
Recent Updates (January 2010)

P. 55: Entry prices for national park passes have gone up. So have prices for entry to individual parks for people without a pass (now \$11) and camping (also \$11, \$2 for children)

Entry Pass Pricing

Day Pass

You can visit more than one park with this day pass (if you can get from one to the other quickly enough).

- \$11 per vehicle (up to 8 legally seated people)
- \$5 per motorcycle and concession card holders

Holiday Pass

Allows unlimited entry for four weeks. This is the best pass for most Kimberley visitors.

- \$40 per vehicle (up to 8 people)

Annual Pass

Unlimited entry to all WA parks for 12 months.

- \$80 per vehicle
- \$50 per vehicle for concession card holders

P 57: I added the following section to the chapter about costs:

If you shop at Coles or Woolworth anywhere in Australia and spend more than 30 dollars, you get a voucher that entitles you to 4 cents per litre off the pump price at Coles Express Shell or Caltex Woolworth service stations, respectively, anywhere in Australia. So keep those vouchers! (For overseas readers: the voucher is the bottom part of your receipt.)

Coles Express service station locations in the Kimberley

Broome: Hamersly St. (near roundabout as you enter town coming from Broome Rd.)

Fitzroy Crossing: cnr Forrest Road/highway. You'll see it.

Halls Creek: on the highway. You'll see it.

Kununurra: Ivanhoe Rd.

There is no Coles Express in Derby or Wyndham.

The only **Caltex Woolworth service station** is in Broome at the Boulevard Shopping Centre.

P 73/74: Updated with 2010 dates as far as available:

2010 Events

Broome Races: June 5, 19, 26, July 10, 17, 24 and 31 (*Kimberley Cup*), August 11 (*Ladies Day*) and 14 (*Broome Cup*). Gates open 10.30, races start at 1pm, gate admission fee \$10, \$20 on cup days.

North West Expo 2010: May 1/2, Broome Recreation & Aquatic Centre, Cable Beach Rd.

Kullari Naidoc Festival: July? (no 2010 dates set yet, check visitor centre website)
Traditional and contemporary local Indigenous culture, traditional food tasting, cultural sharing, gala awards and a Mardi Gras.

Shinju Matsuri Festival: Sep? (no 2010 dates set yet, check visitor centre website)
Held during the traditional time of various Asian celebrations, the *Festival of the Pearl* consists of 10 days of parades, performing arts, fairs and exhibitions. Not only acknowledges the pearling industry but also meant to showcases Broome's beauty, history and community to the outside world. Began 35 years ago!

Opera under the Stars: Aug 28 at Cable Beach Amphitheatre. Contact the Visitor Centre for details.

Dragon Boat Races: held during Shinju Matsuri Festival.

Mango Festival: November/December, celebrates ripening of mango, Mardi Gras, mango tasting, "*Great Chefs at Broome Mango Cook-off*"

Staircase to the Moon 2010

Date	Sunset	Moonrise	Markets?	Date	Sunset	Moonrise	Markets?
March 1	18:17	18:36		June 29	17:26	19:56	
March 2	18:16	19:19	yes	July 26	17:35	17:50	yes
March 3	18:15	20:03	yes	July 27	17:35	18:39	yes
March 31	17:53	18:36		July 28	17:36	19:28	
April 1	17:53	20:20		Aug 25	17:43	18:12	yes
April 29	17:33	18:02	yes	Aug 26	17:43	18:59	yes
April 30	17:32	18:54	yes	Aug 27	17:43	19:46	
May 1	17:32	19:48		Sep 24	17:47	18:32	yes
May 28	17:23	17:36	yes	Sep 25	17:47	19:22	yes
May 29	17:23	18:31	yes	Sep 26	17:48	20:13	
May 30	17:23	19:26		Oct 24	17:54	19:02	yes
June 27	17:26	18:12	yes	Oct 25	17:55	19:58	yes
June 28	17:26	19:05	yes				

(The market dates may change.)

P 78: Broome has two new resorts and one has changed ownership and name:

Pinetada Cable Beach Resort and Spa, Murray Road, 9193 8388, www.pinetadacablebeach.com.au

One of Broome's newly built resorts, a five star luxury resort and spa. 72 luxurious rooms around a courtyard and pool, all expertly designed and decorated with handpicked artwork and furnishings. From \$390.

The Pearle of Cable Beach, 14 Millington Rd, 9194 0900, www.thepearle.com.au

Also brand new, and proudly claiming to be the jewel in Broome's crown. Hotel or self contained villa accommodation along meandering roads and landscaped pathways, all wrapped around a central resort pool. Rooms from \$245, pavilions from \$ \$525 (2 nights min)

Broome Sanctuary Resort, Lullfitz Dr, 9192 8088, www.broomesanctuaryresort.com.au

Formerly the Rendezvous Sanctuary Resort.

P 90: More and more of the little homelands and outstations on the Dampier Peninsula are opening up for tourism. As a result two more places have been added to the Dampier Peninsula chapter:

Whalesong Cafe, Campground and Camels at Munget

Munget is a small Aboriginal Homeland overlooking the southern end of Pender Bay.

Jacinta Monck and Lenny O'Meara with their four young children are the only permanent residents here. Over the last years Lennie and Jacinta have built up a lovely little tourism venture here, the perfect secret little hideaway. In 2006 they started out with seven camels, offering a combined camel ride/cultural tour to tourists who stayed at nearby Middle Lagoon.

They have since added a campground, one little cabin and the "Whalesong Cafe". The cafe serves excellent food: gourmet pizzas and restaurant style meals, really good coffee and cappuccinos, juices, salads... Fruit and vegetables are super fresh, coming straight from their own gardens. There is plenty to do here: mud crab tours, billabong tours, beach picnics, kayak hire... Or just enjoy the bush and ocean doing your own thing.

The campground has room for only about half a dozen camps. Lennie and Jacinta are great hosts and the many lovely little touches around the place add to the intimate feel. I hope it stays that way! To get there drive as you would to Middle Lagoon. Look for a turn off to the right, about 15 km after leaving the main Cape Leveque Road, and follow the signs.

Whalesong Cafe, Campground and Camels, 9192 4000

Camping \$15 pp per night.

Mercedes Cove

Mercedes Cove is an exclusive bush retreat for only a few guests at a time. It is located near Middle Lagoon, offering the same unspoilt beaches, clean waters for swimming or fishing, and peace and tranquility. To get there drive towards Middle Lagoon. The turn off for Mercedes Cove is 3 km before you reach Middle Lagoon.

Mercedes Cove, 9192 4687 or 0400 104808, www.mercedescove.com.au

Accommodation in two self contained cabins, the "Guest House" and the "Open Deck". Both sleep up to 6 people. \$300 per night for four. \$35 for each extra person. Camping possible. Bookings essential.

P 102: new operator for the Kimberley Mail Run:

Golden Eagle Airlines, 9191 1132, www.goldeneagleairlines.com

This airline used to manage the weekly Australia Post Kimberley Mail Runs but now does only the Pilbara. Golden Eagle Airlines also offer a range of tourist flights. Check their site for more info.

Slingair, bookings only via Derby Visitor Centre, 9191 1426, www.derbytourism.com.au

If you think you can handle over a dozen landings and starts, the Northern (Fridays) and Southern (Wednesdays) Mail Run are your opportunity to see some spectacular country (especially north) and visit many remote cattle stations. This is not a tourist flight! This is a chance to join the Kimberley postman at work. Bring your own food and drinks (it's a full day), be prepared for it to be noisy, hot, and that you may be asked to give a hand with unloading or refuelling the plane. You may also get bumped (lose your seat). Mail has first priority, residents of the area have second priority, and you come last. (You can also use the mail plane to visit the stations that offer tourist accommodation. It just means you have to stay until the next plane is due.)

Slingair, bookings via Kununurra Visitor Centre, 9168 1177, www.kununurra.com.au

If the days don't suit you, you have a second chance from Kununurra. The flights for the east Kimberley leave Tuesday (northern mail run), Wednesday (southern), Thursday (southern) and Friday (northern).

P 140: The 2010 Ord Valley Muster is on from May 14 to May 30. Nothing else is known yet about the program, so if you plan to visit, keep an eye on their website. www.ordvalleymuster.com

And, er, I fixed some typos... :-).

See you up here soon!

