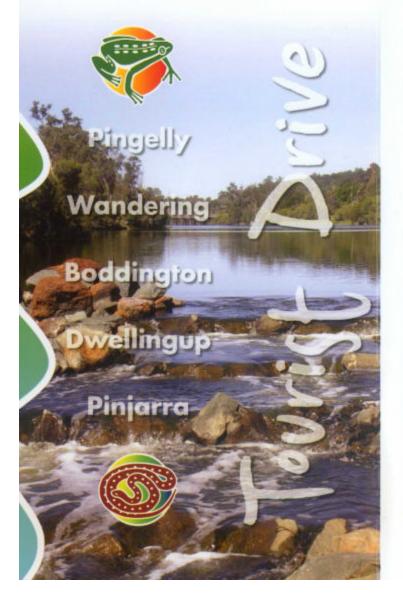
Hotham Way

Golden Grain to Coastal Plain

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



The Story

Hotham Way

Golden Grain to Coastal Plain

The idea of an inland tourist route started back in 2003 when Mel Kramer who was an engine man with the Hotham Valley Railway used to travel between Boddington and Pinjarra and commented on how interesting the drive was. Further discussion took the drive from Pingelly through Wandering, Boddington Dwellingup and Pinjarra, loosely following the Hotham River along the way.

One of the reasons for following this vision was to get people away from the overcrowded coastal drives and into the inland regions, where there are so many unexplored tourist attractions. As the River was also essential to the Aboriginal people as camping grounds and places of significance, an Aboriginal artist was asked to create the Snake or Wagyl Totem of the Pinjarra people and the Frog Totem of the Pingelly people.

Mining is now an important part of the region with two major mines located on the Hotham Way; the Boddington Gold Mine and Worsley Bauxite Mine. Mining, farming and forestry, with their support services, make up the majority of industries, however there are many hobby farms, retirees and cottage industries in the region. The Boddington Arts Council is very active as are the many sporting clubs.

The Hotham Way is also a way for local producers, such as wineries and olive groves and artisans to open their doors to the public. The Hotham Way is full of exciting adventures; We trust you enjoy the journey.







The Icons



The frog is an important symbol and icon of the tribes who came from around the Pingelly region. Its true spiritual significance to these local tribes is buried deep in cultural, spiritual and tribal law. It is believed that during the dreamtime every man and woman was transformed from nature and owes allegiance to the totem of the animal or the plant that they were created from.

We know that the frog was very important Australia wide and was believed to have been created to rule all the ponds and lakes, except the tree frogs, who were the kings of the trees.



The Wagy

The Wagyl according to Noongar culture, was a snakelike dreamtime creature responsible for the creation of the Swan and Canning Rivers and other waterways and landforms around the south-west of Western Australia.

The Rainbow Serpent created the universe and the people, then delegated the Wagyl as a powerful deity to create and protect the rivers, lakes and springs of the South West. The Wagyl was seen by certain tribal elders who spoke to the dreamtime being.

The Darling Scarp is said to represent the body of the Wagyl, which meandered over the land creating the curves and contours of the hills and gullies. As the Wagyl slithered over the land, his track shaped the sand dunes, his body scoured out the course of the rivers. As he moved, his scales scraped off and become the forests and woodlands of the region.







