

Matters of Taste

FOOD DISCOVERY & TRAVEL



Mid-West, Gascoyne & Pilbara Western Australia

Following WA's Food Story from Ocean & Orchard to Outback

Mon 2nd to Thu 12th August 2027

Small group 12 people maximum

Meet Your Hosts

Tracey and Anthony Cotterell have spent over thirty years connecting people through food. Tracey is a chef and food educator with an endless curiosity for the stories behind what we eat, while Anthony grew up on the land and brings a down-to-earth practicality, capability and love of the great outdoors to every journey.

Travelling in Matters of Taste's purpose-built 4WD touring vehicle, Anthony is the perfect person to get the group safely and comfortably into places few others can reach, while Tracey brings the flavours of the journey to life. Together, they'll host this adventure from behind the wheel, behind farm gates and around the campfire, introducing you to extraordinary people, spectacular landscapes and the stories behind the food that connects them.

Expect warm hospitality, plenty of laughs and the kind of experiences that can only come from travelling with people who genuinely love what they do.



What's in store on this adventure

Created for the curious and quietly adventurous, *Northwest Harvest* takes us through some of Western Australia's most spectacular landscapes and food-producing regions. Beginning in Perth, follow the seasonal rhythm north through fertile orchards, market gardens and coastal fishing communities before reaching the remote cattle stations and ancient landscapes of the Pilbara and Karijini. Along the way we'll meet remarkable people, hear their stories and share memorable meals inspired by the places we travel through.

From fishing boats and tropical orchards to cattle stations and campfires beneath star-filled skies, this is a journey that blends breathtaking scenery with genuine connection to the people who produce our food. Accommodation ranges from country hotels and station stays to comfortable camping, with evenings spent around the fire enjoying relaxed long-table dining and the company of fellow travellers. This is a journey beyond the familiar, where spectacular scenery, warm country hospitality and a deeper understanding of Western Australia's food story come together in unforgettable ways.

DAY ONE

Perth to Geraldton | Western Australia's Coral Coast

Leaving Perth behind, we begin our journey north through the changing landscapes of the Coral Coast. Along the way we'll enjoy a relaxed lunch, meet passionate producers and arrive in Geraldton in time to settle into our oceanfront accommodation. As the sun dips over the Indian Ocean, we'll stretch our legs around the marina before gathering for rooftop drinks and a harbour-side dinner. It's the perfect introduction to the days ahead and a chance for our small group to start getting acquainted.

Accommodation: Overnight Carnarvon country inn

Meals: Morning Tea and Restaurant Dinner



DAY TWO

Geraldton to Carnarvon | Surprise Treasures and Country Characters

The day begins with the stories of the sea, meeting commercial fishermen and learning about life on Western Australia's wild coastline. Travelling north, we'll discover unexpected treasures, from station hospitality and natural hot springs to memorable encounters with colourful country characters. Along the way we'll hear tales of pastoral life and maritime history before arriving in Carnarvon for dinner showcasing the region's produce.

Accommodation: Overnight Carnarvon country inn

Meals: Breakfast and Restaurant Dinner



DAY THREE

Carnarvon - The Food Bowl of the North

The Gascoyne is often called the miracle of the north, and today we'll discover why. This fertile oasis supplies Perth with much of its winter fruit and vegetables, producing sweet bananas, mangoes and an abundance of fresh produce. We'll spend the day meeting growers and enjoying the flavours that thrive in this unlikely landscape, gaining a deeper appreciation of one of Western Australia's most remarkable food regions.

Accommodation: Overnight Carnarvon country inn

Meals: Lunch and Restaurant Dinner



DAY FOUR

Carnarvon to Cheela Plains | Into the Outback

Today the landscape changes dramatically as coastal plains give way to the vast red heart of the Pilbara. Distances grow longer, horizons wider and the sense of adventure deepens. After a day on the road and a simple lunch along the way, we'll arrive at Cheela Plains Station where country hospitality, open skies and a surprising station dinner await.

Accommodation: Overnight Station Camping

Meals: Breakfast and Station Dinner



DAY FIVE

Cheela Plains to Karijini - Ancient Landscapes & Timeless Waters

After time with station owners and stories of life on the land, we journey towards one of Australia's most breathtaking national parks. The scenery becomes increasingly dramatic as rugged ranges and ancient rock formations announce our arrival in Karijini. As evening falls, we'll gather for sunset drinks and an alfresco dinner prepared by Tracey, surrounded by some of the oldest landscapes on earth.

Accommodation: Overnight National Park Camping

Meals: Lunch and Al-fresco Dinner



DAY SIX

Karijini National Park | Nature's Masterpiece

Today is devoted to exploring the extraordinary beauty of Karijini. We'll visit lookouts, wander gorge rims and discover crystal-clear pools framed by towering red cliffs. Those who wish can cool off with a swim beneath waterfalls before returning to camp. As the colours of the ranges deepen with the setting sun, we'll gather to share good food and wine beneath a blanket of stars.

Accommodation: National Park Camping

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY SEVEN

Karijini to Yarrie Station via Marble Bar | Into Cattle Country

Leaving Karijini behind, we'll journey to Marble Bar and pause for lunch at the legendary Iron Clad Hotel. Here we'll enjoy an unforgettable Outback Beef burger made with Yarrie Station beef and, if we're lucky, a yarn with the equally unforgettable owner who could keep us amused for hours with his stories. From Marble Bar we'll continue to Yarrie Station, where ancient landscapes give way to vast cattle country. After settling into camp, we'll gather around the fire for drinks before joining the station crew and hearing firsthand about life and work in one of Australia's great pastoral enterprises. Tonight, beneath the dark skies far from the distractions of everyday life, we'll experience the quiet magic of the outback.

Accommodation: Station Camping

Meals: Breakfast Lunch and Dinner



DAY EIGHT

Living the Outback Cattle Station Life

This is a day to slow down and immerse ourselves in station life. Early risers can join the morning crew, while others can ease into the day with a campfire breakfast. We'll explore hidden waterholes and spectacular viewpoints, witnessing colours and landscapes that seem almost unreal. As the day draws to a close, we'll gather around the fire once more for laughter, stories and genuine outback hospitality.

Accommodation: Overnight Station Camping

Meals: Breakfast Morning Tea Lunch and Station Campfire Dinner

DAY NINE

Yarrie to Pardoo Station | From Red Dirt to Blue Water

After farewelling Yarrie, we continue north to Pardoo Station where cattle country meets the Indian Ocean. The contrast between red earth and turquoise water is unforgettable. We'll finish the day with a walk along Eighty Mile Beach and enjoy Wagyu cooked over the coals as the sun sinks into the sea – one of those moments that lingers long after the journey ends.

Accommodation: Station Cabins with en-suite

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY TEN

Pardoo Station | Coastal Station Life

Today offers a fascinating insight into one of Western Australia's iconic coastal cattle stations. We'll learn about the scale and complexity of station life and how Wagyu beef is farmed in this coastal environment. Lunch will be set out for you, surrounded by the natural beauty of Cape Keraudren. The afternoon provides time to simply relax and absorb the peaceful rhythm of this remarkable place before gathering on the homestead verandah for a 3-course dinner cooked by the station owners, featuring stunning world-class Pardoo Wagyu.

Accommodation: Station Cabins with en-suite

Meals: Breakfast Lunch and Dinner

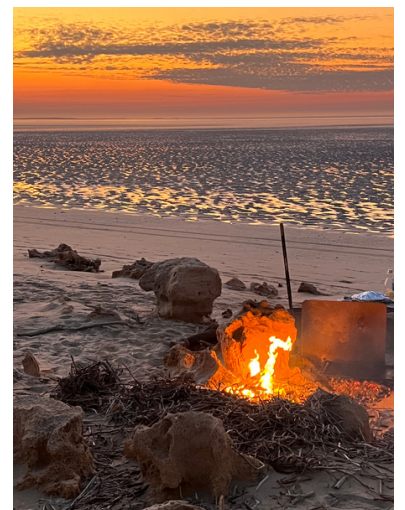
DAY ELEVEN

Port Hedland | Where the Pilbara Meets the World

Our final day takes us to Port Hedland, where the vast resources and industries of the north connect Western Australia to the world. At the Seafarers Centre we'll have lunch and learn about the lives of the often invisible ordinary seafarers who make it all happen. We'll board a launch to gain an appreciation of the scale of this remarkable port. The tour concludes at Port Hedland Airport, with timing designed to connect with afternoon flights back to Perth.

As our journey draws to a close, we leave with a deeper understanding of the people and places that sustain us. From sea to orchard to outback, we've met those whose daily work brings food to our tables - an insider's view of Western Australia that few travellers ever experience.

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch



What's included on this experience

- Small group of just 12 guests for a relaxed and personal journey through some of Western Australia's most spectacular food-producing regions
- A relaxed pre-departure get-together in Perth, giving you the chance to meet fellow guests, hear any final updates and ask questions before we set off.
- Eleven days of fully hosted food adventures with hosts, Tracey and Anthony Cotterell.
- 10 nights' accommodation across country inns, station stays and comfortable camping
- Departing from Perth, travel throughout in our comfortable 4WD touring vehicle
- Over 30 meals showcasing the flavours of Western Australia's north. Simple, generous meals inspired by the regions we travel through, with a blend of restaurants, station hospitality and relaxed campfire dining.
- Wine and beer included with hosted dinners in Karijini, Yarrie Station and Pardoo Station
- Producer visits and behind-the-scenes experiences
- Guided station tours and authentic outback experiences
- National Park entry fees
- Campfire dining beneath magnificent outback skies
- Port Hedland Airport transfer timed to suit afternoon flights to Perth
- The company of like-minded people who enjoy travel, food and a little adventure!



Handy things to know

Departure and Return - The tour departs from the Red CAT Tourist Bus Stop at Barrack Street Jetty, Perth. Departure time is 8.30am. The tour concludes at Port Hedland Airport, with timing designed to suit afternoon flights back to Perth. Daily flights are available with Qantas and Virgin Australia.

Travel Insurance - Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended. While the Royal Flying Doctor Service provides emergency retrieval throughout remote Western Australia, travel insurance offers additional protection for illness, cancellations and unforeseen circumstances.

Dietary Requirements - Due to the remote nature of the journey and our constantly changing locations, we are unable to cater for allergies or special dietary requirements. Guests should be comfortable with a varied menu and simple meals on travel days.

Safety and Permits - Matters of Taste carries public liability insurance and all required permits and approvals for National Park access and station visits are maintained. Your safety and comfort are always our priority.

Our Vehicle and Experience - Your hosts, Tracey and Anthony Cotterell, will accompany you throughout the journey. Anthony grew up on the land and has extensive experience driving in regional and remote Western Australia. Our comfortable purpose-built 4WD touring vehicle allows us to safely access places that larger coaches simply cannot reach, while providing excellent visibility and a relaxed travelling experience.

Meals and Drinks - Meals included in the itinerary are provided. Additional meals and snacks may be purchased individually. Wine and beer are included with hosted dinners from Karijini through to the end of the tour. Alcoholic beverages at restaurants and licensed venues are available for guests to purchase.

Camping - Camping is comfortable and private, with each guest having their own sleeping tent. Shower and washing facilities are simple but practical, and all campsites have toilet facilities. Many guests find camping beneath the stars to be one of the highlights of the journey.

What to Bring - Please bring a sleeping bag, pillow, towel and head torch, along with toiletries and casual clothing suitable for warm days and cooler evenings. Comfortable walking shoes, a hat and sunscreen are essential. Please use a soft bag or backpack for your belongings. These fit well into our vehicles compact storage spaces.

Typical August Weather - Early August brings some of the most pleasant weather of the year. Geraldton averages around 20°C during the day and 13°C overnight. Carnarvon enjoys daytime temperatures around 23-25°C with cool evenings around 12°C. In the Pilbara, daytime temperatures are typically 27-30°C, while nights can cool to 14-18°C. A light windcheater or fleece is recommended for evenings and early mornings.



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