

SWAN VALLEY

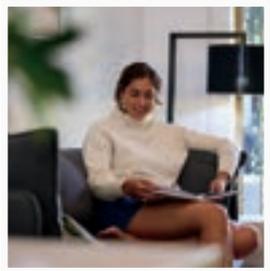
MAGAZINE | ISSUE 5



EXPLORE | EXPERIENCE | ENJOY

meet • eat • stay • play

Western Australia's best value small resort



Gerry's
 DELI, PIZZERIA, WINE BAR
 MEET, EAT, DRINK, RELAX

supa golf
 Supa fun for first timers to full timers

SVH
 THE SWAN VALLEY HOTEL

No Swan Valley itinerary is complete without a visit to the SVH

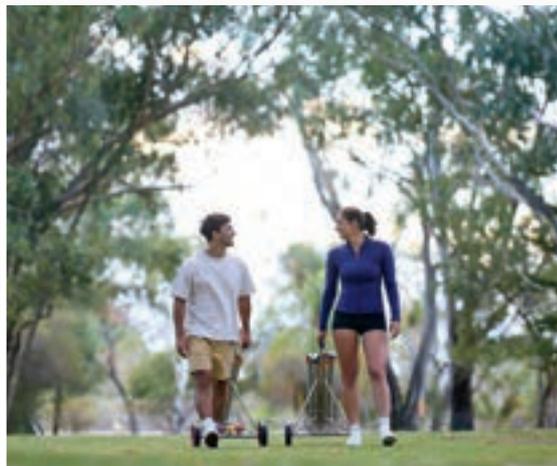
Centrally located in the heart of the valley, The Swan Valley Hotel is your perfect base to meet, eat, stay, and play as you explore everything the region has to offer.

Meet and Eat at Gerry's – Start your day, take a break, or wind down with great food, drinks, and a relaxed vibe at our deli, pizzeria and wine bar.

Play Supa Golf – A must-do experience. Enjoy a *supa fun* twist on golf overlooking the Swan River or challenge friends to Supa Putt mini golf.

Stay at The SVH – After a day of discovery, unwind in the comfort of newly renovated rooms, tropical pool, gym and sauna, set among stunning resort style grounds.

Whether you're after a coffee, a meal, a game, or a getaway, there's something for everyone at The Swan Valley Hotel.



📍 10250 West Swan Rd, Henley Brook

🏠 swanvalleyhotel.com.au

🏌️ supagolf.com.au 🍷 gerrys.au





WELCOME TO THE SWAN VALLEY

AS THE SECOND oldest wine region in Australia, you don't get a true sense of what makes the Swan Valley unique until you venture off its main roads.

Turn left or right and you'll discover wineries and restaurants; farm shops and roadside stalls; wildlife parks and nature reserves; confectionaries and providores; breweries, distilleries, galleries ... the list goes on.

What all these businesses have in common is that they are run by people who are passionate about the area. Many are families who have lived and worked in the Swan Valley for generations, after their grandparents (or in some cases, great grandparents) immigrated to Australia during the 1920s and 30s. They arrived with nothing, but went on to establish successful vineyards and farms that are now proudly run by their descendants.

This rich history creates a real sense of place. It's a feeling that you're sharing something special, with people who love the region and everything it represents.

Located just 25 minutes from the Perth CBD, an escape to the Swan Valley is within easy reach and you'll be met with down-to-earth hospitality and premium produce.

Whether you're seeking an adventure with the kids; a romantic getaway; a day out with friends to relax over

good food and wine; or a weekend to explore nature tracks and trails, there really is something for everyone.

So what are you waiting for? Explore, experience and enjoy all that the Swan Valley has to offer.

SWAN VALLEY MAGAZINE

Published by Vanguard Publishing

Printed by Vanguard Print

Distributed by Vanguard Distribution

Editor Jocelyn Biddle

editor@vanguardpublishing.com.au

Designer Cally Browning

Sales Director Natalie du Preez

natalie@vanguardpublishing.com.au

Contributors Alexandra Casey, Carmen Jenner, Sarah Schmitt, Sue Yeap

Photography Tourism Western Australia; Frances Andrijich

Vanguard Media Group

26 John Street, Northbridge WA. 6003

Ph: 08 6323 1389

vanguardmediagroup.com.au

SWAN VALLEY | City of Swan

© 2025



Riverbank Estate

14



60

Guildford Hotel



Mandon Estate

30



41

Bailey Brewing Co.



34

The Grape Place



Whiteman Park

7



64

Captain Cook Cruises

CONTENTS

EXPLORE | EXPERIENCE | ENJOY



26

Yahava KoffeeWorks



18

The Naked Fox



36



62

Brookleigh Day Spa

3 Welcome to the Swan Valley

EXPLORE

- 6 Top 10 things to do in the Swan Valley
- 10 What's new
- 14 Behind the cellar door
- 24 The Swan Valley's winemaking heritage
- 26 Somewhere for coffee
- 38 Craft brewing
- 42 The art of distilling

EXPERIENCE

- 30 Foodie heaven
- 34 Nature's bounty
- 40 A personalised wine tour
- 48 The great outdoors
- 56 Learn something new
- 60 Guildford's charm

ENJOY

- 18 Top local drops
- 36 Chef @ home
- 41 A great day out
- 44 A family fun day
- 52 Celebrating life's special moments
- 59 A weekend with the kids
- 62 You time



18



TOP

EXPLORE...

10

THINGS TO DO
IN THE SWAN VALLEY

1 INDULGE IN SWEET TREATS AT THE MARGARET RIVER CHOCOLATE COMPANY

With over 200 different handmade products including caramel, dark, milk, white, ruby and sugar free chocolates, this must-do attraction offers free tastings. Peek into the life of a chocolatier and watch them perform their craft from the viewing window or meander the gift shop and stock up on sweet treats. The cafe is also a great place to relax and enjoy breakfast, lunch and coffee.



3 SAMPLE THE REGION'S BEST AT LOCAL WINERIES, BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

With more than 30 wineries plus plenty of breweries and distilleries too, no visit to the Swan Valley is complete without stopping off to sample some top local drops. Weave your way along a picturesque 32km road trip in this historic wine region and stop by the many cellar doors to enjoy some Swan Valley hospitality.

4 KICK BACK AT LOCAL ROOST 'THE HEN'

Whether you find a bar stool on the verandah, a table in the beer garden or a seat on the couch by the fire, **The Henley Brook** is a great place to settle in and relax. Great for a hearty pub meal in casual surrounds, this family-friendly establishment has burgers, pizzas, classic pub grub, regular kids' activities, entertainment on weekends and an expansive nature playground.



2 GET YOUR CAFFEINE HIT AT YAHAVA KOFFEEWORKS

While freshly roasted coffee beans are at the top of the list of favourites at **Yahava KoffeeWorks**, their delicious Iced Koffee is a close second. Food and education are also on offer, so you can participate in a *Koffee Safari* to sample coffee, chocolate and help roast a batch of coffee; or do barista training at their *Koffee Academy* so you can make great coffee at home.



5 DISCOVER A PIECE OF ITALY AT MONDO NOUGAT

Watch delicious pieces of nougat being created at this confectionery-meets-providore. Hailing from Calabria in Italy, the Romeo family use traditional recipes handed down through the generations and merge Italian with more traditional Australian flavours to create favourites such as macadamia and honey or cranberry and pistachio nougat. Other tempting Italian treats include homemade gelati and biscotti.



6

RELAX WITH A BREW FROM BAILEY BREWING CO.

Combining fresh local ingredients with the best hops available, **Bailey Brewing Co.** offer easy drinking craft beers and simple fresh food. This brewery has been created by a family, for families, and with arguably the best playground in the Valley, it's a relaxed, low fuss setting that has something for everyone – big and little kids alike.

8

BEE AMAZED AT THE HOUSE OF HONEY

With a combined apiary, meadery and cafe, **The House of Honey** showcases the unique flavours and properties of honey that come from the Swan Valley region. Honey sampling allows you to appreciate the flavour differences that come from the blossom of different types of trees and you can also observe bees working in the demonstration hive. Regular classes include beekeeping and candle making.

9

EXPLORE WHITEMAN PARK

A recreation and conservation bushland spanning over 3,700 hectares, **Whiteman Park** is a haven for families with its walking trails, playgrounds, over 30 picnic and shade shelters, friendly kangaroos and wallabies, tram rides and pedal go-karts. It's also home to the iconic **Caversham Wildlife Park** and **Motor Museum of WA**, so there's plenty to see and do.



7

WIND DOWN AT WHISTLER'S CHOCOLATE CO

Making chocolate since 1972, **Whistler's** is WA's oldest chocolate company. This family favourite has a cafe, showroom and gift shop with free samples plus a selection of artisanal chocolates and goodies like rocky road, fudge and chocolate pretzels. Wind down over a coffee in the lounge or settle outside as the kids explore the enclosed garden area.

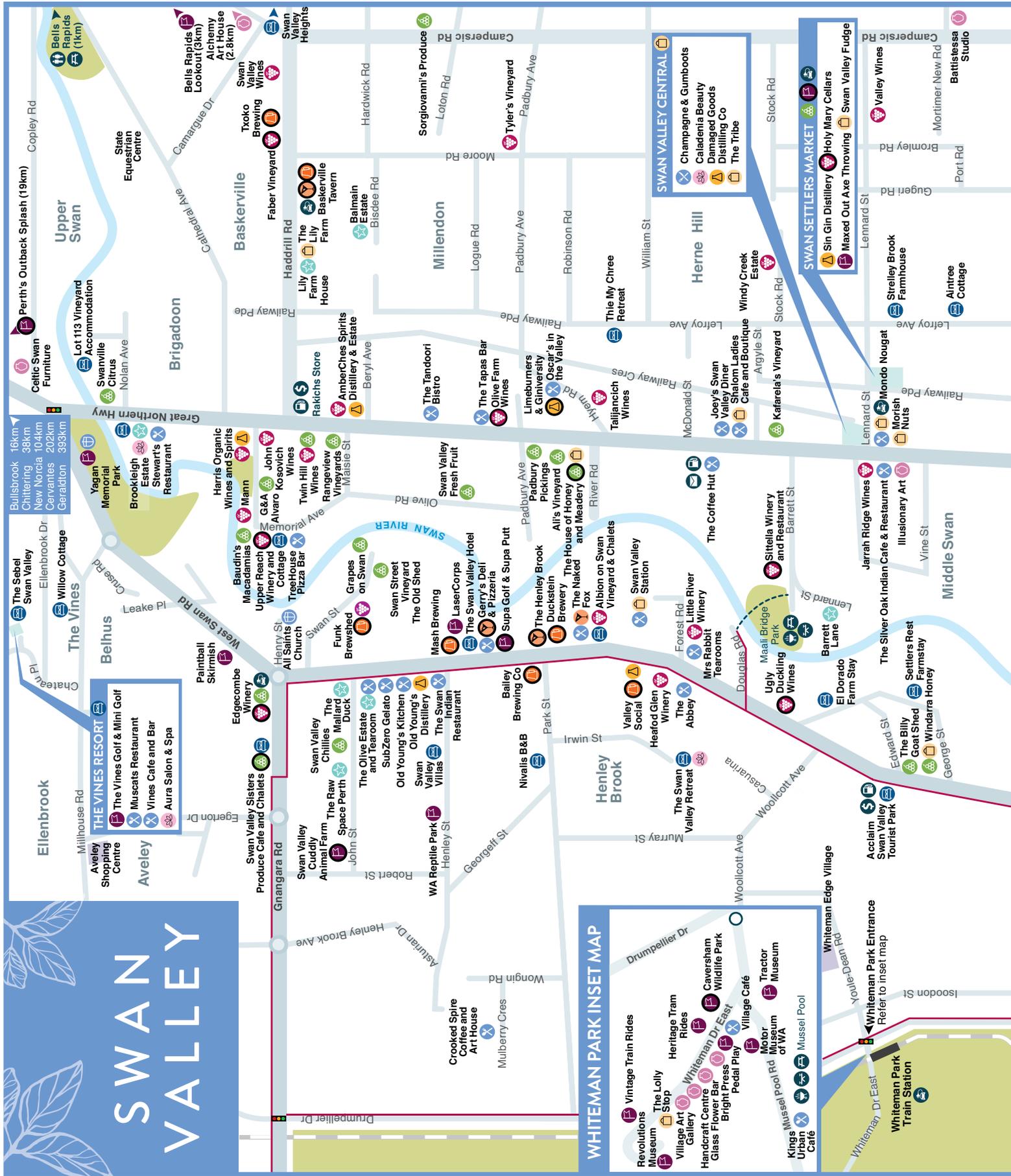
10

ESCAPE TO FRANCE AT MAISON SAINT-HONORÉ

Serving up sweet and savoury treats, this Parisian style cafe has authentic French pastries, croissants and macarons, fresh breads, handmade cakes and great coffee as well as a large children's play area. Whether it's breakfast, a caffeine recharge, lunch or high tea, you can experience the essence of French indulgence at **Maison Saint-Honoré**.



SWAN VALLEY





LEGEND
Scale 500m

- Venue with food
- Winery
- Restaurant/Café
- Accommodation
- Brewery/Cidery
- Distillery
- Bar/Pub
- Local Produce
- Retail
- Health & Wellness
- Attraction
- Art & Craft
- Heritage
- Function Centre
- Post Office
- Petrol Station
- ATM
- Playground
- Public Toilets
- Accessible Toilets
- Picnic Area
- BBQ Area
- EV Charging Station
- Traffic Lights
- Cycle/Walk Path
- Railway Line
- Train Station

MANDOON ESTATE

- Homestead Brewery
- Wild Swan Restaurant
- The Liawn
- Maya Maya
- Maalinup Aboriginal Gallery

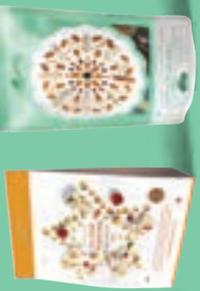
VALENCIA COMPLEX

- Collector of Souls
- Remi's Antiques & Collectables
- Spice in the Valley
- Valencia Bar & Grill

swanvalley.com.au

DISCOVER AWARD-WINNING NOUGAT AND NUTS ALL IN ONE LOCATION.

Enjoy Nougat, Nuts, Gelato, Coffee, Biscotti & More.



JUST ONE MORE...
MORISH NUTS
EST. 1994



Collector of Souls



EXPERIENCE...

WHAT'S NEW IN THE VALLEY



Gerry's Deli

From places to rest your weary head, to a bakery specialising in brioche doughnuts, here's our insider guide to places you may want to check out on your next visit to the Swan Valley and Guildford.

By SUE YEAP

Swan Valley Hotel and Gerry's Deli 10250 West Swan Road, Henley Brook

Quality accommodation at a reasonable price in the heart of the Swan Valley – complete with a tropical swimming pool – is now easier to find thanks to the **Swan Valley Hotel's** Craig Nicol and Bree McNeil.

Since taking over in 2023, Craig, Bree and family – who also run **Supa Golf** – have poured their hearts into revitalising the former 'Swan Valley Oasis' with the vision of making it WA's best value small resort.

The entire 32-room hotel, comprising a mix of rooms, suites and apartments, has undergone a full renovation. Facilities include a gym, sauna, laundry, guest kitchenette, a transformed function

space and premium wedding suite accommodation.

At the heart of the redevelopment is **Gerry's Deli**, open seven days a week, with seating for more than 200 guests across indoor and outdoor areas.

The name pays homage to entrepreneur and original site developer Gerry Hanssen, while the Gerry's brand and menu embodies the spirit of a classic New York deli and New Haven pizzeria.

Enjoy coffee all day from Leftfield Coffee Roasters; an independently curated wine menu; Gage Roads beer on tap; contemporary share plates; pizzas plus other pub classics.

To encourage repeat visits, Gerry's Deli has weekday lunch specials, weekend



Swan Valley Hotel



The Otium at Caversham House

happy hours and a 'Friday Family Night' where kids can play Supa Putt under lights for free with a paying adult.

But the improvements don't finish there. Expect to see a new children's playground, a junior golfing academy, and an in-house tour service that will start and end at the Swan Valley Hotel, with the best of the Valley's breweries, wineries and attractions on the itinerary.

The Otium at Caversham House

141 Caversham Ave, Caversham

If you're looking for a luxe location for a friends' weekend away, or the perfect place to prepare for your wedding, **The Otium** is calling.

Situated within the grounds of grand

function centre **Caversham House**, The Otium is a four-bedroom, two-bathroom renovated holiday house with all the mod cons, and then some.

Cook up a feast on the Argentinian woodfired barbecue, take a dip in the pool, or chill out in the mega entertainment room decked out with a 90-inch television, gym equipment and arcade machines.

Collector of Souls

Valencia Complex, 55 Benara Rd, Caversham

Give in to temptation at the Valley's newest distillery and brewery, located in the former residence of House of Funk.

Collector of Souls comes from the team behind Chapel Farm Estate and

Cruise to the Swan Valley

Depart Perth by boat and arrive in the Swan Valley, with wine tastings, lunch, and more as you cruise.



BOOK NOW



CAPTAIN COOK
CRUISES

captaincookcruises.com.au
9325 3341

Discover the Swan Valley by Coach

Experience the Swan Valley's finest wineries, breweries, distilleries, and eateries with Swan Valley Tours.



BOOK NOW

SWAN VALLEY
TOURS

svtours.com.au
9325 3341



PART OF THE *Brilliant* TRAVELS FAMILY

WHAT'S NEW

takes devilish inspiration from a line in the Queen song 'Bohemian Rhapsody'.

"The name Collector of Souls is derived from the narrative that our distiller has such a talent for his craft, he collects your soul one drink at a time," explains Sharon Lord, Chief of Operations.

"We make all our beer, wine, spirits, ready brews and cocktails ourselves. Our brewer line is called **Beelzebub Brewing Co.** and it's born from the depths of our wildest imaginations."

Collector of Souls welcomes locals and tradies on their way home from work on Fridays, a DJ in the beer garden brings the party groups on Saturdays, and then it's back to a local crowd for live music on Sundays.



Keni Donuts



Edgecombe Winery

Edgecombe Winery

1733 Gnangara Rd, Henley Brook

As it celebrates its 100th year, family remains at the heart of **Edgecombe Winery**. However, it is no longer the Edgecombe family leading the charge.

Siblings Louise and Jonathon Hingley purchased the historic vineyard in 2024 with their parents Kimberley Hingley and Jenny Morris.

The barrel room has been transformed in readiness to host weddings from late 2025, and the winery has already hosted some birthdays and baby showers.

Kimberley says Alf Edgecombe remains "a part of the furniture", sharing his wealth of knowledge about the vineyard and the annual asparagus crop. New additions include honey fresh from Jenny's hives and zucchini pickle.

Jonathon and Louise had friends help them pick their first wine vintage and down the track may consider offering it as a visitor experience.

Albion on Swan

8990 West Swan Rd, Henley Brook

Self-contained chalets in the heart of the **Albion on Swan** vineyard could be the perfect escape to the country without having to leave the city limits.

Four chalets are spaced around the 15-acre property that is also home to the rustic winery, now used to host weddings and events. The winery's label **Beneath the Vines** specialises in Sauvignon Blanc and Petit Verdot.

The chalets are a short stroll for coffee, breakfast or a great selection of local and WA wines at nearby **The Naked Fox** cafe and wine bar.

To keep up with new openings throughout the year, follow **@TheSwanValley** on social media

Keni Donuts

171 James St, Guildford

This cafe and bakery in Guildford is the realisation of Teresa Tayag's dream to have her own place to create and share her passion for cooking and baking.

Keni specialises in brioche donuts using whole foods and natural flavourings, without any dough improvers or preservatives.

Customers keep coming back for the purple-coloured ube donuts; sansrival layered dessert; burnt Basque cheesecake and Filipino breakfasts.

"Our ube latte and calamansi hot and cold drinks are also quite popular," Teresa says.

CAVERSHAM WILDLIFE PARK



Caversham Wildlife Park boasts the largest privately owned collection of native wildlife in Western Australia. This world-class attraction prides itself on offering unique interactive experiences with Australia's most interesting animals while maintaining the laid-back Aussie touch.

Visitors receive personalised service by wildlife professionals dedicated to exceptional service, ensuring their visitors receive the best opportunities for animal interaction, information and photographs.



Open 7 days, 9am – 4:30pm daily
Located within Whiteman Park
Ph: (08) 9248 1984
www.cavershamwildlife.com.au



EXPLORE... BEHIND THE CELLAR DOOR

Deviate from the main roads to discover unique cellar door experiences in the Swan Valley. From small local wineries held within the same family for generations, through to large wine tourism destinations, there's a cellar door to suit everyone.

By JOCELYN BIDDLE

As WA's oldest wine region, the Swan Valley is located just 25-minutes from the Perth CBD and boasts over 30 wineries offering a range of personalised cellar door experiences.

Why a cellar door experience?

If you're short on time, booking into a cellar door experience is a more



Lancaster Wines



Riverbank Estate

personalised way to learn about the nuances of a particular wine region. From behind-the-scenes tours (if you're lucky, you may even meet the winemaker), through to tasting experiences and workshops, they're a great way to expand your wine knowledge.

Consider booking ahead to get the most out of your day. With so much to choose from, what are you waiting for?

FEELING MORE IMPULSIVE?

Specific experiences or groups of over six people require bookings, but you're otherwise welcome to drop in to cellar doors to sample some top local drops.

For example, **Twin Hill Wines** with its old-style charm and character, has been owned and run by the same family for over 85 years. They have table wines plus fortifieds, including Tokay, Sweet Muscat and Pedro Ximenez.

Known for its chilled and laid back vibe, **Lancaster Wines** has an outdoor tasting shed where you can sample their wines, before putting together your own grazing platter to enjoy with a bottle in their vineyard setting.

As Australia's second oldest winery, **Nikola Estate** is located on the banks of the Swan River. Forged in tradition with its original grapevines dating back to 1836, this historic and picturesque property has a modern cellar door situated in a beautiful location in the Valley.

Featuring prominently in the 2024 Swan Valley Wine Show, third generation winemaker Tony Cobanov is producing award-winning wines at **Windy Creek Estate** with his Chenin Blanc, Verdelho and Grenache.

With over 30 wineries to choose from, there's much to explore in the Swan Valley.



Lancaster Wines

Grape to glass tour at Olive Farm Wines

If you're interested in exploring the full winemaking journey from grape to glass, the 'Tour and Tasting Experience' at **Olive Farm Wines** is a fun and educational way to learn about the steps involved in producing wine.

With a rich heritage spanning four generations, winemakers Anthony Yurisch and his father Ian, operate an innovative winery that produces over 50 different wines including both traditional and alternate styles.

The interactive tour starts in the vineyard with its meticulously maintained grapevines, before you walk through the factory and barrel room. Each step of the winemaking process is explained and you'll get to see where the grapes are crushed, fermented, barrel aged, bottled and labelled.

Finishing up in the cellar door, you're introduced to 'Frank the Tank', a wine dispenser that houses the complete Olive Farm wine selection. With so many interesting varieties and styles of wine,

it's hard to choose. For bookings, go to olivefarmwines.com.au

Sparkle with Sittella

If terms like riddling, disgorging, tirage and dosage pique your interest, then book yourself into the 'Tour and Tasting Experience' at **Sittella**. This boutique winery is well qualified to talk you through all that's involved in producing award-winning sparkling wines, having recently been awarded 'Sparkling Wine of the Year' in the 2024 Halliday Wine Companion Awards with their *Grand Prestige Late Disgorged 2010 Blanc de Blanc*.

And it's not just sparkling wines that you'll learn about. The guided tour takes you past their vineyard which has both traditional and more unusual varieties (including Albarino, Mencia and Touriga Nacional) and then through their production area as you're provided with an overview of how this family-owned winery has evolved. The tour ends in the cellar door, where you can sit down and enjoy a guided tasting and cheese board. To book, go to sittella.com.au

Traditions of Talijancich

No visit to the Swan Valley is complete without sampling fortified wine, a style synonymous with the area. As one of the forefathers of the Valley, **Talijancich Wines** produce award-winning fortifieds and their vineyard has been in the same family since 1932.

Third generation winemaker James Talijancich started out as assistant winemaker in 1977, working under the tutelage of his father Peter (who completed 49 vintages). Most of the wines are estate grown and their vineyard is also biodynamic, with James' approach being very much about producing wines that are an expression of both the fruit and vineyard.

For a deep dive into the world of fortified wines, try their *Aged Fortified Tasting* experience. Designed for two people, you will sample Liqueur Muscat, Liqueur Shiraz, Pedro Ximenez (with its base wine dating back to 1978), Rare Tawny and Muscat along with a cheeseboard. It's a unique and quintessential Swan Valley experience.

Cultural journey with Mandoon

For a cellar door experience with a difference, **Mandoon Estate** offers an Indigenous tasting platter so you can sample local, native ingredients matched with three of their signature wines.

In consultation with Wardandi Bibbulmun woman Dale Tilbrook, Mandoon's chefs have curated a menu that showcases ingredients such as crocodile, emu, kangaroo, rivermint oil, pickled quandong and wattleseed bread. Relax into your experience with a glass of bubbles, before being presented with your platter and matching wines.

Blend with Sandalford

If you've ever aspired to become a winemaker, then **Sandalford Wines'** blending session gives a sneak peek into the skills required to create a perfectly balanced drop.

This 1.5-hour workshop starts with a guided tour along elevated walkways, which gives you a bird's eye view of winemaking operations while you learn fun facts about both Sandalford and winemaking (did you know that the optimal temperature to drink red wine is 16-18 degrees? Or that grape vines have been growing in the Swan Valley for over 190 years?)

Following the tour, the fun begins as you sit down in front of carafes of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz. As you swirl, sniff and sip, you're taken through the origin, characteristics, oak profile and cellaring times of each wine and how blending can enhance the finished product. As you try to create your own perfect blend, you'll develop an insight into the skills involved in winemaking.

Personal attention with Pinelli

Describing themselves as a 'little taste of Italy', expect a very personalised cellar door experience at **Pinelli Estate** where you'll often get to meet the winemakers themselves.

Robert and Daniel Pinelli are second generation winemakers and along with their father, Domenic, are passionate about handcrafting fine wines. Careful vineyard management on their property in the Swan Valley, together with years of winemaking experience, has seen the trio win many awards.

There's a restaurant located next to the cellar door, so a relaxing afternoon over good food and wine awaits. Restaurant bookings can be made at pinelliwines.com.au



Wine blending at Sandalford Wines



**It's pretty simple really.
We're a brewery in the Swan Valley.
We serve beer that we brew, local wine
from our mates, and
food that's always tasty.
We've got a big playground for the kids and
peace-of-mind for the parents.
All the good stuff - and just
30 minutes from the City!**



**Opening Hours:
Tues - Friday: 11am-Late for Lunch & Dinner.
Saturday-Sunday & Public Holidays:
8am-Late for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.**



**9861 West Swan Road, Henley Brook
Phone: 6192 1830**

www.baileybrewingco.com.au

 [@thebaileybrewingco](https://www.facebook.com/thebaileybrewingco)  [@baileybrewingco](https://www.instagram.com/baileybrewingco)

ENJOY...
**TOP
LOCAL
DROPS**



Keven Osborne, Co-founder and Sommelier at The Naked Fox.

Boasting dozens of winemakers and vineyards together with countless excellent wines, Keven Osborne from local wine bar **The Naked Fox gives a humble snapshot of some local Swan Valley wines that have captured his interest.**



Mann Cygne Blanc Brut 2018

Handpicked and hand-disgorged by father-daughter duo Dorham and Anthea Mann, this Méthode Champenoise sparkling has it all.

Fancy some Bollinger? Taittinger perhaps? Look no further. This unique white grape clone, Cygne Blanc (white swan), first propagated from a Cabernet Sauvignon seed in Dorham's garden, is meticulously crafted to precision.

Undergoing secondary fermentation in bottle (like Champagne), zero sugar is added at the dosage stage leaving a crisp and age-worthy sparkling. The mousse (mouth fizz) and elongated finish of shortbread, brioche and honeyed almonds linger longingly, lovingly and harmoniously in the memory bank of great wine.

This is serious stuff. Very, very few bottles remain. However look for the new 2023 (along with their Brut Rosé 2023) release from July 2025. Available at Mann Winery's cellar door until early 2026, The Naked Fox, Copper & Oak and Old Bridge Cellars.

Sittella Avant-Garde Series Albariño 2024

There are not many Albariño plantings in Australia, let alone Western Australia.

Herne Hill's family-owned and operated **Sittella** planted rare rootstock of this Spanish variety in 2021. The wet winter of 2023, followed by a very early, dry spring, and then a hot, dry 2024 summer has boded extremely well for this inaugural release.

Fragrant baked apple, lychee and toffee generously entice you into a refreshing saline plunge pool of citrus lime zest, sherbet, passionfruit and nectar. Outstanding length. Available at Sittella cellar door, The Naked Fox, select independent bottle shops or online at sittella.com.au

Garbin Estate Verdelho 2024

Common with smaller French, Spanish and Italian vineyards, it's becoming harder and less viable for the next generation to maintain the traditions and quality of their agricultural ancestors. So it's both rare and glorious to see the next generation succeeding.

There are not many multi-generational wineries with young blood coming through. Locally, Sittella, John Kosovich and Paul Conti spring to mind, as well as third generation brothers Adam and Joel Garbin, who have confidently saddled up as they take over the reins from their parents.

The entire portfolio of Garbin Estate wines are delightfully approachable and this is an important Swan Valley cellar door to visit with Méthode Traditionelle sparkling, Sémillon and Sangiovese, through to fortified Muscat.

Garbin Estate's 2024 Verdelho is a youthful number with tropical guava and pineapple, quince, peach and pear and just the right balance of zesty acidity. Originating in Spain, Verdelho thrives in the hot, dry Swan Valley sunshine and mature (15+ years) local Verdelho wines are an absolute delight for the senses. Available at Garbin Estate cellar door and online at garbinestatewines.com.au



John Kosovich 'Mara' Chenin Blanc 2023

Famed by their 2018 'bottle-aged reserve' Chenin Blanc, which was released five years after careful cellaring and won 'best other whites and blends in Australia' in the *Halliday Wine Companion* 2024, Kosovich's 'Mara' debuted during the winery's centennial year in 2022.

Named after Mary Kosovich (who was born 'Mara' in 1938 before the midwives anglicised her name to 'Mary'), winemaking here is overseen by youngest son Arch. This wine honours Arch's mother, Mara, who still runs the cellar door and has maintained the family bookkeeping for decades. Meanwhile Mary's husband, John Kosovich, completed his 72nd consecutive vintage this year. Having left school aged 15, John started helping out on his parents' vineyard in 1953 and can still be found chewing grapes to test their ripeness at vintage before handpicking the fruit with the whole family.

The 'Mara' Chenin Blanc is a fine, tightly structured wine with floral, spicy notes and a fresh vibrant fruit which will age gracefully for years to come. Winning 'Best Chenin Blanc of Vintages' at last year's *Australia Chenin Challenge*, it's available online at johnkosovichwines.com.au and also from the cellar door. The Naked Fox also has museum stock on hand.

Vino Volta 'Funky & Fearless' Chenin Blanc 2019

There are several Australian wine-making renegades in the Swan Valley championing and coaxing the full potential of this historical Loire Valley variety that is Chenin Blanc. The very best examples have the acidity, persistence and drive to live for decades.

At six years of age, this fine wine by Vino Volta owner and winemaker Garth Cliff, formerly of Houghtons, has a smidge of gentle skin contact, extended lees aging and is just beginning to demonstrate its full long-lived potential. It's certainly fearless, in that it could comfortably take on the world's best. Funky? In a Marvin Gay/James Brown sorta-way, yes.

Whole bunch pressed into mature oak, pithy lemon and lime with a smidge of passionfruit, honeycomb and plenty of texture on the pallet comes from the lees stirred in barrel. The fruit is sourced from Corymbia's very special certified organic Rocket's Vineyard. With museum stock of the 2019 available at The Naked Fox, their new 2023 vintage (a cracker) is available online at vinovolta.com.au and select independent bottle shops.

Corymbia Chenin Blanc 2018

Genevieve Mann moved to Margaret River in 2007 as winemaker at Howard Park. Meanwhile, Rob Mann was born and raised in the Swan Valley and is grandson of pioneering Houghtons winemaker Jack Mann. Rob became head winemaker at Cape Mentelle in Margaret River, yet it was a chance meeting working on a vineyard thousands of miles across the Pacific Ocean in the Napa Valley, California, where their story together first began.

Rob and Genevieve's decision to return home and rejuvenate the Rocket's Vineyard in Baskerville, which was planted 43 years ago by Rob and his late father, Australia Test cricketer Tony 'Rocket' Mann, has benefited the WA wine-drinking community immeasurably. This plot of immaculate viticulture has plantings of Chenin Blanc, Tempranillo, Malbec, as well as older bush vine Cabernet Sauvignon.

Rob and Genevieve's inaugural Corymbia vintage was in 2017 with a Chenin Blanc and a red field blend. Both their 2017 and 2018 vintages are in a fantastic drinking window right now. Their dry-grown, organically-certified 2018 Chenin offers characteristics of sage, beeswax, ripening pear, and some delicate drops of salinity. Say 'g'day' as it effortlessly goes down the hatch. Museum release 2018 is available at The Naked Fox. Latest release 2024 is available online at corymbiawine.com.au and select independent bottle shops.



Swan Valley Wines 'Assemblage' Vermentino Malvasia 2020

Bree Lavell and Paul Hoffman are passionate about keeping endemic Swan varieties, traditional viticulture and sustainable winemaking at the heart of their operations. This includes organically-managed sites; old bush vine Grenache, Cabernet, Syrah and Mourvèdre; minimal intervention in the winery with gentle basket pressing; indigenous yeasts for natural fermentations; no fining or filtration and low to zero sulphur additions.

A harmonious blend of two Mediterranean grape varieties, this Vermentino Malvasia wine is neatly truncated by aromas of scrumptious apple cider. It is textural, appealing to all of the senses, and just oh-so moreish. Available at The Naked Fox. For Swan Valley Wines' latest white releases check swanvalleywines.com.au



Vino Volta Fiano 2020

Hailing from a vineyard in Gingin in the northern part of the Swan Valley district, this outrageously drinkable southern Italian variety has added texture in the form of skin contact and plenty of solids in its mature barrique wild ferments. With natural acidity and balance; characters of waxy honeydew melon and pear; and a palate weight enhanced by the early stages of bottle bouquet maturity, museum stock of the 2020 is available at The Naked Fox. The current 2024 vintage is available online from [Vino Volta \(vinovalta.com.au\)](http://VinoVolta.com.au) and select independent bottle shops.

Corymbia's Genevieve and Rob Mann working in their Rocket's Vineyard, Swan Valley.



COPPER & OAK

EST. LIQUOR MERCHANTS 2003

WINNER LIQUOR STORE OF THE YEAR

LIQUOR STORES ASSOCIATION
AWARDS 2024

**MASSIVE RANGE OF
SWAN VALLEY WINES!**

**HUGE SELECTION OF
CRAFT BEER!**

**ONE OF PERTH'S LARGEST
STOCKISTS OF
WHISKY, RUM & GIN!**



**COPPER & OAK IS AN
INDEPENDENT FAMILY OWNED
AWARD WINNING LIQUOR STORE.**

**LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF
MEADOW & SWAN STREET IN
GUILDFORD. ALSO WITH AN
OUTLET IN TUART HILL.**



Email:
guildford@copperandoak.com.au

Address:
124 Swan Street Guildford WA

Phone:
08 9377 3311

Website:
copperandoak.com.au



The Naked Fox has a wine list that has been carefully curated by Co-founder and Sommelier, Keven Osborne (pictured right). With over 50 different Swan Valley wines as well as rotating back vintages available by the glass, The Naked Fox is open Thursday through Monday for breakfast, brunch and lunch. thenakedfox.com.au



Tom Daniels, winemaker at Chouette.

Chouette 'Tempero' Chenin Blanc Sauvignon Blanc Grenache Blanc Navera 2023

There's an old stone owl near this winery, which is fitting as 'chouette' means owl in Whadjuk Noongar dialect and it also means 'cool' in French.

Chouette's 'Tempero' is a white field blend of Swan Valley-grown varieties, with Navera being a local Muscat clone. With almost two weeks skin contact, the concrete egg and large format Slovenian oak maturation has helped to create a textural, rather yummy orange wine. A touch of smokiness and spice opens out to tangy orange, stone fruit and quince. Check chouettewine.com for winemaker Tom Daniels' latest seasonal releases. Available by the glass at The Naked Fox.

Windy Creek Estate 'Matadoro' Grenache 2023

There is some cracking Swan Valley Grenache from Upper Reach, Swan Valley Wines, Dormilona, South by South West, Faber, Mandoon, Pinelli, RiverBank, Henley Park ... the list goes on. This little (big) number from Windy Creek Estate took out top spot at last year's Swan Valley wine show.

Flying the flag for the best-value winery in the region, Windy Creek's 'Matadoro' Grenache is silky (let's say fox tail bushy in a presentable way), juicy, fruity and very drinkable. Some Grenache are pretty in pink and some are bold and dark with more tannin and oak. This leans more to the voluptuous side and as it's not too high in alcohol, is a great pairing with pizza or light stews. Visit their cellar door or available online at windycreekestate.com.au



Corymbia 'Field Blend' Malbec Tempranillo Cabernet Sauvignon 2018

Whereas **Corymbia's** first release in 2017 took out the *WA Good Food Guide's Wine of the Year*, every release since has been a regular contender for the top 25 wines of Western Australia. Their current 2023 release is arguably the best yet and with two of the State's most respected winemakers behind the helm, beautiful organic fruit to play with plus a stunning vintage, it's little wonder.

An absolute must (no pun intended) for any red wine lover, it's one for the cellar. The wine label, designed by Rob Mann's sister, is fascinatingly the shape of a Corymbia flower. A lone Corymbia tree adorns the slope of the pristine Rocket's Vineyard from where the fruit for this wine originates and the artwork has 365/6 spherical spikes representing the vintage's annual temperature, rainfall and picking dates. The current release is available at corymbiawine.com.au and the museum 2018 vintage is available at The Naked Fox.



Talijancich 'Julian James' Rare Pedro Ximénez 1978 Solero Blend No. 2

Third generation winemaker James Talijancich produces some of Australia's highest rated fortified wines. His reserve muscats are extremely limited and sought after.

This 100 per cent Swan Valley Pedro Ximénez was planted in 1900 and is a blend of **Talijancich's** finest vintages from 1978 to 2001, matured in old brandy casks. Think flambé Christmas pudding with a deepening complexity of richness, Moroccan dates, nougat, Swan Valley honey and sticky toffee. It has immensely pleasurable concentration and a dense, long, lingering finish. Available predominantly from Talijancich's cellar door and online, there is a selection of fortifieds, including the 1961 Rare Muscat, available from The Naked Fox.



John Kosovich Muscat

One look at a person's face when they have taken a sip of **Kosovich** Rare Muscat and you'll know it's a thing of sheer beauty. Its length of flavour and seemingly eternal, ethereal finish is a delightfully decadent, yet local way to finish off a special meal or evening. Available from Kosovich's cellar door and by the glass at select local restaurants.



DELI, PIZZERIA, WINE BAR MEET, EAT, SIP, REPEAT

Gerry's is amazing food, great drinks, and the perfect spot to start, end, or recharge while exploring the Swan Valley.



Relax indoors, outdoors, or picnic-style, with a playground & Supa Golf next door.

Enjoy brunch, deli classics, share plates, pub favourites & New Haven-style pizzas. Gluten-free- we've got you covered.



Sip on Gage Roads on tap, craft beer, wines by the glass, premium alcohol-free drinks & Left Field Roasters coffee.



With daily specials & weekly events, there's always a reason to Meet, Eat, Sip & Repeat at Gerry's!

 10250 West Swan Road, Henley Brook.

 gerrys.au

  [gerrysdeliswanvalley](https://www.facebook.com/gerrysdeliswanvalley)



EXPLORE...

THE SWAN VALLEY'S WINE MAKING HERITAGE

With vineyards dating over 190 years, the Swan Valley has launched an Old Vine Charter that ensures their preservation for generations to come.



As Western Australia's oldest wine region (and the second oldest in Australia after the Hunter Valley in NSW), the Swan Valley boasts a rich winemaking heritage.

With a lineage stretching back to the earliest days of Western Australia's colonisation, initial plantings were by English settlers. The first vines were planted in 1829 by botanist Thomas Waters at Olive Farm Wines' original site in South Guildford.

Fast forward to 1916 and a wave of European migrants flocked to the region. It was the arrival of Croatian and Italian immigrants that really enriched winemaking in the Valley, bringing their expertise as vignerons with generations of experience.

These families still have their roots

firmly entrenched here and several are now third and fourth generation winemakers and vignerons.

Old Vine Charter

Launched in 2024, the *Swan Valley Old Vine Charter* has been established to acknowledge the importance of retaining this valuable legacy.

Swan Valley generational winemakers, Anthony Kosovich and James Talijancich, were instrumental in developing the Charter, which was born from a shared passion to recognise and preserve the old vines of the region as well as the diverse styles of wines being made from them. With overwhelming support from the local winemaking community, together with assistance from the Barossa Valley who

had released their own Charter in 2009, they set about establishing a Charter specifically for the Swan Valley.

"The development of the *Swan Valley Old Vine Charter* will ensure the long-term preservation of old vines and it also validates their value in winemaking. For consumers, this means that they can continue to enjoy wonderful wines into the future that have been made using fruit from vines that can be anywhere from 35 to over 125 years old," says James Talijancich.

For vines to qualify for Old Vine Charter recognition, they must still produce fruit and there also needs to be proof of their planting date. Wines made must be 100 per cent from an Old Vine Charter vineyard and cannot be blended with fruit from another vineyard in a different age category.

“THE PURPOSE OF THE SWAN VALLEY OLD VINE CHARTER IS TO SUPPORT THE LONG-TERM PROTECTION OF OLD VINES IN THE REGION, AS WELL AS VALIDATE THEIR VALUE IN WINEMAKING.”



Below: Signage and labelling have been developed to promote the Swan Valley's Old Vine Charter, helping to educate consumers about wineries using old vine fruit.



Vines are classified into four categories: *Old Vine* (aged 35 years plus); *Survivor* (aged 70 years plus); *Centenarian* (aged 100 years plus) and *Ancestor* (aged 125 years plus).

Swan Valley wineries and vineyards were invited to register vines that were more than 35 years of age. Over 85 per cent of Swan Valley wineries are now Charter members. Details of the location of old vineyards are held within a database that is administered by the Swan Valley Winemakers Association.

“Old vines have shaped classic styles of wines. Within a decade, the majority of vineyards in the Swan Valley will be classified as ‘Old Vine’ and we have a responsibility, both to our region and our profession, to protect these. As a group

of winemakers, we’re working collectively to raise awareness about the importance of preserving these vineyards as well as the significance of wines that are being produced from them.”

Part of the establishment of the *Swan Valley Old Vine Charter* meant developing wine labelling, cellar door and winery signage, which is an important part of educating consumers about the heritage and provenance of the wines they are drinking.

Look out for the Old Vine Charter labelling next time you’re visiting or enjoying a bottle of the Swan Valley’s finest. It’s not only a sign that you’re drinking wine made with fruit from old vines, but that the winemaker is committed to preserving this important legacy for future generations.

Above left: The historical Roe family property in the Swan Valley, circa 1845, with its Pedro Ximenez vineyard.

Above: Thirteen-year old Peter Talijanich working in the family’s Swan Valley vineyard in 1945. Peter’s son, James Talijanich, is now a third-generation winemaker and works from the same property that has been held in the family since 1932.

EXPLORE... SOMEWHERE for COFFEE

Whether you're sipping on a cappuccino in a rustic shed overlooking vineyards or relaxing in historic Guildford, there's plenty of options for a caffeine-fuelled foray in the region.

By CARMEN JENNER

As one of the Swan Valley's biggest players, **Yahava KoffeeWorks** originally started roasting in the Margaret River Region 25 years ago. Yahava owner and director, Alastair Ingram shares, "We chose the Swan Valley because there are a lot of similarities to the Margaret River region, such as its connection to wine and food, and we wanted to be part of that."

Sourcing beans from 12 countries including PNG, Indonesia, India, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mexico, Colombia and Vietnam, they also have outlets in Singapore, Canningvale and, as of November 2024, Rockingham. More than a roaster and cafe, they're on a quest to share their passion for making the perfect brew through their workshops.

Yahava's *Koffee Academy* teaches the public how to make coffee at home, covering everything from using the right

beans, to getting a good extraction, to cleaning equipment. Their school holiday barista course is an ingenious way to cultivate a love of coffee in 13 to 17-year-olds, whilst also offering work experience and ongoing employment in their cafe. Connoisseurs will find the *Koffee Safari* course invaluable in where to source beans and how to compare flavours whilst sampling coffees from around the world.

Making an excellent cup of coffee might seem simple, but there's a lot involved. Alastair says, "It starts with good quality ingredients, from the beans to the milk and even the water, and the equipment needs to be consistent."

When asked what makes the perfect brew, Alastair shares, "The perfect coffee is what tastes great to you."

On that note, let's go on a coffee crawl through the Swan Valley.

Yahava KoffeeWorks

Right: Willing Coffee in Guildford is a local favourite.

Below: Morning tea at Maison Saint-Honoré.

Image by Carmen Jenner.



GUILDFORD

You can have your pick of cafes in historic Guildford. At the enchanting **Little Vines**, located just behind the **Little Guildford** on Swan Street, you can sip your coffee beneath grape vines while overlooking the Swan River. A couple of doors down in the iconic Padbury Buildings on Terrace Road, you'll find **Padbury's Cafe**. Also, on Terrace Road, **Willing Coffee** takes their specialty brews seriously, particularly their single-origin beans from southern Colombia. It's a hit with cyclists particularly since owner Tim Willing, a former cycling champion, supplies cycling and coffee paraphernalia to his Lycra-clad clientele.

CAVERSHAM

In keeping with the Valley's European roots, **Maison Saint-Honoré** has caught Perth's attention for its French pastries. Before opening several outlets across Perth, Francophiles would travel from anywhere in the metropolitan area for macarons, croissants, baguettes and petite vanilla and rum flavoured canelé pastries to dunk in their coffee. Maison Saint-Honoré is like a mini escape to the French countryside.

WEST SWAN

Lose yourself in the **Lavender Bistro's** purple haze for lavender-flavoured cakes, scones,

“THE COFFEE SCENE IN THE SWAN VALLEY IS AS BUOYANT AS ITS WINE, BEER, SPIRITS AND FOOD.”

pastries, ice cream and beverages or a decadent lavender-tasting plate. For the over-caffeinated, a pot of lavender tea served with high tea will calm you for a splurge at La Boutique for their range of jams, olive oils, tea and cosmetics – where you can easily guess the main ingredient. The **Margaret River Chocolate Co.** is another operator that began in the southwest and expanded into the Swan Valley. If you manage to make it past the Willy Wonker-esque shop, the Chocolate Cafe delivers on its namesake and is a family favourite.

HENLEY BROOK

The suburban precinct of Henley Brook has a few places churning out the caffeine. Sourcing produce from the farmers

around them, **Swan Valley Sisters** exudes wholesome goodness from their roadside shop and cafe, where you can do your weekly fruit and veg shopping followed by a well-deserved coffee. As the name suggests, **Mrs Rabbit Tearooms** is known for its Devonshire Tea, but they also have a gift shop and a fancy coffee machine. It's easy to see why their high tea menu, served on pretty crockery and cups, is a favourite for catchups and birthday parties in a setting that wouldn't be out of place in an Enid Blyton novel.

MIDDLE SWAN

When you visit **Taylor's Cafe** you'll find a quintessential country cafe with an all-day menu, great coffee and an art gallery dedicated to artist Jude Taylor that sells her artworks, fabrics, clothing and gifts.

DAYTON

House-baked sourdough, Swiss chocolate treats and eggs laid onsite are just a few of the treats you'll uncover from the rustic fresh produce at **Keller's Farm**. Surrounded by green pastures, it's almost obligatory to lounge on the grounds with a freshly baked pastry and a brew while the little ones feed the cows and sheep. Word of warning, the setting is so idyllic, you may leave with all kinds of tree-change fantasies.

“WA’S FAVOURITE COFFEE DESTINATION”

COME ON A FREE COFFEE TASTING EXPERIENCE
WITH US AND WATCH AS WE ROAST YOUR COFFEE
RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR EYES.

Deepak



Free coffee tasting! Staff is super knowledgeable and suggested some great coffee beans.

Paul



Best coffees we've had in the Valley so far
And the chill view out the back makes for a perfect start to the morning before hitting the wineries 🍷🍷

Holly



Great little local with a lovely outlook over the Valley.

Teresa



Outside you wouldn't be able to tell what goes on inside!



KoffeeWorks
Adventure in a cup

📍 4752 West Swan Road, West Swan
Open 7 Days - 9am-5pm
yahava.com.au



KoffeeWorks

Adventure in a cup



Ethan
★★★★★
Amazing staff and a warm and friendly atmosphere. 10/10 and a must do for locals and visitors alike.



Pei
★★★★★
This is a gem! Loved the vibes. An astounding coffee roaster in the Swan Valley.

EXPERIENCE... FOODIE HEAVEN

More than just a wine region, the Swan Valley is a hub of creativity that's gaining a reputation as a major food destination here in Western Australia. Come for a visit and discover the beautiful flavours of the Valley for yourself.

By SARAH SCHMITT

Apprentice chef at Mandoon Estate



Sandalford Wines

With its beautiful scenery and incredible produce, the Swan Valley is the perfect place for foodies to relax and unwind over brunch, lunch, dinner or something in between.

In a region blessed with such a strong food and wine culture, there are plenty of options to entice from casual through to fine-dining. Located on the banks of the Swan River, **Nikola Estate** is one of Australia's oldest wineries and is set on beautiful grounds dotted with jacaranda trees and sweeping lawns. After a meander through the Estate, enjoy a meal at their **Woodcutters Restaurant**, which has everything from more casual tapas and pizza options through to substantial meals best enjoyed with their award-winning wines.

Just down the road, **Mandoon Estate** offers a moment of tranquility. Strolling along the riverbank under the shade of ancient trees, you can almost hear the whispers of the past. Wardandi Bibbulmun woman, Dale Tilbrook, offers bushtucker talks and tastings, where you can learn and sample different native food and medicine plants. After this, you can enjoy a fine dining experience at Mandoon's **Wild Swan** restaurant. Under the guidance of Head Chef Anthony Power, the menu is a display of innovation and seasonality and each dish is thoughtfully paired with award-winning wines and craft beers.

Venturing further into the Valley, **Old Young's Kitchen** is nestled into the bushland, with tangled vines trapezing around the veranda to create a rustic, old-world appeal. It's effortlessly inviting — the kind of place where time slows down, and you exhale just a little deeper as you settle in for the afternoon.

For Head Chef Paul Greenham, an opportunity to escape the frenetic pace of city kitchens was too good to refuse. "I wanted to work closer with the team and experiment more — really get hands-on with the food," he shares. "I want Old Young's Kitchen to be a destination, not just for Perth, but for Western Australia."

At Old Young's, the team embraces seasonality, sourcing produce as locally as possible and extending its life through fermenting and pickling for use throughout the seasons. Paul's dishes are always evolving, reflecting the freshest ingredients and the flavours that come out of Old Young's Distillery. Expect lighter, vibrant flavours in summer, shifting to heartier, comforting dishes as the season turns.

Almost a stone's throw away, **The Henley Brook** (affectionately known as 'The Hen' by locals), exudes country-pub charm. This sprawling tavern is a hub for the community, where the team is on a first-name basis with their regulars and exposed beams and rustic brickwork creates a cozy backdrop for lively



STIRLING ARMS EST. HOTEL 1852

Open 7 days.

Come enjoy a pint at one of WA's oldest pubs in the historic town of Guildford, proudly serving since 1852.

Historic pub. Accommodation.
Events. Weddings. Functions.

www.thestirlingarms.com.au



gatherings. Families linger over hearty meals; kids run free on the vast nature playground; and in winter, friends huddle by the fireplace sharing stories over a bottle of wine.

Dino, The Hen's head chef, is passionate about creating food that brings people together. "I love putting a smile on people's faces," he says. The Hen offers classic pub fare using local, seasonal produce wherever possible. You'll find comforting curries and pastas alongside the crowd-pleasing chicken parmigiana, with a few special dishes thrown in.

Sandalford Wines is one of the oldest wineries in the area, with its restaurant sitting elegantly on this spectacular estate.

Led by renowned Executive Chef Anthony Spagnolo, he says it's the combination of old-world wine heritage and a thriving local food scene that sets the Swan Valley apart from other areas around Perth.

"The best local produce is the true driver of my cooking," Anthony explains. Whether playing with smoke-infused elements or incorporating native ingredients in an unpretentious way, his philosophy is rooted in technique and seasonality. Summer menus burst with bright, citrus and herbaceous flavours, while winter calls for richer, earthier creations. Each dish is a reflection of time, place and the perfect pairing with

Sandalford's award-winning wines.

At the other end of the Valley, **Upper Reach Winery** sits on the banks of the Swan River. The restaurant overlooks the vineyard, with its views enticing you to linger a little longer.

Head chef and co-owner Ryan Fels believes the beauty of the region is matched only by the quality of its produce. "You can scrounge around the Valley and find the best bits right here," he says. From honey sourced at **The House of Honey**, to locally crafted gin from **Old Young's**, Upper Reach's menu is a love letter to the Swan Valley. With a Mediterranean-inspired menu driven by



“From casual tapas through to chef-hatted fine-dining restaurants, the Swan Valley has something for everyone.”



seasonality, it's the perfect lunch spot for a relaxing afternoon.

For something a little unexpected, **The Tapas Bar** offers a departure from the norm. Tucked off the main highway, its unassuming entrance gives way to a sprawling dining space with sweeping views of dense bushland. With dishes like Popcorn Crocodile, Buffalo Chorizo and Kangaroo Carpaccio, the menu, created by chef Dan Callister, pushes boundaries and embraces native and Australian ingredients in creative and inventive ways.

For Rachel Jones, co-founder and chef at **The Naked Fox**, growing up picking fresh produce from the vegetable patch and watching her European mother cook simple yet flavourful meals in her kitchen has formed the basis for her own style of cooking.

According to Rachel, the starting point is ensuring that a dish sits within her parameters of local and sustainable. Then, it's about having fun and being playful at what she creates.

“At the end of the day, people enjoy food that is delicious and fresh.” And that is exactly what the menu is all about at this cozy wine bar and cafe in the heart of the Swan Valley. Expect an unpretentious selection of share plates and small bites

that celebrate the stunning local produce found around the area.

Although the Swan Valley might have started out with its wines, its burgeoning food scene continues to grow offering a perfect combination for food and wine lovers alike.



The Tapas Bar



30TH ANNIVERSARY

LOCATED IN
BEAUTIFUL
WHITEMAN
PARK

Over 200+ cars and motorcycles on display
One of the largest collections of die-cast models in the world

Something for the whole family

Open every day 10am to 4pm - Tours at 11am and 2pm

For Directions, Google maps: [Motor Museum of WA](#) | Phone (08) 9249 9457 | [motormuseumwa.com.au](#)





Keller's Farm

EXPERIENCE...

NATURE'S BOUNTY



Damian Katich amongst the vines at The Grape Place. Photo by Sue Yeap

Seedless grapes. Fresh figs. Local garlic. A large watermelon lying shattered by the side of the road, pink flesh glistening in the sun. Handwritten signs in various sizes marking driveways along the thoroughfares and back streets. Take a road trip to discover some of the bountiful fresh produce in the Swan Valley.

By SUE YEAP

The Swan Valley in summer has queues forming early to score plump bunches of grapes from growers whose ties to the region can date back 50 to 100 years.

“Between Matt and my family, we have been open to the public since the early 1960s. For us, it’s not a job ... it’s been our life,” says Marlene Katich of **Kato’s @ 3000 Grapes** in West Swan Road, Caversham.

Kato’s opens during the table grape season (usually early January to late March), and Marlene has watched the growing season intensify due to the development of additional varieties, specific growing protocols and new growing regions across the state.

Further down West Swan Road, Damian Katich stepped in to run **The Grape Place** after his father Cedo ‘Chas’ Katich passed away in 2022.

“We have a pretty loyal customer base that has been built over five decades,” says Damian, who previously ran a successful marketing business before feeling the pull to continue the family tradition.

“It’s a legacy I don’t want to let fall away,” Damian says. “If you ask my son, he says he will take over from me, but he is only 14.”

Damian says people like to make a connection with what they are buying

and enjoy seeing him coming in from the vineyard with grapes still warm from the sun. Growing 17 different grape varieties, The Grape Place also cultivates melons.

Being a Swan Valley producer can be challenging with everything from flood, fire, the threat of Queensland fruit fly, water shortages and heatwaves to contend with during the past eight seasons alone.

While table grapes are the Valley's superstars, they're only part of the always evolving Swan Valley food landscape.

Baba and Dida's is one of the few fresh produce stores that are open year-round. The Tolich family has been growing and selling produce at its West Swan Road property for more than 25 years.

Tony Tolich gave up a career in real estate to move his parent's farm stall into a converted shed, transforming it into a bustling European style marketplace and cafe complete with coffee and Croatian pastries. Grapes, melons, garlic and tomatoes are the mainstays, but you'll also find olive oil and vinegars.

"It's about meeting new customers as well as the friendships we've formed with people who have been coming for years," Tony says of his motivation.

"Customers like being able to buy fresh produce from a family business, picked daily."

If Tony hasn't grown it himself, you can be assured that the produce didn't travel far before reaching his shelves.

"We buy direct from other like-minded small family businesses in Wanneroo, Spearwood and the Perth Hills," he says.

Off the beaten track in Campersic Road you'll find **Sorgiovanni's Produce**, where 140 olive trees produce liquid gold.

"I have lived here all of my life," says Frank. "There's something about this place and I love its peace and tranquillity."

Frank, like his cousin Rob Sorgiovanni at **Rangeview Vineyards**, is one of a few makers of vincotto, a sweet syrup made by slowly cooking and reducing grape must until it's thick and syrupy. Frank's late mum suggested that they start making it over 20 years ago, using leftover grenache. It always sells out and Frank is hoping to make about 100L this year.

Edgecombe Winery is celebrating a century of operating in the Valley. One of its most beloved harvests is not



Seasonal produce at Keller's Farm. Photo by Sue Yeap

“FOR THE FRESHEST FINDS, SOMETIMES YOU JUST HAVE TO GRAB YOUR SHOPPING BASKET, HOP IN THE CAR AND FOLLOW YOUR NOSE.”

grapes, but the asparagus spears that peep through the soil from late winter through to early spring.

Like many producers, Edgecombe doesn't grow enough for commercial sale, so when figs or broad beans are ready, they appear on the counter near the coffee machine.

Next door at **Swan Valley Sisters Produce Cafe**, asparagus, citrus, mangoes and grapes are grown and complemented by local biodynamic and organic produce.

Over at **HDH Produce**, you'll find your garden variety fruit and vegetables, but it's the Asian selection that catches the eye. Think fresh Chinese dates, kangkong, long beans, as well as house-dried fruit straps, boiled peanuts, pickled vegetables and chilli sauce.

Operating all year from a property opposite **Margaret River Chocolate Factory**, HDH Produce has the added bonus of a fresh juice stand.

Marija and Philipp Keller have been on their Dayton farm for 26 years, having chosen the idyllic spot to raise their family and open **Keller's Farm**.

"We have livestock, farm fresh eggs, woodfired bread and pastries, jams, preserves, muesli, and a variety of fruit trees," say Marija.

"We really love the idea of producing wholesome foods and making bread using local ingredients. What isn't sold over the weekend will be either dehydrated, used to create preserves or as an ingredient in pastries. Nothing is wasted and any scraps go to our animals."

Marija and Philipp, with the help of children Stefan and Alexa; Marija's 87-year-old dad; 83-year-old uncle; plus a growing team, have together built a thriving weekend-only community that comes to shop, chat and enjoy a coffee and pastry.

"Customers love that it's fresh, homemade, sourced from either us or locally and that it tastes real — how food should taste, just like the old days," says Marija.

"Our uniqueness is that it's a meeting place. People come here to feel the fresh air and a taste of farm life is literally right in front of you with our cows, sheep, pigs and chickens."

Note that many smaller Swan Valley growers are not on social media, while others don't check their phones regularly. For more information, go to swanvalley.com.au/eat-drink/local-produce

ENJOY... CHEF@HOME

Relive your time in the Swan Valley by recreating the flavours of the region in your own kitchen. These recipes are simple, yet bursting with the taste of the Valley.



The House of Honey's Baked Camembert with Redgum honey

INGREDIENTS

125g camembert wheel
 1 tbsp of *The House of Honey's* Redgum honey
 1/3 cup walnuts
 2 tbsp dried cranberries
 2 tbsp of *The House of Honey's* Redgum honey, extra
 1 tsp rosemary, finely sliced
 1 tsp butter
 Pinch salt

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180°C. Place the camembert wheel into a matching sized ramekin and score the top in a criss-cross pattern. Drizzle 1 tbsp honey over the top and bake in the oven for 12-15 minutes until melted inside.

While the cheese is cooking, add walnuts, cranberries, extra 2 tbsp honey, rosemary, butter and salt into a small saucepan and stir constantly over low heat until the honey and butter has melted (approx. 4-5 minutes), ensuring that it doesn't catch on the bottom of the saucepan. Remove from heat and set aside.

Place the ramekin containing the cooked cheese onto a serving platter. Spoon the walnut honey topping over the cheese and serve immediately. Perfect on top of cracker biscuits as part of your cheese platter. Enjoy!

The House of Honey in the Swan Valley has over 25 different varieties of honey. Their Redgum honey is perfect for this recipe with its warm stringy plum flavour. Or try their Chilli Infused Honey for some extra spice.

Swan Valley Gourmet Fungi's Mixed Mushroom Bruschetta



INGREDIENTS

2 slices sourdough bread, toasted
 1 tbsp olive oil
 1 tbsp butter
 250g mixed fresh fungi (such as Oyster, King, Trumpet, Pioppino and Shiitake), torn into strips
 1 clove garlic, crushed
 White wine
 1 tbsp cream
 Pinch fresh parsley, finely chopped
 Parmesan, finely grated

METHOD

Arrange bread in a single later on a large baking tray and drizzle lightly with olive oil. Place on top shelf of oven and grill for 5-6 minutes, turning half way through, until golden. Set aside.

Heat butter and oil in a large frypan over medium heat. Once foaming, add all the mushrooms. Saute for 3-5 minutes until mushrooms are caramelised and golden. Add garlic and cook for a further 1 minute until fragrant. Add a splash of white wine to deglaze the pan and stir until reduced by half. Add in cream and fresh parsley, then remove from heat. Season with salt and pepper and divide over toasted sourdough. Sprinkle with finely grated parmesan. Great for breakfast, lunch or as an entrée. Quantity serves 2 people.

Swan Valley Gourmet Fungi is a family run mushroom farm located in Gidgegannup which grows over 10 species of fresh fungi including Shiitake, King, Reishi, Pink Oyster, Yellow Oyster, Lionmane and Pioppino. Find them at Kalamunda, Mt Claremont and Manning Farmers Markets on weekends and cook yourself up a batch of their mixed mushroom bruschetta for breakfast.

Roasted Stone Fruit with Honey Mascarpone and Almond Crumb

By ANTHONY SPAGNOLO

Executive Chef at
Sandalford Bar & Restaurant

This dessert feels a little bit special and is effortless to create. Elegant and full of flavour, it's about using the best seasonal ingredients and treating them with care.

INGREDIENTS

For the roasted stone fruit

4 ripe stone fruits (peaches, nectarines or plums), halved and pitted

2 tbsp brown sugar

1 tbsp unsalted butter, melted

1 tbsp lemon juice

½ tsp ground cinnamon

½ vanilla bean (or ½ tsp vanilla extract)

For the honey mascarpone

250g mascarpone cheese

2 tbsp honey (plus extra for drizzling)

½ tsp lemon zest

½ tsp vanilla extract

For the almond crumb

75g (½ cup) almonds, roughly chopped

40g (¼ cup) plain flour

30g (2 tbsp) unsalted butter, melted

2 tbsp brown sugar

Pinch of sea salt



METHOD

Roast the stone fruit

Preheat the oven to 180°C. In a small bowl, mix the brown sugar, melted butter, lemon juice, cinnamon, and vanilla. Arrange the stone fruit halves cut side up in a baking dish. Brush with the sugar mixture. Roast for 20-25 minutes, basting once or twice, until the fruit is caramelised and tender but still holds its shape.

Prepare the almond crumb

While the fruit is roasting, line a baking tray with parchment paper. In a bowl, mix the chopped almonds, flour, melted butter, brown sugar, and salt. Spread evenly on the tray and bake for 10 minutes at 180°C, stirring once, until golden and fragrant. Let cool.

Make the honey mascarpone

In a bowl, whisk together mascarpone, honey, lemon zest, and vanilla until smooth and slightly airy.

Assemble and serve

Place two roasted stone fruit halves on each plate. Spoon a generous dollop of honey mascarpone on the side. Sprinkle with the almond crumb for texture. Drizzle with extra honey and serve warm.

CHEF TIPS

- Choose ripe fruit (slightly firm peaches and nectarines work best as they soften while roasting).
- Add a twist by substituting almonds with macadamias or hazelnuts for a different crunch.
- Make the mascarpone and almond crumb ahead of time for easy assembly.



100 Benara Road,
Caversham

Ph 0433 755 181

maisonsainthonore.com

Monday to Friday 7am to 3pm

Saturday and Sunday 8am to 4pm

Maison Saint Honoré has been making macarons in Perth for the past 10 years. Open to the public, visitors can enjoy traditional and authentic French food with a glass of wine, relax in our gardens while the children play, have a sneak peek at our crêpe production and of course take home a box of our macarons. The macaron and cake factory is the sweetest place in the Valley.



Catching up with mates over a craft brew is about as West Australian as it gets. Given there are around 10 breweries within the Swan Valley, it's a great place to explore the creativity of local brewers.

By CARMEN JENNER

EXPLORE... CRAFT BREWING



Cider is often considered the gateway to beer, much like juice is the gateway to cider. This evolution is evident with **Funk Brewshed** in Henley Brook, which emerged after brothers Martin and Dustin Michael, who started cold-pressed juice company *Michael Brothers Juice Company*, evolved their range to include cider, beer, wine and sodas.

Funk's extensive cider and beer range dabbles in the unexpected with brews like *Passionfruit Fresh Ale* and *Grapefruit and Juniper Cider*, as well as their new wine range and latest release *Farmers Ale*.

Regardless of what you try, you'll immediately notice the punchy flavours. Martin says, "With full control over the growing, malting and brewing processes, the freshness and drinkability of this beer shines like no other. It's 99 per cent made from our farm with the only other ingredients being the hops from *Margaret River Hops*."

A paddock to pour dream come true, Michael adds, "This beer isn't just a product – it's a way to connect the bush to the city and tell a bloody great story at the same time."

Also in Henley Brook, it wouldn't be surprising to discover that many kids have begged their parents to return to **Bailey Brewing Co.** because of its epic playground. Founded by Geoff Bailey and his sons Steven and Daniel, the concept emerged with a sense of family at the heart of the operation. From the moment you arrive in the leafy grounds with its heaving playground, you immediately know you've stepped into a brewery ... but in a good way. The aroma of the hops hits you at the bar, where you can admire the brewers at work as wood-fired pizzas are pumped out to the hungry crowd.

Bailey brews six core beers onsite, including a crisp draught, fruity *Hazy IPA*, mid (low-alcohol), malty *Pale Ale*, classic *Red Ale*, a light-bodied *Summer Ale* and a handful of limited releases. A tasting paddle is perfect for the indecisive, while ginger beer, apple cider and a range of

local wines are great alternatives for non-beer drinkers.

Destination venue **Mandoon Estate** is where you'll find **Homestead Brewery**. Brewing from their German-imported Schultz brewing system, their four core beers include *Golden Eagle* (Australian ale), *Homestead Lager* (Munich lager), *Thunderbird* (Pale Ale), and the 2024 Perth Royal Beer awarded *Kaisers Choice* (Hefeweizen), which is brewed with traditional German ingredients.

Seasonal releases, Mandoon Estate wines, and Homestead cider and ginger beer accompanies the hearty menu that hits all the usual tasty suspects, along with a couple of plant-based options. Set on Mandoon's sprawling estate with vineyard views, you can go large with elevated dining at **Wild Swan** (which also serves Homestead beers) and a decadent stay in one of **Maya Maya's** suites.

Mash Brewing has been a firm beer fixture in the Valley since 2006, which is hardly surprising considering their number of awards and unpretentious pub fare. Brewed onsite, their easy-drinking lager accompanies a light *XPA*, *Golden IPA*, juicy *Hazy IPA*, *Fruited Sour* and a mid-strength *Session Hazy*, plus eclectic seasonals to keep it interesting for their loyal regulars.

On the eastern edge of the Valley in Baskerville, **Txoko Brewing** pairs their tasting paddles with beer snacks surrounded by vines and pastures cascading down the Darling escarpment in the distance. Also in Baskerville, you'll find "beers for ruff days" at **Slumdog Brewing**, which serves a mix of Australian, British, American, and German brews within the Baskerville Tavern.

Taking over the former *Elmar's in the Valley*, admire the copper and glass brew tanks at **Valley Social** while ordering one of their Herbee Signature Beers. The **Swan Valley Brewery** excels in Irish and English style ales, while **The Duckstein Brewery** was one the first breweries in the valley, famed for their German beers and dishes reminiscent of a Bavarian good time.



Mash Brewing and Kitchen provides a laid back, family friendly venue to enjoy their award winning handcrafted beers and ciders, with a selection of local wines, spirits and cocktails.

The food is passionately prepared in an open kitchen with tasty seasonal menus. Visit today and enjoy the family friendly atmosphere.



10250 West Swan Road
Henley Brook

Ph: (08) 9296 5588

www.mashbrewing.com.au



**MASH
BREWING**

EXPERIENCE... A PERSONALISED WINE TOUR

Experience an authentic wine tour with *Up Close & Local Tours* and let their expert local guides handle all the driving and meticulous planning for you. Their *Swan Valley Premium Wine Lovers* tour is semi-private and for a maximum of six people.

For details, visit upcloseandlocaltours.com.au/swan-valley-tours

Perfect for wine lovers looking to make the most of their day, booking a personalised wine tour allows you to experience small, family-owned wineries that larger groups can't visit. With insider knowledge and personal connections, you'll be welcomed into hidden gems to taste award-winning wines off the beaten path. It's a true VIP grape-to-glass journey. **By SHANNON OLIVER**

10am / Your tour begins

Your local guide will collect you from your pre-arranged pick-up point, either in Perth city, Burswood or Guildford. Sit back, relax and get to know your fellow wine lovers as you're chauffeured up to the Swan Valley.

10.30am / Soak it in

The quiet mornings are the best time to arrive in the Swan Valley, as you can soak in the serenity of the vineyards. Today you will be introduced to four handpicked wineries so you can delve into the history, stories and winemaking families of the region.

At **Mandoon Estate**, a curated wine and canapé pairing awaits. A delectable

combination of small bites and perfectly matched varietals will introduce your palate to the region's fine wines, which sets the tone for the day ahead.

Next, step back in time at **John Kosovich Wines**, one of Western Australia's most respected winemaking families boasting 100 years of history. Here, you'll have the rare opportunity to meet the winemaker or viticulturist and gain firsthand insight whilst sampling their wines.

12.30pm / Lunch with a view

A great wine tour deserves great food and with a small group tour, you get to enjoy a leisurely winery lunch. A favourite is the restaurant at **Upper Reach Winery**, where the à la carte menu showcases seasonal

ingredients, 90 per cent of which is locally sourced. Think twice-cooked duck, Abrolhos Island octopus and their ever-popular truffle risotto ... all with a side of panoramic vineyard views of course.

2pm / Afternoon wine tasting

After lunch, visit two more family-owned wineries. No two tours are exactly alike and each one is tailored to suit the group's preference so you might find yourself savouring wines on the verandah at **Faber Vineyard**; delving into the world of sparkling wine at **Sittella**; or indulging in world-class fortified wines at **Talijancich**, a Swan Valley icon with 90 years of winemaking experience. Every winery offers something unique and if you're visiting during vintage, you may even get to see or sample something extra.

5pm / All good things must come to an end ...

With new memories and perhaps a few bottles of your favourite wine to share at home, your tour makes its way back to Perth to drop you at your accommodation.



Homestead Brewery at Mandoon Estate



ENJOY... A GREAT DAY OUT

Beer, cider and distillery enthusiasts unite. Grab a skipper, assemble your squad and hit the road for some non-winery experiences.

Mix and match venues and times to suit your schedule and tastes. **By SUE YEAP**

10am / Make your own gin class

Create a custom bottle of gin using Australian botanicals under the guidance of experienced distillers at **Sin Gin**. This educational session is available on Saturdays and you need to allow 2.5 hours. While you're there, try their *Perth Pink Gin*, the new *Rosella Gincello* or a *Bees Knees* cocktail made with local Swan Valley honey. Sin Gin is open seven days a week, even when the next-door **Swan Settlers Market** is closed.

1pm / Lunch or beers on the lawn

Time for an award-winning draught or a refreshing ginger beer at **Bailey Brewing Co.** Enjoy an alfresco lunch grazing on popular dishes including chicken wings or the 'Bailey Board'. This is an excellent stop for family groups because of the dedicated nature playground and children's tables. For this reason, Bailey doesn't allow buses or bucks and hens parties. If you want to start your day bright and early, Bailey also serves breakfast on weekends from 8-10.30am.

2.30pm / Cidery and brewery tour

Go behind the scenes for a 45-minute tour of **Funk Brewshed**. If you're short on time, skip the tour and order a cider, beer or experimental paddle to share. And don't let the driver miss out ... they too can enjoy sipping on something delicious with **Funk Drinks Co** craft sodas and cold pressed juices with flavours like *Strawberry Lemonade* and *Ginger Tonic*. Mocktails are also a steal at \$10.

3.30pm / Gin tasting or cocktail time

The fast, furious and sometimes mysterious 45-minute tasting experience at global award winners **Old Young's Distillery** is always \$10 well spent. Afterwards, choose cocktails from their regular menu or the *Patty Torres' Music to Your Mouth* curated specials which are displayed on 45PRM vinyl. Next door at **Old Young's Kitchen**, native ingredients elevate dishes above your average Swan Valley fare. Emu pastrami and crocodile chorizo are standouts. Old Young's are

planning to open a showstopping new \$30 million 'Cathedral of Gin' on a nearby riverfront block. We can't wait!

5pm / The home stretch

If you're in the Valley on a Saturday, stop in at family-owned craft brewery **Mash Brewing** on your way home for their 'Parmi Night'. For just \$20, you can enjoy a parmigiana ... a perfect accompaniment with one of their award-winning craft beers.

Or check out the view over the vines from the deck at **Homestead Brewery at Mandoon Estate**. Pair a tasting paddle with fan-favourite fish and chips or regular specials. A new addition is the 'Homestead Feast', a shared three-course menu featuring slow-cooked meats and hearty, roast-style dishes. Homestead's *Kaiser's Choice Hefeweizen* is a must-try which won *Best European Style Beer (Draught)* at the 2024 Perth Royal Beer Awards.



EXPLORE... THE ART of DISTILLING

Home to an evolving craft distilling scene, the Swan Valley boasts passionate artisans who are redefining Australian spirits.

By ALEXANDRA CASEY

Renowned for its wine, the Swan Valley also has an increasing number of boutique distilleries gaining recognition for their meticulously crafted whisky, gin, rum and vodka. Think **Damaged Goods Distilling Co**; **AmberChes**; **Great Northern Distillery**; **Old Young's**; **Sin Gin**; **Coppertop**; **Limeburners & Giniversity**; **Collector of Souls** and **Harris Organic Wine & Spirits**.

Often experimenting with unconventional ingredients and flavour combinations, local distillers are producing spirits that stand out. Small-batch production and a high level of craftsmanship appeals to discerning consumers, with flavour profiles capturing the essence of the Swan Valley.

Did you know?

According to Tim Laferla, founder of **Damaged Goods Distilling Co**, the purpose of distilling is to concentrate alcohol and flavour.

“You start with a raw product, like wine or beer, and then concentrate the alcohol by distilling it. The art is in tweaking the process to keep as many of the good flavours and remove as many of the not-so-nice ones as you can.”

Turning surplus into spirits

Experimenting with bold flavours and sustainable practices, **Damaged Goods**

Damaged Goods Distilling Co

Distilling Co. turns surplus and imperfect produce into premium spirits.

“We’re genuinely passionate about the planet and it’s really satisfying knowing that we are saving produce from landfill, one sip at a time,” Laferla says.

“We work directly with farmers and growers to take the ugly produce or fruit waste that supermarkets don’t want and use it to make alcohol. We also use by-products — like pulp or peel — essentially anything with lots of flavour — from other food and drink businesses.”

With three products in their range — a citrus-based gin; a banana-inspired vodka; and an apple aperitivo — all are made with local ingredients.

“Our *Smashed Apple Aperitivo* is flavoured with apple pulp from local cidery **Funk Cider**. We also collaborate with cold-pressed juice brand **Pressed Earth**, taking the citrus peels from lemons, limes, oranges and grapefruits to use as botanicals for our *Final Squeeze Citrus Gin*.”

The base spirit for their *Gone Bananas Vodka* is made with bananas from Carnarvon.

“The natural sweetness and creamy texture of bananas make them an ideal base for vodka,” says Laferla.

Keeping it local and sustainable

One of the defining features of the Swan Valley’s distilleries is their dedication to local ingredients. Many incorporate native botanicals to create spirits that are not just unique, but deeply connected to the region.

Great Northern Distillery is one such example and is renowned for its premium barrel-aged rum, gin and vodka.

“Our *Maiden Voyage Spiced Gold* is a popular spiced rum using botanicals like wattle seed and lemon myrtle overlaid with vanilla, cinnamon and clove. Our *Battle of the Beast Below* is a barrel-aged dark rum crafted with saltbush and Tasmanian pepper berry,” says founder Rohan Passmore.

Sustainability is also a key focus in the Swan Valley, with distillers using surplus produce, eco-friendly packaging and energy-efficient methods to reduce their environmental impact.

“With a dedication to local ingredients, many distilleries incorporate native botanicals to create spirits that are not just unique, but deeply connected to the region.

Tasting your way around the Valley

Guided tastings provide an opportunity to sample a range of spirits while learning about their origins and production.

For those seeking a deeper understanding, a behind-the-scenes tour goes through each stage of the distilling process from fermentation to bottling, often concluding with a carefully curated tasting session.

For the more hands-on enthusiast, some distilleries offer masterclasses, where guests can learn the art of gin blending, cocktail crafting, and even the fundamentals of distilling itself.

For example, the *Gin Making Masterclass* at **AmberChes Distillery** is an immersive

hands-on session, where you can select your own botanicals and craft your very own 500mL bottle of gin. Afterwards, you can unwind with a cheese platter and a refreshing gin and tonic, all while soaking in the distillery’s picturesque surroundings.

At **Old Young’s**, it’s not just about the spirits but the stories behind them. Their 45-minute tasting experience delves into the art and intrigue of distilling and as you sip your way through a curated tasting of eight distinctive spirits, you’ll gain a deeper appreciation for the craft and character that define this distillery.

Sin Gin Distillery’s tasting sessions offer a glimpse into the art of gin-making while you enjoy stories from the distilling team and sample their *Seven Deadly Sins Gin* and signature gin liqueurs. For a deeper dive, join their gin-making experience, where you’ll craft your own bespoke bottle using an individual pot still, guided by expert distillers.

Collector of Souls create a range of spirits and you can sample their bold small-batch creations before committing to a favourite. Try their *Holy Water Vodka*, crisp *Gin Reaper Dry Gin*, or vibrant *Psychopomp Pink Gin*.

Whether you’re a seasoned whisky enthusiast, a gin lover, or simply curious to explore the world of craft distilling, the Swan Valley is ready to welcome you.



Damaged Goods Distilling Co.

ENJOY... A FAMILY FUN DAY



Where else in the state can you cuddle a koala, join a kangaroo safari, ride a vintage train, go fruit picking and make a splash at a water park? While the Swan Valley might be famous for its wine, there's plenty to do for little and big kids alike.

By CARMEN JENNER

With a backdrop of idyllic vineyards and pastures, a 32-kilometre loop through the Swan Valley is full of family-friendly activities all located just 25 minutes from the city.

EXPLORE

Spanning over 3,700 hectares of vast woodland, **Whiteman Park** is one of the most unique parks in the state. You can easily lose a day or two here with its playgrounds, pedal go-karting, vintage train, tractor

museum as well as wildlife in the Children's Forest or at **Caversham Wildlife Park**. Whiteman Park is also home to the **Motor Museum of WA**, with over 200 vehicles on display including cars, bikes and the unexpected. Check out Daniel Ricciardo's Red Bull Formula One RB10 racing car; the classic and muscle car collections; the canary yellow 2003 Byfield Jaguar V12HE; a 2022 McLaren 720S; plus one of the largest collections of die-cast models in the world.



SITTELLA

Founded in 1993 and located in a tranquil setting near the Swan River, Sittella is a true jewel in the historic Swan Valley.



Visitors are invited to enjoy fine food from the restaurant and award winning wines with tastings and tours from our cellar door.



Open Tuesday - Sunday
Restaurant 11am - 4pm
Cellar door 10am - 4pm

**100 Barrett Street,
Herne Hill
Ph: (08) 9296 2600
sittella.com.au**



Caversham Wildlife Park



Swan Valley Cuddly Animal Farm

Although you won't be allowed to take any of these beauties for a spin, it's always worth getting off the highway to explore the meandering back roads.

At **Swan Valley Station**, you'll find a cafe, nursery (with an extensive range of fruit trees), gift shop (mainly selling local wares), playground and mini-petting zoo. Hanging out with the miniature Shetland ponies, donkeys and goats as chickens run around is sure to enchant. Don't miss the sculpture trail depicting dinosaurs and

native species that surrounds the marron lake, with views down to the Swan River. A bit further inland, the picturesque **River Walk** (2.5km) and **Goat Walk** (3km) trails at **Bells Rapids** are at their most exciting during winter when the rapids are racing, especially during the annual Avon Descent in August. At any time of the year, you'll be accompanied by grey kangaroos, black cockatoos and geckos and it's great for a scenic picnic.

The gateway to the Swan Valley and Perth's original inland settlement, historic **Guildford**, resembles a country village crammed with antique shops, boutiques, cafes, haunted pubs and galleries. After a day in the Valley, huddle around the fire pit or in the antique train carriage at **Alfred's Kitchen**, Perth's longest-running roadside hamburger joint, and then enjoy a gourmet gelato at **Mimmo's** across the road.

Alternatively, grab a show at the **Garrick Theatre**, one of the longest-running community theatres in Perth, which also has workshops for young thespians called *Teens at Garrick*.

If you arrive in Guildford before the sun goes down, don't miss the quirky and slightly macabre *Academy of Taxidermy* at the **Museum of Natural History**.



The kids will love fruit picking in the Swan Valley.

ENCOUNTER

Even though koalas aren't native to Western Australia, you can still cuddle one at **Caversham Wildlife Park**, located in Whiteman Park. They are indeed very cuddly and lightweight, but if you miss out on booking a hug, you can still visit the koalas and feed the kangaroos. While you're at the wildlife park, don't miss the sheep shearing show, the creepy reptile house, wombats, farm animals and penguins. The **West Australian Reptile Park** is off the well-trodden trail and here you can handle pythons, Bobtails and the lively frilled neck lizard. This animal sanctuary caters to displaced and injured native wildlife, and you can learn about the importance of conservation and what to do if you encounter a snake. Playing eyespy with the animals camouflaged in their enclosures makes it all the more fun, and you'll probably get as close as you'll ever want with a saltwater crocodile.

The cuteness continues at the **Swan Valley Cuddly Animal Farm**, one of the Valley's most popular kids' birthday venues. Even if you're not celebrating, what kid doesn't love cuddly rabbits, feeding baby lambs and goats and meeting an alpaca? Tractor rides, a bouncy castle, a merry-go-round and a playground promise an epic family fun day.

EXPERIENCE

You don't need to be a golfer to step foot on the greens at **The Vines Resort**. Instead, jump on a golf buggy as the sun sets and visit communities of kangaroos languidly socialising and lounging. Then, play a round at the picturesque 18-hole mini-golf course and treat the family to dinner and perhaps even a mini-break in one of the apartments or villas. The novelty of teeing off with golf clubs with oversized heads will keep even the most reluctant golfers amused at **Supa**

Golf on West Swan Road. The 18-hole mini golf circuit, set within an acre of lush grounds, is ideal for anyone old enough to walk and hold a golf club.

Summer is the perfect time to go fruit picking in the Swan Valley. Check ahead with **Grapes on Swan**, **Kafarela's Vineyard** or **Padbury Pickings** to find out more details on picking times. If you visit out of season, many family-run vineyards and orchards have shopfronts, including the rustic **Swan Street Vineyard** which sells fresh produce grown and made onsite. Perth's **Outback Splash** is a great way to cool off, with its waterslide playgrounds for all ages. Regardless of the weather, the lush picnic grounds, huts and cabanas inspire lengthy gatherings after a round of mini golf or meander through their challenging maze.

For those mini queen (or king) bees intrigued by how honey is made, **The House of Honey** offers behind-the-scenes tours.

“ WITH SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO IN THE SWAN VALLEY, WHO SAYS CHILDREN SHOULD HAVE ALL THE FUN? ”



Caversham Wildlife Park



You won't be able to leave without sampling a treat at the **Sticky Spoon Cafe** or their extensive range of honey or honey-based products, including vinegar, marinades, skincare and ice cream. While the little ones are taken care of, parents can enjoy the range of wines, liqueurs and meads from the onsite meadery.

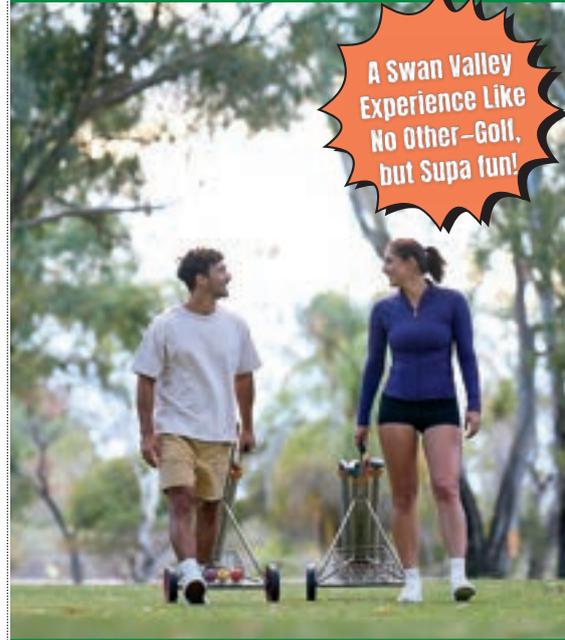
Budding chefs can learn how to make pasta at **Pasta in the Valley**. It's a great venue for a birthday party, followed by an Italian feast of handmade pasta, pizza and Mediterranean classics. Apart from the food, this vibrant restaurant is a family favourite for the playground.

If you pop into the **Swan Valley Visitor Centre**, don't forget to pick up a map and clues for the **Amazing Valley Chase** or **Great Valley Rally's** old-fashioned scavenger hunt. Not only will it keep everyone engaged for a few hours, but it's also an affordable way to experience the Swan Valley.

supa golf

Supa fun for first timers to full timers

A Swan Valley Experience Like No Other - Golf, but Supa fun!



A fun, lighthearted take on golf, Supa Golf features oversized clubs, colourful balls, and shorter holes—perfect for all ages and skill levels!



Enjoy a 900m scenic walk overlooking the Swan River as you play 9 or 18 holes, then relive the best shots and biggest laughs at Gerry's Deli, Pizzeria & Wine Bar.



From first-timers to full-timers, no Swan Valley visit is complete without a game of Supa Golf.

SWING BY TODAY!
OPEN EVERY DAY EXCEPT CHRISTMAS!

📍 10250 West Swan Road, Henley Brook

🌐 supagolf.com.au

☎ (08) 6388 4460



EXPERIENCE... THE GREAT OUTDOORS



There's plenty of walking trails to discover in the Swan Valley.



From scenic hikes and breathtaking viewpoints to invigorating water sports and thrilling paintball skirmishes, the Swan Valley has a multitude of outdoor experiences. And the best part? Many of these activities are free or cost little, allowing you to immerse yourself in nature without breaking the bank.

By ALEXANDRA CASEY

Nestled just a short drive from Perth, the Swan Valley offers an escape into nature where adventure beckons at every turn.

WALKS AND HIKES

There's something innately satisfying about setting out on foot and exploring nature's untamed beauty. The Swan Valley has an array of walking and hiking trails suitable for all fitness levels and as you traverse these picturesque paths, you'll encounter native flora and fauna and stunning landscapes.

Bells Rapids Walk Trail

Situated along the Swan River, **Bells Rapids** is renowned for its spectacular views, especially during winter when the white-water rapids roar to life. The **Bells Rapids Walk Trail** caters to casual walkers and seasoned hikers alike with its two main routes: the easy **River Walk** and the more challenging **Goat Walk**.

This trail requires a moderate level of fitness and is suitable for beginners who don't mind some elevation and loose gravel.

The best time to visit is during winter and spring when the rapids are in full flow and wildflowers blanket the landscape. Ensure you have sturdy walking shoes, a water bottle, sun protection, and a camera to capture the beautiful scenery. Keep an eye out for grey kangaroos, which can be seen in abundance at certain times of year.

Noble Falls Walk Trail

For those seeking a gentler pace, the **Noble Falls Walk Trail** in Gidgegannup is a serene 3.6-kilometre loop that traces Wooroloo Brook. Perfect for families and casual walkers, visiting in spring allows you to enjoy wildflowers in bloom, while winter offers flowing waterfalls. All you need are comfortable walking shoes and a picnic spread for a post-walk feast.

F.R. Berry Reserve and Wandoo Heights Nature Reserve

F.R. Berry Reserve and **Wandoo Heights Nature Reserve** are two lesser-known gems that offer immersive bushwalks surrounded by towering wandoo woodland and native fauna. The **F.R. Berry Reserve**



Mountain biking in the Swan Valley

is also one of the best spots to view yellow wattle, rich blue leschenaultia and other rare wildflowers. The trails meander through rugged landscapes, rewarding walkers with panoramic views of the valley below. A moderate to high fitness level is recommended as some sections are steep and rocky.

John George Trail

Considered one of Perth's most scenic trails, the **John George Trail** is an easy 5.5km walk that weaves its way along the banks of the Swan River. With a lined shared-use pathway, it's suitable for walking, bikes, wheelchair or prams.

To discover more trails in the Swan Valley, go to trails.wa.gov.au/trails/regions/swan-valley. This comprehensive site has details including the length, grade and difficulty of each trail as well as maps and reviews from fellow trekkers.

GUIDED WALKS

Leave the map at home and learn along the way when you book a guided walk.

The Hike Collective is all about exploring hidden gems and in the Swan Valley, they offer a **Bells Rapids Guided Hike**, which takes 1.5 hours and covers

5km. Or their **Little Eagle View Guided Hike** takes you on an 8km tour through the John Forrest National Park which passes towering trees and granite boulders. Both hikes are suitable for beginners with gentle trails and easy terrain. For more information, go to hikecollective.com.au

PEDAL POWER

For those who prefer exploring on two wheels, the Swan Valley doesn't disappoint. With a blend of flat roads, undulating hills and off-road tracks, it's an ideal destination for road cyclists and mountain biking buffs.

The **Swan Valley Heritage Cycle Trail** is made up of three routes (4km, 30km and 32km) and follows a shared-use path along West Swan Road that is suitable for riders of all ages and fitness levels. Cycle through the heart of the Valley on this half day ride which passes by vineyards, fruit stalls, galleries, wineries, restaurants and cafes. You can start your ride from the Swan Valley Visitor Centre in Guildford (collect a map before you start); the Maali Footbridge in Herne Hill or at West Swan Hall.

For thrill-seekers, the mountain biking trails at **John Forrest National Park** and

the hills of **Brigadoon** provide exhilarating descents and challenging climbs. Depending on the trail, a moderate to high fitness level is required. The best time to visit is during autumn and spring, when the temperatures are milder.

HORSE RIDING TRAILS

Exploring the countryside on horseback is another way to appreciate the beauty of the Swan Valley. The **Brigadoon Bridle Trails** offer a network of routes through open fields and woodland and whether you're a seasoned rider or a first-timer, there are trails to cater to all experience levels.

ON THE WATER

The calm waters of the Swan River offer an entirely different perspective of the Valley for adventurers seeking off-the-grid exploration.

If you're a water lover, kayaking is a peaceful yet invigorating way to explore hidden coves and encounter native wildlife. Beginning and ending at **Mandoon Estate**, the half-day **Rivergods Swan Valley Kayak Tour** combines paddling with a taste of local culture. Starting at Mandoon, you'll paddle along the Swan River while professional guides

narrate the area's vibrant history and assist with wildlife spotting. Double kayaks, paddles, and life jackets are provided, but you'll need to bring sun protection and gear that you don't mind getting wet. To book, visit rivergods.com.au

Another option is **Off the Beaten Track's Swan River Kayak, Wine & Dine experience**, where you'll spend a half-day paddling past lush green pastures to Mandoon Estate. Here, you'll enjoy a private wine tasting at the cellar door and woodfired pizza in the gardens. The tours are suitable for beginners, as you'll learn all the basic techniques before you set off, but a moderate fitness level is recommended. To book, visit offthebeatentrack.com.au

THRILLS AND FUN

For those who thrive on adrenaline and team-based action, the Swan Valley offers a variety of exhilarating outdoor activities.

Paintball Skirmish is set on 25 acres of natural bushland with numerous playing fields to choose from. Expect obstacles aplenty and trees for dynamic gameplay in all weather conditions. To book, visit paintballskirmish.com.au

Meanwhile, **Laser Corps** has been thrilling Perth residents for more than a decade with laser taggers ranging from pistols to sniper rifles. Its immersive battlefields complete with bunkers, huts, creeks, and bridges, set the scene for intense missions suitable for all ages. A moderate fitness level is recommended, as agility and endurance are key. To book, visit lasercorps.com.au

PICNIC BOAT HIRE

For a more leisurely escape, **Nauti Picnics** offers the perfect blend of relaxation and adventure with their private picnic boat hire.

Much like renting a car, but on water, this unique opportunity lets you take the helm. No skipper's ticket is required and you chart your own course along the Swan River.

Whether you opt for a short two-hour cruise or a full-day voyage, you'll have more than 35-kilometres of picturesque waterways to explore at your own pace. Designed for comfort and connection, the G6 features a spacious table and plush seating, creating the ideal setting to savour gourmet delights and soak in the tranquil surroundings. To book, visit nautipicnics.com.au

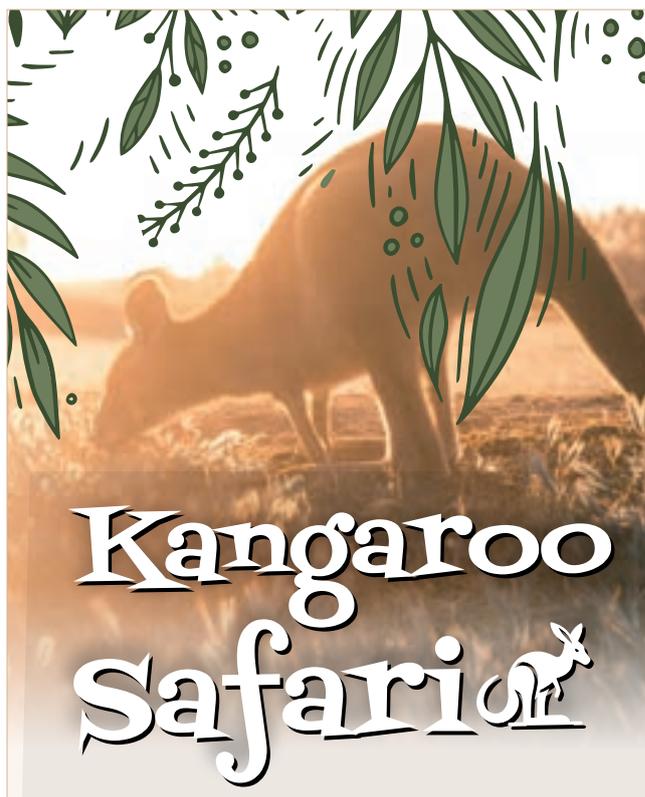
CAMP UNDER THE STARS

Extend your adventure by spending the night under a star-studded sky. The Swan Valley is home to several gorgeous camping spots where you'll wake up to the sounds of nature.

Discovery Parks Swan Valley and **Acclaim Swan Valley Tourist Park** provide convenient facilities, or for a more rugged experience, **Avon Valley National Park** offers bush camping amidst stunning landscapes.

Plan your outdoor adventure

No matter your interest or fitness level, the Swan Valley is a treasure trove of outdoor activities waiting to be discovered. From rejuvenating walks to heart-pumping adventures, each experience allows you to revel in the beauty of Western Australia.



AT THE VINES RESORT

Spend an afternoon riding in a buggy on the fairways of the Vines Resort's prestigious golf course, and get up close and personal with our thriving kangaroo population.

Finish your sunset tour with a drink and a round of 18 holes of mini golf on the state of the art course – ideal for the whole family!

JUST \$69
PER PERSON FOR
TOUR + DRINK + MINI GOLF



DEPARTING DAILY AT 4PM

For more information and to book visit 
WWW.KANGAROOSAFARI.COM.AU

A man and a woman are standing on a wooden pier, looking at each other and smiling. The man is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt and khaki shorts. The woman is wearing a green sleeveless dress. They are standing on a wooden pier that extends into a body of water. In the background, there is a large vineyard with rows of green grapevines. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

ENJOY... CELEBRATING LIFE'S SPECIAL MOMENTS

More than just a picturesque wine region, the Swan Valley is a destination where life's most cherished moments can be celebrated in style.

By ALEXANDRA CASEY

Overlooking Woodbridge House, Swan Valley. Image courtesy of Tourism WA



Whether it's a significant birthday, engagement, baby shower, wedding or special anniversary, the Swan Valley has plenty of venues to choose from.

If you're looking for something relaxed and family friendly, **The Henley Brook's** spacious garden setting is ideal for a casual yet lively gathering with live music, delicious share platters and a warm country vibe.

Woodbridge House, a National Trust property in Guildford, provides a historic and elegant setting for special events. With its grand architecture, scenic gardens and timeless charm, this heritage venue is perfect for intimate weddings and celebrations.

Sandalford Wines is a popular choice for milestone birthdays, offering exclusive dining experiences in their barrel room or private function spaces.

Unique and quirky

Imagine an alfresco baby shower picnic complete with a grazing table and bubbles (non-alcoholic, of course); or a surprise engagement set against the scenic backdrop of Bells Rapids.

Some venues, like the 19th century-built **Guildford Hotel**, offer barbeque masterclasses and live music afternoons, while others, such as **Upper Reach Winery**, can arrange wine appreciation masterclasses or wine and food pairing experiences – ideal for a fun and interactive celebration with friends and family.

Weddings with a twist

From elegant wineries, to heritage estates and charming garden settings, the Swan Valley has an impressive selection of wedding venues for couples planning their big day. While traditional ceremonies



The Swan Valley Hotel played host to the wedding of its owners, Craig and Bree Nicol.

remain timeless, weddings can be as fun as they are romantic with optional extras such as surprise firework extravaganzas, live music performances and late-night feasts featuring gourmet burgers and margaritas.

Brookleigh Estate, renowned for its enchanting European-inspired gardens, has long been a favourite for classic and sophisticated weddings. Its secluded setting and stunning jacaranda-lined driveway create the perfect backdrop for saying 'I do'. Meanwhile, **Mandoon Estate** offers a contemporary yet relaxed vineyard setting, where couples can exchange vows amidst rows of lush vines before enjoying a feast of local delicacies paired with premium wines.

For those seeking a breathtaking

riverfront setting, **Caversham House** offers a touch of old-world romance with its grand architecture, manicured gardens and an elegant outdoor staircase.

For a more rustic atmosphere, **Chapel Farm Estate** provides a whimsical setting with its charming gardens, vintage-inspired decor and boutique accommodation.

Nikola Estate is a venue steeped in history. Established in the 1830s, it is home to some of the oldest grapevines in the region, lovingly tended by the Yukich family for four generations. Here, couples can exchange vows in the Old Cellars or the chapel nestled among the vines; enjoy a gourmet degustation at Woodcutters Restaurant; or celebrate with a picturesque picnic beneath the majestic jacaranda trees.

The perfect stay

No celebration is complete without a comfortable and stylish place to stay, and **The Swan Valley Hotel** provides just that. Whether you're hosting an event at the hotel or need a base from which to explore the region, this resort-style accommodation offers modern amenities and warm hospitality. With spacious rooms, on-site dining and stunning surroundings, it's an excellent choice for both guests and hosts.

With accommodation and activities on-site including **Supa Golf** and **Supa Putt**, the venue attracts corporates, sporting clubs, organisations and groups of family and friends who are seeking more than just a function space, but rather an experience.

“**WHATEVER YOUR SPECIAL OCCASION, THERE’S AN ARRAY OF VENUES AND EXPERIENCES TO CHOOSE FROM IN THE SWAN VALLEY.**”

The hotel has recently undergone a comprehensive refurbishment including a newly renovated kitchen that services both **Gerry’s Deli**, the New York-inspired deli, pizzeria and wine bar, as well as **The Henley Suite** function room and event spaces.

“We’re the perfect destination for couples seeking a blend of style, comfort, and convenience. With a range of versatile function areas, picturesque grounds and 32 elegantly appointed rooms, we offer everything you need in one stunning location,” owner Craig Nicol said.

Following its refurbishment and as part of the soft launch, The Swan Valley Hotel played host to the wedding of owners, Craig and Bree.

“Imagine exchanging vows surrounded by lush gardens, enjoying a reception that blends natural beauty with timeless elegance, and staying in luxurious accommodation designed for relaxation,” Nicol said.

“It was a magical celebration featuring Highland dancing and left us all super proud of the beautiful space we’ve created and the incredible food of Daniel and his team.”

Head Chef Daniel Whitaker has a career that spans Michelin-starred kitchens and prestigious hotels across both Europe and Australia. Along with a full-time events manager and dedicated wedding team, every detail of an event is thoughtfully planned and executed to create a seamless and unforgettable celebration.

Plan your next celebration

From intimate dinners and milestone birthdays through to memorable engagements and grand weddings, the Swan Valley is a destination that will turn your special moment into a treasured memory.



Your Wedding. Your Way

At the Swan Valley’s newest all-in-one wedding destination.



- Stay in style** – 32 beautifully renovated rooms, a tropical pool & stunning bridal suite
- Celebrate your way** – Indoor & garden ceremony & reception spaces for up to 120 guests
- Personalise your menu** – assisted by Michelin-trained Head Chef Daniel Whitaker
- Curate your drinks list** – Large, independent selection of wines, craft beer & Gage Roads on tap.

Mandooon Estate



At The Swan Valley Hotel, your wedding is uniquely yours—flexible, personalised, and unforgettable.

10250 West Swan Rd,
Henley Brook
(08) 6388 4460
swanvalleyhotel.com.au



From food and art through to health and nature, there's plenty of hands-on experiences waiting to be discovered in the Swan Valley. By SARAH SCHMITT

EXPERIENCE... LEARN SOMETHING NEW



The Vines Kangaroo Safari



Yahava Koffee Safari



Rupert Philips from The House of Honey

FOOD EXPERIENCES

The award-winning and enchanting **House of Honey** is owned and managed by WA's first two honey sommeliers, Rupert and Kim Philips. The magic of bees and the artistry of honey comes to life at this unique destination where you can taste and discover the beautiful flavours of mead and learn the art of honey profiling. Take a bee tour where you'll go behind the scenes of this working bee farm; visit the hives and learn the art of making honey. You can also enjoy a candle making and mead experience.

For more information visit thehouseofhoney.com.au

Step into a world of sweetness at **Mondo Nougat** and **Morish Nuts**. Indulge in tastings of handcrafted nougat and flavoured nuts and if you'd like to learn more about the secrets to making gourmet nougat, enrol in a nougat masterclass. In this class you'll learn the

story of nougat before creating your own unique flavour. With intimate group sizes, this hands-on experience is as personal as it is indulgent.

To book, contact Mondo Nougat directly or visit mondonougat.com.au.

The handcrafted range of products at **Providore** is made using produce grown in local orchards and vegetable gardens. The enormous range of tastings will inspire you, so take your time as you explore the showroom and enjoy the fresh chutneys, mustards, jams, relishes and sauces. There are also spice blends, olive oil and deserts all made locally in WA.

You can then wander next door into the **Margaret River Chocolate Factory**. Enjoy the delectable chocolate buds available for tasting or sign your children up for a *Junior Chocolatier Workshop*. In this one-hour experience, children will explore the world of chocolate while creating their own chocolate masterpiece. Each participant will also leave with a personalised giant

freckle and a voucher for hot chocolate or ice cream from the cafe.

For more information visit chocolatefactory.com.au.

An exploration of taste, **Dale Tilbrook's Bushtucker Experience** will teach you about native Australian bush foods such as the quandong, native limes, sandalwood nuts and local coastal greens. Discover native herbs, spices and peppers and learn about their amazing medicinal properties. Meander through the bush food garden and learn the history of this beautiful location through Dale's storytelling. For more information visit

daletilbrookexperiences.com.au

The Italian history in the Swan Valley is rich and at **Pasta in the Valley**, you'll experience a tasting of this heritage. There's a variety of cooking classes available, from the *Mini Chef* program for children where they get to make their own spaghetti; through to gnocchi and pasta sauce making for adults. You will use locally grown ingredients and learn simple recipes to recreate at home.

Visit pastainthevalley.com.au to book your class.

Fancy a coffee after your Italian feast? Be sure to step into **Yahava Kaffeeworks** for coffee tastings. For the coffee connoisseur, the *Yahava Coffee Safari* will take you on a journey around the world as you discover your coffee's origin story. For more information and booking details visit yahava.com.au.

ART EXPERIENCES

Play with fire during a one-hour hot glass experience at **The Glass Flower Bar**. With glassblower Jennie by your side, you'll melt your glass and create up to eight unique glass beads. A necklace is a memory keeper of your time here. To enquire about these fiery workshops, contact Jennie directly via theglassflowerbar.com.

Discover the sensory pleasure of having your hands in clay during a pottery wheel class with **Guildford Village Potters**. Beginner or advanced sessions are held throughout the week, and children's classes are available in the school holidays.

Dale Tilbrook Bushtucker Experience



Kids will make small bowls on the wheel, as well as a handmade piece such as an animal figure. For more information, visit guildfordvillagepotters.com.au.

Explore traditional Aboriginal art forms with **Dale Tilbrook** on her *Aboriginal Art and Dreamtime Stories Workshop*. Discover how Aboriginal dot painting evolved and learn commonly used iconography, then create your paintings using acrylic paint pens. Dale will inspire you with Dreamtime stories and talk about life in the area before colonisation. For more information, visit daletilbrookexperiences.com.au.

HEALTH, NATURE & DISCOVERY EXPERIENCES

For something a little different, enjoy a morning yoga session while you get up close to docile camels at **Speed Humps** in the Swan Valley. For something extra special, the *Yoga and Sip* experience offers a boho picnic setting under the gum trees,

where you can enjoy a grazing board with a bottle of bubbly while the sun sets and the camels enjoy their dinner nearby. Camel Yoga experiences are seasonal from October to April. Visit swanvalleyspeedhumps.com.au.

Enjoy the majestic wild kangaroos on a **Vines Resort Kangaroo Safari**. Learn about these animals and watch as they graze and play. Tours run daily from 4pm and are followed by a relaxing sunset drink and a game of mini golf. To book, go to kangaroosafari.com.au.

Discover the hidden world of Australia's native wildlife with the enchanting *Nocturnal Woylie Walk* at **Whiteman Park**. At twilight you will enter a special predator-free sanctuary, where Australia's precious nocturnal mammals — the quenda and critically endangered woylie — come out to explore. As you wander through the Woodland Reserve by torchlight, watch them forage in their natural habitat and discover the important work being done to protect these beautiful animals.

Held on Friday evenings from September to May, visit whitemanpark.com.au for more information.

Creating precious family memories is guaranteed when you participate in **The Great Valley Rally**. Starting at the **Swan Valley Visitor Centre**, pick up your instruction and clue travel pack before setting out on your adventure. It's a fun way to learn the history of the area whilst visiting beautiful landmarks.

The whispers of the past will guide you along the streets of Guildford when you embark on one of the City of Swan's Historical Walks. Beginning at the Swan Valley Visitor Centre, choose your own adventure with a colour-coded map, then discover the stories on plaques along the way, immersing yourself in the beauty of yesteryear.

For more information, visit swanvalley.com.au/plan/visitor-centre

With so much on offer, be curious and discover one of the many experiences that awaits in the Swan Valley.



Caversham Wildlife Park



SubZero Gelato

A WEEKEND WITH THE KIDS

By SUE YEAP

Forget the long drive down south! Instead, pack the kids in the car and head to the Swan Valley for a fun weekend.

DAY ONE

11am / Animal magic

Visiting **Caversham Wildlife Park**, WA's largest privately owned collection of native wildlife, is a rite of passage for most families. Allow half a day to make a dent in seeing the 200 species and more than 2,000 animals, birds, and reptiles. Allow longer if you'd like to have lunch at The Village Cafe or explore the rest of Whiteman Park.

2.30pm / Get the scoop

Hours change seasonally, but if you can squeeze in a stop at award-winning **SubZero Gelato**, your taste buds will be delighted.

3pm / Check in for the night

The Vines Resort is popular for families with young children, offering hotel rooms and self-contained two and three-bed apartments. Resort features include restaurants, mini golf, swimming pool with outdoor spa, giant chess, and a playground. Keep an eye on The Vines social media channels for seasonal specials.

4pm / Get up close with kangaroos

Popular with international visitors and locals alike, the **Kangaroo Safari** is an informative and fun tour of The Vines golf course, with regular stops to watch the various mobs of kangaroos. Parents must have a driver's licence to drive a golf buggy. Tours depart daily and take around two hours.

6.30pm / Dinner time

Head down to Caversham family favourite **Pasta in the Valley**, where the kids can feast on an extensive menu of pizza, pasta or house-made sausage rolls. Looking for delicious pasta on the go? Pasta in the Valley also has a drive through.

DAY TWO

9am / Rise and shine

Treat yourself to the flavours of France with breakfast at **Maison Saint-Honoré** in Caversham. With a special kid's menu, let them enjoy a crepe and babycino while you indulge in classics like Croque Monsieur or Bénédictine on Toast along with your

morning caffeine fix. Pick up some of **Maison Saint-Honoré's** signature macarons or pastries to keep you going for the day.

10.30am / Get active, or get up close to more animals

Burn off some energy playing **Supa Golf** or **Supa Putt**, or blast away at each other in a friendly game of laser tag at **Laser Corps**, both conveniently located in the vicinity of the **Swan Valley Resort**.

If cute and cuddly is more your thing, plan a stop at **Swan Valley Cuddly Animal Farm**. The covered playground, cafe offering light meals, and a ménagerie of goats, miniature horses, roaming chicken and peacocks also make **Swan Valley Station** a fun stop.

1pm / Lunch time

West Swan Road is packed with family-friendly venues for lunch including **Gerry's Deli** at **Swan Valley Hotel**, **Mash Brewing**, **The Henley Brook** and **Bailey Brewing Co**.

2.30pm / Homeward bound

As a treat before starting your road trip home, it's mandatory to stop for something sweet at **Whistler's Chocolate Company**, **Margaret River Chocolate Company** or **Mondo Nougat**. Stock up on chocolate covered pretzels, have a scoop of gelato, and let the driver fuel up on barista coffee and cake.

Find all contact details at swanvalley.com.au

EXPERIENCE...

GUILDFORD'S CHARM

As the gateway to the Swan Valley and Perth's original inland settlement, historic Guildford resembles a country village crammed with antique shops, boutiques, cafes, pubs and galleries.



Guildford Hotel.



Guildford Heritage Walk Trails. Photo by Frances Andrijich

Dripping in history, Guildford has all the goods when it comes to treasures, treats and trails. Immerse yourself in its heritage appeal.

HISTORY ON TAP

Boasting some of the most historic pubs in the state, drop by for a taste of days gone by.

The Guildford Hotel

The long-standing **Guildford Hotel** is iconic to the area with its eye-catching white, baroque façade and belvedere tower.

Originally built in the 1880s, the hotel was razed by a fire in 2008.

Rebuilt and restored to its original glory, it boasts old-time country manor charm with its exposed brick, repurposed timber, brass finishes and recovered décor.

The Stirling Arms

The Stirling Arms Hotel was built in the 19th century on the back of convict labour. Established in 1852, it has a rich history as one of the oldest pubs in WA.

Today, its classic feel is blended with contemporary style. The original heritage bars have been combined into the *1852 Lounge Bar* while the sleek, modern *Lot 142 Beer Garden* offers alfresco dining at the front of the building.

The Rose & Crown

The Rose & Crown Hotel has been a welcome resting place for tourists and travellers for over 150 years. Built on 2.5 acres in 1841, this is WA's oldest operating hotel. Registered with the National Trust, it's a true West Australian landmark. While it now features modern facilities such as spa baths and plasma TVs in the hotel rooms, it maintains its classic Georgian design and down-home country pub feel.

GOOD FOOD AND COFFEE

With neighbourhood cafes, restaurants and wine bars serving up produce that is easy on the eye and the tastebuds, there's plenty to explore in Guildford.

Willing Coffee

Willing Coffee is where Guildford's coffee connoisseurs gather for their morning caffeine hit. Take a seat inside at the marbled stone counter or in the sun on one of the outside tables and enjoy a seasonal menu that includes breakfast sandwiches, bagels, croissants and house-made granola.

Guildford Milk Bar

Taking prime position on historic James Street, **Guildford Milk Bar** is a popular breakfast spot with its lengthy list of classic breakfast options, great atmosphere and inviting dining room. Renowned for its savoury breakfasts, the coffee is also consistently good.

The Lounge Room on James

The Lounge Room on James is located in a stunning, heritage-listed building. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, alfresco dining provides a perfect vantage point to people-watch and take in the Guildford vibe.

Guildford Town Bakery

With its air of old-fashioned charm, the **Guildford Town Bakery** is everything you look for in a small-town bakery. With rows of artisan loaves, sweet pastries and biscuits, it's also one of the best spots for pies, sausage rolls and savoury pastries which are all made on-site.

Padbury's

Wine bar meets cafe at **Padbury's**, an inviting space located within the heritage listed Padbury's Store building that dates back to 1869. Serving up breakfast, lunch and dinner, their fluffy buttermilk pancakes topped with sweet honeycomb and a meringue, coconut and fig granola, rounded out by a tart lemon curd is certainly one to try.

Alfred's Kitchen

After a day in the Swan Valley, you can huddle around the fire pit or in the antique train carriage at **Alfred's Kitchen**, Perth's longest-running roadside hamburger joint. Starting as a roadside caravan back in 1946, Alfred's Kitchen is a Perth institution and has been one of Guildford's favourite late-night hangouts for over 75 years.

Locale Mio

If you're looking for authentic Italian vibes, flavours and hospitality, **Locale Mio** is a great choice. Using simple, farm-fresh ingredients, the restaurant serves up some of Guildford's finest pizza, pasta and tapas.

Taste of Europe

Tucked down a cul-de-sac off the main shopping strip, **The Dutch Shop** is – unsurprisingly – a massive hit with the Dutch ex-pat community. The gourmet deli stocks delicacies from rollmops and Dutch sausages to 40 or more different types of liquorice and aniseed sprinkles. Complete your tour of Europe with a stop at **Mimmo's** for a takeaway tub or two of gourmet gelato.

Walking trails

Follow one of the four **Heritage Walk Trails** around Guildford to discover the area's history. Each self-guided trail begins and ends at the Old Guildford Courthouse – home of the Swan Valley Visitor Centre – and offers a history lesson, tales of colonial life, and a rundown of the intriguing characters that have called Guildford home.

The **Town Walk** provides a look at many of Guildford's most historic buildings, including the former post office, the vaudeville theatre, and the art-deco style Town Hall.

A slightly longer meander, the **Captain Stirling Walk** allows you to take in some of Guildford's most beautiful heritage buildings, quaint cottages, manicured gardens and streetscapes and the picturesque grounds of **Guildford Grammar School**, including the **Chapel of St Mary and St George**.

A bit further afield is the grand architecture and decor of the National Trust's historic **Woodbridge**, dating back to the 1800s. Book in to explore the building and then treat yourself with a stop at the onsite cafe, **Riverside at Woodbridge**, where you can enjoy coffee or a meal with unimpeded river and vineyard views.

Curios and culture

With its rich history, it would be remiss not to drop into one of Guildford's many antique and second-hand stores.

You could lose hours discovering 20th-century treasures at **Dr Russell's Imaginarium**. Self-titled as the 'dealers of nostalgia', its shelves are filled with impeccably preserved magazines from decades past, vintage figurines and elegant 50s jewellery.

If you're looking for a gift, **Panache Living** is a fashion, furniture and homewares store that is brimming with handpicked goodies from around the world.

For something different, don't miss the quirky and slightly macabre Academy of Taxidermy at the **Museum of Natural History**. Or for your culture fix, grab a show at the **Garrick Theatre**, one of the longest-running community theatres in Perth.



Established in 1829, the town of Guildford along with the settlements of Perth and Fremantle, set the foundations for the beginnings of the Swan River Colony.

With colonial architecture, much of its old English charm remains today, meticulously preserved or brought back to life in an effort to retain the area's significant past.

PLAN YOUR STAY



Brookleigh Day Spa

ENJOY... YOU TIME

With its rustic charm, natural beauty, warm hospitality and close proximity to the CBD, the Swan Valley is a perfect place to reconnect and unwind.

A romantic escape

If you're craving a break away, the Swan Valley has a range of accommodation options for a relaxing and romantic interlude.

The **Swan Valley Retreat & Spa** is a secluded oasis featuring spacious, beautifully appointed rooms with private decks that overlook the Valley. With three different rooms available, the signature 'Wine Barrel' room is the most luxurious and a stay in this architecturally-designed suite includes a private golf cart to shuttle you to and from your car. You'll have your own private sauna as well as a cedar hot tub on your balcony to soak up the charming countryside vistas. To top it all off, there is also an exclusive day spa at the retreat, where tailored treatments, including hydrotherapy and float sessions, are designed to rejuvenate body and soul.

Exuding rustic charm and chateau 'esque architecture, **Brookleigh Estate** has a variety of accommodation options, from boutique suites and self-contained apartments to adorable private cottages. Sitting pretty among manicured gardens, it's a perfect sanctuary for couples seeking peace and romance, where walks through

Whether it's a weekend of pampering, a gourmet adventure or a romantic hideaway, the Swan Valley has plenty of options for some well-deserved 'you-time'.

By ALEXANDRA CASEY

nature and evenings under the stars are part of daily life.

If you'd like to curate a more personalised experience, check out Airbnb so you can choose accommodation that suits your own style. For example, the aptly-named 'Treehouse in the Australian Bush', is an exclusive retreat set amongst the treetops. Overlooking the Valley, it immediately connects you with the surroundings.

For a resort-style property nestled amidst lush greenery, there's **The Swan Valley Hotel**. Offering comfortable accommodation and modern amenities, it's a great base for couples eager to explore the region at their own pace. With its warm hospitality and relaxed atmosphere, your stay is sure to be as memorable as it is convenient.

Rejuvenate and relax

Indulgence takes centre stage at the Swan Valley's wellness and spa facilities. Couples can unwind and be spoilt at the **Aura Salon & Spa** at **The Vines Resort**. Offering bespoke treatments from rejuvenating massages through to revitalising facials, it's

the perfect place to reconnect whilst being surrounded by verdant, landscaped gardens.

For complete wellbeing, **Brookleigh Day Spa** offers a holistic wellness experience with luxurious treatments that will leave you feeling like you're in heaven. From hot stone massages to facial and body treatments; day retreats through to an extended wellness escape, this sanctuary promises to soothe the senses and restore balance.

Memorable moments for two

Bespoke experiences await couples looking to create memories and share uninterrupted quality time together.

Maya Maya is a luxe basecamp at **Mandoon Estate**, which has 32 beautifully appointed rooms that overlook the Swan River as well as historic Verdelho vines planted in 1895. It's the perfect base for a romantic getaway filled with culinary delights, bushwalking, mountain biking, and gallery hopping.

Nowhere else in Australia can you leave a capital city by boat and arrive in an award-winning wine region on the same day. So for those seeking a postcard-perfect journey along the serene Swan

PLAN YOUR STAY

River, consider joining a *Swan Valley Wine Cruise* with **Captain Cook Cruises**. You'll enjoy a share-style platter lunch as you glide along the water, followed by a delightful wine and macaron pairing at Mandoon Estate. To complete your experience, relax with live entertainment and dessert on your return cruise.

How about adding a touch of fun and adventure to your getaway? *The Mystery Picnic Date* by **AmazingCo** is an imaginative and delightful way to explore the Swan Valley. This self-guided experience combines the thrill of a treasure hunt with the joy of a gourmet picnic. With a series of clues and riddles, you'll journey around the Valley collecting artisanal ingredients from local producers

along the way. The adventure culminates at a stunning location perfect for a romantic outdoor feast.

Located just 25 minutes from Perth, an escape from the everyday is easily accessible in the Swan Valley. Whether you're indulging in a luxurious spa day, enjoying an intimate picnic by the river, or exploring the Valley's hidden gems hand-in-hand, the opportunities for romance are endless.

“**SLOW DOWN AND SAVOUR LIFE'S FINER MOMENTS IN THE SWAN VALLEY.**”



Swan Valley Wine Cruise with Captain Cook Cruises.

SWAN VALLEY STATION



A UNIQUE CAFÉ, NURSERY AND GIFT SHOP,
WHERE THE COUNTRY MEETS THE CITY



Playground • Farm animals • Café • Gift shop • Nursery
Marron lake • Sculpture trail • Fishing

Wed - Sun: 9am - 4pm • Public holidays: 9am - 4pm

60 Forest Road, Henley Brook • Ph: 0432 386 633

E: info@swanvalleystation.com.au • swanvalleystation.com.au




TWIN HILL WINES
Swan Valley

Established in 1937, Twin Hill Wines is a family winery, full of old style charm and character.

Enjoy our range of red and white table wine, luscious fortified wines, including our popular bulk Tawny, gourmet cheeses and olives, in a friendly relaxed atmosphere.

Open: Wednesday - Sunday 10am - 4pm

1093 Great Northern Hwy, Baskerville
T: 0438 956 329 • www.twinhillwines.com.au

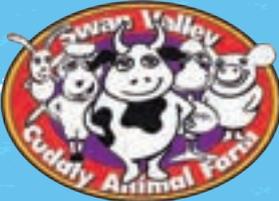


Challenge your friends and family on
Perth's premier 18 hole mini golf course
set at the picturesque Vines Resort.

Open daily from 8am.



vinesminigolf.com.au #vinesminigolf




128 John Street, Henley Brook
Ph: 0424 209 730
www.cuddlyanimalfarm.com

An all-weather venue for fun family outings. Cuddly Animal Farm offers an interactive experience with cute, friendly animals in an Aussie farm environment with fantastic photo opportunities. Bottle and bucket feeding, train rides, merry-go-round, bouncy castle, BBQ and picnic facilities. Open daily 9.30am-4pm.

mandoon

Open 7 Days
10 Harris Rd, Caversham | 08 6279 0500
mandoonestate.com.au






2931 West Swan Road, Caversham
Ph: 0419 741 936
E: bookings@pastainthevalley.com.au
www.pastainthevalley.com.au Online ordering available via our website



MAYA MAYA
AT MANDOON ESTATE

Staying over in the beautiful Swan Valley? Check out Maya Maya at Mandoon Estate – boutique luxe accommodation just a short stroll through the historic vines to all that the estate has to offer.



Not just weddings and events here at Mandoon, ideal for 1 or 2 night stays, welcoming couples as well as families and friends with interconnecting one and two-bed rooms available on request. Breakfast in a brewery – you just know it's going to be a great day!

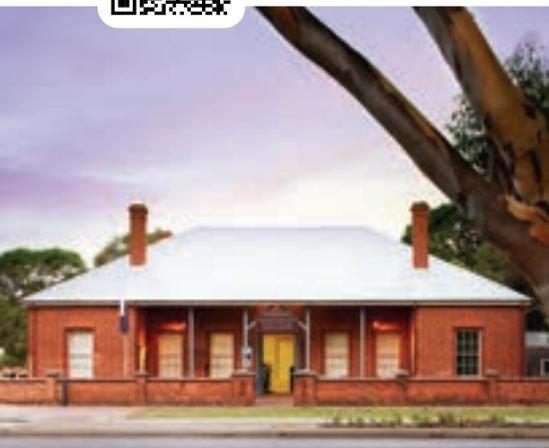
10 Harris Road, Caversham WA 6055
(08) 6279 0555 | reception@mayamaya.com.au
mandoonestate.com.au/maya-maya

The Swan Valley Visitor Centre

is your one-stop shop for everything you need to know about the Swan Valley and Guildford.



Give the gift of the Swan Valley with a digital gift card!



- Visitor information
- Maps and brochures
- Souvenirs
- Digital gift cards
- Personalised service and advice.

You'll find the Swan Valley Visitor Centre in the Guildford Courthouse (c. 1866) at the corner of Meadow and Swan Streets, Guildford. Be sure to leave our staff a review via Google, Facebook or TripAdvisor.

Open seven days from 9am-4pm

T: (+61 8) 9207 8899 | E: visitorcentre@swan.wa.gov.au

W: swanvalley.com.au

 /theswanvalley

 @theswanvalley

SWAN VALLEY | City of Swan



Whiteman Park

So much more than just a park.



Discover the treasures in our museums



Explore the Park



Join a tour



Meet the wildlife

Visit whitemanpark.com.au
or call 08 9209 6000
to plan your next visit

  @whitemanpark



WHITEMAN PARK
CONSERVATION • RECREATION • EDUCATION