

ROTTNEST IS

See more. Do more.

Thank you for choosing to visit Rottnest Island. Rottnest Island is a unique Island destination, rich in environment, culture and heritage. In order to preserve this unique environment and ensure that you and other visitors have a safe and enjoyable stay, please read the following information carefully.

The Rottnest Island Authority's public liability insurance is provided by the WA Government through a managed fund called RiskCover, which is administered by the Insurance Commission of Western Australia.

Your group's safety is our concern, but your responsibility. Responsibility of participant safety lies at all times with the supervising Teachers/Group leaders. Participants must be supervised throughout the duration of their stay. It is recommended that school groups bring their own first aid equipment to the Island. Please note; there is a nursing post on Rottnest Island.

General Safety

- Beware of undercut cliff edges/limestone overhangs which may have loose rocks and unstable surfaces. Observe all signage throughout the reserve.
- Do not enter caves.
- There is a total fire ban on Rottnest Island; this extends to sparklers, fireworks, lanterns and unattended candles.
- Use walkways provided.
- Do not interfere with dugites. Dugites are generally not aggressive, but they are poisonous.
- Do not enter unused buildings or military heritage sites.
- Protect yourself from the sun: Slip, slop, slap!
- Camping is permitted in designated areas only.

Cycle Safety

On Rottnest Island cycling is the most common way of getting around and we encourage schools to get out on their bikes and explore. However last year the Rottnest Island nursing post treated around 450 bicycle related injuries. It is therefore extremely important that you observe the following safety advice;

- Western Australian road rules that apply on the mainland also apply on Rottnest Island.
- Bicycle helmets are **compulsory**.
- Always ride on the left side of the road in single or double file. Although there are no private vehicles on Rottnest Island, there are numerous service vehicles and tourist buses.
- Wear lights if cycling at night.
- Stay on designated roads and cycle tracks.
- Use correct hand signals when turning.
- Be cautious cycling down steep declines.
- Take sufficient water while cycling as there is no fresh water outside the settlement areas.
- Lock bicycles when unattended.
- Bicycles, skateboards and rollerblades are not to be ridden through the mall.
- Rottnest Island Police may issue infringements. They have the power to ban groups from riding bikes on the Island.

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Care for the Environment/Heritage

Rottnest Island is an 'A' Class Reserve, declared under the *Land Act 1993*. All flora, fauna and landforms are protected by law. Cultural heritage sites are protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* and the *Heritage of Western Australia Act*.

The Rottnest Island Authority was created to manage Rottnest Island under the *Rottnest Island Authority Act 1987*. As visitors to the Island we hope you enjoy your experience and ask that you please observe and respect the RIA's procedures and guidelines to assist us to maintain the pristine environment. **Offences under the Rottnest Island Act can carry substantial fines.**

Please help us protect and conserve Rottnest Island;

- Do not collect or remove any natural materials, including shells.
- There are 5 sanctuary zones around Rottnest where fishing is prohibited. Signage on the beaches clearly designates these zones. For current information please check the department of fisheries website; www.fish.wa.gov.au
- No spear guns are permitted within 800m of the Island.
- Stay on designated paths and walk trails to avoid erosion and disturbance to animals' habitats.
- Do not litter. Dispose of waste in the recycling and rubbish bins provided.
- Do not feed or touch the wildlife, including quokkas and birds.
- Use water wisely.
- Do not bring animals or plant-life to the Island.
- Sand boards and Sandboarding are not permitted on Rottnest Island.
- Respect areas of Aboriginal heritage and significance.
- Do not use any of the heritage limestone walls or buildings as a skate ramp or surface to hit balls against.

Marine Safety

Rottnest Island is home to some of the finest beaches, bays and reefs in the world and offers a wide range of coastal activities including boating, fishing, swimming, surfing, diving and snorkeling. With a choice of over 63 secluded beaches and 20 bays, you will be spoilt for choice.

- Please note that Rottnest Island's beaches are not patrolled by Lifeguards and groups, in particular school groups, should be mindful of the guidelines for supervision ratios and qualifications for open water. Please check your school/ Education Department excursion policy guidelines for activity specific ratios.
- Don't dive into the water, enter feet first as there may be submerged rocks.
- Be aware that any marine environment contains hazards. Animals (such as jellyfish and blue ringed octopi) may cause pain/injury.
- Some beaches on Rottnest experience strong rips, currents and large waves. If you are unsure about conditions at a particular beach, advice may be sought from a ranger or member of Rottnest Island Authority staff.
- Rottnest Island is surrounded by a number of coral reefs. Please take care when snorkeling or swimming around coral as it is easily damaged and may take many years to recover.
- Do not walk on exposed reef platforms as they can be easily damaged as well as home to dangerous marine creatures.

Kingstown Barracks Fire and Emergency Procedures

Anyone discovering a fire or emergency situation should:

1. Assist anyone in danger, if safe to do so.
2. Call **000**.
3. If safe to do so, attempt to extinguish fire with firefighting equipment located in the area.
4. If the fire cannot be extinguished, close all doors to the area and move to the nearest emergency exit.
5. If advised to evacuate, move immediately to the designated assembly area.
6. Do not attempt to enter buildings under threat and do not retreat into surrounding natural environment.

Emergency Contact Numbers

In an emergency dial 000 and advise the operator the nature of the emergency. Please note that if 000 does not work from a mobile phone, you should call 112.

Emergency:	000
Nursing Post:	9292 5030
Police:	131 444
Fire (non-emergency):	9292 5077
Rangers:	9372 9788

Other Contact Numbers

Education Services:	9372 9777 or 9372 9702
Bike Hire:	9292 5105
Visitor Centre:	9372 9730
Accommodation Security:	9372 9728