

# Around Perth

POP 285,000

## Includes ➔

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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Homestead Brewery (p111)
- ➔ Flic's Kitchen (p106)
- ➔ Cervantes Bar & Bistro (p119)
- ➔ Guildford Hotel (p109)
- ➔ Ostro Eatery (p104)

## Best Places to Sleep

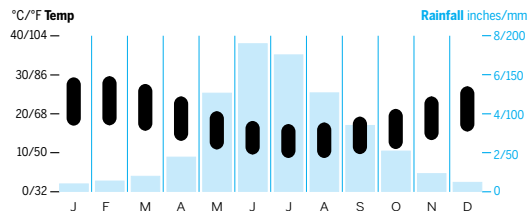
- ➔ Cervantes Lodge & Pinnacles Beach Backpackers (p118)
- ➔ Amble Inn (p118)
- ➔ Rottnest Island Authority Cottages (p101)
- ➔ Lancelin Lodge YHA (p117)
- ➔ Centrebreak Beach Stay (p120)

## Why Go?

Although Western Australia 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 the 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.

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

**Sep** Catch the ferry to Rottnest Island for music, film and comedy at the annual Rottotfest.



## Around Perth Highlights

**1** Cycling your way to a private slice of coastal paradise on **Rottne Island** (Wadjemup; p98), then spending the afternoon swimming, sunning and snorkelling.

**2** Enjoying a sublime sunset over the other-worldly **Pinnacles Desert** (p118).

**3** Hanging out with penguins in **Shoalwater Islands Marine Park** (p103) off Rockingham.

**4** Splashing about with sea lions in **Green Head** (p120) a few hours north of Perth.

**5** Exploring the intriguing monastery town of **New Norcia** (p114).

**6** Getting your foodie fix at the vineyards, breweries and artisan producers of the **Swan Valley** (p110).

**7** Immersing yourself in the wonderful wildflowers of **Lesueur National Park** (p118).