

The AVON VALLEY 500 Loop

York and New Norcia

Find beauty, romance and a slice of old Spain on a relaxing weekend trip to York, Toodyay and New Norcia. Soak up the serenity of Australia's only monastic town, the heritage of WA's first inland settlement and the Avon Valley's natural beauty, all within less than two hours' drive from Perth.

START Perth | **END** Perth

DURATION 2 days

HIGHLIGHTS

- John Forrest National Park
- Historic town of York
- Avon Valley
- New Norcia
- Seasonal wildflowers

BEST TIME All year round (wildflowers September to November)

VEHICLE 2WD

LEG 1 | Perth to York 97km

- Explore the granite outcrops and waterfalls in John Forrest National Park, WA's oldest conservation area.
- Discover the grand heritage town of York where much of the Victorian and Federation architecture has been lovingly restored to house galleries, museums, cafes, restaurants and antique shops.
- For more action and adventure, take in views of the Avon Valley landscape from 14,000 feet on a tandem skydive.

LEG 2 | York to Northam, Toodyay, New Norcia 280km

- Enjoy a majestic hot air balloon flight from Northam over the Avon Valley as dawn breaks.
- Explore the heritage architecture, local arts and crafts, fresh produce, wines and beautiful country gardens of Toodyay.
- Discover Australia's only monastic town, New Norcia. The monks have been living a simple communal life here since 1847. They welcome visitors to join them at prayer times, or take a guided tour of the Spanish architecture and museum, and indulge in the monastery's freshly baked goods.

LEG 3 | New Norcia to Perth 145km

- Travel back to Perth stopping at Bindoon to sample local produce and country baking or detour to Chittering Valley to explore the local wineries and produce.



LEGEND

- The Avon Valley 500 Loop
- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- 4WD track
- National Park
- Airport

