

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL



Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

AUSTRALIA

2024-2025 GUIDED HOLIDAYS



FIRST CHOICE 5-21 day Fully Curated Experiences **From page 26**

BEST BUYS 3-15 day Flexible Guided Holidays **From page 58**

Wonders of the West Coast & Kimberley

Highlights

Local Connection

First Nations heritage stars while touring Argyle Diamond Mine with an Aboriginal guide; go behind the scenes to sample spirits with the family behind Hoochery Rum Distillery.

Cultural Immersion

Your First Nations host in Yanchep National Park is on a mission to reveal its ancient history. Dreamtime stories and bush-tucker tastings await.

Sustainable Footprints

Every step you take, every move you make... will help protect the national parks you visit for future generations, whether on land or in the water.

Wildlife & Nature

Have you ever wondered what life was like 3,500 million years ago? At Hamelin Pool you'll find out while witnessing the world's most abundant colony of stromatolites.



Bungle Bungle Range

21 DAYS

22 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2024

Jun 04

Jul 23

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/wpbd or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

Dining

20 Full breakfasts B
2 Lunches L

15 Dinners with wine DW
1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Perth Airport

Day 21 – flights to depart anytime from Darwin Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

1 Welcome to Perth

The WA capital is colourful in more ways than one. There are alleys lined with eye-popping street art, and wildflowers blanket Kings Park. Discover the sights, then meet your fellow adventurers for a Welcome Dinner.

Hotel: **Crowne Plaza. DW**

2 Perth – Geraldton

Talk about starting on a high. First stop is Yanchep National Park, where on your MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, your Aboriginal guide decodes native plants and tells Dreamtime stories. Just as scene-stealing are Nambung National Park's Pinnacles, limestone structures jutting into the sky. Arriving in Geraldton, pay homage to sailors lost during WWII at the HMAS Sydney Memorial. Hotel: **Mantra. B**

3 Geraldton – Monkey Mia

Prepare yourself for the 'living fossils' at Hamelin Pool, home to the most abundant colony of stromatolites in the world. The state's World Heritage listed Shark Bay is also characterised by Shell Beach, formed from billions of coquina bivalve shells. Hotel: **Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort, 2 nights. B DW**

4 Monkey Mia Free Time

If you didn't fall in love with the gin-clear waters and powdery sand of Monkey Mia last night, you will today. Meet the dolphins that turn up to the shore every morning, then spend the afternoon at leisure. Optional sunset cruise, perhaps? Or a scenic flight over the bay? **B**

5 Monkey Mia – Carnarvon

Did you know the Carnarvon Space and Technology Museum played a role in the 1969 moon landing, and was instrumental in the space race? Your visit here is interactive, so prepare to try on space suits and climb aboard a supercraft simulator. Hotel: **Best Western Hospitality. B DW**

6 Carnarvon – Exmouth

Today's cruise in a glass-bottomed boat allows you to glimpse the World Heritage listed Ningaloo Coast in comfort. Gliding around Coral Bay, your guide will point out colourful corals, turtles and angelic fish. Hotel: **Mantarays Ningaloo Beach Resort, 2 nights. B DW**

7 Exmouth Free Time

Depending on the time of year, Ningaloo Reef is home to both whale sharks and humpbacks. You can opt to snorkel with both (ethically) or book a sunset cruise to see some breaching and blowing. **B DW**

8 Exmouth – Karijini National Park

A frontier like no other, Karijini is where gorges seem to cleave off the edge of the Earth, waterfalls tumble from escarpments and remote turquoise rock pools shimmer like precious gems. Expect dazzling stargazing from your safari tent. Hotel: **Karijini Eco Retreat, 2 nights. B DW**

9 Karijini National Park

It took billions of years to create Karijini's geological wonders: the red layered cliffs, the quiet gorges, and the soaring gum trees. If you packed your swimsuit, cooling off under waterfalls comes highly recommended. **B DW**

10 Karijini National Park – Port Hedland

The Pilbara is sparsely populated, but you will find people in Port Hedland. There are plenty of local characters to meet over dinner at your hotel, which gets busy when musicians play. Hotel: **Hospitality. B DW**

11 Port Hedland – Broome

The reason Broome was born is because of pearls. Today, it's just as well known for its Indian Ocean sunsets, best enjoyed from a vantage on the Cable Beach sand. Hotel: **Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa, 2 nights. B DW**

12 Broome Free Time

Today is yours to explore. Stay in town and shop for pearls or wander the coast on the lookout for dinosaur footprints. **B**

13 Broome – Fitzroy Crossing

Things are bigger in Broome, including the 125-million-year-old dinosaur footprints. Remote Fitzroy Crossing is the gateway to Danggu (Geikie) Gorge. This remarkable part of the Kimberley was formed by the Fitzroy River carving the Napier Range. Hotel: **Fitzroy River Lodge. B DW**

14 Fitzroy Crossing – Halls Creek

Dive deep into First Nations culture on a visit to an art gallery, a community venue supporting Aboriginal creatives in the Fitzroy Crossing

region. Aboriginal culture is strong in the Great Sandy Desert as well, on the edge of which sits Halls Creek. Hotel: **Kimberley. B L DW**

15 Halls Creek – Emma Gorge

While the Argyle Diamond Mine has stopped producing rare pink diamonds, you can still visit with an Aboriginal guide. From here you're on the epic Gibb River Road to El Questro Wilderness Park. Hotel: **Emma Gorge Resort, Tented Cabin with private facilities, El Questro, 2 nights. B L DW**

16 El Questro Wilderness Park

The Kimberley's sounds follow you to Chamberlain Gorge, your boat dwarfed by its soaring escarpments. Afternoon remedy? A splash in the pool, perhaps, or a dip in the waterhole within Emma Gorge. Take your pick. **B DW**

17 Emma Gorge – Kununurra

Kununurra was born through the Ord River Irrigation Scheme. It now waters crops like sugarcane, turned into lip-smacking rum at Hoochery Distillery. A sunset cruise here is something you won't forget in a hurry. Hotel: **The Cambridge, 2 nights. B DW**

18 Kununurra

Today is one of decisions: An optional flight over (or 4WD tour of) the Bungle Bungles? Or a wander with your Travel Director through Mirima National Park. Follow the lead of locals and enjoy sunset atop Kelly's Knob. **B**

19 Kununurra – Katherine

NT locals come with plenty of country swagger, as you'll discover when you meet award-winning musician Tom Curtain for an afternoon of knee-slappin' songs and stories on a cattle station. Hotel: **Contour. B DW**

20 Katherine – Darwin

Nature rules at Nitmiluk National Park, where you cruise through dramatic Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge. Your northern sojourn reveals the region's historic events, all the way to Darwin. Hotel: **Vibe Darwin Waterfront. B FD**

21 Farewell from Darwin

It's hard to believe this epic adventure has come to an end. Three weeks of incredible memories to take home with you. **B**

