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SOUTH WEST ROAD TRIP · 10 DAYS FROM PERTH AND BACK

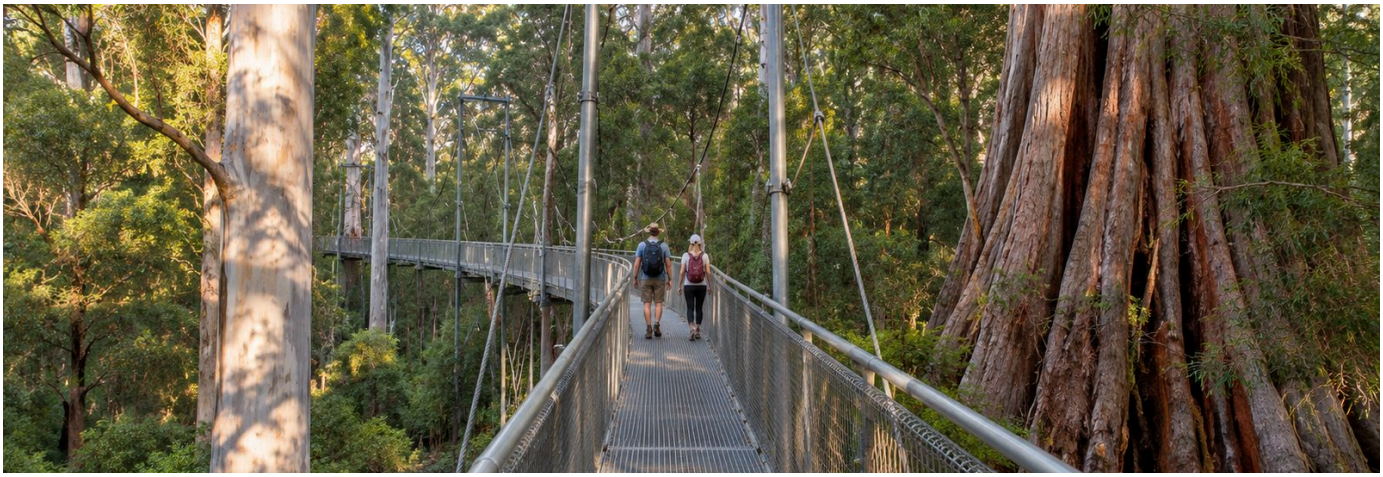
Explore Western Australia's South West

Explore the south western corner of Western Australia with this 1100km loop itinerary travelling south of Perth and taking in Margaret River, Augusta and Albany in a 10 day trip.

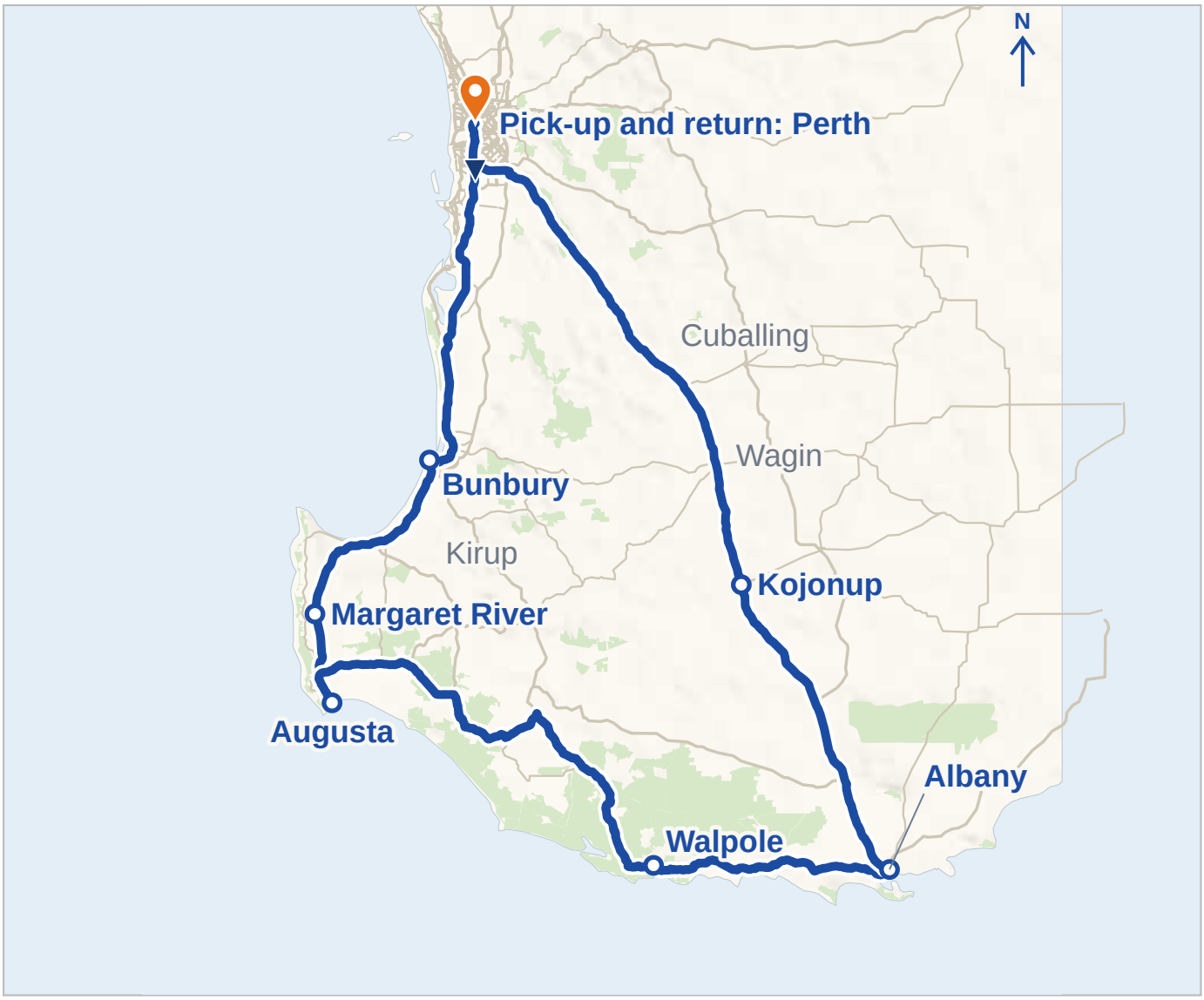
DISTANCE	DAYS	ROUTE	DRIVING TIME
About 1,100 km	10 days, 7 drives	Loop from Perth	About 17 h by campervan

LONGEST DRIVE	VEHICLE
265 km, Kojonup to Perth	Campervan

This trip crosses the Country of the Whadjuk Noongar, Wadandi, Menang Noongar and other First Nations peoples. Traditional Custodians



Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk, day 6 · Illustrative image



Planning overview, not navigation. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors · coastline Natural Earth · relief Terrain Tiles (Geoscience Australia, SRTM).

BEFORE YOU BOOK

Hiring a campervan for this trip

Your route

All rental vendors in Australia have restrictions on where their vehicles can be taken, so discuss your planned route with the rental company when you pick up. Get the rental company's permission before taking the vehicle somewhere it restricts. If you take it there without permission, you may lose your excess reduction and be fully responsible for any damage. You may also have to pay for towing and recovery, and for damage to other people's property. See road restrictions and when you are fully responsible.

Picking up in Perth

Most Perth branches are in the eastern suburbs, a short drive from Perth Airport, and Apollo, Britz, Maui, Maui Elite, Mighty and Mighty Lite share one branch in Redcliffe (Perth branches). Check-in includes a walkthrough of the vehicle, so allow about an hour, and reach

the branch at least an hour before it closes. More on campervan hire in Perth: branches, hours and each brand's rules.

PICK-UP DAY IN PERTH

DAY 1

Perth

PICK-UP

Pick up your car or motorhome in Perth. If you're collecting a motorhome, allow plenty of time at the branch so the rental company can show you how it works before you leave.

Perth is the capital city of Western Australia, and the only place to combine a city lifestyle with the Australian bush. A visit to King's Park is a must, which is one of the world's biggest inner-city parks – even bigger than Central Park in New York! Here, you can take an Indigenous cultural tour, walk amongst the tree tops and have a picnic.

Pick-up guide Allow time at the branch for the handover and van demonstration, and bring the documents the rental company asks for. See what to expect when you pick up your campervan: the inspection and demonstration, documents you'll need, choosing a pick-up time, getting there from the airport and what to do if you'll be late. The Perth branch list has each branch's address and hours.

Stay Discovery Parks – Perth Airport

DRIVE

170 km from Perth | **about 2 h 30 min** by campervan

Via **Kwinana Freeway and Forrest Highway**

DAY 2

Perth to Bunbury

Depart this morning and head south via State Route 2 to Forrest Highway. You will arrive in Bunbury roughly 2 hours later.

Spend the afternoon admiring the local wildlife of Bunbury. The bay is home to more than 150 bottlenose dolphins, which can be seen regularly in the shallow waters. You can even take a tour to swim with the dolphins and have the opportunity to interact with them.

Stay Bunbury Glade Caravan Park

DRIVE

100 km from Bunbury | **about 1 h 40 min** by campervan

Via **Bussell Highway**

DAY 3

Bunbury to Margaret River

2 NIGHTS

Depart this morning and head south along the Bussell Highway to Margaret River.

Have lunch at the Swooping Magpie, a small, privately owned vineyard. The vineyard prides itself on having an abundance of full-flavoured, high quality and affordable wines to try. You must also try their famous scones with jam and cream, a local favourite! We couldn't confirm that the Swooping Magpie is still trading, so check it's open before you go.

Explore the ancient Mammoth Caves in the afternoon. Entering the cave from a bushwalk, you will see fossils from now extinct Australian animals that are up to 50,000 years old. If you visit during winter, you will be able to see the hauntingly beautiful red stream through the cave, stained from the natural tannins.

Stay Two nights at Big Valley Campsite, Rosa Glen

A DAY IN MARGARET RIVER

DAY 4

Margaret River

Spend the morning on a tour of the stunning Margaret River Forest on an electric quad bike. You are taken deep into the Boranup Forest in the Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park to trek where few locals have been. Using innovative iPad technology, you will learn about the indigenous flora and fauna, local animals including the whales and the aboriginal uses of local flowers and trees.

In the afternoon, visit one of Margaret River's famous wineries. Cape Mentelle is one of the founding five wineries of the region, and crushes about 1,700 tonnes of fruit each year. Try a variety and become a bit of a wine connoisseur. They specialise in varieties of both red and white wines.

DRIVE

43 km from Margaret River | **about 40 min** by campervan

Via **Bussell Highway**

DAY 5

Margaret River to Augusta

Depart Margaret River this morning and head south on Bussell Highway towards Walkington Avenue in Augusta.

Visit the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse and climb to the lookout at the top. The lighthouse is the tallest on mainland Australia on the most south-westerly tip. Here, the Indian and Southern Oceans meet to produce a truly memorable natural experience. Take a break and have a coffee in one of the heritage cottages overlooking Flinders Bay (check what's open on the day).

In the afternoon, explore the Hardy Inlet and Blackwood River. The Blackwood River is one of the largest rivers in Western Australia's South West, and is full of local wildlife, dolphins and fish. Have a picnic, or take the opportunity to participate in a variety of water sports.

Stay Molloy Holiday Park, Kudardup (formerly Molloy Caravan Park)

DRIVE

245 km from Augusta | **about 3 h 45 min** by campervan

Via **Brockman and Vasse highways**

DAY 6

Augusta to Walpole

Depart in the morning and take the Brockman Highway to Darradup. Follow the Vasse Highway to Walpole.

After the drive, spend the day relaxing at the Walpole and Nornalup Inlets Marine Park for lunch. Bring a picnic and enjoy the remoteness of the natural location. Explore the various walking trails or even try out some fishing.

In the afternoon, visit the famous Valley of Giants Tree Top Walk. The walkway takes you 40 metres up into the canopy as you get to explore a different world that most never get to see. You must remember to wear walking shoes, and allow 45-60 minutes to fully enjoy the walk.

Stay Coalmine Beach Holiday Park

DRIVE

120 km from Walpole | **about 2 h** by campervan

Via **South Coast Highway**

DAY 7

Walpole to Albany

2 NIGHTS

Depart this morning, and head east. Take the National Route 1 to Albany.

Spend the afternoon at the National ANZAC centre. The first troops to leave for the First World War, in 1914, left from Albany. Known as where the ANZAC story was born, the centre follows the journey of the troops from Albany, to the Middle East, to Gallipoli and across the Western Front. The Lonely Planet named the National Anzac Centre one of the best new travel experiences in the world, and is something not to be missed.

Stay Two nights at BIG4 Emu Beach Holiday Park

A DAY IN ALBANY

DAY 8

Albany

Journey across the oceans and discover a small part of the Southern Ocean. Take a sailing tour and learn about the tales of the sea, whilst indulging in some coffee, tea and local food. You may even get the opportunity to steer the ship!

Explore the Padre White lookout in the afternoon, the most visited lookout in the region. The lookout is a tribute to Padre White, an army chaplain who would lead parishioners to the summit of Mount Clarence so they could watch the convoys depart for Europe and the First World War.

DRIVE

155 km from Albany | **about 2 h 20 min** by campervan

Via **Albany Highway**

DAY 9

Albany to Kojonup

Depart Albany this morning and take the Albany Highway towards Kojonup/ Perth.

When you arrive in Kojonup, be sure to visit the Kodja Place. The Kodja Place is made up of The Kodj Gallery, Yoondis Mia Mia, The Story Place and The Australian Rose Maze. This culturally significant

place tells the Kojonup story, and is a product of the work of many dedicated volunteers who want to share their culture.

Enjoy a snack at Yoondis Mia Mia, as you immerse yourself in the Noongar culture in a traditional Mia Mia camp. Here, you will learn to see the bush through the eyes of the Noongar people, and how they can survive off the land.

Spend the afternoon getting lost in the Rose Maze. Discover the history and culture of three amazing women: Yoondi, the Noongar woman, Elizabeth, an English woman, and the Italian woman, Maria. Throughout this journey, you will get to experience their lives in a completely different time.

Season	The Rose Maze is at its peak in November.
Stay	Kojonup Caravan Park

DRIVE

265 km from Kojonup | **about 4 h** by campervan | Via **Albany Highway**

DAY 10

Kojonup to Perth

RETURN

Depart for Perth. Head north on the Albany Highway towards Harrison Place. You have now finished your journey.

Return guide	Plan your last day around your drop-off time, and check your branch's address and hours in the Perth branch list. See returning your campervan: choosing a drop-off time, what to do if you're running late and returning early.

Returning in Perth

Fill up before you return the van, and allow time for the return inspection. Return it by the time on your booking, as rental companies charge for late returns, and drop-off times are often earlier than people expect. With an early flight, returning the van the day before takes the pressure off (drop-off times).

Enjoy the forests, the coast and the wine of the South West.

Traditional Custodians

Perth: Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar nation (City of Perth (https://perth.wa.gov.au/community/community-services-and-facilities/elders-advisory-group))

Margaret River and Augusta: Wadandi and Pibelmen people (Shire of Augusta Margaret River (https://www.amrshire.wa.gov.au/kentico_admin/awcontent/ShireOfAugustaMargaretRiver/MeetingDocument/M-08c77589-28d5-4be3-b674-e3cf79b785bf/MINUTES-25-March-2026-OCM.pdf))

Albany: Menang Noongar people (City of Albany (https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/13451/city-of-albany-arts-culture-and-heritage-plan))

Country boundaries are approximate, and some are shared or contested. These names follow local councils and park managers. The AIATSIS map of Indigenous Australia (https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/map-indigenous-australia) shows the wider picture.

Pay your respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which you are travelling, and to their Elders past, present and emerging. The Australian environment is fragile, so tread lightly: take only photos and leave only footprints.

DriveNow Disclaimer

DriveNow receives no money or commission for any holiday park, campground, hotel, restaurant, cafe, pub, tour or attraction named on this page. We include them because they suit a campervan trip, and we check them from time to time.

DriveNow's suggested itineraries help you plan your own trip. Distances and times are from mapped routes and are a guide only; campervan driving times are car times plus about 20%. Road conditions, closures, opening hours and prices change, so check them before you travel. Any reliance on this itinerary is at your own discretion.

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