

SOUTH WEST BACKPACKER COMMUNITY

COVID-19: HANDY CONTACTS + LINKS

Backpackers have long been a welcome part of our South West community, contributing to the success of our agricultural and viticultural industries.

During these uncertain times, we offer the following information which may be helpful.

Accommodation – Assistance

> Manjimup

- Shire of Manjimup Recovery Team
- 0499 550 224
- Recovery@manjimup.wa.gov.au
- www.facebook.com/groups/ManjimupCOVID

> Busselton/Margaret River Region

- Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association
- 9780 5911
- welcome@margaretriver.com
- www.margaretriver.com/travel-safety

Accommodation + Help

> Adopt A Backpacker WA

- Community initiative to help backpackers find a free home in WA
- Search Facebook for 'Adopt A Backpacker WA' group

> HelpXWA

- An online listing of hosts who invite volunteer helpers to stay with them short-term in exchange for food and accommodation
- <https://www.helpx.net/>

> Share the Love

- Margaret River initiative to bring together travellers and those who can provide assistance
- Search Facebook for 'Share the love – helping Margaret River backpackers and travellers'

REMEMBER to do your bit to stop the spread: keep your social distance by staying 1.5m or 2 arm lengths away from each other

Visa information

- > Department of Home Affairs
 - 131 881
 - immi.homeaffairs.gov.au
 - Working Holiday Makers who work in agriculture or food processing will be exempt from the six month work limitation with the one employer and eligible for a further visa to keep working in these critical sectors if their current visa is due to expire in the next six months

Foreign embassies + consulates

- > Department of Foreign Affairs + Trade
 - 02 6261 1111
 - www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/foreign-embassies/pages/foreign-embassies-and-consulates-in-australia

Public health

- > South West Public Health Unit
 - 9781 2359
 - If you suspect you or someone you are living with might have COVID-19

St Vincent de Paul Society

- > Vinnies Emergency Assistance
 - 1300 794 054 (9am – 1pm)
 - Can help if you're experiencing difficulties meeting living expenses such as paying bills or having sufficient food

Mental health support

Beyond Blue

- Provides mental health and wellbeing support.
- 1300 22 4636
- www.beyondblue.org.au

Lifeline

- Provides support to those experiencing a personal crisis.
- 13 11 14
- www.lifeline.org.au

Find a job

- > Jobs in WA Food and Ag
 - www.jobsinwafoodandag.com
 - Register your interest and connect with regional employers, labour hire companies and recruitment businesses
 - NOTE: Workers should not travel outside their WA region until they have secured a job – more info at www.wa.gov.au

Flights home

- > Qatar Airlines
 - www.qatarairways.com
 - Flying to UK/ Europe

Health care

- > Services Australia
 - www.servicesaustralia.gov.au
 - Agreements with 11 countries that cover the cost of medically necessary care
- > Medicare Australia
 - www.healthdirect.gov.au
 - 1800 022 222
 - Most people who are not eligible for Medicare in Australia will have health or travel insurance. If you do not have adequate insurance cover, WA will waive healthcare costs associated with COVID-19 if a person is treated in a public facility such as a State-run hospital.

WA Government

- > COVID-19 Information + Advice
 - www.wa.gov.au
 - 13COVID: 132 6843

Australian Government

- > COVID-19 Information + Advice
 - www.australia.gov.au

