



# Kimberley Society

## Book Note

***100 Things To See In The Kimberley* by Scotty Connell.**  
Published by Exploring Eden Media, Bulli (NSW), 2019.  
Soft cover, 180 pages, full colour photographs and maps,  
ISBN 978-0-6484646-0-0.

Available from selected bookshops, or online from the [publisher](#) (with an additional \$5 for shipping). RRP \$29.95.

The innocuous sounding title of this book makes it one that could be easily overlooked but, with many of its images as striking as the cover, it has a lot to offer. It is packed with information and each of the 100 things it covers has space allocated for readers to jot down their own notes.

Written by a local guide who grew up listening to his Broome neighbour Malcolm Douglas telling stories about exploring the Kimberley, it offers down-to-earth commentary and tips on the best time to visit each place. As Nick 'Honey Badger' Cummins writes in the foreword: 'This book gives you a taste of the experiences that await you in this geographical masterpiece, and just some of the passion that Scotty has for the place.'

The book focuses on six areas, and each has a map at the front of the book. The flap on the cover is handy for marking map positions, particularly where the maps are not presented in the same sequence as the chapters. A Kimberley map appears inside the front cover, with conservation areas, sanctuaries and Indigenous Protected Areas shown in green.

The first chapter, 'Broome and the Dampier Peninsula', features 19 things to see. Some, such as Sun Pictures, are in the town. Others are up the coast, travelling via Pender Bay to Kooljaman, Cape Leveque, and on to Cygnet Bay – Waterfall Reef. The photographs here include spectacular shots of Roebuck Bay, James Price Point and Cape Leveque.

Next comes the 'Gibb River Road' chapter. It has 21 things to see and do, starting at Derby Wharf and ending at Miri-Miri Falls, El Questro. Catering for self-drive visitors, the coverage includes details for Imintji Campground (No. 4) and nearby Bell Gorge (No. 8).

'Mitchell Plateau and Kalumburu' features six things to see. The images even include a lavish hamburger served at Drysdale River Station! The 'Kununurra and East Kimberley' chapter describes Kununurra as 'the adventure capital of the Kimberley' and presents 23 things to see. The images include the intriguing Black Rock Falls, with the advice that a 4WD vehicle is needed to get there. 'Great Northern Highway' lists eight places, which include Warmun Art Centre. 'The Kimberley Coast' features 23 places accessible by sea and/or air. Most are scenic but, as in other chapters, some offer accommodation that ranges from rustic to five-star.

The final chapter, 'Travel in the Kimberley', provides helpful advice on getting there; what to take; driving; walking; mobile phone coverage; cultural sensitivity; and the wisdom of purchasing travel insurance that covers remote area medi-evac and valuables.

While *100 Things To See In The Kimberley* is perhaps best suited to readers who have never been there, it is also well worth a look for anyone who is familiar with the place and planning to return. There is no blatant promotion of the author's tour business – Kimberley Spirit Tours – although he does give his folks' cruise business a few plugs. Offsetting that are the references to other local businesses, e.g. Yawuru man Bart Pigram's Narlijia Experiences Broome with its Walking Chinatown tour. And, on the same page, you will find the names of three of Scotty Connell's favourite Chinatown eating places. But, be warned, if you want to see more than half of what is shown in this book, you will need a healthy budget and, in some instances, a reasonable level of fitness.

*Cathie Clement*