Karma Group: Internal Blog

Title:

Top 6 Reasons Why Western Australia Proves Bigger is Always Better

Content:

Western Australia is certainly no stranger to the monumental and the massive, boasting a diverse landscape with a vast coastline, rich mining history and bountiful array of flora and fauna species. Settling the age-old debate, here’s six reasons why Western Australia proves bigger is always better…

1. *It’s MASSIVE!*

Western Australia occupies an entire third of Australia, with a total land area of two and a half million square kilometres, and over twelve and a half thousand kilometers of coast line. To put that into perspective, that’s about ten times the size of the United Kingdom. In fact, if Western Australia were a country of its own, it would still be in the world’s top ten largest!

1. *Its capital city is far away…from everything*

Perth, WA’s seaside capital city, is the most isolated city in the world! Adelaide, in Australia’s South, is Perth’s closest neighbour with about 2,700 kilometers dividing the two cities. That’s about 28 hours in the car… I think we’ll fly, thanks. In actual fact, Perth is closer to Singapore and Jakarta than it is to Australia’s capital city, Canberra.

1. *It’s home to the largest pearl industry in the world. Ladies?*

Broome, located about 2,240 kilometres from Perth, is internationally renowned for its rich history based on the development of the pearling industry in the early 1800s. Before European settlement, Aboriginals would harvest and trade pearls with local fisherman. Today, Broome’s Cygnet Bay attracts thousands of visitors each year to view the pearling process, visit the boutique store, and to see the finest pearls in the world first-hand. Gather your holiday savings ladies, a pearl necklace from Cygnet bay will cost you anywhere from four to forty thousand dollars. Pocket change, right?

1. *Its hosts the largest supplier of gold in Australia…got any money left?*

As a resident of this little mining town for 7 years, I can honestly say I’ve never seen anything as big as Kalgoorlie’s Fimiston Open Pit, or ‘Super Pit’ to which it is commonly referred. This magnificent mining pit is approximately 3.5 kilomters in length, 1.5 kilometers wide, and around half a kilometer deep. Alongside the great wall of China and the great pyramids of Giza, Western Australia’s Super Pit is one of the world’s largest man-made structures that can be viewed from space!

1. *It has the longest stretch of railway in the world*

The Trans-Australia Railway was developed to cover Australia’s Nullarbor Plain, starting in Port Augusta in South Australia, making its way to an end in Kalgoorlie, WA (that place with the giant hole in the ground we were talking about). The railway stretches across a whopping 1,693 kilometers of Australia’s most isolated regions, linking Australia’s East coast with its West.

1. *Its Islands are home to some of the world’s most diverse flora and fauna species*

Rottnest Island, just 18km of the coastline of Perth, is one of Australia’s most popular tourist destinations due to it’s white sand beaches and vast array of natural flora and fauna species. In fact, Rottnest is home to 135 species of tropical fish, which is about 124 more than that discovered off Australia’s metropolitan coastlines. ‘Rotto’ as the locals refer to it, is also home to Australia’s sweetest marsupial, the quokka. This adorable furry creature is perhaps the only thing, indeed, little about Western Australia, comparatively cute to many of its colossal features. To maintain the natural beauty of the island, Rottnest is entirely car-free…and carefree for that matter.

Despite their tremendous proportion, Australia’s comparatively underrated Western state hosts some of Australia’s most secluded hidden treasures. Its seaside cities take the word ‘isolated’ to a whole new level, offering that ‘world away from it all’ experience we all seek from time to time. Pack your bathers, a few (hundred) books to read on the journey between cities and a good camera, because you’ll want to capture every bit of Western Australia.