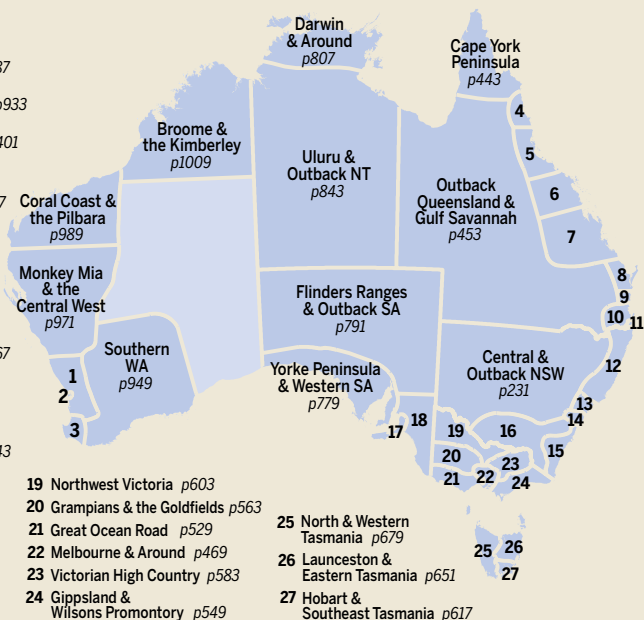




# Australia

- 1 Around Perth *p920*
- 2 Perth & Fremantle *p887*
- 3 Margaret River & the Southwest Coast *p933*
- 4 Cairns & the Daintree Rainforest *p401*
- 5 Townsville & Mission Beach *p383*
- 6 Whitsunday Coast *p367*
- 7 Capricorn Coast & the Southern Reef Islands *p355*
- 8 Fraser Island & the Fraser Coast *p339*
- 9 Noosa & the Sunshine Coast *p325*
- 10 Brisbane & Around *p267*
- 11 Surfers Paradise & the Gold Coast *p311*
- 12 Byron Bay & Northern NSW *p157*
- 13 NSW Central Coast *p143*
- 14 Sydney & Around *p62*
- 15 Canberra & NSW South Coast *p201*
- 16 Southern NSW *p257*
- 17 Adelaide & Around *p707*
- 18 Barossa Valley & Southeastern SA *p755*



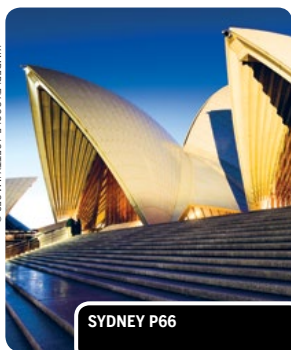
THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

**Charles Rawlings-Way, Meg Worby**

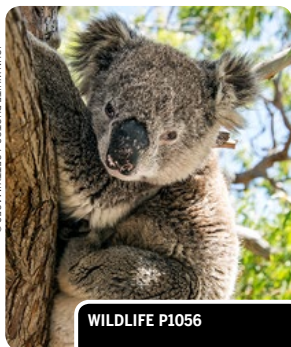
**Kate Armstrong, Brett Atkinson, Carolyn Bain, Celeste Brash,  
Peter Dragicevich, Anthony Ham, Paul Harding, Alan Murphy,  
Miriam Raphael, Benedict Walker, Steve Waters**

## PLAN YOUR TRIP

Welcome to Australia.....	6
Australia Map .....	8
Australia's Top 25.....	10
Need to Know .....	22
What's New .....	24
If You Like.....	25
Month by Month.....	28
Itineraries .....	31
Your Reef Trip .....	35
Your Outback Trip.....	41
Australia Outdoors.....	50
Regions at a Glance.....	54



SYDNEY P66



WILDLIFE P1056

## ON THE ROAD

<b>SYDNEY &amp; AROUND .....</b>	<b>62</b>
Sydney .....	66
Hawkesbury River.....	135
Blue Mountains.....	135

<b>NSW CENTRAL COAST .....</b>	<b>143</b>
Newcastle .....	146
Hunter Valley.....	151

<b>BYRON BAY &amp; NORTHERN NSW ...</b>	<b>157</b>
---	------------

Byron Bay .....	159
Ballina .....	167
Lismore .....	170
Nimbin .....	172
Coffs Harbour.....	179
Nambucca Heads.....	184
Dorrigo.....	185
Bellingen .....	186
Kempsey .....	189
Port Macquarie.....	191
Greater Taree .....	195
Port Stephens.....	198

<b>CANBERRA &amp; NSW SOUTH COAST ....</b>	<b>201</b>
--	------------

Canberra .....	203
Wollongong .....	214
Kiama & Around .....	217
Berry.....	218
Nowra.....	219
Jervis Bay .....	220
Ulladulla.....	221
Batemans Bay .....	223
Narooma .....	225
Sapphire Coast.....	226
Bermagui.....	227
Merimbula.....	228
Eden .....	229

<b>CENTRAL &amp; OUTBACK NSW....</b>	<b>231</b>
--------------------------------------	------------

Tamworth.....	234
Armidale .....	235
Tenterfield & Around .....	236
Bathurst.....	239
Orange .....	240
Cowra .....	242
Parkes .....	243
Dubbo.....	244
Mudgee .....	245
Wentworth.....	246
Mungo National Park.....	247
Broken Hill.....	249
Bourke .....	256

<b>SOUTHERN NSW... 257</b>
----------------------------

Bowral .....	259
<b>Yass &amp; Around.....</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>Albury.....</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>Wagga Wagga .....</b>	<b>262</b>
<b>Griffith .....</b>	<b>263</b>
<b>Snowy Mountains.....</b>	<b>264</b>
Jindabyne .....	264
Kosciuszko National Park.....	265
Thredbo.....	266

<b>BRISBANE &amp; AROUND .....</b>	<b>267</b>
------------------------------------	------------

<b>Brisbane.....</b>	<b>269</b>
North Stradbroke Island.....	301
Moreton Island .....	304
Granite Belt.....	306
Toowoomba.....	309

<b>SURFERS PARADISE &amp; THE GOLD COAST... 311</b>
---

Surfers Paradise & Broadbeach.....	313
Burleigh Heads & Currumbin.....	319
Coolangatta.....	321

# Contents

## **NOOSA & THE SUNSHINE COAST... 325**

Noosa.....	327
Glass House Mountains.....	332
Caloundra .....	333
Mooloolaba & Maroochydore.....	334
Cooloola Coast.....	337

## **FRASER ISLAND & THE FRASER COAST ... 339**

## **CAPRICORN COAST & THE SOUTHERN REEF ISLANDS .... 355**

Agnes Water & Town of 1770.....	357
Rockhampton .....	360
Yeppoon.....	362
Great Keppel Island.....	363

## **WHITSUNDAY COAST ..... 367**

Mackay.....	369
Airlie Beach.....	372
The Whitsundays .....	377
Bowen.....	382

## **TOWNSVILLE & MISSION BEACH... 383**

Townsville .....	385
Magnetic Island .....	391
Ingham & Around.....	394
Cardwell & Around.....	395
Mission Beach .....	396
Innisfail & Around .....	400

## **CAIRNS & THE DAINTREE RAINFOREST..... 401**

Cairns.....	404
Kuranda .....	424

Atherton.....	426
Yungaburra .....	427
<b>Port Douglas .....</b>	<b>429</b>
<b>The Daintree .....</b>	<b>435</b>
Cape Tribulation.....	437
<b>Cooktown.....</b>	<b>441</b>

## **CAPE YORK PENINSULA..... 443**

Lakeland .....	447
Laura .....	447
Weipa .....	449
Horn, Thursday & the Torres Strait Islands .....	451

## **OUTBACK QUEENSLAND & GULF SAVANNAH... 453**

<b>Mt Isa .....</b>	<b>455</b>
Winton .....	458
Longreach .....	459
Barcaldine .....	460
<b>Charleville .....</b>	<b>461</b>
Boulia.....	462
Bedourie .....	462
Birdsville .....	463
<b>The Savannah Way.....</b>	<b>464</b>
Undara Volcanic National Park .....	464
Croydon .....	465
Normanton .....	465
Karumba .....	466

## **MELBOURNE & AROUND ..... 469**

<b>Melbourne .....</b>	<b>471</b>
Daylesford & Hepburn Springs .....	519
The Dandenongs .....	521
Yarra Valley .....	522
Mornington Peninsula .....	524
Phillip Island .....	526

## **GREAT OCEAN ROAD ..... 529**

Geelong .....	532
<b>Great Ocean Road ....</b>	<b>536</b>
Torquay .....	536
Anglesea .....	537
Lorne .....	539
Apollo Bay .....	540
Cape Otway.....	542
Port Campbell.....	544
Warrnambool .....	544
Port Fairy.....	546
Portland .....	547

## **GIPPSLAND & WILSONS PROMONTORY .... 549**

Walhalla .....	552
<b>Wilsons Promontory National Park .....</b>	<b>553</b>
Sale.....	557
Lakes Entrance.....	559
Mallacoota.....	561

## **GRAMPIANS & THE GOLDFIELDS..... 563**

<b>Ballarat .....</b>	<b>566</b>
<b>Bendigo .....</b>	<b>570</b>
Kyneton .....	574
Castlemaine .....	575
<b>The Grampians (Gariwerd) .....</b>	<b>577</b>
Halls Gap.....	580
Mt Arapiles State Park .....	582

## **VICTORIAN HIGH COUNTRY ..... 583**

Lake Eildon .....	586
Mansfield.....	587
Mt Buller .....	588
King Valley.....	589
Milawa Gourmet Region .....	590
Beechworth.....	591

## ON THE ROAD

Rutherglen.....	592
Mt Buffalo National Park.....	595
Bright.....	596
Mt Beauty & the Kiewa Valley.....	599
Falls Creek.....	600
Mt Hotham & Dinner Plain.....	601

### NORTHWEST VICTORIA..... 603

Mildura.....	606
Swan Hill.....	610
Echuca.....	611

### HOBBART & SOUTHEAST TASMANIA..... 617

<b>Hobart.....</b>	<b>618</b>
Richmond.....	637
Mt Field National Park.....	638
Bruny Island.....	639
Huonville & Around.....	643
Geeveston & Around.....	644
Dover & Around.....	644
<b>Tasman Peninsula.....</b>	<b>646</b>
Port Arthur.....	648

### LAUNCESTON & EASTERN TASMANIA..... 651

Oatlands.....	654
Ross.....	654
Campbell Town.....	655
Maria Island National Park.....	656
Swansea.....	658
Coles Bay & Freycinet National Park.....	660
Bicheno.....	662
St Helens.....	664
Bay of Fires.....	665
<b>Launceston.....</b>	<b>666</b>
Tamar Valley.....	673

Longford & Around.....	676
Evandale.....	677

### NORTH & WESTERN TASMANIA..... 679

Devonport.....	682
Penguin.....	684
Walls of Jerusalem National Park.....	686
King Island.....	687
Burnie.....	688
Stanley.....	692
Marrawah.....	693
Queenstown.....	694
Strahan.....	697
Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park.....	699
Southwest National Park.....	703

### ADELAIDE & AROUND..... 707

<b>Adelaide.....</b>	<b>710</b>
<b>Adelaide Hills.....</b>	<b>733</b>
Hahndorf.....	734
McLaren Vale.....	737
Willunga.....	740
Victor Harbor.....	741
Port Elliot.....	742
Goolwa.....	743
<b>Kangaroo Island.....</b>	<b>745</b>

### BAROSSA VALLEY & SOUTHEASTERN SA..... 755

<b>Barossa Valley.....</b>	<b>758</b>
<b>Clare Valley.....</b>	<b>763</b>
Murray Bridge.....	767
Barmera & Around.....	768
Loxton.....	769
Berri.....	770
Coorong National Park.....	772
Robe.....	773

Mount Gambier.....	775
Penola & the Coonawarra Wine Region.....	777

### YORKE PENINSULA & WESTERN SA..... 779

<b>Yorke Peninsula.....</b>	<b>781</b>
Port Augusta.....	784
Port Lincoln.....	786
Streaky Bay.....	788
Ceduna.....	789

### FLINDERS RANGES & OUTBACK SA..... 791

<b>Flinders Ranges.....</b>	<b>794</b>
Quorn.....	796
Hawker.....	797
Flinders Ranges National Park.....	798
Cooper Pedy.....	801
Oodnadatta Track.....	805
Birdsville Track.....	805
Strzelecki Track.....	806

### DARWIN & AROUND..... 807

<b>Darwin.....</b>	<b>812</b>
Mandorah.....	827
Tiwi Islands.....	828
Mary River Region.....	830
Litchfield National Park.....	832
Kakadu National Park.....	834
Arnhem Land.....	841

### ULURU & OUTBACK NT..... 843

<b>Katherine.....</b>	<b>846</b>
Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park.....	849
<b>Mataranka &amp; Elsey National Park.....</b>	<b>853</b>
<b>Tennant Creek.....</b>	<b>855</b>
<b>Alice Springs.....</b>	<b>857</b>

# Contents

## UNDERSTAND

**MacDonnell Ranges ... 867**

**Red Centre Way  
(Mereenie Loop) ..... 874**

Kings Canyon & Watarrka  
National Park ..... 875

**Uluru-Kata Tjuta  
National Park ..... 880**

Uluru (Ayers Rock) ..... 882

Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) .. 883

**PERTH &  
FREMANTLE ..... 887**

Perth ..... 893

Fremantle ..... 912

**AROUND PERTH ... 920**

**Rottneet Island  
(Wadjemup) ..... 922**

York ..... 926

Toodyay ..... 926

Rockingham ..... 927

Mandurah ..... 927

Dwellingup ..... 928

Cervantes &  
Pinnacles Desert ..... 930

**New Norcia ..... 932**

**MARGARET RIVER &  
THE SOUTHWEST  
COAST ..... 933**

Bunbury ..... 935

Busselton ..... 936

Dunsborough ..... 937

**Margaret River  
Wine Region ..... 938**

Yallingup & Around ..... 938

Margaret River ..... 942

Augusta & Around ..... 945

Pemberton ..... 947

**SOUTHERN WA ... 949**

Walpole & Nornalup .... 951

Denmark ..... 952

Albany ..... 954

Porongurup  
National Park ..... 958

Stirling Range  
National Park ..... 959

Esperance ..... 961

Eyre Highway  
(the Nullarbor) ..... 965

Coolgardie ..... 966

Kalgoorlie-Boulder ..... 966

**MONKEY MIA & THE  
CENTRAL WEST ... 971**

Dongara-Port Denison... 973

Geraldton ..... 974

Kalbarri ..... 979

**Shark Bay ..... 982**

Denham ..... 983

Monkey Mia ..... 985

Carnarvon ..... 986

**CORAL COAST &  
THE PILBARA ..... 989**

Coral Bay ..... 992

Exmouth ..... 994

Ningaloo Marine Park ... 999

Cape Range  
National Park ..... 1000

**The Pilbara ..... 1002**

Karijini National Park... 1004

Port Hedland ..... 1006

**BROOME & THE  
KIMBERLEY ..... 1009**

**The Kimberley ..... 1012**

Derby ..... 1012

Gibb River Road ..... 1014

Wyndham ..... 1019

Kununurra ..... 1020

Purnululu National Park &  
Bungle Bungle Range... 1022

**Broome ..... 1024**

Dampier Peninsula ..... 1032

**Australia**

**Today ..... 1036**

**History ..... 1038**

**Aboriginal**

**Australia ..... 1049**

**Environment ..... 1055**

**Food & Drink ..... 1062**

**Sport ..... 1066**

## SURVIVAL GUIDE

**Deadly &**

**Dangerous ..... 1070**

**Directory A-Z ..... 1072**

**Transport ..... 1086**

**Index ..... 1098**

**Map Legend ..... 1109**

## SPECIAL FEATURES

**Sydney Harbour**

**3D Illustration ..... 80**

**Sydney's Beaches ... 100**

**Great Barrier Reef**

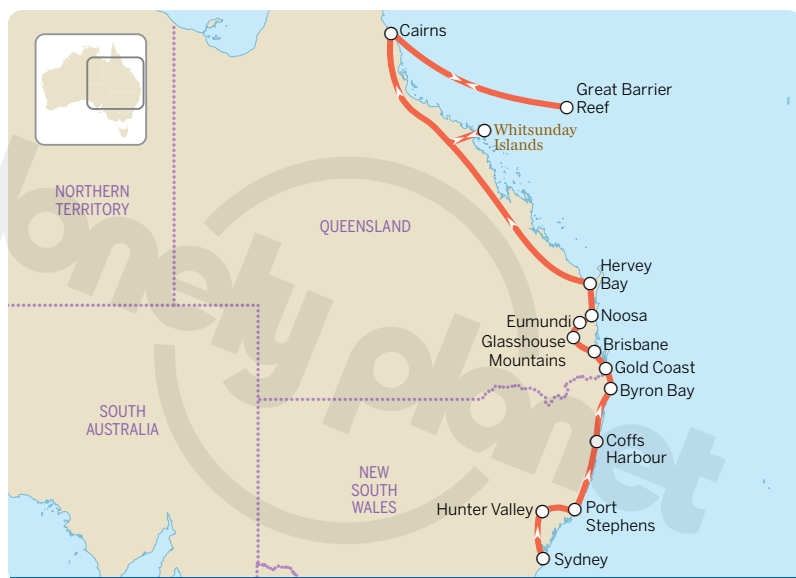
**Gateways ..... 410**

**Ultimate Outback. .... 869**

**Indigenous Art &**

**Culture ..... 870**

# Itineraries



## 4 WEEKS Sydney to Cairns

Hugging the east coast between Sydney and Cairns for 2864km, this is the most well-trodden path in Australia. You could do it in two weeks, but why not take four and really chill out.

Start with a few days immersed in the bright lights and glitz of **Sydney**, then meander north along the Pacific Hwy through central and northern New South Wales (NSW). Hang out in the **Hunter Valley** for some fine vino-quaffing, and stop to splash in the sea at family-friendly **Port Stephens** and **Coffs Harbour**, home of the iconic/kitsch 'Big Banana'. Skip up to **Byron Bay** for New Age awakenings and superb beaches, then head over the Queensland border to the party-prone, surf-addled **Gold Coast**. Pause in hip **Brisbane** then amble up through the **Glasshouse Mountains** and hippie **Eumundi** to affluent **Noosa** on the Sunshine Coast.

The Bruce Hwy traces the stunning coast into Far North Queensland. Spot some passing whales off the coast of **Hervey Bay** and track further north to the blissful **Whitsundays** archipelago, the coral charms of the **Great Barrier Reef** and the scuba-diving nexus of **Cairns**.



**4**  
WEEKS

## Around Australia: the Giant Loop

Bid a fond *au revoir* to the bright lights, bars and boutiques of **Sydney** and take an internal flight to **Alice Springs** in desert-hot central Australia. Check out the outstanding Alice Springs Desert Park, then tour south to the astonishing **Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park**. Uluru gets all the press, but Kata Tjuta's boulders are actually higher.

Back in Alice, hire a car and scoot north along the Stuart Hwy to emerging, rough-and-ready **Darwin**. En route, paddle a canoe or take a cruise at gorgeous **Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park**, and check out some crocodiles and ancient Aboriginal rock-art galleries at **Kakadu National Park**.

From Darwin, hop another flight to **Perth** – a confident city that sets its own agenda – and the soulful old port town of **Fremantle** nearby. Continuing south, wine away some hours around **Margaret River** until you're ready to tackle the flat immensity of the **Nullarbor Plain** – if you're not up for the epic drive to festival-frenzied **Adelaide**, the Indian Pacific train ride is unforgettable.

Check out the world-class wine regions around Adelaide (the **Barossa Valley** and **McLaren Vale** are both an hour away), or head east along the impossibly scenic **Great Ocean Road** to sports-mad **Melbourne**. Don't miss a game of Australian Rules football or cricket at the cauldron-like Melbourne Cricket Ground.

If you have a few extra days, take the car ferry across to **Tasmania**. Australia's divine island state preserves some of the country's oldest forests and World Heritage-listed mountain ranges: **Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park** is accessible and absolutely beautiful.

From Melbourne, continue along the Victorian coast to the penguins and koalas on **Phillip Island** and white-sand seclusion of **Wilsons Promontory National Park**. Spend a couple of days somewhere along **Ninety Mile Beach** then cruise up the southern NSW coast to idyllic **Jervis Bay** (spot any whales?). Back in **Sydney**, there are so many beaches you're sure to find a patch of sand with your name on it.



2 WEEKS

## Adelaide to Darwin

This classic 3000km dash up the Stuart Hwy takes you into Australia's desert heart.

From the eat-streets and old stone pubs of **Adelaide**, head north to the **Barossa Valley** for world-beating red wines. Next stop is rust-coloured **Flinders Ranges National Park**: Ikara (Wilpena Pound) jags up from the semidesert.

Just off the Stuart Hwy are the dugouts of unique **Coober Pedy**. Continuing north, the Lasseter Hwy delivers you to weighty, iconic **Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park**. The chasm of **Watarrka (Kings Canyon) National Park** is 300km further north.

Overnight in the desert oasis of **Alice Springs**, then continue north to the wetlands and rock-scapes of World Heritage-listed **Kakadu National Park** and the waterfalls and swimming holes of **Litchfield National Park**.

Gone are the days when **Darwin** was just a redneck outpost: these days the city is very multicultural, as a visit to the fabulous Mindil Beach Sunset Market will confirm. Don't miss the quirky Deckchair Cinema and excellent Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

3 1/2 WEEKS

## Perth, the Pilbara & the Kimberley

Feeling adventurous? Steer your 4WD north from **Perth**...all the way to Darwin!

First stop is otherworldly **Nambung National Park**, followed by **Kalbarri** with its soaring sea cliffs and incredible gorges. Commune with dolphins at Shark Bay's **Monkey Mia**, then hug the coast for superb snorkelling at **Ningaloo Reef**.

Inland are the ironstone hues of the Pilbara. Cool-off at tranquil **Millstream-Chichester National Park** then plunge into the gorges at **Karijini National Park**. Down a beer at **Marble Bar**, Australia's hottest town, before spying turtles at **Eighty Mile Beach**.

The Big Empty stretches northeast to **Broome**: watch the camels on Cable Beach at sunset. Nearby **Dampier Peninsula** beckons with pristine beaches and camping in Indigenous communities. From here, veer east into the Kimberley along legendary **Gibb River Road**.

Restock in **Kununurra** before heading to the sandstone domes of **Purnululu National Park**. Take the exquisitely lonely **Duncan Road** into the NT: once you're on the asphalt, **Darwin** isn't far away.





## 1 WEEK Sydney to Melbourne

Most people fly into Sydney, Australia's biggest city. But don't miss Melbourne, Sydney's arty rival, some 1000km to the south.

Check out **Sydney** from its sparkling harbour: the gorgeous Sydney Opera House and colossal Sydney Harbour Bridge are unmissable. For a bird's-eye view, tackle the Bridge Climb over the great grey arch. Feel like a swim? Bondi Beach is a quintessential Australian experience.

Heading south, zip through **Royal National Park** to the elevated **Grand Pacific Drive**, continuing to **Wollongong** and the lovely coastal town of **Kiama**. Nearby, the Illawarra Fly Tree Top Walk and Zip-line traverse the rainforest canopy.

Continuing south, meander through **Ulladulla**, **Narooma** and the aptly named **Eden** near the Victorian border. The road from here to Melbourne is low-key: spice things up with some blissful bushwalks at **Wilsons Promontory National Park**.

**Melbourne** is a bay-side city famous for the arts, Australian Rules football and coffee. Wander the laneways, mooch around the galleries, grab a pub dinner and catch a live band.



## 1 WEEK Brisbane to Byron Bay

Strap a surfboard to the roof rack and cruise into your very own *Endless Summer*: this stretch of Australia's east coast is famous for its surf.

Once a sleepy river town, **Brisbane** is booming, growing so fast that it can be difficult to navigate. Its urban charms (great restaurants, arts scene, coffee and bars) meld seamlessly with the natural environment (cliffs, parklands and the serpentine Brisbane River).

Heading south to the Gold Coast, the cityscape of **Surfers Paradise** rises on the horizon. There are as many apartment towers here as shades of fake tan: check it out if you like casinos, theme parks and boozy backpackers. More low-key are the surfie town of **Burleigh Heads** and the surf life-saving mecca **Coolangatta**.

Despite big summer (and Easter) crowds and big development money, **Byron Bay** in northern NSW remains a hippie haven with great pubs, restaurants, beaches and the famous Pass point break. Don't miss inland day-trips to pretty **Bangalow** and Australia's near-mythical alternative-lifestyle hangout, **Nimbin**.

# Map Legend

## Sights

- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

## Activities, Courses & Tours

- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

## Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping

## Eating

- Eating

## Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

## Entertainment

- Entertainment

## Shopping

- Shopping

## Information

- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

## Geographic

- Beach
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

## Population

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

## Transport

- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- Subway station
- Taxi
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Underground station
- Other Transport

## Routes

- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

## Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

## Hydrography

- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

## Areas

- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

*Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book*



**Miriam Raphael**

**NSW Central Coast, Byron Bay & Northern NSW** Miriam has authored over a dozen books for Lonely Planet, racking up thousands of kilometres driving across Australia's wide brown lands in pursuit of the greatest hidden beaches, outback pub meals and curious characters. She regularly enthuses on all things travel for a range of Australian and international publications, while blogging about intrepid journeys with kids at [SevenSuitcases.com](http://SevenSuitcases.com). After many years living in Australia's

extraordinary Northern Territory she has recently returned to her hometown of Sydney.



**Benedict Walker**

**Cairns & the Daintree Rainforest, Cape York Peninsula** Currently hanging by the beach near his Mum, in hometown Newcastle, Ben's plan of 'livin' the dream', spending his days between his three great loves, Australia, North America and Japan, seems to be coming to fruition: it's not greedy – it's just sharing the love! Ben has also co-written LP's *Japan*, *Canada*, and *Florida* guidebooks, written and directed a play, toured Australia managing travel for rockstars and is an avid pho-

tographer toying with his original craft of film-making. He's an advocate of following your dreams – they can come true. For updates, see [www.wordsandjourneys.com](http://www.wordsandjourneys.com).



**Steve Waters**

**Coral Coast & the Pilbara, The Kimberley** This was Steve's sixth trip to the north of WA and while some things hadn't changed (huge distances, heat, blowing a tyre on the Kalumburu Rd), others were totally different (Cape Range NP after the floods, volunteering for the Mornington Bird Census, trying to find the same restaurant in Exmouth). Then there was the added novelty of coming to grips with social media :) Steve's written online articles on WA and co-authored previous

editions of *Australia*, *Indonesia*, *Great Adventures* and *Best in Travel* and come the next Dry, will probably be heading north once again.

**Carolyn Bain**

**Central & Outback NSW** Every summer of her childhood, Carolyn's family whizzed through regional NSW (twice) on the 3500km return journey from their home near Melbourne to the beaches of the Gold Coast. On this research trip Carolyn had considerably more time to explore, and covered 6500km of glorious NSW scenery under big blue skies, from the scorching sands of Mungo to the vineyards of Mudgee. The outback's 40°C temps made a change from her usual travel-writing stomping grounds of Iceland and Denmark. Read more at [carolynbain.com.au](http://carolynbain.com.au).

**Celeste Brash**

**Fraser Island & the Fraser Coast, Capricorn Coast & the Southern Reef Islands, Whitsunday Coast, Townsville & Mission Beach** Celeste has the great fortune to specialize in destinations involving islands, beaches and coral cays so the Queensland Coast was a match made in heaven. She's contributed to around 50 Lonely Planet guidebooks and her award winning writing has appeared in publications from BBC Travel to National Geographic's Intelligent Traveller. After 15 years in the South Pacific she now lives with her husband and two children in Portland, Oregon.

**Peter Dragicevich**

**Sydney & Around** After a decade of frequent flights between his native New Zealand and Sydney, the lure of the bright lights and endless beach days drew Peter across the Tasman on a more permanent basis. For the best part of the next decade he would call Sydney's inner suburbs home, while serving as general manager for various newspaper and magazine titles. More recently he's co-authored dozens of titles for Lonely Planet, including the East Coast Australia and Sydney guidebooks.

Read more about Peter at:

<http://auth.lonelyplanet.com/profiles/peterdragicevich>

**Anthony Ham**

**Melbourne & Around, Great Ocean Road, Gippsland & Wilsons Promontory, Grampians & the Goldfields, Victorian High Country, Northwest Victoria, North & Western Tasmania** Anthony ([anthonyham.com](http://anthonyham.com)) was born in Melbourne, grew up in Sydney and spent much of his adult life travelling the world. He recently returned to Australia after ten years living in Madrid and brings to this guide more than fifteen years' experience as a travel writer. As a recently returned expat,

Anthony is loving the opportunity to rediscover his country and indulge his passion for wilderness. He brings to the book the unique perspective of knowing the land intimately and yet seeing it anew as if through the eyes of an outsider.

**Paul Harding**

**Outback Queensland & Gulf Savannah** Though born and raised down south in Victoria, Paul has an enduring passion for the great Australian outback – and for a great road trip – so it was an easy decision to take on the vast Queensland Outback and Gulf Savannah for this edition. After clocking up almost 6000km, two dozen outback pubs, countless cattle, a variety of roaming wildlife, a few fossils and some great Aussie characters, he's very glad he did. A travel writer and

photographer, and backpacker at heart, Paul has contributed to almost 40 Lonely Planet guides, including numerous Australia titles. He still lives in Melbourne.

**Alan Murphy**

**Darwin & Around, Uluru & Outback NT** Alan has travelled extensively across Australia and worked on several Australian guidebook titles for Lonely Planet. The Northern Territory, with its ancient landscapes, outback characters and Indigenous culture holds a special place in his heart. For this update he criss-crossed the enormous expanse of the Territory and loved discovering new places. Alan has also written several online articles on the NT's Indigenous Australians and feels privileged to have had the opportunity of learning more about their culture on this trip.



## OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

## OUR WRITERS



### Charles Rawlings-Way

**Brisbane & Around, Hobart & Southeast Tasmania, Launceston & Eastern Tasmania, Adelaide & Around, Barossa Valley & Southeastern SA, Yorke Peninsula & Western SA, Flinders Ranges & Outback SA** As a likely lad, Charles suffered in shorts through Tasmanian winters, and in summer counted the days til he visited his grandparents in Adelaide. With desert-hot days, cool swimming pools and four TV stations, this flat city held paradisiacal status. Little did he know that Brisbane

was just as alluring – a fact confirmed by more recent encounters with the city's bookshops, bars and band rooms. Returning to Tasmania, he was thrilled to discover that Hobart has good coffee now, and there's still snow on the mountain. Charles has penned 20-something Lonely Planet guidebooks. Charles also wrote the Australia Today, Food & Drink, Sport, Planning and Survival Guide chapters.



### Meg Worby

**Brisbane & Around, Hobart & Southeast Tasmania, Launceston & Eastern Tasmania, Adelaide & Around, Barossa Valley & Southeastern SA, Yorke Peninsula & Western SA, Flinders Ranges & Outback SA** Let's do this by the numbers: this was Meg's fourth trip to ever-beautiful Tasmania, her seventh trip to temperate Queensland and her 780th re-entry into her most habitable home state of South Australia. She is a former member of Lonely Planet's languages, editorial, web and

publishing teams in Melbourne and London. This is her eighth Lonely Planet guidebook as an author. Meg also wrote the Australia Today, Food & Drink, Sport, Planning and Survival Guide chapters.



### Kate Armstrong

**Surfers Paradise & the Gold Coast, Noosa & the Sunshine Coast, Broome** Kate is a Victorian, but for years has enjoyed migrating northwards for the warmth and laid back attitudes of sunny Queensland. Having recently ditched her surfboard, for this edition, she bodysurfed at 6am daily. She also loved hitting the regions' foodie scenes and was thrilled to visit the Dampier Peninsula for the first time. With over 30 overseas LP titles to her name, Kate also finally enjoyed getting her car dirty in

her own backyard. See more adventures at [www.katearmstrong.com.au](http://www.katearmstrong.com.au) and @nomaditis.



### Brett Atkinson

**Canberra & NSW South Coast, Southern NSW, Perth & Fremantle, Around Perth, Margaret River & the Southwest Coast, Southern WA, Monkey Mia & the Central West** For this edition, Brett flew across the gorges of WA's Karijini National Park, explored the galleries, museums and emerging urban vibe of Canberra, and uncovered even more excellent Australian craft breweries on both the west and east coasts of the country. Brett is based in Auckland, New Zealand and has covered around 50 countries as a guidebook author and travel and food writer.

See [www.brett-atkinson.net](http://www.brett-atkinson.net) for his most recent work and upcoming travels.

OVER MORE  
PAGE WRITERS

Published by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983

18th edition – Nov 2015

ISBN 978 1 74321 3889

© Lonely Planet 2015 Photographs © as indicated 2015

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Singapore

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be copied, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise, except brief extracts for the purpose of review, and no part of this publication may be sold or hired, without the written permission of the publisher. Lonely Planet and the Lonely Planet logo are trademarks of Lonely Planet and are registered in the US Patent and Trademark Office and in other countries. Lonely Planet does not allow its name or logo to be appropriated by commercial establishments, such as retailers, restaurants or hotels. Please let us know of any misuses: [lonelyplanet.com/ip](http://lonelyplanet.com/ip).

Although the authors and Lonely Planet have taken all reasonable care in preparing this book, we make no warranty about the accuracy or completeness of its content and, to the maximum extent permitted, disclaim all liability arising from its use.

© Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd. To make it easier for you to use, access to this chapter is not digitally restricted. In return, we think it's fair to ask you to use it for personal, non-commercial purposes only. In other words, please don't upload this chapter to a peer-to-peer site, mass email it to everyone you know, or resell it. See the terms and conditions on our site for a longer way of saying the above - 'Do the right thing with our content.'