

# Things for groups to do and see in and around Balingup - within a 20 minute drive!

**Golden Valley Tree Park** - Stroll through this magnificent arboretum and enjoy one or more of the signed walk trails. The seasonal colours are spectacular! Stay for a BBQ or picnic in the gazebo.

**Eat and drink** – Balingup and the Blackwood River Valley provides an exciting range of taste sensations for lovers of gourmet food and wine. Be it wines, ciders, marron, truffle, organic free range beef and chicken, fruit & veg to die for . . plenty of family friendly venues!

**Fruit Picking** – visit a farm, meet the farmer and pick fresh fruit off the tree when in season.

**Play** – Got children with your group? Take the children to the playground on the Balingup Village Green, OR if you're looking for a serious playground, head north to the Donnybrook Apple FunPark. It's the biggest free entry playground in Australia!

**Wildflowers** - Visit the Racecourse Flora Reserve or the Sandhills Walk Trail in Donnybrook. Wildflowers can be seen throughout most of the year but during spring these two reserves boast a stunning abundance of wildflowers.

**Lavender Farm** – Stunning gardens and a beautiful shop and gallery. For a taste sensation try the lavender ice cream!

**Horse riding** – go horse riding through the forests and across farmland in Bridgetown.

**Wineries** - check out a few of the local wineries and cideries. Our favourites include Balingup Fruit Winery, Smallwater Estate Winery, Barton Jones Winery, Oakway Estate, Barrecas Winery and the Bridgetown Cidery.

**Bushwalking** – there are numerous short and long walks in the region including the Racecourse Flora Reserve, Golden Valley Tree Park, Donnybrook Walk Trails, Greenbushes Walk Trails, plus the iconic Bibbulmun Track passes through Balingup!

**Art Galleries** – indulge in the creativity of the south west. Our favourite is the Balingup Goldsmiths are housed in a stunning historic building and the quirky Clay Dragon.

**Lawn bowls** – have a game of bowls or croquet at Balingup Recreation Centre.

**Events and Festival** – the Balingup Medieval Carnivale, the Small Farm Field Day, Telling Tales in Balingup Children's Festival, Donnybrook Food and Wine Festival, Bridgetown Blues, Festival of Country Gardens, Nannup Music Festival . . .

**Shop** - Stroll up and down the main street of Balingup and visit the many and varied cafes, curios, quirky shops and attractions.

**Canoe the Blackwood River.** Bring your own or hire a canoe or kayak at Maranup Ford or Bridgetown.

**The Old Cheese Factory** - visit the Old Cheese Factory Art Craft Centre. A huge collection of eclectic arts, crafts, curios and antiques.

**Discovery Centre** and mining history - Visit the Greenbushes Discovery Centre and experience the sights and sounds of an underground mine. Take a look at the Greenbushes pit in the operational open cut mine.

**Cycling** – the Blackwood River Valley boasts some of the most stunning road cycling circuits in WA. Or go off-road with your mountain bike through bush tracks and rail service roads.

**Museum** – visit Balingup Museum located in the Packing Shed or take a stroll through the Avenue of Honour, a beautiful avenue of old oak trees is a fitting tribute to the local men and boys who lost their lives in the First World War.

**Tinderbox** – a fascinating shop where they create a unique and diverse range of natural oils and herbal products to meet most human needs and desires. Definitely worth a visit!

**Greenbushes Pool** – a fabulous place for a swim on a warm day. Or take a walk around boardwalk – BBQ & toilet facilities.

**Massage** – take time out for yourself and book a massage, reiki or aromatherapy session. Ask us for current contact details.

**...or just relax and enjoy your stay in Balingup and experience the magic!**



## 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 more about 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.

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

**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.



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