

DIVINE DRIVE TRAILS

GERALDTON
TAKE A FRESH LOOK



Drive trails are such an immersive way for the whole family to explore the region's surrounds. Be sure to take on some of these stellar drive trails.

MULLEWA DRIVE TRAILS

Two interpretive drive trails take in most of the scenic and heritage attractions of the district. Each of the sites along these trails features a creative rusty steel sculpture with an interpretive panel to explain the main story associated with the place. A number have picnic tables and fire-rings, and all roads can be driven in standard two-wheel drive vehicles (with care on unsealed sections). Each intersection/turn and all stopping places are well sign-posted, so there's no risk of losing your way!

MULLEWA - NORTHERN LOOP (115KM)

This route includes the old Tenindewa Settlement and school (with its historic causeway across the lake), and the nearby Wolya Well, a vital water point on the original road to the Murchison.

You will then pass the fascinating Bindoo Glacier Beds on your way to the gorgeous Greenough River and Noondamurra Pool, a place of great significance to local aboriginal people.

Bindoo Hill Nature Reserve is a grand example of the diversity of this landscape (especially in spring), and the Homesteads and Carbon Capture sites tell two vastly different stories of farm life in this area. The final section of the trail takes you to several historic sites on the old De Grey-Mullewa Stock Route, before returning to town via the poignant Pioneer Cemetery.

 **Start: Tenindewa Stockyards, Tenindewa**

MULLEWA - SOUTHERN LOOP (145KM)

Visit the tragic Butterabby Graves site, a raw reminder of the clash of cultures that occurred

when European settlers moved into Wajarri Country. Then travel via atmospheric Wongoondy Hall to visit Coalseam Conservation Park, an eclectic mix of spring wildflowers, early mining history and stunning cliff-top views.

The once-bustling settlement of Tardun offers the bonus of also having Wildflower Way interpretive sculptures, and not far north is the remarkable Hawes-designed Christian Brothers Agricultural School (note: no public access).

Next comes Pindar, with its historic stone hotel building and its annual wreath flower displays, and then a historic rail siding and a little-known World War II Military Camp. Return to town via the old showgrounds and Mass Rock, two places redolent of Mullewa's early history.

 **Start: Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd, Mullewa**

MULLEWA - HAWES HERITAGE TRAIL (MULTI-DAY)

Monsignor John Hawes was a priest and architect who designed and built many inspirational churches and other buildings in Western Australia's Midwest between 1915 and 1939. He was a kind, passionate, and determined man who struggled daily to balance his architectural work with his religious duties.

The Hawes Heritage Trail takes you on a journey to the buildings he created where you will discover the fascinating story of his life and work. From Northampton, Mullewa, Kojarena, Yalgoo to Morawa, Perenjorim Mingenew, Dongara and Geraldton.

The multi day trail takes you through diverse landscapes ranging from stunning beaches to the edges of the outback and colourful spring wildflowers.

For more information visit monsignorhawes.com

 **Start: Doney St, Mullewa**



MULLEWA - OLD STOCK ROUTE TRAIL (FULL DAY)

Just one hour inland from Geraldton is the town of Mullewa. With a rich indigenous connection, it was also once an early European settlement. A Stock Route was created in the 1800s for sheep and cattle to be walked from stations in Mullewa to the Mid West Port Authority as well as to provide access for travellers on foot, cart or horseback. The 102km return drive trail retraces a portion of the Stock Route. You'll visit sites including natural rock holes, a nature reserve, seasonal wildflowers and ancient river beds. You'll be mesmerised by the stories of the land.

 **Start: Tourist Bay, Geraldton-Mount Magnet Rd, Mullewa**

WAR YEARS DRIVE TRAIL, GERALDTON TO MULLEWA (MULTI-DAY)

Geraldton has had a long association with the military and war, beginning as early as 1629 when a brave group of soldiers rose against the mutineers of the shipwrecked Batavia.

"Geraldtonians" have continued to serve their country in the various theatres of war. However, it was World War II that brought long-lasting change to the City and surrounding district. When Australia joined WWII, sections of Geraldton and a large portion of the countryside were commandeered for war purposes. At this time Geraldton only had a resident population of 5,000, but a large military personnel contingent rapidly became established in the region.

The sinking of HMAS Sydney II off Shark Bay in November 1941 came as a huge shock for the entire country and today a Military Memorial of National Significance commemorates the memory of the 645 men who lost their lives during the engagement with HSK Kormoran off the WA coast.

This self-drive tour spanning 200kms will take you about a day to complete. But if you don't have that amount of time, just enjoy a few of the stops. Honouring the long association Geraldton has had with the military, this trail will take you on a journey to a number of different sites and places of significance. Taking you back through the ages – you'll learn about Geraldton's involvement in various wars. Locations include West End beaches, Olive Street Memorial, Marine Terrace, Geraldton Railway Station, Birdwood House, sites in Greenough, Mullewa and many more.

 **Start: WWI Memorial, Olive St, Geraldton**

YAMAJI DRIVE TRAIL (MULTI-DAY)

Yamaji (or Yamatji) is the name used to collectively identify Aboriginal people from the Midwest, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. The term Yamaji comes from the Wajarri language and means "man" or "human being". From the sandy beaches of Champion Bay, the tranquil waters of the Chapman and Greenough Rivers, to the red dirt landscapes of the lower Murchison, the Yamaji Drive Trail encompasses history, art and natural beauty. The Trail can be driven in one - two days, depending on how long you choose to stay at each site. Accommodation options are available in Geraldton, Greenough and Mullewa.

There are opportunities to explore areas on walk trails including the Greenough River Nature Trail. The 195 kilometre Yamaji Drive Trail takes you to 14 sites of significance to local Aboriginal people living in the Geraldton, Greenough and Mullewa areas. Natural landscapes, historic places, legends and local people are celebrated along the way.

 **Start: The Esplanade, Geraldton Foreshore**