

# Carnarvon

**Carnarvon is 905 kilometres north from Perth (approximately a 9 hour drive) and has a population of around 7190 people. Located in the very heart of the Gascoyne Region, Carnarvon is famous for its banana plantations, tropical fruits, fine seafood and warm climate. Working holiday makers often make their way to Carnarvon as it boasts a thriving agricultural industry and there is plenty of work for fruit pickers from capsicums and tomatoes, to avocado's and bananas. Besides designated camping grounds, accommodation in Carnarvon ranges from 2 backpacker hostels, 7 caravan parks, 2 motels, 3 hotels and 2 self contained unit properties, all of which are based in town.**

## Sights & Attractions

Just 450km east of Carnarvon you will discover the biggest 'rock' in the world, magnificent Mount Augustus! It is approximately twice the size of famous Uluru (Ayers Rock) and is found within Mount Augustus National Park. This giant rock, which culminates in a small peak on a plateau, is about 8 kilometres long and covers an astonishing area of 4795 hectares. Mount Augustus rises 715 metres out of an extensive, stony, red sand plain of arid shrub land 1105 metres above sea level. Roads to Mount Augustus are graveled however are suitable for two-wheel-drive vehicles.

Another natural wonder found in this region is the Kennedy Range National Park, accessed via the Gasgoyne Junction, 193 kilometres east of Carnarvon. This beautiful National Park features the Temple Gorge Trail, Honeycomb Gorge Trail and Drapers Gorge Trail, with camping facilities available at Temple Gorge. This is very rugged country and only 4 wheel drive vehicles can travel on the dirt roads beyond Gascoyne Junction.

For a real "Aussie" getaway you can also travel via a sealed road to the Blowholes (where powerful jets of water, from the ocean, are forced under huge pressure through small holes in the coastal rocks, sometimes to a height of 20 metres), 70 kilometres north of Carnarvon.

For the less adventurous traveller discover the marvelous Carnarvon Heritage Precinct in town, the quirky One-Mile-Jetty with the 'Coffee Pot' train, the Shearers Hall of Fame, or the Lighthouse Keepers Cottage Museum.

## Climate

Carnarvon has a warm to hot semi-arid climate. The rainiest months (and the most reliable rainfall) being in May and June. Occasionally tropical cyclones will influence weather in Carnarvon, bringing heavy rain and strong winds, but apart from this erratic rainfall summers are otherwise dry. Temperatures range from an average maximum of 33°C (Degrees Celsius) and minimum 23°C in February, to a cooler maximum of 22°C and minimum 11°C in July.

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