



# Gems of the West

## Pre-tour options: Broome and overland through the Pilbara & Horizontal Falls add-on

Almost everyone who has booked on the Gems of the West farm tour in 2022 has also expressed very strong interest in making the most of their time in the west by checking out the wonders of Broome, the Buccaneer Archipelago and the Pilbara Gorges through to Exmouth.

To this end, we have put together an optional, fully guided 5 nights/6 days **Broome Overland to Exmouth** tour showcasing the very best of the region. This pre-tour links up with the Gems of the West farm tour starting in Exmouth on Sept 8. See following pages for more details about this overland tour itinerary (maximum of 24 people).

But there's another very special part of the West Kimberley well worth visiting if you have the opportunity. After numerous fact-finding missions (read here, remote area fishing trips) since the mid 90s, both David and Lloyd reckon it's time to let people in on one of the world's best kept tourism secrets.

So here's the chance to see for yourself why the Western Kimberley's Dampier Peninsula and the 1000 islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago (home of the Horizontal Falls) are dazzling jewels of the natural world. We have carefully put together a **Buccaneer Archipelago add-on** (maximum of 20) which meshes in very nicely with the overland tour.

In a nutshell, to do the Buccaneer Archipelago and the amazing Horizontal Falls add-on, you will need to be in Broome at least one day earlier (no later than lunchtime on Sept 2) than those opting to just do the overland through the Pilbara tour. We were originally planning to include a couple of nights on Cockatoo Island but there are some ongoing access issues between local communities and tour operators. So we've come up with what is probably an even better accommodation option in the area – Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm.

And if you're wanting to spend extra time in Broome before either tour and stay at The Mangrove Hotel (or anywhere else for that matter), we also need to know that as soon as possible.

Any questions at all, don't hesitate to contact either Lloyd (0428 724 615) or David (0437 000 234). We look forward to hearing from you.

### BOOKING FORM FOR THE OPTIONAL TOUR/S BEFORE JOINING THE 2022 GEMS OF THE WEST

Name/s: .....

**\$3750 pp** **Broome Overland to Exmouth** (5 nights/6 days). Single supp add \$750: **OR,**

**\$5500 pp** **As above with Buccaneer Archipelago add-on** (6 nights/7 days). Single supp add \$900.

NOTE: Tour inclusions (hotels, meals, local tours etc) are as listed on the itineraries.

**Please advise if you want extra nights in Broome before either tour commences.**  **nights**

After completing this form please scan (or a photo is fine) and return to [travel@greenmountpress.com.au](mailto:travel@greenmountpress.com.au). Or if you prefer, give Lloyd (0428 724 615) or David (0437 000 234) a call to grab your spot. We will send out invoices in the New Year.

## Broome, through the Pilbara Gorges and onto Exmouth: (5 nights/6 days – \$3750 pp)

<b>Day 1</b> <b>Sat, Sept 3</b> <b>(L,D)</b>	Own arrangements to arrive in Broome no later than lunchtime Sept 3. Lunch will be at an iconic Broome eating spot before a guided tour of the town including the wharf, the Japanese cemetery and Gantheaume Point. We enjoy sunset drinks and nibbles at Cable Beach before dinner at our hotel and one of the best views in Broome overlooking Roebuck Bay. from the Mangrove Hotel.	<b>Broome</b> <b>Mangrove Hotel</b> <a href="https://mangrovehotel.com.au">https://mangrovehotel.com.au</a>
<b>Day 2</b> <b>Sun, Sept 4</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	This morning, we head north of town to the Willie Creek Pearl Farm nestled on a tropical inlet of the Indian Ocean. You will learn about the collection and spawning of oysters in the purpose-built hatchery, appreciate the delicate operations of seeding and harvesting oysters and understand the value of pearls and the creation of stunning jewellery. A highlight of the tour will be cruising Willie Creek's calm azure waters and seeing the live oysters suspended in their natural environment. After lunch at the pearl farm, we will head back to Broome for some free time – maybe buy a pearl or two – or do a fascinating 1.5 hour Pearl Luggers tour. This is a Broome-based attraction which gives a great insight of the town's unique heritage where people from all over the world risked their lives in the pursuit of the riches beneath the azure waters of the northern Indian Ocean. Then we meet up with the Buccaneer Archipelago Add-on people for dinner at Zanders restaurant which has the best possible view of the sunset over Cable Beach.	<b>Broome</b> <b>Mangrove Hotel</b>
<b>Day 3</b> <b>Mon, Sept 5</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO ADD-ON PEOPLE HAVE JOINED THE GROUP</b></p> We board our 4WD air-conditioned touring bus this morning and head south on the Great Northern Highway and into the Pilbara. Along the way we will enjoy welcome stops at the Sandfire and Pardoo roadhouses. After about 600 km we arrive at Port Hedland – a town famed for its massive resource industry, long trains, big ships and salt piles. We will tap into some local knowledge to learn more about Port Hedland's very busy port (boasting the world's largest export tonnage) and its 15,000 or so (counting South Hedland) hardy inhabitants.	<b>Port Hedland</b> <b>Hospitality Inn Port Hedland</b> <a href="http://www.porthedland.wa.hospitalityinns.com.au">www.porthedland.wa.hospitalityinns.com.au</a>
<b>Day 4</b> <b>Tue, Sept 6</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	We continue on to Karijini, Australia's second-largest national park and one of the most spectacular. Featuring ancient cavernous gorges, some of the oldest rocks on the planet, and crystal-clear waterways – all with a stunning red rock and vibrant green trees contrast – this is a nature lover's paradise. For overnight, we are glamping at the Karijini Eco Retreat. Here we are nestled amongst native bushland at the edge of Joffre Gorge, complete with an outback style restaurant and access to some of the park's best walks.	<b>Pilbara Gorges</b> <b>Karijini Eco Retreat</b> <a href="http://www.karijiniecoretreat.com.au">www.karijiniecoretreat.com.au</a>
<b>Day 5</b> <b>Wed, Sept 7</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	Karijini boasts abundant native vegetation such as spinifex, mulga, ghost gums, wattles and fig trees. September is a great month to see colourful wildflowers such as lemongrass and northern bluebells bloom across the landscape. We might also spot rock wallabies, dingoes and the abundant birdlife, which call Karijini home, as we explore the park's major highlights. We exit the park as we continue westward and arrive at Cheela Plains Station for dinner and overnight. This is a family owned and managed working cattle station nestled in the semi-arid, pastoral rangelands of the Pilbara.	<b>Cheela Plains Station</b> <b>Cheela Plains Station-stay</b> <a href="http://www.cheelaplains.com.au">www.cheelaplains.com.au</a>
<b>Day 6</b> <b>Thu, Sept 8</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	Continue travelling west this morning to Exmouth for the start of the Gems of the West farm tour.	<b>Exmouth</b> <b>Exmouth Escape Resort</b>





## Broome, through the Pilbara with Buccaneer Archipelago Add-on: (6 nights/7 days – \$5500 pp)

<b>Day 1 Fri, Sept 2 (L,D)</b>	<p>Own arrangements to arrive in Broome no later than lunchtime on Sept 2.</p> <p>Lunch will be at an iconic Broome eating spot before a guided tour of the town including the wharf, the Japanese cemetery and Gantheaume Point.</p> <p>If time allows today we will join the Pearl Luggers tour. This is a Broome-based attraction which gives a great insight of the town's unique heritage where people from all over the world risked their lives in the pursuit of the riches beneath the azure waters of the northern Indian Ocean.</p> <p>We enjoy sunset drinks and nibbles at Cable Beach before dinner at our hotel (The Mangrove) and one of the best views in Broome overlooking Roebuck Bay.</p>	<p><b>Broome</b></p> <p><b>Mangrove Hotel</b></p> <p><a href="https://mangrovehotel.com.au">https://mangrovehotel.com.au</a></p>
<b>Day 2 Sat, Sept 3 (B,L,D)</b>	<p>Early morning departure for a scenic floatplane flight to the Horizontal Falls. Our one hour flight takes us over Cape Leveque and One Arm Point and onto the 1000 islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago. We have a spectacular water landing on the calm waters of Talbot Bay, right next to the Horizontal Falls.</p> <p>We are transferred to our luxury houseboat moored nearby for a delicious buffet breakfast then it's time to strap in for the ride of your life. Our experienced skipper will guide our 900hp fast boat through the incredible Horizontal Falls where steep cliffs meet powerful tides – and nature defies logic.</p> <p>There's also the chance to drop the adrenalin rush a notch or two as we also enjoy a tranquil cruise through nearby and untouched bays and creeks.</p> <p>We can also cool off in the clear warm waters of the Indian Ocean in the safety of a purpose-built marine viewing enclosure attached to the houseboat. Here we get up close and personal with the local marine life while our guide points out the many species of fish and inquisitive sharks. Snorkelling gear is provided.</p> <p>Taking off in a float plane is even more fun than the landing as we enjoy a low-level 30 minute flight across the Buccaneer Archipelago to Cygnet Bay. Amongst various activities, we do a fascinating tour of Australia's oldest commercial pearl farm.</p> <p>Accommodation tonight is glamping at it's best in safari tents (with ensuite) at the Cygnet Bay Pearler's Village.</p>	<p><b>Cygnet Bay</b></p> <p><b>Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.cygnetbaypearlfarm.com.au">https://www.cygnetbaypearlfarm.com.au</a></p> <p><b>Further Horizontal Falls floatplane tour info see:</b></p> <p><a href="https://horizontalfallsadventures.com.au">https://horizontalfallsadventures.com.au</a></p>
<b>Day 3 Sun, Sept 4 (B,L,D)</b>	<p>This morning we board the Cygnet Bay boat and visit the nearby and amazing waterfall reef. Here we experience another example of the unique tidal movements of the area as a reef and waterfall emerge in the middle of the ocean.</p> <p>We then board our 4WD touring bus and head overland (about 2.5 hrs) down the Dampier Peninsula and onto Broome.</p> <p>Some free time in Broome (or we can do the Pearl Luggers tour if we didn't have time on Sept 2) before joining up with our Overland through the Pilbara tour mates for a magnificent sunset dinner at Zanders restaurant on Cable Beach.</p>	<p><b>Broome</b></p> <p><b>Mangrove Hotel</b></p>
<b>Days 4 to 7</b>	<b>SEE THE OVERLAND THROUGH THE PILBARA ITINERARY FROM DAY 3 ONWARDS</b>	<b>Port Hedland</b>



# Gems of the West, 2022

Date	Activity	Overnight
	<p><b>*NOTE:</b> See the end of this farm tour itinerary for details about some great (and very popular) pre-tour options which will introduce you to the highlights of the Broome region, the Buccaneer Archipelago, Horizontal Falls and then overland through the Pilbara Gorges to Exmouth to meet up with the Gems of the West farm tour on Sept 8.</p>	
<p><b>DAY 1</b> Wed, Sep 7</p>	<p>If you're not part of the Broome/West Kimberley/Pilbara pre-tour options (see the end of this itinerary), own arrangements for travel to Perth today as there are currently no same day flight connections from the eastern states and up to Exmouth. If you prefer, you can travel across earlier to WA to spend a few extra days in and around Perth but the whole group will be spending 2 nights exploring the capital at the end of this tour.</p> <p><b>*NOTE:</b> If you are doing the pre-tour Broome and/or Pilbara options and arriving in Exmouth overland from the north, the cost of your hotel room in Perth tonight and airport transfer (\$290 per room) is taken off the farm tour price.</p>	<p><b>Perth</b> <b>Melbourne Hotel</b> <a href="http://www.melbournehotel.com.au">www.melbournehotel.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>DAY 2</b> Thu, Sep 8 (L,D) <i>Own arrangements for breakfast at the airport.</i></p>	<p>Early morning transfer to the airport for your 7.00 am flight to Exmouth in the state's northwest. Over the next few days we will have plenty to do in the region with sights such as Cape Range National Park with its sheer cliffs and red, rocky gorges and Ningaloo Reef (the world's largest fringing reef). This place – and deservedly so – is regarded as one of the world's last great ocean paradises. Care for a swim with a whale shark or a more sedate whale spotting cruise?</p>	<p><b>Exmouth</b> <b>Exmouth Escape Resort</b> <a href="http://www.exmouthescaperesort.com.au">www.exmouthescaperesort.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>DAY 3</b> Fri, Sep 9 (B,L,D)</p>	<p>Various Exmouth/Ningaloo/Cape Range activities. We have a 4WD bus and driver at our disposal over the next 2 days. More details will be provided in coming weeks as well as a number of options you may be interested in which require pre-booking.</p>	<p><b>Exmouth</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 4</b> Sat, Sep 10 (B,L)</p>	<p>Various Exmouth/Ningaloo/Cape Range activities.</p>	<p><b>Exmouth</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 5</b> Sun, Sep 11 (B,L,D)</p>	<p>We board our afternoon flight back to Perth today where we are met by our charter coach for transfer to New Norcia, 1.5 hrs to the north. Founded in 1847 by Spanish Benedictine Monks, the town has had many purposes – a mission, a monastery and more recently, a provider of education and farm supplies to the locals.</p>	<p><b>New Norcia</b> <b>New Norcia Monastery</b> <a href="http://www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au">www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au</a></p>
<p><b>DAY 6</b> Mon, Sep 12 (B,L,D)</p>	<p>After a guided tour of this historic location we board our coach and head southeast and into the heart of the WA Wheatbelt region. We enjoy farm visits and the wildflowers on our way to Corrigin for overnight.</p>	<p><b>Corrigin</b> <b>Corrigin Windmill Motel</b> <a href="http://www.corriginwindmillmotel.net">www.corriginwindmillmotel.net</a></p>
<p><b>DAY 7</b> Tue, Sep 13 (B,L,D)</p>	<p>We'll continue southeast today before arriving at the Lake King Bush Engineers Tractor Museum housing a collection of home made tractors, built by the region's farmers in the 1970s and 80s. Then, for a bit of adventure and nostalgia and weather permitting, we'll travel along a dusty road for a while in the middle of nowhere.</p> <p>In the mid 1980s, driven to despair by successive governments not fulfilling commitments, and in true frontier spirit, a handful of local farmers took matters into their own hands and built a 70 km road from Lake King to Cascade – which happened to include a bit of an additional short cut through a National Park! Carting distances, time and costs were slashed.</p> <p>We travel onto Esperance. With a population of more than 12,000, Esperance is a thriving port with its major industries being agriculture, tourism and fishing.</p>	<p><b>Esperance</b> <b>Comfort Inn Bay of Isles</b> <a href="http://www.comfortinnbayofisles.com.au">www.comfortinnbayofisles.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>DAY 8</b> Wed, Sep 14 (B,L)</p>	<p>Today we enjoy a visit to the Esperance port and other nearby attractions including the beach at Lucky Bay, located in Cape Le Grand National Park. Lucky Bay is probably the most famous of the Esperance beaches – it's the one that the Lucky Bay kangaroos call home. We'll visit farms in the region before a free evening.</p>	<p><b>Esperance</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 9</b> Thu, Sep 15 (B,L,D)</p>	<p>Today we travel to the west of Esperance for a farm visit and then it's onto Ravensthorpe and the famous Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show. More than 650 fresh wildflower specimens will be on display and there will be a number of botanists on hand to answer any questions you have. In addition, there will be art and craft stalls and other wonderful exhibits and food outlets that only country shows can offer.</p>	<p><b>Ravensthorpe</b> <b>Ravensthorpe Motel</b> <a href="http://www.ravensthorpemotel.com.au">www.ravensthorpemotel.com.au</a></p>



Date	Activity	Overnight
<b>DAY 10</b> <b>Fri, Sep 16</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	Today we call into the small town of Ongerup and visit the Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre. This is a multipurpose facility, spread over 5 hectares of native bush and two vermin-proof aviaries, dedicated to the Malleefowl conservation and local community development. We then continue southwest through the spectacular Stirling Ranges – with wheat, barley, canola and other crops all in their springtime glory – before arriving at Albany. The breathtaking beauty of Albany’s rugged coastline creates a fitting backdrop to a dramatic whaling, convict and settler history.	<b>Albany</b> <b>Albany Hilton Garden Inn</b> <a href="http://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/alhgi-gi-garden-inn-albany/">www.hilton.com/en/hotels/alhgi-gi-garden-inn-albany/</a>
<b>DAY 11</b> <b>Sat, Sep 17</b> <b>(B,L)</b>	We visit sights in and around Albany today including the WWI National Anzac Centre. Ships carrying the Australian Imperial Force and the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (later known collectively as ANZACs) set off from Albany bound for Egypt to join WWI. Two detachments departed in convoy in late 1914. Albany was the last glimpse of Australia that these ANZACs had before entering the fray. Free evening in Albany.	<b>Albany</b>
<b>DAY 12</b> <b>Sun, Sep 18</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	Continue westwards today and into the ‘Valley of the Giants’ an iconic region on the south coast between Denmark and Walpole. We visit the Walpole-Nornalup National Park, famous for its towering karri and tingle trees – some of the biggest trees on the planet. We will also do the world famous Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk suspended 40 metres high in the canopy of the ancient tingle forest. We overnight in the quiet and secluded Forest Lodge Resort near Pemberton where our group has exclusive use of the property.	<b>Pemberton</b> <b>Forest Lodge Resort</b> <a href="http://www.forestlodgeresort.com.au">www.forestlodgeresort.com.au</a>
<b>DAY 13</b> <b>Mon, Sep 19</b> <b>(B,L)</b>	This morning we travel on to the Margaret River region, famous for its beaches and surf breaks, wineries, craft breweries, boutiques and generally stunning scenery such as the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park. The region is known around the world for its top quality wines and food. While the region produces less than 3% of Australia’s wine, it accounts for more than 20% of its premium wine.	<b>Margaret River</b> <b>Stay Margaret River</b> <a href="http://www.staymargaretriver.com.au">www.staymargaretriver.com.au</a>
<b>DAY 14</b> <b>Tue, Sep 20</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	The Margaret River region is particularly beautiful in the springtime when wildflowers dot the landscape. The area boasts over 150 orchid species and some 2500 wildflower species alone! For those interested, there are a number of wildflower walking and/or 4WD guided tours we’ll have to choose from, depending on where the best display is at the time of our visit. Free evening.	<b>Margaret River</b>
<b>DAY 15</b> <b>Wed, Sep 21</b> <b>(B,L)</b>	We board our coach this morning and head north to Busselton with its 150-year-old, 1.8 km long jetty – the longest timber-piled jetty in the Southern Hemisphere. We’ll board the jetty train with the chance of seeing whales on their migratory (Jun-Nov) path and dolphins before disembarking at the jetty’s Underwater Observatory. Here we go 8 metres below the surface to an observation chamber to view more than 300 individual marine species in their natural habitat through 11 viewing windows. Back on board our coach and onto Perth with time to take in the major city sights.	<b>Perth</b> <b>Melbourne Hotel</b> <a href="http://www.melbournehotel.com.au">www.melbournehotel.com.au</a>
<b>DAY 16</b> <b>Thu, Sep 22</b> <b>(B,L,D)</b>	This morning we’ll head west to the port city of Fremantle. ‘Freo’ is known for its maritime history, Victorian architecture and remnants of its early days as a British penal colony. Return to Perth for our farewell dinner.	<b>Perth</b>
<b>DAY 17</b> <b>Fri, Sep 23</b> <b>(B)</b>	Flights home today or you might like to stay on in Perth/WA for a few days for some of your own exploring and sightseeing.	

