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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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**Self-drive** short breaks







# **Esperance to Cape Le Grand National Park**

72 km 50 min

Merivale Road and Cape Le Grand Road

## Camp at:



**Cape Le Grand** campground Lucky Bay campground



# **Drive further east to Cape** Le Grand and camp in fantastic campgrounds in the heart of this beautiful national park

Cape Le Grand National Park is characterised by stunning bays nestled between rocky headlands, heath covered sandplains and an impressive chain of peaks including Mount Le Grand and Frenchman Peak. The stunning white sandy beaches are some of the best in Australia. This is where you're likely to share the beach with a kangaroo lazing in the sun, so keep the camera ready! Picnic at Hellfire Bay or Lucky Bay or explore the whistling rocks at Thistle Cove. The beaches provide the perfect environment for surfing, swimming, fishing and boating and a climb to the top of the peaks will reward you with panoramic views.

#### Must do:

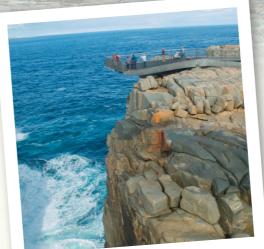
Walk the Le Grand Coastal Trail. This one-day hike



over 15km (one way) will reward you with gorgeous scenery of coastal heath, rocky headlands and perfect sandy beaches. If you are not an experienced walker, the trail can be

broken up into more manageable sections.

Optional extra: For a taste of paradise, head further east to Cape Arid National Park, where you can four-wheeldrive along some of the most secluded, whitest and visually spectacular beaches in Western Australia.



The Gap, Jorndirrup National Park

# Albany to Esperance

Porongurup, Stirling Range, Fitzgerald River and Cape Le Grand national parks

Camping within this incredible stretch of coastline with its turquoise water, stunning white beaches unique wildlife and dramatic landscape is an experience with nature you'll never forget.

Friendly locals

# Handy information

**ExploreParks WA** website will give you all the information you need to start planning your trip – see **parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au**.

ParkStay WA for all your campground information needs. Many camp sites can be booked online – see parkstay.dpaw.wa.gov.au.

Park passes. Buy a pass online at shop.dpaw.wa.gov.au and save. Remember entry fees apply at many parks. For RAC (WA) members, go to

rac.com.au/travel/australia/wa-holidays/park-passes.

ParkFinder WA mobile app is a great way to plan your trip and stay on route while you're away. It contains information on 150 parks and reserves in Western Australia.

CampingMate app will help when planning your camping trip with lists you can save and use on your next adventure.

Trails WA search for trails near you – see trailswa.com.au.

## **Working Together on Country**

The Department of Parks and Wildlife respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of the lands and waters it manages.

Information current as at May 2017

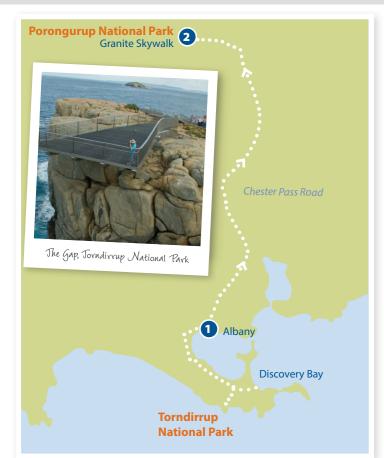












# Albany to Porongurup 51km 40 min

#### **Chester Pass Road**

Begin the day honouring our ANZACs with a visit to the fascinating National ANZAC Centre. Interesting exhibits and panoramic views of the harbour will not disappoint. Choose from the many cafés and restaurants in Albany before heading out to Albany's Historic Whaling Station at Discovery Bay, which now operates as an interpretive centre, native wildlife park and botanic garden.

The award-winning tourist destination of The Gap and Natural Bridge in Torndirrup National Park is a tour highlight. View the dramatic Southern Ocean swells from the safety of a state-of-the-art viewing platform 37m above the ocean and 10m beyond the precipice. A truly exhilarating experience for all ages!



Castle Rock, Porongurup National Park

### **Granite Skywalk**

Forty minutes' drive north of Albany, discover one of Western Australia's oldest ranges in Porongurup National Park. Take the opportunity to climb the Granite Skywalk – a suspended walkway which spirals around the huge granite outcrop of Castle Rock. Rising 670m, walk to the summit where you'll be rewarded with amazing views.



## Porongurup to Bluff Knoll 58km 40 min

#### **Chester Pass Road**

Continue north-east to Stirling Range National Park via Chester Pass Road where you will discover an amazing variety of wildflowers, birds and reptiles. Take in the exceptional 360 degree views of the Stirling Ranges. Home to the second highest peak in Western Australia, Bluff Knoll (1095m) is popular with hikers.

#### Must do:



**Bluff Knoll walk trail** Distance: 3.1km to summit (allow 3 to 4 hours return) Class 4: Moderately difficult.



Bluff Knoll, Stirling Range National Park



# **Bluff Knoll to Fitzgerald River National Park**

185km 1 hour 50 mins (west end park entrance)

# Chester Pass Road and Gnowangerup-Jerramungup

Fitzgerald River National Park is renowned for its rugged inland and coastal beauty. More animal species live in this park than any other reserve in the South West and it is one of the largest and most botanically significant national parks in Australia. Major improvements have been made within the park allowing for better access to bush and beach walks, which offer incredible views. The sheltered beaches provide the perfect place to surf, beach, fish or kayak.

### Camp at:



St Mary campground (western edge of the park) Four Mile campground (eastern edge of the park)

# Ranger's top tip

Head to picturesque Point Ann where, from June to October, southern right whales use the shallows of the bays to give birth, nurse their young and socialise before migrating back to Antarctic waters. And you can enjoy it all from a purpose-built platform.





# **Fitzgerald River National Park** to Esperance

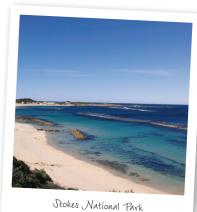
200km 2 hours

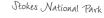
#### **South Coast Hwy**

Heading east along South Coast Highway make a stop at Stokes National Park, 80km west of Esperance and visit Moir Homestead Ruins, an interesting roofless 1870's limestone homestead. Stokes Inlet, Skippy Rock and Shoal Cape are popular with day visitors, and if you enjoy fishing, the inlet is abundant with black bream, mullet and King George whiting.

#### **Esperance**

This beautiful and picturesque town is the gateway to some of the most spectacular coastal landscapes Western Australia has to offer. Within the national parks, enjoy breathtaking views while bushwalking, swim in crystal clear waters and immerse yourself in fascinating history.









# Ranger's top tip

This reserve is 15kms offshore from Esperance and is part of the Recherche Archipelago. It has an abundance of wildlife and large shady trees along with history, scenery, walk trails and an underwater snorkel trail for aguatic adventure. Seasonal guided tours and camping are available by arrangement with a local tour operator. Contact Woody Island Eco Tours.