Living in Perth

Find the suburb, lifestyle and connections that suit your move.

Perth brings together city dining and cultural activities, Swan River recreation and coastal neighbourhoods. A central apartment, a beachside home and a base near a suburban workplace can support very different daily routines. Start with your work location, household needs and the lifestyle you want to build. [2]

For a relocation, compare the complete journey rather than distance from the CBD alone. Perth's metropolitan area extends along the coast and inland; the route to a workplace, school or station matters as much as the suburb name. Confirm the furnished property's inclusions for the whole stay.

Perth at a glance

Topic	What to know
Location	Capital of Western Australia, on Australia's west coast.
Time zone	Australian Western Standard Time. Western Australia does not observe daylight saving.
City layout	A metropolitan area with coastal, riverside and inland suburbs and employment destinations beyond the CBD.
Lifestyle	Beaches, river outings, cafés, cultural venues and neighbourhood dining. [2]
Housing choices	Apartments, townhouses and detached homes; furnished availability varies by location and stay length.
Getting around	Transperth trains, buses and ferries; compare the exact route and final connection. [7]

People and demographics

The 2021 Census recorded 2,116,647 people in Greater Perth, a median age of 37 and an average household size of 2.6 people. These figures cover the metropolitan statistical area rather than only the City of Perth council area or the CBD. [1]

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people accounted for 2.0% of Greater Perth's population in the 2021 Census. City-wide figures provide context; local community facilities, activities and services are also worth exploring around each shortlisted home. [1]

Demographic figures describe the 2021 Census, not a current population estimate. Suburb suggestions are editorial starting points based on location and amenities. The right fit depends on your household, workplace and the specific property.

Central and inner Perth

City centre, East Perth and West Perth

Explore: Perth CBD, East Perth and West Perth. Explore a central base for city dining, cultural venues and riverside activities. Apartments provide a useful starting point for the furnished-property search. [2]

Consider this area for: a city-based assignment or central arrival base. Transport: compare nearby train stations, bus stops and CAT services [7,8].

Before choosing: confirm floor area, storage, lifts, street noise and parking costs.

Northbridge and the inner north

Explore: Northbridge, Mount Lawley and nearby streets. Perth's inner urban areas offer dining and cultural activity. Compare busy precinct streets with the surroundings of each home. [2]

Consider this area for: renters who value local dining and city access. Transport: check buses, train access and the walk to your destination [7].

Before choosing: visit around sleeping hours; inspect nightlife or traffic noise, stairs and parking.

Subiaco and Shenton Park

Explore: Subiaco and Shenton Park. Subiaco offers another inner-city neighbourhood to explore. Use nearby shopping and dining streets as part of the comparison, alongside the home itself. [3]

Consider this area for: renters with western inner-suburb commitments. Transport: compare train and bus journeys from the actual address [7].

Before choosing: check the station walk, shopping access and the route to work or study.

Leederville and nearby neighbourhoods

Explore: Leederville, West Leederville and Mount Hawthorn. These distinct neighbourhoods offer additional options for an inner-Perth routine. Compare local cafés, shopping and the immediate street environment. [2]

Consider this area for: renters wanting to investigate a neighbourhood base near the centre. Transport: test train or bus access individually for each listing [7].

Before choosing: do not assume similarly named suburbs share the same station; check noise, parking and building access.

Relo tip: Compare one typical weekday from three shortlisted addresses. Include work, groceries, exercise and the journey home after an evening out.

Riverside, coastal and Fremantle options

South Perth and nearby riverside suburbs

Explore: South Perth, Como and nearby streets. Explore a riverside base south of the city. A useful connection depends on the exact home and workplace rather than the view or suburb name. [2]

Consider this area for: renters wanting to investigate a south-side riverside routine. Transport: compare buses and any useful ferry connection, including the walk at each end [7].

Before choosing: check daily travel across the river, parking, noise and cooling.

Western coastal and riverside suburbs

Explore: Cottesloe, Claremont and surrounding western suburbs. Cottesloe offers a coastal recreation setting, while nearby western suburbs provide additional accommodation-search options. Compare each location separately. [4]

Consider this area for: renters placing coast or western-side access high on their wish list. Transport: check train and bus routes and the walk from the property [7].

Before choosing: beach access does not determine commuting convenience; inspect wind exposure, heating and parking.

Scarborough and the northern coast

Explore: Scarborough, Trigg and nearby coastal streets. Scarborough and Trigg are established coastal recreation destinations. Match any beachside property to the daily routine you need. [4]

Consider this area for: renters prioritising coastal outings or nearby work. Transport: compare bus connections to work or a useful train station [7].

Before choosing: test weekday travel, inspect evening or weekend activity and confirm the actual beach walk.

Fremantle and nearby neighbourhoods

Explore: Fremantle, South Fremantle and East Fremantle. Fremantle offers history, heritage and local activities, with surrounding neighbourhoods providing different residential settings. Treat it as its own daily base rather than an interchangeable CBD location. [5]

Consider this area for: renters with Fremantle-area commitments or local lifestyle interests. Transport: compare trains, buses and the complete route to work [7].

Before choosing: check peak-time travel, parking, noise and the location relative to everyday services.

Choosing with family needs in mind

Use the WA Department of Education's Schools Online information to check local-intake arrangements against the exact home address. Contact the school about enrolment and documentation before relying on a place. Research childcare separately, including vacancies and hours. [10]

For a furnished family home, confirm beds, laundry, storage, a dining area and space for homework or working from home. Compare the daily route to school, shops, parks and activities.

Northern, southern and eastern suburbs

Northern suburban centres

Explore: Joondalup, Hillarys, Whitfords-area suburbs and surrounding communities. Use these as separate starting points when comparing a northern-side home. Choose around the exact workplace and everyday services.

Consider this area for: renters with northern work or household commitments. Transport: check train station access, local buses and the final connection [7].

Before choosing: a district or shopping-area name does not guarantee station proximity; test the full weekday route.

Victoria Park and the inner south-east

Explore: Victoria Park, East Victoria Park and nearby streets. Victoria Park's dining precinct provides a local focus south-east of the city. Compare the neighbourhood around each listing with your daily travel needs. [6]

Consider this area for: renters who value local dining or south-eastern destinations. Transport: test buses and nearby rail options using the current planner [7].

Before choosing: check traffic, evening noise, parking and the practical station or stop walk.

Southern employment and residential centres

Explore: Canning Vale, Murdoch, Cockburn-area suburbs and surrounding communities. These are different search areas across the southern metropolitan region. Match the property to the actual hospital, campus, office or industrial job site.

Consider this area for: renters whose routine is based south of the city. Transport: compare train access with local buses and onward travel [7].

Before choosing: investigate shift-time services and the final journey to work; confirm school and shopping needs.

Eastern and airport-side options

Explore: Belmont, Redcliffe, Midland and nearby suburbs. Consider these separate areas when eastern-side or airport commitments shape your move. Confirm the exact workplace and, for airport work, the relevant terminal or facility.

Consider this area for: renters with eastern or airport-side destinations. Transport: compare current train and bus routes and any terminal connection [7].

Before choosing: inspect traffic, aircraft noise where relevant, parking and operating hours for your commute.

Choose the area around your routine

Your priority	Starting points to compare
City-based assignment	CBD, East Perth, West Perth or a practical inner-suburb connection.
Beach access	Cottesloe, Scarborough or another suitable coastal address.
Fremantle-area work	Fremantle and nearby neighbourhoods matched to the job site.
Northern or southern work	A home on the relevant side of the city with a practical final connection.
Airport or eastern destinations	An address matched to the actual terminal, facility or office.

Transport, climate and everyday life

Getting around Perth

Use Transperth's current journey planner and network maps to compare trains, buses and ferries. Include the walk from home, transfers and the final journey to the workplace. Check weekday, weekend and early or late services separately. [7]

Tickets, fares and free city services

Check current SmartRider, contactless payment and ticket options, including concession eligibility and validation requirements. Follow the published instructions for tagging on and off, and compare fares through the official journey planner. [9]

CAT buses provide free travel on designated routes. Perth also has a defined Free Transit Zone with specific bus and train conditions. Check the current map and ticketing requirements; this does not make every inner-suburb journey free. [8]

Getting to the airport

Airport Central Station connects to Perth Airport T1 and T2 via a skybridge. For T3 and T4, Transperth directs passengers via Redcliffe Station and a connecting bus. Check your terminal and the current route before travelling. [7]

For work at another airport facility, plan to the actual building rather than a passenger terminal. Confirm early or late connections and arrange an alternative when the timetable does not suit.

Do you need a car?

Plan a full week: work, groceries, school, evening activities and weekend outings. Some well-connected homes can support daily life without a car; other job sites need additional connections. Compare parking, fuel and travel time with public transport convenience.

For walking or cycling, assess the actual path, shade, crossings and lighting. Check storage arrangements at home and work. Include the station or bus-stop walk in the property comparison.

Weather and the home you choose

Perth's climate has warmer, drier summers and cooler, wetter winters. Bureau of Meteorology observations at Perth Metro provide a city reference; coastal, inland and hills locations can experience different conditions. [11]

Inspect cooling, heating, ventilation, shade and window coverings. Ask about direct afternoon sun, draughts and electricity inclusions or usage limits. A furnished home should remain comfortable across your whole stay, especially if you will work indoors.

Lifestyle beyond work

Explore beaches, riverside recreation, cultural venues and neighbourhood dining as you settle in. Different areas offer different everyday routines, so allow time to explore before choosing a longer-term base. [2,4]

Libraries, council recreation facilities and community groups can help you establish local connections. Check nearby activities, opening hours and accessibility directly.

Budget for the whole stay

Compare accommodation, utilities, internet, parking, cleaning and other disclosed charges. Confirm inclusions, usage limits, payment dates and extension terms. Furnished availability and prices vary by property, location and length of stay.

Settling in with Relo Rentals

Your accommodation checklist

- Set your move-in date, expected stay, household size and total budget.

- Shortlist addresses around the exact workplace, school and daily services.
- Test journeys at your real start and finish times.
- Confirm beds, linen, kitchen equipment, laundry, internet and workspace.
- Check cooling, heating, parking, accessibility and any pet arrangements.
- Request full inclusions, usage limits, payment dates and extension or cancellation terms.
- Keep a record of the agreed details and arrival arrangements.

Frequently asked questions

Which Perth suburb is best for a relocation?

Start with work, household needs and budget. Central, coastal, northern and southern homes can support very different routines. Compare the property and the full daily journey before deciding.

Is all public transport in central Perth free?

No. Free services and Free Transit Zone conditions apply to defined routes or areas. Check the current Transperth map and ticketing requirements before travelling. [8]

Which station should I use for Perth Airport?

Check the terminal first. Airport Central serves T1 and T2, while T3 and T4 use a connection via Redcliffe Station and bus. Confirm the current route and allow time for the final transfer. [7]

Does Perth observe daylight saving?

No. Perth remains on Australian Western Standard Time throughout the year. Check seasonal time differences when coordinating with colleagues in other states.

How do I check schools before booking a home?

Check the local-intake arrangements for the exact address using Schools Online and contact the school directly. Research childcare availability and opening hours separately. [10]

What should a furnished rental include?

Check each listing and written agreement individually. Ask about furniture, bedding, appliances, kitchen items, laundry, internet, utilities and parking. Confirm heating and cooling as well as the items your household needs.

Ready to make Perth your next home?

Explore furnished accommodation for your move and find a base that fits the way you want to live. Whether you are relocating for work, moving with family or coordinating an employee assignment, start with the location, space and stay length you need.

Sources

Information reviewed: 13 October 2026. Demographic reference period: 2021 Census, Greater Perth. Check current transport arrangements and property details when planning your move.

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