

Escape to Esperance

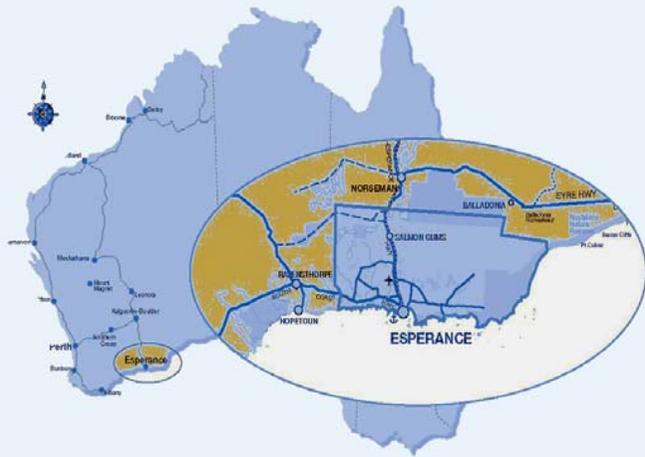
Esperance, Western Australia is where you can find that perfect stretch of beach and blue water to let all your cares drift away.

A paradise for sea and sun lovers, Esperance's beaches provide ideal conditions for fishing, surfing, sailing and sand boarding. Just off the coast, there are over a hundred islands offering top-class diving and snorkelling. The beaches are exquisite, with startlingly white sand and the most colourful, tranquil blue water that you will ever see in your life.

The warm sun, fresh clean environment and long stretches of isolated beaches make this the ideal place to 'get away from it all'. Even in the busiest holiday periods you will be able to find a long ribbon of white beach to call your own.

Close to town, there's Twilight Beach and a host of other beaches along the spectacular Great Ocean Drive. Further out of town, places not to miss are Hellfire Bay, Thistle Cove and Lucky Bay the beauty of which are guaranteed to take your breath away.

Now recognised as having the best beaches in Australia, make sure you don't miss your chance to explore this world class natural wonderland.



Twilight Beach MOST POPULAR BEACH IN WA!

Twilight Beach is located 7km and seven beaches west of Esperance on the Great Ocean Drive. Twilight Beach is spectacular and offers a pristine beach with crystal clear waters and snow-white sands. As the beach curves to the southwest it becomes increasingly protected by its orientation and two offshore rocks.

Twilight Beach is the most popular swimming and surfing beach in the Esperance area. The beach is patrolled by surf lifesavers during the summer and is a favourite with families and ideal for beginner surfers.



ESPERANCE

South East Western Australia



Your guide to the best beaches in Australia





Beach Advice

Beach Driving

Esperance beaches offer a unique opportunity to access some of the world's best beaches by 4WD. Please respect this privilege and remember;

- Advisory speed limit on our beaches is 40kph.
- Please stay off the primary dunes and don't try to make your own road, follow the tracks that are already there. Deflate your tyres, not only does this make it easier to drive it helps protect our beaches.
- Watch out for people and fishing lines - always drive behind fishers.
- Make sure you park above the high tide line, and always know if the tide is coming in or going out.
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you are expected to return.
- The recommended minimum equipment to have with you is a shovel, a good tyre pressure gauge a tow/snatch strap, rope or chain at least 6 metres long, spare tyre, jack and jack support, flashlight, first aid kit and a small fire extinguisher.
- Don't forget to take a bag for your rubbish.

Fishing

Esperance offers great fishing, however, rock fishing can be dangerous. Remember to always obey danger signs and seek out local advice on your intended fishing spot.

NEVER turn your back on the sea.

NEVER fish alone. One person must watch the sea at all times.

NEVER fish from rocks you can not access from the water

Rips and Undertows

To avoid rips, look out for:

- A darker colour because the water is deeper
- A calm rippled surface, generally with smaller waves
- Debris or foam floating on the surface out to sea.

Getting out of a rip

If caught in a rip, stay calm. Tread water or float. Once out past the breakers, swim parallel to shore and catch waves in. Or signal for help and wait for rescue. If you are a strong swimmer you can swim at 45° across the rip into the wave area, and then catch a wave back to shore.



Beaches Close to Esperance Townsite

Ten Mile Beach

Ten Mile Lagoon is a great swimming beach. A rocky shore acts as a natural break water, forming a long shallow pool that's considerably warmer than the ocean. For Naturalists, Esperance's "Free" Beach is 200 metres further down.

Distance: 14km
Activities: Swimming, surfing and boogie boarding
Toilets:

Observatory Beach

Observatory Beach's great appeal is that the windsurfing is exceptional and, while still relatively unknown, it promises awesome waves without the crowds.

Distance: 9.5km
Activities: Swimming, windsurfing, walking and boogie boarding
Toilets:

West Beach

A favourite with surfers, whilst a very beautiful beach, caution must be exercised when swimming at West Beach. Local residents can be found swimming in the lagoon pools behind the reef areas when conditions are safe.

Distance: 3km
Activities: Swimming, surfing and walking

Walking from Town to Twilight Beach.

If you ride or walk along the pathway between Twilight Beach and Esperance Town you will be treated to the sweeping vista of the splendid coast that is Esperance. The pathway will take you past beaches such as the magnificent West, Salmon and Blue Haven Beaches. Portions of the walk are equally spectacular along the beach where you can roll up your jeans and feel the snow-white sand between your toes!

Esperance Foreshore and Castletown

The pristine Esperance Bay is fringed with pines and visited by whales, dolphins and seals. The beaches are great and each one has its own special attraction. In front of the yacht club is particularly good for young families, the James Street Jetty has a great slide and swimming pontoon whilst Castletown Quays long white beach with gentle waves is perfect for families with 'beginner surfers' in tow.

Facilities: Gas BBQs and shade shelters
Toilets: The Esplanade (Opposite Emily Street), James Street car park, Tanker Jetty, Castletown Quays (Opposite Chaplin Street)
Toilets:



James Street Jetty and Swimming Pontoon

Beaches West of Esperance

Munglinup Beach

Munglinup Beach is bordered by a natural reef, where you can swim, snorkel and experience the local marine life in crystal clear water. Enjoy fishing from the beach or canoeing on the Oldfield Estuary.

Distance: 110km
Activities: Bird watching, swimming, canoeing, camping, fishing, and walking.
Facilities: Camping Ground
Toilets:

Stokes Inlet — Stokes National Park

Stokes Inlet is one of the most picturesque and interesting estuaries along Western Australia's south eastern coast. Long beaches framed by rocky headlands, behind which lie sand dunes, low hills and heath land. The beach offers great ocean fishing and sandy beaches perfect for sandcastles.

Distance: 80km
Activities: Bird watching, camping, fishing, canoeing, and walking
Facilities: Camping Ground, Gas BBQ's, Pit Toilets, CALM Fees apply
Toilets:

Quagi Beach

One of the most popular camping sites with visitors to the Esperance area. Quagi offers a unique opportunity for visitors to enjoy beachside camping in a natural bush environment.

Distance: 63km
Activities: Swimming, bird watching, fishing, camping and walking
Facilities: Camping Ground, CALM Fees apply
Toilets:

Beaches East of Esperance

Wylie Bay to Cape Le Grand

Wylie Bay is accessible to ordinary vehicles and is a great destination for a secluded picnic or fishing in the calm waters. The more adventurous may prefer to make their way to Cape Le Grand across the white sandy beaches via 4WD. Frenchman's Peak offers a gentle three kilometre walking trail with a smorgasbord of spectacular views across Cape Le Grand National Park.

Distance: 10-56km SE of Esperance
Activities: Swimming, diving, camping, fishing, surfing, boating, and bush walking
Facilities: Water available. Gas BBQ's, Shade shelters CALM Fees apply at Le Grand National Park
Toilets:



Hellfire Bay

Hellfire Bay

The magnificent sheltered Hellfire Bay offers plenty of walking trails and the beach is fantastic for swimming, beach cricket, boogie boarding and fishing.

Distance: 56km
Activities: Swimming, diving, fishing, surfing, and bush walking
Facilities: Gas BBQ's CALM Fees apply
Toilets:

Lucky Bay

Located between Hellfire and Rossiter Bay in the Cape Le Grand National Park 'unspoiled' and 'perfect' are two words that reflect the absolute beauty of Lucky Bay, even the kangaroos appreciate the sun, sand and water. They are regularly spotted lazing beachside and keeping visitors at the nearby camp ground entertained. The bay is well protected from prevailing weather and the Lucky Bay camping ground offers a great bush setting next to the beach and is popular with locals and visitors of all ages.

Distance: 66km
Activities: Swimming, diving, camping, fishing, surfing, boating, and bush walking
Facilities: Camping Grounds, shade shelters, solar hot water showers, water available, Gas BBQ's, CALM Fees apply
Toilets:

Duke of Orleans Bay — Wharton Beach

The "Duke" is a favourite with travellers and locals alike, nestled between the Cape Le Grand and Cape Arid National Parks the bay is sheltered and is an ideal family beach with magnificent coastal scenery, superb beaches of snow white sand and crystal blue waters. Four wheel drives have access to the beach.

Distance: 89km
Activities: Swimming, diving, camping, fishing, surfing, boating, and bush walking
Facilities: Duke of Orleans Caravan Park, Camping Ground shop, drinking water, Gas BBQ's, Dogs permitted
Toilets:

Alexander Bay

Enjoy views of Ben Island off the coast while lying on the pristine white sands of Alexander Bay. This sheltered bay offers fantastic swimming and is perfect for beach fishing and camping.

Distance: 108km
Activities: Swimming, diving, camping, fishing, surfing, boating, and bush walking
Facilities: Camping Ground
Toilets:

Thomas River — Cape Arid

Thomas River offers an array of natural wonders with abundant bird life and great fishing. This popular camping and fishing location is perfect for families. Don't miss the sights of Yokinup Bay and Little Tagon Bay.

Distance: 122km
Activities: Swimming, diving, camping, fishing, boating, and bush walking
Facilities: Camping Ground, Gas BBQ's, CALM Fees apply
Toilets:

Israelite Bay

Located 200km to the East of Esperance (the last 100km is restricted to 4WD vehicles only and there are no facilities) Israelite Bay offers remote sandy beaches and excellent coastal scenery. The Bay is where the ruins of the Israelite Bay Telegraph Station, which operated from 1877-1917, can be seen. Although very inaccessible, Israelite Bay offers both good fishing and good swimming.

Distance: 200km
Activities: Swimming, camping, fishing, and bush walking
Facilities: As Israelite Bay does not offer any facilities, visitors are advised to bring their own water and fuel. Visitors should check conditions and ensure they are self sufficient.



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