

**Kimberley Snapshot**  
**Perth, Margaret River & Kimberley – April to August 2025**  
**(Including 7 night True North Cruise)**  
**17 Day Australian Itinerary**



(as at 05 Feb 25)

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**(Including 7 Night True North Cruise)**  
**17 Day Australian Itinerary**

**Day 1**  
**Arrive Perth/Boorloo**

**Perth/Boorloo** is a scenic and sophisticated city, renowned for its abundant sunshine, relaxed lifestyle and easy-going manner. The city's modern skyline blends with magnificent colonial architecture, housing excellent retail outlets. King Street, a historic and lovingly restored commercial precinct, is known for its fashion houses, cafes, art galleries and specialist bookstores. The city's prime position, flanking the broad reaches of the Swan River, provides an excellent setting for enjoying alfresco dining in one of the many outdoor restaurants and cafes. Visitors to Perth also have a choice of more than 80 kilometres of white sandy beaches within easy reach.



**Private Car/Driver Perth International Airport to Perth City Hotel**  
Operated by InStyle Chauffeured Limousines

**Accommodation at COMO The Treasury**  
Heritage Balcony Room for 2 Nights

**Includes:**  
Full breakfast daily, in-room private bar replenished daily, welcome drink on arrival.

This property is located in Perth's 140 year old State Buildings, which form part of the Cathedral Square development. This is one of the most significant heritage precincts in Western Australia, revitalised by leading architect, Kerry Hill. It is 650 metres to Barrack Street Jetty and 450 metres to Elizabeth Quay. The elegant and contemporary styled guest rooms and suites feature original high ceilings, cornicing, handcrafted European furniture, oversized windows, German deep-form Kaldewei Duo bathtubs, travertine stone tiles, twin vanities, heated floors and towel rails and balconies. Facilities include a lounge and library, which provide a social hub for guests and locals.





## **Day 2** **Pinnacle Desert**

### **Full Day Pinnacle Tour**

Operated by Luxury Outback Tours

#### **Includes:**

Hotel pickup and dropoff, morning tea, lunch, entry fee to Nambung National Park.

Your 9 hour will travel to the Pinnacles Desert, via Lancelin. Visit to the Pinnacles Desert Discovery Interpretive Centre, then drive into the Pinnacles Desert and tour along a 4km trail where you will have the unique experience of walking among the fascinating phenomenon of the Pinnacles. In geologic terms the pinnacles are a modern phenomenon, many geologist and experts do wonder of their mysterious formation and age. Some say the Pinnacles were formed as recently as 10,000 years ago to 500,000 years. After lunch at Cervantes drive to Thirsty Point to walk along the beautiful white sandy beach, view sparkling aquamarine waters, and the nearby Cervantes Islands. Then travel on to Lake Thetis to view the Stromatolites, one of the earliest forms of life on our planet, and another of nature's wonders. Return to Perth, where you will be transferred to your Perth city accommodation.

#### **Operates:**

**Duration:** 9 hours | **Months:** Year Round | **Days:** Daily

**Starts:** 7.30am | **Ends:** 4.30pm

**Does not operate: Valid 01 April 2025 to 31 March 2026**

Easter (18-22 Apr), Festive Season (22-30 Dec), Australia Day (26 Jan)



### **Day 3** **Perth/Boorloo to Margaret River**

#### **Today collect your rental vehicle from Avis Australia - Metro & Country (excl Northern Territory)**

Intermediate SUV (IFAR) Group K Metro & Country - Downtown Inclusive for 4 Days Rental

Vehicle Description:

Mitsubishi Outlander, Kia Sportage or similar, 5 door SUV, 4 cylinder, automatic, air-conditioning, airbags, power windows, central locking, cruise control, reverse camera or sensors, bluetooth and USB port

**Pick up: Monday 09:00 am Perth City, 960 Hay Street, Perth WA 6000. Phone: 08 9237 0022**

**Drop-off: Thursday 05:00 pm Perth City, 960 Hay Street, Perth WA 6000. Phone: 08 9237 0022**

#### **Includes:**

Unlimited Kilometres, Loss Damage Waiver (LDW) for the Avis vehicle and Third Party Property, 24 hour Roadside Assistance (mechanical issues only), Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF), Administration Fee (AF), Premium Location Surcharge (PLS)/Concession Recovery Fee (CRF), 10% Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Excess Reduction (Zero Excess).

*Note: The Premium Location Surcharge (PLS)/Concession Fee Recovery (CFR) is included in the daily rental rate only and not for any extras such as child seats or one way fees.*

#### **Additional Charges to be paid locally during the course of the rental:**

1. A deposit bond covering a A\$100.00 fuel bond, plus any optional extras, applicable one-way fees (if any), will be processed as a pre-authorisation on the renters credit card at the time of rental. Cash Bonds, pre-paid and reloadable debit cards, and travel cards are not accepted.
2. Electronic Tolls are payable on many major city highways in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. The Toll Service provider will charge the applicable service fee and toll fee to the renters credit card provided to Avis.
3. A location surcharge may apply at some locations for any extras such as child seats or one way fees

(please refer to the Terms & Conditions for further details)

4. Additional drivers other than the main/lead driver and one other driver.

Please make your own way to the Avis Rental Depot and present your passport and driver's license in order to collect your vehicle.

### **Driver's Licence Requirements**

Avis Australia will rent to drivers that present a current driver's licence. The renter has to have held the licence for 12 months. Avis Australia will not rent to any person on a Provisional or Probationary licence. If a foreign licence is in a language other than English, it must be accompanied by an International Driving Permit (containing an English translation), issued in accordance with a United Nations Convention on road traffic. An international drivers permit is not a stand-alone document and must be carried with the drivers valid domestic driving licence.

Drive Perth to Margaret River (Yallingup - Cape Lodge)  
255 kms/159 miles (3 hours non-stop driving time)

Travel south on State Route 2 followed by National Route 1 towards Bunbury. If time permits, visit Fremantle named in Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2016. Fremantle has long been renowned for its eclectic mix of arty and alternative types. Fremantle's streets buzz with the song of buskers, the sidewalks fill with a wild collection of art and music floats out from trendy cafes and bars. Enjoy a coffee along the 'Cappuccino Strip' or trendy Wray Avenue, South Terrace and High Street. Enjoy fish and chips at the Fishing Boat Harbour and stroll along the boardwalk to Bathers Beach. Visit the Fremantle Markets, Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour, WA Maritime Museum, and Fremantle Prison.

If time permits, stop in Mandurah, the gateway to the many other attractions of the hinterland including Pinjarra; home of the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway which offers scenic Steam Train excursions throughout the State; and the vast timber forests of the Darling Scarp. Many Western Australians and regular visitors from around the world have built luxury holiday and retirement homes along the waterways and in the modern residential canal developments. Regular boat cruises of the waterways depart daily from the dock adjacent to the Mandurah Tourist Bureau. Watch bottlenose dolphins playing joyfully in the canals, estuary and rivers.

Stop in Bunbury, well known for its pristine beaches it is a popular holiday spot for Western Australians and offers the visitor a wide range of local tours, cruises and special events. Numerous wildlife parks, art galleries and holiday attractions provide plenty of things to do and for the more active you can swim with the dolphins (November-April) off Koombana beach most mornings. Take a stroll around the streets to spot the street murals (pick up a map from the local visitor centre). There are plenty of cafes and boutiques along the way if you need a rest! Travel along the Bussell Highway (State Route 10) to Margaret River.

Stop at Busselton, Western Australia's premier seaside resort town and holiday mecca with golden beaches, crystal clear waters and abundant water based activities to take part in. Visit the old wooden Busselton Jetty, almost 2 kms in length. The first stage was built in 1865 and further extensions were made until 1965. Abandoned by the government in 1972 and damaged by fire and cyclones through the years, the jetty is now cared for by a local Jetty Preservation Society and provides a pleasant place to take a stroll, enjoy the fresh clean air, relax, or just dangle a fishing line in the water and hope that no fish come along to disturb your reverie. The Busselton Jetty Underwater Observatory is one of Western



Australia's must-see eco-tourism attractions. Located near the end of the jetty, the Underwater Observatory enables you to view more than 300 species of marine life from the underwater chamber windows 8 metre below sea level.

If time permits, explore Yallingup with its stunning coastline, including Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse and Ngilgi Cave. The Margaret River region stretches from Busselton to Augusta. The area has spectacular beaches, exquisite caves, adventurous walks and trails, world class surfing spots, divine cuisine and award winning wine.

Continue along the Bussell Highway, turning right onto Wildwood Road, then turn left onto Abbey's Farm Road and left onto Caves Road to Cape Lodge. Spend a day of exploring the fantastic wineries and food producers of the region including Vasse Felix and Sandalford Wines. Stop at the Margaret River Chocolate Factory, sample wines, olive oils and fresh produce at Margaret River Providore, taste feta at the Margaret River Dairy Company or buy a take home meal from The Larder. Take a drive to Prevelly, home of the Margaret River Pro surfing titles, or stop at Leeuwin Estate and the Margaret River Fudge Factory.

### Western Australia Margaret River Region

Situated at the tip of southern Western Australia, from **Busselton** down to **Augusta**, the **Margaret River Region** is an easy 2.5 hour drive from Perth. The density of this region allows you to hop from award winning wineries and bespoke art galleries, to stunning beaches, tall-timber forests, flowing rivers, world-class surf breaks and ancient caves – all in a single day. Each of the Margaret River Region's towns can be found hugging the coast of the Indian Ocean. Known internationally as one of the best big wave surfing locations, there are more than 40 top surfing areas along Margaret River's coast, with conditions ranging from powerful reef breaks, to fun beach surf. The Margaret River Wine Region is renowned internationally. Visit one of the many cellar doors or one of the many restaurants, cafes, boutique breweries and distilleries, local farmers markets, and artisan providores to sample South West delights.



## **Accommodation at Cape Lodge**

Garden View Room for 2 Nights

**Includes:** 1 x Five Course Dinner Menu with Wine Pairing per person

Full breakfast daily, afternoon tea, in-room refreshments, wine experience and a complimentary pre-dinner drink in the Restaurant Lounge.

This property is located 8 kilometres from Yallingup and 33 kilometres from the township of Margaret River. Meander down the winding driveway of the intimate country estate and discover why it was voted one of the top 100 hotels in the world. The hotel sits on its own vineyard within 10 hectares of forest, parkland, gardens and lakes. The original homestead contains the lobby, a guest drawing room and gift shop. The accommodation has been designed for luxurious privacy and is a mixture of rooms and suites spread throughout manicured expansive grounds within five detached wings encircling two lakes.



## **Day 4**

### **Western Australia Margaret River Region**

Today is free to relax and explore on your own.

## **Day 5**

### **Margaret River to Perth/Boorloo**

Drive Margaret River (Cape Lodge) to Perth  
255 kms/159 miles (3 hours non-stop driving time)

Travel south of Caves Road turning onto Johnson Road, before turning right onto Puzey Road. Turn left onto Yelverton Road and then travel northeast on the Bussell Highway (State Route 10) to Bunbury. If time permits, explore Yallingup with its stunning coastline, including Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse and Ngilgi Cave. The Margaret River region stretches from Busselton to Augusta. The area has spectacular beaches, exquisite caves, adventurous walks and trails, world class surfing spots, divine cuisine and award winning wine.

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If time permits, stop in Mandurah, the gateway to the many other attractions of the hinterland including Pinjarra; home of the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway which offers scenic Steam Train excursions throughout the State; and the vast timber forests of the Darling Scarp. Many Western Australians and regular visitors from around the world have built luxury holiday and retirement homes along the waterways and in the modern residential canal developments. Regular boat cruises of the waterways depart daily from the dock adjacent to the Mandurah Tourist Bureau. Watch bottlenose dolphins playing joyfully in the canals, estuary and rivers.

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Continue towards Perth, taking the Hay Street exit and follow signs for City Centre. Perth is the capital of Western Australia and sits where the Swan River meets the southwest coast and is home to Kings Park, one of the world's largest inner city parks. Discover laneway bars in multicultural Northbridge, take a swim in the glassy waters of the Indian Ocean at Cottesloe Beach or take a day trip to meet the quokkas on Rottnest Island.

Return your rental vehicle to the Downtown Depot. Please allow plenty of time prior to the office closing time.

## **Perth/Boorloo**

### **Accommodation at COMO The Treasury**

Heritage Balcony Room for 1 Night

#### **Includes:**

Full breakfast daily, in-room private bar replenished daily, welcome drink on arrival.



This property is located in Perth's 140 year old State Buildings, which form part of the Cathedral Square development. This is one of the most significant heritage precincts in Western Australia, revitalised by leading architect, Kerry Hill. It is 650 metres to Barrack Street Jetty and 450 metres to Elizabeth Quay. The elegant and contemporary styled guest rooms and suites feature original high ceilings, cornicing, handcrafted European furniture, oversized windows, German deep-form Kaldewei Duo bathtubs, travertine stone tiles, twin vanities, heated floors and towel rails and balconies. Facilities include a lounge and library, which provide a social hub for guests and locals.



## **Day 6** **Perth/Boorloo to Broome/Rubibi**

**Private Car/Driver Perth City Hotel to Perth Domestic Airport**  
Operated by InStyle Chauffeured Limousines

**Depart Perth**  
**Arrive Broome**

Your flight today is not included in your Southern World arrangements.

## **Broome, Western Australia/Rubibi**

Where the red dirt meets the ocean, colourful **Broome/Rubibi** beckons travellers from around Australia and the world. Once a sleepy outback pearling town, Broome has long been renowned for its relaxed atmosphere and unique character. The town is surrounded by the tropical turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean, with the white sandy stretch of Cable Beach contrasting with the red rocks of Gantheaume Point and the dusky sands of Roebuck Bay. Learn about the rough and tumble early days of pearling, when Broome's name was known the world over for the size and quality of its mother of pearl. It is also the gateway to further adventure in the Kimberley region, with extended tours and cruises departing from Broome as well as car and campervan hire.



### **Shared Transfer Airport to Broome Cable Beach Hotel**

Operated by Broome Transit

### **Accommodation at Oaks Cable Beach Resort**

One Bedroom Apartment for 2 Nights

This resort is a 10-minute walk from the pristine sands of Cable Beach, 5-minute drive from Chinatown and the heart of Broome, and Roebuck Bay is a 12-minute drive away. It features studio and self contained apartments which have elegant modern designs that draw on traditional Broome architecture and colours. The beautifully appointed self-contained apartments are set around tropical lagoon pools, with the Kimberley region at your back door and have a covered outside courtyard or balcony areas.





## Day 7

### Broome, Western Australia/Rubibi

This morning is free to relax and explore on your own.

#### Afternoon Flavours of Broome Bus Tour

Operated by Broome and Around

##### Includes:

Hotel pick up and drop off, food at Matso's and drinks at each venue, distillery tour pearl appreciation and oyster chucking demo/tasting.

On this 4 hour tour, slip into "Broome Time" and spend the afternoon savouring the flavours of local brews and fresh produce at the most iconic venues in Broome. Visit Matso's Broome Brewery which is Australia's most remote iconic Japanese Brewery. Enjoy a locally inspired choice of three exclusive Beer Paddles, "Broome Exclusive", "Broome Time" or "Tropical Heat"! Discover the history of Kimberley's award-winning Brewery and restaurant overlooking Roebuck Bay. You will visit Moontide Gin Distillery for a refreshingly delightful, Kimberley inspired, White Pearl Gin. It has evolved from local fruits and spices including juniper, coriander seeds, mango, tamarind, sandalwood, and lemon myrtle combined with the region's monsoonal rains. You will visit Zookeepers by Spinifex Brewing Co., Broome's new premier casual dining experience for share plates and a share paddle. Next door is Willie Creek Pearls, where you can enjoy Bubbles and Pearl Appreciation talk at the Willie Creek Pearl Showroom. You will learn about Broome-inspired food and drinks, while also discovering the best of Broome award-winning restaurants, and you will be in pole position for sunset cocktails overlooking our famous Cable Beach. Now that is living the dream!!

**What to bring:** Wear comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen and a refillable water bottle.



##### Operates:

**Duration:** 4 hours | **Months:** Year Round | **Days:** Daily

**Starts:** 12.45pm | **Ends:** 4.45pm



## Day 8 Kimberley Cruise

### 7 Night Kimberley Snapshot - Broome to Wyndham

Operated by True North Adventure Cruises

**Departs Saturday 03 May 25 from**

**Arrives Saturday 10 May 25 at**

#### **Includes:**

Hotel pick up and drop off, all meals and non-alcoholic beverages, activities as outlined in itinerary, park permits and port charges.

#### **Operates:**

**Duration:** 7 Nights/7 Days | **Months:** May, Jun, Jul, Aug | **Days:** Selected Sat

**Starts:** Broome Sat 5.00pm

**Ends:** Wyndham Sat 8.00am - with transfer to Kununurra

**2025 Departures:** 03 May, 14 Jun, 05 Jul, 26 Jul, 16 Aug

**2026 Departures:** 30 May, 20 Jun, 11 Jul, 01 Aug, 22 Aug

Your 'Welcome Aboard' the magnificent TRUE NORTH is in the pearling port of Broome. Embarkation is at 5.00pm – time for a cocktail with your fellow adventurers before departing at approximately 6.30pm. Dinner is served shortly after leaving port for the overnight cruise to Yampi Sound.

## Day 9

Awake to the majestic Kimberley and savour an irresistible TRUE NORTH breakfast as we glide past Cockatoo and Koolan Islands – our attentive crew will be happy to introduce the colourful histories of both! Then it's time to 'personally' introduce you to a Kimberley icon – The Horizontal Falls. Experience the awesome power of the region's huge tidal range in an exhilarating tender ride and then climb aboard your air conditioned helicopter (additional cost) for a view of the falls that very few experience! Take a refreshing swim and then walk on the squeaky white sands of Silica Beach. Or join one of the adventure boats on a sightseeing expedition to Whirlpool Pass, an aptly named further demonstration of the Kimberley's powerful tides. Before you know it, your first day onboard will be coming to an end – but there's still time to select a fine wine and to enjoy a leisurely evening meal as we cruise to Doubtful Bay.

## Day 10

This morning is devoted to exploring the Sale River. Join naturalists and adventurers alike as we 'ride the tide' on a classic river expedition! For those who can't wait one minute longer, the mouth of the Sale offers the first opportunity to 'land a barra'! Or, take-off for a heli-fishing adventure (additional cost) to a rarely fished spot where the fresh meets the salt! Enjoy lunch as we weigh anchor and cruise for another Kimberley icon – Montgomery Reef! Montgomery is a unique ecosystem that must be seen to be believed – and see it you will – as 140 square miles of coral reef rises out of the ocean right before your very eyes! Water cascades from the reef as the tide falls exposing a privileged glimpse of another world! Turtles, dugong, crocodiles and every imaginable sea creature abound and the helicopter (additional cost) puts all in perspective!

## Day 11

The scenery will astound and there are some not-to-be-missed fishing spots as the TRUE NORTH graces the majestic Prince Regent River. This morning's target species include delectable mangrove jack and fingermark bream. At King Cascade we will manoeuvre the TRUE NORTH right under the falls. Then it's time for more 'adventure in the tender' – a chance to stretch the laces on your hiking boots and an

opportunity to swim in yet another picture perfect billabong, or perhaps you'd like to venture further upriver to visit the spectacular 'Amphitheatre' waterfall. The helicopter (additional cost) will be popular again when the first group of intrepid explorers returns from Jurassic Park!

### **Day 12**

If you think the Regent was good – wait till you see the Hunter! With stunning red cliffs set behind rainforest and mangroves - the Hunter River is yet another awesome setting for fishing, mud crabbing, bird watching and just simply exploring! Enjoy an exhilarating hike to the hidden Jackson Falls and there's even more splendour from the helicopter (additional cost) ! Hopefully we'll have time for a sunset drink on Naturaliste Island before an overnight cruise to Vansittart Bay.

### **Day 13**

Today there will be an opportunity to see the "Bradshaws" – ancient rock art that pre-dates other examples of Aboriginal culture. In fact, they are possibly the oldest 'paintings' known to man. Vansittart Bay also has a reputation for producing monster mackerel! The heli-picnic (additional cost) at Eagle Falls is always a 'big hit' – enjoy a sumptuous picnic lunch amidst breathtaking scenery. The tenders will also be busy exploring the local beaches and creeks. Overnight we cruise to Koolama Bay.

### **Day 14**

Yet another mighty Kimberley river – The King George! As soon as the tide is high enough, we'll cross the sand bars at the mouth to reveal even more breathtaking river vista. Then our journey upstream will take us to the very 'jewel in the crown' – The King George Falls. Here we anchor at the base of the Twin Falls and you will find endless places to explore. Take the helicopter (additional cost) to the top of the falls for another highlight. Just the thought of leaving this magnificence will inspire mutiny! Learn about the bombing of a state-ship during WWII, then take a stroll at Tranquil Bay before we continue onto the frontier port of Wyndham.

### **Day 15**

Your courtesy coach will arrive at approximately 8.00am for transfer to Kununurra and your crew will already be looking forward to the next opportunity to welcome you aboard the mighty TRUE NORTH!

**Note:** *This itinerary will be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances and changes to local arrangements.*



**Kununurra** puts you at the heart of the East Kimberley action. Take a helicopter flight over one of the world's most unique ranges - the Bungle Bungle Range. Cruise the wildlife rich waters of a man-made lake so huge it's classed as an inland sea. Follow in the tracks of pioneering legends along the Gibb River Road, chase the mighty barramundi, or gain a true connection to country with one of the oldest surviving cultures on Earth.





## **Accommodation at Kununurra Country Club Resort**

King Room for 2 Nights

**Includes:** 2 x Full Breakfast per person

Shared transfers to and from Kununurra airport (must be booked at least 48 hours prior to arrival).

This property is located in the centre of Kununurra and 3 kilometres from the airport. The modern and stylish rooms are set amongst lush tropical gardens and feature either tile or wooden floorboards.



## **Day 16**

### **Kununurra**

#### **Lake Kununurra Sunset BBQ Dinner Cruise**

Operated by Kununurra Cruises

**Includes:**

Hotel pick up and drop off, nibbles, 2 course dinner (main with selection & dessert), beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic).

On this 3 hour experience you will spend the afternoon cruising on Lake Kununurra. As the vessel winds its way through Lily Creek and out into the open water of Lake Kununurra, the picturesque lagoon will have you reaching for your camera. Views of Sleeping Buddha will be enjoyed from Lake Kununurra before the vessel turns towards the Diversion Dam as the sun sets. Appetizers will be provided, and once the vessel reaches the sunset dinner location in Packsaddle Lagoon, you will be able to soak up the tranquility as you enjoy your Kimberley-inspired dinner. Upon return to the Marina, you will be transferred back to your Kununurra accommodation.

**Operates:**

**Duration:** 3 hours | **Months:** May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep | **Days:** Daily

**Starts:** 3.15pm | **Ends:** 6.15pm



**Day 17**  
**Depart Kununurra**

Courtesy coach transfer by Kununurra Country Club Resort to Kununurra Airport.

**End of your arrangements**

# Travel Tips

From the Outback to the Reef, Australia is a land of great diversity. It offers stunning scenery, spectacular white sand beaches and a wide range of interesting and unique animals. Take a journey with us through this magnificent land.

## Business Hours

General retail trading hours throughout Australia are Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm. Saturday is either 9.00am - 12 noon or through to 5.00pm. Sunday shopping is available in most city centres and suburban malls. Please check with your Hotel Concierge for local information on trading hours.

## Currency

The Australian dollar is the basic unit, divided into 100 cents; coins are 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, \$1, \$2 and notes are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Due to the discontinuation of 1c, 2c pieces, purchases made in Australia are subject to "rounding" of amounts either up or down. Most retailers have adopted the 'Swedish Rounding System' whereby prices ending in 1 to 4 cents will be rounded down and prices ending in 6 to 9 cents will be rounded up.

## Banking/Travellers' Cheques

Banks open Monday-Friday (except public holidays), 9.30am-4.30pm. Automatic teller machines operate on a card/PIN number system. Cash can be withdrawn 24 hours a day. Use of EFTPOS (Electronic Funds Transfer at Point of Sale) is common. All international credit cards (American Express, Diners, VISA, and MasterCard) are accepted. Travellers' cheques may be changed at banks and hotels.

## Goods & Services Tax (GST)

Goods and Services are taxed 10%. This tax is usually included in the advertised price.

## Tipping Guidelines

In Australia tipping is generally not customary and is only exercised as a genuine thank you for receiving great service. There is no obligation to tip, although the practice is common within the restaurant and tourism transport industries.

### Tips for good service:

1. Restaurants, a tip of about 10% is generally sufficient for good service with 15% for exceptional service.
2. Luggage Porters AU\$2.00 per piece.
3. Coach drivers and guides receive for touring (not transfers) around the AU\$5.00 per person per day, however tips should not be given for average or below average service/driving or commentary.
4. Private Drivers for transfers should be only tipped for excellent service (around AU\$10-20 total). The same applies for touring with a Driver/Guide, with tips for excellent service being anywhere from AU\$40-100 depending on the level of service.
5. Small group touring should be only tipped for excellent service (around AU\$20 per person).

## Electricity Supply

Australia's electrical current is 220/240 volts accepting 3-pin plugs. An adaptor can be used but it is important to note that they do not convert voltage. Universal outlets for 240v or 110v shavers are usually found in leading hotels.

## Emergencies

Dial 000 for police, fire or ambulance services.

## Telephone Local Area Codes

Australia uses 8-digit local phone numbers preceded by a 2-digit STD area code.

02 Central east region (NSW) New South Wales, (ACT) Australian Capital Territory

03 South east region (VIC) Victoria and (TAS) Tasmania

04 Mobile telephones Australia-wide

07 North east region (QLD) Queensland

08 Central and west region (WA) Western Australia, (SA) South Australia and (NT) Northern Territory

For example, if you are calling Canberra in the ACT from interstate, first dial the STD area code 02, then dial the local phone number.

## Health Services

Public and private health facilities have a high standard of treatment and care. Larger hotels often have a local doctor on call; otherwise, doctors and other medical services are listed in the front of the local telephone directory.



## **Pharmaceuticals and Medicines**

These are available from chemists/pharmacies during normal shopping hours. Most cities have urgent dispensaries open outside these hours and your Hotel Concierge will have a list of these. Chemists also sell cosmetics, insect repellent and sun protections.

## **Climate**

The southern parts of Australia have four distinct seasons, the opposite of those in the northern hemisphere. When it is winter in Europe and North America, it is summer in Australia. You will hardly see snow, apart from the mountainous regions in eastern Victoria and southern New South Wales. Australia's north is in the tropics which has two seasons, the dry and the wet; both have high temperatures year round. The centre has a typical desert climate, hot days and cool , which can be very cold in winter.

## **Sun Protection**

Due to Australia's high level of ultraviolet radiation it is highly advisable to wear sun protection such as sunglasses and/or a sun hat and to apply sunblock (SPF 30+) even when the day is overcast.

## **Water Supply**

Tap (faucet) water is safe to drink. City water is chlorinated; most water is fluoridated. Water sourced from rivers and lakes should be boiled or treated before drinking.

## **Time Differences, Time Zones and Daylight Saving**

Australia's East Coast is 10 hours ahead of GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) during the months of April to September (Standard Time) each year. With a land mass close to 7.7 million square kilometres, Australia is the world's sixth largest country and during Standard Time it is divided into three separate time zones.

### **Time Zones:**

#### ***Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)***

Covers the eastern states of Queensland, New South Wales (with the exception of the town of Broken Hill), Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

AEST is equal to Coordinated Universal Time plus 10 hours (UTC +10).

#### ***Australian Central Standard Time (ACST)***

Covers the state of South Australia, the town of Broken Hill in western New South Wales and the Northern Territory.

ACST is equal to Coordinated Universal Time plus 9.5 hours (UTC +9.5).

#### ***Australian Western Standard Time (AWST)***

Covers Western Australia.

AWST is equal to Coordinated Universal Time plus 8 hours (UTC +8).

### **Daylight Saving:**

Daylight Saving Time (DST) is the practice of advancing clocks one hour during the warmer months of the year. In Australia, Daylight saving is observed in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2.00am on the first Sunday in October, when clocks are put forward one hour. It ends at 2.00am (which is 3.00am Daylight Saving Time) on the first Sunday in April, when clocks are put back one hour.