

# Toodyay Drive Trails



**Toodyay Visitor Centre**  
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@visittoodyay



Explore Toodyay at its best by taking a drive trail through the rolling hills, cultivated farmland and historic buildings.

## 1. Historic Drive - 46km

Follow a historic drive from Toodyay to Northam via Katrine Road

## 2. Botanical Journeys - 90km

Trace the footsteps of James Drummond and Charles Garnder from Toodyay to New Norcia

## 3. Explore Toodyay and the Avon Valley - kms vary

A four day itinerary traveling around the Avon Valley. Use Toodyay as a base and visit Northam, Goomalling, New Norcia and Bindoon

## 4. Scenic Drive - 22km

Alternative route from Toodyay to Perth showcasing Toodyay's farmland and the Avon River

## 5. Toodyay Food & Picnic Trail - 41km

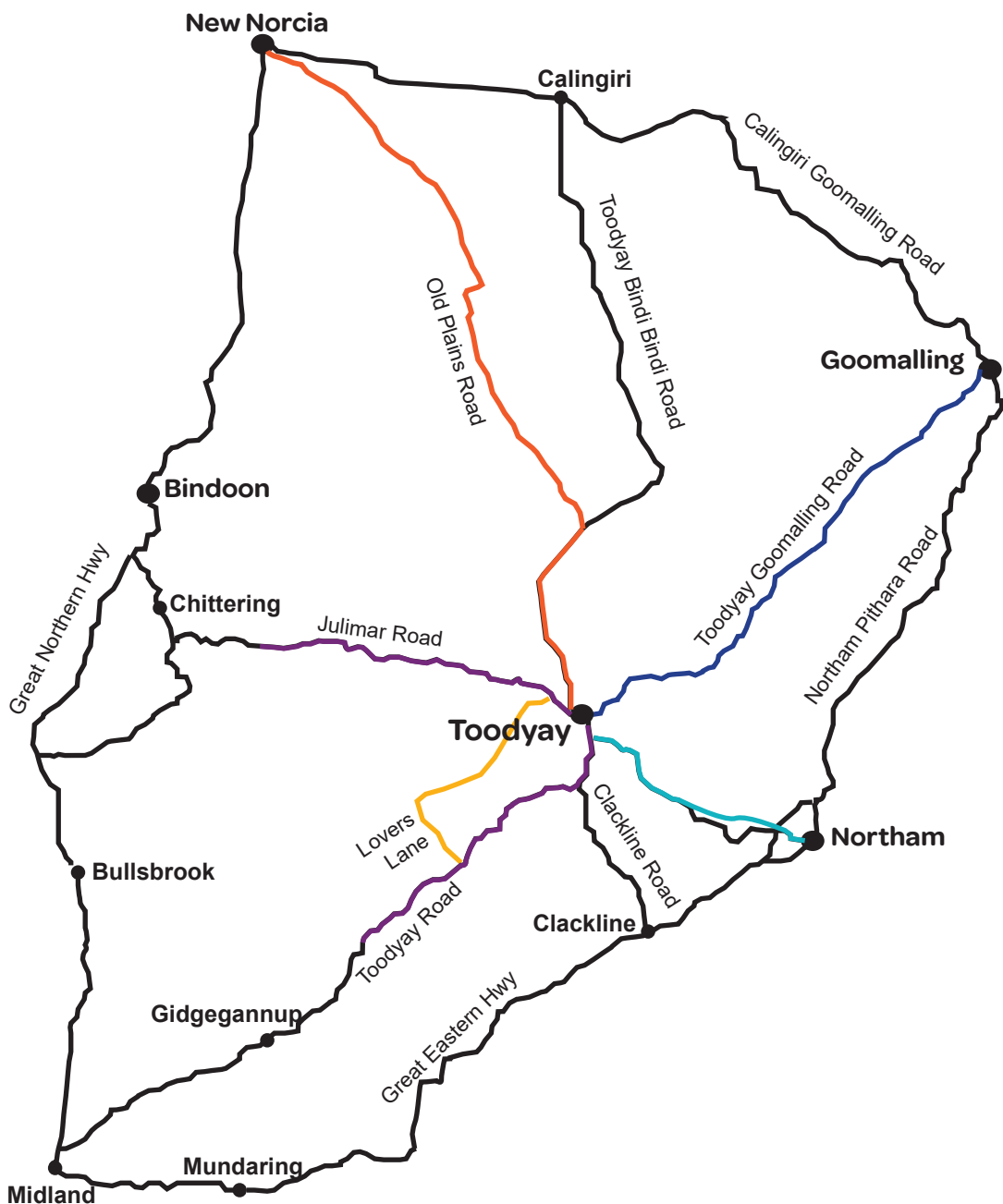
Discover Toodyay's local produce and create your own picnic

## 6. Pioneers' Pathway - 223km

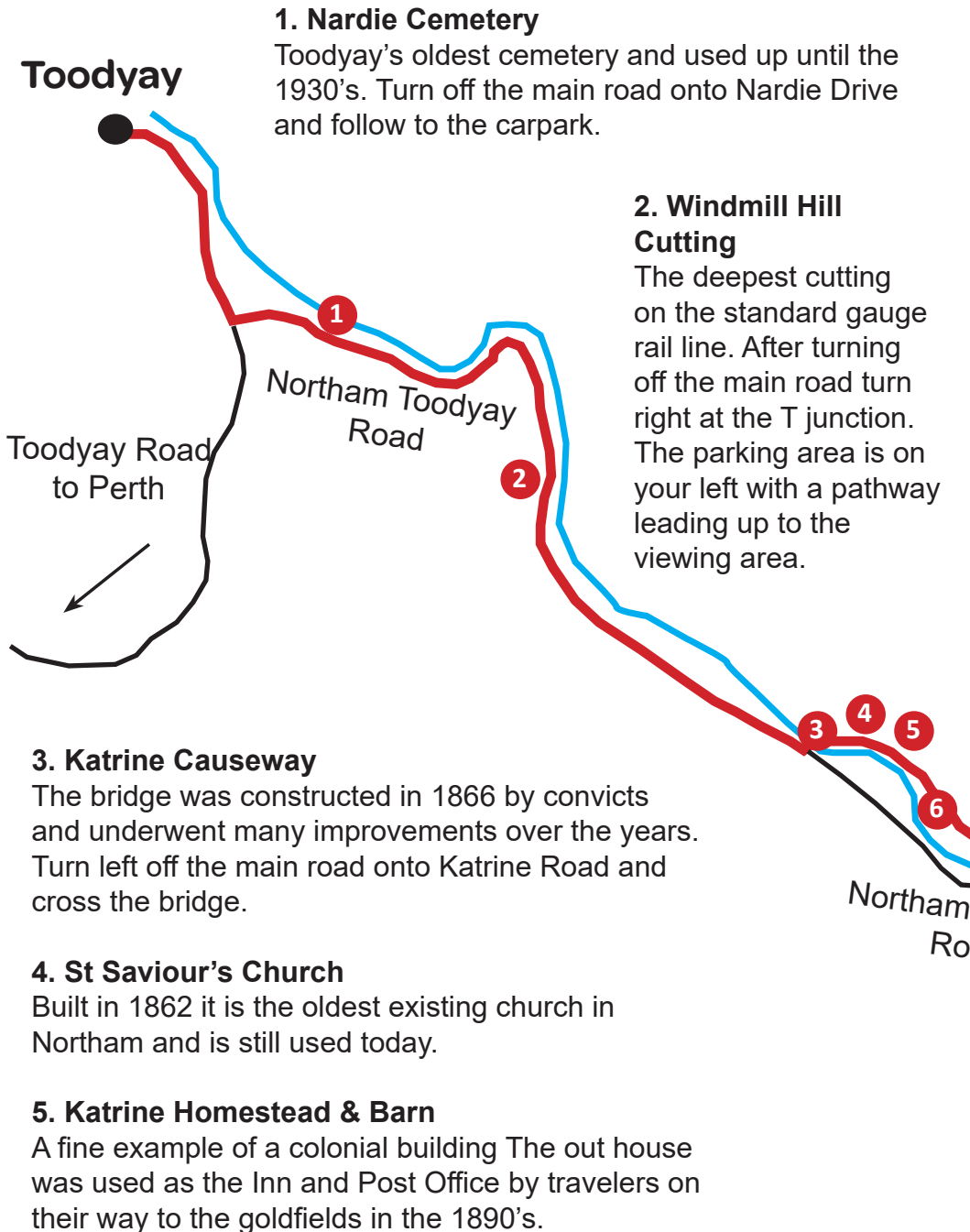
Follow the path taken by early pioneers to the goldfields. The trail travels from Toodyay to Merriden



# Drive Trails



# Histori Toodyay to No



# c Drive Northam 46km

## 6. Glenfield Homestead

Stone ruins dating back to the 1860's. Built by Abraham William Morgan.

## 7. Mead's Rock

It was here c June/July 1837 that Perter Chidlow and Edward Jones were speared to death by natives. William Chidlow later went to the spot where he found a hut burning and his brother's body buried nearby. A man carting produce found the body of Jones in a thicket.

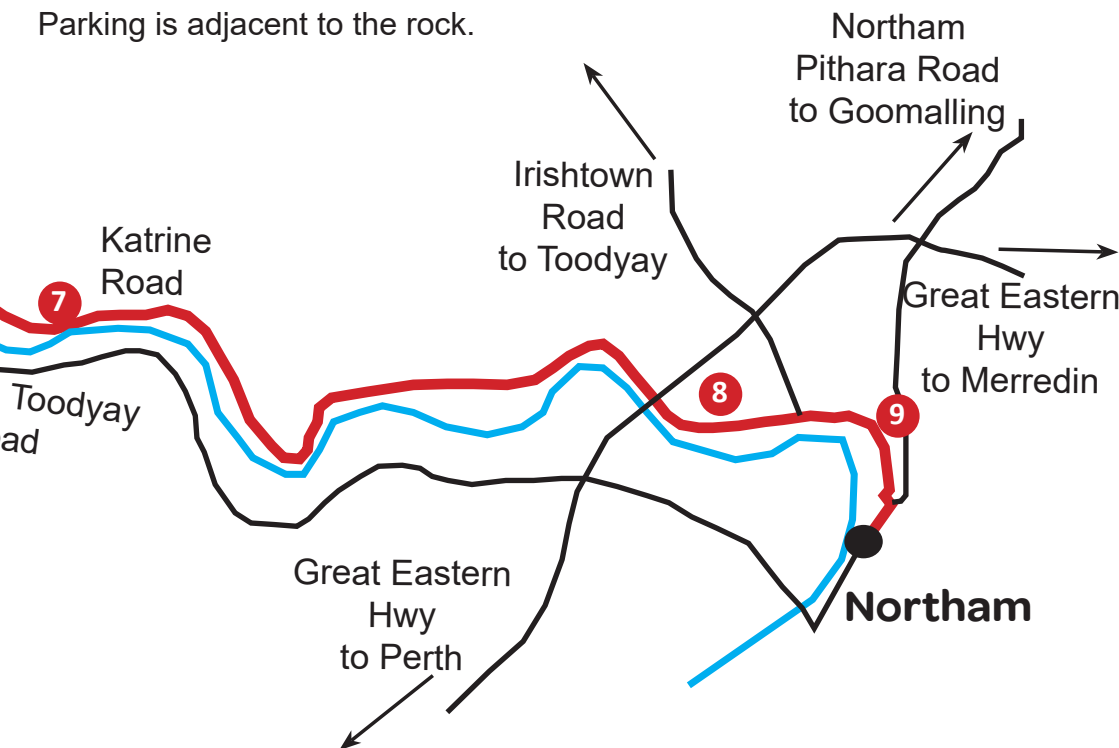
Parking is adjacent to the rock.

## 8. Northam Cemetery

The heritage section of the cemetery is where the pioneers of Northam lay. Some family names include Twine, Beard, Jahn and Martin.

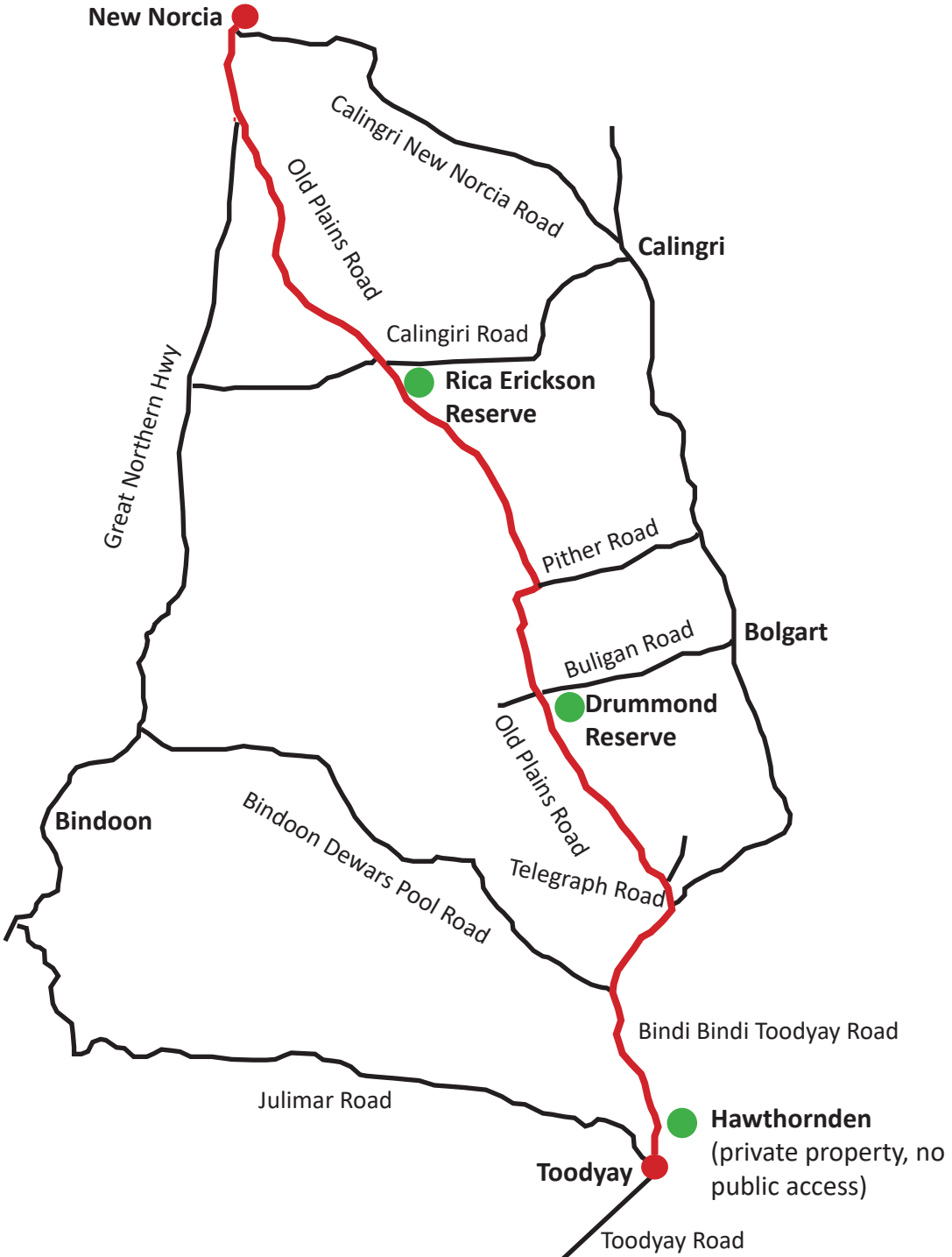
## 9. Morby Cottage

Built in 1836, the former home of one of the founders of Northam, John Morrell. Most of the work was undertaken by Peter and William Chidlow. Thought to be one of the three oldest buildings still standing from pioneer days.





# Botanical Toodyay to New



# Journeys w Norcia 90km

Follow in the foot steps of James Drummond and Charles Gardner.

This path travels the back roads of Toodyay and Victoria Plains, past farmland and natural bush. Most of Old Plains Road is unsealed so caution is advised.

## **James Drummond**

James Drummond traveled as far north as the Murchison River, inland to Kellerberrin and as far south-east as West Mt Barren (near Bremer Bay). He collected nearly 50,000 specimens and today there are 119 WA plant species named after him.

James Drummond moved to the Toodyay district in 1838 and established a residence at Hawthornden. In 1842 Drummond blazed a trail in a northerly direction from his home. The winding trail became known as Drummond's Track and was used by shepherds. In 1846 a Benedictine party trudged along it to found the mission at New Norcia.

## **Charles Gardner**

Charles Gardner was a passionate collector of plant species and over a period of 50 years traveled throughout WA. Gardner set himself the task of re-collecting all of Drummond's specimens. One plant Gardner was very keen to rediscover was the *Grevillea candolleana* from the Toodyay district

In 1947 Gardner set out from New Norcia with forester Dick Perry along Drummond's old route between New Norcia and Toodyay. Just after turning on to the old track, a patch of the grevillea was spotted in full bloom. This patch was probably the precise location where Drummond had made his collection a century before. The pair picked a sprig and placed it on Drummond's grave as they journeyed south past Hawthornden.

## **Drummond Reserve**

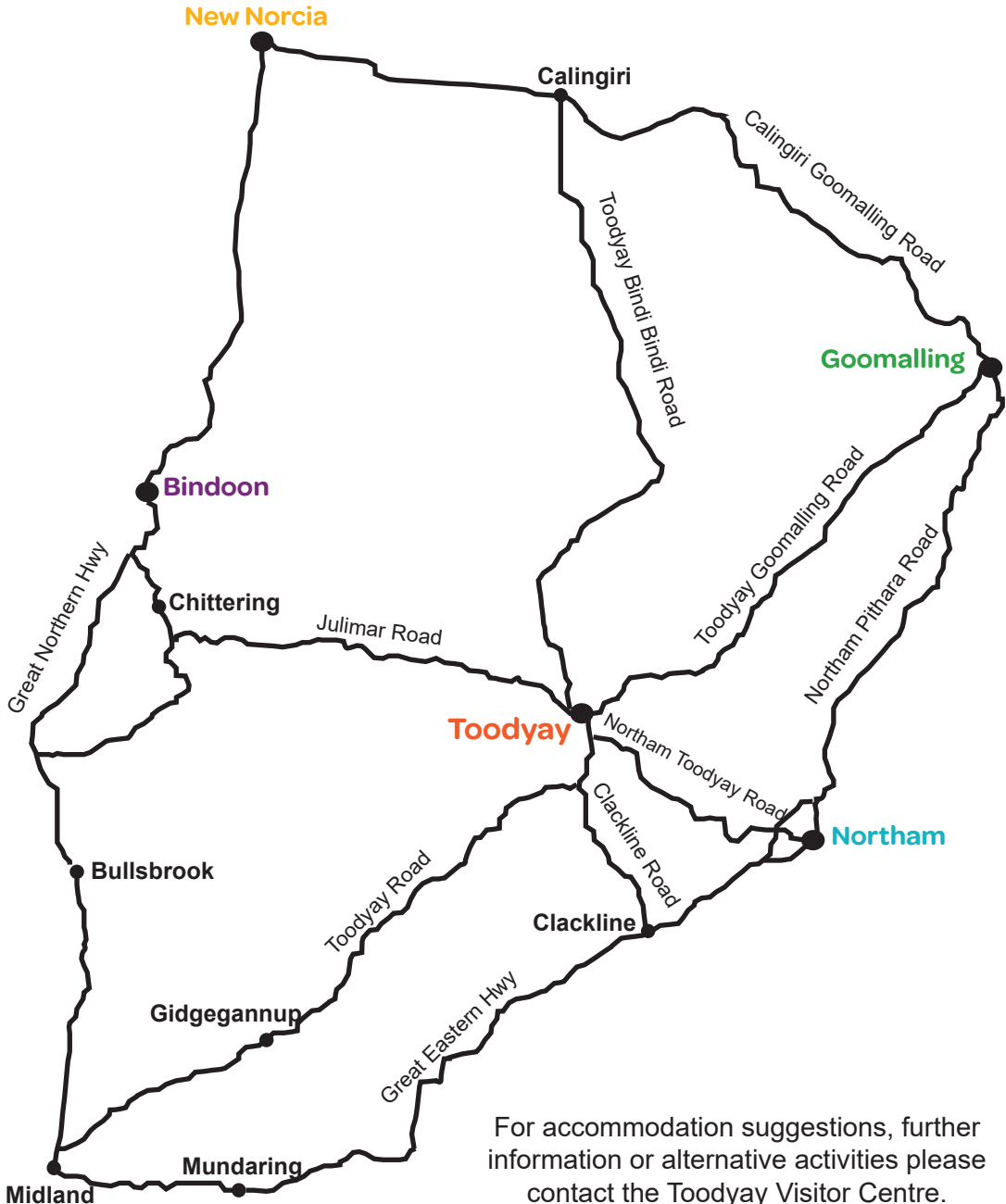
Quiet bushland of grass tree, sheoak, wandoo and wildflowers.

The reserve has over 400 species of native plants within its boundaries, including two rare and seven priority species.

## **Rica Erickson Reserve**

Rica was an active member of the Bolgart Country Women's Association. In 1964 the CWA successfully petitioned the Victoria Plains Shire for the protection of 124 hectares along what had been Drummond's old track. In 1996 this reserve was named the Rica Erickson Nature Reserve. The reserve is an open woodland growing over low heath. Spider Orchids are particularly good in Spring.

# Explore Toodyay a





# nd the Avon Valley

## Day 1

### Toodyay and Northam

- Start your journey with a morning coffee at the award winning Toodyay bakery.
- Head over to Northam via Clackline. On your way stop at:
- Coorinja Winery - WA's oldest winery Coorinja
- Toodyay Emu Farm - the world's oldest emu farm
- Avonbrook Wines - a local winery with a twist
- While in Northam visit the Bilya Koort Boodja centre and experience local Nyoongar culture
- Take the Northam Toodyay road back to Toodyay and stop in at Windmill Hill cutting

## Day 2

### Toodyay and Goomalling

- Explore Toodyay's historic main street filled with boutique shops and cafes, including WA's largest Christmas shop, Christmas 360
- Discover Toodyay's history at the Newcastle Gaol museum
- Drive to Goomalling for lunch and visit the historic Slater Homestead and magical Oak Park
- Head back to Toodyay and take in the sunset at the beautiful Pelham Reserve

## Day 3

### Toodyay, New Norcia and Bindoon

- Visit Australia's only monastic town and explore the museum, art gallery, and hotel.
- Enjoy lunch at the award winning Bindoon Bakehaus & Cafe.
- Stop at Blackboy Ridge, on the corner of Chittering and Julimar roads for a 1.5km walk with stunning views and a lookout.
- Enjoy a wine tasting at Alicia's Estate and Restaurant
- Take a stroll along the Bilya Walk track by the river

## Day 4

### Toodyay

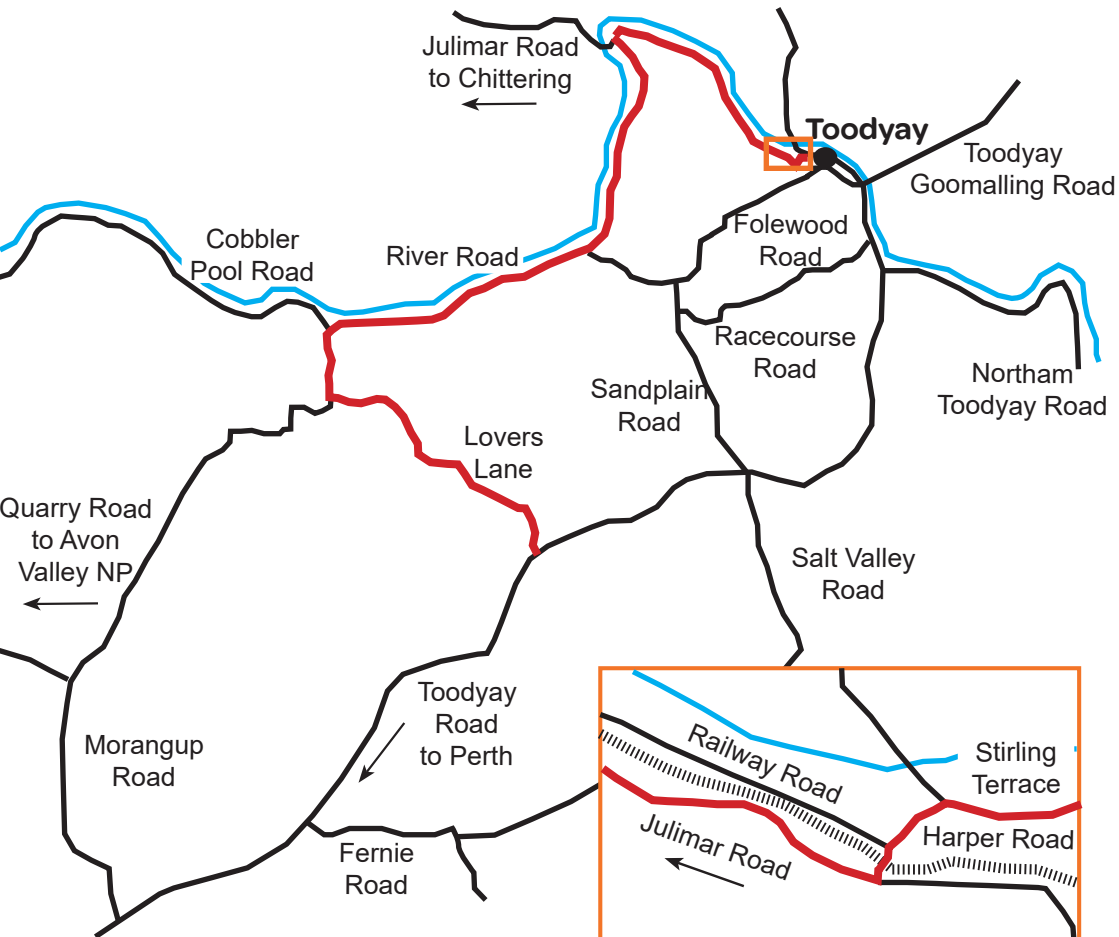
- Take an exhilarating ride with Avon Valley trike tours
- See a working steam engine at Connor's Mill museum
- On your journey back to Perth visit the Avon Valley National Park

# Scenic Drive Lovers Lane 22km

Lovers Lane is an alternative route to or from Toodyay, offering scenic views of the Avon River. Enjoy a leisurely drive through a valley of farmland and natural bush.

This route also connects to the entry to the Avon Valley National Park and Julimar Road to Chittering.

Parts of Lovers Lane, River Road and Morangup Road are unsealed so caution is advised.



# Toodyay Food & Picnic Trail

The Toodyay Food & Picnic Trail is a self-drive journey providing access to your choice of locally grown seasonal produce for your picnic basket.



Along this 41km trail, you will meet the growers and producers of dates, olive oil, wine, breads, pastured meats and condiments to fill your picnic basket... along with a camel experience!

The Toodyay Visitor Centre has a separate brochure with all the trail details.

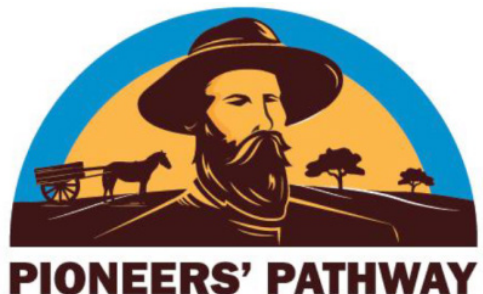
## Pioneers' Pathway

Follow the well worn route from Toodyay to Merredin that prospectors once took on their way to the goldfields. Total drive is 223km.

Enjoy the scenery and history of Toodyay, Goomalling, Dowerin, Wyalkatchem, Trayning, Nungarin and Merredin.

Each town has a unique story about a colourful characters from the past, including Moondyne Joe, Rusty the Tin Dog and Alice Cummins.

Brochures can be found at each town's visitor centres.



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