally consisted of several hundred small wheat farms. Today, the historic hamlet and its 19th Century buildings have been restored by the National Trust to reflect the history of early settlement.

A feature of the drive through Greenough is the windswept trees which

grow in a horizontal fashion on the Greenough Flats.

**3** Just inland from Greenough is Walkaway Station Museum, a railway station constructed in 1887 and used as that until 1966.

**4** Referred to as 'Sun City', Geraldton boasts a year round sunny climate, excellent windsurfing and surfing, kilometres of spectacular unspoilt beaches and nearby, the Abrolhos Islands are a fisherman's paradise.

Panoramic views of Geraldton, with the Indian Ocean in the background, can be seen from Waverley Heights Tourist Lookout on Brede Street.



The Geraldton Regional Museum occupies two buildings in Marine Terrace. The Maritime Display Building houses the relics of ships wrecked on the Geraldton coastline and the Abrolhos Islands, including the three Dutch ships the *Batavia* (1629), *Zuytdorp* (1712) and the *Zeewyck* (1727). The Midwest Region's history and natural heritage is displayed in the Old Railway Building.

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, built in stages from 1916 to 1938, was one of the masterpieces of Monsignor John Hawes, who before joining the priesthood was an architect in England.

The distinctive red and white Point Moore Lighthouse was originally brought out from England and has been operating continuously since 1878.

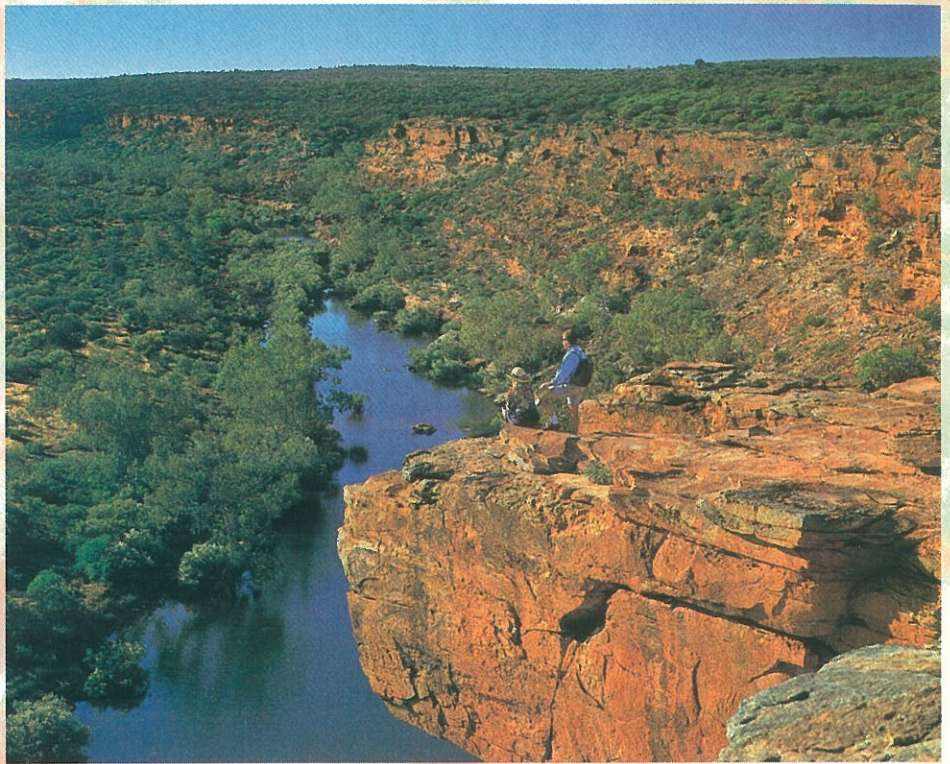
**5** Less than an hour's drive north of Geraldton, Northampton nestles amidst rolling hills, as it has for over 150 years. This classified heritage town, rich in mining history dating back to the 1840s and 1850s, boasts many fine buildings, including the architecture of Monsignor Hawes.

Discover the historical settlement of Port Gregory and its links with its convict past.

**6** Situated at the mouth of the Murchison River, the Kalbarri National Park covers 186,096ha, providing visitors with spectacular river gorges, coastal cliffs and scenery. In season, the entire river valley is ablaze with the colour of wildflowers, adding another dimension of beauty to this unique landscape. Spectacular views of the gorges are afforded from Ross Graham and Hawks Head Lookouts.

**7** The famed Loop and Z Bend gorges bring you more magnificent views of the Murchison River. See dramatic cliffs, banded in cream and deep red, dropping sheer to the river far below. The Loop is so named because here, a section of the Murchison River meanders and forms an enormous loop. At the Z Bend, the Murchison River flows through a narrow ravine.

**8** Meanarra Hill Lookout provides panoramic views of the Kalbarri township and Murchison River mouth.



*The impressive Hawks Head Lookout in the Kalbarri National Park.*

Situated on 16ha of unspoiled bushland, Kalfloora Wildflower Centre has been created to let people observe and enjoy over 140 species of Kalbarri wildflowers. The Centre is open during the months of June to November.

**9** Situated where the Murchison River flows into the Indian Ocean, Kalbarri is a water playground home to beautiful beaches, secluded swimming holes and spectacular fishing spots.

Rainbow Jungle is a slice of the exotic. This beautiful bird park boasts dozens of

varieties of native and imported parrots displayed amongst waterfalls, streams, fish ponds and hundreds of ferns, palms and tropical plants.

**10** The breathtaking coastline of Kalbarri National Park offers a spectacular coastal panorama. Red Bluff is an excellent spot for swimming, fishing and for the more adventurous, surfing.

Mushroom Rock, Rainbow Valley and Pot Alley Gorge are just a few of the magnificent features of this rugged coastline.



*One of the many wind blown trees in Greenough.*



# Shark Bay

Distance 155km

## Tourist Way

353

*Shark Bay, proclaimed as a World Heritage area, offers a feast of unique attractions and things to do. Experience one of the amazing natural wonders of the world, the friendly dolphins of Monkey Mia, laze on sandy beaches, walk along a beach made entirely of shells or stand atop Eagle Bluff, where Captain Denham recorded his visit in 1858.*

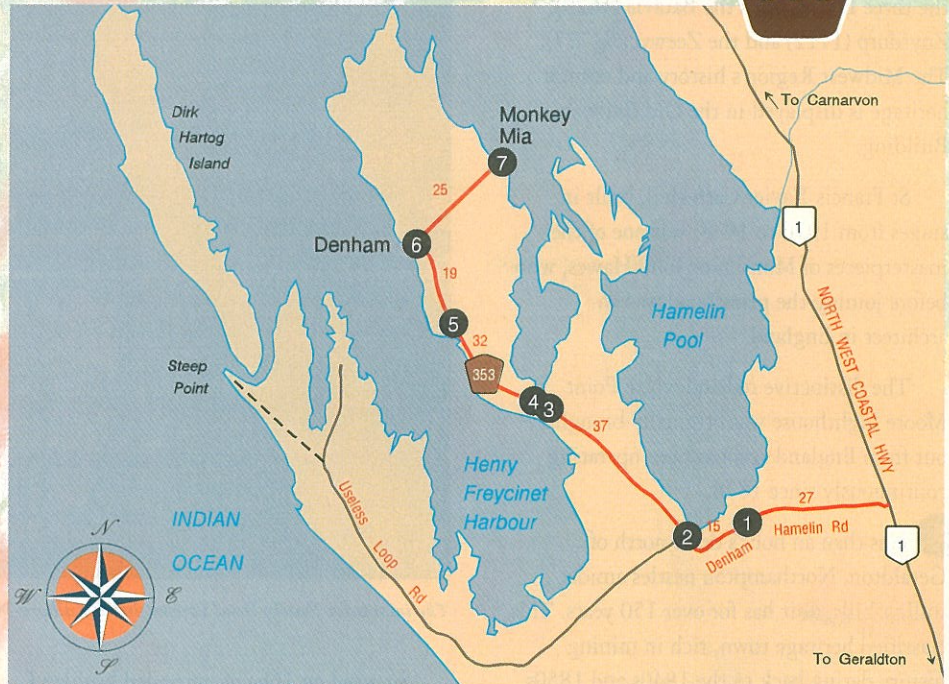
**1** Hamelin Pool has attracted worldwide scientific interest due to the stromatolites which flourish in its warm shallow water. Stromatolites are the result of primitive life-forms that first existed on earth 3.5 billion years ago and are considered to be the earth's oldest lifeform.

Also nearby is the Old Telegraph Station Museum, established over 100 years ago and the Shell Block Quarry from which many buildings in the area were built.

**2** Steep Point, the western most point of the Australian mainland, is a popular fishing spot. It can only be reached by 4WD through rough, arid station and salt-mining country. Here, you can see the magnificent Zuytdorp Cliffs, which rise to some 170m above sea level.

**3** Nanga is a popular fishing resort situated on the beautiful beaches of the Peninsula. The original sheep station homestead was built from shell blocks cut from nearby Shell Quarry. Today, tourists are well catered for with a range of camping and accommodation facilities.

**4** Shell Beach is one of only two beaches in the world made completely of sea shell, washed up on shore for thousands of years



and compacted by nature. This unique stretch of coastline, comprises countless billions of tiny shells up to 10m deep.

**5** Eagle Bluff, named after the sea eagle which nests on the rock island just offshore, is one of Shark Bay's few high spots. A climb to the top will provide an excellent view of the surrounding countryside and Useless Loop Salt Works across Freycinet Reach.

**6** Denham, the most westerly town in Australia, is a picturesque fishing village situated on the waterfront of Freycinet Reach.

Wildflowers and birds are abundant throughout Francois Peron National Park and from the cliffs of Cape Peron, dolphins, dugongs, turtles and graceful mantarays can often be seen. Fishing and camping is permitted.

**7** Monkey Mia has become world famous, as a place where wild bottlenose dolphins come inshore of their own free will to interact with humans. In knee-deep water

you can enjoy the close up company of these amazing mammals. The dolphins belong to a much larger pod of about 300 animals that live further out in the Bay. Visitors are asked to observe the signs in the area and to consult the rangers about the correct way to touch these delightful mammals. Accommodation and camping facilities have been established nearby, as has a permanent Dolphin Information Centre which provides information on these friendly creatures.



*Spend time with the wild dolphins of Monkey Mia.*



# Cape Range

Distance 121km

## Tourist Way

**C**ape Range is an area rich in scenery and activities. A place where you can explore rugged limestone ranges and plunging gorges, stroll along sandy white beaches that carry on forever and discover an underwater kingdom teeming with life. Experience the thrill of big game fishing or simply bask in the glorious sunshine of an endless summer.

**1** The scenic Charles Knife Road runs along a razor-back ridge to the crest of the Range and provides breathtaking downward glimpses into the multi-coloured gorges. The road is unsuitable for caravans and trailers.

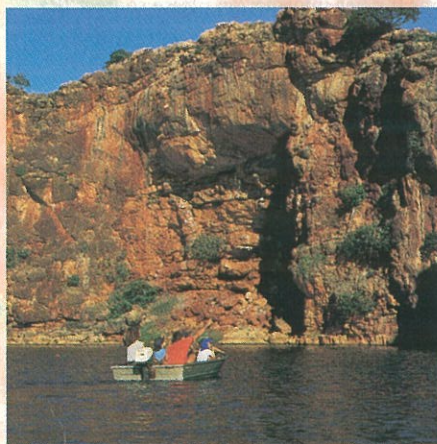
**2** Shot Hole Canyon Road winds along the bottom of the sheer walls of Shot Hole Canyon, one of the many spectacular gorges in the Cape Range. As with Charles Knife Road, it is unsuitable for caravans and trailers.

**3** Exmouth was founded in 1967 as a support town for the US Naval Communications Station. Today, Exmouth is the centre of one of Australia's best game fishing areas and is an ideal base from which to explore the Ningaloo Marine Park.

**4** The Vlaming Head Lighthouse, built in 1912 and the ruins of a World War II radar site, can be found on the north west tip of the Cape. A steep, panoramic drive to the Lighthouse offers sweeping views of the North-West Cape.

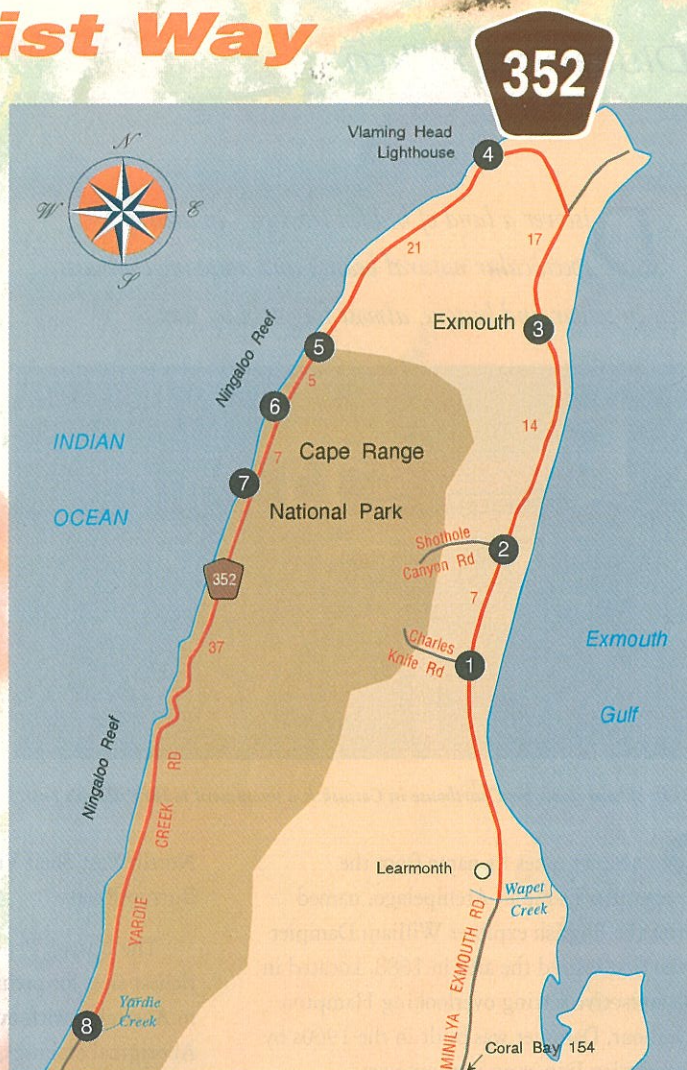
**5** The Cape Range National Park, covering some 50,581ha, is a spectacular place of rugged limestone ranges, deep canyons and 50km of pristine beaches. The canyons and gorges in the Park offer unparalleled scenic spectacles and are the result of a gradual uplifting of the sea floor, forged by nature over millions of years.

**6** Offshore, the unique Ningaloo Marine Park is one of only two coral reef systems in the world that occur on a western coastline and in some places, comes within metres of the beach itself. Displays of over 220 species of coral, 500 species of fish, dugongs, the world's biggest fish the whalesharks, playful dolphins and giant hump-backed whales, are just some of the fascinating marine life that inhabits the waters.



Take a boat trip on Yardie Creek located in the Cape Range National Park.

For the more adventurous, beyond the reef at the very edge of the Continental Shelf, you'll experience the ultimate in big-game fishing.



**7** To fully appreciate the many wonders of the Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park, a visit to the Milyering Visitor Centre is a must. Opening times vary so please check with the Exmouth Tourist Bureau.

**8** Yardie Creek Gorge, where deep blue waters reflect the red of the sheer rock walls, offers an unsurpassed range of visual delights. A small population of rare striped rock wallabies, which dwell in the sheer walls of the gorge, add to its idyllic nature. Boat trips along the Creek run during March to November.



# Cossack

Distance 77km

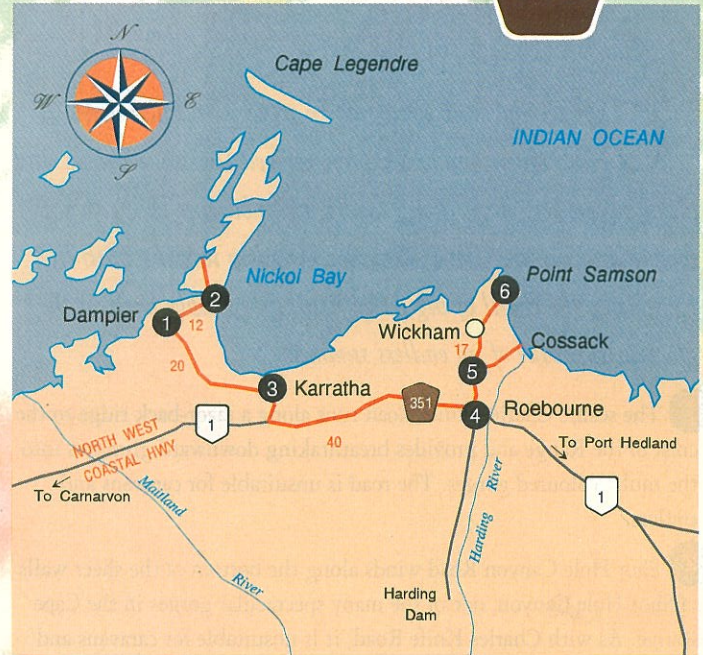
## Tourist Way

351

Discover a land of hidden treasure, an area of spectacular natural beauty and amazing contrasts, rich in colour and history, almost forgotten by time.



Built of local stone, the Courthouse in Cossack is a monument to the Pilbara's past.



**1** Dampier takes its name from the spectacular Dampier Archipelago, named after the English explorer William Dampier who first visited the area in 1688. Located in an attractive setting overlooking Hampton Harbour, Dampier was built in the 1960s by Hamersley Iron as an iron-ore port.

The Red Dog Monument, which stands at the entrance to town, is a bronze statue in memory of Red Dog. A handsome kelpie/cattle dog who became well known throughout the North-West because of his hitch hiking exploits.

The magnificent Dampier Archipelago consists of 42 islands, 25 of which are Nature Reserves, lying within a 45km radius of Dampier. The Archipelago is a natural marine wonder. Its waters abound with popular game and reef fish and it is home to a myriad of sea life, including humpback whales, dugong, sea turtle, dolphin and sharks.

**2** For a fascinating insight into the immense North West Shelf Natural Gas Project, why not visit Woodside Petroleum's

North West Shelf Visitors Centre, located on Burrup Road.

The Burrup Peninsula is one of the richest sites for prehistoric rock engravings in Australia, with more than 10,000 Aboriginal etchings, thousands of years old. For further information please contact the Karratha Tourist Information Centre.

**3** With near perfect warm winter temperatures, you'll find Karratha just the place to escape the southern cold and soak up the sun in a clean modern town.

TV Hill Lookout, on Millstream Road, offers excellent views of the town and surrounding area.

**4** Roebourne, established in 1864, is the oldest town between Port Gregory and Darwin. A walk around the many restored buildings of the past, including the Old Gaol and Courthouse, recalls the days of the 1800's.

A climb or drive to the top of Mount Welcome offers a wonderful panoramic view

of the coastal plains and rugged hills surrounding Roebourne.

Harding Dam, located 27km south of Roebourne on the Harding River, is an ideal picnicking and swimming spot, shaded by paper bark trees and river gums.

**5** Explore the recently restored 1860's coastal town of Cossack. First known as Tien Tsin, Cossack was once a bustling seaport town and home to a thriving pearling industry. Unfortunately, by the turn of the century supplies of pearl shell were depleted and the inlet began to silt up. Port facilities were moved to Port Samson and Cossack eventually became a ghost town. Today, Cossack offers a unique glimpse into the past, featuring many fine stone buildings which testify to the town's former importance to the North-West.

**6** With Cossack's decline, Point Samson was established as the district's major port in 1910. Today, Point Samson is an idyllic fishing village, a quiet spot where you can take a secluded swim or go fishing for the local delicacy – barramundi.



# Geikie-Windjana

Distance 166km

## Tourist Way

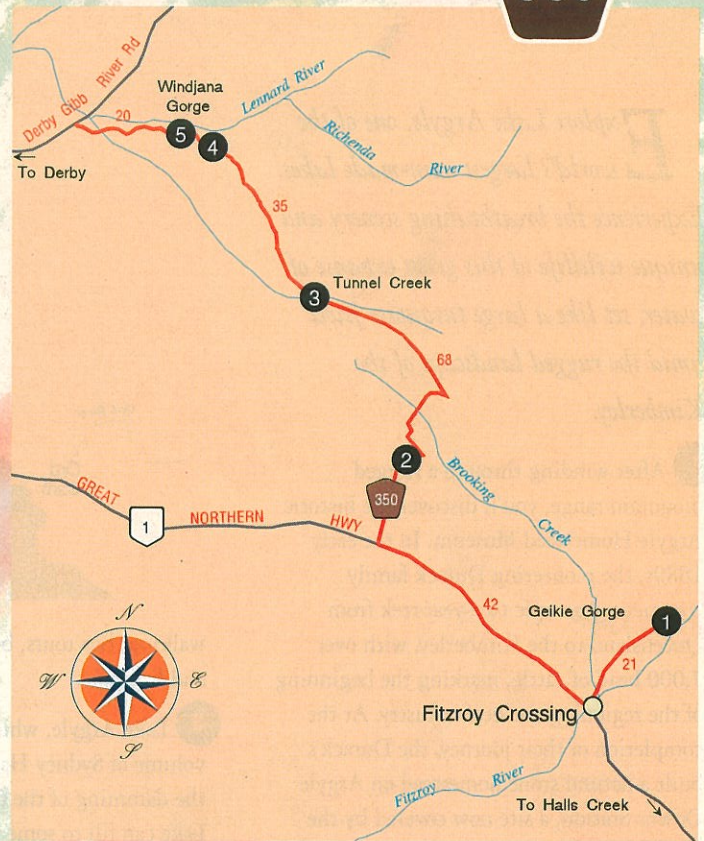
350

Explore a vast ancient land of astonishing natural beauty as you travel through one of the most fascinating geological areas on earth.

Marvel at a place where rivers rage in the Green Season and then settle meekly into shallow pools in the dry. Where the drama of gorges contrasts with the living nature of flora and fauna.



The impressive Windjana Gorge is home to numerous bird species.



**1** Geikie Gorge National Park is situated 16km north east of the town of Fitzroy Crossing. The magnificent Geikie Gorge has been formed by the Fitzroy River, which over the years has carved through an ancient limestone barrier reef. Most intriguing is the presence of sharks, sawfish and stingrays, normally only found in salt water, which over the centuries have adapted themselves to the brackish water. Geikie Gorge can best be appreciated from one of the guided boat tours, which depart twice daily. Geikie Gorge is classed as a day visits only Park and people are requested not to camp.

**2** Some 350 million years ago, when a large part of the Kimberley was covered by a tropical sea, an ancient barrier reef was formed. Today, the fossil reef is now exposed in a series of limestone ranges, known as the Oscar and Napier Ranges, which wind across

the Kimberley landscape for over 300km.

**3** Tunnel Creek National Park is located about 35km east of Windjana Gorge. It offers the unique opportunity to explore a creek as it flows through a natural tunnel, which has been eroded beneath the ancient Napier Range. The 750m long tunnel is part of the oldest cave system in Western Australia. For the more intrepid, a walk through the tunnel is fascinating and includes a short wade through cold water. Aboriginal cave paintings can be seen near the north entrance to the tunnel. As with Geikie Gorge, Tunnel Creek is also classed as a day visits only Park and people are requested not to camp.

**4** In 1894 at Lillimilura Police Station, an Aboriginal police tracker Jundumurra, better known as Pigeon, killed Constable

Richardson and set free the aboriginal prisoners in his charge. For three years, using the caves and surroundings of Windjana Gorge and Tunnel Creek as hideouts, Pigeon tried to defend his lands and his people against police and white settlers. Pigeon was finally tracked down and killed at Tunnel Creek in 1897.

**5** One of the main attractions of Windjana Gorge National Park, is the striking Windjana Gorge soaring 90m above the river bed. This 3.5km long canyon was forged by the Lennard River as it cuts through the ancient Napier Range. Camping facilities are provided.

Geikie-Windjana Tourist Way is only accessible during the dry season, from April to November. In the Green Season, check with Main Roads or the Derby Tourist Bureau for current road weather conditions.



# Lake Argyle

Distance 34km

## Tourist Drive

256

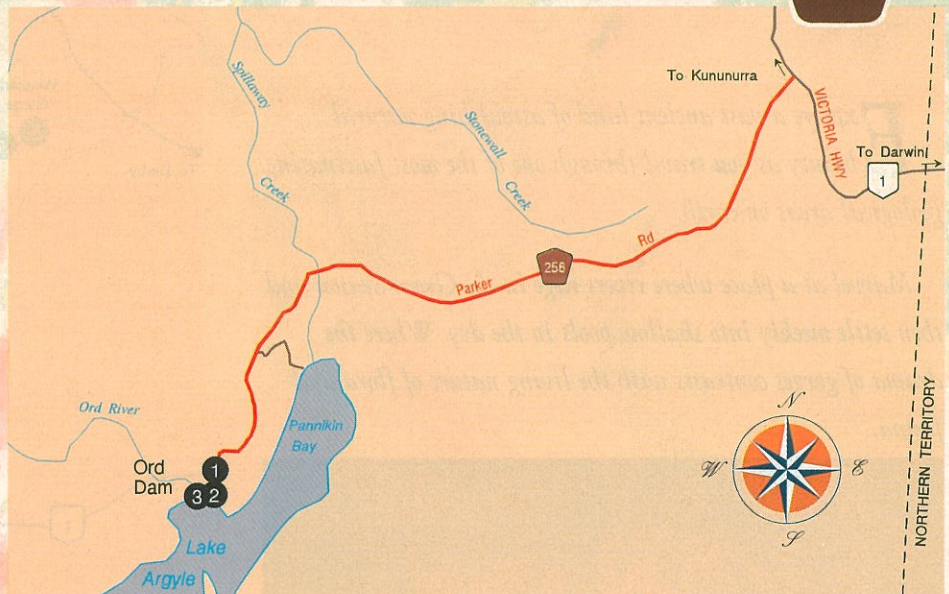
**E**xplore Lake Argyle, one of the world's largest man-made lakes. Experience the breathtaking scenery and unique wildlife of this great expanse of water, set like a large turquoise jewel amid the rugged landscape of the Kimberley.

**1** After winding through a rugged mountain range, you'll discover the historic Argyle Homestead Museum. In the early 1880s, the pioneering Durack family commenced an epic two-year trek from Queensland to the Kimberley, with over 7,000 head of cattle, marking the beginning of the region's giant beef industry. At the completion of their journey, the Durack's built a natural stone homestead on Argyle Downs Station, a site now covered by the man-made Lake Argyle.

To prevent this rare historic link from being submerged by the rising waters of Lake Argyle, the homestead was carefully dismantled and reconstructed stone by stone at the head of the Dam, some 20km from its former location. Take time to relive the lives of the characters in Mary Durack's classics, "Kings in Grass Castles" and "Sons in the Saddles," at this fine example of an early station homestead.

**2** From a ridge just north of the Ord Dam, the Lake Argyle Tourist Village commands magnificent views of Lake Argyle, the spectacular gorges of the Ord River and beyond the rugged Carr Boyd Ranges. The Village has been converted from the original construction camp and is completely self-contained with its own restaurant and general store.

Besides the general serenity and beautiful scenery, you can also enjoy bush



walking, bus tours, boat cruises, swimming and fishing.

**3** Lake Argyle, which holds nine times the volume of Sydney Harbour, was created by the damming of the Ord River in 1971. The Lake can fill to some 2,000 square km of water, surrounded by red rocky slopes which reach up to 300m in dramatic grandeur and is full of rugged islands, once the peaks of hills that dotted Argyle Downs Station.

Australia's largest man-made lake, Lake Argyle, together with the Diversion Dam,

can irrigate over 76,000ha of land.

The shores of Lake Argyle are a birdwatcher's paradise, as birds flock in their thousands to the permanent water that has been established. Marsupials can also be seen around the Lake, including rock wallabies and euros. Freshwater crocodiles live on the mudbanks and share the waters with herring, black bream, silver cobbler and crustacea. Here you can swim, fish, explore the many secluded islands and bays by boat or simply soak up the warm tropical sun.



The massive Lake Argyle is surrounded by typical Kimberley landscape.



## Further Reading

### Royal Automobile Club

228 Adelaide Terrace Perth [09] 421 4444

*Touring and Accommodation Guide*

### Main Roads WA

Waterloo Crescent East Perth [09] 323 4111

*Driving by Numbers*

### Western Australian Tourist Centre

Forrest Place Cnr Wellington St Perth [09] 483 1111

Free Call 008 993 333

*Wildflower Discovery Guide*

*Western Australia's Unique North*

*Western Australia's Golden Heartlands*

*Western Australia's Southern Wonders*

*The Gibb River and Kalumburu Roads - Travellers Guide*

### Heritage Council of Western Australia

292 Hay Street East Perth [09] 221 4177

*Heritage Trails in Western Australia*

### Department of Conservation and Land Management

50 Hayman Road Como [09] 334 0333

North West Bound - From Shark Bay to Wyndham

*Discover Wild Places, Quiet Places - The Natural Highlights of the South West*

*Voices of the Bush - A Wheatbelt Heritage*

*Range to Reef - Discover Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park*

*Shark Bay - Discover Monkey Mia and Other Natural Wonders*

*Rugged Mountains Jewelled Sea - The South Coast from Eucla to Albany*

*Wildflower Country - Jurien to Shark Bay*

*Mountains of Mystery - A Natural History of the Stirling Ranges*

*Perth Outdoors - Natural Recreation Areas in and Around Perth*

### Department of Land Administration

Midland Square, Midland (09) 273 7373

*Street Smart and UBD Street Directories covering Perth and the State*

## Touring Hints for New Caravanners

For the average motorist, towing a caravan is almost as simple as driving solo - provided a few common sense rules are kept in mind.

**The Vehicle Combination** - Have your car thoroughly checked before embarking on your trip, with particular attention given to braking, cooling and suspension systems. Unless all shock absorbers are in good condition, the combination will pitch badly over uneven road surfaces and could become uncontrollable. The laden weight of your caravan is important for your safety and is limited by law. Refer to the RAC Touring and Accommodation Guide to find the safe limit for your vehicle-caravan combination.

**Packing of the Caravan** - Avoid excessive front or rear weight in the caravan, as this may overload the car springs or create tail sway. Provide safe storage for crockery and other breakables and store heavy articles on the floor, packing everything securely to prevent movement.

**Checklist Before Moving Off** - Ensure: the tow bar coupling is securely locked and safety chains fastened; the jockey wheel is removed and stowed securely; the back legs are up; the caravan door, windows and cupboard doors are locked; the lights are operational, check tail/stop lights, indicators and number plate light; and tyres are correctly inflated.

**Driving** - Make the first run with a caravan a short one to get the feel of towing. Use your gears. The car will take the hills in its stride, provided the appropriate gear is selected before the engine revs start falling off. When descending hills, again put your engine and gearbox to use. Keep left to allow faster moving traffic to overtake.

**Reversing** - When reversing with a caravan, the driving techniques are opposite to those applied when backing a car alone. To move the caravan to the right, the steering wheel must be turned to

the left. To move the caravan to the left, right lock is applied.

**Regulations** - Special speed limits are in force for vehicles towing caravans. If the caravan has a laden weight in excess of 750kg the maximum speed permitted is 90km/h, while lighter caravans have an upper speed limit of 100km/h. It is an offence for a person to ride in a caravan while it is being towed. The towing vehicle must be fitted with external rear vision mirrors to give the driver a view from either side.

**For Further Information** - RAC Touring and Accommodation Guide

## ROAD REPORTS

Statewide reports available on

008 013 314

If you need information on road conditions or flooding on Highways and Main Roads ring the Main Roads free call number above.