

Complete 6 day taster



For travellers on a time frame, this itinerary allows you to see the best of the south west in just six days.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Albany's new National Anzac Centre
- The various wine regions of the Great Southern
- Walk through the tree tops in the Valley of the Giants
- Sample regional specialties such as marron and truffles
- Taste the best of the Margaret River Region's gourmet delights



Day 1, Perth to Great Southern: Head south along Albany Highway, exploring the country town of Kojonup, and learn about the indigenous culture at Kodja Place. Take a drive through the beautiful Porongurup Range to sample some of the region's cool-climate wines, or take on the 3-kilometre round trip walk to the Granite Skywalk; a skywalk set into the side of a giant granite boulder, atop the Porongurup Range. Continue to Albany for the night.

Day 2, Great Southern: Start the morning with breakfast at Emu Point, where beautiful beaches surround. Purchase fresh oysters direct from the nearby supplier. Back in Albany, visit the new National Anzac Centre, Australia's foremost museum for honouring the fallen troops of WWI. Be sure to take a walk to the nearby Desert Corps Memorial and Avenue of Honour. Enjoy lunch at the hilltop restaurant, with views over King George Sound. Drive out to Torndirrup National Park, taking in the newly upgraded scenic lookouts at The Gap and Natural Bridge. Discover the whaling history of WA, plus discover native Australian plants and animals at Discovery Bay, keeping an eye out for migrating humpback and Southern Right whales playing close to shore (June to September annually). Spend the afternoon sampling fresh, seasonal produce over dinner in one of the new restaurants.

Day 3, Great Southern to Southern Forests: Head east towards Denmark, travelling along Scotsdale Tourist Drive or Mount Shadforth Scenic Drive to enjoy 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 Walpole.

Take the coastal route to Northcliffe, 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 Pemberton. Head to one of the region's trufferies and discover the highly prized rare black truffles in Manjimup. Between June and August you can take a tour with a truffle dog to hunt for the truffles). Spend the night in Pemberton or Manjimup.

Day 4, Southern Forests to Margaret River Region: First up, tackle one of the gigantic climbing trees in Pemberton. You can climb to the lookout at the top of the tallest, which is 75 meters high. Take one of the most scenic drives in the region through rolling hills of the Blackwood River Valley, stopping for a picnic or canoe along the Blackwood River. Drive to Nannup, known as the "Garden Village", and walk through the beautifully manicured gardens around town. Follow Mowen Road across to Margaret River. Begin your gourmet produce tasting on the way to your accommodation, or check-in directly and head to Margaret River's main street for dinner.

Day 5, Margaret River Region: Take a self-guided tour (or join on of the excellent tour companies offering day tours) 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. Top off your day with a swim, snorkel or kayak, watching the sun set over the Indian Ocean.

Alternatively, head south of Margaret River towards Augusta and experience the magic of the underworld at one of the limestone caves open to the public. Climb Australia's tallest mainland lighthouse at Cape Leeuwin, and discover the history of the region's first settlers. Drive back to your accommodation via the pretty Boranup Drive forest loop.

Day 6, Margaret River Region to Perth: Visit the Busselton Jetty, the longest wooden jetty in the Southern Hemisphere. Travel east from Busselton into Donnybrook. Have fun picking fruit at local orchards (in season). Experience the friendly, wild dolphins of Bunbury at the Dolphin Discovery Centre and enjoy shopping, followed by a beer or coffee along the Cappuccino Strip. Drive through the Ferguson Valley, stopping for a few last wine tastings before venturing back to Perth.