

## Discover Perth - What's hot in the Western Australian capital | Skyscanner Australia

★★★★★ Rated by Don on August 13, 2018

Western Australia's love affair with the resources industry may have cooled but that hasn't stopped Perth from giving itself a spruce up. There's a buzz about the world's most isolated city with new hotels, stadiums, parklands and infrastructure all demanding attention. [Skyscanner Australia](#) popped over to the West to find out what's hot in Perth.

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### Perth's new heart

Northbridge and Perth CBD will finally be linked with Yagan Square promising to become the new heart of the city when it opens in 2017. The train line that formerly divided the two has been taken underground, creating a green space between the arms of the Horseshoe Bridge for relaxation and play. Markets, cafes, interactive digital media, native gardens and public art will make this an engaging hub wedged between Northbridge's nightlife, Perth Arena Stadium and Wellington Street.

This on top of Elizabeth Quay, a riverfront entertainment precinct on an inlet branching off the northern banks of the Swan River.



### Citywide improvements and upgrades

Famous Scarborough Beach with its endless white sand and ridiculously blue ocean is fast on its way to cementing its place alongside Australia's best beachfronts. Foreshore redevelopment plans include beach promenades with wheelchair access to the beach, along with playgrounds, a skate park and the obligatory surf club and restaurant strip. But really, it's still all about that glorious beach.

Rottnest, or just plain Rotto as the locals call it, is getting a spruce up with upgrades to the golf course and Hotel Rottnest, known affectionately as the Quokka Arms after the cute marsupials that inhabit the island. A new glamping (as in glam camping) experience is scheduled to launch in time for the 2017/18 summer holidays.

Perennial favourite Fremantle is still basking in the glow of appearing in last year's Lonely Planet's top ten cities in the world. Dancing to its own raffish beat, Freo is washing the sea salt from its cobbled streets with new hotels and a swanky city hub in the pipe works



## Perth Events

In the four years since Perth Arena opened its doors it has established itself as home base for sports lovers. The world class stadium which channels an Eternity tiling puzzle design hosts Hopman Cup tennis, Perth Wildcats basketball team, West Coast Fever netball team along with big name music, comedy and entertainment acts.

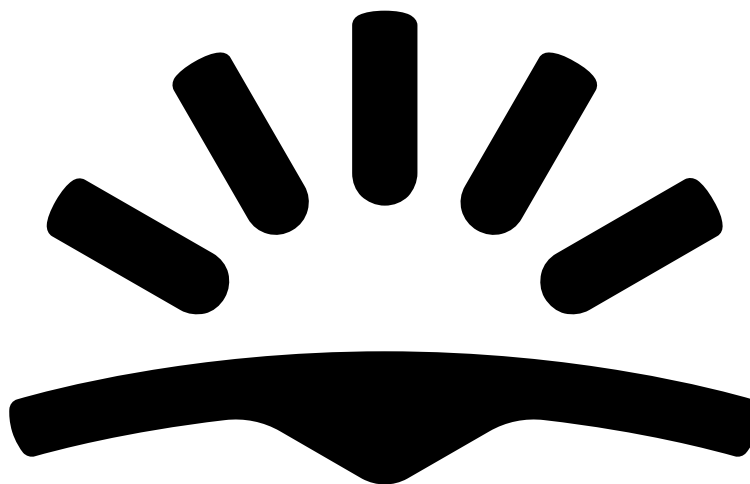
60,000 seat Perth Stadium is already creating waves as a landmark stadium and is sure to whip AFL fans, who admittedly can be tough to please on a bad day, into a frenzy when it opens in 2018. Rugby fans aren't left holding the ball with Australia and New Zealand clashing over the 2019 Bledisloe Cup in the lead up to the Rugby World Cup.

## Bed down in a new hotel or glamping experience

By the time the clock ticks over into 2018, Perth would have turned down the sheets on over 2,000 new hotel beds.

[Peppers Kings Square Hotel](#) got the launching edge over uptown six-star rival [Crown Towers Perth](#) by opening its floor to ceiling glass doors onto Wellington Street before the summer heat arrived. Well positioned for sports and nightlife fans, it's within Cooe of Perth Arena, Yagan Square and Kings Square. Crown Towers adds a much-needed swathe of luxury hotel rooms including a couple of penthouse suites for heavily cashed up high rollers with dollars to spare after playing at adjacent Crown Casino Perth. Ritz Carlton, Doubletree by Hilton, Avani and QT are all diving into Perth waters with new hotels underway.

Glamping is taking off too with pop-up glamping sites, well, popping up across the state. WA Wilderness Glamping is a sort of pop-up hotel room in the forest with tents, beds and cooking facilities provided in drop-dead gorgeous forest settings. Tears of Joy Campers put a glamorous retro spin on camping. Their Gidget camper trailers with a queen bed, TV & DVD player (though why you'd need these camping is anyone's guess) decked out kitchen are solar panel powered for off the grid glampers.



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## Foodies are not forgotten

West Australia has long been known for its world class wine industry. Now the food industry has caught up with gourmet producers strutting their stuff on the world stage. From Albany oysters and Manjimup black truffles to Exmouth's king prawns and Pemberton's fresh water marron, West Australia's varied landscape and climate is proving a winning combination for food producers. Manjimup's annual Truffle Kerfuffle festival flies the fungus flag for this burgeoning industry.

Margaret River is celebrating 50 years since the first commercial grape plantings and what a half century its been. In fact, wine, beer, cider and whisky producers are at the top of their game across the state with 25% of Australia's premium wine produced in southwest WA. The beer's not bad either. Little Creatures pilsner anyone?

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## About the author

Fiona Harper is one of Australia's most respected travel writers. Follow her at [Travel Boating Lifestyle](#).