

Eastern Wheatbelt **SELF-DRIVE TRAIL**

"Rich in heritage. Abundant in natural wonders".



The Eastern Wheatbelt self-drive trail takes visitors on a journey through the towns and surrounding landscape of Cunderdin, Tammin, Kellerberrin, Bruce Rock, Merredin, Westonia and Southern Cross. Here you will find communities rich in heritage, nature reserves abundant in wildflowers and native flora and fauna, soaring granite outcrops and vast salt lakes.

The Eastern Wheatbelt self-drive trail features 21 key sites but if you have time to stay and explore longer, you will find that there is a whole lot more on offer.

Duration: 3 nights, 4 days

Distance: 770km (one-way from Perth)

Road Conditions: Sealed roads with stretches of maintained unsealed roads to some attractions.

Accommodation: Bed & breakfasts, self-contained units, farm stays, motels, hotels, caravan parks, RV-friendly towns and free camp sites.



Kellerberrin

Merredin

Westonia

Southern Cross

Located 22km east of Tammin is the townsite of Kellerberrin, a charming regional community steeped in a vibrant history dating back from its Indigenous people to European pioneers. One of the best ways to see the main sites of the town is to follow the **Kellerberrin Heritage Trail** (see #7 at map ref D5). Commencing at the Pioneer Museum on Leake Street with its interesting array of local memorabilia, the trail takes in excellent examples of 19th and early 20th century architecture at the flour mill, post office, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Massingham House and the fire station. While in town, don't miss the 2/28th Battalion Park — a

memorial honouring the service and dedication of local men and women who served in the 2/28th Battalion and the Nursing Corps. For spectacular views of the town and surrounding landscape, head up to the **Kellerberrin Hill** Lookout (see #8 at map ref D5).

With a range of accommodation options, Kellerberrin is a great spot to stop for the night before continuing your Eastern Wheatbelt adventure along the Granite Way toward Bruce Rock. The Granite Way is a 60km self-drive trail that takes visitors to some of the most impressive granite rocks in the Wheatbelt including **Mount Caroline** (see #9 at map ref D6) and **Mount Stirling** (see southern #9 at map ref D6), both of which are located approximately 20km south of Kellerberrin.



Accommodation in Kellerberrin

Rest Away Cottage (self-contained) P: 0429 166 561 Kellerberrin Hotel Motel P: (08) 9045 5000 The Prev (Bed & Breakfast) P: 0427 063 638 Kellerberrin Caravan Park P: 0428 138 474

Visitor Information

W: www.kellerberrin.wa.gov.au

Bruce Rock

Travelling from Kellerberrin along the Granite Way you will reach **Kokerbin Rock** (see #10 at map ref D7), the third largest monolith in Australia. Drive to the top for sweeping views over the countryside, or park at the base and walk to the peak, taking in the native flora and fauna and Devil's Marbles.

Nearby at **Kwolyin** (see #10 at map ref E7), is a free camp site with toilets, camp kitchen and picnic shelters. The Kwolyin loop trails take visitors through bushland, across Coarin Rock and a walk along the old railway line. Visitors can also take a stroll around the old town site and learn more of its history from the

On your drive toward the town of Bruce Rock, stop in at Shackleton to see **Australia's smallest bank** (see #11 at map ref E7). Once you arrive in Bruce Rock take a stroll along the **Centennial Mosaic Pathway** located on Johnson Street (see #12 at map ref F7), visit the Bruce Rock Museum (where you will find an original one-room school house and replica mudbrick settlers' cottage) and Machinery Museum.

Then meander through the beautifully landscaped grounds of

Remembrance Park, which features memorials, sculptures and artworks designed to depict the theme of war and peace.

Accommodation in Bruce Rock Bruce Rock Hotel P: (08) 9061 1218

Bruce Rock Motel P: 0484 902 128 Bruce Rock Caravan Park P: (08) 9061 1377

(bookings can also be made online through the Shire website below) Bruce Rock Chalet P: 0459 490 053

Visitor Information

W: www.brucerock.wa.gov.au W: pathwaystowaverock.com.au

Merredin

As you drive toward Merredin from Bruce Rock you will come across **Totadgin Conservation Park** (see #13 at map ref G5), a National Trust Heritage Site, where you will find a granite outcrop with a similar wave formation to Wave Rock. As the regional hub of the Eastern Wheatbelt, Merredin has a good selection of accommodation and meal options and is a great choice to spend the second night on the drive trail. While in Merredin visit Cummins Theatre, located at 31 Bates Street, which is steeped in local history and hosts high quality performances year-round. Also in town you can explore Merredin's Railway and Military Museums or take a quick drive 3km west of town to view one of the **Public Silo Trail** sites (see #14 at map ref G5).

Merredin Peak Reserve and Railway Dam (see #15 at map ref G5), located 1km northeast of town is a popular picnic spot and overnight camp for self-contained RVs. A walking trail with interpretive signage explaining the early catchment scheme and water pipeline leads to the top of the peak which provides 360 degrees view of Merredin and

Adjacent to Merredin Peak is a short self-drive trail to the remains of the World War II Army Hospital site, one of many historic military installations dotted throughout the region as reminders of Merredin's role as the second line of defence.

Accommodation in Merredin

Merredin Motel P: (08) 9041 1886, Merredin Oasis Hotel P: (08) 9041 1133, Merredin Plaza All Suites P: (08) 9041 1755, Olympic Motel P: (08) 9041 1588, Merredin Tourist Park P: (08) 9041 1535, Merredin Treasury P: 0400 412 239, Little Rock Merredin P: 0427 449 003. **Visitor Information**

Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre W: www.wheatbelttourism.com P: (08) 9041 1666.

Westonia

Westonia came into existence with the discovery of gold in 1910. The most striking thing about Westonia is its unique charm and natural surroundings, nestled amongst 5,600 ha of salmon gum, morrell and gimlet woodland interspersed with granite outcrops and remnants of the town's gold mining history.

The main street features charming façades of the original bank and other historic buildings such as the café, hotel, fire station, boarding house, and greengrocer, as they were back in the 1920s. The **Westonia Hood-Penn** Museum, located on Wolfram Street (see

point for the Eastern Wheatbelt self-drive trail. Step into history

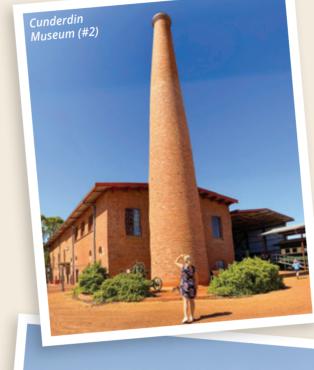
at the **Earthquake Gardens** (see #1 at map ref A5), where powerful displays recall the devastation of the 1968 Meckering Earthquake. View a warped section of the railway line, twisted remains of the Golden Pipeline, and a collection of photographs, statistics, and interpretive signage that bring the event to life. Directly across the road, take a peaceful stroll through the memorial rose garden, a testament to the dedication and community spirit of local volunteers.

Just 132km—or around 1.5 hours—east of Perth along the

Great Eastern Highway lies the town of **Meckering**, your starting

Cunderdin

From Meckering, it's a short drive to **Cunderdin**, home to one of the finest rural museums in Western Australia. Housed in the former No. 3 Steam Pumping Station, the **Cunderdin** Museum (see #2 at map ref B6), features an extensive collection of pioneer-era artefacts, a Tiger Moth aircraft, the original Quelagetting School building, and an immersive display that recreates the experience of the 1968 earthquake. Right next door, stretch your legs at the CY O'Connor Community Park (see #3 at map ref B6). This modern facility includes playgrounds, a ninja warrior course, BBQs, shaded areas, a skate park, and a basketball court—making it a perfect spot to unwind or let the kids burn off some energy.





#16 at map ref I4), showcases early life in the shire, including a mine tunnel and blast simulation. The Edna May Mine Lookout, located 1km north of town, offers views over a working gold mine. Continue your drive approximately 10km north of town and you will find **Sandford Rocks Nature Reserve** (see #17 at map ref l3). Experience the granite outcrop, wildflowers scrub and woodland, this area is a must do for bird and wildflower enthusiasts.

Your final stop in the Westonia Shire is **Baladjie Rock** (see #18 at map ref I2), an extensive granite outcrop in an attractive woodland setting adjacent to Lake Baladjie. Climb the rock for a spectacular view of the lake before making the 55km drive south-east to Southern Cross.

Accommodation in Westonia

Westonia Tavern and Motel P: (08) 90467012

Shire of Westonia Tourist Park P: (08) 90467063 (bookings can also be made online through the Shire website)

Visitor Information

www.westonia.wa.gov.au

Accommodation in Cunderdin

Ettamogah Pub P: (08) 9635 1777 Cunderdin Tourist Park P: (08) 9635 1258

W: http://ctp.mydirectstay.com **Visitor Information**

Additional information can be obtained from the Shire of Cunderdin P: (08) 9635 2700

E: admin@cunderdin.wa.gov.au W: www.cunderdin.wa.gov.au

Tammin

Continue your journey east to the town of **Tammin** where you'll discover the **Kadjininy Kep Hydrology Model and Amphitheatre** (see #4 at map ref D5) in Memorial Park. This engaging display demonstrates the impact of salinity on the Wheatbelt landscape. The park's shady lawns, BBQ facilities, and playground make it an ideal picnic spot, with public toilets conveniently located behind the Shire Office.

From town travel 26km North to Yorkrakine Rock, a solid granite outcrop surrounded by native flora. Follow the walk trail up and over the rock where you'll find gnamma holes, pockets of vegetation, and sweeping views of the surrounding landscape.

Yorkrakine Rock (see #5 at map ref D4), is a sacred Aboriginal Women's birthing place and also part of a beedawang (initiation journey) songline. The songline starts in Perth and travels eastward to Yorkrakine Rock and then follows the Salt Lake systems and granite outcrops to Wave Rock.

Retrace your steps back toward town and continue on 14kms south to Charles Gardner Reserve (see #6 at map ref C6). The 600 hectares of natural vegetation contains a wide variety of wildflowers and understorey, some of which are unique to the

Accommodation in Tammin

Donnan Park is a popular destination for campers and travellers. The site is located at the local sports oval and has space to accommodate a variety of caravans and motorhomes. Bookings can be made online through the Shire of Tammin website; www.tammin.wa.gov.au/visitors/places-to-stay/camping.aspx

Visitor Information A visitor information bay with ample parking for long vehicles and a dog rest area is located in the centre of town. Additional information can be obtained from the Shire of Tammin P: (08) 9637 0300 E: shire@tammin.wa.gov.au

W: www.tammin.wa.gov.au



Southern Cross

Southern Cross was named after the stars that guided early prospectors to their gold find. It's surrounded by some of the largest farms in Western Australia and stands at the western gateway to the world's largest and healthiest temperate woodland; the Great Western Woodlands.

For your final night on the Eastern Wheatbelt self-drive trail, stay at the heritage listed Palace Hotel, the Railway Tavern or the Club Hotel, the town's first hotel built in 1888. There is also a local motel, caravan park and self-contained accommodation. Enjoy sunset with panoramic views of the town, surrounding farmland and goldmines from Wimmera Hill Lookout.

Start the next day early with a drive 34km south of town to Frog Rock Nature Reserve (see #19 at map ref K5). Here you will find beautiful wildflowers in the spring with a wave-like rock formation and dam at the base of the rock. From Frog Rock you can make the journey back to Southern Cross and take in the Yilgarn History Museum (see #21 at map ref K4) open daily, for a glimpse of the rich history of the area.

Or if time permits, travel east to **Karalee Dam** (see #20 at map ref M4), approximately 55km east of Southern Cross to see the natural reservoir that was adapted to maximise the catchment, delivery and storage of rainwater essential to railway development in the Goldfields region.

Accommodation in Southern Cross

Club Hotel P: (08) 6424 8833, Palace Hotel P: (08) 9049 1555, Railway Tavern P: (08) 9049 1030, Sandalwood Motor Lodge P: (08) 9049 1212, Southern Cross Motel P: (08) 9049 1144, Southern Cross Caravan Park P: (08) 9049 1212, Hampton View Homestead (located 60km south west of Southern Cross) P: 08 9040 4075, Nulla Nulla Farm Retreat (located in Moorine Rock) P: 0428 498 010, "King of the Cross" (4-bedroom home) www.shorttermrentalswa.com.au, Havcon Engineering Accommodation Village P: (08) 9729 1977 **Visitor Information**

Shire of Yilgarn P: (08) 9049 1001, W: visit.yilgarn.wa.gov.au





