

DENMARK

COOL BREEZES BLOW THROUGH DENMARK'S PRISTINE KARRI TREE FORESTS AND RUFFLE ITS BREATHTAKING COASTLINE. *The former milling town nestled in Western Australia's South-West corner, four hours south of Perth, impresses with its rich historic township, quirky cafes, organic produce, homemade delights and local crafty treasures. Denmark's award-winning cool climate wines, reminiscent of Northern Tuscany, are a source of local pride and shared with the warmest hospitality.*

{SHOP}

The Tudor-style shop housing **Denmark Antiques, Books and Collectables** on Mount Shadforth Road echoes what's on the inside: an incredible range of local vintage furniture and collectables such as books, records and household goods. On Walker Street, **The Mustard Seed Op Shop** next to St Leonard's Anglican Church, the oldest building in town, provides more foraging opportunities for bargain pre-loved clothes and bric-a-brac – while around the corner on Strickland Street, tired travellers can revive at **Herbal Tonic** with relaxing pampering massages using the best of nature's herbs and oils. Little visitors will be delighted by **My Wooden Toys'** extensive range of fun and natural toys that inspire kids' creativity and curiosity. **The Gallery Walk tour** through town highlights Denmark's must-see arts and crafts stops, including the **Butter Factory Studios**, which feature painters and ceramicists in the back of the building; the shopfront, **Nebraska Jones**, stocks an array of clothes, handmade soaps and gorgeous jewellery by local artists. For a vibrant range of locally crafted gifts and homewares made from Jarrah, Marri and Sheoak timber, **Karrisma Gallery and Gifts** is not to be missed. Those inspired to create their own wooden creations can source local timber from **Djarilmari Timber Products** run by Carla and Neale, who salvage their wood from road constructions. Further out of town, **Jassi Leatherworks** sells cosy footwear and sheepskin accessories that are beautifully handcrafted in the farm's own workshop using local sheepskin. Equally fine work is produced by local potters Mary Wallace and Daniel Webb, who craft a range of tableware and decorative items at **Spiral Studio Fine Pottery & Porcelain**. Finally, the non-profit recycling station **Denmark Tip Shop** not only provides important social services to the local community and diverts rubbish away from landfill, but is the quirkiest of the town's places to browse for unique souvenirs.

{EAT}

Ravens Coffee's raw food menu is heaven for vegans – and the cafe's own roasted specialty coffee is the best in town, closely followed by **Mrs Jones Café**, which also serves home-baked cakes and has a comfortable garden terrace. The **Bibbulmun Cafe** presents wholesome, vegetarian food in the heart of town, and **The Message Tearoom**, a quirky cafe in Figtree Square, uses local produce for their compact but scrumptious menu. You can't leave Denmark without trying one of **The Denmark Bakery's** award-winning pies, which score first prizes year-on-year in national contests. Tucked further away down Strickland Street is **The Source Real Food Store**, which serves vegan and vegetarian sandwiches using ingredients sourced from local farmers, growers and producers. Bookings are essential at dinner time, as Silas Masih, owner of **Pepper & Salt Restaurant**, explains to anyone lucky enough to get a table at his gourmet venue, which serves divine seafood, vegan and vegetarian cuisine infused with Indian flavours. A short trip out of town, **Estate 807** offers wine tasting and limited places for lunch and dinner. The vineyard follows a biodynamic approach to viticulture, with chooks, ducks, alpacas and Wiltshire sheep roaming around eating pests, trimming lawns and fertilising the vines. Hand-crafted beers from the **Boston Brewery** at Willoughby Park are well worth a try and beautifully complemented by their woodfired pizzas featuring greens from the kitchen's extensive vegetable and herb garden. **The Bushfood Factory and Cafe** showcases an even more impressive use of herbs and native foods from their own plantation, with these being added to their vegan and vegetarian dishes. For those looking for a quick-fix take away, **Madfish & Chips** offers fresh local fish and healthy, hearty salads.

{VISIT}

Throughout the year, Denmark invites the region's craftspeople to come together at the **Denmark Arts Markets** and showcase their handmade creations on the banks of the Denmark River. With over 100 stalls featuring local and innovative designs, fresh produce, coffee, tea and ice cream, the markets, held four times a year, are well worth a visit. Self-guided walk brochures can be picked up at the **Eco-Discovery Shop** – these are created by the Denmark Historical Society and keep the stories and places of Denmark's past alive, stopping at the **Old Police Station**, **The Old Mill School** and **Mitchell Street**. Those keen to be at one with nature can book a kayak tour on the gorgeous **Denmark River** or hire a bicycle from **Denmark Cycles**, which also organises drop-offs and pick-ups along the world's longest off-road cycling trek – the 1,000 km-long **Munda Biddi Trail**, which passes Denmark and weaves through the Karri Tree Forest. The **Valley of the Giants Wines & Olives**, which has Certified-Organic olives and olive oils to die for, is just around the corner from the **Tree Top Walk** – a nature discovery centre taking you into the highest canopies of the forest via delicate hanging bridges. Depending on the season, you can refuel at sustainable **Eden Gate Estate**, where local blueberries are sold fresh or in creations such as Blueberry Port and Blitz Bluemonade. **The Toffee Factory**, which keeps their old family recipes for sweets alive, is close to the **Bartholomews Meadery**, where you can enjoy honey, mead (honey wine) and honey ice-cream, all made using honey from the meadery's own hives and bees. **Denmark Eco-Adventure and Winery Tours** offers day trips for those desperately wanting to catch all of the highlights. Last but not least, take a dip in Denmark's chilly but crisp waters at the breathtaking **Peaceful Bay** and **Elephant Rocks**, an aptly named stone formation on the coast.

