

Monkey Mia

Monkey Mia is located approximately 900 kilometres (9 to 10 hours drive) north of Perth in the World Heritage area of Shark Bay. Monkey Mia has a tranquil beach of lovely fine white sand surrounded by a flat, arid countryside as far as the eye can see.

To get there most people arrive by road but some fly into the small air strip located near-by. We can organize these flights (with Skywest Airlines) if required. There is no train line. Due to the enormous distance from Perth even the shortest tour to the area is 3 full days duration, with most tours taking 4 days, visiting such icons as the Pinnacles desert and Kalbarri National Park along the way. People wishing to hire campervans or cars to visit the area would be well advised to take 5 or 6 days to properly investigate this beautiful part of the west coast.

Sights & Attractions

Monkey Mia is famous for its regular visitation of bottle-nose dolphins. Almost every day of the year a number of dolphins, ranging in age and size, swim into the shallows and allow tourists to see them close-up in the "wild". This phenomenon started when a local resident started giving away a few fish to some friendly dolphins. The smart dolphins quickly realised how to get an easy feed and have remained loyal visitors ever since.

During the 1980's a caravan site was organized beside the beach and the park rangers set up a small kiosk selling fish. The public simply fed the dolphins to their hearts content and the small crowds meant the visitors were treated to a very personal experience hand feeding wild dolphins. As time went on more and more people came to visit and today a resort exists with a range of different types of accommodation. The public no longer buy fish to feed the dolphins but they do get to enjoy seeing the dolphins in the shallow water being fed by a park ranger. A lucky few people each day get chosen to help the rangers so wear loud clothing and pretend it's your birthday!

As Monkey Mia is not a town, but rather a resort that has grown from a caravan park, the population is very small and transient mostly consisting of tourists. The closest town is picturesque Denham, offering a range of accommodation and activities - the shark feeding pool is a must see! It is easy to cross the peninsular to get to Monkey Mia to see the dolphins each day. If you do happen to be travelling up the coast using a Greyhound bus pass then it is best to stay in Denham at the Bay Lodge as there is a free shuttle bus that will ferry you across to the dolphins each day.

Climate

Monkey Mia is situated just a short distance south of the Tropic of Capricorn and thus the temperatures are mild to hot all year round. Summer (December to February) can see temperatures up to 40°C (Degrees Celsius) but winter (June to August) remains a mild average of 22 °C.

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