



Shire of **EAST Pilbara**  
AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST SHIRE

There are few towns in Australia whose names have such potency and such power to conjure up images as Marble Bar. Mining, isolation and most importantly heat come to mind, as it is known as "the hottest town in Australia", a fact that is still recorded by the Guinness Book of Records. For 161 consecutive days leading up until 20 April 1924, the temperature never dropped below 37.8°C, and this record still stands today.

Located 1476km North of Perth off the Great Northern Highway, 200km South-East of Port Hedland and 173 metres above sea level, Marble Bar is a very modern mining town. Unlike older mining towns (such as Coober Pedy and Andamooka for example) that have been thrown together in a haphazard way, Marble Bar boasts a number of modern houses and businesses, such as the Ironclad Hotel.

Marble Bar is named after a local deposit of mineral first thought to be marble, but later turned out to be jasper. It crosses the Coongan River about 5km west of town and is clearly sign posted off General Street, beyond the Government buildings. The jasper is at its best if you splash some water on it, however please note it is illegal to fossick or cut jasper at this location. There is, however, a section that has been set aside on the road to Old Comet Mine for rock enthusiasts.

Marble Bar sprang up as part of the gold rushes to the Pilbara in the late 1880's. Gold was discovered near Marble Bar in 1891 by Francis Jenkins and two years later the settlement was officially declared a town. A few years later the population grew to as high as 1000, but the goldrush was short-lived and miners soon headed South for bigger discoveries.

# Marble Bar Heritage Trail

(indicated in orange)

1. Shire Office
2. Community Resource Centre
3. Pioneer Wall
4. Site of Old General Store
5. Town Well
6. Government Buildings - Old PO, Mines Dept. & Police Station
7. Nursing Post/Old Hospital
8. Water Tank Lookout Hill
9. Post & Telegraph Office
10. Anglican Church
11. Poinciana House (National Heritage-Private)
12. Marble Bar School
13. Site of R.C. Church
14. Old House Ruins
15. Road Board Hall (Now a park)
16. Miners Institute Site
17. Ironclad Hotel
18. Civic Centre

Other Points of Interest are Marked in Blue

'The Hottest Town in Australia'

