



Cape Lodge offers an award-winning restaurant, vineyard, boutique hotel, or a private country house accommodation.

Discover the Other Australia

NOT TO BE OVERLOOKED on a visit to Australia is the state of Western Australia. This region is known for rugged coastlines, rolling pastures, deep forests, voluminous caves, olive groves, truffle fields, and world-class food and wine.

The gateway city to this adventure is Perth. Located on the Swan River, Perth is undergoing a renaissance with new hotels, gourmet restaurants, scenic gardens, and multi-use outdoor event and entertainment districts. Scenic Swan River cruises whisk passengers away on the “Swan River Wine Trail” culminating in a lunch or dinner wine experience at the hillside wineries.

Nearby Caversham Wildlife Park houses the largest publicly owned collection of Australian wildlife in Western Australia. Visitors can kiss a koala or hug a wombat in their natural settings.

Driving south from Perth roadside stops at the Margaret River Chocolate Company and the indigenous native art galleries make for interesting travel—but watch out for kangaroo mobs along the way!



Western Grey Kangaroos at Caversham Wildlife Park

PHOTO: ISTOCK.COM/PHOTON-PHOTOS



Smith's Beach Resort overlooks the Indian Ocean bluffs.

Enter the quaint town of Margaret River, where the region's perfect soil and cool temperate climates lend to expansive vineyards, olive groves, and fields of truffles. This area produces 90 percent of the Australian Black Périgord Truffles. This pungent edible fungus grows in pebble to golf ball size fruit on the fine roots of oak and hazelnut trees. The high demand for the deeply intoxicating aroma and taste makes truffles a commodity worth more than gold! The Truffle Keruffle Festival held in June is a fun celebration of all-things-truffle.

LAND OF CELEBRITY CHEFS

A local bounty of farm-to-table ingredients has influenced an up-and-coming celebrity chef restaurant boon that will entice even the most experienced food and wine aficionados. Boutique

wineries with designer-built cellars and dining venues dominate this area. Most of the cellars in the region offer tastings free of charge. Vasse Felix Vineyard is the founding winery putting the Margaret River region on the map. Vasse Felix produces ultra-premium Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Shiraz, and Semillon Sauvignon Blanc blends.

Family-owned and operated Leeuwin Estate Winery produces wines that rank among the best in the world, regularly appearing in Wine Spectator's annual top 100 wines. This elegant estate features an art gallery, various dining venues, and is host to an eclectic array of outdoor events including the Margaret River Gourmet Escape. This internationally acclaimed Food and Wine Festival takes place each November and attracts some of the world's top chefs.

WONDERFUL LODGING

A variety of lodging options abound. The peaceful Olio Bello offers deluxe "glamping" set among 320 acres of organic olive groves. Safari style "en-suite" tents are complete with fireplaces and kitchenettes. Family friendly Margaret's Beach Resort has studio apartments and suites at the beach. Enjoy breakfast at the beachside diner, the White Elephant Café—a cliffside spot where celebrities mingle with local surfers.

For pampered experiences, Smith's Beach Resort with its pristine apartments overlooking the Indian Ocean bluffs is a serene blissful escape. The boutique retreat, Cape Lodge, provides true luxury in the heart of Margaret River, with only 22 suites and a lakeside restaurant voted among those in the world for "Best Food" by Conde Nast Traveler UK. The region's beaches provide some of the best big wave surfing in the world. For more adventure, visitors can kayak, hike the coastal trails, explore voluminous caves, go rock climbing or quad biking, and canoe on the Margaret River.

For a unique and truly different vacation, and to experience a mecca of food, wine, wildlife, and adventure, discover the state of Western Australia!

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"Glamping" at Olio Bello Organic Olive Grove.



The walkway to Ngilgi Cave near Yallingup, Western Australia.