

Western Australia to South Australia across the Nullarbor



Blue Dot Travel
Go somewhere different

July 2027 | 14 Days

\$9,200 pp, twin share

Solo Supplement: \$2,250

Tour Highlights

- Crossing the mighty Nullarbor by road
- Scenic drive through towering Karri Forests in Denmark
- Explore the fishing port of Port Lincoln
- Scenic flight and whale watching over the Bunda Cliffs
- Cruise the pristine waters of D'Entrecasteaux National Park
- Marine and birdlife spotting at Fowler Bay
- Eyre Peninsula's spectacular Coffin Bay National Park
- Wine tasting at Margaret River



Western Australia to South Australia



Tour overview

Crossing the mighty Nullarbor is quite an experience. Vast, forbidding and raw, the land of 'no trees' is home to a plethora of limestone caves, soaring sea cliffs, and endless red sand desert... interspersed with indigenous and pioneering history.

The Southwestern corner of Western Australia is a pocket of lush green forests, farmland, rivers and a rugged coastline contrasting the stark landscapes of the rest of the state. Fertile soils provide foodies with the best fresh produce and world-class wineries, while its waters are rich with marine life. A fascinating colonial history weaves its way through the charming towns along our route, and this part of the itinerary has several fabulous scenic drives.

When we reach the west edge of South Australia, the landscape changes. The drive between Norseman in Western Australia and Ceduna on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula is around 13 hours, a distance of 1,200 kilometres, so we'll have a few stops along the way. We'll drive the world's longest straight bit of road, known as the 90 Mile Straight, 146.6 km between Balladonia and Caiguna. We are likely to meet a veritable host of characters. From the feral camels, kangaroos and wombats who call this desert home to the sunburnt holidaymakers, truckies, and adventure-seeking tourists on bikes, there'll be a smorgasbord of people watching on our journey. One thing is certain; we will surely be mesmerised by a thousand shimmering mirages.

We'll also be able to watch whales and their calves frolic in the protected bays of the spectacular Great Australian Bight.



Activity rating: Moderate

You should be able to maintain a steady walking pace, manage flights of stairs, stand at attractions for periods of time, and board and disembark transport independently



Day 1, Wednesday 28th July PERTH TO FREMANTLE

Arrive in Perth around lunchtime. For Sydneysiders, Qantas offers a mid-morning flight that arrives in Perth in the early afternoon. Bill will meet you at the luggage terminal. (Alternatively, you can catch the train to Fremantle and meet the group at the hotel). Bill will drive the group to the hotel, centrally located in the heart of historic Fremantle. In the evening, a welcome dinner at Emily Taylor Bar and Kitchen in Fremantle's West End heritage area. We'll stay at Fremantle's Hougoumont Boutique Hotel (or similar). **D**

Day 2, Thursday 29th July FREMANTLE — MARGARET RIVER

We'll set off for Margaret River (approx 300 km) today. On the way, we'll see the famous Busselton Jetty, the longest timber-piled jetty in the Southern Hemisphere and take a scenic route through the national forests. We'll travel through the largest remaining forest of Tuart trees, a tree species found only in Western Australia. Arrive in Margaret River for a two-night stay. Accommodation at Central Apartments. **B/L/D**

Day 3, Friday 30th July MARGARET RIVER

Staying in the heart of a celebrated wine region, we'll have the opportunity to sample wines and lunch at one of Margaret River's premier wine estates with an in-depth tour, tasting and long lunch at Voyager Estate. Voyager Estate is one of Australia's most innovative certified organic producers of world-class Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. The building and landscaping are in a Dutch colonial theme (the wine region is not as old as the Barossa; early wine-making started in the 60s and 70s). The tour and lunch are expected to go on for most of the day. We will return to Margaret River for some free time and to source your supper if you are still hungry. Accommodation at Central Apartments. **B/L**

Day 4, Saturday 31st July MARGARET RIVER — PEMBERTON

Today's route will be about 170km. After breakfast, depart for Augusta's Point Leeuwin lighthouse. Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse is on the most south-westerly point of Australia. A lighthouse tour is a must, including a climb to the top, where you get a great view of the Indian and Southern Oceans (the two oceans meet at Cape Leeuwin). From Augusta, we travel away from the Margaret River region and into the Great Southern Forests region. Near Pemberton, we take a scenic cruise down the Donnelly River through the pristine wilderness of D'Entrecasteaux National Park to a wild, isolated beach on the Southern Ocean. After the cruise, we will see Gloucester Tree, a 58-metre-high Karri. Once used as a fire lookout tree, you can still climb to the top via iron pegs hammered into the tree trunk (not for the faint-hearted). Back on the ground, we take a short Karri forest walk. After, we'll continue through more National Park forests to Pemberton, formerly a timber-producing town and now a charming heritage village. We will eat and stay at the Pemberton Best Western Hotel. **B/L/D**

Day 5, Sunday 1st August PEMBERTON — ALBANY

The distance from Pemberton to Albany is approximately 300 km, including the Mt Shadforth Scenic Drive. Today we are driving through more incredible tall-forest scenery in WA's towering Karri forests around Denmark and Walpole. Firstly, our scenic drive takes us to the giant Tingle tree (in November 2022, a controlled burn got out of hand and areas near the Tingle tree were badly burnt – we'll get an update closer to the tour date to check whether it is still good to go). Tingle trees are a species unique to the Walpole area. In the hinterland around Denmark, we will stop for wine and cheese tasting at Duckett's Mill Wines and Denmark Farmhouse Cheese before heading on to Singlefile Winery, where we will have a wine tasting and picnic lunch. After lunch, it is time for a little exercise at the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk, where we experience the majestic height of these trees from above their canopy. Drive on to Albany, a historic port and whaling town, for another two-night stay. Dinner at the Earl of Spencer or similar and stay at the Spencer Suites (or similar). **B/L/D**

Day 6, Monday 2nd August ALBANY

We explore two prominent aspects of Australian history, whaling and the ANZAC legend. First, we visit the Albany Whaling Station Museum, which was the last Australian whaling station to close in 1978. When the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company closed in 1978, they put down their tools and walked away, which makes today's experience so authentic. Also left behind at the whaling station was an operating whaling boat, which you can explore. En route to the whaling station, we will stop at the remarkable Gap and Natural Bridge. These are two natural features carved from granite by oceanic forces. The award-winning National ANZAC Centre on Albany's Mt Clarence, with views to King George Sound from where WWI troop ships sailed. The centre is quite poignant, and it will take you a couple of hours to wander around, take in the exhibits, and enjoy the view. Before we enter the exhibition centre, we will have lunch at the Garrison Restaurant at the National ANZAC Centre. After the ANZAC centre, enjoy some free time to wander the interesting main streets of Albany and find yourself some supper. **B/L**

Day 7, Tuesday 3rd August ALBANY — ESPERANCE

Albany to Esperance is approximately 500 km. On the way, we visit Fitzgerald River National Park, which is within the Fitzgerald Biosphere and is globally significant as a biodiversity hotspot (i.e., one of the most biologically diverse places on the planet). The scenery on the drive to the Fitzgerald River National Park is stunning. We will drive to Cave Point for dramatic views and take a short, easy walk to the cliffs. We will also call in at Barrens Lookout, closer to the Park's entrance, with different yet dramatic views. The stunning walk here is less than 200m long. We now head to Esperance on the south coast of WA, famous for stunning white beaches, turquoise waters and clear blue skies, for a two-night stay. Dinner at Fish Face. Accommodation at Island View apartments (or similar). **B/L/D**

Day 8, Wednesday 4th August ESPERANCE

The stunning white sand, set against the clear turquoise waters of the Esperance region, will forever be etched in your memory. To get up close to this stunning landscape, we will take a 3½ hr scenic wildlife cruise through the various islands of the Recherche Archipelago (105 islands). Regular wildlife sightings on the cruise include NZ Fur Seals, Australian Sea Lions, Cape Barren Geese, Common and Bottle Nose Dolphins, White-bellied Sea Eagles and whales. The rest of the day is at your leisure to rest or explore Esperance. If you want something more active, we can do some short walks in the nearby nature reserves and national parks (there is also a replica of Stonehenge – an interesting story). Dinner is at 33 Degrees (or similar). **B/L/D**



Day 9, Thursday 5th August [ESPERANCE — CAIGUNA](#)

Esperance to Caiguna is approx. 570 km. In the morning, we will stroll along some of Esperance’s coastal walks against the stunning backdrop of the Recherche Archipelago before driving along the spectacular Great Ocean Drive stopping at the many vantage points. After a coffee in Esperance (might be the last good coffee for a while), we will start our 2½ day road trip across the Nullarbor. We stop for lunch at the frontier town of Norseman and Balladonia for a break, then onto the Caiguna Roadhouse. From Norseman at the western end of the Nullarbor, we start driving through Western Australia’s Great Western Woodland. This woodland is special as it is the largest and healthiest temperate woodland on earth. For those old enough to remember Skylab falling to earth in outback Australia, it was near Balladonia, and there is a curious exhibition at the Roadhouse Museum. Accommodation at Caiguna Roadhouse (or similar). **B/L/D**

Day 10, Friday 6th August [CAIGUNA — NULLARBOR ROADHOUSE](#)

Caiguna to the Nullarbor Roadhouse is approx. 540 km. As we cross the Nullarbor, we will have a couple of longish drives, but generally, they will go quickly as there are no towns to go through and nice straight roads – in fact, it is the longest straight road in Australia (146.6 km)– nothing to slow you down. Each pitstop we pass as we cross the Nullarbor has a golf fairway, which makes up Nullarbor Links, the world’s longest golf course. Nullarbor Links is an 18-hole par 72 golf course spanning 1,365km with one hole in each participating town from Ceduna in SA to Kalgoorlie in WA. Each hole has a synthetic green but a somewhat rugged, outback fairway. Lunch is at Eucla on the SA – WA border, where we take a short break to explore the ruins of the Eucla telegraph station. The transmission room was split into two sections: SA employees at the eastern end and WA employees at the western end. Messages from Perth would be received by WA employees at Eucla and handed to SA employees, who would relay them to Adelaide. After the WA border, the road travels close to the dramatic cliffs of the Great Australian Bight a few times, so we will make a couple of stops to take in the spectacular views. We continue along the Nullarbor, passing classic Australian roadhouses that serve these remote regions, as we watch the landscape and vegetation slowly change until we reach the Nullarbor Roadhouse. Our afternoon scenic flight over the Bunda Cliffs will depart from the Nullarbor Roadhouse. We will also fly over the Head of Bight, allowing for some aerial whale spotting. **B/L/D**

Day 11, Saturday 7th August [NULLARBOR — CEDUNA](#)

The Nullarbor Roadhouse to Ceduna is approximately 300 km, plus an extra 80 km to Fowlers Bay and back to the highway. Not far from Nullarbor Roadhouse, we stop at the Head of Bight whale-watching centre near Yalata. The Whale Watching Centre is one of Australia’s most spectacular whale-watching sites. The Head of the Bight Interpretive Centre has an information centre, a boardwalk, and a viewing platform. Then, onto Fowler’s Bay for our whale-watching cruise. Southern Right Whales visit the upper reaches of the Great Australian Bight each year to give birth, mate and socialise. They arrive in May and depart around October. They spend the rest of the time travelling to or feeding well offshore in the Southern Ocean. Most of the whales we will see in June and July are adults. We may be lucky enough to observe these 70-tonne mammals mating (look for groups rolling around on the surface). By late August, mothers can be seen swimming along the cliffs with their young calves at their side. There are often 70 or more whales in the area. By the time the whales leave in October, the calves have grown and have become strong enough to join their mothers on the long migration south. Fowlers Bay is home to an abundance of endangered, vulnerable and protected species of marine mammals and oceanic bird life, including Southern Right Whales, Humpback Whales, Common Dolphins, Bottlenose Dolphins, Australian Sea Lions, New Zealand Fur Seals, Little Penguins, Albatross, and White Bellied Sea Eagles. In this interactive and informative cruise, you’ll (expectedly, hopefully) see pods of whales, discover the fascinating yet brutal history of Fowlers Bay, learn about the Whale Baleen Plate, hold some very rare Ambergis and listen to real-time underwater acoustics. After the cruise and cafe lunch (own expense), we will make a short detour to Lake Macdonnell, weather permitting. The lake is famous for its half-pink, half-green water. High in salt concentration, the lake appears salmon-pink on clear days (if the weather is overcast or the lake’s water level is low, the colour does not stand out, making it a wasted trip). One side of the causeway is Pink Lake, the other is Green Lake, and Blue Lake is further down over the small bridge. The Pink Lake is caused by salt-loving algae and halobacteria that secrete carotenoid red pigments, turning the water pink. These unique waters are why the Lake is also known as Watermelon Avenue. Accommodation and dinner at the Ceduna Foreshore Hotel (or similar). **B/L/D**

Day 12, Sunday 8th August [CEDUNA — PORT LINCOLN](#)

Today we work our way down the Eyre Peninsula, following the seafood trail to Port Lincoln (about 400km). We will travel down the coast to Streaky Bay and onto Venus Bay (our lunch stop). As we head south, the scenery along this section of the Eyre Peninsula becomes increasingly rugged and spectacular. We’ll stop at places like Cummins Lookout for amazing photo opportunities and see if the endangered osprey is nesting on the jagged tor off the coastal cliffs. Like many stretches of the Eyre Peninsula coastline, this is a significant breeding habitat for raptors such as the southern osprey, white-bellied sea eagle and peregrine falcon. We will also stop at Lock’s Well Beach, which reveals yet more dramatic coastline of the Eyre Peninsula, and Talia Caves. Port Lincoln is renowned for its Southern Bluefin tuna, King George whiting, Spencer Gulf king prawns and Southern Rock lobsters. Port Lincoln is home to a large tuna-fishing fleet. Accommodation is at the Port Lincoln Hotel, with dinner at Fumo (or similar). **B/L/D**

Day 13, Monday 9th August [COFFIN BAY](#)

Today, we work our way along the west coast of the Eyre Peninsula, following the seafood trail to Coffin Bay and Ceduna. Contrary to some beliefs, Coffin Bay isn’t named after anything related to burying the dead. Matthew Flinders named it after Resident Naval Commissioner Sir Isaac Coffin in early 1802. Coffin Bay is a pretty coastal holiday area with beautiful bays and beaches. The oyster industry in South Australia was started not long after the colony was first established. Native Angasi oysters were wild-harvested and taken to Adelaide for sale. Overfishing led to declines in catches and the industry’s cessation by the late 1800s. In the late 60s, Japanese Pacific Oysters were introduced, rekindling the industry. We’ll have an opportunity to taste the best oysters of Coffin Bay NP with a picnic lunch in the park overlooking the pristine coastline. After lunch, we’ll take a walk along a secluded white sand beach, then drive out to Coffin Bay National Park. The scenery along this section of the Eyre Peninsula is rugged and spectacular. We’ll stop at places like Cummins Lookout for amazing photo opportunities and see if the endangered osprey is nesting on the jagged tor off the coastal cliffs. Like many stretches of the Eyre Peninsula coastline, this is a significant breeding habitat for raptors such as the southern osprey, white-bellied sea eagle and peregrine falcon. We will also stop at Lock’s Well Beach, which reveals yet more dramatic coastline of the Eyre Peninsula, and Streaky Bay. Accommodation and dinner at the Ceduna Foreshore Hotel (or similar). **B/D**

Day 14, Tuesday 10th August [DEPARTURE](#)

This brings our epic tour from WA to SA to an end. Bill will drop you to the airport after breakfast. Aim for a mid-morning flight to your city of origin. **B**

Note. The accommodation on this tour will offer the best level of comfort available. We stay at basic roadhouses when crossing the Nullarbor, as this is the only accommodation available. Let us know if you would like a few extra days in Fremantle. As our hotel is located centrally, you’ll be within walking distance of the city’s many attractions.





Accommodation

Our hotels are carefully chosen to capture the local atmosphere and set you up in an ideal location. You can expect accommodation that comprises a mix of standard hotels, motels, and smaller, independently owned apartments. Below are some of the hotels on this tour.

Final hotels may change, and a complete list will be shared with you.

Islandview Apartments, Esperance
www.esperanceapartments.com.au

Ceduna Hotel, Port Lincoln
www.cedunahotel.com.au

Central Avenue Apartments, Fremantle
www.centralavenue.com.au

Nullarbor Roadhouse, Nullarbor
www.nullarborroadhouse.com.au



Why Blue Dot?

Travel is more than just moving from one place to another; it is an opportunity to explore this vast planet, connect with its people and marvel at its beauty. We have established a group of loyal, like-minded travellers who share this feeling and have taken multiple tours with us. With Blue Dot, you'll experience

- Thoughtfully designed itineraries with unique experiences
- Small, inclusive groups with a maximum of 16 travellers (this tour has max. 6 travellers)
- The support of both an Australian tour leader* and experienced local guides
- Programs designed to meet the needs of mature-age travellers
- Hands-on, personalised service including customised flight bookings
- Tipping is included in your tour cost



Blue Dot welcomes solo travellers

In fact, over half of our clients are solo travellers. We understand it can be daunting to travel on your own, and we'll ensure your travel is safe, inclusive and enjoyable. You can confidently join our groups, knowing that we bring solo travellers together to share the camaraderie of an unforgettable adventure.



Enquiries and bookings

A \$500 deposit is required to secure your booking.

For more information:

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