

Newsletter Issue 4



— Intro

What's inside the first issue of 2025?

I don't know about you, but as we approach the end of January, I'm wondering where the month went. I suspect the heatwave has melted my brain but luckily, I have taken plenty of notes and photos to remind me.

I swapped Perth's unrelenting dry heat for Broome's humidity during the wet season. According to the locals, there had been a mild break in the weather, so it was more bearable than normal, apparently. Even so, I was glowing while visiting this unique coastal town. I longingly think back to some of the things I did to celebrate the opening of the Moonlight Bay Suites, including having last sips at Matso's Brewery (conveniently across the road) before it closed for refurbishment, witnessing the vibrant Pindan colours at Gantheaume Point, boarding a scenic flight with Kimberley Air, touring Willie Creek Pearls and riding a camel at sunset on Cable Beach.

After flying home from Broome with Virgin Australia Airlines, the very next day I was on a ferry to Rottnest Island to celebrate the launch of the Lodge Wadjemup. If you have any recollection of what the lodge used to look like, you wouldn't recognise it now. I felt like I had landed on a Greek island, further complemented by the incredible Mediterranean menu at Sunsets.

So, what's on the horizon for the rest of 2025? I have some trips in the pipeline and I'll keep you posted. One of the things I love most about being a travel writer is the spontaneity, so stay tuned for more updates.

Thank you for coming along for the journey, and may your travels be fluffy.

Carmen Jenner



Flight and Cruise Deals



Win free flights to Japan

In case you missed the last issue of this newsletter, you will also have missed out on the chance to win economy tickets from Perth or Sydney to Tokyo. Luckily, the offer still stands for travel between 1st April to 30th September 2025 with ANA. Click here to enter. Here's a bit of inspiration for you with Hiroshima:

Uncovering Peace In This Must Visit

Japanese City and The Ripple Effect in Japan. You might also enjoy my review of All Nippon Airways (ANA) in business class and economy.

Click here to win free flights to Japan



CF Mekong Cruise Discounts

If you've been following along, you might remember that I joined the Discovery Cruise with CF (Compagnie Fluviale) Mekong Cruises (operated by Croisi Europe Cruises) along the Mekong Delta from south Siem Reap to Saigon aboard the RV Toum Tiou II. They're offering 50% discount on the second person in a shared cabin and no single supplement for solo travellers for February 2025 for New Discovery Tours. If you would like to read more about cruising the Mekong, you might enjoy these articles I wrote: Temples, forests, a Vespa tour on luxury cruise from Cambodia to Ho Chi Minh City, Cruising Down the Magical Mekong, Cruising the delights of the mighty Mekong, my interview on Travel Writer's Radio and What my Mekong Cruise was really like.

> Click here for discounts on CF Mekong Cruises



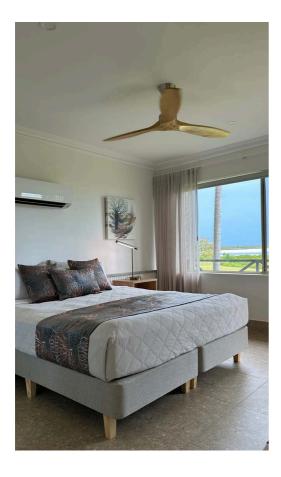
VietJet's new flight routes & discounts

With direct flights to Ho Chi Minh City with VietJet, combined with a CF Mekong cruise, you will have an affordable and immersive experience in Cambodia and Vietnam.

To kick off 2025, <u>Vietjet</u> is giving Australian travellers an exciting chance to explore the beauty of Vietnam for their summer holiday travels with its weekly Friday promotion, offering 50% off flights between Vietnam and Australia. From now until 7 February, Aussie travellers can score a 50% discount on Eco tickets, available every Friday for travel between 10 February and 31 March. VietJet has also launched new direct routes to two China destinations Beijing and Guangzhou and India's Hyderabad and Bangalore.

If India is on the travel horizon, you might enjoy <u>An unmissable boutique yoga retreat in India</u> and <u>Escaping India on Kerala's Alleppey Backwater Cruise</u>.

New Hotel Openings



Moonlight Bay Suites, Broome

In January, I headed up to Broome for the launch of the refurbishment of the Moonlight Bay Suites. Had Staircase to the Moon happened while I was there, I could have watched it from the balcony of my Two Bedroom Bay View suite, while hosting a party catered by Matso's Brewery across the road since my suite was so spacious. If you book directly and stay for two nights or more, you'll receive a free \$50 dining voucher to Matso's Brewery or Cable Beach House valid for stays between 13th January and 30th April 2025.

Book Moonlight Bay Suites here



The Lodge Wadjemup, Rottnest Island

It had been years since I'd been to Rottnest, mainly because it's impossible to find any accommodation. But not anymore since the refurbishment of the Lodge Wadjemup offering 109 rooms released in stages over the next few months. There are 63 refurbished rooms currently on offer, and prices start at \$320 per night (\$250 during the off-peak season). Even if you're not staying at the lodge, I highly recommend the all day Mediterranean menu at Sunsets, and as the name suggests, for the ultimate sunset or coffee from Pelicans, just behind the legendary Rottnest Bakery.

Book Lodge Wadjemup here

What's on in Perth





Did you know that all WA Museums are free this summer?

Until Monday 31 March 2025, there's free admission to WA Museum, including Boola Bardip (Perth) and WA Maritime Museum (Fremantle). They say that whatever you do on the first day of the year is what you could be doing for the rest of the year. So I took a trip to the Kimberley (albeit virtually) with the 35-minute VR documentary The Great Kimberley Wilderness at WA Museum Boola Bardip. Running until 28th April 2025, and at \$20 a ticket, you'll be immersed in areas of the Kimberley very few people on earth ever get to experience.

Fringe World: AWOL

Fringe World is back in many weird and wonderful ways. I recently saw <u>AWOL</u> — <u>Two old men escape from a care home</u> and go to a metal festival. It's just as the title suggests, as the two-man act rotates through multiple characters in this hilarious and dynamic show. It's playing at Rehearsal Room 1 at the State Theatre Centre of WA until 8th February, 2025.

Garrick Comedy Carousel

You might have read my review of Poe Dreams of Madness, that played at the Garrick Theatre Company in Guildford. The Comedy Carousel – Three One Act Plays is the theatre company's next production including, All I Really Need to Know I Learned by Being in a Bad Murder Mystery (starring my daughter), Therapy Go Round and The Heist. Running from 6th – 15th February, tickets are \$15 and selling out fast.

Please read my review of "Poe Dreams of Madness" by the Garrick Theatre Company.

Travel Products





My Corner Art Studio (MCAS)

I was recently gifted a passport cover from MCAS (My Corner Art Studio), a not-for-profit initiative that provides free art programs for children with autism in Ho Chi Minh City. You can order passport covers, t-shirts, bags and laptop bags from here.

I can't wait to travel internationally to use my passport cover – perhaps the image on the front is a sign from the universe about where I should travel to in 2025.

Check out MCAS here

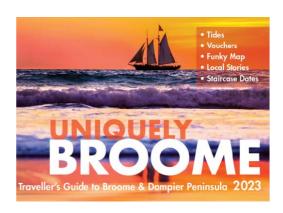
Win a SleepKeeper

Obviously taking your bed on holiday isn't an option, but bringing your own pillow is doable, albeit slightly awkward. SleepKeeper has brought out a product that makes travelling with your pillow less awkward with a compact roll up pillow bag that clips onto your luggage, to alleviate sore necks and allergies while promoting a restful night's sleep. Please email me at carmen@fluffytowel.com for your chance to win a SleepKeeper pillowcase.

Learn more about SleepKeeper

Uniquely Broome

While in Broome, I was given a copy of Uniquely Broome. full of travel inspiration, activities, eateries. accommodation and stories. This guidebook also includes discount vouchers - who doesn't love a deal. For



a bit of Broome time, please check out <u>Celebrating Shinju Matsuri</u>, <u>Broome's Annual Pearl Festival</u> and if you love the power of an engine between your thighs, you might get a laugh out of <u>Broome Vroom</u>.

Order your copy here

Let's work together!



How we can work together:

- Sponsored content on www.fluffytowel.com, this newsletter and socials.
- Copywriting for your business including blogs, newsletters, magazines, social media, editing, emails and copy.
- Let's collaborate and promote your brand together.

WA Travel



3-day Perth Itinerary: An unforgettable getaway with your besties

Born and bred in Western Australia, I'm often asked for suggestions on things to do in Perth with friends. So, I thought it was time to write this Perth itinerary for an unforgettable getaway with your besties in true Fluffy Towel style.

From a unique and local perspective, we'll explore Perth, everyone's favourite port town in Fremantle and WA's oldest wine region in the Swan Valley.

Click here for your Perth itinerary



Looking for more WA inspiration?

Australia's Extra.Ordinary. West is a Western Australian travel book like no other. Told from an insider's perspective, this coffee table book has dispelled the myth that kangaroos are jumping through the streets of Western Australia. Natural wonders. quirky anecdotes surprising revelations are shared where even the most zealot local will be compelled to jump in and experience the essence of Western Australia. This 244page guide welcomes you to explore our vast state where Western Australia plays the beautiful yet aloof protagonist.

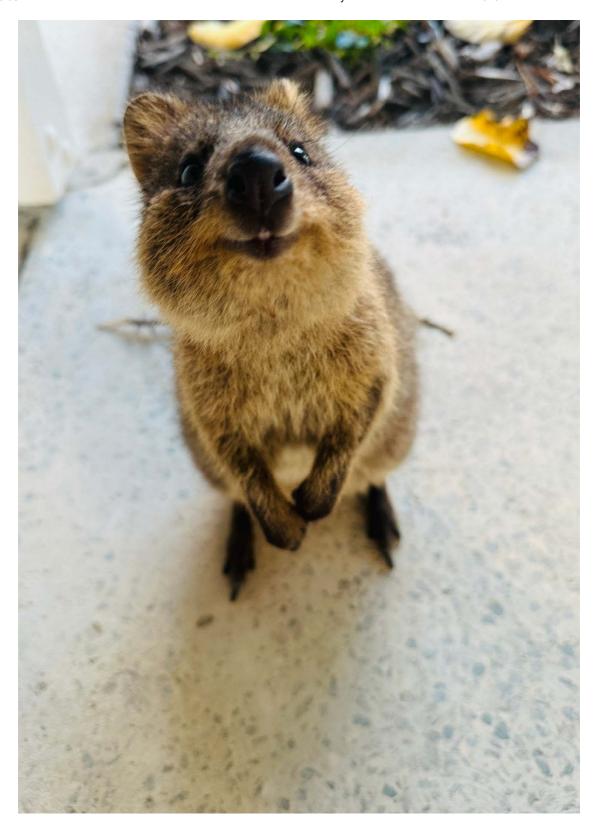
Order your copy of Australia's Extra. Ordinary. West Coast



Perth with kids: 4-day itinerary for families

Here's another Perth itinerary if you have kids, or are a big kid at heart.

Click here for your Perth with kids itinerary



Let's connect!







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