



# Driving in Western Australia

A guide to safe stopping places







## Contents

<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>	<b>1</b>	Securing your load	12
<b>About Us</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Give Animals a Brake</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Travel Map</b>	<b>2</b>	Travelling with pets?	13
<b>Roadside Stopping Places</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Driving on remote and unsealed roads</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Parking bays and rest areas</b>	<b>3</b>	Unsealed Roads	14
<b>Sharing rest areas</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Litter</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Blackwater disposal</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Useful contacts</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Changing Places</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Our Regions</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Planning a Road Trip?</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Perth Metropolitan Area</b>	<b>18</b>
Basic road rules	6	<b>Kimberley</b>	<b>20</b>
Multi-lingual Signs	6	<b>Pilbara</b>	<b>22</b>
Safe overtaking	6	<b>Mid-West Gascoyne</b>	<b>24</b>
Oversize and Overmass Vehicles	7	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	<b>26</b>
Cyclones, fires and floods - know your risk	8	<b>Goldfields Esperance</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Fatigue</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>South West</b>	<b>30</b>
Manage Fatigue	10	<b>Great Southern</b>	<b>32</b>
Rest Areas, Roadhouses and Driver Reviver	11	<b>Route Maps</b>	<b>34</b>
What to do if you breakdown	11		
<b>Towing and securing your load</b>	<b>12</b>		
Planning to tow a caravan, camper trailer or similar?	12		



**Acknowledgement of Country** *The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.*

**Disclaimer:** The maps contained within this booklet provide approximate times and distances for journeys however, their accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Main Roads reserves the right to update this information at any time without notice. To the extent permitted by law, Main Roads, its employees, agents and contributors are not liable to any person or entity for any loss or damage arising from the use of this information, or in connection with, the accuracy, reliability, currency or completeness of this material.





## About Us

Main Roads represents one of the world's most expansive road networks. We care about providing world class outcomes for our customers through a safe, reliable and sustainable road-based transport system.

Our regional offices located in Albany, Bunbury, Narrogin, Northam, Kalgoorlie-boulder, Geraldton, Carnarvon, Port Hedland, Derby, Broome and Kununurra deliver services with, and for the community, to ensure the best possible driving experience on our network.

We have designed this guide to help make your trip across Western Australia (WA) smoother, safer and more enjoyable. If you would like to provide your comments or feedback, please email us at [enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au) or call 138 138.

## Travel Map

Know before you go! Our online Travel Map provides you with the latest road incident and impact information you need to plan

At Main Roads, we care about keeping WA moving



a safe and efficient trip across Western Australian roads.

Navigate the map to find rest areas and amenities including toilets, accessible toilets, roadhouses, heavy vehicle parking, picnic facilities and bins.

Plan your trip now - [travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au)

## Roadside Stopping Places

A roadside stopping place is an area beside the road designed to provide a safe place for vehicles to pull over in the event of an emergency. Stopping places can also double as 'special stops' for rest areas, scenic lookouts, information bays or road-train assembly.



## Parking bays and rest areas

Across WA you'll find:

- More than 900 parking bays (minor rest areas) which provide a safe place to stop
- Around 500 stops that offer basic facilities such as a toilet, table, shelter or bin; these are primarily designed to cater for motorists to stop and rest for a short period
- Over 200 heavy vehicle rest areas that are designed to allow heavy vehicle drivers to carry out short, purpose-based stops including load checks, completing logbooks and addressing associated operational needs. Overnight stays may be allowed in some heavy vehicle rest areas (look for the signs)
- 70 rest areas that allow overnight stays (stopping is **not** to exceed more than 24 consecutive hours)

## Electric Vehicle Charging Locations

The availability of charging stations is expanding, so we recommend checking out [www.plugshare.com](http://www.plugshare.com) before you leave. This will give you an up to date view about where charging infrastructure is located, what type and speed it is, any restrictions on availability and whether it's currently in service. Keep in mind you might not have mobile phone coverage everywhere throughout the state, so some pre-planning is recommended.







### Sharing Rest Areas

By law, heavy vehicle operators have to stop each day. Heavy Vehicle Rest Areas on our network are specifically designed to cater for this requirement and provide truckies with a safe spot to carry out load checks, complete their log book or take a compulsory rest break.

If you are intending to stop or camp in a 24-hour rest area overnight, please be courteous – park up on the side of the rest area, set up off the road-way and be sure to leave enough room for our truckies to safely enter, get the rest they need, and exit.

Remember to be mindful when sharing rest areas with heavy and oversize vehicles, and don't over-stay your 24 hour limit.



### Blackwater Disposal

Blackwater, which includes waste water and sewage, may only be disposed of in rest area displaying the 'effluent dump site' sign, shown here. If a dump site is not available, it must be taken to the nearest town dump site. Waste should not be dumped into river water catchments or toilets on site.



Effluent dump site

### Changing Places

Changing Places provide suitable facilities for people who cannot use standard accessible toilets. A number of Changing Places can only be accessed using a Master Locksmiths Access Key (MLAK) to ensure they are used by the people who require them.

These specialised facilities provide:

- height-adjustable adult-sized change tables
- a constant-charging ceiling track hoist system
- a centrally-located peninsula toilet
- an automatic door with a minimum 950 mm clear opening
- privacy screens

For more information about the MLAK system or, to download a MLAK application form, visit [masterlocksmiths.com.au/mlak](http://masterlocksmiths.com.au/mlak)

To find your nearest Changing Places visit [changingplaces.org.au](http://changingplaces.org.au)



Photos courtesy of Changing Places and The Shire of Katanning.





## Planning a Road Trip?

### Basic Road Rules

Whether you're new to driving on WA's roads or not, we encourage you to review the State's road rules and penalty information before you set off. Fines and/or the loss of demerit points are applicable if you are caught breaking the law.

**Speeding** contributes to around 60 deaths at police-attended crashes on our roads each year. The fact is – the faster you travel, the longer it takes to stop, and more fatalities occur on our open roads than anywhere else in WA.

While you are permitted to touch a **mobile phone** only if secured in a mounting affixed to your vehicle to accept or end a phone call, using your mobile phone while driving to text, email, use social media, take a photo or video is **illegal**.

All drivers and passengers must sit in a seat that has a seatbelt available and the **seatbelt** must be fastened and worn correctly. **Child car restraints** are also mandatory for children from birth to seven years of age.

Visit [wa.gov.au/rsc](http://wa.gov.au/rsc) for more information on speeding, mobile phone use, drink and drug driving, seatbelts, double demerits, red lights and intersections.

### Multi-lingual Signs

You might spot some multi-lingual advisory signs on your journey, designed to help international drivers safely navigate the State's most popular tourist routes.

The signs have been produced in German, French and Simplified Mandarin to remind drivers to keep left when driving in Australia.



### Safe Overtaking

Overtaking can be dangerous, especially in our regions where you're likely to come across some of the largest trucks in the world.

To overtake safely:

- Make sure you have a long, straight, stretch of road ahead of you
- Be patient – if you can't see what's up ahead, then wait for a better opportunity

- NEVER overtake on a curve or hill where visibility is reduced
- Only return to the left hand side of the road when you can see the road-train's headlights in your rear view mirror and remember to indicate before moving back – never cut off a road-train as they can't stop quickly
- If you can, use your UHF radio to call through to the vehicle in front of you on Channel 40
  - You say: "Copy in PM12"
  - They reply: "Copy that"
  - You say: "I am in the vehicle behind you, could you let me know when it is clear and safe to pass?" and be prepared to pass when the driver advises
  - They reply: "Copy caravan behind PM12, it's clear to go"
  - You say: "Copy that, we are on our way"



Did you know that some of our road-trains are up to 60 metres long? That equates to 12 car lengths!

Remember, while you can use a UHF or CB radio while driving, you must remain in full control of your vehicle while doing so

There are also penalties for the misuse of emergency channels on the UHF

### Oversize and Overmass Vehicles

Sometimes, you might encounter a heavy vehicle carrying a large, wide load. These oversize and overmass loads are often accompanied by a pilot or traffic escort warden vehicle. If you see one of these you must:

1. Slow down
2. Move left
3. Prepare to stop
4. Follow any directions given by the pilot or warden

It's important to *know what to do when it's bigger than you* - visit our website for more information.





## Cyclones, fires and floods - know your risk

**Fires, floods, cyclones and extreme weather** can sometimes lead to roads being closed or restricted for safety reasons.

While these hazards can be inconvenient, they are also **extremely dangerous** – so it's important to understand the risks before you leave, and plan what to do if there is an emergency.



If you come  
across a  
**ROAD CLOSED**  
sign on your  
travels, please  
remember that  
closed means  
closed

Roads may be close due to flooding in **wet season**, which runs from **November to April**. You may also come across unpredictable conditions at floodways and creek crossings.

To **minimise your risk** during wet season:

- Travel in a **four-wheel drive** where possible, particularly on unsealed roads



- **Never walk or drive through floodwaters** – this is extremely dangerous. Flood waters can take control of a four-wheel drive in just 30 cm of flowing water

If you plan to travel in **bushfire season**, it's essential you know what to do if you encounter a bushfire. Roads may be closed, and visibility can be severely reduced due to smoke.

- Before you leave, take the time to have a conversation with your fellow travellers and plan what you will do in the event of a bushfire, cyclone or other emergency

- Bring an **emergency kit** that includes a portable battery-operated radio, torch, spare batteries, mobile phone and charger, first aid kit, prescription medication, toiletries and enough food and water for at least five days
- **Follow all signage** and the directions of emergency services personnel (if applicable)
- **Tell someone** where you are going and when you expect to arrive
- Familiarise yourself with the **community warning system** for cyclones, bushfires and other hazards

- Stay up-to-date with current warnings and Fire Danger Ratings by checking **Emergency WA** ([emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au)), listening to ABC or local radio, or by calling 13 DFES
- Register for bushfire warnings with the ServiceWA app.

For more information on how to travel safely during fire, flood or cyclone season, including what to pack in your emergency kit, visit [dfes.wa.gov.au](http://dfes.wa.gov.au).





## Fatigue

Fatigue is a silent killer on WA roads.

With almost 150,000 kilometres of road in WA, the distance between some of our remote towns can be considerable and, in some cases, conditions can be very hot and dry with limited fuel, water and food available.

Planning ahead is crucial to managing fatigue on long road trips and making sure you arrive at your destination safely. Your reaction time when driving, after being awake for 17 hours, is equivalent to someone having a blood alcohol level of 0.05 percent.



### Manage Fatigue

Early danger signs of fatigue include:

- Wandering or disconnected thoughts
- Missing a gear, road sign or exit
- Slowing unintentionally
- Braking too late

#### If you

- Are yawning
- Are blinking more than usual
- Are having trouble keeping your head up
- Notice your eyes closing for a moment or going out of focus
- Forget the last few kilometres that you've driven

**STOP** – have a break, swap drivers if possible or have a short sleep.

Between  
2017-2021, 3,432  
people were  
killed or seriously  
injured in regional  
WA



## Rest Areas, Roadhouses and Driver Reviver

In addition to the rest areas on our road network there are more than 30 Roadhouses that provide a safe stopping place for drivers.

There are also a number of Driver Reviver stations, where volunteers donate their time to help people stop, revive, survive and reach their destination safely.

Further information on Driver Reviver stations can be found at [roadwise.asn.au](http://roadwise.asn.au).

The Road Safety Commission's *Fatigue Information Booklet* also provides additional information, facts and figures which you may find useful for your journey.

### What to do if you breakdown

Breaking down mid road-trip can be annoying but, breaking down in a remote area of WA can be fatal. It's not uncommon for the temperature to reach a blistering 45 to 50 degrees Celsius across some areas so it's important that you **prepare, plan** and **pack** accordingly.

**PREPARE:** Check that your vehicle is in good working order and has a suitable spare tyre, wheel jack and brace. If you can, travel in pairs or groups and, plan to travel outside of peak heat-wave conditions.

**PLAN:** Make a trip plan and share it with someone you trust who is not travelling with you. Be sure to advise that person when you have arrived at your destination and when you're ready to leave again.

### PACK:

- Buy or hire a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB), Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) and/or Satellite Phone for communications. It's important to ensure these items are registered and GPS enabled
- A well-equipped first aid kit
- Food and water – allow for at least three litres of water per person, per day as well as some extra for car breakdowns
- Extra fuel, particularly if you're travelling in remote areas where fuel stops can be hundreds of kilometres apart
- If you can, consider packing common spare parts for your vehicle such as fanbelts, radiator hoses, fuses, oil, duct tape and radiator coolant

If you do breakdown, stay in/with your vehicle, which provides shade and is much easier to find in an aerial search. If you can, call 000 and tune in to Channel 40 on your UHF radio for road user communication.

If you own a smartphone, download the 'Emergency + App'. This free app has been developed by Australia's Emergency Services; it uses GPS functionality to help the Responder provide critical location details to mobilise emergency services. Read more about the App at [emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au](http://emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au).





## Towing and securing your load

### Planning to tow a caravan, camper trailer or similar?

Towing places extra demands on a vehicle and, with so many changes to vehicle design over the years, it's important you understand your vehicle's towing capability to prevent costly damage and crashes. You also need to know how to equip your vehicle and how to fit and load what you intend to tow.

When you're on the road, be sure to:

- Inspect the towing combination shortly after commencing your journey, and during rest stops
- Check that the brakes and wheel bearings of the towed vehicle are not overheating
- Check that the coupling and safety chains are secured
- Check that tyres are still correctly inflated and lights are functional

Visit [transport.wa.gov.au](http://transport.wa.gov.au) for more information about how to tow safely.

### Securing your load

It's also important that any load you're carrying is properly secured to prevent objects from injuring people, obstructing the path of drivers or damaging another vehicle or the road surface.

In WA, a Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Inspector may undertake a load restraint inspection on any vehicle. A load can be anything from household goods to building materials and green waste. If you are transporting objects with your vehicle then, as the driver, you are responsible for ensuring it is properly secured and restrained. Check out the Load Restraint Guide at [ntc.gov.au](http://ntc.gov.au) for more information.

Did you know that if you're towing a caravan, trailer or similar, the maximum speed you can travel is 100 km/h?



## Give Animals a Brake

Analysis undertaken on the Great Northern Highway shows that approximately 83 per cent of cattle-related crashes occur at dawn and dusk – the problem is you can't hear animals on the road and, most of the time, you can't see them until it's too late.

If you're planning to drive in our pastoral regions, particularly at dawn and dusk:

- Be aware and alert – if you see just one cow on the road or roadside, slow down and take note of your surroundings
- Watch out for warning signs on the road – different regions have different animals

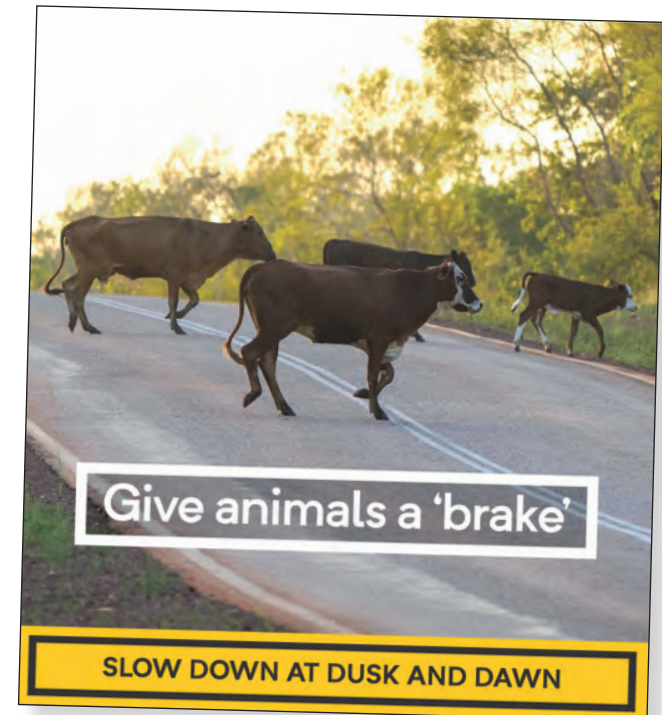
Remember to give animals a brake and slow down at dusk and dawn. Livestock collisions can be fatal for drivers, passengers and animals.

### Travelling with pets?

Baiting programs operate across Western Australia's agricultural and pastoral regions to control feral pests such as foxes, wild dogs and rabbits. These baits however, can be fatal to domestic pets such as cats and dogs.

If you're travelling with your pet, consider keeping them on a lead or fitting them with a muzzle to minimise the risk.

Keep an eye out for these signs too, which indicate that baits are being used in the area.





## Driving on remote and unsealed roads

The roads and driving conditions in WA can be very different to almost anywhere else in the world.

### Unsealed Roads

Outside of the Perth Metropolitan Area, and regional cities and towns, you may see roads that are unsealed, which means they are typically made of loose material like gravel or dirt. Travelling on unsealed roads can cause large clouds of dust, making it difficult to see. It can also cause your tyres to skid, and you may lose control of your vehicle.

Conditions on unsealed roads can change quickly due to the weather, the number of vehicles on the road and the type of vehicle using the road. To stay safe on unsealed roads:

- Slow down on bends and drive to the conditions – skidding is common on unsealed roads and can develop quickly
- Do not brake suddenly
- Keep your headlights on low beam so that other drivers can see you
- Keep a safe distance from all other vehicles
- Do not overtake if visibility is poor
- Learn what to do if your vehicle gets bogged
- Carry spare tyres, tubes, a tyre repair kit and an air compressor – unsealed roads can have sharp rocks which puncture tyres easily
- Stay on the roads – remember, the land on either side of unsealed roads is private property, even if there is no fence

## Private Property

The land either side of sealed and unsealed roads is usually private property. You should avoid taking unsigned tracks unless you have approval from the owners. To travel through Aboriginal land, a permit is essential. The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage provides an online mapping tool which allows you to plan your trip and identifies which land requires a permit. Visit [dplh.wa.gov.au/entrypermits](http://dplh.wa.gov.au/entrypermits) for more information.

National Parks may also require a pass for entry – visit [parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au](http://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au).



## Gates

Unless signed otherwise, the general rule for gates is 'Leave the gate as you found it' – if you find the gate closed, it should be left closed; if you find it open, leave it open.

## COVID-19

Check [wa.gov.au](http://wa.gov.au) for the latest information and travel advice that may be in place for your intended destination.

## Litter

*Bin it, you know it's the right thing to do...*

Litter and illegal dumping damages our environment, our beaches and our urban wetlands. It also costs hundreds of thousands of dollars to clean-up.

Main Roads provides bin facilities at some rest areas across the road network and these bins are emptied regularly as part of our regional maintenance programs. In peak holiday periods however, some of the bins might be full. If the bin is full on your travels, please take your rubbish with you and dispose of it at the next stop or town.

Keep Australia Beautiful WA (KABWA) provides leadership in the field of litter prevention and reduction in WA. Through community awareness and engagement, education, legislation and enforcement strategies, KABC works to change the attitudes and behaviours of the community and strives for a litter-free WA.

Since 2016, Main Roads and KABWA have been working together as part of the WA Naturally Thanks You campaign, to provide free car litter bags from roadhouses across the State.

To read more about what KABWA are doing, visit [kabc.wa.gov.au](http://kabc.wa.gov.au).

Remember, we all have a role to play in keeping WA litter-free.





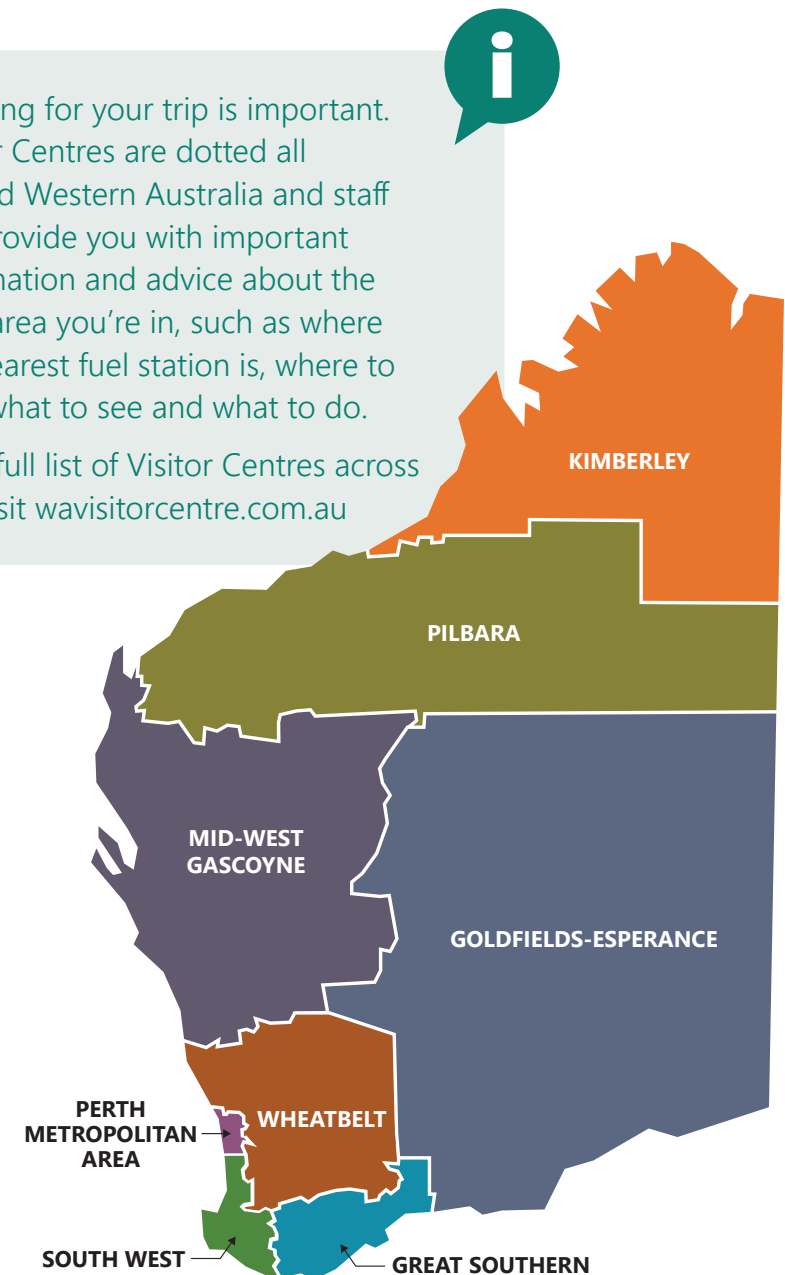


## Useful contacts

Organisation	Phone	Website	Call or visit website for
<b>Emergency Services</b>	000		Police, Fire or Ambulance life threatening situations ONLY
<b>Police</b>	131 444	police.wa.gov.au	Non-emergency 24 hour Police assistance
<b>Main Roads Western Australia</b>	138 138	mainroads.wa.gov.au travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au	General road enquiries, reporting roadside hazards or faults, reporting animals on the road, latest road closure information
	138 486		Heavy vehicle enquiries, information on sharing the road with trucks and oversize and overmass loads
<b>Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)</b>	1300 659 210	bom.gov.au	Weather, cyclone advice
<b>Caravan Industry Association (CIA)</b>	9358 5622	caravanwa.com.au	Travel tips, towing guide, caravan park information
<b>Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)</b>	133 337	dfes.wa.gov.au emergency.wa.gov.au	Natural disasters, bush fire, flood and cyclone warnings. Standard emergency warning signal
	1800 709 355		Fire ban information
<b>Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) - Parks and Wildlife Services</b>	9219 9000	dbca.wa.gov.au	Park brochures and guides
<b>Road Safety Commission</b>		wa.gov.au/rsc	Road safety advice
<b>WA Country Health</b>	9222 4222	wacountry.health.wa.gov.au	List of WA Country Health Services and emergency 24 hour contacts
<b>National Public Toilet Map</b>		toiletmap.gov.au	Information on over 19,000 publicly available toilets across Australia
<b>Royal Automobile Club (RAC) WA</b>	131 703	rac.com.au	Emergency Roadside Assistance, touring information
<b>Western Australian Visitor Centres</b>	9483 1111	wavisitorcentre.com.au	Information and maps on exploring Western Australia
<b>WA Local Government Association (WALGA)</b>	9213 2000	walga.asn.au	Local shires and council directory
<b>Department of Transport</b>		transport.wa.gov.au	Information about regional services, marine, licensing, vehicle standards and more

Planning for your trip is important. Visitor Centres are dotted all around Western Australia and staff can provide you with important information and advice about the local area you're in, such as where the nearest fuel station is, where to stay, what to see and what to do.

For a full list of Visitor Centres across WA visit [wavisitorcentre.com.au](http://wavisitorcentre.com.au)





# Perth Metropolitan Area

Separated by the mighty Swan River, the Perth Metropolitan Area is essentially broken up into the Northern and Southern suburbs, and the Perth Hills.

Photo: Tourism Western Australia



- Population: 2,163,000
- Area: 5,379 km<sup>2</sup>
- State Roads: 1,012 km
- Structures: 976

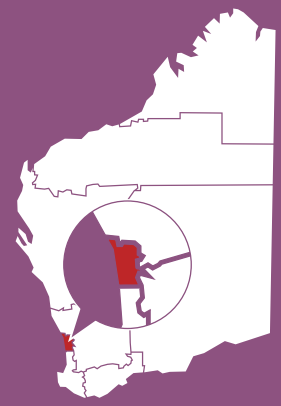
Known for its **mild winters, hot summers and clear blue skies**, Perth is a mecca for walking, cycling, swimming, sailing and fishing.

**Thrill-seekers** will be excited to jump on to Perth's newest adventure – the **Matagarup Zip+Climb**. Shoot 400 metres down the zip line, landing in Burswood Park or, opt to climb the 314-steps to the top of the bridge's main arch, 72 metres above the Swan River.

If **nature** is more your thing then a visit to **Kings Park** is a must. One of the world's largest inner city parks, Kings Park showcases more than 3,000 species of flora and offers spectacular views of the Swan and Canning Rivers, city centre and Darling Ranges.

A short ferry ride from the city, **Rottne Island** offers the opportunity to **wander along beautiful sandy beaches** and spot unique wildlife, such as the Quokka. With a range of tours and activities available on the car-free Island, you won't be short of things to see and do!

Meantime, just 30 minutes away, **Perth's Swan Valley** and the Perth Hills combine **rustic charm** with phenomenal **food and wine**, allowing you to immerse yourself into a gourmet paradise.



**Head Office**  
Don Aitken Centre,  
Waterloo Crescent,  
East Perth



For further information on travelling our Perth Metropolitan Area visit [experienceperth.com](http://experienceperth.com)



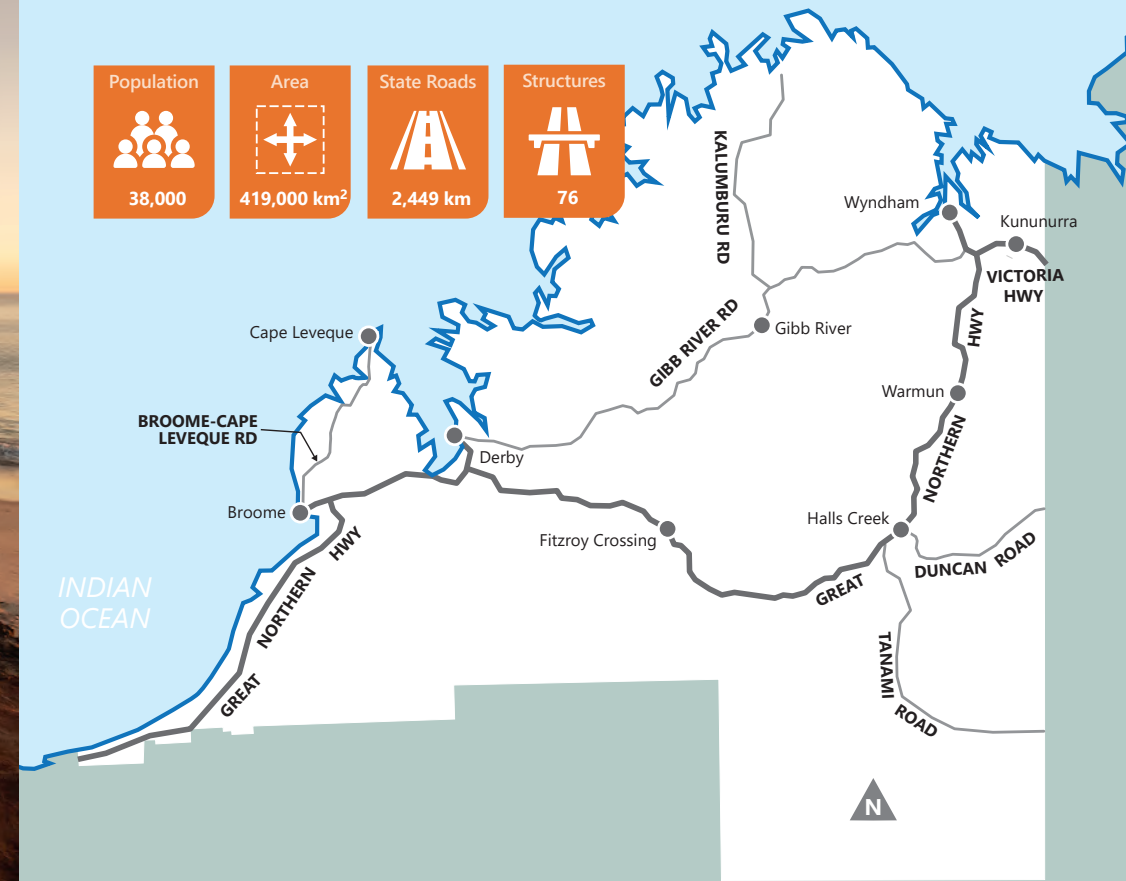


# Kimberley

Western Australia's Kimberley Region represents one-sixth of Western Australia's land mass, equivalent to twice the size of the State of Victoria and three times the size of England.



Photo: Tourism Western Australia



The Kimberley Region is bordered by the Pilbara Region to the south, and Northern Territory to the east. The Kimberley has fewer people per square kilometre than almost any other place on Earth.

Approximately half the Kimberley's 38,000 strong population comprises Aboriginal people, representing more than 30 traditional Aboriginal language groups.

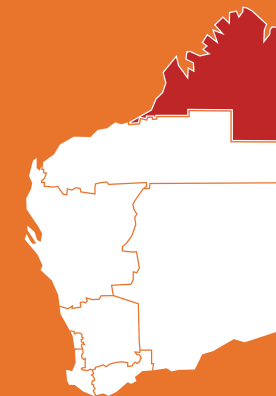
The Kimberley is home to **magnificent gorges**, some of the world's most **amazing**

**wildlife**, epic **freshwater swimming holes** and an extensive network of **4WD tracks and outback stations** dotted with the tangled beauty of the Boab Tree.

The beach town of Broome is famously known for its **Cable Beach** and spectacular sunset camel rides, while **El Questro Wilderness Park**, situated 1.5 hours west of Kununurra, with its **bushwalking trails, Aboriginal rock art** and **brehtaking gorges**, has to be seen to be believed.

You'll also find the World Heritage Listed **Purnululu National Park** in the Kimberley, home to the 360 million year old **Bungle Bungle Range**.

In the Kimberley, the outback and the beach combine like never before to offer stunning scenery, beautiful beaches and an idyllic location to start your next adventure.



**Derby Office**  
Wodehouse Street,  
Derby

**Kununurra Office**  
Messmate Way,  
Kununurra



For further information on travelling in the Kimberley visit [australiansnorthwest.com](http://australiansnorthwest.com)

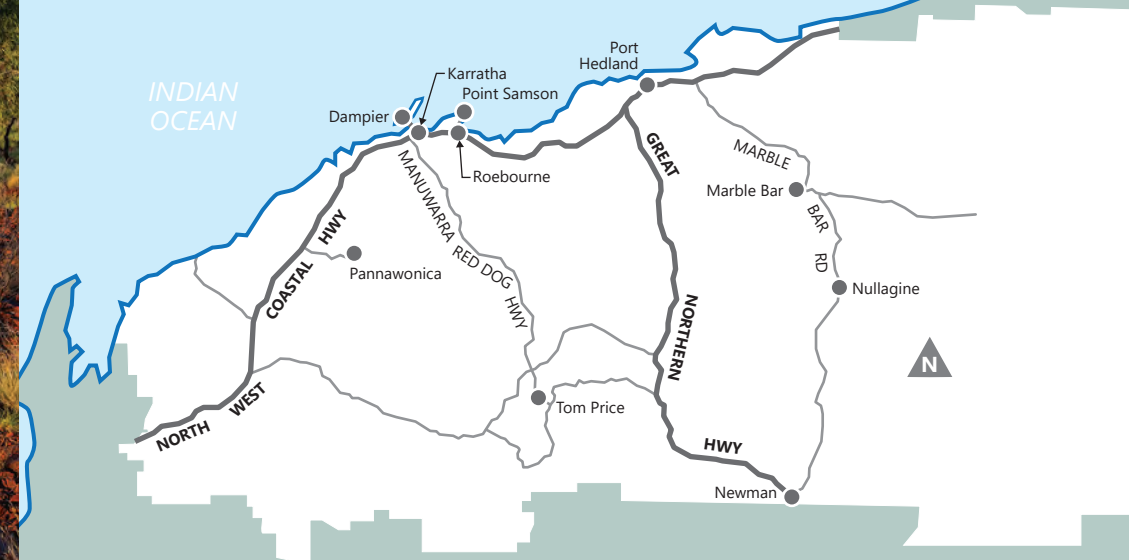


# Pilbara

The Pilbara Region extends from the Indian Ocean on the west to the Northern Territory border on its east. Across the Great Sandy Desert, it is bordered by the Kimberley Region to the north and the Mid West-Gascoyne and Goldfields Esperance Regions to the south.

Photo: Tourism Western Australia

Population  62,000	Area  506,000 km <sup>2</sup>	State Roads  2,796 km	Structures  136
--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------



The Pilbara is home to three of WA's most famous **national parks** – Millstream, Chichester, Karlamilyi and Karijini – where **rugged gorges** and **serene waterfalls** are a sight to behold.

Millstream-Chichester's annual **wildflower display** (June – August) sees some of the most amazing natural plant species come to life. One of the few National Parks with permanent water and associated wetlands, it is also home to over 120 bird species, 30 species of mammal and 150 species of reptile.

At 1.3 million hectares, Karlamilyi is WA's largest and most remote National Park. Past **ice glaciers** remain a feature and key highlight of the Park, which is home to the Martu Aboriginal people.

Karijini, the second largest National Park in Australia, is defined by **mountains** and **flat valleys, gorges** and **tree-lined waterways**. The Park can often top 40 degrees Celsius so, visiting in late Autumn, Winter or early Spring is recommended.

The National Heritage Listed **Dampier Archipelago** provides some of the most amazing rock art in Australia, and is accessible from the Pilbara as are the Montebello and Mackerel Islands.

Encompassing history, archaeology, spectacular nature and the oldest settlement in the North West (Roebourne) the Pilbara offers an adventure like no other.



**South Hedland Office**  
12-16 Brand Street,  
South Hedland



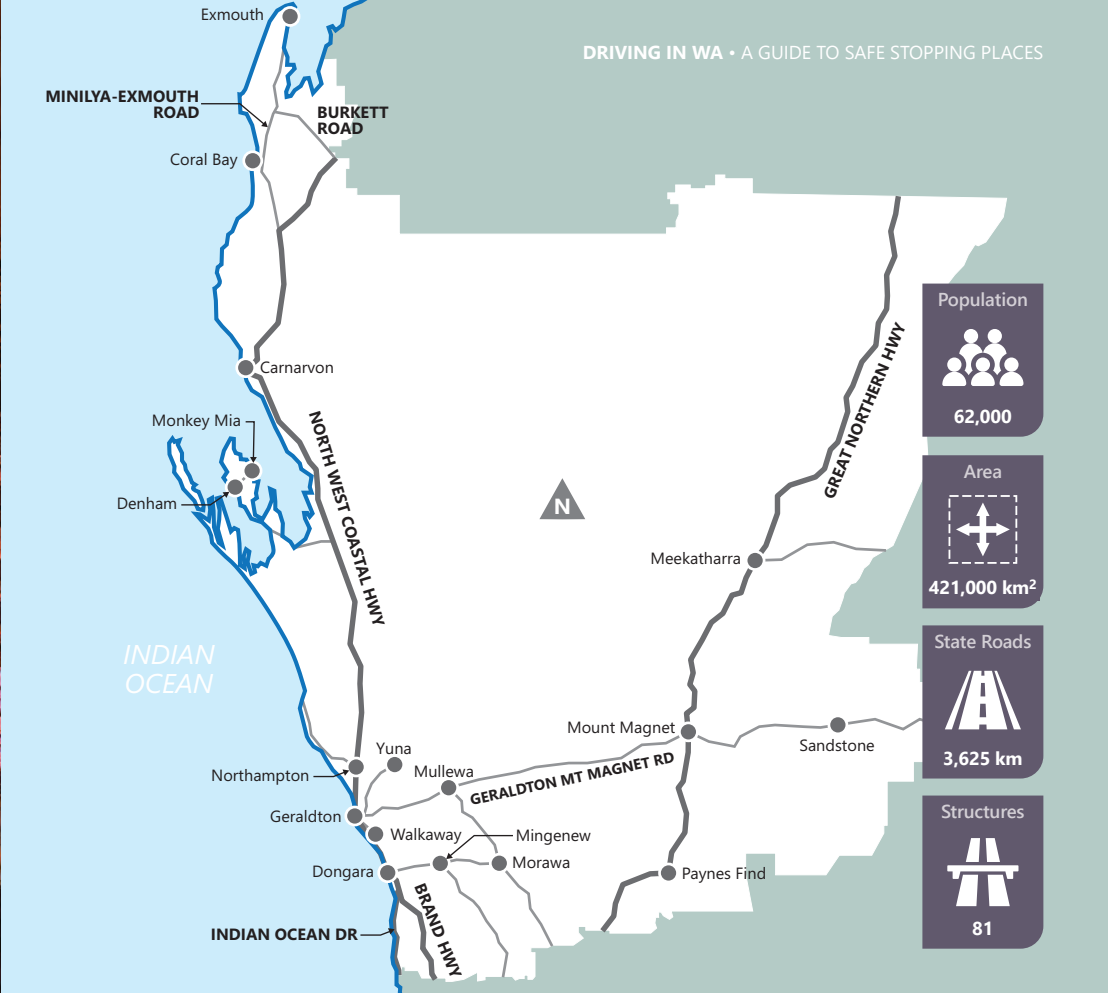
For further information on travelling in the Pilbara visit [australiasnorthwest.com](http://australiasnorthwest.com)





# Mid-West Gascoyne

The Mid-West Gascoyne region extends from Green Head to Exmouth and inland to Meekatharra.



Start your trip in the Mid-West by visiting the **Abrolhos Islands**, where **snorkelling** and **diving** amongst the amazing green and blue coral reef lets you soak up the natural beauty of the **Coral Coast**.

**Kalbarri National Park** showcases over a million years of natural landscape, while Coalseam Conservation Park comes alive with **multi coloured wildflowers** after the Winter rainfall.

**Did you know that by 2024, the Mid-West will be home to the world's largest radio telescope?** The Square

Kilometre Array Project will collect data over one million square metres, enabling astronomers to monitor the sky in unprecedented detail.

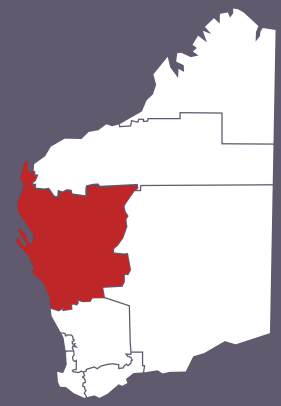
A visit to the **World Heritage-Listed Shark Bay** will give you the chance to straddle the western most point in Australia. You can also dabble with the dolphins at **Monkey Mia** or go on a **4WD adventure** through one of the five amazing national parks.

In the Gascoyne you'll find WA's World Heritage-Listed Ningaloo Reef. With over **300 species of coral and 500 species of fish**,

Ningaloo Reef provides a once-in-a-lifetime marine experience.

Cap off an epic adventure on the coast by joining an **eco-tour** to interact with humpback whales, signing up to swim alongside a sea turtle or taking a snorkel with the majestic whale shark (between mid-March and August).

With so much to do in this amazing area, you'll never want to leave!



- Geraldton Office**  
Eastward Road,  
Geraldton
- Carnarvon Office**  
470 Robinson Street,  
Carnarvon

For further information on travelling in the Mid-West Gascoyne visit [australiascoralcoast.com](http://australiascoralcoast.com) or [australiasgoldenoutback.com](http://australiasgoldenoutback.com)



Photo: Tourism Western Australia

# Wheatbelt

From Jurien Bay in the North, to Lake King in the South, The Wheatbelt is well known as the agricultural centre of WA.



The Wheatbelt produces \$3.35 billion and 41 per cent of WA's total gross value of agricultural commodities including nearly two-thirds of WA's wheat production, half of the State's wool production and the majority of WA's lamb, mutton, oranges and honey.

The turquoise waters of **Cervantes** and **Jurien Bay** are a major tourist attraction, particularly during the summer, while **wildflower season** (July to October) transforms the eastern Wheatbelt into a sea of colours.

If **bushwalking** is more your thing head for the **prehistoric Wave Rock**, or take some time to explore the culturally significant Mulkas Cave, adorned with handprint stencils touted to be at least 40,000 years old.

En route, you'll probably pass a unique stretch of road with an open gallery of tin horses. Aptly named **Tin Horse Highway** the road celebrates the now infamous **Kulin Bush Races**.

For the **history buffs** out there, you can self-drive your way along **Pioneers' Pathway** between Toodyay and Merredin – and make sure you take some time to have a dip in the original **Tin Dog Creek** watering hole.

Take a little time to head off the beaten track and you'll be amazed at what you find.



- Narrogin Office**  
Mokine Road,  
Narrogin
- Northam Office**  
Peel Terrace,  
Northam

For further information on travelling in the Wheatbelt visit [australiasgoldenoutback.com](http://australiasgoldenoutback.com)





# Goldfields-Esperance

The largest of our regions, Goldfields-Esperance covers almost one million square kilometres, which is three times the size of the state of Victoria!

Affectionately known as the **Golden Outback**, the region is centred around the mining town of Kalgoorlie-Boulder where **historic buildings** and **character pubs** are a reminder of the gold rush bygone era. Kalgoorlie is also home to the 3.5 km long **Super Pit**, which is visible from space.

Just over two hours away, you'll find the 51 renowned **Antony Gormley sculptures at Lake Ballard** or, keep heading north to the historic town of Leonora. You can also venture to **ghost town** Gwalia, home to **Hoover House**, originally built in 1898 for

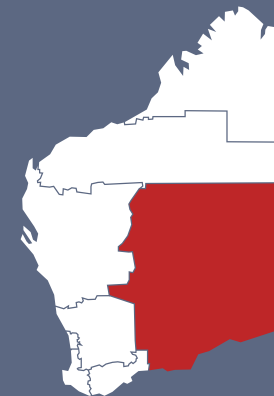
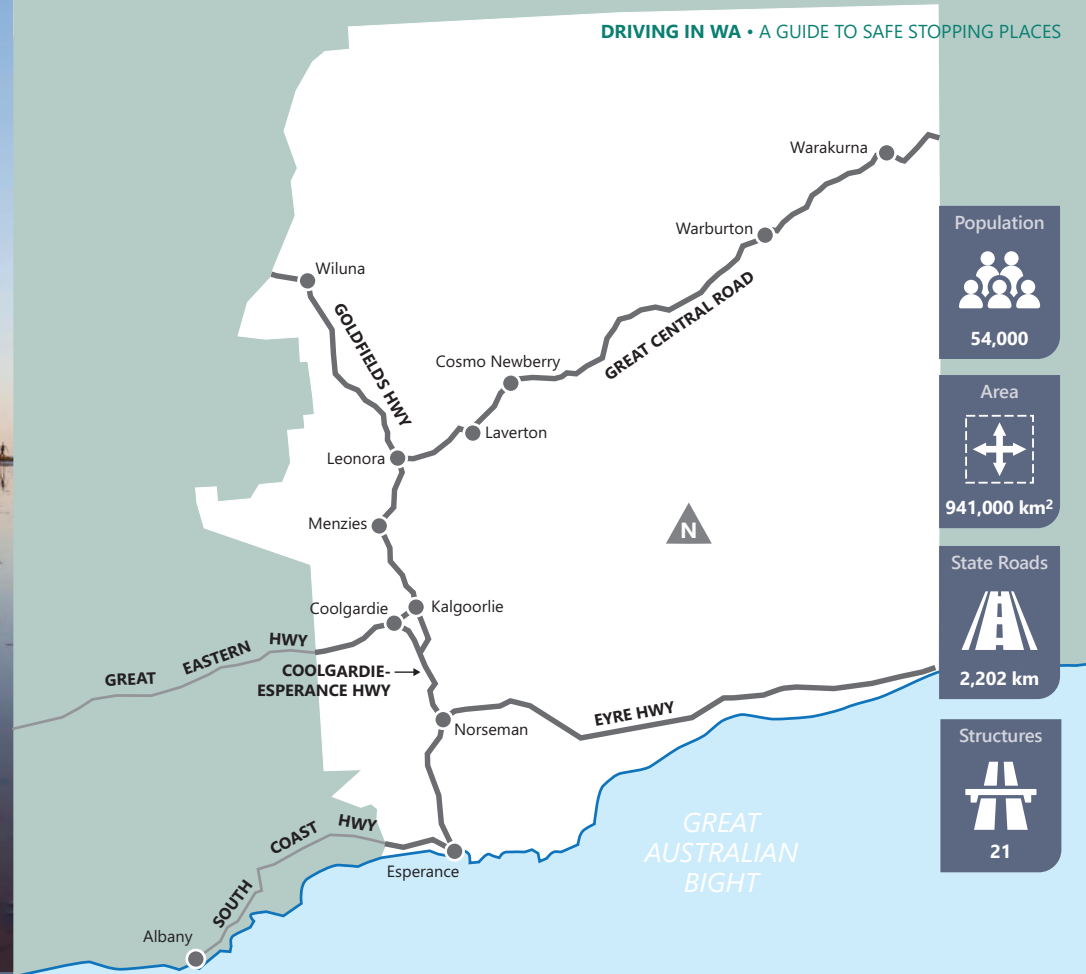
mine manager Herbert Hoover, who went on to become the 31st President of the United States.

On the edge of the Little Sandy Desert you'll find Wiluna, gateway to two **epic 4WD adventures** – the Canning Stock Route heading north to Halls Creek and Gunbarrel Highway, heading east to Alice Springs.

A stark contrast to the red dirt of the north, the southern end of the region is known for its **crystal blue water** and **wide sandy beaches**.

Esperance is home to **Cape Le Grand National Park**, the beautiful Recherche Archipelago and endless coastal walks. The spectacular 600 metre **Lake Hillier** will also leave a lasting impression, with its bright pink hue resting alongside the bluest of blue oceans.

So if you're looking for gold or happy to bask in red dirt, blue oceans or pink lakes...this is the spot for you.



**Kalgoorlie-Boulder Office**  
83 Piesse Street,  
Boulder



For further information on travelling in the Goldfields-Esperance visit [australiasgoldenoutback.com](http://australiasgoldenoutback.com)



Photo: Tourism Western Australia

# South West

Our most popular tourist destination is also our smallest region but that doesn't stop the South West from packing a punch.

INDIAN OCEAN



Population

287,000

Area

29,000 km<sup>2</sup>

State Roads

1,759 km

Structures

880

Nestled along the **Geographe Bay**, just a few hours south of Perth, the **calm beaches** of Busselton and Dunsborough provide a perfect spot for swimmers and snorkelers to take in the beauty of the big blue sea.

Head a little further south and you'll hit WA's premier wine region, Margaret River, where over 100 **wineries** mingle with **gastronomic cheese and chocolate delights**, amazing surf and **giant timber forests**.

Inland, the ancient limestone **Jewel Cave** is home to helectites, cave coral, pendulites and the longest straw stalactite on show.

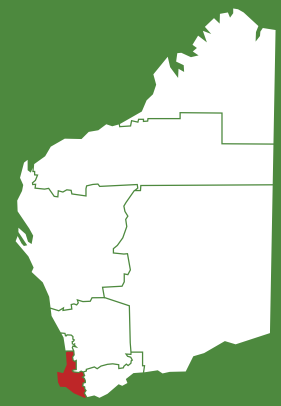
On the tip of Cape Leeuwin, Australia's south westerly most point, **Augusta's historic lighthouse** is the largest of its kind on mainland Australia, constructed from local limestone in 1895.

Across the South West and further into the Great Southern, you'll find 24 **national parks** where almost 80 percent of plant species found there, are not found anywhere else on earth.

With one of the longest **whale watching** seasons in the world, the South West also offers an opportunity to see humpback,

southern right, blue and killer whales all along the coast, along with dolphins and stingrays.

If you've done all that and still have room for more, maybe you'll want to try your hand at **fishing, four-wheel driving or camping...** either way, there's no shortage of amazing experiences in the South West.



**Bunbury Office**  
Robertson Drive,  
Bunbury



For further information on travelling in the South West visit [australiassouthwest.com](http://australiassouthwest.com)



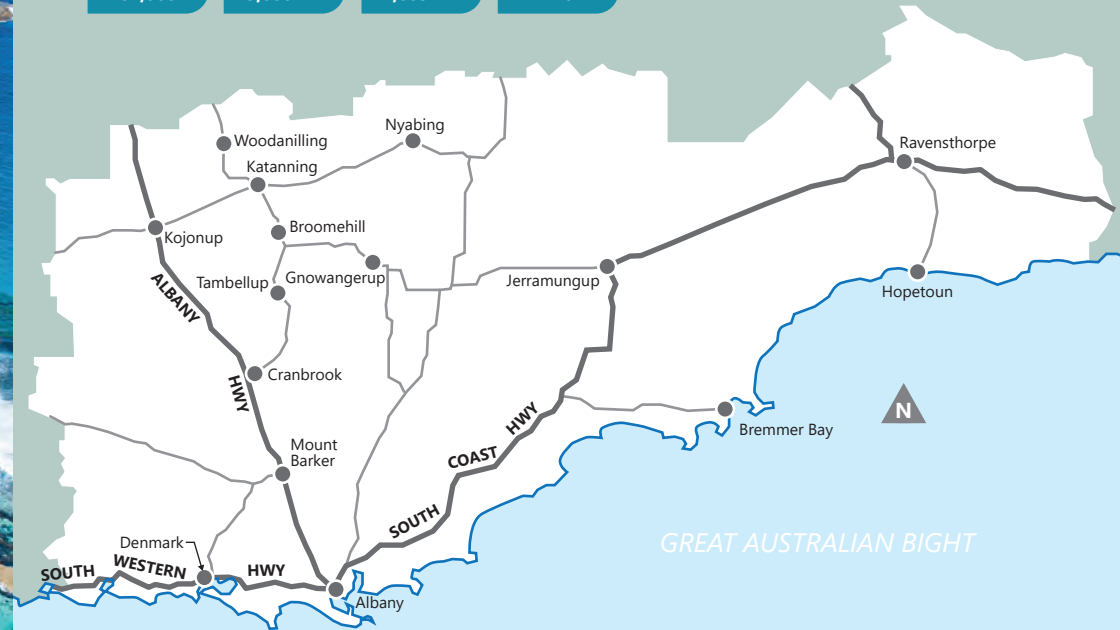
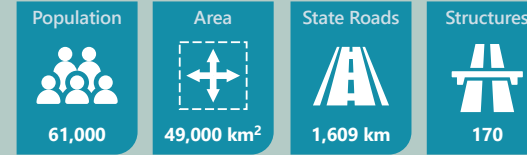


# Great Southern

At the bottom end of our great State you'll find the laid back, picturesque Great Southern Region.



Photo: Tourism Western Australia



At the heart of the region is the town centre of **Albany**, home to the **National Anzac Centre** which commemorates the war through visual and audible displays, and pays tribute to those who have served. You may like to travel down one of WA's **Commemorative Way** routes on your way to Albany, which you'll find on pages 78 and 80 of this guide.

Albany is home to one of the most amazing rock formations on the south coast – **The Gap** – offering outstanding views of the Southern Ocean all the way to West Cape Howe.

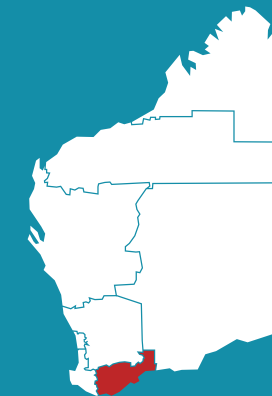
Just under one hour away, Denmark is scattered with **wineries** and attractions such as the internationally recognised **Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk**, where you can wander 40 metres above the ground through 600 metres of treetops.

The Great Southern shares in the 24 national parks of the South West region where almost 80 percent of plant species found are not found anywhere else on earth. **Bluff Knoll** is the perfect place to absorb views across the range or, you might like to take in the ancient granite domes of the **Porongurup National**

**Park** from the **Granite Skywalk** which is suspended on Castle Rock.

For something a little different, explore the **Public Silo Trail** that links rural and coastal towns with world class mural art...on grain silos.

Festivals or food, nature or art – the Great Southern is the place to explore, escape and relax.



**Albany Office**  
2-6 Kelly Street,  
Albany



For further information on travelling in the Great Southern visit [australiassouthwest.com](http://australiassouthwest.com)



## Route Maps

<b>Map 1 Perth to Geraldton</b> via Wanneroo Road, Indian Ocean Drive and Brand Highway	36
<b>Map 2 Muchea to Geraldton</b> via Brand Highway	38
<b>Map 3 Geraldton to Carnarvon</b> via North West Coastal Highway	40
<b>Map 4 Carnarvon to Port Hedland</b> via North West Coastal Highway and Great Northern Highway	42
<b>Map 5 Muchea to Mt Magnet</b> via Great Northern Highway	44
<b>Map 6 Mt Magnet to Newman</b> via Great Northern Highway	46
<b>Map 7 Newman to Port Hedland</b> via Great Northern Highway	48
<b>Map 8 Port Hedland to Fitzroy Crossing</b> via Great Northern Highway	50
<b>Map 9 Fitzroy Crossing to Kununurra</b> via Great Northern Highway and Victoria Highway	52
<b>Map 10 Derby to Kununurra</b> via Derby Highway, Derby-Gibb River Road, Great Northern Highway and Victoria Highway	54
<b>Map 11 Wyndham to the Northern Territory Border</b> via Great Northern Highway and Victoria Highway	56
<b>Map 12 Perth to Augusta</b> via Kwinana Freeway, Forrest Highway and Bussell Highway	58
<b>Map 13 Bunbury to Collie</b> via South Western Highway and Coalfields Highway	60
<b>Map 14 Bunbury to Albany</b> via South Western Highway	62
<b>Map 15 Perth to Albany</b> via Albany Highway	64
<b>Map 16 Albany to Esperance</b> via South Coast Highway	66
<b>Map 17 Perth to Esperance</b> via Albany Highway, Brookton Highway and South Coast Highway	68
<b>Map 18 Perth to Kalgoorlie</b> via Great Eastern Highway	70
<b>Map 19 Kalgoorlie to Esperance</b> via Goldfields Highway and Coolgardie Esperance Highway	72
<b>Map 20 Norseman to Eucla</b> via Eyre Highway	74
<b>Map 21 Geraldton to Kalgoorlie</b> via Mt Magnet Road and Goldfields Highway	76
<b>Map 22 Commemoration Way</b> - Albany Highway	78
<b>Map 23 Commemoration Way</b> - South Western Highway	80

## Guide to Safe Stopping Places

### How to use our maps

The maps on the following pages are designed to provide an overview of some of our key Western Australian travel routes, while also pinpointing some of the safe stopping places along the way.

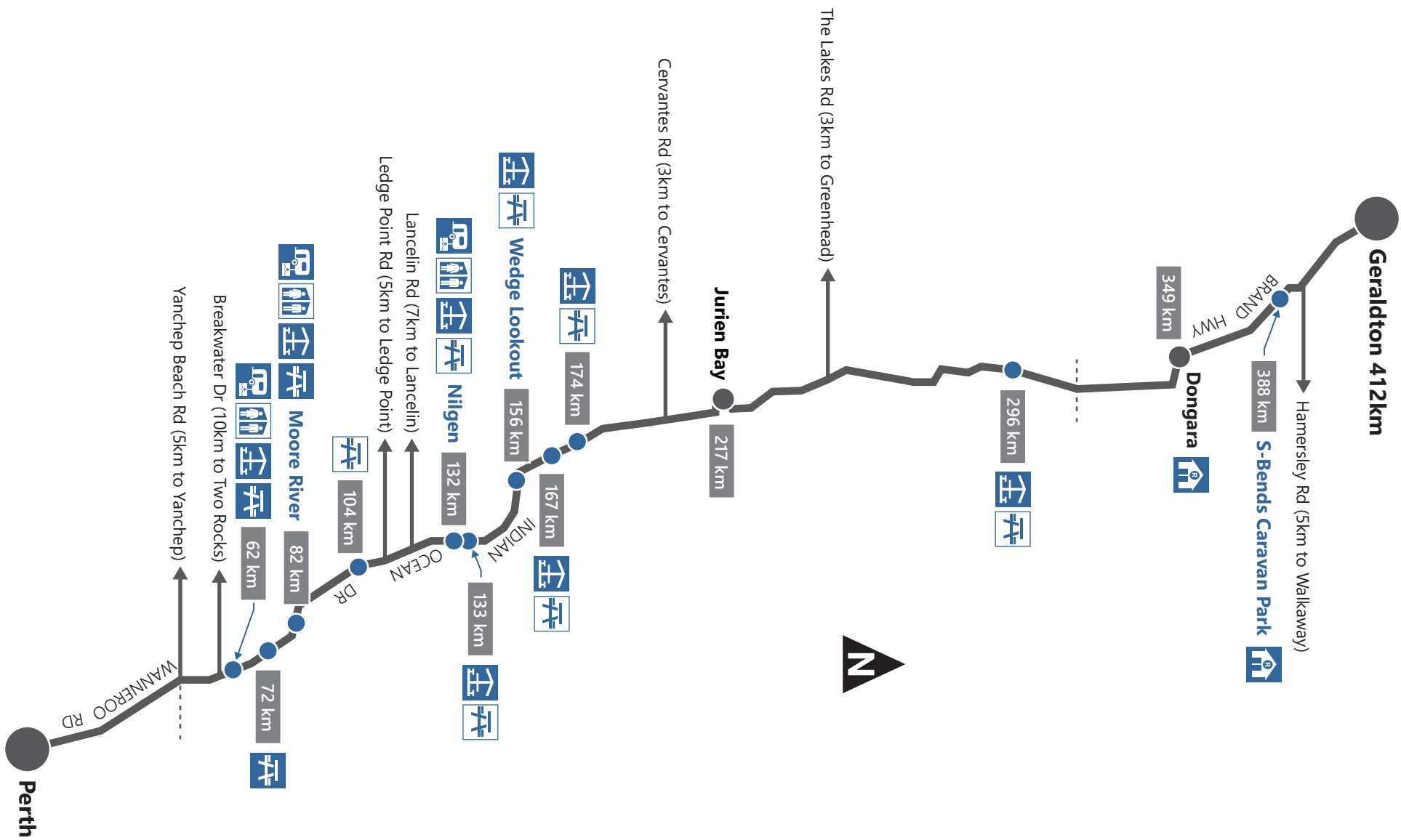
You can plan your trip, and get a full list of safe stopping places by visiting [travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au) before you go.

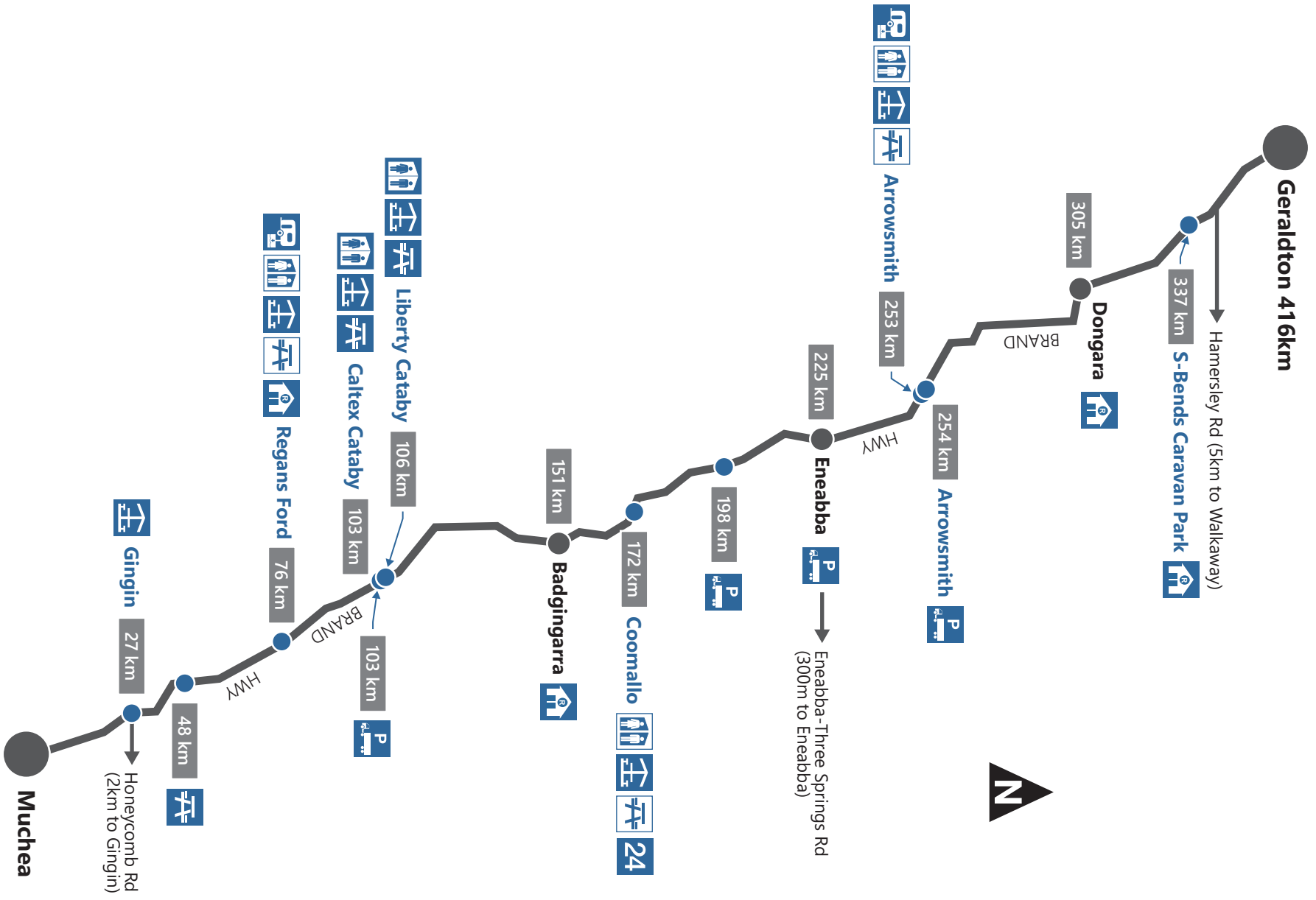
When you're on the road, the following signs and symbols will indicate the type of place you're stopping at, and the facilities available.



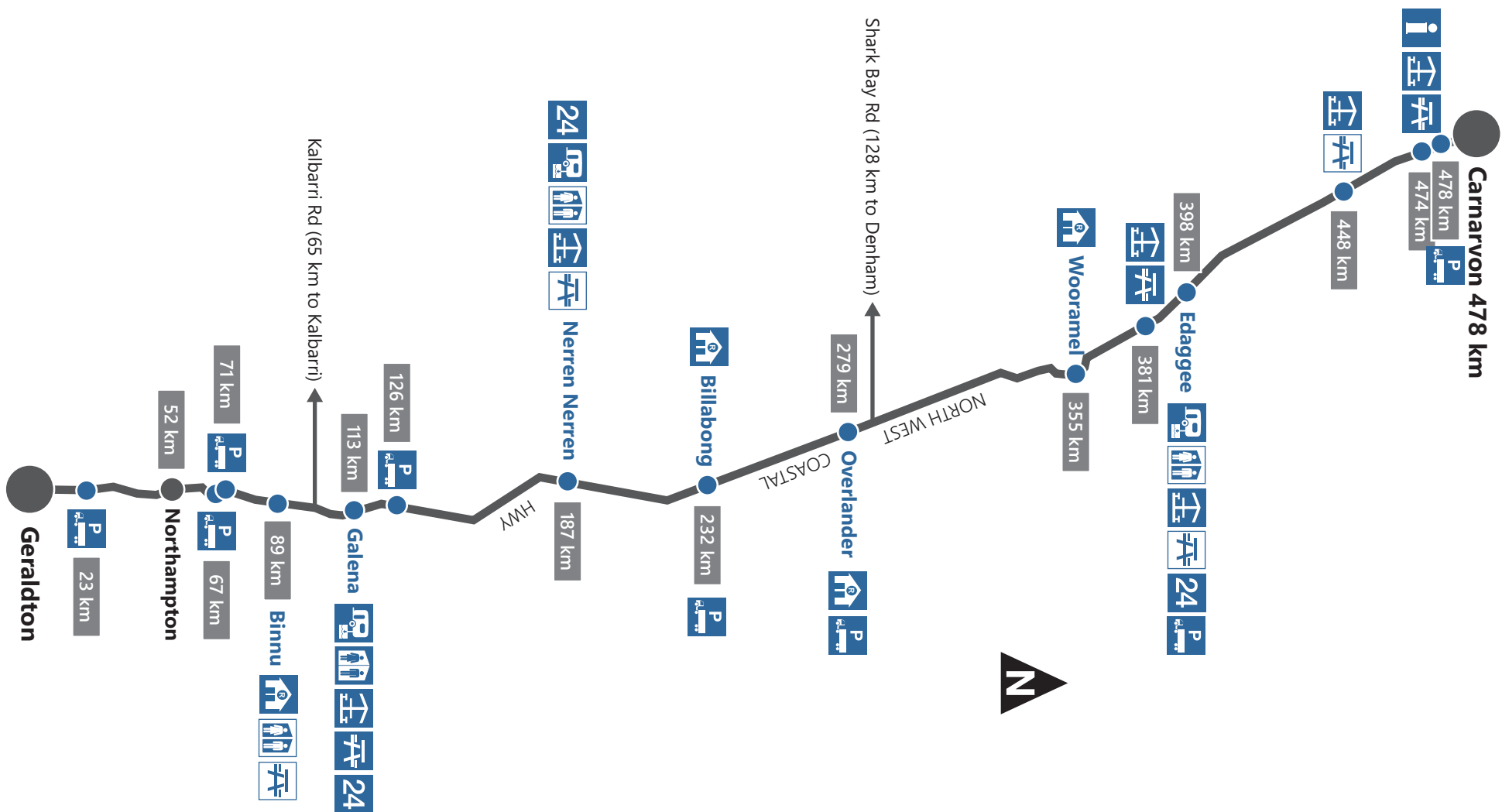
**Note:** The maps in this guide aim to provide a summary of the major rest areas on the Western Australian State road network however, there may be a number of other, minor parking bays and/or rest areas suitable for stopping on each route. Road users are encouraged to exercise discretion and care with respect to their intended journey.

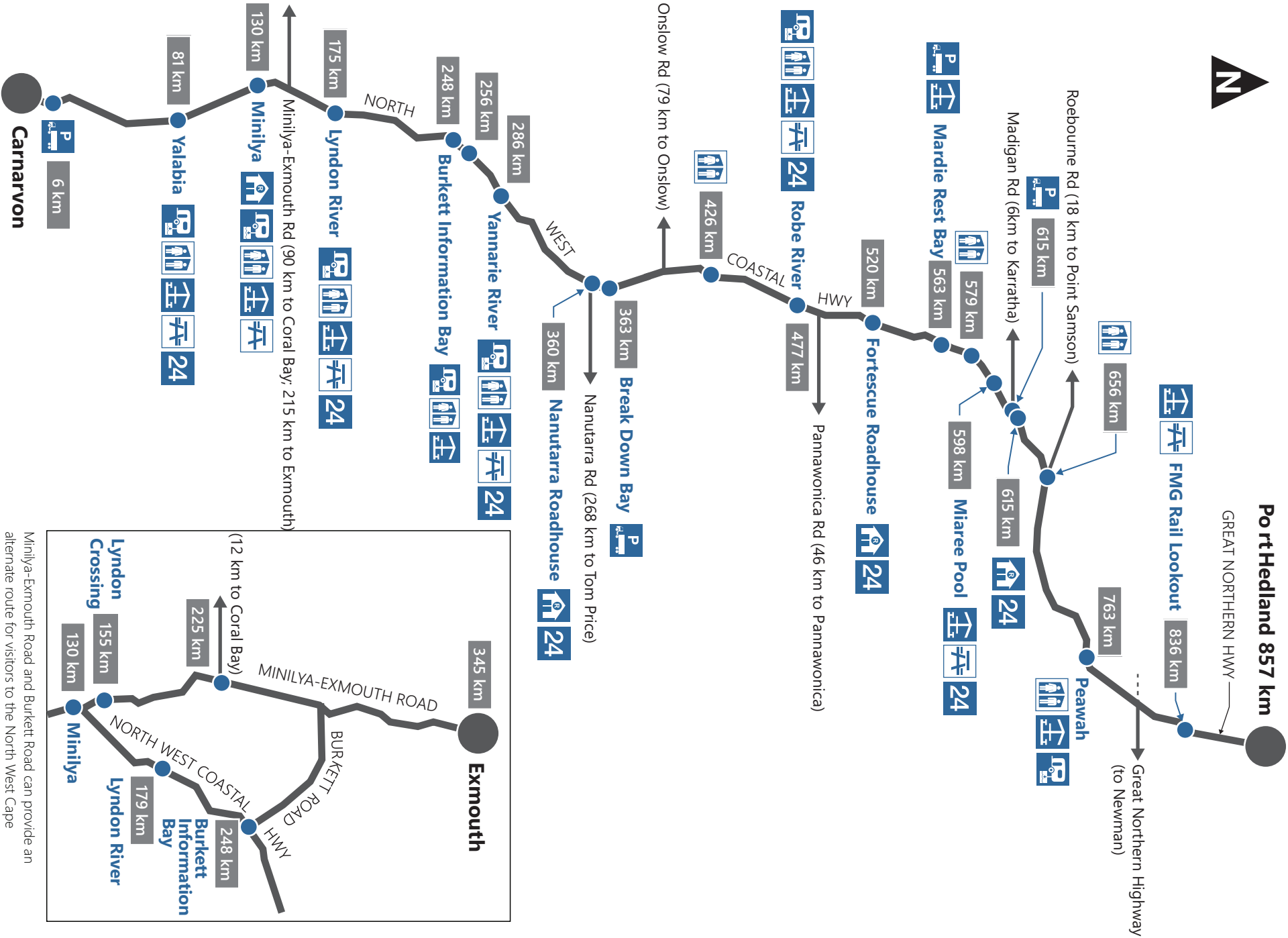






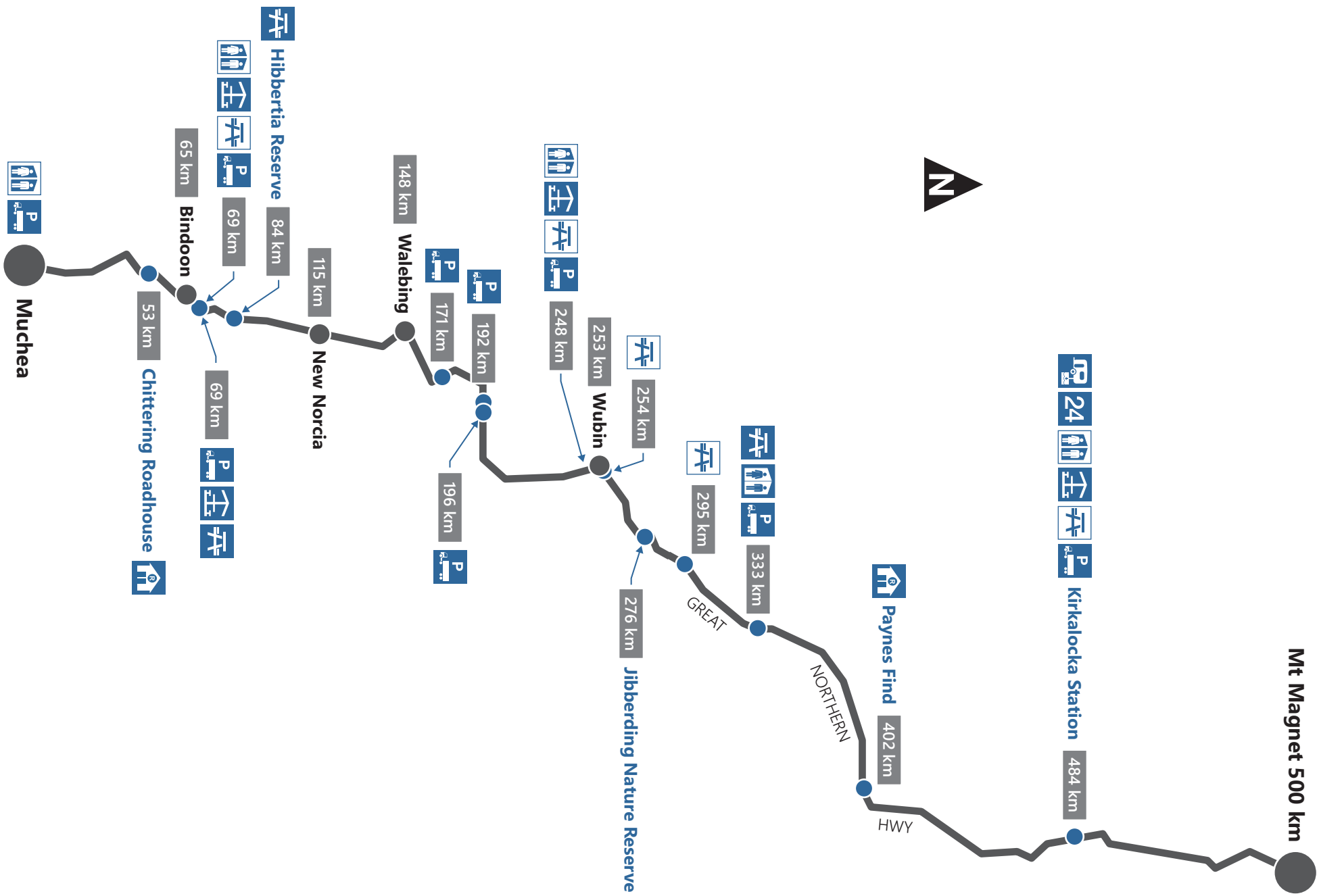


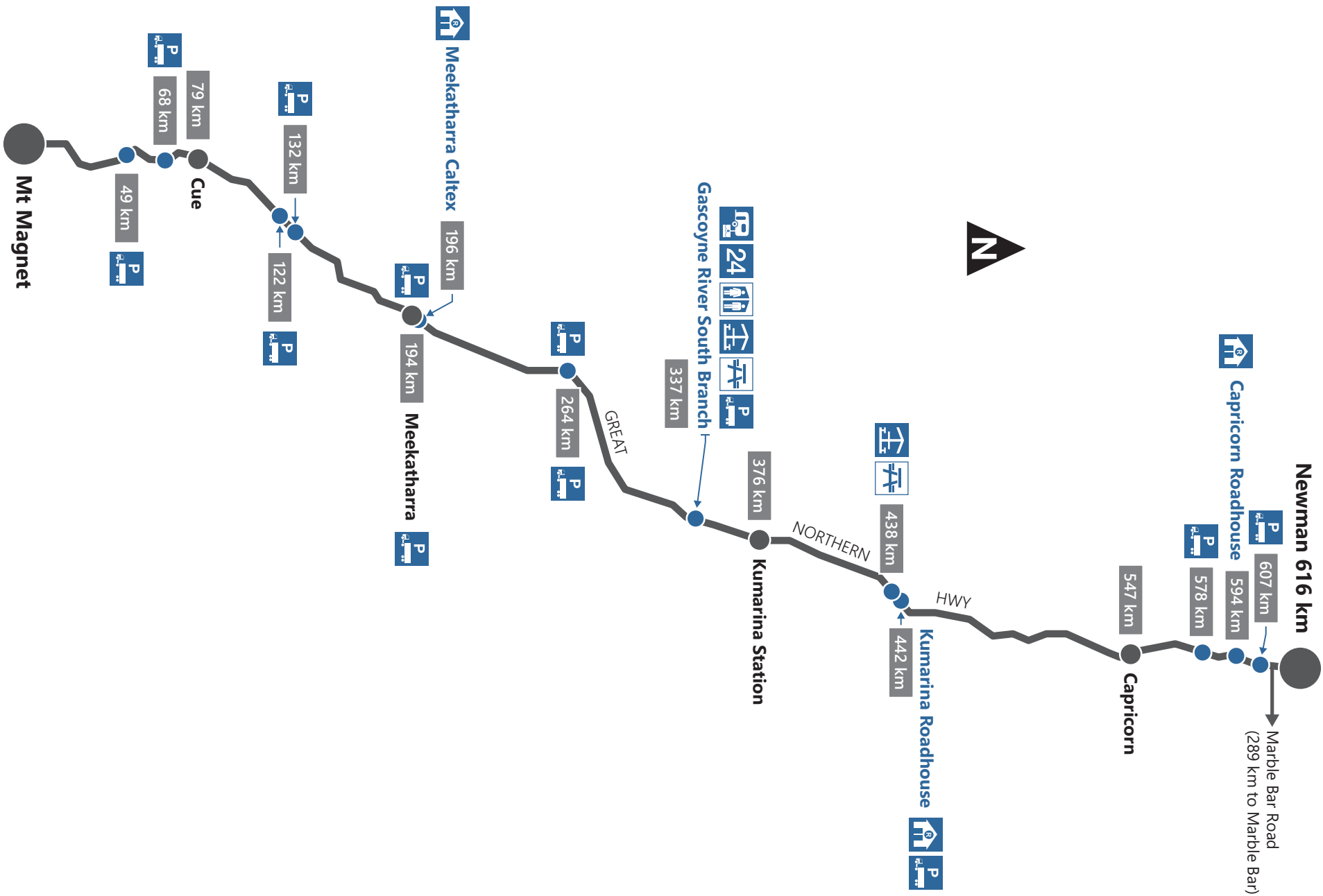




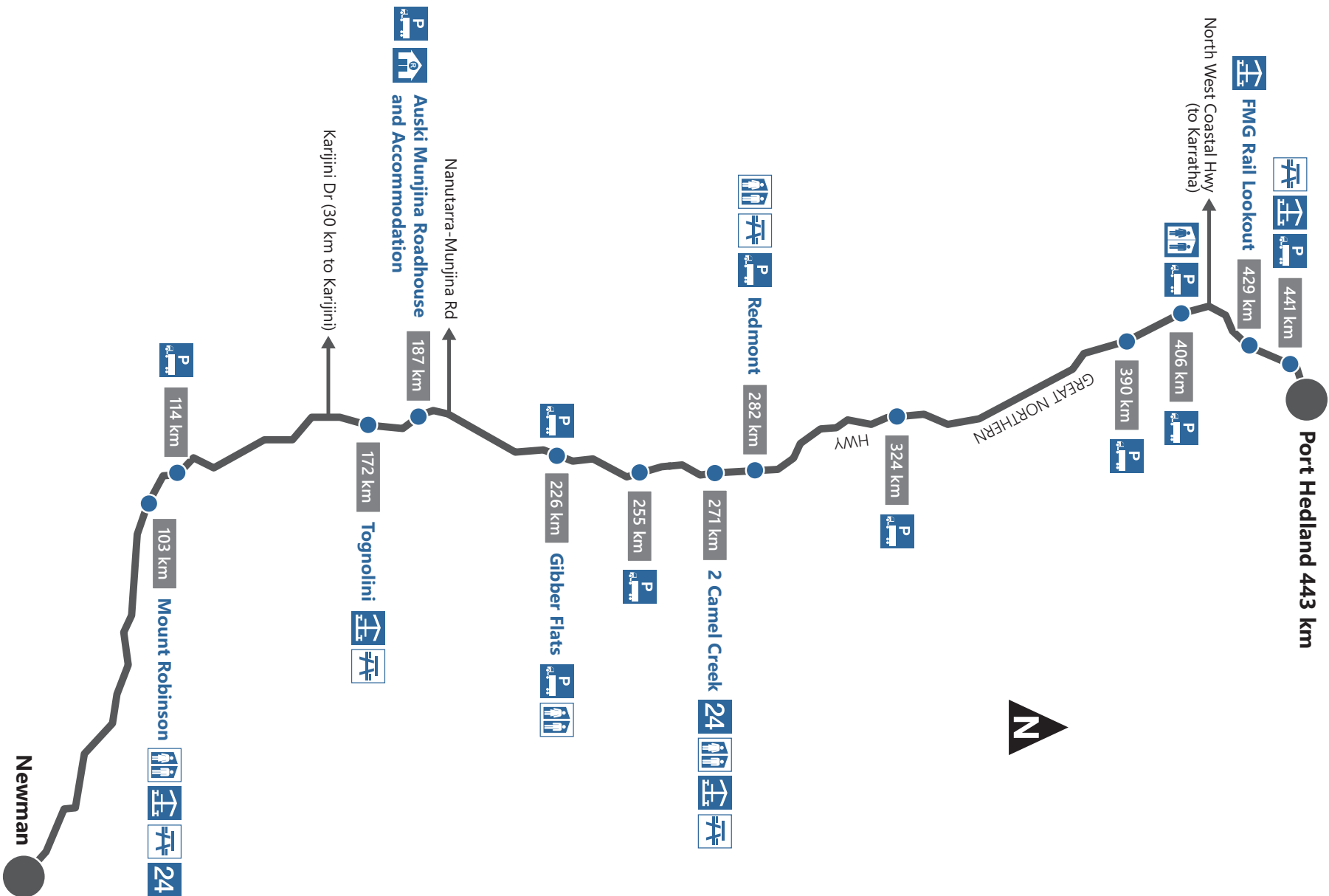
Minitilya-Exmouth Road and Burkett Road can provide an alternate route for visitors to the North West Cape





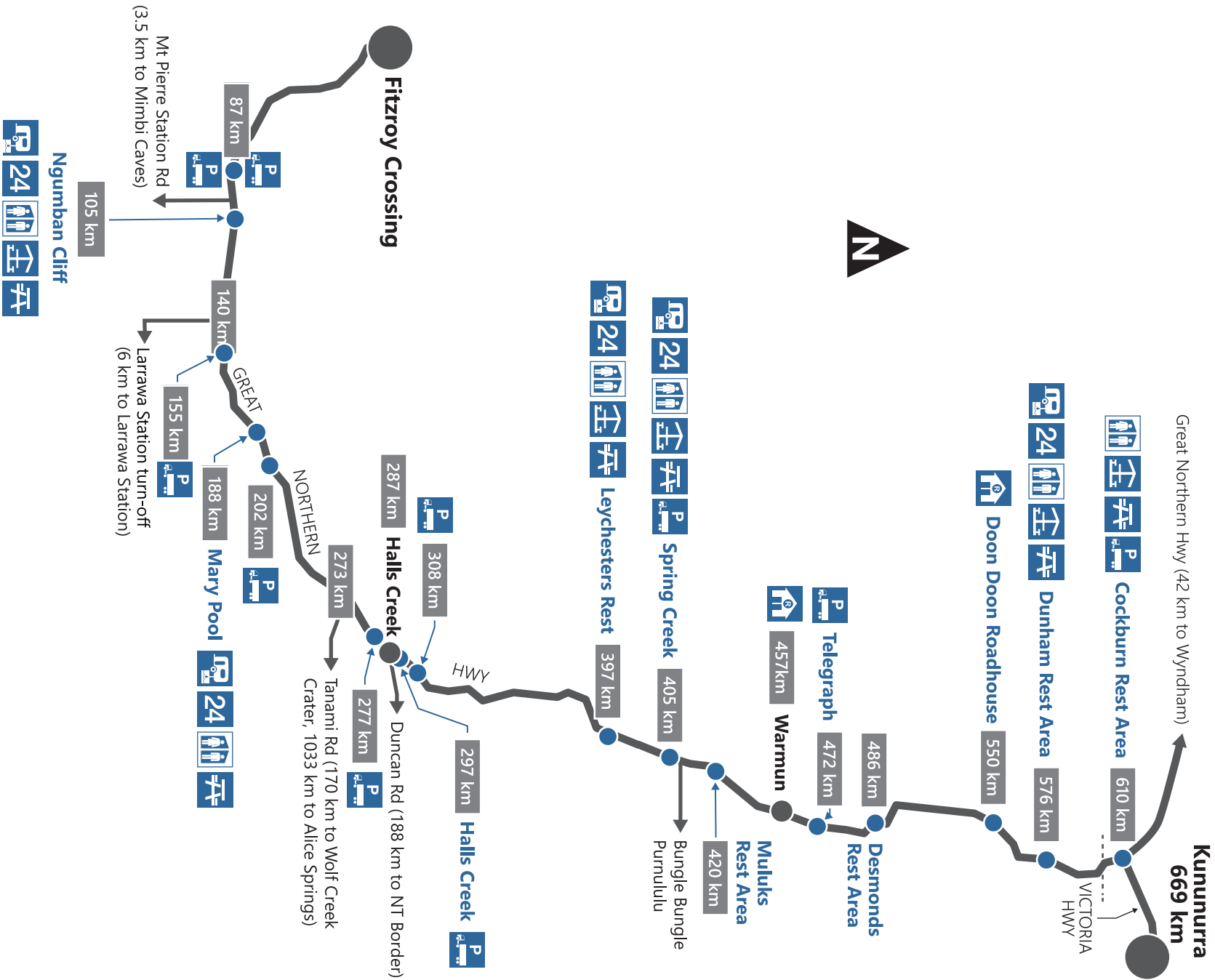


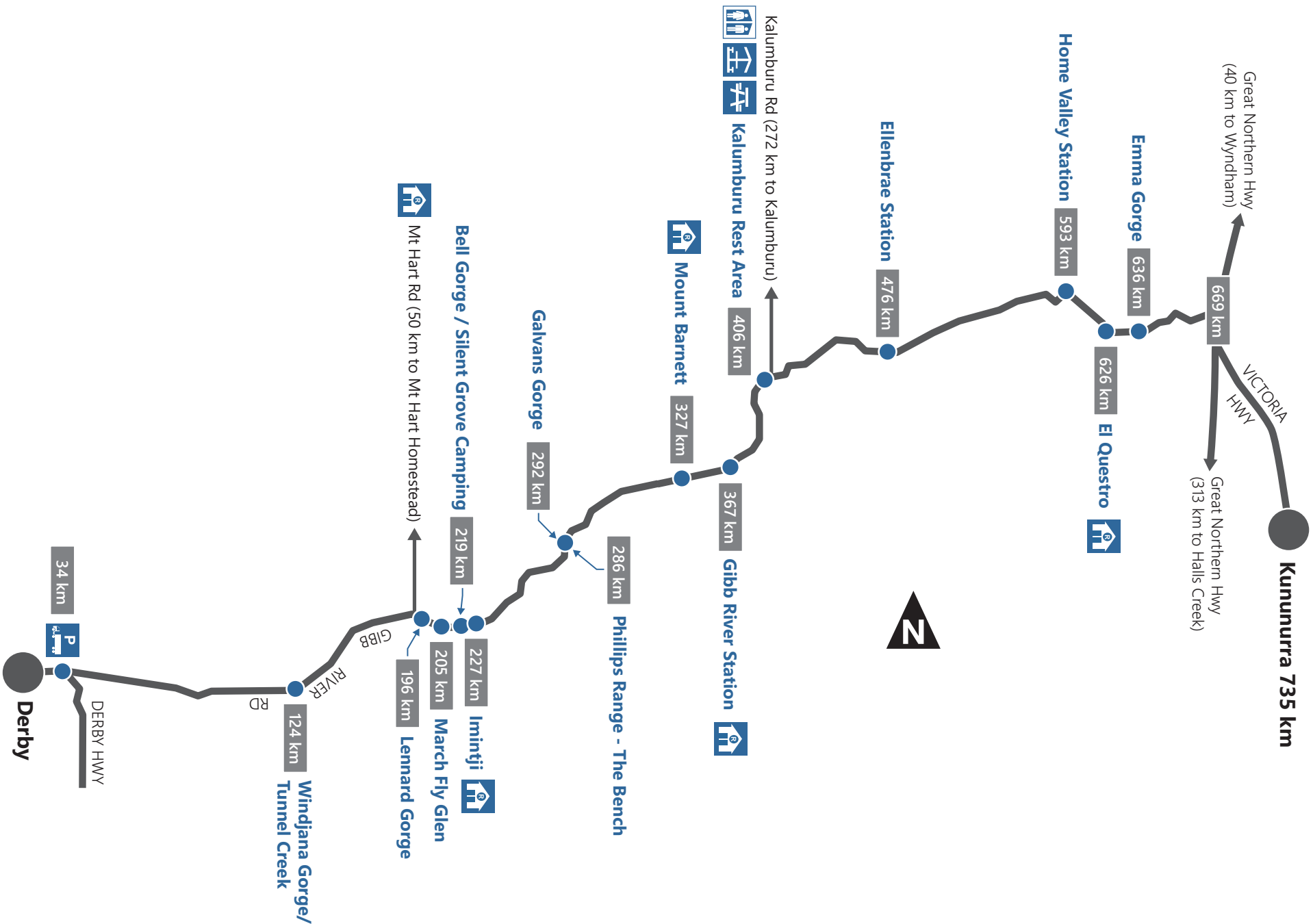




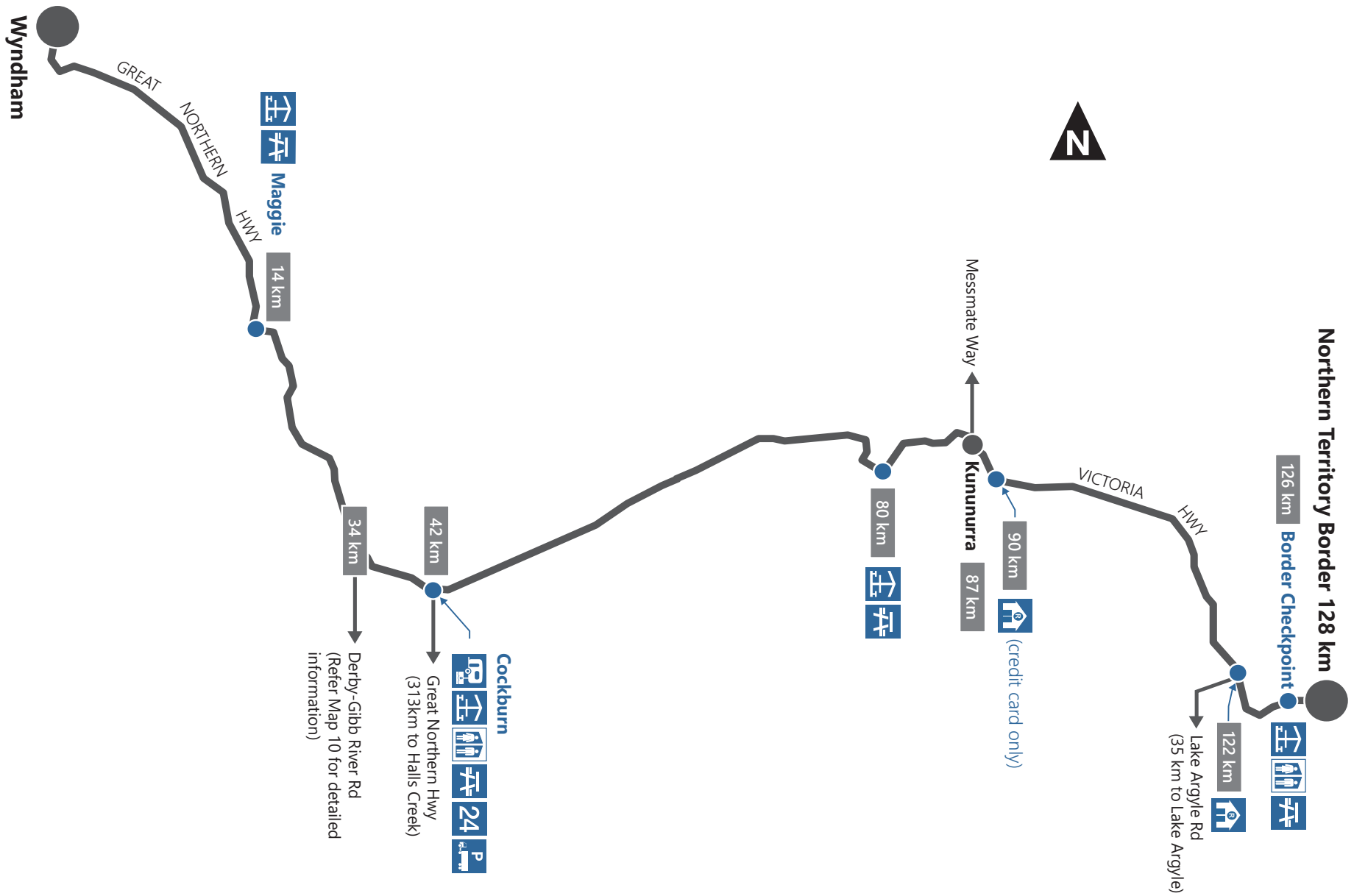






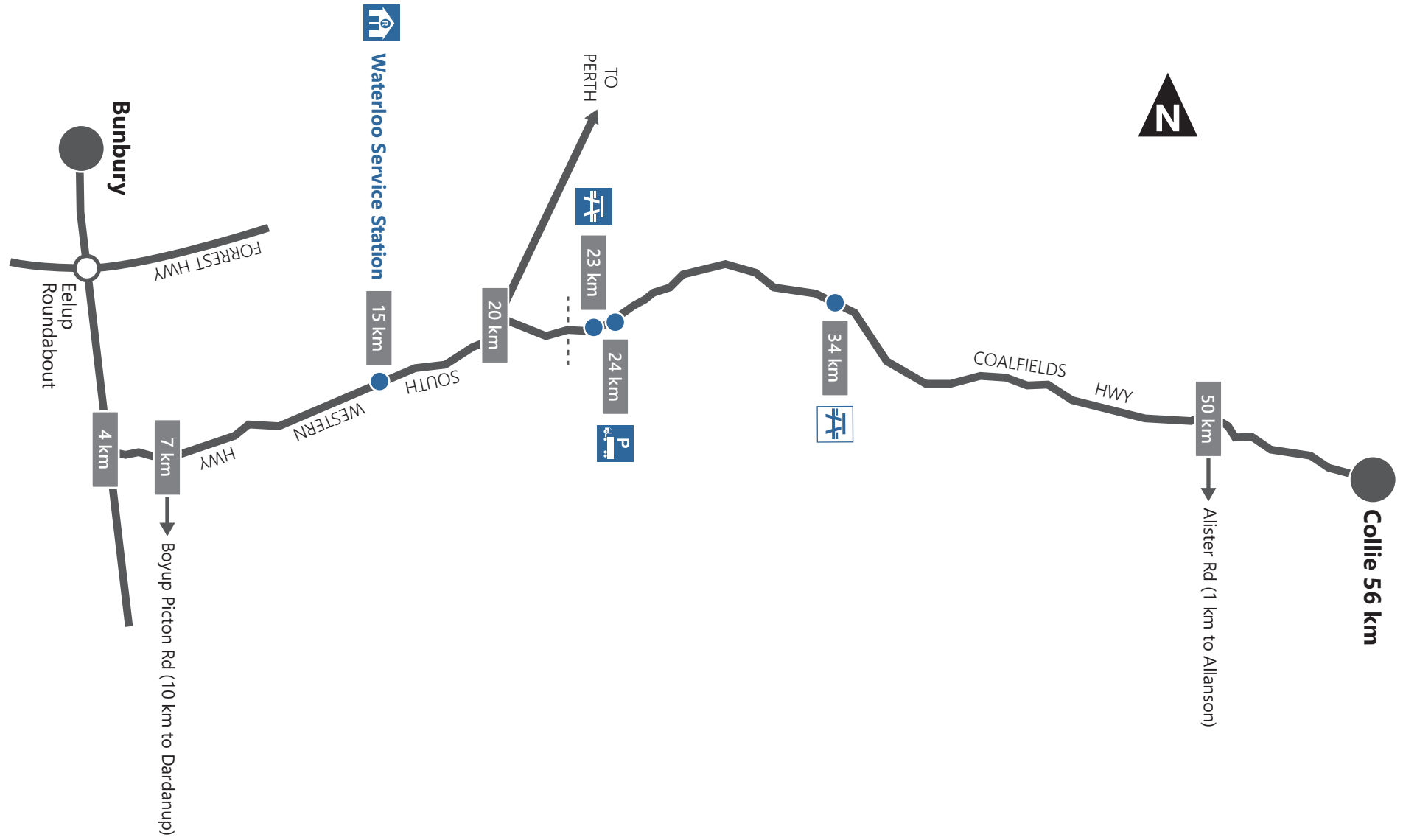




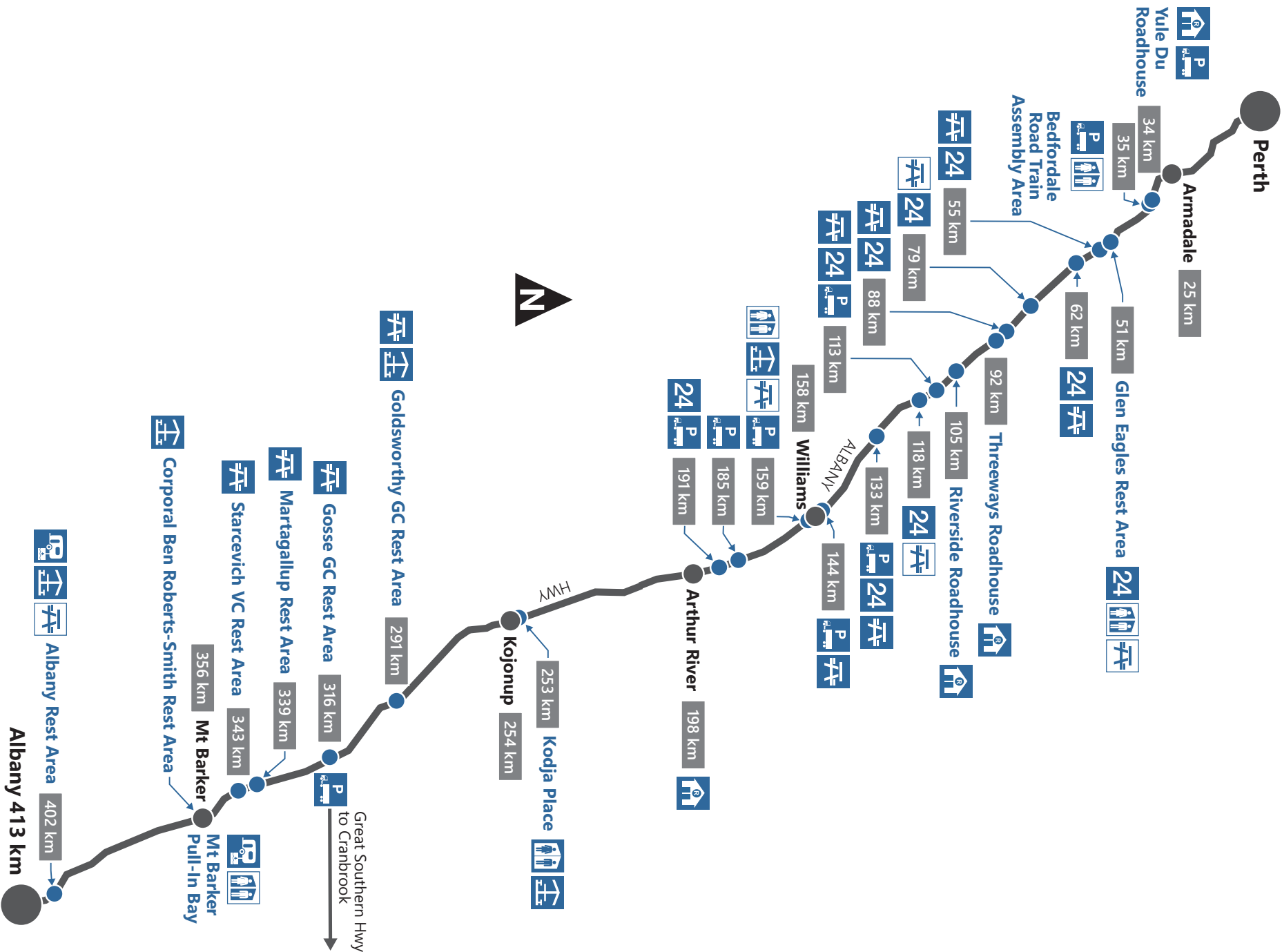




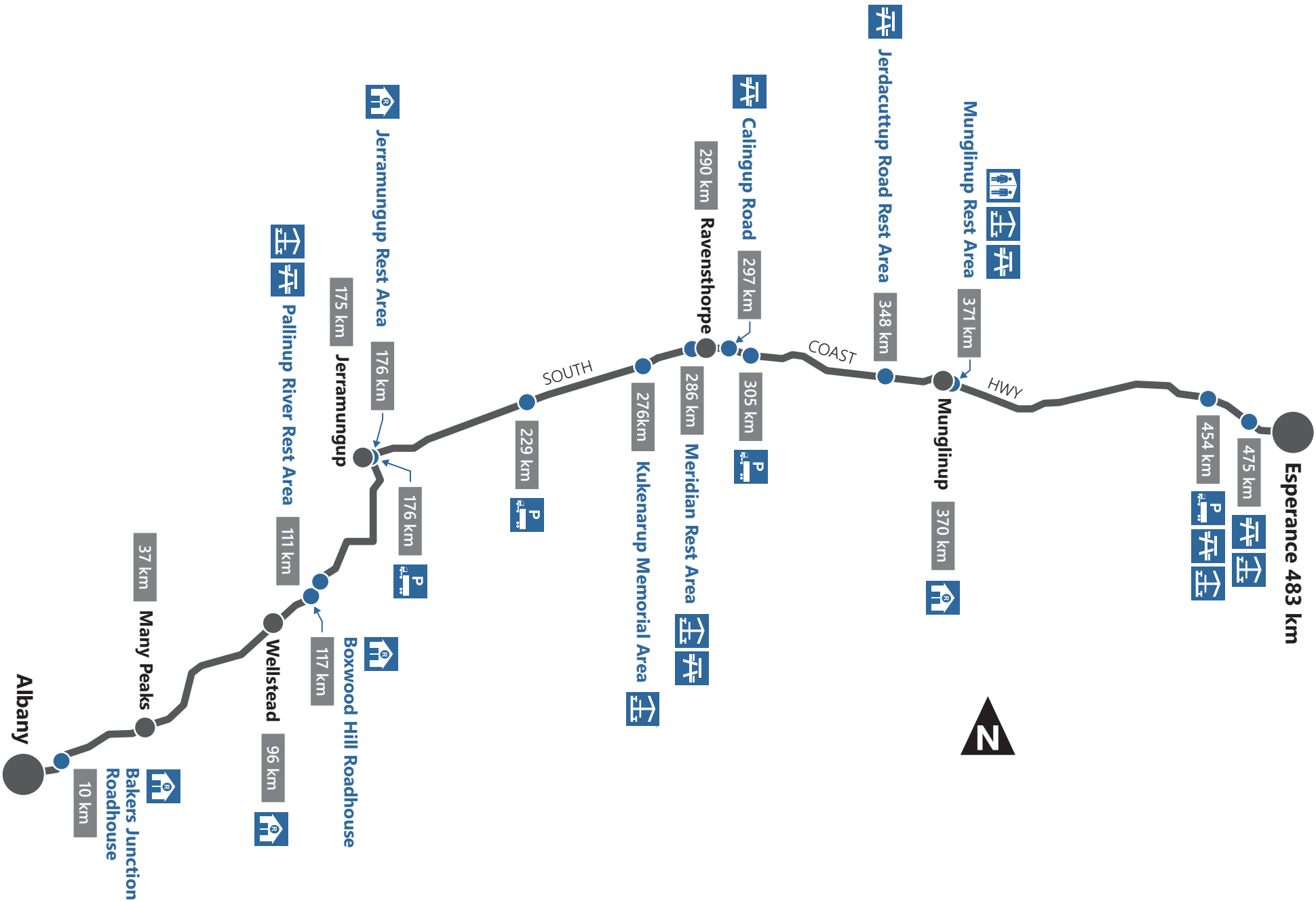






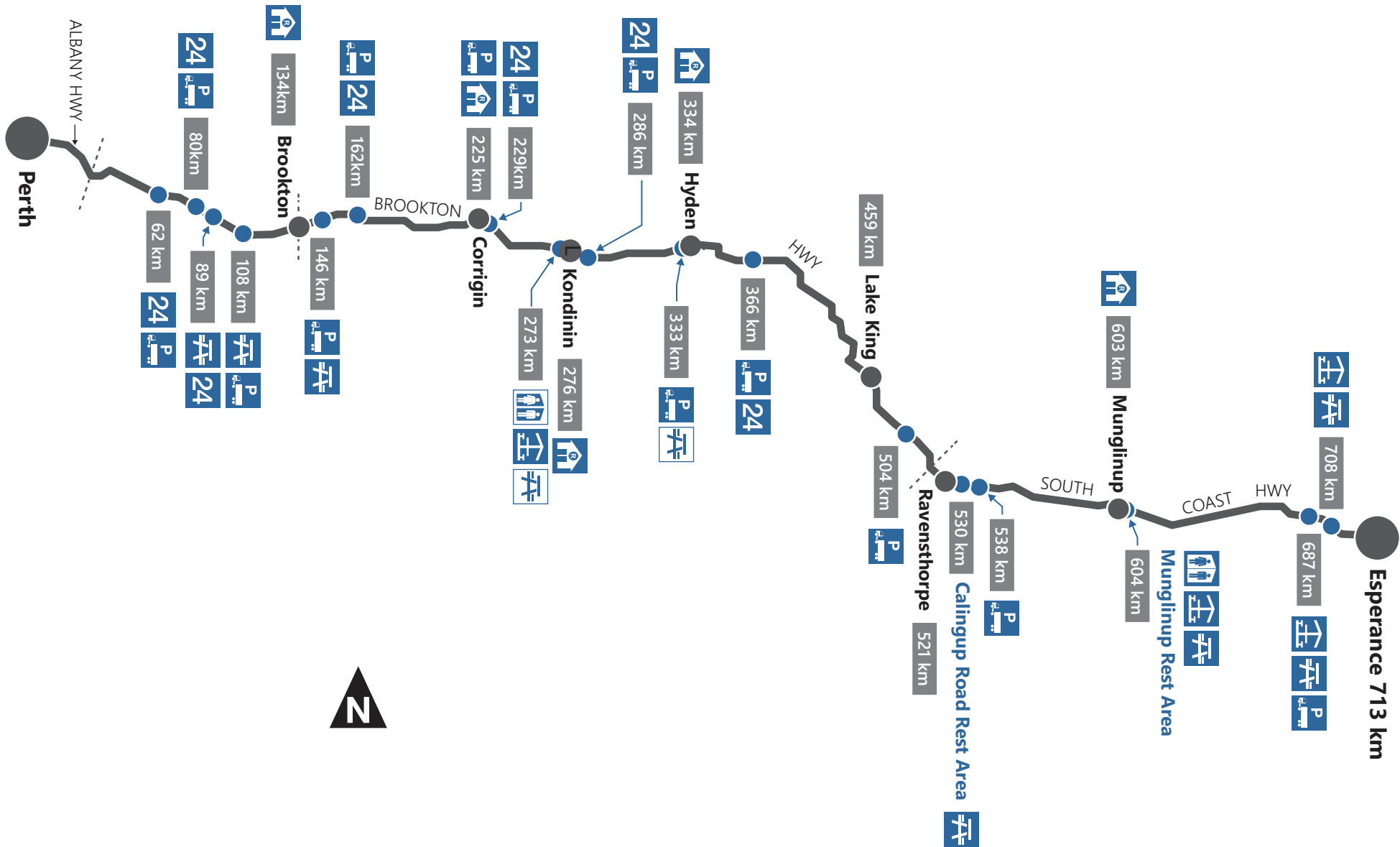






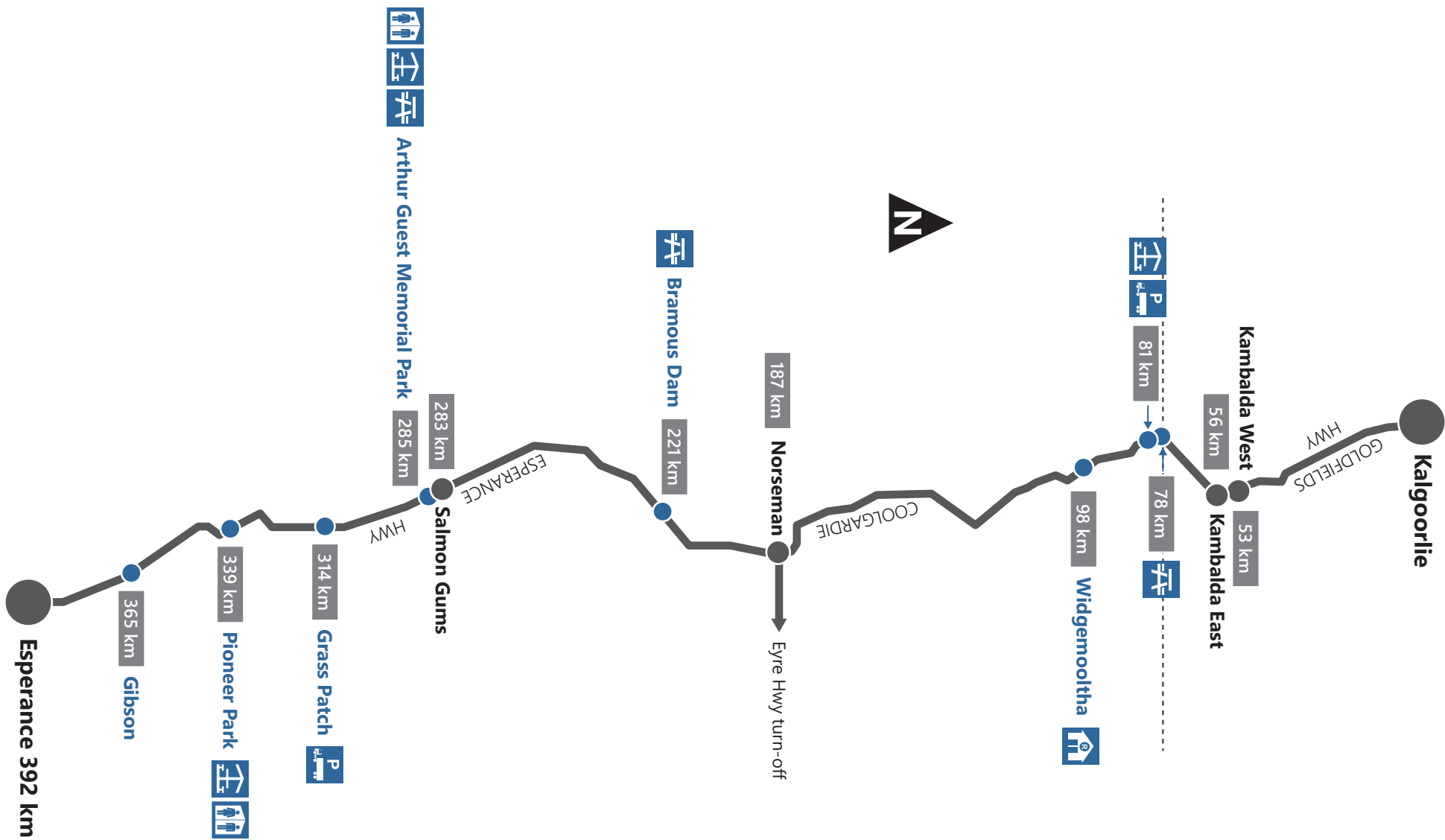
MAP 17 PERTH TO ESPERANCE

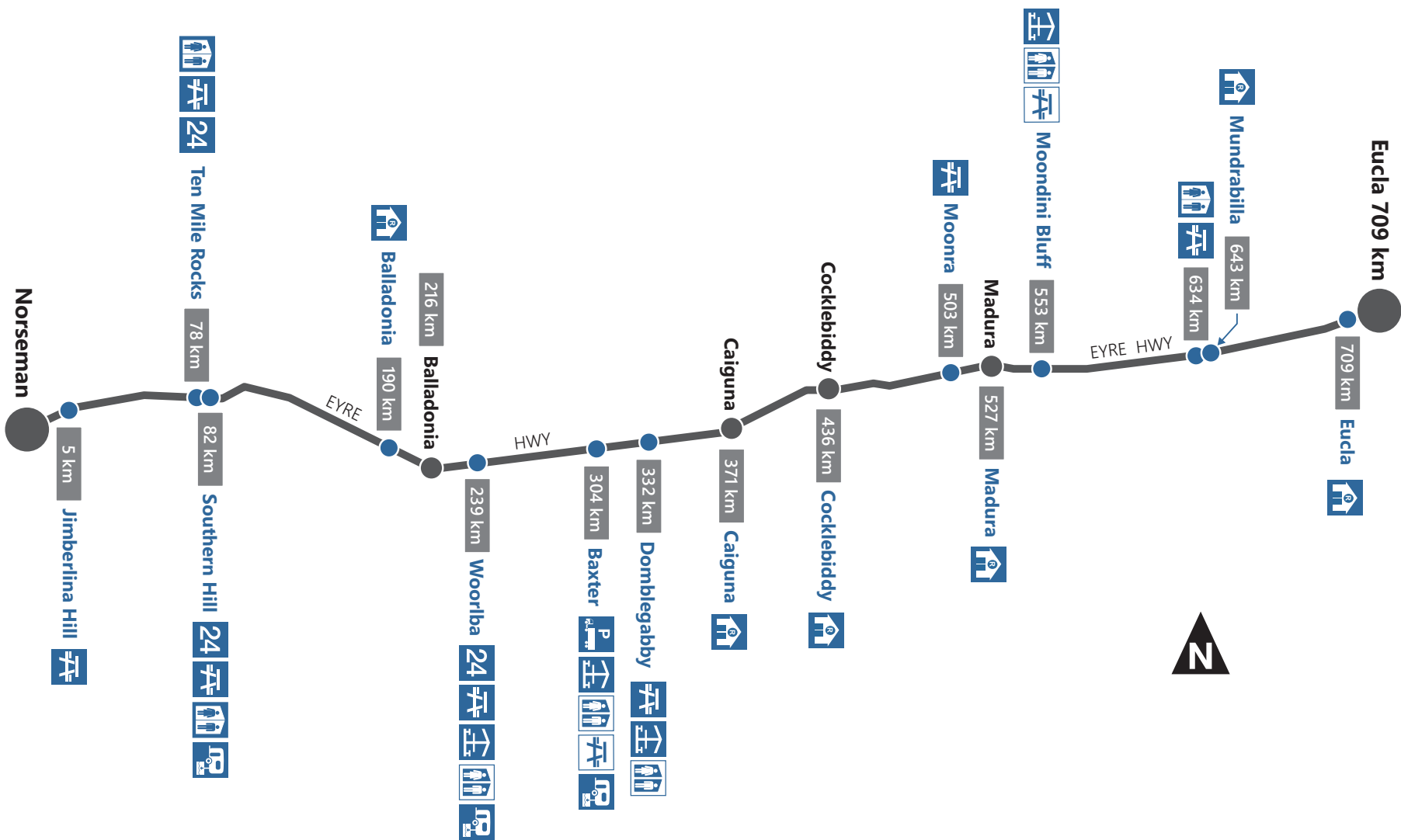
Albany Highway, Brookton Highway and South Coast Highway

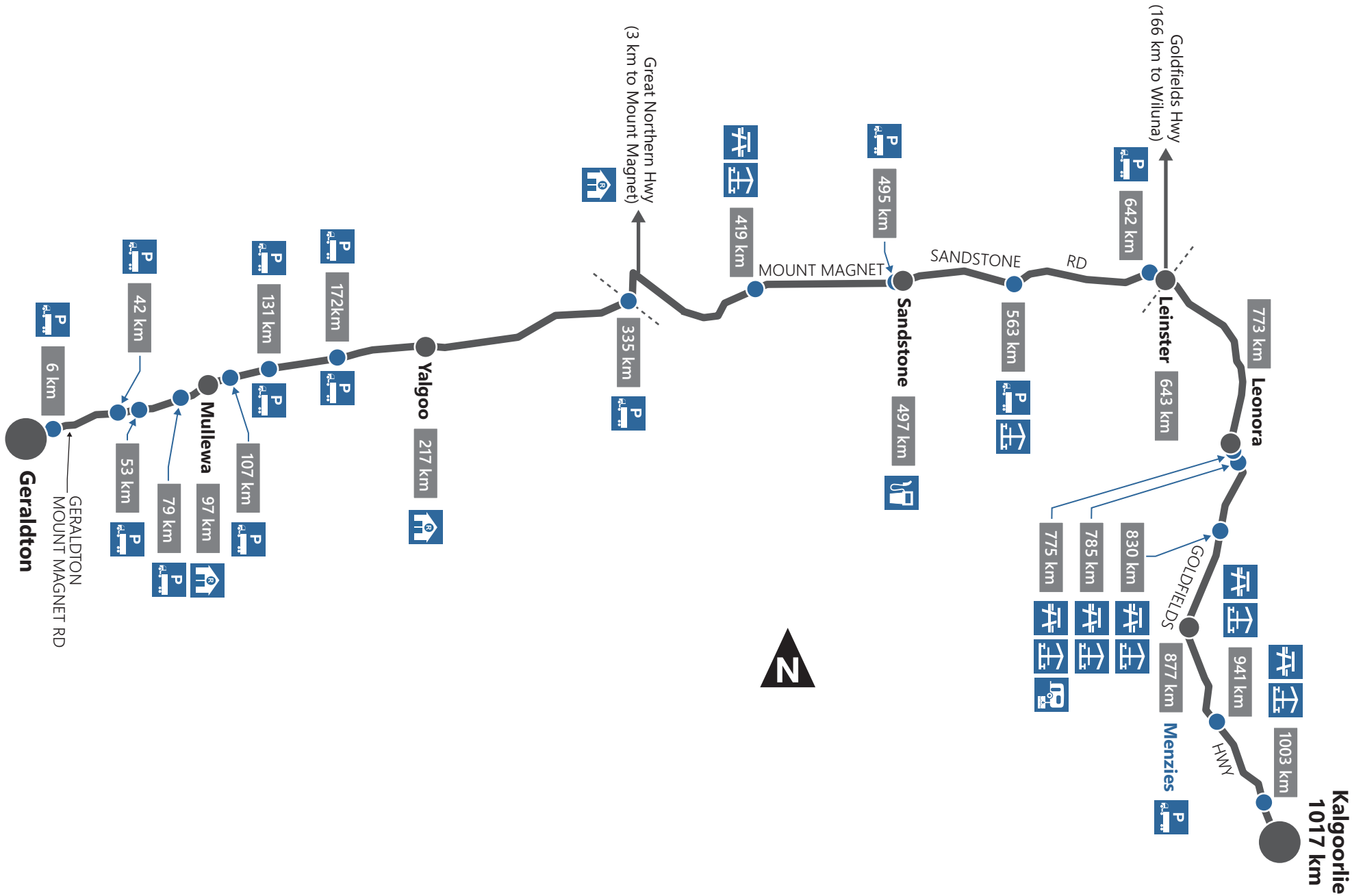




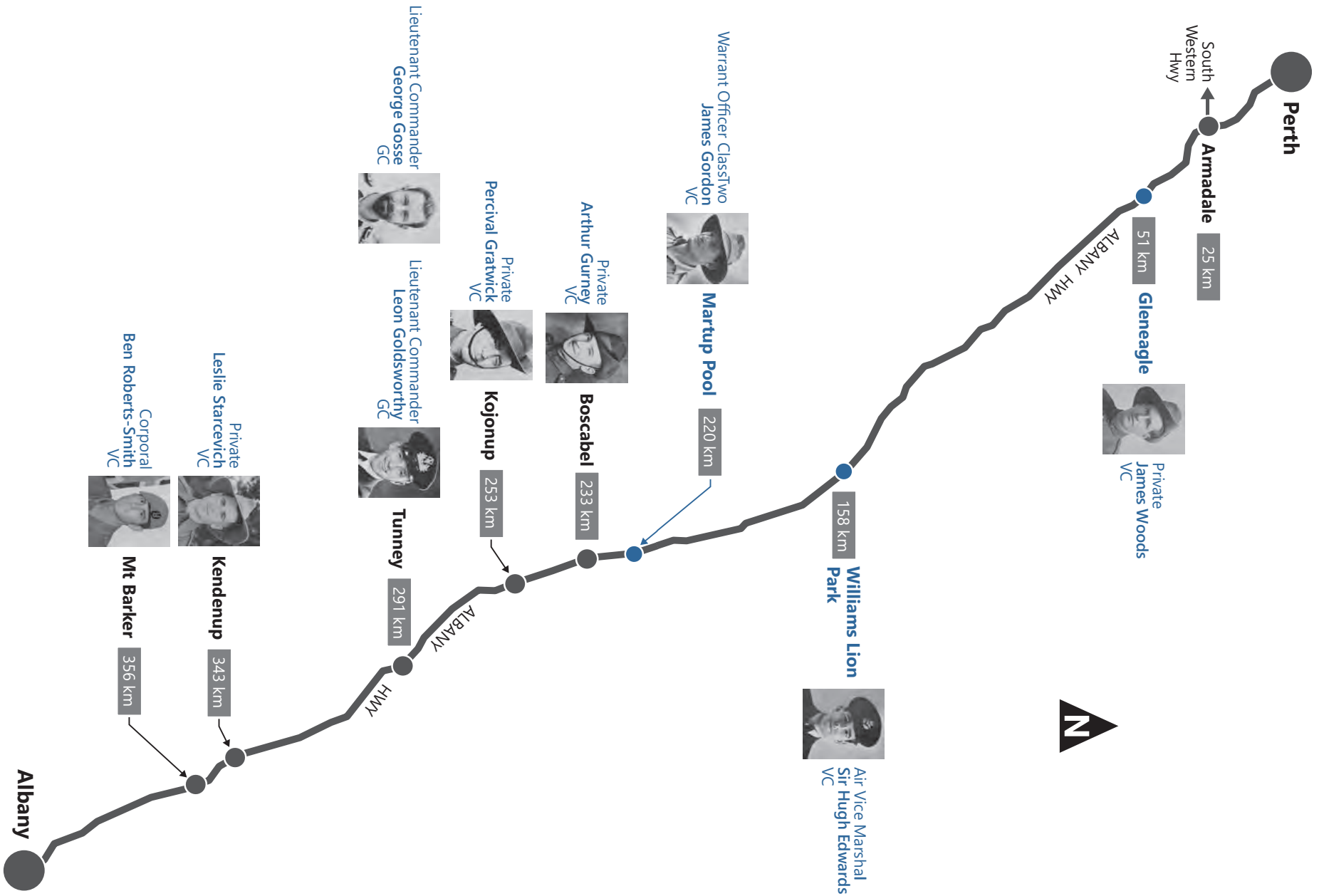


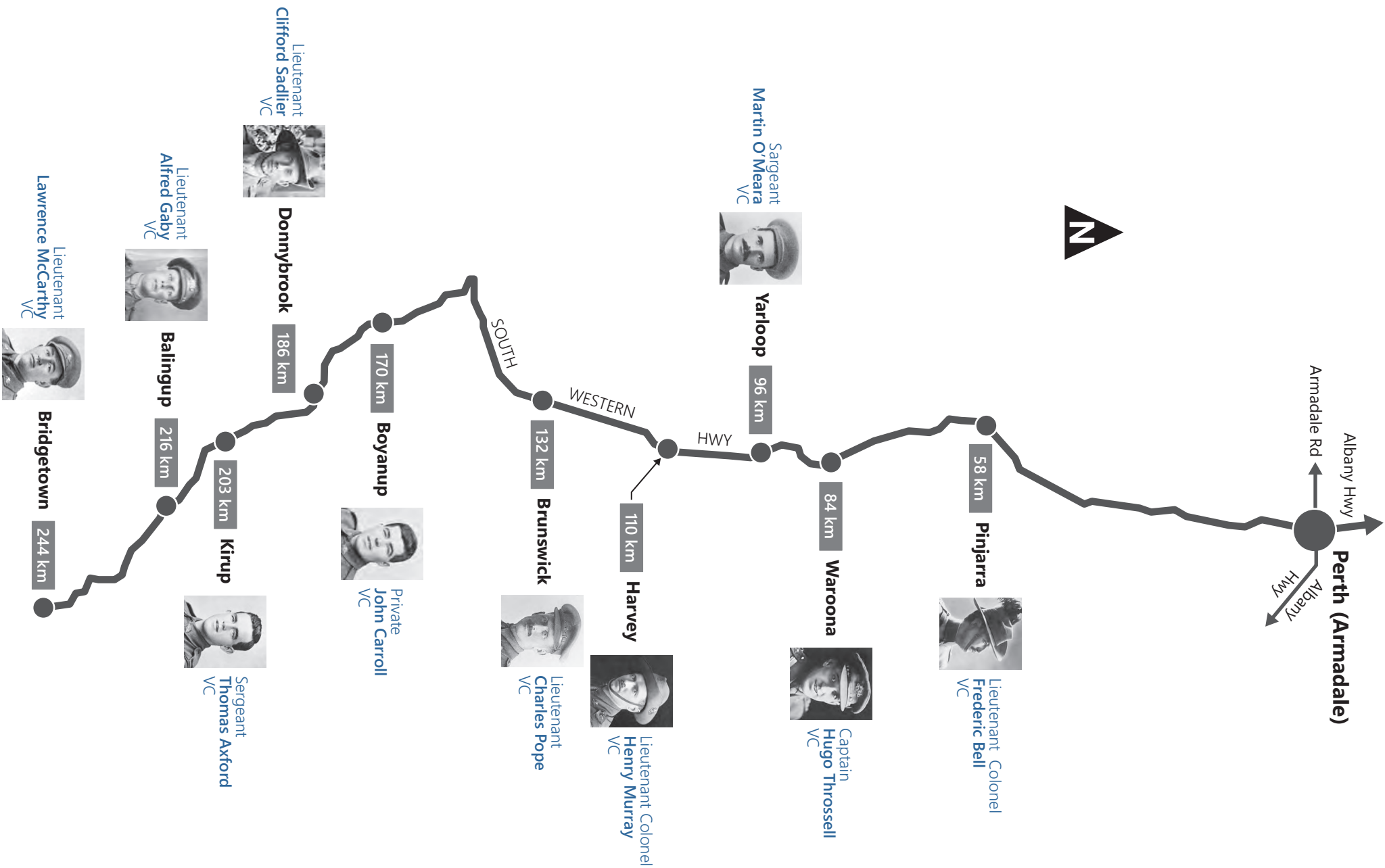














**mainroads**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA