

Coral Bay

Coral Bay is situated approximately 1130k north of Perth, Western Australia, and is a stunning town located on a dazzling white sandy beach with turquoise waters. It is about 50 km north of the Tropic of Capricorn, and 120 km south of Exmouth in Western Australia. This small but very beautiful bay lies protected from the Indian Ocean by the incredible Ningaloo Reef, Australia's one and only fringing coral reef. Unlike anywhere else in Australia the exotic and brightly coloured fish and magnificent coral reef found here are extremely accessible as the coral reef begins right at the water's edge.

Accommodation in Coral Bay is very limited so make sure you book ahead. There is just one backpacker hostel, two hotels and two camp grounds. There are two small restaurants and a hotel where meals are served in an alfresco setting in the evening.

Sights & Attractions

Considered one of the best and most pristine diving spots in the world the spectacular Ningaloo Reef contains multitudes of amazing fish, stingrays, reef sharks, turtles and coral that can be experienced and viewed either by snorkelling, scuba diving, or by going on one of the glass bottom viewing boats. We can help you experience the wonders of this impressive reef by arranging diving or snorkelling trips with local tour operators in Coral Bay.

Other activities in Coral Bay include swimming, kayaking, quad biking, trekking, sun baking on the isolated stretches of white sand, and wildlife spotting. There is also excellent fishing outside the marine park. Highlights of Coral Bay include boat cruises which specialize in swimming with Manta Rays, Reef Sharks and Whalesharks.

Whalesharks come to the area between March/April and late June/early July. As the largest fish in the world they can grow to an astonishing 18 metres in length. Whalesharks are filter feeders that live off plankton and krill and thus are entirely safe to swim with. Swimming with these absolutely magnificent creatures is an amazing experience; they truly are breathtakingly beautiful gentle giants. To snorkel and swim with them please contact us for local information and bookings.

From the months of June/August to October/November this area of the coast also sees the migration of Humpback Whales. There are boat tours to view the whales; these tours can be booked through us in advance.

Turtle nesting occurs on the local beaches between November and February. The Green, Loggerhead and Hawkesville turtles can often be seen in the shallow waters of the bay and out by the reef. If you are lucky you may even get the opportunity to swim with these shy creatures. During the nesting season there are guided tours in the evening that will take you to view the turtles laying their eggs. In February you can take another guided tour to view the hatchlings making their treacherous journey to the sea. These tours are fantastic fun and highly educational for all ages.

Climate

The weather is mild in Coral Bay, without the humidity that is often associated with tropical climates. In summer, daytime temperatures range from the mid to high 30's (°C). The winter months are also lovely with warm sunny days with an average of 25°C. Water temperatures range throughout the year from 20 to 28 degrees.

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