Shark Bay was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 1991 for its outstanding natural values. World Heritage places represent the best Earth has to offer and Shark Bay is listed because:

- of its beauty and abundance
- evolving habitats and species
- it’s a window in time
- it’s a wildlife refuge

Come and experience World Heritage in Shark Bay.

Shark Bay is outstanding for the abundance of life in its clear waters and the striking beauty of desert landscapes meeting the sea.

Many animals rely on Shark Bay’s islands and peninsulas for their survival.

Beauty and abundance

Evolving habitats and species

Tropical and temperate climates meet at Shark Bay and combine with 400,000 hectares of seagrass to support a mixture of life found only here. The seagrass banks also shape Shark Bay’s marine geology, chemistry and biology.

Wildlife refuge

Many animals rely on Shark Bay’s islands and peninsulas for their survival.

Come and experience World Heritage in Shark Bay.
Stay safe
Shark Bay can be hot – stay hydrated, drink plenty of water and protect yourself from the sun.
When near the cliffs:
- Watch for large unexpected waves.
- Please keep well clear of cliff edges - they may be undermined and unstable.
- Be prepared for sudden wind gusts.
- Supervise children at all times.
- When wading in the water wear suitable footwear to avoid stonfish.

Beyond the World Heritage Drive (4WD)

With a high clearance four-wheel drive you can venture along soft sandy tracks and enjoy sights beyond the bitumen.

Dirk Hartog Island
Explore the beauty and abundance of Shark Bay in this park on the northern half of Peron Peninsular. It has great opportunities for camping, canoeing, boating, wildlife viewing, swimming and snorkelling. See the Francois Peron National Park brochure for more information.

Edel Land including Steep Point
The Oven / Faultline
CAUTION
- Soft sand, shifting dunes, may be undercut and unstable.
- Be prepared for sudden wind gusts.
- Reduce tyre pressure to 20psi or lower.
- Have a high clearance 4WD vehicle with low range capability.

To travel Shark Bay's single-lane, soft sand four wheel drive tracks you will need to:
- Have a high clearance 4WD vehicle with low range capability.
- Reduce tyre pressure to 20psi or lower.
- Have a high clearance 4WD vehicle with low range capability.
- Other normal road traffic rules.

NOTE: Unlicensed off-road vehicles (quads, motor bikes) are not permitted.

Follow the World Heritage Drive to experience Shark Bay in a four-wheel drive vehicle.

- Hamelin Pool Stromatolites and historic telegraph station
  - The microbial mats and stromatolites of Hamelin Pool represent a portion of the Earth's history. Nearby is the historic telegraph station and a shell block quarry. Find out more along the walk starting at the Hamelin Pool carpark, or from the old telegraph station.

- Nanga Bay
  - This peaceful location with shady trees and access to the water was once a pastoral station.

- Gunlom Falls
  - See some of Shark Bay’s marine wildlife up close during a guided tour of the aquarium.

- Denham
  - Denham, the main town of Shark Bay, began as a ramshackle town that grew around a pearlers’ camp. The shallow water alongside the main street is safe for swimming.

- World Heritage Discovery Centre
  - Find out more about what to see and do in Shark Bay and book tours at the Discovery Centre. Delve into Shark Bay’s World Heritage values and history in the display (display entry fees apply).

- Little Lagoon, Thalagangga
  - Little Lagoon is connected to the sea by a small, clear creek – a great place to launch and explore.

- Peron Heritage Precinct
  - See how a sheep station operated, find out about Project Eden and soak in a hot tub.

- Monkey Mia brochure
  - Experiencing Australia up close is just one of the things to do at Monkey Mia. See the Monkey Mia brochure for more information.

Entry fees and camping

Entry fees apply to most parks and reserves and go towards maintaining roads and facilities. Park passes can be purchased at the Department of Parks and Wildlife office or Discovery Centre in Denham, but are not valid for Monkey Mia Reserve.

Camping fees apply throughout Shark Bay and are mostly paid on entry. However, permits are required in advance for Fowlers Camp and Whalebone – contact the Discovery Centre on 08 9948 1900.

Bookings are required for Dirk Hartog Island National Park and Edel Land National Park (proposed) – contact Shark Bay Ranger Station on 08 9948 1903.

Wildlife refuges

The islands and peninsulas of Shark Bay provide hope for species extinct or endangered elsewhere. Please observe quarantine restrictions for the islands.
See www.sharkbay.org for more information.