

# travelling

## let's go travelling

JULY 2015

• WA's Great Outdoors • Going Fishing • Winter in the West

*Have a Go News' travel liftout  
...for the mature traveller*



*The beautiful pool at the Best Western Bali will be a great place to unwind for one lucky reader who wins our holiday to Bali for two people. A great way to beat the winter blues the prize includes return airfares with Garuda Indonesia and seven nights accommodation at the Bali Best Western with breakfast. For details on how to enter see page 19.*

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# travelling

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## New book illustrates P&O Cruises Australian heritage

A NEWLY released photographic book details the story of P&O's illustrious history through hundreds of rare photographs. The book is unique among those written about P&O because of the rarely seen imagery it contains.

Written by Australian historians Rob Henderson, Doug Cremer, Rachelle Cross and Chris Frame, *A Photographic History of P&O Cruises* focuses on how Australia and pleasure cruising helped shape P&O, leading to it becoming one

of the most significant and famous shipping lines in history.

With a narrative sourced from the only known surviving copy of the P&O board minutes dating back to the 1830s, the book includes imagery from the orient heritage collection owned by Henderson and Cremer.

"I was working for P&O in Sydney when the photographic archive became too large for the company to store. A decision was made to dispose of the collection,

however I was able to negotiate to save some of the archive and have spent the past 46 years documenting it," said archivist Robert Henderson.

"It contains many thousands of images, the best of which we've selected for publication in this book."

"Rachelle and I met Rob and Doug aboard the Queen Mary 2," said fellow author Chris Frame. "I had just finished a lecture about Cunard's history and the pair approached us to talk about P&O. By the end of the

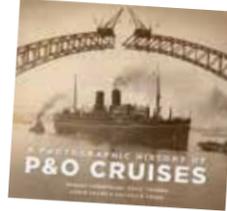
voyage we had agreed to collaborate on this project.

"Having access to the rare source documents and extensive imagery allowed us to trace P&O's story from a unique angle. As Australians, it was a great thrill to see how much our country had helped shape the world famous P&O."

### WIN WIN WIN

To be in the draw to win a copy of *A Photographic History of P&O Cruises* simply send an email to [win@haveagonews.com](mailto:win@haveagonews.com) with the subject line

*P&O or send an envelope to P&O Competition - C/- Have a Go News - PO Box 1042, West Leederville 6901. Please include your name, address and phone number on the reverse side. Competition closes 31/07/15.*



### let's gotravelling



Jen Merigan

THIS MONTH we launch our Bali Holiday giveaway. This gives a lucky reader the opportunity to win seven nights accommodation with breakfast at Best Western Kuta Beach Bali and return economy airfares with Garuda Indonesia.

This competition will run until 30 September and you have two options for entry; via email or snail mail. Readers are welcome to enter as many times as they like.

Our London Calling columnist Jayson Mansaray will return to our pages soon.

Busselton Airport is to be upgraded over the next 18 months and travellers will have the option of flying directly to Busselton from interstate and eventually from airports in Asia which should be a boon for the south west.

The region has also announced that Busselton, Margaret River and Augusta have combined their tourism bodies and will now market the area as Your Margaret River Region, which should provide a united voice for tourism in the area.

Another interesting outcome for the southwest is the announcement by the RAC that they have begun rolling out an electric highway with public charge stations for electric cars. The stations will be able to fast charge a vehicle to 80 per cent in around 20 minutes.

It is great to see the region moving forward to attract more interstate and overseas visitors.

Malaysia Airlines have announced that they are reducing flights around Australia in their restructuring and will now reduce capacity from Perth with their five-times-weekly flights MH126/127 being

removed from sale on the airline's website beyond 15 August, while the daily MH124/125 flights remain untouched.

In more news from Malaysia the country has now introduced a GST. Travellers are entitled to a refund of GST on goods purchased in Malaysia and exported at selected outlets or from the airport on departure.

Malaysia's medical tourism received a boost when the country was declared the Medical Travel Destination of the Year in London at the International Medical Travel Journal Medical Travel Awards 2015.

It won the award based on all round excellence in promoting inbound medical tourism, yearly growth and most importantly patient satisfaction.

I went to a presentation about medical tourism in Malaysia and they certainly seem to have all the latest equipment, well qualified doctors, and excellent patient follow up.

The difference in costs for dental treatments was substantial and readers can find out more by visiting [www.mhtc.org.my](http://www.mhtc.org.my)

Don't forget our Talking Travel group will resume next month and I look forward to welcoming participants back for our regular sessions.

These provide a great opportunity to share information about destinations, tour operators and wish lists and if you have a particular enquiry then contact me prior to the event and I will do my best to find information for you.

I will advise of the August date in the next issue and via the email list.

If you have a travel issue, enquiry or would like to share some information, don't hesitate to contact me on the email below.

If you're a facebooker than like *Have a Go News* at [www.facebook.com/Haveagonews](http://www.facebook.com/Haveagonews), there's always extra opportunities to win prizes and share interesting and fun information. Happy trails

Jennifer Merigan  
Travel Editor

The travel industry and readers are welcome to contact the travel editor: Ph 9227 8283  
Email: [jen@haveagonews.com.au](mailto:jen@haveagonews.com.au)

08 SEPTEMBER 2015

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## New hope for the world's most famous passenger ship



IN THIS, the 175th anniversary of the Cunard Line, there is new hope for the world's most famous passenger liner – *Queen Elizabeth 2*.

*QE2* departed the Cunard fleet at the end of 2008, having completed nearly 40 years of service. The last ocean liner built in Scotland, *QE2* was – and still is – the furthest travelled ship ever, having covered more than 5.6 million miles during her career.

*QE2* carried 2.5 million passengers, including Queen Elizabeth, the Duke of Edinburgh, a host of celebrities and millions of everyday people. The ship visited more destinations than any before her, and completed 25 world voyages during her career.

She left the Cunard fleet in November 2008, having been sold for US \$100m to Dubai for use as a floating hotel. However since then, the ship has remained idle, a victim of the global financial crisis. Recently imagery of her deteriorating state have aired with British newspapers calling for her return coinciding with Cunard's 175th celebrations.

*QE2*'s future took a boost in June this year when Inverclyde Councillor Stephen McCabe called for the ship's return to the place of her birth.

"To see this once magnificent flagship of the Cunard line languishing in a dock in Dubai is simply heart-breaking," Councillor McCabe said. "Bringing the *QE2* home is a herculean task. It is one that requires national support in Scotland and perhaps across the UK, if it has any chance of happening."

The world watches and waits for the future of *QE2* to be resolved, with the 175th anniversary of Cunard's first transatlantic voyage being a fitting time for their greatest ocean liner to find a permanent berth as a hotel and museum.

For more details about *QE2* check out [www.theqe2story.com/forum](http://www.theqe2story.com/forum)

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

## Win a trip to Bali with Best Western Bali and Garuda Indonesia



Top row, from left to right; Garuda Indonesia's Airbus 330 - Enjoy a swim in Best Western Kuta Beach's roof pool  
Second row; Standard room at Best Western Kuta Beach



ONE LUCKY READER has the opportunity to win a trip for two to Bali staying at the Best Western Kuta Beach and flying Garuda Indonesia.

Best Western is one of the world's biggest hotel families with more than 4,000 properties worldwide. There are four properties to choose your holiday in Bali from and all offer quality accommodation at excellent rates.

Enjoy lounging by the pool as you wind down and relax from the stresses and strains of every day life.

Bali is one of our closest neighbours and Western Australians have made it their second home.

Located in the heart of Kuta, Best Western Kuta Beach is a very popular area for nightlife, entertainment and shopping. The property is only 50 metres away from

famous Kuta Beach and one of the highlights of the property is its roof top swimming pool with magnificent views. Famous area attractions around the hotel including WaterBom Park, Discovery Bali Mall, art markets, Starbucks, Hard Rock Cafe, Poppies Lane and the Kamasutra Pub are within an easy walking distance.

Best Western look forward to welcoming *Have a Go News* readers to their Bali properties. See the advertisement in this section for further information.

Garuda Indonesia is a full-service international airline that prides itself on the Garuda Indonesia Experience, a service concept based on Indonesia's rich cultural heritage. This service is designed to allow passengers to experience Indonesia at its best. Garuda Indonesia is a proud

member of the SkyTeam Alliance providing access to 1,064 destinations in 178 countries served by all SkyTeam member airlines.

Garuda Indonesia flies to more than 60 destinations in Indonesia, Australia, South East Asia, North Asia, the Middle East and Europe. Australian passengers will experience our award winning service with direct flights to Bali and Jakarta from Perth, Melbourne, and Sydney.

Passengers enjoy a wide selection of complimentary entertainment and culinary delights during their flight. In addition to a generous baggage allowance, Garuda Indonesia also offers a complimentary allowance of 23kg sporting equipment.

Passengers travelling frequently are invited to join the Garuda Miles program, which allows members to accrue and redeem mileage for free flights, upgrades and companion awards.

After winning the title of The World's Best Regional Airline in 2012, The World's Best Economy Class in 2013 and The World's Best Cabin Crew in 2014 and 2015, Garuda Indonesia has now reached the highest distinction of becoming one of only seven five-star airlines

in the world as awarded by Skytrax in 2015.

**WIN WIN WIN**  
To be in the draw to win a holiday to Bali for two people staying at Best Western Kuta Beach and flying economy class on Garuda Indonesia simply follow these instructions.

Answer the following question - What award did Garuda Indonesia win in 2014 and 2015?

Send in your entry via: Email - win@haveagonews.com.au with the subject line Bali Holiday - please include your name, address and telephone number and the answer to the above question. Or post - simply send an envelope to Bali Holiday - C/- Have a Go News - PO Box 1042, West Leederville 6901. Please include your name, address and phone

number on the reverse side with the answer to the question. Competition closes 30/9/15.

Winners will be notified by telephone and must be prepared to have their photo included in the paper for promotion. The holiday is not exchangeable for cash and must be taken by April 2016. The package cannot be taken from 23/12/15 - 3/1/16. Airline taxes are not included in the prize and this expense must be met by the winner. Accommodation and daily breakfast is provided by Best Western Kuta Beach Bali - all other costs are at the winner's expense. The decision is final and no correspondence may be entered into.

By entering this competition you agree to the terms and conditions as stated above.

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# travelling

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## Great days out and mystery wildflower tours



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IT'S SHAPING up to be a good wildflower season and Club 55 has an extensive range of more than 100 day tours that have been specifically designed for seniors groups, Probuss clubs, bowling clubs, social clubs and lifestyle villages.

Mystery wildflower tours from only \$39 and that includes morning tea. For an ex-

tra \$10 they can also include a tasty lunch as well. Conditions apply.

If you're not a member of a seniors social club then don't worry, individuals are catered for too. There are some great tours coming up for the spring months which are filling very quickly. So book early to avoid disappointment.

All tours are done in luxury coaches and at an enjoyable leisurely pace. There are no strangers at Club 55, just friends you are yet to meet. Phone 1300 653696 or visit our web page [www.club55.net.au](http://www.club55.net.au) where you can view and download brochures and also book and pay for your tours online.

See the advertisement on page 3.

## Grand France River Cruises: Bordeaux and Rhone



GEORGE BOOTH has selected this 18-day Bordeaux and Rhone APT cruise tour departing 20 April 2016 as the ultimate French luxury experience.

APT have fly free offers from Australia until 31 July 2015 on the opening grade and air credits for higher levels starting from \$13,395 per person.

The cruise features the vessels Ama Dolce and Ama Cello with seven nights aboard each connecting with rail travel to link up the cruises.

The tour features outstanding accommodation in Paris for three nights with quality sightseeing inclusions and 44 meals (17 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 15 dinners) with welcome dinner and captain's farewell dinner.

The many walking tours from the vessels feature audio sets to ensure those on the small group walks can easily hear the professional guide comments regardless of proximity.

The signature experiences include dinner and show at Moulin Rouge, Chateau Pape Clement for dinner and Grignan Castle for cocktails plus more with visits along the route that stops over in Cognac, Lilbourne, Saint Emilion, Sautesmes, Cadillac, Arles, Viviers, Tournon, Beaujolais regions and Lyon.

APT have a freedom of choice option on excursions to enable you to experience the outing most suited to you.

This inaugural APT cruise tour promises to meet the expectation of those wanting to experience a luxury visit to France covering the best vineyards France has to offer.

George Booth is an experienced tour operator, who has escorted many small group tours to South East Asia and Europe. For more detailed information and cabin availability contact him on email: [georgebooth@netspace.net.au](mailto:georgebooth@netspace.net.au) or phone: 0419 942 754.



by Jeanette Woolerton

WINTER IN MELBOURNE is a joy to behold, despite what many critics of the cold weather may say. While the external temperatures drop, the internal temperatures heat up significantly.

The warmth and hospitality of Victorian citizens, who open up their hearts and homes to welcome visitors, cannot be overstated.

The city has a distinctly European influence, which is particularly prevalent in the Dandenong Ranges, in Melbourne's outer Eastern region, where German restaurants reign supreme.

However, the hills also offer a Dutch experience via magnificent tulip farms and festivals, as well as a unique, brilliantly executed sculptural world, celebrating Australian artist, William Ricketts, at the unforgettable William Ricketts Sanctuary.

The sanctuary is precisely what its name suggests, a sanctioned space in which to reflect among the giant tree ferns, whose verdant fronds gently embrace Rickett's incredible works of art.

It is open all year round, but it is particularly beautiful in winter, when mists envelope the mountains, creating

## SkyHigh in July

an ethereal, heavenly atmosphere.

Information on the sanctuary can be found at: [www.visitmelbourne.com/Regions/Yarra-Valley-and-Dandenong-Ranges/Things-to-do/Nature-and-wildlife/National-parks-and-reserves/William-Ricketts-Sanctuary.aspx](http://www.visitmelbourne.com/Regions/Yarra-Valley-and-Dandenong-Ranges/Things-to-do/Nature-and-wildlife/National-parks-and-reserves/William-Ricketts-Sanctuary.aspx)

At the summit of these magnificent ranges lies a spectacular statement of modern architecture, The SkyHigh Restaurant.

A circular building consisting of ceiling to floor glass windows, the restaurant offers 180 degree views of the greater Melbourne urban sprawl, while, in the distance, dark silhouettes of the CBD's skyscrapers grace the horizon.

On arrival, you are pleasantly surprised by the fact that there is more to do here than simply watch the sun sink below the city skyline or admire the cerulean blue arch of Victoria's Port Phillip Bay.

The hedge maze (where four stamps are collected on a passport in order to escape) is unique in that it also offers sculptures, illusions and climbing rose bushes along the way.

Then there is the English garden, with its winding gravel paths within a well-established plant paradise.

Arguably, this is the most romantic and ethereal element of the restaurant grounds, complete with a magical wishing tree and Percy Possum's House for the children.

Serious walkers may enjoy tackling the marked trails which meander through the

surrounding native bushland. This is also a great way to walk off some of the exquisite culinary delights offered within the restaurant.

One of the most popular landmarks has to be the Kyeema memorial site, erected where a DC-2 plane crashed into the summit of Mount Dandenong in 1938.

However, the most wonderful experience of this magical wonderland has to be the celebration of Christmas in July, available on selected dates from Monday to Friday in July.

This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy all the delights of a traditional Christmas lunch with live entertainment and trivia, then wander through mist filled English garden settings or test your navigational skills in the maze.

SkyHigh holds the Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance, featuring entertainment by 2014 The Voice contestant and singing sensation, Tahlia Tabone on Saturday, 18 July, from 7pm to 11.30pm.

All proceeds of the dance go to Women's Cancer research and treatment - a special Christmas gift by anyone's standards.

To book tickets for the dance, please refer to:

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/winter-wonderland-christmas-in-july-gala-dinner-dance-for-womens-cancer-tickets-16440510008?aff=eac2](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/winter-wonderland-christmas-in-july-gala-dinner-dance-for-womens-cancer-tickets-16440510008?aff=eac2)

So, why wait until December to spread peace and goodwill? Get in early and let your emotions take you SkyHigh. It is well worth the trip.

## EXTENDED TOURS



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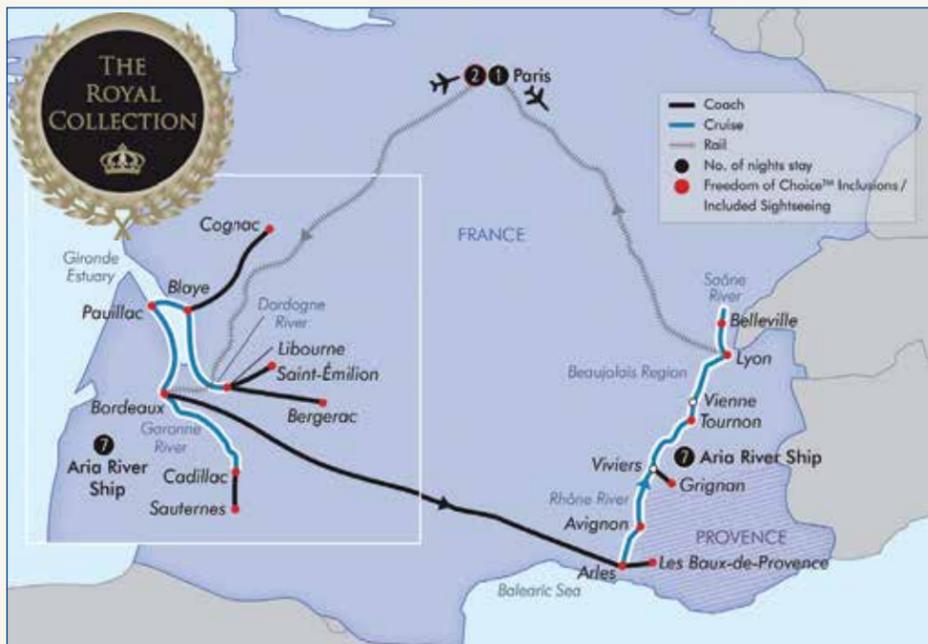
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George Booth brings great knowledge and enthusiasm as an experienced tour leader. He has escorted many tours, worldwide. You are invited to join George as one of a maximum of 21 guests departing Perth 19 April, 2016 and join The Bordeaux & Rhone tour in Paris the following day, returning Paris to Perth on 6 May. George will be with the tour throughout to assist with any special requirements or needs you may have in addition to the exceptional APT top drawer service.



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19 Days Departing Perth 11 August 2016 - Full Itinerary Available FreeCall 1800 066 272

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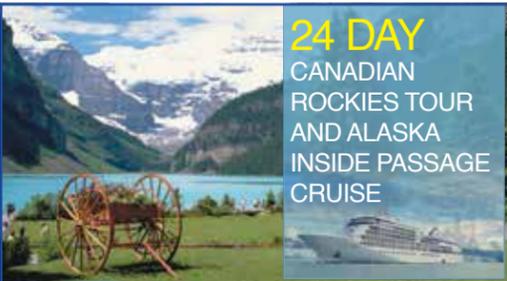
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## New Qantas routes and Cathay reward options make sense for seniors



Qantas planes on the tarmac

by Chris Frame

QANTAS Frequent Flyer has more than 10 million members, and while predominately known as a frequent flyer programme, many of the members make the bulk of their points from their credit cards and other partners such as car hire, supermarkets and hotel stays.

So if like many Australians you're sitting on a healthy balance of Qantas frequent flyer points and wondering what to do with them all, you'll be happy to know that after years of service closures, Australia's national airline is re-establishing itself on the international stage.

The airline, which has seen a dramatic turna-

round in the past year, has announced a number of new flights which is great news for travellers and frequent flyers alike.

### Perth return to Singapore

Starting on 26 June, Qantas resumed Perth to Singapore flights with five-weekly return services utilising Boeing 737 aircraft.

While much smaller than the Airbus A330's that flew this route in years past, Qantas has committed their newest 737's for the service. This means each economy passenger will have access to Qantas' excellent audio video on demand (seat back) inflight entertainment, while business class passengers will have a separate cabin of 12 seats in a 2-2 configuration.

This comes with Neil Perry inspired menus and the trademark Qantas pyjamas as well as a dedicated cabin team to offer a very personalised service for the five hour trek to the lion city.

### San Francisco is back

Another recent announcement is that from December, the red roo will return to San Francisco. This service was dropped some time ago in favour of Dallas-Fort Worth. However San Francisco was a much-loved destination for Aussie tourists and business travellers alike and its return is widely regarded as a positive move.

With the revival of Sydney to San Francisco flights, Qantas travellers can now utilise their frequent flyer points for upgrades and classic award seats on Qantas operated Boeing 747's, which sport a three class cabin. These aircraft have been refurbished with A380 interiors including the latest economy seats, a private premium economy cabin and Qantas' excellent skybed in business class.

The direct services also cut out lengthy and frustrating connections at Los Angeles making it far easier to travel direct to your destination.

### Cathay to Europe

While Qantas partners with Emirates for their European services, many flyers still prefer an

Asian stopover to Dubai. A really great idea for these people with healthy Qantas frequent flyer balances is to grab a Qantas Classic Award seat on Cathay Pacific to Europe.

Through their One World Alliance agreement with Cathay Pacific, Qantas offer daily classic award seats on the Cathay services from Perth to London via Hong Kong, as well as other Cathay destinations such as Paris.

One-way economy seats from Perth start at 75,000 points (plus taxes). For a real treat; business class is 144,000 points (plus taxes) which makes access to one of the world's best business class experiences within reach of many travellers.

### Cathay Business Service

Cathay's business class is excellent, with fully flat bed suites each offering direct aisle access. The beds are long (around 2m) and very private with a host of amenities.

Amenities include a fully reclinable (flat) seat and separate footstool, working table, separate meal tray and a host of environmental controls to manipulate the lighting, television and audio entertainment options.

Each suite has a large LCD screen and a vast array of entertainment options including movies, TV series (including comedy, lifestyle, documentaries) and on the 777 aircraft a live view from the underside of the plane.

Mealtimes are a joy in the Cathay business class cabin with a wide-ranging menu, excellent wine list and personalised service. There are a dedicated and well-trained team of attendants in this cabin who can talk you through the meal choices and help direct you to the best dining options.

There's no doubt that things are looking up for Perth based Qantas frequent flyers, whether you're using your points exploring new destinations travelling on a five-star partner airline.

Stay tuned for more updates as they come from the national carrier.

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# WA's GREAT Outdoors

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WINTER IN THE WEST  
let's gotravelling



Fremantle markets sign, from corner of Parry & William St © Tourism WA

## To market, to market, Perth's markets in focus

ning Road, Waterford, Saturday 7.30am-12.30pm: Stalls offer fresh organic fruit and vegetables, organic meat and fish, organic olives and olive oil, artisan breads, fresh flowers and potted plants, ice-cream, yoghurt and honey.

**Mount Claremont Farmers Market**, Mt Claremont Primary School, 103 Alfred Road, Claremont, Saturday, April to September 8am-noon, October-March 7.30am-11.30am: A fresh produce market for farmers, food producers and chefs to sell farm-origin and associated gourmet food products. Enjoy freshly squeezed juices, French pastries, sausage sizzle, crepes and bacon and eggs while buying fruit and vegetables, fish, meat, poultry, bread and dairy products.

**Leederville Farmers Market**, 663 Newcastle Street, Leederville (opposite the Leederville Hotel), Sunday 8am-12.30pm: WA produce from local farmers and food artisans while enjoying the ambience of open-air markets.

**Perth Home Grown**, Murray Street Mall, Perth Sunday 11am-4pm: This sustainable living market offers wholesome produce and homemade wares in the city. Shop at a weekly changing variety of stalls for local fruit and vegetables, baked bread, honey, plants and flowers, handcrafted gifts and more with free live music.

**Perth Upmarket**, Win-

throp Hall, University of WA, four Sundays a year, 10am-4pm: The market brings together more than 150 of Perth's most talented artists, designers, craftsmen and gourmets food beneath the one roof. Free entry.

**Fremantle Fremantle Markets**, corner of Henderson Street and South Terrace, Fremantle Friday 8am-8pm, Saturday, Sunday and Monday public holiday 8am-6pm: Smell the unique aromas of fresh produce and exotic flavours and see the fusion of music, art and culture in a special Fremantle setting. Visit The Hall for general merchandise and dining and The Yard for organic fresh produce (find out more [www.fremantle-markets.com.au/](http://www.fremantle-markets.com.au/))

**E-Shed Markets**, E Shed, Victoria Quay, Fremantle Friday 9am-5.30pm, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 9am-5.30pm: Food court open to 8pm. Stalls include fresh produce, a beautician, the Australian Bush Shed, Prestige Sheepskin, Heart of Steel Metalcraft, numerology, tarot and psychic readings. A range of food includes Indian, Japanese, Italian and a carvery.

**Growers Green Farmers Market**, lawns of South Terrace Senior High School, Beaconsfield, every Sunday 8am-noon: Live music, hot food fair-trade coffee, fresh juices and goodies. Run by the school's P & C. Profit

helps students and school programs.

**Palmyra Primary School**, 60 McKinnie Street, Palmyra Sunday 8am-noon: Fresh fruit and vegetables, seafood, honey, olive oil, pickles and preserves. Fresh food direct from the farm gate to the community.

**Mad Hatter Markets**, Kings Square, Fremantle Wednesday to Sunday 9am-5pm: A wide array of art and crafts, fresh local produce, organic coffee, breakfast or lunch. Music from local artists.

**Princess May Night Market**: Held every Friday evening through summer in the park next to Clancy's Fish Pub, Fremantle. Delicious food stalls, jewellery and clothing, vintage and retro finds, fresh produce, great atmosphere, free photo booths plus Clancy's live music on stage.

**Peel district Jarrahdale Country Markets**, fire station, Munro Street, Jarrahdale fourth Sunday of each month except Christmas 8am-1pm: Country produce, art and craft, fresh fruit, vegetables, home produce, home-made wooden items, bric-a-brac and sausage sizzle.

**Mundijong Markets and Auctions**, Lot 1, Evelyn Street, Mundijong, first and third Wednesday of the month, 7.30am-11am: Typical rural markets with all manner of livestock and ani-

mals for sale. In season fruit and vegetables from local producers. Free entry, stalls start from 7.30am, auction 11am, markets open 9am.

**Mandurah Boardwalk Farmers Markets**, boardwalk, Mandjar Square, Mandjar Bay, Sundays 8am-noon: Fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs, fish and bread, animal treats, children's activities and live music.

**Boddington Community Markets**, Boddington Old School, 20 Bannister Road, Boddington, first Sunday of

the month, 9am-noon: Wonderful variety of produce, enjoy pancakes made by Pancake Mammias, bacon and egg sandwiches from the Lions Club or enjoy a massage. **Peel Farmers Markets**. **Winter**: Peel Education and Training Campus, Education Drive, Greenfields summer: Western Foreshore, Leighton Road, Mandurah, winter: Sunday 9am-1pm, summer Sunday 8am-noon: Locally grown products with a wide range of goods.

continued on page 24

by Josephine Allison

PERTH has an ever-increasing number of weekend markets which are proving a big attraction year round selling everything from hand-made jewellery and art to clothing and organic produce.

Perhaps it's because of our growing population and a desire to return to basics.

There's nothing more pleasant than spending a leisurely Saturday, Sunday or Monday public holiday buying up produce or perhaps browsing for a special piece of jewellery while enjoying a coffee.

Perth website [www.experienceperth.com](http://www.experienceperth.com) has an excellent, up-to-date list of markets from north, south and east as well as more great ideas for things to see and do in Perth and surrounds.

Their list of markets include:

**Perth City Canning Vale Markets**, Bannister Road, Sunday 7am-2pm: Canning Vale has WA's biggest undercover

market, with more than 1000 stalls selling new and second-hand goods including furniture, clothing, fashion accessories, books, war memorabilia, compact discs, toys and gifts. There are also a big range of food stalls. A minimal entry fee.

**Perth City Farm Place**, 1 City Farm Place, East Perth, Saturday 8am-noon, café Monday-Friday 7am-3pm: These outdoor markets attract organic or biodynamic growers with workshops for adults and children for cooking and gardening, creating a hands-on experience.

**Subiaco Farmers Markets**, Subiaco Primary School, 271 Bagot Road, Subiaco, Saturday 8am-12.30pm: Fresh quality fresh produce from the grower, seafood, meat, dairy products, bread, olive oil, nuts, honey and preserves. Breakfast and morning tea, gluten-free bread and cakes, additive-free preserves.

**Farmers Market on Manning**, Clontarf campus, Curtin University, 295 Man-

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The Eco Abrolhos conducts five-day tours at the Abrolhos Islands

NEVER BEFORE has there been this sort of comfort offered on a mini cruise ship. The Eco Abrolhos conducts five-day tours at the Abrolhos Islands, some 60 kilometres off the coast of Geraldton in Western Australia. The tours are suited to all ages.

The operators of the Eco Abrolhos have been living and working around the amazing Abrolhos Islands for more than 30 years and provide tourists with a unique opportunity to experience this superb part of Australia's coral coast.

The vessel has four decks and is 35m in length, has 19 en-suite fully air-conditioned cabins, saloon bar, top deck bar and large entertainment area with 360 degree viewing, large dining area and very comfortable relaxed lounge room to sit and read

a book.

There are many outdoor areas on the boat to sit and take in the sights and enjoy the Indian Ocean's glory.

The archipelago is composed of 122 islands which is made up of three groups of islands – the Wallaby, Easter and Pelsaert group. Many are occupied by fishermen during the West Australian rock-lobster season.

These islands cover 100km of ocean from north to south. It's a meeting place for tropical and temperate sea life. The islands have spectacular coral outcrops with whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions and all manner of marine life in abundance.

The birdlife is amazing with more than 90 common and rare species identified. It is home to millions of migrating seabirds and contains the world's largest populations of sea birds including the lesser noddy. It is often cited as the world's most important sea bird breeding colony.

The five-day tours include these nature based activities, pearl farm tour, Batavia history tour, snorkelling, glass bottom boat viewing, fishing, squidding, island exploring, fish feeding, cray fishing (seasonal), watching – whales (seasonal), sea lions, dolphins, birds and a 12m tender boat for other activities.

## Cruise the Abrolhos in style

The journey starts from Geraldton to the islands and cruises passed the frolicking whales during winter when they are migrating to warmer waters. Spectacular views of them can be seen from our upper decks.

On the back deck fish for bait and squid while watching the schools of fish dance in the spot light. School sharks and dolphins also come in chasing the bait fish and squid for their dinner.

The vessel anchors up in smooth protected waters surrounded by reefs and islands which at night time is ablaze with sea life. Watch the dolphins play near the boat while the sun touches the water.

The islands are remote and unspoilt, offering an opportunity to absolutely switch off and unwind. Over the course of the five day cruise people have the opportunity to fish as well as drop and pull up the cray pots (seasonal), and eat them fresh for lunch or dinner cooked to perfection by the fabulous on-board chef.

If people would like to visit Trip Advisor they can read reviews of previous passengers who have experienced the tours to the Abrolhos Islands first hand. Also visit the website [www.ecoabrolhos.com.au](http://www.ecoabrolhos.com.au) for more detailed information or people are welcome to contact the office on 9964 5101 for any queries.

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## To market, to market, Perth's markets in focus

by Josephine Allison  
continued from page 23

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WINTER SPECIAL: STAY for 4 PAY for 3

**Serpentine Country Markets**, Clem Kentish Oval, Wellard Street, Serpentine, first Sunday of each month 9am-2pm: Wide range of arts and crafts, jams, preserves, pickles and honey, children's activities, food and coffee stalls, picnic grounds. Stall cost \$10.

**Northern and Eastern suburbs**

**Wanneroo Markets**, 33 Prindville Drive, Wangara Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday public holidays 9am-5pm: More than 180 stalls offer everything from fresh produce to souvenirs, crafts, fashion, gifts and novelties. A food court has hot and cold foods. There is a bakery and fish market.

**Hillarys Markets**, Hillarys Boat Harbour Saturday, 9am-8pm, October to June: The

warmer weather attracts many people to these unique markets. View the work of local artisans, creators, grower and sample local gourmet food.

**Mardi Gras Markets**, Beach Road, Malaga, Friday to Sunday, 9am-6pm: These lively markets are one of the most popular food markets around. They sell a big amount of fresh fruit, vegetables and seafood while stalls have many local delicacies.

**Poynter Farmers Market**, Poynter Primary School, Poynter Drive, Duncraig, every second Saturday, 9am-noon: Loaded with fresh local produce, these small markets have rainbow carrots, silver-beet, sweet mangoes, berries and bananas. There are also fresh breads, pastries, cakes, chutneys, herbs and flowers.

**Old Perth Road Markets**, corner Guildford Road and Old Perth Road, Bassendean, last Sunday of the month 9am-1.30pm, in December open last Sunday before Christmas: Located opposite Bassendean train station, these markets showcase local produce and craft. Local artists perform live on stage. Visit [www.old-perthroadmarkets.com.au](http://www.old-perthroadmarkets.com.au)

**Midland Farmers Markets**, behind town hall clock, Old Great Northern Highway, Midland, Sunday and public holidays, 7am-3pm: Established for more than 30 years and the second oldest in Perth, these iconic markets sell fruit and vegetables, plants, jams and pickles, pet supplies, accessories, fashion and more. On the third Sunday of each month local artists display their works at an art rodeo and hold free workshops. Visit [www.midlandfarmersmarket.com.au/](http://www.midlandfarmersmarket.com.au/)

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## Going fishing even in winter...



Winter tailor on a popper from the rocks

by Mike Roennfeldt

THERE ARE some rocks near my home where every now and then I wander down with spinning gear and toss a popper around for half an hour or so. Sometimes I catch a tailor, sometimes I don't; never more than two and most often none. But it's close and easy and it's been a favourite lit-

tle secret for many years.

The fish can be there at any time of the year although winter is usually better. This year I hoped there would be a salmon or two passing through but it didn't happen, at least while I was on the spot. Like most inshore tailor spots, first and last light are the prime times and the best thing about it is that I invariably have the

place to myself unless my son comes along.

We gave it a try a few evenings back but it was wiped out by swells and pretty much unfishable. Next evening, the swells had dropped and it looked perfect as I wandered down, alone this time. It looked so good that I took a photo and messaged it to my son. Less than 15 minutes later I sent him another photo, this time of a nice tailor in a rock pool just before release. Don't you just love the modern technology that allows you to do this sort of thing.

Actually the fish was a little unlucky. Where I fish there is a flat reef in front that is exposed by receding waves at the lower end of the tide. In these situations you have to wait for a small wave to surf the popper in over the otherwise exposed rocks. It was while I was waiting for a few seconds, with the popper bobbing quietly in the wash just off

the reef edge, that it was smashed from below.

There are few thrills in fishing to beat the surface explosion of a popper getting hit, especially if the hit is followed by the fish jumping clear of the water several times as this one did. I don't like eating tailor much, they are too soft for my taste, but I love the fight from a good one and it keeps me coming back for more. It's not far removed from barramundi fever, where people simply get addicted to catching a particular spectacular fish.

Well, I brought the fish in over the reef on the back of a wave and led it into a rock pool for a couple of photos before releasing it into another receding wave. It was such a satisfying little session that saw me back home within 40 minutes of leaving.

Winter fishing may not be everybody's cup of tea but it sure has its moments.

## Bicton Travel announces 2015 Cruise Expo

MORE THAN 30 Experts from over 40 cruise lines will take part in WA's premier Cruise Expo on 8 August giving advice to potential cruise passengers. The not-to-be-missed event will be hosted by Bicton Travel, celebrating 17 years as one of WA's leading cruise agencies and voted AFTA Travel Agent of the Year 2014 and CLIA Australia Cruise Agency of

the Year in 2014, 2013, 2011 and 2010.

Entry is free. The Expo will feature some amazing exclusive expo specials, cruise seminars and the chance to win some great door prizes. New bookings made at the Cruise Expo also go into the draw to win a Singapore Airlines flights to Europe for two.

The Expo will be held at the B-Shed Fremantle, Victoria Quay, Peter Hughes Drive, Fremantle Port, from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 8 August. Great public transport is available. Why not take the train to Fremantle and then Fremantle's free CAT bus to the Maritime Museum, just metres from the B-Shed. Pay and display parking also available onsite.

For further information call 9339 0277.

## Looking for a holiday and travel inspiration?

LOOK NO FURTHER – as one of Western Australia's leading tour companies Villa Carlotta Travel will be conducting three informative travel sessions at the State Library of Western Australia during July.

Discover a huge range of world-wide and Australian holiday experiences. From intimate small group adventures to crossing great oceans of the world there is a huge variety on show. Meet the team behind Villa Carlotta Travel, mingle with regular Villa travellers and enjoy a great breadth of holidays on the following free travel information sessions:

### 2016 Great Ocean Cruises

The presentation features: Holland America cruises to the Panama Canal, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean, Iceland and Norway.

Thursday 30 July, 9.30am – 10.30am.

### 2016 International Holidays

Featuring: New Zealand, Singapore Flower Festival, Africa and Mauritius.

Thursday 30 July, 11am - 12pm.

### 2015 and 2016 Small Group Adventures

Featuring: Lord Howe and Tasmania's King and Flinders Island, Abrolhos Islands Eco Cruise and China.

Thursday 30 July, 1pm - 2pm.

All sessions held at the State Library of Western Australia (Theatre).

Booking essential RSVP FreeCall 1800 066 272 or email holidays@villa.com.au

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## Family history feast in August

BEGINNING and experienced family history hunters are in for a feast of events with the celebration of National Family History Month in August across Australia.

An exciting month of activities is planned in Perth by the Western Australian Genealogical Society (WAGS).

There will be two days of free talks on family history with a theme of helping people learn how to conduct research and where to find the records they need. All fourteen talks will be held at the State Library on Tuesday 4 August (9.30am - 7pm) and Wednesday 5 August (9.30am - 4pm).

Topics to be covered: WAGS and World War I projects, Keeping your History Safe, Storylines, Study of a Convict Guard, Digital Resources at the State Library, Sikhs in WA, Military Records, Overseas Research, DNA testing for Genealogists, APPs for Family history plus more.

WAGS volunteers will be available to assist you with your research.

WAGS will have several free events throughout August at its library, Units 4-6, 48 May Street in Bayswater starting with a lunchtime talk Google and Genealogy on Monday 10 August (noon) and then followed with a two hour talk Getting Started with your Family History on Thursday 13 August (10am) and then an orientation talk Discover the resources available at WAGS on Wednesday 19 August (10am).

At the State Library you can have tours of the Genealogy Centre and Battye Library plus digital microfilm scanner training on Thursday 6 August. There are three presentations on Wednesday 12 August - an interesting talk Irish of WA plus two practical talks showing you how to get the best out of ancestry and newspapers.

To finish the month of activities, an Open Day for the public will be held at the WAGS Library between 10am and 4pm on Sunday 23 August. This is a free

event with visitors able to speak to experienced family historians and to explore the vast resources of the library's IT and electronic records and the vast book stock covering countries around the world.

WAGS can provide assistance to people research-

ing in most regions of the world and has extensive collections on the United Kingdom and Australia plus Europe and Asia.

Full program details and event booking arrangements are on [www.wags.org.au](http://www.wags.org.au) and [www.slwa.wa.gov.au](http://www.slwa.wa.gov.au) For events Aus-

tralia-wide and a chance to win some fabulous prizes visit [www.familyhistory-month.org.au](http://www.familyhistory-month.org.au)

Please contact me if you would like any further information, Liana Fitzpatrick president@wags.org.au T: 9246 3354 or M: 0414 412 035.

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Yalgoo Visitor Information  
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Yalgoo Caravan Park, Gibbons Street Yalgoo  
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You can meet and speak with our experienced, knowledgeable and caring Tour Managers. Everyone who attends will go in to the draw to WIN a night at the Crowne Promenade including breakfast and two tickets to see the Lion King in Perth.

**Jenny Page Franceschi**  
Managing Director, Kings Tours & Travel

## Mandurah

**Date:** Tuesday 28th July  
**Time:** 2:00pm - 4:00pm  
**Place:** Ac-cent Mandurah  
41 Ormsby Terrace, Mandurah WA

## Perth

**Date:** Wednesday 29th July  
**Time:** 2:30pm - 4:30pm  
**Place:** Miss Maud's  
97 Murray Street, Perth WA

**RSVP:** Spaces are limited so please call 9380 6656 to reserve your seat now!

**Cost:** \$5 with all proceeds to the Tabitha Foundation; Supporting over 33,000 families in their journey for a better life.

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- ✓ Kings Tour Manager Ken Austin
- ✓ Return economy airfares and taxes
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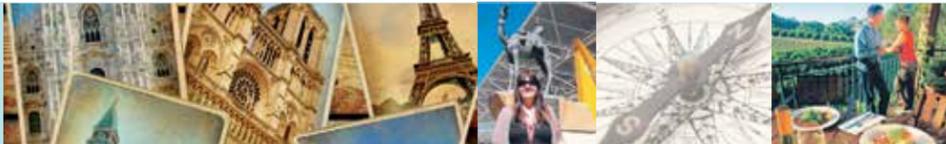
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ADVERTISING FEATURE



## London's newest tourist idea on track for a great experience



Left; During WWI when work stopped on construction of the unique railway, its platforms and tunnels were used for safe-keeping of priceless museum and art gallery treasures. Right; Artist's impression of how the new mail rail train experience could look when it opens in 2020  
All images British Postal Museum and Archives.

by David Ellis

A RAILWAY that ran for 76 years beneath the streets of

London, twenty hours a day, seven days a week, is planned to become a major new tourist attraction for train buffs

and the simply curious – even though it never carried a single passenger during a working lifetime that ended a

dozen years ago. With its own tunnels separate to London's famous tube, this railway was the brainchild

of the Post Office to move mail between Whitechapel, in the city's East End, and Paddington 10.5km away in the west, doing so much more speedily than along the already hopelessly congested city streets.

First mooted in the latter part of the 1800s, construction of the Post Office Railway – soon known simply as the Mail Rail – began in February of 1915, with its narrow 2.7m diameter tunnels being dug 21 metres below street level and lined with pre-assembled iron tubes.

Two tracks, one running east and one west, were then to be laid inside these, but with a shortage of manpower and materials due to the First World War, work stopped in 1917 just two years after commencement, and it was to be another seven before it was to resume.

During this pause the tunnels were still put to good use: the British Museum and the Tate and National Portrait

Galleries used them to store irreplaceable treasures they feared could be lost in German bombing raids.

Finally in early December 1927 the line was opened for the world's first driverless electric trains, initially carrying Christmas-rush parcels only, and from February 1928 letters as well.

Stations along the line – at Bird and Wimpole Streets and Rathbone Place in the west, New Oxford Street, Mount Pleasant in Islington for the principal mail sorting centre, and then King Edward and Liverpool Streets in the East – were shallower than the main part of the line, so there was less distance for parcels and mailbags to be lifted to street-level.

As well, 1-in-20 gradients into and out of these stations assisted in slowing the remotely-controlled driverless trains on arrival, and in speeding them away on departure.

At the height of their service the little mail rail trains and the 220 staff who worked in the tunnels with them shifted 12 million parcels and letters a day... 84,000,000 a week, four billion a year, with some 70 of the driverless trains rattling along the narrow gauge (610mm) tracks at speeds of up to 35kph.

And in 1991 the tunnels and a train were mocked-up to represent a fictional railway beneath the Vatican in the Bruce Willis movie, *Hudson Hawk*.

Then in early 2003 the Post Office abruptly announced the end of the mail rail, saying it was five times more costly to maintain the service

than to use road transport. On 31 May 2003 the trains made their last runs after 76 years.

A small staff was retained both to maintain the tunnels for safety reasons and to act in a security role stopping would-be vandals, graffiti sprayers and others trying to get into the tunnels, and the trains were simply left where they'd made their last runs.

Train buffs, however, never gave up on bombarding London's Islington Council with a constant flow of ideas to get the little mail rail running again, and finally it gave approval for a £5 million (AU\$9.8m) redevelopment of the Mount Pleasant station and mail sorting centre. That will include a postal museum to open in 2016, and a kilometre of original mail rail track to be restored to carry tourists from 2020.

Those tourists will ride in converted original mail wagons that will be fitted with seats and roofs – the latter for safety reasons – and will hear the history of the mail rail as they travel through the kilometre of re-opened narrow tunnels.

The museum to be developed by the British Postal Museum and Archive will feature 400 years of Britain's mail services history. Highlights will include original telegrams from the *Titanic*, pistols used in 19th century stage-coach robberies, court evidence from The Great Train Robbery, mail service photos and posters, and historic pillar boxes in various shapes and sizes.

And for philatelists, there is a priceless stamp collection to drool over.

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**DAY 2** Pemberton and the natural swimming pool for morning tea, some free time in town. Back to Manjimup for a picnic lunch in the park and free time to shop, visit the Timber Museum, visit to the Cherry Farm, sample cherries, purchase 1kg up to 5kg boxes.

**DAY 3** Depart Manjimup, stop at Donnybrook for morning tea, then onto Cicerellos in Mandurah for a 3-course lunch. Back to Perth arriving approx 3pm-3.30pm.

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## Girls On Tour offer a variety of new destinations for guests

AS CLIENTS come back for more, founder and tour escort Judy Polkinghorne continues to add new destinations to the Girls On Tour touring calendar.

In July, ladies will take off for Scandinavia for the first time and in 2016 there will be two more additions, China and India.

Jenny from Muecha has toured with Girls On Tour since 2010. She had this to say about her 2010 trip to Egypt with Girls On Tour:

“Judy, without a doubt the holiday was superb, and I very much enjoyed the combination of sight-seeing and relaxation. You did an excellent job organising the trip and you now have an un-official sales rep as I am telling anyone who listens that they should be contacting your company.”  
Judy and her travellers prepare for oth-

er adventures in 2015 including returning to Spain, Portugal and Morocco and also The Balkans.

A new addition to the Experience France trip in November will be the inclusion of Christmas markets in Switzerland, Germany and France.

Girls On Tour is a women-only travel business designed to offer women the chance to travel with other like-minded women in a small group environment.

Judy has been taking tours since 2007 and has now taken ladies from all states and territories across Australia to 39 countries including Antarctica, Galapagos, Egypt, Italy, France, Croatia, South America and many more.

Contact Judy on 0409 057 417 or [info@girlsontour.com.au](mailto:info@girlsontour.com.au) for more details.

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Marvel at the newest and third ship in the Quantum Class, Ovation of the Seas. Featuring the same ground-breaking venues as its sister ship, Quantum of the Seas, this ship is continuing to take cruisers to new heights. Making its debut in 2016, Ovation will offer guests a variety of activities, entertainment and dining options.



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25% OFF travel insurance



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### 20 NIGHT FLY, STAY & CRUISE

Cruise Departs 10 May 2016

**CRUISE VISITS:** Barcelona / Rome / Naples / Athens / Suez Canal passage / Aqaba, Jordan / Dubai

**FLY:** Return Airfare with Singapore Airlines

**PRE-CRUISE:** 2 nights in Barcelona, H10 Casanova 4\* with breakfast daily

**CRUISE:** 16 nights onboard **Ovation of the Seas** Barcelona to Dubai (Cruise includes all meals, entertainment, port charges, taxes and prepaid gratuities)

**POST-CRUISE:** 2 nights in Dubai, Novotel Al Barsha 4\* with breakfast daily

**BALCONY CABIN** from \$4,959pp

## DUBAI TO SINGAPORE

### 18 NIGHT FLY, STAY & CRUISE

Cruise Departs 26 May 2016

**CRUISE VISITS:** Dubai / Muscat, Oman / Cochin, India / Penang / Singapore

**FLY:** Return Airfare with Singapore Airlines

**PRE-CRUISE:** 2 nights in Dubai, Novotel Al Barsha 4\* with breakfast daily

**CRUISE:** 14 nights onboard **Ovation of the Seas** Dubai to Singapore (Cruise includes all meals, entertainment, port charges, taxes and prepaid gratuities)

**POST-CRUISE:** 2 nights in Singapore, Grand Copthorne Waterfront 4\* with breakfast daily

**BALCONY CABIN** from \$3,669pp

## SINGAPORE TO BEIJING

### 16 NIGHT FLY, STAY & CRUISE

Cruise Departs 12 Jun 2016

**CRUISE VISITS:** Singapore / Ho Chi Minh (Phu My), Vietnam / Hong Kong (overnight) / Okinawa, Japan / Seoul (Incheon), South Korea

**FLY:** Return Airfare with Singapore Airlines

**PRE-CRUISE:** 2 nights in Singapore, Grand Copthorne Waterfront 4\* with breakfast daily

**CRUISE:** 12 nights onboard **Ovation of the Seas** Singapore to Beijing (Cruise includes all meals, entertainment, port charges, taxes and prepaid gratuities)

**POST-CRUISE:** Arrival transfer port to hotel.  
2 nights in Beijing Crowne Plaza Wangfujing 4\* with breakfast daily  
Day tour to Great Wall with lunch

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# WA's GREAT Outdoors

CARAVANNING • CAMPING • ACCOMMODATION

# WA WILDFLOWERS

let's gotravelling

## June rains guarantee great wildflowers for Kalbarri



Murchison rose

KALBARRI is known as the most diverse area for wildflowers in WA. It has had excellent June rainfall to set up one of the best wildflower seasons in a long time. June has notched up nearly 80 mm or over three

inches of rain in this often harsh dry area of our state. The township as well as the National Park will be ablaze for months to come with a unique and diverse collection of WA wildflowers.

There are known to be

more than 1,000 different wildflower species in and around the Kalbarri through the main season of late June to October. Some of the best known wildflowers are: everlasting daisies in open fields, Thyrptomene, Acacias (flower early up north), Melaleucas, Calytrix, many species of native orchids for those who want to look carefully, kangaroo paws (WA's floral emblem), Murchison rose (named after the magnificent Murchison River which flows into the Indian Ocean at Kalbarri), Banksias, Hakeas, Grevilleas (one species of Grevillea famous in Kalbarri for its scent is commonly known as smelly socks Grevillea), Verticordia (Feather Flower) and Geraldton Wax – to name just a few.

Kalbarri is such a great winter and spring destina-

tion for people with warmer days and mild nights. The whole town is almost a resort in itself with everything within walking distance. It has quaint little shops, various restaurants and coffee shops, pelican feeding daily on the foreshore and plenty to do further afield if you want to get active and explore the National Park gorges or coastal cliffs. Or why not take a cruise up the river or take a short trip down the coast to Rainbow Jungle the famous Kalbarri Parrot Habitat?

If people are thinking of using their annual seniors free TransWA coach pass to Kalbarri why not stay at one of the best Kalbarri resorts, in Porter Street just next to the town centre. This wildflowers season Kalbarri Edge Resort which is four-star luxury has a special seniors deal on a king size self-contained spa suite for \$66 per person per night and just next door the three-star Palm Resort has a special on a standard twin or double room with kitchenette at \$49 per person per night. Both these deals for seniors include free daily continental restaurant breakfast and also courtesy bus transfers to and from your TransWA coach. Contact the resorts direct to get availability and further details. Remember this deal must be booked during July to get the above special rate on accommodation and free breakfasts.

People must book during July to get this special deal. Travel any time up until 20 December.

Contact Edge Resort 1800 286 155 email info@kalbarriedge.com.au or Palm Resort 1800 819 029 email stay@palmresort.com.au.

Kalbarri: "You'll love it" as the regular visitors are often heard saying.

## West Australian wildflowers are nearly here

VILLA CARLOTTA is offering a great selection of wildflower tours for 2015 featuring onboard wildflower guides. Departing from Perth aboard a luxury villa coach, Villa's professional coach drivers and tour leaders give people an enjoyable and hassle free wildflower holiday experience.

Here is just a sample of the many wildflower holidays on offer:

Join a magical four day holiday to Cervantes to enjoy a land of natural beauty. Day trips from your accommodation at Cervantes Pinnacles Motel will take people into the Lesueur and Badgingarra National Parks in search of the wildflowers. The holiday also includes the stromatolites of Lake Thetis, the world famous pinnacles of Nambung National Park and Coomberdale Wildflower Farm.

Four days – departing 11 October.

Enjoy a short break highlighting our beautiful southern Wheatbelt. Staying in Hyden each night visit the famous Wave Rock and Hippo's Yawn, step inside the Wildflower Shoppe, explore Lake Grace and Cabinatta Yabbies and travel the Tin Horse Highway.

Four days – departing 26 October.

Overnight in Geraldton to view the carpets of everlastings in the Coalseam Conservation Park, explore landmarks of Geraldton and Mullewa, explore rural hamlets in the Chapman Valley, visit historic Northampton and enjoy a feature dinner at the Historic Hampton Arms Hotel.

Five days – departing 25 August and 14 September.

Spend three glorious days in the south west to experience the beautiful range of wildflowers exhibited at the Busselton Uniting Church 90th Annual Wildflower Exhibit. Touring also includes the towns of Brunswick Junction and Dunsborough.

Three days – departing 30 September.

As one of WA's leading travel companies Villa Carlotta Travel offers 140 world-wide holidays including many great Australian holiday destinations and experiences.

For full details on Villa's wildflower holidays FreeCall 1800 066 272 or email holidays@villa.com.au. Alternatively contact Villa for their free holiday planner which features 60+ holidays including their classic holidays, small group adventures and exclusive solo traveller holidays.

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**13-16 AUGUST 2015**  
9AM TO 4PM DAILY  
*'Night in the Garden'*

*Special guests include:*  
INDIRA NAIDOO  
SABRINA HAHN  
NEVILLE PASSMORE  
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## Hidden Treasures BLOOM Festival

2015 11 SEPTEMBER - 12 OCTOBER  
Presented by **Act-Belong-Commit**

Feast your eyes on amazing wildflowers and wide open landscapes this spring in the Great Southern. Attend a Bloom Festival event or take one of our many bush walks. The options are endless...

For more information visit  
[www.hiddentreasures.com.au](http://www.hiddentreasures.com.au)  
or call 9827 1635

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**Includes:**

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info@kalbarriedge.com.au  
1800 286 155

## Heritage Perth presents a history of our secret gardens



AS PART of the 2015 Walk & Talk Series, Heritage Perth is giving people the chance to take an historical journey through the magnificent parks and gardens of the City of Perth.

Presented by Alan Dolphin, a man who, for more than 40 years, has managed, cared for, and, at times, lived within the city gardens, this will be a 'must not miss' event for gardeners, garden lovers, and peo-

ple who simply enjoy the peace of a green space.

Alan Dolphin is a technical officer within the City of Perth's Arboriculture and Horticultural Parks and Landscape Services unit. Starting in 1975 as a trainee (Certificate for Horticulture), Alan became Curator of Queens Gardens in 1987 where he chose to remain for 12 years. As part of this role, he had the unique privilege of living in the Curators Cottage, located in the north-east corner of the Gardens. Alan has long moved from the cottage, but has remained with the City's Parks and Gardens service where he has seen significant change over the years inspiring a great

sense of personal pride in his and the City's achievements.

Alan will share his insights on a verbal and visual meander through the parks and gardens including discussions about Stirling Gardens through the boom times, the infill years, and into the renewal era.

He will also talk about the value of green space – particularly the dollar value of trees – and the City of Perth's inspirational Urban Forest Plan.

If anything and everything in the horticultural world delights excites and interests you, don't miss this free Walk & Talk event.

A History of our Secret Gardens at Northbridge Piazza Community Building Corner Lake and James Streets on 22 July, 12.30pm.

Bookings are essential as places are limited. Visit [heritageperth.com](http://heritageperth.com)

Follow Heritage Perth on [www.facebook.com/HeritagePerth](http://www.facebook.com/HeritagePerth) and [Twitter.com/heritageperth](http://Twitter.com/heritageperth)

## Go On a Bus

*Specialising in groups and clubs*

**3 DAY WILDFLOWER TOURS**  
9-11 or 15-17 September  
\$480pp twin share  
Includes 2 nights accommodation;  
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Includes 2 nights accommodation; all meals;  
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in the Bush Festival (Concert additional cost)

**WHEATBELT EXPERIENCE 3 DAY TOUR**  
13-15 October (more dates opening soon)  
\$500pp twin share  
Includes all meals; visiting many wheatbelt locations  
and attractions. Limited to 12 passengers per tour.

Individuals or couples welcome.  
Central City Pickup locations.  
Call the office for detailed itinerary.

Go On a Bus offers a number of different group tours, contact us for your next group outing. Pickup is from your club location.

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# WA's GREAT Outdoors

CARAVANNING • CAMPING • ACCOMMODATION

# WA WILDFLOWERS

let's gotravelling

## Time to start thinking wildflowers

SEPTEMBER and October are great for wildflowers in this wonderful state of Western Australia.

People can be assured of having a great time on wildflower tours organised by Fun-seeker Tours. Being in the touring business for 18 years there are some secret spots that year after year give a lovely showing of wildflowers.

September takes them to Cranbrook for their wildflower display. Albany is the base for this tour and each day they travel to places like The Gap and Natural Bridge, Whale World and Middleton Beach, viewing wildflowers en route. They visit Two Peoples Bay and Cheyne Beach to see a very diverse range of flowers. Kojonup and Williams will also feature in this tour and remember it is all inclusive of home pick up and return morning teas, lunches and

## Looking for a travel companion?

THEN take advantage of the free listing which may provide people with an opportunity to find a like-minded travel companion.

When submitting a listing, please print clearly and limit the entry to no more than 35 words. Telephone numbers or addresses will be kept confidential in a similar format to the one we use for our Friend to Friend service, but for reader convenience it will feature in the travel section each month. If people wish they can use the coupon from the Friend to Friend page.

Please send your details to Travel Companions, C/o Have a Go News PO Box 1042 West Leederville 6901. Please include a self addressed stamped envelope and quote the box number in the reply clearly and mark this first on the envelope and send to Travel Companions Reply Box C/- Have a Go News PO Box 1042 West Leederville 6901 we will send out your replies at the end of each month. Please ensure all replies are marked clearly with the box number.

**Box Number 140**

Lady globetrotter WLTMS retired gent who would like to share some fun and adventure.

evening meals.

October takes people to the beautiful Cape region around Geopraphe Bay. Visit flowers in Donnybrook, Ambergate, Rosa Brook and Carbanup Reserve. Other visits include in and around Gracetown

then travel to Boranup Hol-low. Leeuwin Lighthouse (where the Indian and Southern Oceans meet) is always a great visit.

Give Sharon a call on 1300 660 668 for further details.

### BEACHSIDE PREVELLY VILLAS

*Five spotless holiday homes located in Margaret River, some with ocean views.*  
*Easy walks / access to pristine dog beaches*  
*Priced from \$170 per night*  
*Opposite local store and cafe*

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### Busselton Guest House - BEDS BY THE BAY

Situated just one kilometre from Busselton's bustling town centre and two streets from magical Geopraphe Bay. Stroll along the beautiful, pristine beaches of the bay to the town's historic jetty. Relax in the warm, inviting spa set amongst the lovingly tended gardens.

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**for two people**  
**Stay for 3 & pay for 2**  
**includes full cooked breakfast**

## Experience a day tour like never before...

### Day tours from \$75

*Tour includes homemade morning tea and minimum of 2 course lunch (some tours include a 3 course lunch).*

# Elite TOURS

**Call Elite Tours on 9314 2170**  
**www.elitetours.net.au**

## Mature women want to be adventurous

THIS month, *Have a Go News* spoke with the founder of Adventurous Women, Sue Hile.

Sue formed Adventurous Women in early 2008 to cater for the needs of women over the age of 40, who were looking for group travel opportunities where they could challenge themselves mentally, physically or both, within a safe and supportive environment.

Sue, who was 43 years old when she started the company, was at a crossroads in her life and was able to push through this challenging time, by taking a sabbatical from her marriage, family and every day life to travel.

She always felt she had some gypsy in her soul. Over the years, without realising, she'd completely lost any connection with that part of her, which left her feeling restless and depressed.

She knew that travelling away from her loved ones and everyday comforts would be challenging, however, it would allow her the space and time she needed to clear her head and work out what she wanted from the next phase of

her life.

After months away, feeding her soul and meeting many like-minded women on her travels, Sue realised how fortunate she'd been to have had this opportunity and wanted to share her experiences with other women who may benefit. That was the beginning of her Adventurous Women travel company.

Adventurous Women tours always have a female tour manager escorting the groups on all tours and as they're WA based, clients have the opportunity to meet up prior to committing to travelling with them.

Most of the clients are solo travellers so the company does not charge a single supplement but works on a rotating roster for accommodation.

This means that at every different hotel, guests get to share with a different member of the group. This provides an opportunity for group bonding and alleviating any annoyances which may occur from staying with the same person each night.

The tours factor adequate down time

into the itineraries, so that guests are not constantly on the go. This provides an opportunity for the women to relax and reflect during their trip.

The walking holidays are fully supported and there is comfortable accommodation with excellent meals and of course catering for all dietary requirements and no carrying of heavy backpacks.

The price of the tours is very competitive and therefore affordable to a wide range of women.

Travellers come from all different backgrounds, stages, ages, and marital status with the common denominator that they are all women.

If it's encouragement, support, good company and lots of fun you are looking for in a holiday, then an Adventurous Women Tour will not disappoint. See the list of tours advertised in this section on page 19.

For further information visit [www.adventurouswomen.com.au](http://www.adventurouswomen.com.au) or email [sue@adventurouswomen.com.au](mailto:sue@adventurouswomen.com.au) or freecall - 1300 388 419.

## Tour Canada and Alaska with Cathie Rice Travel



CATHIE RICE TRAVEL has been running escorted tours to Canada and Alaska for the past 17 years.

The beauty of this private escorted group is the flexibility of the trip across the Rockies, a private tour with Insight Vacations and not too early morning starts.

This 24-day escorted tour leaves from Bunbury with pickups at Busselton and Mandurah and other guests can join the tour leader at Perth airport.

The group departs Perth on 6 May 2016 with Cathay Pacific to Hong Kong with a day's stopover there and then a late afternoon flight on to Vancouver for a two-night stay at a suite hotel right in the heart of Vancouver, before their privately chartered Insight Vacations tour of the

magnificent Canadian Rockies.

After a two-night stay in magical Vancouver Island and a tour of the glorious Butchart Gardens bursting with springtime flowers, the group then departs for Anchorage for a two-night stay again at a centrally located hotel.

The scenic rail journey from Anchorage to Seward is a highlight of this tour.

Following the rail journey the train will arrive to the side of the luxurious small ship - Silversea - Silver Shadow to undertake a cruise down to Vancouver along the famous inside passage.

There is no doubt cruising this passage on a small ship with everything included is a highlight. The guests enjoy cabins with windows and balconies and fine beverages.

At the conclusion of the cruise the group will return to Australia following a two night stopover at the beautiful Langham Hotel in Hong Kong.

Alternatively people have the option for an extension to the east coast of Canada.

Call Cathie Rice Travel now for a brochure on this tour free call 1800 177 788.

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ONLY \$125 PER NIGHT FOR 2!

- FREE continental breakfast daily
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## WA Wildflower Tours



**Perth's Best Wildflower Day Tour** **from \$155pp**  
**Departing: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun Sept - Nov**  
Enjoy a relaxing day taking in the spring wildflowers. Our exact itinerary will be unknown until the day of departure to ensure you view areas with the most abundant wildflowers.  
Includes a Botanical guide on board with expert commentary, luxury coach travel, lunch and a wildflower booklet to keep.



**8 Day Karijini, Coral Bay & Shark Bay** **from \$2990pp**  
**Departing: 5 August 2015**  
Fly up and start your trip at the wonderful Karijini National Park. Then head across to the coast and explore the wonders as you make your way back to Perth.  
**Highlights:** Karijini National Park, Coomberdale Wildflower farm, Coral Bay glass bottom boat cruise, Monkey Mia dolphins, Ocean Park aquarium, HMAS Sydney memorial  
**Inclusions:** Motel accommodation, all evening meals, breakfasts, entry to various attraction and a botanical guide on board. Other wildflower tours also available



**7 Day Great Southern Wildflower Tour** **from \$5258pp**  
**Departing: 16 September 2015**  
Great Southern Western Australian wildflowers are renowned as being one of the most spectacular wildflower displays in the world. Discover the magnificent rugged south coast, wilderness in isolated national parks that have extraordinary rare and endangered flora, fauna, birds, and astonishing landscapes.  
**Inclusions:** best accommodation available, all meals and entry costs. This is a small group luxury tour.

**Western Australian Visitor Centre**  
55 William Street, Perth



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# It's a golden gift for Leonora...on the WA Day weekend



The grandstand at the Leonora Race track with some friendly locals waving - Kiara Reddingius about to cross the finish line first in the sprint section - Local children joined the elite athletes for a lap around the town.- Horses racing towards the finish at the Leonora Race Track

**Westonia Tavern**  
Est. 1915 - our centenary year

Located just 3hrs from Perth

LUNCH: 11.30am - 2pm  
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"Where the 'Wheatbelt meets the Goldfields.'"  
This Heritage listed hotel has all the unique charm of its earlier days during the Goldrush era with recent additions including single motel-style accommodation and family rooms. A large undercover alfresco area, new dining room and new lounge bar. Takeaway meals also available.

Ph: 9046 7012 Email: westoniapub@hotmail.com

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ONLY \$129 PER NIGHT FOR 2!

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by Jennifer Merigan

"WHERE ARE you from?"

It's not often these days that you walk into a pub and someone wants to know where you hail from but friendliness and the locals' curiosity towards visitors is alive and well in Leonora.

There is something special and moving about the outback in Western Australia, it's a combination of the big sky, the red pindan, the quiet of the countryside and the people.

My first visit to Leonora was to attend the weekend celebrations in the town for the Golden Gift which is Australia's richest mile running race.

It's the 13th year that Leonora has hosted the event over the WA Day weekend.

The best middle distance athletes in the country come to this outback town to compete for the title.

It's a great opportunity for many athletes to fund their Olympic chances with \$6000 prize money on offer for the winners.

The race takes place in the main street which is closed off throughout

the weekend. There is an abundance of entertainment and events organised for locals and visitors.

We arrived late on Friday afternoon on the Skippers Aviation flight from Perth and as my partner's family live in the town we stayed with them at their property affectionately known as the Prickle Patch.

I'm always up for a country horse race meet and on Saturday we headed to the Leonora Race Track.

We had a couple of bets and tried the bookies on course for better odds - a good win ensured we walked away with a couple of bucks in our pocket and a big smile.

Later in the afternoon bush two-up was played at the track.

It was the perfect place for some people watching, ladies dressed up in their finery with fascinators and high heels stomped through the grass and the dust, kids with their faces painted and those just there for a flutter and the fun of the races, it was a great introduction to the weekend celebrations.

On Saturday evening the main street became the focus with heats

for the Elite Mile and some good old-fashioned country entertainment.

The Leonora School Choir sang *We are Australian* in both English and Wangai, the local Aboriginal language.

Later in the evening there was a mammoth fireworks display and a selection of bands playing tributes to Bon Scott and Jimmy Barnes.

We sat around a blazing fire pit at the Prickle Patch watching as the fireworks echoed in the outback and lit up the sky and the classic Australian songs permeated the usual quietness.

Sunday was the big race and it was back to the main street to cheer on the athletes.

Market stalls lined the main street with a selection of arts and crafts, carnival rides for the kids, coffee vans and fair food, a visiting prospector sold his gold nuggets as jewellery and the local honey was a hit.

The town felt friendly, we wandered about in between the heats for the athletics chatting to people and had lunch at the pub.

The athletic events took place from 10am until the main event. It was ex-

citing to watch elite Australian middle distance athletes compete.

Congratulations to the Elite Mile winners Zak Patterson and Olympic hopeful Eloise Welling.

One of the unique things about this event is the participation by the whole town, the local kids compete in a bike ride, then join the athletes for a run, a full athletics carnival is held on the Sunday for runners of all ages and prize money is up for the locals.

People come from far and wide to have a go in the events and the atmosphere feels like you have stepped back in time to when life was simpler.

It opened up my eyes to the importance of regional events in WA and how we should support these initiatives.

Leonora is part of the Golden Outback and is one of the stops on the Golden Quest Trail - it's a great stop for grey nomads who want to explore the history and heritage of the northern goldfields.

The Golden Gift will be held again next year on the WA Day long weekend.

## Exciting three-day wildflower tours around WA

GO ONA BUS are offering three different and exciting three day extended tours in September and October. The standard wildflower

tour, the wildflower and blues tour and the wheatbelt experience tour. The tours go from Perth up north to Dalwallinu and

surrounds, accompanied with a wildflower expert with all meals included, plus night time activities and twin share accommodation.

The Wildflower and Blues tour has all these things and is also held over the weekend of the blues for the bush open day and concert at Perenjori.

These tours accommodate a maximum of 20 people staying at the Old Convent in Dalwallinu which has a whole load of history and interest in itself.

The most popular and exciting new tour that Go Ona Bus has added is the Wheatbelt Experience three-day tour. This tour includes visiting York with sandalwood mill and catholic church tours, Quairading, Shackleton (smallest bank in Australia), Bruce Rock (Colonial Café), Merredin, Burracoppin (wind turbines), Tammin, Cunderdin (pumping station), Meck-

ering (earthquake site) plus many more things to see including farm animals, native rescue animals plus Aboriginal art and interesting sites located around the Nulla Nulla B&B, known for its spectacular wildflowers.

This is an even more exclusive tour with only 10-12 maximum participants. Twin share places available. This tour has already proven very popular and more dates will be added as they become available.

For more details and to book your three-day extended tours, contact Go Ona Bus on 9453 3853 or email info@goonabus.com.au.

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Home of the Explorers Hall of Fame.  
The Visitor Centre also houses a cafe and gift shop.

Open Mon - Fri 9am - 4.30pm and Sat - Sun 9am - 1pm  
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Email: greatbeyond@laverton.wa.gov.au  
www.laverton.wa.gov.au

# WA's Central Wheatbelt invites you to explore the area and discover the farming history...



Great southern farmland at sunset © Tourism WA

was established in 1867. The first farmland was taken up in 1908. The area is primarily devoted to wheat, coarse grains and sheep farming, although some farmers have diversified into cattle and pigs.

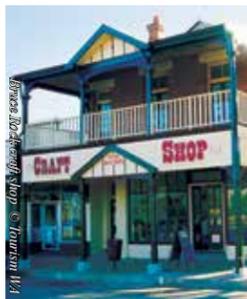
Bencubbin is on the border of wheat and station country. This contributes to the wonderful variety of beautiful wildflowers and bird life found throughout the shire. Birds are numerous all year round, and the stunning wildflower season lasts from June until October. There are many varied points of interest, all serviced by good roads.

Bencubbin has a meteorite named after it. It is a type of carbonaceous chondrite but has now been given its own class of meteorites, the Bencubbinites. Bencubbin was found in July of 1930. Two large stones were found. Most of this meteorite is in the Western Australian Museum in Perth.

Pioneer Wells allow you to take a trip back in time, to help you imagine how families carted water from these wells for their livestock and for personal use, before the establishment of the water pipelines.

The wildflowers in Bencubbin are spectacular, when there are good winter rains, the district blooms. Between July and October experience the diverse range of flowers.

Bencubbin lies in the Shire of Mt Marshall for more information visit [www.mtmarshall.wa.gov.au/](http://www.mtmarshall.wa.gov.au/)



### Bruce Rock 243kms from Perth

A traditional farming town, Bruce Rock produces crops of wheat, barley, lupin and peas. Sheep, pigs and goats are also farmed in the area.

The Bruce Rock Museum comprises a historical display in the restored Bank with adjoining reconstructions of an original one-roomed school, a typical mud brick settlers hut and a blacksmiths shop.

An arts and crafts centre is located in the main street displaying a wide variety of work by local artists.

A new Art Gallery The Old Club Gallery features work by Wheatbelt Artists.

Bruce Rock celebrated its Centenary in 2013 with a community project that records the history of the district, its people, farming

and business enterprises and social life.

The Centenary Pathway is bordered by a mosaic slab wall stretching the length of the Main Street created by residents who are proud of their heritage.

The nearby bank at Shackleton is said to be Australia's smallest bank and is well worth a visit.

### Corrigin 230 kilometres southeast of Perth

Corrigin is a popular stopover when visiting Hyden's Wave Rock and the seasonal wildflowers of the area. Located three and a half hours' drive east of Perth, it is a very attractive town.

Corrigin is widely

THE CENTRAL Wheatbelt towns are all within around a two to three hour drive from Perth.

Visitors to the area have the opportunity to see vistas of open farmland, walk the wildflower trails, climb granite rocks, and enjoy the small country towns.

Stay a while and enjoy the magic of the Central Wheatbelt. This guide provides you with information on some of the towns which make up

this important farming area in WA. For more information visit the <http://www.wheatbelttourism.com>

### Bencubbin 270 kilometres northeast of Perth

Bencubbin is located three and a half hours' drive northeast of Perth in the centre of the northeastern Wheatbelt.

Sandalwood cutters were in the area as early as the 1860s and a sheep station

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## WA's Central Wheatbelt invites you to explore the area and discover the farming history...

known as a 'Town of Windmills' due to the abundant supply of ground water.

Almost every home had a windmill until 1960 when the town was supplied with scheme water.

The town is nestled at the base of Corrigin Rock and to experience it on foot offers a variety of dedicated tracks and trails.

Corrigin's history is reflected in the windmill entry statement to the town and is showcased at the Pioneer Museum and RSL Memorial Lookout.

Tour the surrounding countryside during wildflower season and enjoy the wonder of these beautiful plants.

The Corrigin Museum provides a link with the past

in its display of early Australian farm machinery.

For more information visit [www.corrigin.wa.gov.au/](http://www.corrigin.wa.gov.au/)



### Cunderdin 156 kilometres east of Perth

Cunderdin is a two-hour drive east of Perth on the Great Eastern Highway. It was first settled with the arrival of the railway in 1894.

In 1901, the Goldfields Water Scheme reached the town, bringing with it an increase in population.

Visitors can see machinery used in bygone years at the Cunderdin Museum, No 3 Pump station including displays depicting the 1968 Meckering earthquake, an original steam pump used on the Goldfields Water Scheme, a Tiger moth aircraft, an original bush school and many artefacts depicting the pioneering spirit of the district.

Cunderdin Hill is a popular walking track with 360-degree views of the town and surrounding farmland.

During the spring months the hill is carpeted with pink and yellow everlasting.

A deep gash in the earth, caused by the Meckering Earthquake which destroyed the town in 1968, can still be seen today, located 11 kilometres from Meckering, on the Quellington (York) Road.

For more information visit [www.cunderdin.wa.gov.au](http://www.cunderdin.wa.gov.au)

### Dowerin 156 kilometres north east of Perth

Dowerin is situated on the Pioneers' Pathway tourism route and Northam-Wyalkatchem-Merredin railway loop line.

The name Dowerin is taken from the Aboriginal word 'Daren' that was given to a series of lakes some eight kilometres south of the town. The nearby soak or water hole known as Tin Dog Creek was a resting place and watering hole for travellers and prospectors on their way to the Goldfields.

The first settlement for

agriculture was in 1897 and the town was not established until 1906 when the railway line was extended from Goomalling.

The first store opened in that year and in a short time was able to cater for most settlers' needs.

The first public buildings included a school and Methodist Church which were built at Dowerin Lakes, or Old Dowerin.

The chief source of income for the area is primary production, including farming livestock, wool, and cereal crops.

During the last week of August Dowerin is home to the Dowerin GWN Machinery Field Days, an annual event showcasing the very latest in farming machinery, equipment, precision technology and rural services.

The town's population can increase from around 400 up to 15,000 during this event.

For more information visit [www.dowerin.wa.gov.au/](http://www.dowerin.wa.gov.au/)

### Karlgarin 317 kilometres south east of Perth

Karlgarin has a population of less than 50 people

and was first settled to support farming in the early 1920s.

It derives its name from the Aboriginal name of a nearby hill and means 'place of fire'.

The Surveyor General J S Roe first recorded the town in 1848 and was a soldier settlement site gazetted in 1931.

Nearby Tressie's Museum offers a collection of pioneer farming tools and equipment, as well as a working display of gramophones and 78 records.

Visitors enjoy the yesteryear style of the beautiful Catholic Church and the Primary School. Scenic vistas can be seen at McCann, Buckley's Breakaway and the Karlgarin Hills.

### Koorda 238 kilometres northeast of Perth

Just over three hours' drive northeast of Perth is the town of Koorda.

The predominantly farming community dedicates itself to growing wheat, coarse grains and sheep.

Corn dollies are an ancient craft practiced in many cereal-growing areas worldwide. Frank Lodge who in 1911 made a simple countryman's favour the corn dolly, which was adopted as the Shire Emblem in 1974.

Visit the old hospital, now the town museum, for historical displays of farm machinery and hospital equipment, as well as community and family artefacts.

Mollerin and Newcarlbeon rocks are located north of town and during winter and late spring have a picturesque display of wildflowers and beautiful panoramic views from the top of the rock. They both have picnic and camping facilities including toilets.

Early in September, Koorda hosts its annual Agricultural Show, which brings together past and present residents, along with a large number of visitors. The show features many agricultural displays, including the 'corn dollies'.

You can find out more about the show at [www.koordashow.com](http://www.koordashow.com) or for more information visit [www.koorda.wa.gov.au/](http://www.koorda.wa.gov.au/)

### Lake Grace 345 kilometres south east of Perth

The Shire of Lake Grace is home to the towns of Lake Grace, Newdegate, Lake King, Varley and Pingaring.

As you travel the open roads marvel at the natural beauty of the farming landscape dotted with natural salt lakes in shades of pinks, greens and mauve.

The nature reserves team with wildlife and magnificent and, in some cases, rare wildflowers.

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- Granite Woodlands Discovery Trail - 16 interpretive sites, offers opportunities for camping, bushwalking, exploring granite rock formations and viewing spring wildflowers
- Pack a BBQ picnic and take the 28 km heritage trail to explore Dundas Rocks' huge ancient boulders and rock formations.
- Hyden Rock - enjoy the rock's walks, surrounding flora and fauna.
- Bromus Dam - free camping area with bushwalks, lots to explore or a great place to have a BBQ or picnic.
- Mt Jimberlana - 5km east of town, offering spectacular views from the top with a picnic area at the base.
- Phoenix Park - educational, historical and is close to the town centre

Norseman Community Resource Centre  
Your local connection

Government of Western Australia Department of Regional Development and Lands

# WA's GREAT Outdoors

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## CENTRAL WHEATBELT

let's gotravelling

# WA's Central Wheatbelt invites you to explore the area and discover the farming history...



Edna May Goldmine, Westonia © Tourism WA

Towering granite outcrops and breakaways of white rock are some of the Shire's many hidden treasures.

Established in 1911, the town of Lake Grace celebrated its centenary in 2011.

One of our most historical buildings is The Lake Grace Australian Inland Mission hospital which was established in 1926 through the work of Dr John Flynn and the local community.

Until the new hospital was built in 1952, the AIM hospital and the Royal Flying Doctor Service served the vast area from Kukerin to Ravensthorpe.

The building has been restored as a hospital museum and visitors can walk through the old style wards, duty room, kitchen and laundry to experience the atmosphere of an early 20th century rural hospital.

Home to a vast number of salt lakes, many of them make for great skiing in years when there is heavy rainfall.

Lake Grace itself is one of Western Australia's largest inland salt lakes and comprises two separate water bodies; one 25.75kms long and 7.24kms wide at its widest point and this wetland is part of a chain of lakes which flow into the Avon River.

For more information contact the Lake Grace Visitor Centre on (08) 9865 2140 or visit [www.lakegracevisitorcentre.com.au](http://www.lakegracevisitorcentre.com.au)

### Meckering

133 kilometres east of Perth

Situated on the Great Eastern Highway between Cunderdin and Northam this small hamlet was a busy Wheatbelt town until hit by a devastating earthquake on 14 October 1968.

The earthquake registered 6.9 on the Richter scale and destroyed 50 homes and many of the town's buildings including the impressive two-story hotel.

Just west of the town on the highway the earthquake fault line is crossed. Interpretation on the impact of the earthquake plus a telescoped piece of the Perth to Kalgoorlie pipeline is on display in parkland in the town.

People can also see a ruin of a house that has been preserved for posterity about three kilometres north of the town.

The Meckering Big Camera Museum is situated on the Great Eastern Highway.

It features displays of items which include cameras, movie cameras, enlargers, processing equipment, slides, projectors, kaleidoscopes and more.

scopes and more.

### Southern Cross

367 kilometres east of Perth

Southern Cross is located on the Great Eastern Highway, three hours' drive west of Kalgoorlie. It is the centre for the Yilgarn Shire and Yilgarn is the Aboriginal word for white stone or quartz. The area includes the towns of Bullfinch,

Marvel Loch, Moorine Rock, Bodallin and Koolyanobbing.

Southern Cross is situated in a prosperous, well-established farming area including some of the largest farms in the state.

The history that surrounds the district compliments the beauty of the Shire of Yilgarn.

The land is spectacularly beautiful in spring with wildflowers.

Popular attractions within the Southern Cross area include Baladjie Rock, Frog Rock, Karalee Dam and Hunt's Soak - all interesting spots to visit and ideal picnic spots.

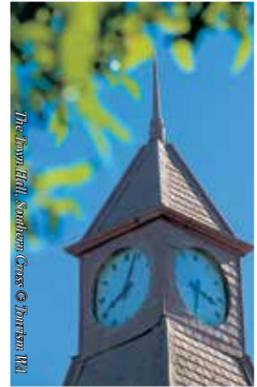
For a panoramic view of the area people can drive up to Wimmera Hill Lookout which overlooks the township, the surrounding farmland and goldmines.

Just east of town is the old cemetery which was developed as a Pioneer Memorial. Yilgarn History Museum is open daily and provides a glimpse of the area's history.

In 1888 gold was discovered in Southern Cross by Tom Risely and Mick Toomey. They named the place after the stars that had been their guide.

Today all the streets and the salt lake of the town are named after stars or constellations.

For more information visit [www.yilgarn.wa.gov.au](http://www.yilgarn.wa.gov.au)



### Trayning

235 kilometres north east of Perth

Trayning has natural granite outcrops, native birds, insects, reptiles, woodlands and stunning panoramas of wildflowers

in season which are all easily accessible.

The town is 70 kilometres from Merredin and in the heart of the northeastern wheatbelt and is with good roads.

The Shire attractions are well sign posted with maps readily available.

The name 'Trayning' was given to the district after the 'Trayning Well' and the name for the well was derived from two Aboriginal names 'Durri-iring' or 'Duranning'. Meaning 'to crawl', and 'a camping place' and over time became known as 'snake crawling in the grass near campsite'.

Today the district produces mostly wheat and sheep and with its natural beauty and pioneer heritage Trayning is a great town to visit.

For more information about the Shire of Trayning please visit [www.trayning.wa.gov.au](http://www.trayning.wa.gov.au)

### Westonia

316 kilometres east of Perth

Westonia is located just over four hours drive east of Perth and half an hour from Merredin.

It is on the Wheatbelt Way drive trail. The Goldfields meets the Wheatbelt in the town.

continued on page 36

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Drive in: One of three in WA. New digital system to enhance the picture.

For more details on viewing times and dates visit: facebook: [www.facebook.com/KoordaDriveIn](http://www.facebook.com/KoordaDriveIn) or Instagram: @koordadrivein

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# WA's GREAT Outdoors

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CENTRAL WHEATBELT  
let's go travelling



Wyalkatchem CBH Museum © Tourism WA

## WA's Central Wheatbelt invites you to explore the area and discover the farming history...

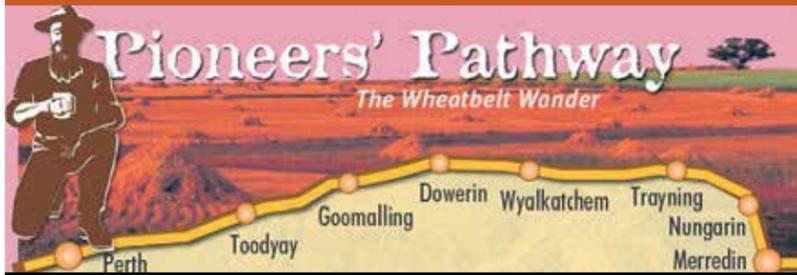
*continued from page 35*  
Named after Alfred David Weston, a sandalwood cutter and part time prospector, the town owes its origins to gold mining. Gold mining is still an important industry in the area, although the shire's primary industry is now wheat and sheep farming. All its streets are named after minerals and the town has preserved a streetscape facade that reflects its Edwardian origins. In 1915 Westonia had

two mines in operation and by 1917 the town had a population in excess of 2000. The town's population dropped significantly when the Edna May Gold Mine located one kilometre north of town, closed for the first time in 1922. Since then the Edna May Gold Mine has been re-opened and mined by three different mining companies. Visitors can explore the massive granite outcrop of Elachbutting that includes a giant wave-shaped formation and 30-metre rock tunnel which people can walk through. Sandford Rock reserve is also located in the Westonia Shire.

For more information on Westonia visit [www.westonia.wa.gov.au](http://www.westonia.wa.gov.au).

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## Dowerin GWN7 Machinery Field Days

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## Newdegate Machinery Field Days are just around the corner



nually, they are focused on providing both a unique and fulfilling experience for all who attend and exhibit, with something to interest all members of the family, no matter what age.

Machinery, technology and research, animals and livestock, outdoor and camping exhibits, art and photography, fashion, show bags, food and wine, local produce, live entertainment, and much, much more, form the basis of the two day event, which promotes and celebrates agriculture.

Entry to the 2015 event is free to children under 12 and with a strong entertainment program this year – there will be excitement for visitors of all ages. Tyrannosaurus Park will be exhibiting their exciting dinosaur discovery trail using animatronic dinosaurs, as well as performing live comedy shows with Dezzy Dinosaur throughout the two days. Climbastic will be fea-

turing with their bungee trampolines and a rock climbing wall, Fairy Sandie and her gorgeous fairy helpers from Ladybird Entertainment will be face-painting, running special fairy craft sessions and storytelling for our younger visitors.

Local group *The Wildlings*, will be providing live music throughout the day, Awesome Twisted Balloons will be returning with their awesome twisted balloon creatures, and My Kitchen Rules contestants Daniela and Stefania will be cooking up a storm in the Dyson Jones Wool and Technology Pavilion and this is only the beginning.

They hope you can join them for all the fun of this year's 43rd Annual Newdegate Machinery Field Days, 2 and 3 September.

To find out more about the 2015 event, please contact [nfd43@westnet.com.au](mailto:nfd43@westnet.com.au) or checkout the website [www.nfd43.com.au](http://www.nfd43.com.au)

THIS YEAR'S event promises to be bigger and better than ever. New site additions, loads of family entertainment and excellent exhibitor numbers, all pave the way for this year's event.

From the first Field Days held in 1973, the iconic event has grown to become one of the most renowned and recognised in the Wheatbelt. With more than 300 exhibitors and between 9,000 – 11,000 visitors an-

## Mary's Farm Cottages - an authentic Western Australian Wheatbelt rural experience

WHEN VISITING the upper Great Southern or southern Wheatbelt, you'll feel right at home at Mary's Farm Cottages. They offer quality accommodation and great service. The facilities and services provided by Mary's Farm Cottages ensure a pleasant stay, even for the most discerning guests.

The Nenke family first took up the home property in 1912 and moved onto the land in 1914. Today it is home of third, fourth and fifth generation family members. Being mindful of the importance of looking after the environment for future generations the village is eco-friendly.

Take a complimentary tour and visit the family's state-of-the-art yabby (fresh water crayfish) establishment. Cambinata Yabbies is the largest and most sophisticated yabby processing facility in Australia. Here people can enjoy a tour and have the opportunity to purchase delicious gourmet products that you can enjoy and take home as gifts. Pre-ordered steamed yabbies are available either at Cambinata or delivered to your cottages for a tasty treat.

See the giant wheat bins, have lunch in the shearing shed, watch the kangaroos graze at sunset or taste Michael's honey and visit the bee hives.

There is an array of wildflowers in the region so come along for a well deserved rest at Mary's Farm Cottages, email : [info@marysfarmcottages.com.au](mailto:info@marysfarmcottages.com.au).



**Wyalkatchem**  
200 kilometres north east of Perth  
Wyalkatchem is at the centre of the wheatbelt and has a population of 523.

The town is said to have been named after the Wyalkatchem Tank which was built by sandalwood cutters in 1881.

The gateways to the town are historical grain elevators which mark the regions claim to fame as "The cradle of Bulk Handling" because it was the first place where bulk wheat was collected in WA. It is also home to some of the best wildflower displays.

The town lies on the Pioneers' Pathway – the old Goldfields Track which was the route taken by fortune seekers making their way toward Kalgoorlie Boulder

Wyalkatchem has most of the delights of a small country town and the CBH museum houses an impressive collection of early farming equipment.

The Old School House Museum is set up as a house of earlier times with articles in room settings, and is well worth a look. Korrelocking Reserve, just out of town covers 259 hectares of pristine bushland and is a popular picnicking spot especially during wildflower season.

For more information visit [www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](http://www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au).

## Narembreen - a beautiful place to visit!



THROUGH JULY, the Western Australian countryside comes alive with green crops, a feature of this majestic landscape.

Located between Wave Rock and the Great Eastern Highway, 286km east of Perth, Narembreen is the perfect location to discover, explore and stay.

Enjoy beautiful nature trails and take in tall Salmon Gums, native animals, and during spring splendid wildflowers. Climb majestic granite outcrops, take in the beautiful views of the district and enjoy the undisturbed beauty of Narembreen, a small country town that offers convenient amenities and an opportunity to mingle with friendly locals.

Narembreen has a range of accommodation options including the Shire of Narembreen Caravan Park and Cabins, Narembreen Motel, Narembreen Hotel and Santaleuca Bed and Breakfast. For more information contact the Narembreen Community Resource Centre on 9064 7055 or visit [www.narembreen.crc.net.au](http://www.narembreen.crc.net.au).

Coming Events: on 19 September is Narembreen Ladies Long Lunch. Put it in the diary.