



Around Perth

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Best Places to Eat

- » RiverBank Estate (p104)
- » Black Swan (p104)
- » Loose Box (p102)
- » Cervantes Country Club (p115)
- » Cafe Yasou (p108)

Best Places to Stay

- » Faversham House (p106)
- » Amble Inn (p114)
- » Kookaburra Dream (p106)
- » Rottneet Island Authority Cottages (p93)
- » Lancelin Lodge YHA (p113)

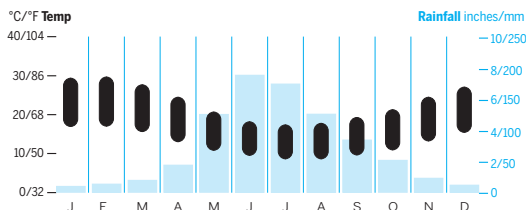
Why Go?

Although Western Australia (WA) is huge, you don't have to travel too far from the capital to treat yourself to a tantalising taste of what the state has to offer. A day trip could see you frolicking with wild dolphins, snorkelling with sea lions, scooping up brilliant-blue crabs or spotting bilbies in the bush. Active types can find themselves canoeing, rafting, surfing, windsurfing, sandboarding, diving, skydiving and ballooning. Those who prefer pursuits less likely to ruffle one's hair can tour vineyards, settle down for a culinary feast or explore historic towns classified by the National Trust.

We've designed this chapter so that the main headings can be tackled as day trips, or better still, overnights. If you're heading on a longer trip, whether north, south or east, you'll find your first stops within these pages.

When to Go

Mandurah



March

Good beach weather and a good time to spot thrombolites in Lake Clifton.

August

Wildflowers start to bloom, the Avon River Festival, and the Toodyay Festival of Food.

October

More wildflowers, Penguin Island re-opens to visitors, and the York Jazz & Soul Festival.



Around Perth Highlights

- 1** Cycle your way to a private slice of coastal paradise on **Rottneet Island (Wadjemup)**; p90), then spend the afternoon swimming, sunning and snorkelling
- 2** Enjoy a sublime sunset over the other-worldly **Pinnacles Desert** (p114)
- 3** Get chipper with Flipper, palling about with scores of wild dolphins in **Shoalwater Marine Park** (p95) off Rockingham
- 4** Splash about with sea lions at **Green Head** (p116)
- 5** Explore the intriguing monastery town of **New Norcia** (p110)
- 6** Wander the quaint, atmospheric streets of historic **York** (p106)
- 7** Soothe your soul on the white sands of chilled out **Guilderton** (p112)