



July 2020



*Most common everlasting species, *Rhodanthe chlorocephala* subspecies *rosea* | Credit: Sightseeing Pass Australia*

Everlasting magic

Western Australia's 2020 wildflower extravaganza is underway. Despite rains arriving late in some areas, carpets of colourful everlastings are now about to appear in the Gascoyne and Murchison regions.

From mid-August as we head into Spring, the amazing natural spectacle of WA's wildflower wealth will extend into the Wheatbelt and Goldfields. By September-October the forests, national parks and reserves of the South West and Southern Outback regions will be in bloom.

WA has more than 12,000 species of wildflowers. Its annual floral display which extends over a six-month period, is the largest on earth.

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Wild encounters on the Coral Coast



Swimming with humpback whales in Exmouth | Credit: Chris Jansen for Live Ningaloo

The northern migration of humpback whales along the WA coast is well underway. The opportunity to swim with these majestic animals as they make their way to their breeding grounds is a bucket list item for many visitors to the Ningaloo Marine Park and the 2020 season coincides with the release of the State Government's Management Program for humpback whale interactions.

[Read more](#)

Gourmet experiences on Dirk Hartog



Island Life Festival - a celebration of life on an island paradise.

Foodies and nature lovers prepared to go out of their way for memorable experiences can look forward to some real treats at the Island Life Festival from 17-21 September.

This five-day culinary and eco-tourism adventure on Dirk Hartog Island is being promoted as one of Australia's more remote gourmet experiences - an intimate festival for lovers of good food and wine, music, nature and outdoor experiences.

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Improving access to Houtman Abrolhos



Houtman Abrolhos has an abundance of wildlife, spectacular landscapes and a rich maritime heritage | Credit: Great Escape Cruises

Two new jetties planned for the Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park will improve vessel access and open new tourism and recreational opportunities.

Tenders have been invited by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions for construction of the jetties on East Wallabi and Beacon islands. Completion is expected by early 2021.

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Festival of the Pearl



Shinju Matsuri's colourful opening ceremony will take place at Town Beach.

Broome's hugely popular Shinju Matsuri Festival, called off earlier in the year because of the Covid-19 threat, has been reinstated and will take place 29 August to 6 September. Shinju Matsuri showcases the Kimberley region's rich cultural diversity, pearling history, vibrant community and extraordinary natural landscapes.

[Read more](#)

Explore



Perth-Kimberley airfare bargains

Discounted air fares between Perth and Broome and Perth and Kununurra are on offer and the number of flights has been increased, with daily Broome flights and flights three times a week to Kununurra.

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New videos promote South West

In collaboration with the South West Development Commission and Southern Forests and Blackwood Valley Tourism Association, Australia's South West

has facilitated photoshoots with highly regarded photographer Frances Andrijich.

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Lead artist appointed for mega mural



The Bibbulmun Wellington Spur Trail links the Bibbulmun Track to the Wellington Dam.

A highly accomplished Queensland artist renowned internationally for his large-scale murals will be the lead artist for the Wellington Dam mural.

Guido van Helten's photorealistic large-scale murals have turned structures into icons in Portugal, Canada, the USA, Poland, Italy, Iran and more. Guido is also a pioneer of the Australian silo mural trend, having been nominated for the Art Gallery of New South Wales' Sir John Sulman prize for his silo murals in Brim, Victoria.

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River Journeys update



Kent Street Weir interpretive node

As part of the Swan Canning River Journeys project, the most recent interpretive node to be developed is now under construction on the Matilda Bay foreshore.

River Journeys aims to develop a network of walking trails featuring 25 nodes or rest points located at key sites of environmental, historical and Aboriginal cultural significance. The nodes provide the community with the opportunity to pause, relax and contemplate the history and wonderful river environment we have on our urban doorstep.

[Read more](#)

Hiking strategy developed



Mount Cooke, near Jarrahdale, Western Australia | Credit: The Hike Collective

A 10-year WA Hiking Strategy to ensure Western Australians continue to enjoy the great outdoors in a safe and sustainable way has been released recently.

It complements other trail strategies developed in WA over the past 25 years for areas such as mountain biking and horse trails.

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