

A family car rally adventure exploring the Swan Valley



Swan Valley Visitor Centre
 cnr Meadow and Swan streets,
 Guildford
 9379 9400
 www.swanvalley.com.au
 Open 7 days 9.00am-4.00pm
 Closed Christmas Day



Hello,
 my name's Stirling!

I'm a Black Swan. I was named after Captain James Stirling the first ever Governor of WA. I'm here to help you explore the Swan Valley just like Captain Stirling did in 1827. Except today we'll be exploring by car rather than boat. It's a bit quicker that way and we get to see a whole lot more!

So...get your engines ready! The Clue Sheet will show you where you need to go. There's also a mystery to solve. Look out for me along the way— I have clues for you. Have fun!

INSTRUCTION SHEET

You will need


- The Great Valley Rally Clue and Instruction Sheets*
- Pen/pencil
- Swan Valley Food and Wine Trail Map*
- A road directory (not essential)
- Something to lean on
- Your thinking caps!

*Available from the Swan Valley Visitor Centre or download from www.swanvalley.com.au

- A rally is kind of like a treasure hunt in a car. In this rally you will start and end at the Swan Valley Visitor Centre (Visitor Centre), but you'll have no idea where the journey is going to take you in between until you read the Clue Sheet. It's a real adventure!
- Check-in at the information desk at the Visitor Centre. Collect your free Swan Valley Map and the Clue Sheet if you haven't already downloaded copies from the web.
- The cryptic (tricky) directions on the Clue Sheet will help you find your way along a specific route through the scenic Swan Valley. Use it in conjunction with the Swan Valley Map.
- Along the way there will be plenty of stops at interesting places for you to get out and have a look around. You'll discover all sorts of things! There will also be challenges for the family, so keep your thinking caps on.
- As you drive along everyone has a job to do. Little kids need to look out the window for 'landmarks'. (One of the older kids or adults will tell you what these are.) Seeing landmarks helps the family know that you are driving in the right direction.



- Older kids can help by reading the Clue Sheet and looking out for landmarks. Their most important job is to read out what I say in the speech bubbles along the way. I'll tell you all sorts of cool stuff that'll make your trip more interesting.

- ★ Along the way you will discover nine checkpoints. Each checkpoint has a picture like this.  Everyone can get out of the car and look for me. On my picture are some letters. Copy the letters onto the back of this sheet, without leaving any gaps between the letters. They won't make much sense at first but once you've visited every check point and have all the letters down in the right order, they will spell out a mystery riddle!

- You have to go to the checkpoints in the right order in order to solve the mystery.
- When you have reached the last checkpoint and have solved the secret message, take this sheet into the Visitor Centre to collect your winner's certificate.

Very important!



Did you know that the Black Swan is the official state emblem of WA? I'm also on the Western Australian flag and coat of arms too! The first recorded European sighting of black swans was made in 1697 when the famous Dutch explorer Willem de Vlamingh sailed into and named the Swan River on the Western coast of New Holland. (New Holland is what Australia used to be called).

Estimated time to complete

3 hours

3 hours

Planning your day

I recommend that you make a day of it! The City of Swan has some great family picnic destinations. Why not get a group of families together to do the Rally? Afterwards meet up for a group picnic.

Here are some of my favourite places:

Fish Market Reserve (Guildford map GA3)

Kings Meadows (Guildford map GB8)

Stirling Square (Guildford map GF4 toilets)

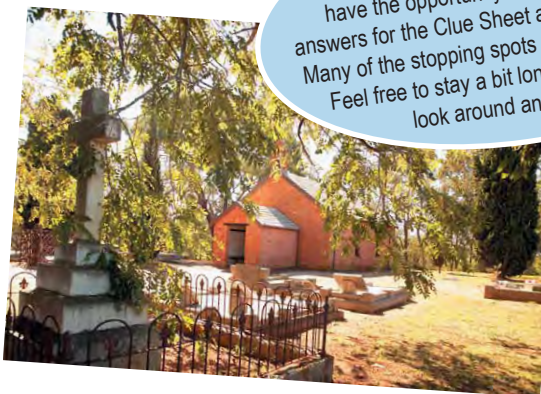
Maali Bridge and Park (Swan Valley map G10)

Lilac Hill Park (Swan Valley map D20)

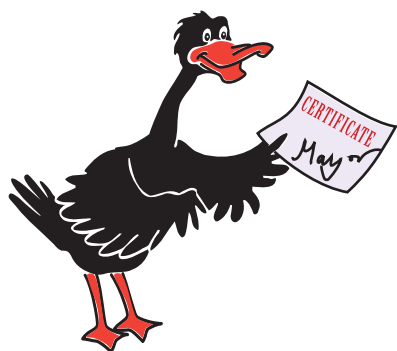
All Saints Church (Swan Valley map G5)

Whiteman Park (Swan Valley map B11, toilets)

Note: There are lots of stops along the way where children have the opportunity to get out, search for answers for the Clue Sheet and stretch their legs. Many of the stopping spots are very picturesque. Feel free to stay a bit longer at each stop to look around and explore.



★ ★ ★ Tips



- Latest recommended departure time is 12.00noon. (The Visitor Centre closes at 4.00pm.)
- The Valley Rally can be done every day of the year.
- The Valley Rally is not a race! You can take as much time as you need to complete. If you don't finish it today, you can always come back and finish on another day. Remember, all families who have a go at completing the Great Valley Rally will be awarded a winner's certificate.
- Public toilets are located at the Visitor Centre and at a couple of the Rally stops where indicated on the Clue Sheet.
- Dogs on leads welcome.
- Bring some insect repellent just in case.



STIRLING'S SECRET MESSAGE

Your family name _____



EVALUATION QUESTIONS (Circle your answers)

How did you find out about the Great Valley Rally? Friends or family, school, internet, local newspaper, Visitor Centre, brochure, other _____

On a scale of 1 to 10 how much did your family enjoy the Valley Rally?

(no fun) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (really terrific)

Would you recommend the Swan Valley to other families. YES / NO

If no, why not? _____

Would you come back to the Valley to spend more time with your family on another occasion during the next 12 months? YES / NO

For more information about family-friendly places in the Swan Valley check out www.swanvalley.com.au

GREAT The Valley Rally



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Perth, Western Australia

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CLUE SHEET

Starting point: **Visitor Centre**
Start your engines.
You're off and running. Good luck!



Hop out of the car and walk to the river. This is a **sacred Aboriginal site**. Across the river you can see Success Hill. The Aboriginal people of Guildford called this place Wagyl's Bend. They believe that the bend of the River below Success Hill is the resting place of the Wagyl - a huge winged monster with very long arms, teeth and large eyes.

The Wagyl lurks beneath the dark water and lies in wait for unsuspecting travellers! **You can see for yourself where the Wagyl rests.** At the river, turn right and walk upstream for about 200m past the picnic tables and seats. Look across the river and you should be able to see a creek joining the river.

This is Bennett Brook. Where the brook meets the Swan River is where the Wagyl sleeps. Some people call this part of the river, 'Devil's Elbow'. Can you see the Wagyl today or is he resting?



BEWARE
The Wagyl rests here!

1

approx. distance to
1.3km
the next checkpoint


Turn right out of the carpark, then left at the roundabout onto the street named after the bird which is the official state emblem of WA. When you get to the street that is the name of a past queen of England, turn right. Keep going until you reach a picnic spot on the river. Just as well it doesn't smell as fishy as its name suggests! At the limestone entrance, stop and look for me. Copy the letters you see there onto the bottom of the Instruction Sheet. Then drive to the picnic site.

What colour is the horse? _ _ _ _ _



2

approx. distance to
3.7km
the next checkpoint

Jump back into the car. Retrace your steps until you get back to the roundabout closest to the Visitor Centre. Drive straight ahead. Look out for the Rose and Crown hotel on your right. Built in 1841, it's the oldest pub in WA! Veer left at the roundabout where you will see the Padbury General Store, named after the first Mayor of Guildford. Keep driving straight ahead until you pass Guildford Grammar School chapel on your left. Go through two sets of traffic lights then turn left at the first avenue that you see. Look for  and follow the directions to Woodbridge.

At the entrance fence, stop and look for me. Copy the letters onto the Instruction Sheet.

How many posts can you count on the lower verandah? _ _

Woodbridge in England was the birthplace of Captain Stirling's wife Ellen. Woodbridge was built for Charles Harper in 1885. The house is over 100 years old. It was one of the first, and the grandest of the large houses built in and around Guildford after the opening of the Fremantle to Guildford Railway in the early 1880s. Charles Harper was once owner of the West Australian newspaper.



3

approx. distance to
1km
the next checkpoint

Time to move on! Retrace your steps and turn left back onto Great Eastern Highway. Look out for an ice-cream shop in a building on your left. Turn left here at the lights onto a road that is named after a famous singer your mum and dad might know of.

Van M _ _ _ _ _ N.

approx. distance to
4.7km
the next checkpoint

4



Drive straight ahead. Turn left at the next set of lights. You should be on Great Northern Highway. Drive straight ahead 1.2km until your next turn-off. Lucky you're not sick today. No need to go to hospital! At the lights turn right and head towards the coloured hill. Cross Roe Highway, and then turn immediately left (after the railway crossing) at the first road you see with a boys name. Almost straight away you should see the entrance to an amazing garden on your right.

What unusual things are growing in this garden?

At the entrance stop and look for me. Copy the letters onto the bottom of the Instruction Sheet.

Note: If the gate is open drive through and have a good look around.



5

approx. distance to the next checkpoint
5.8km

Time for everyone to get back in the car! Turn right out of the gallery heading north on James Road. Turn left at the T-junction. Follow the bird that turns into a railway. Can you see the hills on the right side? That's the Darling Scarp. Turn left at the road that sounds like 'spaghetti!' Then head north. Follow the railway track on the left until you reach a stop sign. Keep your eyes open for the Railway Crossing. Cross over it. When you get to the T-junction turn right onto the Great Northern Highway. Drive past Father Christmas' favourite trees and then turn left at the vineyard where 'Ella Sits'. (Hint: Look on your Swan Valley Map at H10.) A very fruity street indeed! Keep driving past the vineyard until you get to a dead-end. When you can see the footbridge over the river, and a carpark, stop the car and look for me on the back of a stripey sign. Copy the letters onto the bottom of the Instruction Sheet.

How many BBQs can you see here? _____

If you cross the bridge and walk along the path 60m you'll be able to see my holiday house. **Look up!**

The Noongars believe that the Darling Scarp represents the body of the Wagyl. According to aboriginal dreamtime stories, the Swan Valley was created by the Wagyl who travelled from the hills to the ocean leaving traces of its journey behind in the form of the Swan River.



6

approx. distance to the next checkpoint
9.6km

Let's get moving! Trace your steps back to the Great Northern Highway. At the junction of Barrett Street turn the car odometer back to 0 and turn left. Your next turn off is 4.2km to the right. Turn right after the BP service station at the first avenue you see starting with a 'C', after the odometer reaches 4km. (Hint: think 'grown-up church')

Cross over the railway lines and soon you should see white horse fences on both sides of the road, a railway line on the right and a fire station quite a long way after that. Keep going. Nearly there!

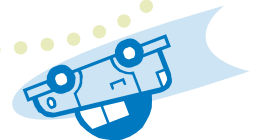
Keep following the main road and when you see a gravel car park on your left, pull over and look for me on the boom gate. Copy the letters onto the bottom of the Instruction Sheet, then follow the narrow entry road right down to the river.

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What do you think causes the 'rapids'? _____

approx. distance to the next checkpoint
8.9km



There are toilets here

This place is very, very old. Look up at the hill on the other side of the river. The granite surface rocks that you see are about 3.5 billion years old. That's 3,500 million years old! Scientists think that the planet earth was made 4.2 billion years ago so these rocks are pretty old. This hill is part of the Darling Ranges. A long, long time ago, these ranges were much bigger than the hills you see today—they were as high as the Himalayas where the tallest mountain in the world, Mt Everest, can be found!

Find more out about the geology of the area when you get back home by looking up information about the Yilgarn Block on the Internet.



7

OK everyone! Back in the car. Your next stop is not far away. Retrace your steps back to the Great Northern Highway. See if you can follow the railway track on your left. You should be able to see it almost all the way back to the Highway! Set the odometer to 0 again, then turn right onto the Great Northern Highway. Your next destination is 4.4km away from here. Who will be the first person to spot the primary school? What suburb do you think you might be in? Turn left on the first street you see AFTER crossing a bridge. When you cross the next bridge over Ellen's Brook (named after Captain Stirling's wife Ellen) you will be nearly there. Look out for a red and white shed on your left and turn down the street just after it with a boy's name.

When you get to the entrance stop the car and look for me on the nearest power pole. Copy the letters onto the bottom of the Information Sheet.

Find the grave stone of Vernon Keane. What year did he die? _ _ _ _

All Saints is the oldest church in Western Australia. The first Church service was held here in 1841. This spot on the Swan River is really special for another reason. **It is where Captain James Stirling of the HMAS Success camped during March 1827.** It was the farthest point reached during his exploration of the Swan River. Beyond the church you will discover a pathway that leads down to the Swan River. Why not go down by the riverbank and see for yourself what Captain Stirling saw all those years ago. Imagine what it was like to be him.



approx. distance to
2.5km
the next checkpoint

8

You guessed it, time to get back in the car. The next stop we've been saving for the BRAVEST people in the family! Turn left onto West Swan Road. Pass by one of my second cousins, a duck called Mallard on the right. Look out for Mallard's huge swimming pool on the left. Can you see many ducks swimming today? (Hint: Look at your City of Swan Map now.) Turn right onto the road that contains the word 'Hen'. Drive a bit slower than 70km/h if you can. Look out the left window. Slow down when you see the yellow horse sign on the left, slower still when you see some palm trees in a front garden—you need to start counting the house numbers now. Keep an eye out for number 97 on the left. Once you've found it drive extra slowly and look to your right.

When you spy a driveway leading to a yellow sand carpark on your right, pull in and look for me on the power pole. Copy the letters onto the bottom of the Information Sheet.

At the other end of the car park is the WA Reptile Park. Western Australia has a number of poisonous snakes including the Dugite, Brown Snake and Tiger Snake. **Tiger Snakes** are usually around a metre long, and have striped markings (hence the name 'Tiger Snake'). This is not always the case however, as the markings can change due to the seasons and the age of the snake. Tiger Snakes possess a potent neurotoxin and rank among the deadliest snakes in the world.




97



approx. distance to
11.4km
the next checkpoint



9

Right! Let's get moving again. You are doing really well and are nearly at the end of the Rally! Re-trace your steps back to West Swan Road. Set the car odometer to 0 and turn right. Your next stop is 10.5km on the right. Before you get to the next set of traffic lights you will see my favourite food company on the right. Keep your eyes open and see if you can guess what it is. (Hint: It's a big blue-grey building whose title contains a girl's name starting with 'M'. Willy Wonka and Freddo Frog would like to meet there for lunch I'm sure!) Drive through a set of lights. You will pass a winery on your left that contains summer footwear in it's name. Start to slow down when you see some grass playing fields. Look for this road sign  Slow down! Just before the bridge is a driveway on your right.




There's a public toilet on this corner, behind the fire station on the right hand side.

In the early 1800s there were no roads or railway lines. They hadn't been built yet, so the easiest way to travel was by boat along the Swan River. The Swan River was Perth's first major highway—only for boats instead of cars! Look across the river. See the tyres? That spot is called **Moulton's Landing** and it was a vital stop for barges and river craft in the early days of the Swan River Colony. Named after Abraham Moulton, one of Guildford's original merchants, the wharf fell into disuse in the 1880s after the Fremantle-York railway was built.

Drive down to the river, park and look for me. I am under the bridge. X marks the spot! Copy the letters onto the bottom of the Information Sheet.

approx. distance to
0.7km
the next checkpoint

10

Well done everyone! Get back onto West Swan Road and turn right to cross over the bridge. You are now heading back to the place when your journey began. Go straight through the roundabout and look for this sign.  Turn left into the carpark and go to the old colonial gaol and read the interpretive sign.



How many cells were demolished in 1917?
(Hint: Look at the paving in the carpark.) _____

Outside the gaol, look around for me. Copy the final lot of jumbled letter clues onto the bottom of the Instruction Sheet to solve the mystery riddle.

At one time this gaol housed Western Australia's best known bushranger, **Moondyne Joe** who was caught at Houghton Wine Cellars on the outskirts of town.

The Visitor Centre used to be a courthouse. It was built in 1867 with the help of convict labour.



CONGRATULATIONS!

You made it to the finish line.

Please make your way inside the Visitor Centre to claim your winner's certificate.

(Reminder, the Visitor Centre closes at 4.00pm daily)

