

City of Mandurah – Whole Cities, Category B – Population 20,001 – 75,000



The City of Mandurah is a regional centre located an hour's drive south of Perth, Western Australia's capital city.

Mandurah was once a small fishing town but is now one of the most vibrant regional cities in Western Australia. It has an area of 173.5km², which extends from its northern extremity bordering Perth's metropolitan area to Lake Clifton a Ramsar-listed wetland, and the Yalgorup National Park to the south.

The region's strong indigenous heritage plays an integral part in shaping Mandurah and its culture; its name derived from the indigenous word "Mandjoogoordap" meaning "meeting place of the heart".

Pic: Indigenous Welcome to Country ceremony, Australia Day 2010

Despite Mandurah's recent rapid growth as a major 'sea change' destination in Australia, it has retained its relaxed, holiday atmosphere. The city now offers a mix of residential developments that include affordable family homes and modern apartments within new estates to luxurious homes along numerous canal waterways.

The 'sea change' phenomenon has changed Mandurah forever, but the city is flourishing guided by sound strategic planning and community inspired participation. It is creative, sustainable planning that enables Mandurah to evolve, while retaining its close relationship with its magnificent waterways, and ensuring the community has good access to quality health and community services, a range of education and employment opportunities, and recreational and lifestyle choices.

As the city grows, its leaders work hard to maintain healthy lifestyle outcomes and ensure that community infrastructure, such as libraries, recreational facilities, sporting reserves, roads and footpaths, keep up with Mandurah's increasing population while being mindful that environmental best practice and preservation of bushland, coastline and waterways is continued.

Mandurah City Council and Mandurah's community support this vision of protecting Mandurah's biodiversity. The City of Mandurah maintains more than 1,000 hectares of natural and passive recreational reserves, including 51km of coastal foreshore and 42km of estuarine waterfront so the work done by community volunteers is significant.

Although tourism is a major generator for the local economy, planning is underway through the Southern City Strategy to develop additional economic and business opportunities and create a 60,000 strong workforce for a population that could nearly double in size by 2021.

This challenge includes short and long-term planning for a major revitalisation of Mandurah's city centre and foreshore precincts, better transport linkages across the city, a range of up-market and budget tourist accommodation, and greater secondary and tertiary education opportunities at local campuses.

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The City is completely focused on community participation and empowerment, and carefully considers the changing needs of the local community as it grows naturally and through migration to the area.

The City is always finding ways of being more sustainable in its approach to the enhancement of natural and built landscapes, including water sensitive urban design, safer communities through urban design, greening Mandurah's streets, and building innovative community facilities that are energy efficient, waterwise and accessible to everyone.



Pic (right): National Tree Day planting, July 2010

For the past 15 years, the City of Mandurah has developed corporate and community programs that support environmental best practice. This conviction to promote and implement environmental strategies has been guided by the City's strategic planning and vision for a holistic approach to creating a sustainable future for Mandurah.

Apart from Mandurah's natural appeal, the City's greatest asset is its diverse and friendly community. Mandurah welcomes people to enjoy its relaxed coastal lifestyle, and celebrates its unique place and connectedness through a range of community events and festivals that show immense pride in the city's diversity, arts and creativity, waterways and people.

Mandurah: vibrant, prosperous, connected and sustainable... a city excited about its future!



Pic (below): Aerial picture of Mandurah waterways and wetlands, March 2008