



### **Welcoming Whales and Winter in Margaret River - Thursday, 24 May 2012**

Winter is just around the corner – it's red wine and ugg boot weather! Although it's a great time of year to cosy up by the log fire, there's no need to stay indoors – there are some exciting winter events happening in the Margaret River region.

The whales are back in the bay! These gentle giants migrate from the cold waters of the Antarctic to breed and frolick in the warmer waters of Flinders Bay in Augusta, and whale watching tours offer an unforgettable experience for visitors and locals alike. Whale Song Festival marks the start of the season, and is a great way to explore the picturesque seaside town of Augusta.

It's a fabulous time of year to get outdoors and enjoy those fresh, crisp days – the vine leaves are changing colour, the paddocks are lush and green, and the surf is up (as always!). Enjoy a lazy winery lunch, try new culinary indulgences, check out live comedy and music or just take a long walk on the beach then snuggle up by the log fire. These are just a few of the many activities Margaret River has to offer over the chilly winter months.

Bring your winter woolies - we look forward to seeing you down here!

#### **Warm Regards**

Victoria, Cory & the Augusta Margaret River Tourism Association Team

#### **Featured in this Edition:**

##### **What's on Now**

**Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow**  
**Whale Song Festival**  
**Whale Watching in Augusta**  
**Margaret River Sled Dog Masters**  
**Frenzal Rhomb at Settler's Tavern**  
**Jimeoin- Lovely! Tour**

##### **What's on Soon** **Upcoming Events**

##### **What's Hot**

**New Tour Alert: Bikeeez**  
**New Tour Alert: All Sea Charters**  
**New Accommodation Alert: Apartment 37**  
**Beer, wine AND cider - Cheeky Monkey now open!**  
**Weekend dinners at Palmer Wines**

---

**What's On Now**

---



## Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow – May 31, 2012

*Margaret River Cultural Centre, Wallcliffe Rd, Margaret River*

Stuffing one of the world's largest comedy festivals into the one show is no easy feat, but the Melbourne International Comedy Festival has done just that with this year's Roadshow. Offering a selection of Australian, international and special guest comedians, the Roadshow is literally all the best bits of the Comedy Festival condensed into the one - all killer, no filler - travelling event. This year sees David Quirk, Joel Creasey, Marina Franklin, Smart Casual and Harley Breen on the road to Margaret River on the last day of May (that's the 31st).

Now in its 13th year, the Roadshow shares the Comedy Festival vibe with punters outside of Melbourne. From Devonport to Darwin, Mount Isa to Margaret River a cast of big local names, newcomers and overseas guests prove there's nowhere a comedian fears to tread.

Contact details: [www.artsmargaretiver.com](http://www.artsmargaretiver.com) or +61 8 9758 7316

[Back to Top](#)



## Whale Song Festival June 2-4, 2012

*Blackwood Avenue, Augusta*

The start of the whale season is celebrated with Whale Song Augusta – a nautical themed festival featuring family entertainment, local produce and, of course, whales! Whale Song Festival runs from June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> with activities all weekend and the main festival day taking place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June in the heart of the main street. Enjoy market stalls and food, gourmet local produce, local made craft products and put on your dancing shoes for a great entertainment lineup, including Australia's Got Talent finalist and YouTube sensation Deb "Spoons" Perry! There will be free hula-hooping for the kids, facepainting and a bouncy castle. The funky, crazy and whacky cars from the Variety Bash rally will also be making an appearance. Whale Song Festival is an event not to be missed, and a great way to explore Augusta - a magical corner of the earth.

Contact details: [www.margaretriver.com](http://www.margaretriver.com) or contact the Augusta Visitor Centre, +61 8 9758 0166

[Back to Top](#)



## Whale Watching in Augusta May - September, 2012

*Flinders Bay and Cape Leeuwin, Augusta*

Winter is the perfect time of year to visit Augusta - the whales are back in the bay and there are plenty of exciting things to do whilst you explore this spectacular aquatic playground.

Each year thousands of whales travel from the icy waters of the Antarctic to play and breed in our warm waters and sheltered bays. Flinders Bay in Augusta provides a safe haven for Southern Right and Humpback whales to bear their calves - mothers and their babies can be spotted daily frolicking in the tranquil waters of the bay. Whale watching charters kick off this weekend, with All Sea, Legend and Naturaliste Charters

running twice daily tours in Augusta until September. Worried you might not spot a whale? Rest assured, the success rate of seeing whales in Augusta is above 90%! On the annual census day in 2011 Augusta recorded the highest number of migrating whales around Australia - making it one of the nation's premier whale watching destinations. For those who don't feel like exercising their sea legs, Cape Leeuwin is the perfect vantage point for land-based whale watching. Spot one of these majestic mammals from the top of the lighthouse or look out to sea through the free binoculars!

Contact details: [www.margaretriver.com](http://www.margaretriver.com) or contact the Augusta Visitor Centre, +61 8 9758 0166

[Back to Top](#)

---



### **Margaret River Sled Dog Masters June 2-4 2012**

*Off Bussell Highway, follow the signs 3km north of Margaret River*

Running West Sled Dog Club presents the eighth annual Margaret River Sled Dog Masters – a family event which sees some 70 dogs compete. Running West is one of two sled dog clubs in WA. The temperature needs to be cool for the dogs to race effectively so races are either early morning or evening - Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30pm, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June at 6:30am and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 6:30am. Come and meet the dogs and experience the thrill and excitement of watching them race!

Contact details: Nat on +61 415 700 064 or [runningwestdc@hotmail.com](mailto:runningwestdc@hotmail.com)

[Back to Top](#)

---



### **Frenzal Rhomb at Settler's Tavern June 14, 2012**

*Settler's Tavern, Margaret River*

Twice voted Western Australia's Best Live Entertainment Venue, Settler's Tavern is hosting an all-time classic Australian punk rock band on June 14<sup>th</sup> – Frenzal Rhomb! On a massive comeback tour to launch their latest album, *Smoko at the Pet Food Factory*, this fearless foursome will be sure to rock the socks off the crowd at the tavern. Don't miss this gig – it is set to be a huge night of live Aussie music!

Contact details: [www.moshtix.com.au](http://www.moshtix.com.au) +61 8 9757 2398

[Back to Top](#)

---



## Jimeoin – Lovely! Tour June 30, 2012

*Margaret River Cultural Centre, Wallcliffe Rd, Margaret River*

Direct from a sold out season at the Edinburgh Fringe comes world-class stand-up from one of live comedy's masters. No gimmicks, pure and simple great craic which will leave you feeling.....lovely!

Contact details: [www.artsmargaretriver.com](http://www.artsmargaretriver.com) or +61 8 9758 7316

[Back to Top](#)

## What's On Soon



## Upcoming Events

DATE	MAY	VENUE
<b>Sat</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup>	Whale watching tours commence	Naturaliste Charters, Au
26 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret River Farmer's Markets	Tunbridge St, Margaret
<b>Thurs</b> 31 <sup>st</sup>	Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow	Margaret River Cultural Wallcliffe Rd, Margaret
DATE	JUNE	VENUE
<b>All June</b>	Whale watching season	Flinders Bay, Augusta
<b>Sat</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Electric Button Presents - Wasteland – (DJ Set)	Knight's Inn, Wallcliffe I Margaret River
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	Whale Song Augusta	Blackwood Avenue, Au
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret River Sled Dog Masters	Bussell Hwy, 3km north Margaret River
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup>	The Lady in Red – Rita Oxley (Exhibition)	Isaacs Cottage Gallery Hospital), Margaret Riv
2 <sup>nd</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup>	The White Collection (Exhibition)	Margaret River Gallery, Bussell Hwy, Margaret
<b>Sun</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Town Square Markets	Town Square, Bussell I Margaret River
<b>Sat</b> 9 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret River Farmer's Markets	Tunbridge St, Margaret
<b>Thurs</b> 14 <sup>th</sup>	Frenzal Rhomb Live Gig	Settler's Tavern, Marga
<b>Sun</b> 17 <sup>th</sup>	Town Square Markets	Town Square, Bussell I Margaret River
<b>Sat</b> 26 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret River Farmer's Markets	Tunbridge St, Margaret
<b>Sat</b>	Jimeoin – Lovely!	Margaret River Cultural

[Back to Top](#)

## What's Hot



### New Tour Alert – Bikeeez

Welcome to Bikeeez – the newest member of AMRTA tour operators. Bikeeez is an innovative, eco-friendly electric bicycle hire company, no driver's licence required! Customers can hire an electric bicycle for easy access to the beach, wineries and other attractions in the area. Recommended routes are mapped out, and safety equipment is provided. Cruise around Margaret River with no pedalling necessary.

For more information please visit Bikeeez' operator page on the [website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

### New Tour Alert – All Sea Charters

We are delighted to announce that All Sea Charters have come on board as a new member of the AMRTA! Whale watching tours on board their boat "Spirit II" leave twice daily from Augusta, and will operate from Busselton later in the whale season. They also have a hydrophone on board, so you can not only see these gentle giants but you can also hear them! All Sea Charters also offer seal tours, fishing charters and scenic cruises of Cape Naturaliste.

For more information please visit All Sea Charters' operator page on the [website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

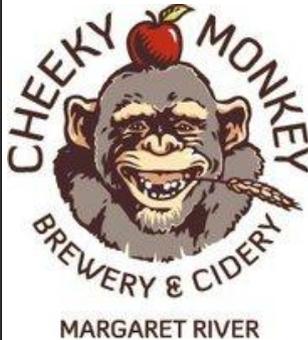
### New Accommodation Alert – Apartment 37

Apartment 37 has joined the AMRTA as a new member. This beautiful and cosy 3 x 2 villa is conveniently located in the Darby Park complex – close to the shops and amenities of town. With all the modern appliances, full use of resort facilities including swimming pool and tennis court, and plenty of space it is great for groups, families and a couples getaway.

For more information please visit Apartment 37's operator page on the [website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

---



## Beer, wine AND cider - Cheeky Monkey & Killerby Wines now open!

Margaret River's reputation as a quality brewery tourism destination continues to grow with Cheeky Monkey Brewery and Cidery opening its doors at the beginning of May. With a cosy, rustic feel inside, the vineyard views across the lake to the north and forest-fringed farmland to the east provide all of the ingredients for another Margaret River favourite. With a restaurant and Killerby Wines cellar door on site the future is looking very bright for this new attraction!

For more information, view their [website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

---



## Weekend dinners at Palmer Wines

Palmer Wines on Caves Road in Dunsborough is expanding its fast growing tourism offers. Not only have they recently hosted the main festival day of the Margaret River Region Festival (for the second year in a row!) and a regular weekend markets, the award-winning restaurant is now open for dinner Friday and Saturday evenings. Winery dinners are highly sought after in the Margaret River region with only a handful of operators offering this unique experience as the sun sets over the vines.

For more information view their [website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

---

### **CONTACT US**

Email us with any questions you may have on [communications@margaretriver.com](mailto:communications@margaretriver.com) or call (08) 9780 5914.

### **WANT TO UNSUBSCRIBE?**

We only add people to our list with their consent. If you have received our mail and choose not to receive it anymore, please unsubscribe via the link at the bottom of this email. Thank You!

### **Stay tuned for the next issue of the AMRTA Media E-news**

Phone: (08) 9780 5921

[www.margaretriver.com](http://www.margaretriver.com)

[communications@margaretriver.com](mailto:communications@margaretriver.com)

[SUBSCRIBE](#) | [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [FEEDBACK](#) |

---