

Guide to Broome, West Australia | Skyscanner Australia

Despite being over 2,000km north of the world's most isolated city, Broome's charms are plentiful. [Skyscanner Australia](#) checks in to Broome and finds there's much more to this beachside town in the Kimberly than the famous Cable Beach.

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Broome History

No shrinking violet when it comes to adventurous characters, Broome was built on the back of industrious souls carving out a living from land and sea. [Broome Museum](#) offers an insight into some of these characters. But really, all you need do is walk around and keep your eyes open as the town is a living museum with history oozing from its corrugated iron pores.

Indigenous Yawuru people are the traditional owners of the land Broome occupies. The town rose from the mangroves on the back of the pearl industry in the 1880's with Aboriginals indentured as labourers before Japanese pearl divers arrived. Many never left. Over 900 headstones at the Japanese Cemetery are testament to the scale of their contribution to today's thriving industry.

Japan's influence is also evident at low tide where the remains of flying boats bombed by Japanese air raids can be seen.

[Sun Picture Theatre](#) is the world's oldest surviving outdoor movie theatre. Broome's balmy climate is perfect for sitting back in sling-back canvas chairs and watching new release and classic movies under the stars.



Broome Beaches

Broome's 22km long Cable Beach is world famous and needs little introduction. Spread a beach towel and top up your tan, surf or swim in a tepid Indian Ocean or walk or jog along firm-packed sand. Come late afternoon Cable Beach kicks it up a notch as a dusky orange glow descends across the sea and sand. Sunsets are a magical spectacle as the sun sinks below the watery horizon. For a unique perspective, watch the sunset while waddling along the beach on a camel train.

Avoid the crowds and watch the sunset ten minutes south of Cable Beach on the ochre red clifftop at Gantheaume Point. While you're there keep an eye out for the cast of dinosaur footprints. The real ones are at the bottom of the cliff and can be seen at low tide.

She might be a media tart, but Cable Beach is not the only beach gig in town. Her less well-known cousin is the unimaginatively named Town Beach on Roebuck Bay. Lined with mangrove trees, Town Beach's main claim to fame is the legendary Stairway to the Moon. When a full moon coincides with a low tide, ripples on the sand create a mesmerising staircase effect that stretches towards the rising moon.

Where to stay in Broome

There are two choices to make when deciding where to stay in Broome: it's either Cable Beach or in town. But you can't do both.

[Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa](#) was at the forefront of Broome's tourism boom, though the campground that used to occupy the site was far less ostentatious than today's resort. Others within walking distance of Cable Beach include Seashells Broome, [Pearle of Cable Beach](#) and [Kimberley Sands Resort & Spa](#).

In town try the [Mangrove Hotel](#) or apartment-style [Oaks Broome Hotel](#).



Cruising from Broome

Broome is the jumping-off point for countless cruises into Australia's wild and rugged Kimberly coast. The wealth of cruise types are as varied as the vessels that ply these remote waters. Try [Great Escape Cruises](#) for luxury adventure cruising. The Buccaneer Archipelago alone has around 800 uninhabited islands. Island rocks have been dated back an unfathomable 2 billion years while extraordinary rock art galleries are estimated to be a mere 40 to 50,000 years old. Viewing Kimberly rock art is a highlight of any cruise.

Motor yacht Oceanic takes no more than 25 passengers on an intimate cruise through the Buccaneer and Bonaparte archipelagos exploring inlets and islands that bigger vessels can't reach. Appealing to budget-minded travellers [Ahoy Buccaneers](#) have frozen cruise fares for 2019 departures.

Swimming in the ocean is discouraged year-round thanks to a healthy saltwater crocodile population. Waterfalls are plentiful in these parts particularly early in the cruising season, which runs from around April to October. Mitchell Falls is popular with cruise vessels but is also accessible on foot by campers. Camp at Mitchell Falls Campground and walk to the falls (or take a helicopter scenic flight if walking's not your thing!)

Offroad Adventures from Broome

Join the Dampier Peninsula mail service for a three-times weekly 'Postie Run' north from Broome delivering mail to communities along the road to Cape Leveque. Stops include Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm and Lombardina Mission, home to a picturesque Catholic Church with its altar made from pearl shells.

Campers will find lots of appeal at wild and untamed Cape Leveque where Kimberley sandstone cliffs plunge into the Indian Ocean. A wilderness camp managed by Indigenous Bardi Jawa communities, Cape Leveque is all about getting in touch with nature, just as the Bardi Jawa people have been doing for eons. Fish for barramundi, hunt for mud crabs and listen to stories that have been passed down through generations.

This connection with the land and sea is an integral part of Broome's real attraction.