



# Southern WA

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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ York Street Cafe (p142)
- ➔ Mrs Jones (p139)
- ➔ Maleeya's Thai Cafe (p145)
- ➔ Pepper & Salt (p139)

## Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Cape Howe Cottages (p139)
- ➔ Beach House at Bayside (p142)
- ➔ Esperance B&B by the Sea (p149)
- ➔ The Lily (p146)

## Why Go?

Standing above the waves and cliffs of the rugged South Coast is an exhilarating experience. And on calm days, when the sea is aquamarine and white-sand beaches lie pristine and welcoming, it's an altogether different type of magnificent. Even busy summer holiday periods down here in the Great Southern are relaxed. It's just that bit too far from Perth for the holiday hordes.

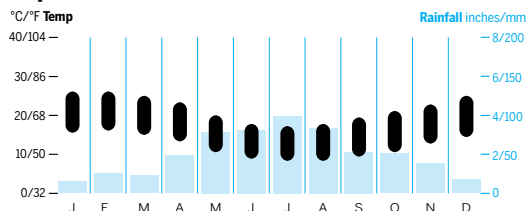
Winter months bring pods of migrating whales, while the spectacular tingle trees of Walpole's Valley of the Giants are more super-sized evidence of nature's wonder.

For a change from the great outdoors, Albany – the state's earliest European settlement – has colonial and Anzac history, and Denmark has excellent wine, craft beer and good food.

From Esperance, strike out north to begin a compelling cross-country adventure across the Nullarbor Plain from Norseman, or continue on to the gold-mining past, present and future of rambunctious Kalgoorlie.

## When to Go

### Esperance



**Jan** The best beach weather – and it's not as hot or crowded as the west coast.

**Sep** Go wild for wild flowers and whales.

**Dec** Perfect weather for the Stirling Range and Porongurup National Parks.



## Southern WA Highlights

- 1 Walking among and above the giant tangle trees in the Valley of the Giants **Tree Top Walk** (p137).
- 2 Competing to see who can spot the most whales in Albany's **King George Sound** (p142).
- 3 Understanding the sacrifices made by brave

- soldiers 100 years ago at the **National Anzac Centre** (p141) in Albany.
- 4 Hiking among the tall trees and granite outcrops of **Porongurup National Park** (p144).
- 5 Wandering through wild flowers along the

- walking tracks of **Fitzgerald River National Park** (p146).
- 6 Feeling dwarfed in the depths of the spectacular Super Pit in **Kalbarri** (p152).
- 7 Swimming, surfing and soaking up the sun at the beaches of **Cape Le Grand National Park** (p150).