The ultimate road trip down south

Discover the best of Australia's South West on a self-drive adventure. Take a couple of days or better still, a couple of weeks.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the environmental diversity of the South West. Experience towering forests, white dunes, calm bays and pristine beaches.
- From vibrant cities to small character towns, you often meet the maker and the farmers passionate about the produce on your plate.
- Adventure outdoors, from diving the depths of our still waters to the height of excitement with skydiving views to take your breath away.

Here is an eight day suggested itinerary to get you started. For more self-driving suggestions, visit <u>australiassouthwest.com</u>.



Day 1/2 Perth to Great Southern

Head south along Albany Highway, exploring the country towns of Kojonup, Katanning, Cranbrook and Mount Barker. Take a drive through the magnificent Stirling Range National Park, or be adventurous and climb WA's highest peak, Bluff Knoll (especially beautiful in wildflower season). Be sure to stop along the way to taste the local produce and visit the Porongurup National Park for breathtaking panoramic views from the Granite Skywalk. Visit the National Anzac Centre in Albany and explore its dramatic coastline at The Gap and Natural Bridge, within Torndirrup National Park.



Day 3/4 Great Southern to Southern Forests

Close to <u>Denmark</u>, travel along Scotsdale Tourist Drive or Mount Shadforth Scenic Drive and enjoy some of Denmark's highly acclaimed wines and fresh produce. Stop for a swim in the beautiful bay of Greens Pool or walk among the tree tops at the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk near <u>Walpole</u>. Take the coastal route to <u>Northcliffe</u>, stopping to explore the limestone cliffs at Point D'Entrecasteaux and wander along Salmon Beach. View world-class outdoor sculptures at Understory in Northcliffe and see magnificent hand crafted timber pieces in the art and furniture galleries of <u>Pemberton</u>. Tackle one of the gigantic climbing trees in Pemberton or hunt for the highly prized rare black truffles in <u>Manjimup</u>. Take a 4WD tour and discover the huge land-locked Yeagerup Sand Dunes or sit back and enjoy the scenery on a cruise along the tranquil Donnelly River.



Day 5 Southern Forests to Blackwood River Valley

Take one of the most scenic drives in the region through rolling hills and valleys, stopping for a picnic or canoe along the Blackwood River in <u>Bridgetown</u>. Visit <u>Boyup Brook</u>, coined the 'Country Music' capital of WA and check out their mysterious street art. Enjoy <u>Balingup's</u> colourful shops, where you can browse for handcrafted pottery, herbal products and crafts. Drive inland to <u>Nannup</u>, known as the "Garden Village", and walk through the beautifully manicured gardens around town.



Day 6/7 Blackwood River Valley to Margaret River Wine Region

Visit <u>Augusta</u> and enjoy fish and chips on the Blackwood River. Nearby, the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse stands as the tallest on mainland Australia. Head north on the Boranup Forest

scenic drive with its beautiful Karri forest. Take a self-guided tour of Margaret River's world famous wineries and taste local produce including cheeses, chocolates, olive oil, fudge, boutique beers, natural soaps, art galleries and boutique shopping. Experience the magic of the underworld at one of the limestone caves open to the public. Top off your day with a swim, snorkel or kayak in the crystal waters of Geographe Bay.



Day 8/9 Geographe Region

Travel east from <u>Busselton</u> into <u>Donnybrook</u>. Have fun picking fruit at local orchards (in season). Experience the friendly, wild dolphins of <u>Bunbury</u> (image: Koombana Bay by Matt Blakers Photo) and enjoy shopping, followed by a beer or coffee along the Cappuccino Strip. Enjoy a walk through the magnificent jarrah and marri forests in <u>Collie's</u> Wellington National Park and explore the cellar doors and boutiques breweries of the <u>Ferguson Valley</u>, <u>Dardanup</u>. Head north along the South Western Highway and visit the 'Big Orange' in <u>Harvey</u> before venturing back to Perth.

