

## Suggested day trips from Balingup

Balingup is ideally located in the heart of the Blackwood River Valley . . . here's just a few day trip suggestions. Ask us or call into the Balingup Visitor Centre to obtain a map and find out about any events that may be on in the area.

**Bridgetown** – 28 km's south of Balingup on the SW Hwy, in the heart of the Blackwood River Valley you'll find the beautiful historic town of Bridgetown. It features some fabulous historic buildings and there's loads of gourmet wine and food to sample throughout the region. We'd recommend a visit to the Bridgetown Cidery, Bridgetown Pottery and Tearooms Gallery, the Christmas Shop (open all year round) and Wag Waters Gallery. Get outdoors and have a go at canoeing, kayaking, mountain biking or horse riding. There are some fabulous bushwalks in the area or you could visit stunning country gardens.

**Nannup** – 41km's south west of Balingup you'll travel along the 'Balingup – Nannup Scenic Drive' - you're sure to see kangaroos and emus in the wild. Nannup is a quaint historic town located on the banks of the Blackwood River. It has a couple good cafes and some wineries which are definitely worth a visit. The Mystic Maze and Putt Putt Golf will keep the kids and the 'young at heart' entertained. For gourmet foods try Cambray Sheep Cheese and the Taste of Nannup. Nannup is also a good spot for mountain biking and bushwalking.

**Donnelly River** – about 40km's south of Balingup via Bridgetown. This old mill town is a perfect spot to see tame kangaroos, emus, possums, kookaburras, magpies, parrots, blue wren and other wildlife. The animals wander through the village and the picnic area. Have lunch at the Cafe or BYO picnic or BBQ.

**Donnybrook** – 29km's north of Balingup on the SW Hwy you'll find Donnybrook. Famous for its apples and fruit orchards the area provides some spectacular scenery. The Apple FunPark is the largest free entry playground in Australia! Great bush walks in the area with some fabulous wildflowers sites. You can also visit the mountain bike park. Drive the scenic Upper Capel Road and return via the return via Brookhampton Road and Kirup-Grimwade Road.

**Pemberton and Manjimup** – about 50km's south of Balingup you can explore the Southern Forests. Loads of green pastures, acres of rolling vineyards and crystal clear streams. You can indulge in the taste sensations offered by many restaurants, cafés and wineries including fresh Truffle. You'll be able to get amongst the tall jarrah and karri forests – climb a tree or enjoy a whole range of outdoor activities such as mountain biking, canoeing, fishing and swimming. The Manjimup Timber and Heritage Park Playground is one of our favourites.

**Busselton** – about 80km's north west of Balingup you could day trip to Busselton to have a swim in the Bay, walk out on the Busselton Jetty, have fish and chips on the foreshore, visit the Underwater Observatory, explore the Tuart Forest or 'get some shopping done'.

**Ferguson Valley** – this region 40 - 50km's north of Balingup can be visited either as a day trip or on your way home to Perth. It's worth having a look at Gnomesville. Around 2,000 gnomes (and counting) populate the grassy roadside area, merging back into the forest.

**Augusta** – via Nannup is about 80km's south west of Balingup. Situated at the mouth of the Blackwood River this picturesque area offers an opportunity to explore some pristine waterways, visit the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, watch whales as they migrate from June through to September or visit Jewel Cave.

**Margaret River Region** – is about 80km's west via Nannup and the Brookman Hwy. This region is well known for its wines, caves gourmet food and galleries. It has some stunning coast line and famous surf breaks.

**Bunbury** – via Donnybrook about 60km's north of Balingup. Bunbury boasts some fabulous beaches and cycle paths. The Dolphin Discovery Centre is worth a visit – take an eco-boat tour on the estuary and enjoy interacting with the dolphins.



**Just relax and enjoy your stay in Balingup and experience the magic!**