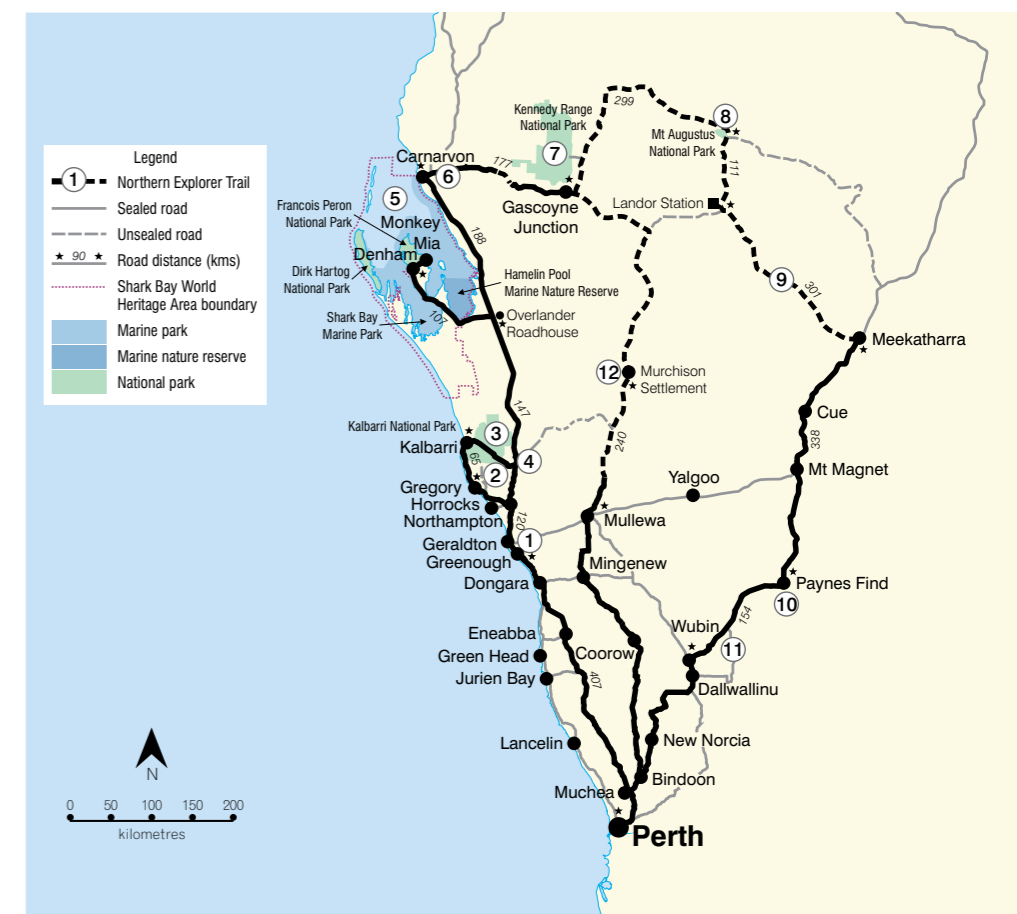




Kalbarri National Park, Kalbarri



NORTHERN EXPLORER TRAIL

From the Everlastings Trail, journey further north to experience a sensational show of wildflowers set among the vast landscape. Travel the Indian Ocean Drive towards the white sands and crystal waters of Geraldton, by the breathtakingly high coastal cliffs of Kalbarri, to where the sleek and magical dolphins of Monkey Mia swim peacefully in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area.

1 Greenough

Make a stop at the historic Greenough Hamlet and the Greenough Visitor and Interpretation Centre situated on the Brand Highway. Further north is the bustling coastal town of Geraldton, which is blessed with beautiful beaches, warm sunny weather and many attractions including the Western Australian Museum-Geraldton and HMAS Sydney Memorial. Make sure to photograph Greenough's amazing leaning trees. See: Wildflowers of many varieties.

2 Gregory

Port Gregory lies near the mouth of Hutt River and is a picturesque fishing village encircled by five kilometres of exposed

reef. There's a natural harbor with a swimming beach, and a large jetty and water-ski area. The area is also popular for its rock lobsters. A profuse display of Orchids along with a diverse selection of wildflowers can be found.

See: Donkey, Bee, Cowslip, Spider, Blue, Shy and Vanilla Sun Orchids and Northampton midget Greenhood Orchids.

3 Kalbarri National Park

Kalbarri is located at the mouth of the Murchison River. Kalbarri National Park covers an area of over 180,000 hectares and includes breathtaking coastal cliffs and dazzling wildflower viewing. Marvel at nature's ability to carve the landscape, explore the depths and heights of the

river gorges and sea cliffs, admire the floral beauty of the rolling sand plains and discover the intriguing cultural history of the area. Magnificent wildflowers set the landscape ablaze with colour from July to November. Deep gorges on the Murchison River contrast with sand plain country. Explore the Murchison River by boat or canoe. Entry fees apply.

See: River Gums, gold and orange Banksias, Grevilleas, Kangaroo Paws, Featherflowers, Starflowers, Smoke bushes and Eucalypts.

4 Riverside Sanctuary

Visit Riverside Sanctuary to experience beautiful bush landscapes, spectacular seasonal wildflowers, dazzling night

skies and knowledgeable guides. Take a guided bush and wildflower tour on the farm in some of the 10,000 acres of remnant bush land and waterways.

See: Everlastings, Pompoms, Thriptomene, Grevilleas, Hakeas, Verticordias, Calytrix, Kangaroo Paws, Kalbarri Catspaws, Triggerplants, Banksias, Eucalypts and Murchison Clawflowers.

5 Shark Bay World Heritage Area – Denham and Monkey Mia

For a chance to befriend enchanting bottlenose dolphins, a visit to Monkey Mia Reserve is a must. The dolphins are famous for their almost daily ritual of visiting the shore to interact with humans. Francois Peron National Park is four kilometres from Denham and offers rare and spectacular coastal scenery of red cliffs, blue water, white beaches and vivid wildflowers. The Peron Homestead can be accessed by 2WD and has an interpretative display in the old station overseer's quarters, a self-guided walk trail, picnic facilities and a hot tub where

visitors can soak in artesian water. A high clearance 4WD is needed to explore the wilderness area north of the homestead. Entry fees apply.

See: Wattles, Hakeas, Grevilleas, Dampiera, purple Peas and Shark Bay Daisy.

6 Carnarvon

Carnarvon is located 904 kilometres north of Perth on the North West Coastal Highway. A coastal town, Carnarvon has a moderate tropical climate and is famous for its banana plantations. The rugged coastline only a short drive north of Carnarvon features outstanding coastal cliffs at Cape Cuvier, plus great fishing, swimming and snorkeling all year round. Pack a hamper and visit classical Australian waterholes - Rocky Pool and Chinaman's Pool. When day turns into night sit back and gaze into our clear, star-filled skies. The road to Carnarvon makes its way through many wildflower varieties, including seasonal Everlastings. A drive further north of Carnarvon on the North West Coastal Highway will also

MUST SEE AND DO

- Explore Mt Augustus 49 km circuit Burringurrah Drive
- Visit Monkey Mia Reserve and befriend bottlenose dolphins
- Explore the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, recognised for its natural beauty, biological diversity and ecological processes
- Visit Shell Beach, one of only two beaches in the world formed from billions of the same tiny shells
- Visit Shark Bay's Hamelin Pool - one of only two places in the world with the oldest living marine fossils known to humans – Stromatolites



Mount Augustus National Park

reward you with outstanding displays.

See: Parakeelya, purple Vetch, Northern Bluebells and green Birdflower.

7 Kennedy Range National Park

The beautiful gorges and red rock landscape of Kennedy Range National Park are about a two hour drive east of Carnarvon. Perfect for a four wheel drive adventure, this is the place to go camping under a star-filled night sky. Here, you're surrounded by pristine wilderness. Go bushwalking and explore gorges and sandstone cliffs, see native animals and birds, and look out over the vast plains of pastoral leases. Rising up to 100 metres above the valley, the Kennedy Range plateau has dominated the surrounding plains for millions of years. With red sand dunes, Spinifex, Wattles and Mallee trees scattered throughout the area, this is what the Aussie outback is all about. The area still retains a wilderness feeling.

See: Seasonal wildflowers including Everlastings.

8 Mount Augustus National Park

At two and a half times the size of Uluru, Mount Augustus rises impressively over the park. At 1,105 metres tall, Mount Augustus is one of Australia's most amazing peaks with ancient rock formations, Aboriginal art sites and a range of short and full day walks. Embark on a challenging climb to the top and be rewarded with incredible views over the park.

See: purple Mulla Mulla carpet.

9 The Murchison Region

After good winter rains, wildflowers are prolific and spread for hundreds of kilometres in this region.

See: Everlastings, golden Billy Buttons, mauve Velleia, magenta Parakeelya and blue Pincushions.

10 Paynes Find

Located 420 kilometres from Perth on the Great Northern Highway is a small community, which was once the centre of gold mining activity. The Paynes Find Gold Battery is a popular tourist attraction as is the town museum, which is filled

with relics from mining, patrol and sandalwood industries.

See: white, pink, cream and yellow Everlastings.

11 Goodlands to Wubin

Features on this trail include the old Rabbit Proof Fence which is still visible just passed the Jjibberding Rest Area, while at Wubin there is a Wheatbin Machinery Museum. See the unique Wreath flowers near Wubin.

See: Everlastings, blue Cornflowers and Orchids.

12 Murchison Settlement and Roadhouse

From the Murchison Settlement, you can visit the Murchison Museum Herbarium and Botanical Walk. Further south, daily wildflower tours and walks are conducted at Wooleen Station where guesthouse accommodation is also available. On the Carnarvon - Mullewa Road is Wandina Station, which provides accommodation and station tours.

See: Everlastings and Bright Podolepis.