



Around Perth

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Peel Region	95
Darling Range	98
Swan Valley	99
Avon Valley	102
Wongan Hills	106
Sunset Coast	106
Turquoise Coast	108

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ RiverBank Estate (p101)
- ➔ Hotel Rottnest (p93)
- ➔ Rustico (p94)
- ➔ Jezebel (p100)
- ➔ Lobster Shack (p110)

Best Places to Stay

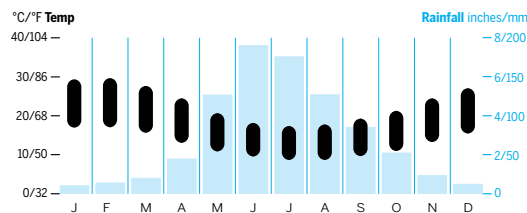
- ➔ Cervantes Lodge & Pinnacles Beach Backpackers (p109)
- ➔ Amble Inn (p109)
- ➔ Rottnest Island Authority Cottages (p92)
- ➔ Lancelin Lodge YHA (p107)
- ➔ Centrebreak Beach Stay (p110)

Why Go?

Although Western Australia (WA) is huge, you don't have to travel too far from Perth to treat yourself to a 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 linger at vineyards or craft breweries, settle down for a culinary feast, or explore historic towns classified by the National Trust. To the north is the spectacular landscape of the Pinnacles Desert.

When to Go

Mandurah



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

Jun Food and wine excellence at the Avon Valley Gourmet Food & Wine Festival.

Aug Wildflowers start to bloom; brave paddlers take on the Avon River Descent.



Around Perth Highlights

- 1** Cycling your way to a private slice of coastal paradise on **Rottneet Island** (Wadjemup; p89), then spending the afternoon swimming, sunning and snorkelling.
- 2** Enjoying a sublime sunset over the other-worldly **Pinnacles Desert** (p108).
- 3** Getting chipper with Flipper in **Shoalwater Islands Marine Park** (p94) off Rockingham.
- 4** Splashing about with sea lions at **Green Head** (p110).
- 5** Exploring the intriguing monastery town of **New Norcia** (p105).
- 6** Getting your foodie fix at the vineyards, breweries and artisan producers of the **Swan Valley** (p101).
- 7** Immersing yourself in the wonderful wildflowers of the **Lesueur National Park** (p108).