

# AVON DESCENT

# Spectator Guide

13 & 14 August 2022



Supported by



# SWITCH ON NARELDA

5PM



PERTH



## Partners

Northam's Avon Descent Association would like to recognise and thank our Official Partners and key stakeholder groups who we work with to deliver our events.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA



# Messages

GREG KAEDING, Chairperson,  
Northam's Avon Descent Association (Inc)



I am pleased to invite you all to cheer on the iconic event spectacle that is the 49th running of the annual Avon Descent.

The Avon Descent has played a significant role in my sporting and volunteer life and I am so glad to share the pleasure of being involved in an event which provides so many layers of sport and community engagement, volunteer involvement and tourist attraction—it is a unique event, and one Western Australia should be proud to own.

Last year was certainly one for the books, with most Avon Descent participants not having seen water levels like that before. We are predicting average water level and flow this year which will provide a challenge on the flat and in the rapids avoiding the sandbars and rock obstacles, and for the less fit and trained, will nevertheless carry them towards their finish line destination on day 2 at Riverside Gardens, close to the heart of Perth.

However the rain falls, we know everyone will have a great time on the water.

Events like the Avon Descent don't just 'happen'. I appreciate and thank the State Government, Local Governments and sponsors who are supporting the 2022 Avon Descent. Additionally, the invaluable support our local community groups provide ensures the event runs smoothly and I look forward to seeing the many spectators lining the banks at the Family Fun Days to cheer on our participants.

In particular, thank you to our Act Belong Commit Avon Descent Volunteering Program and Support Unit (ADSU), who do a remarkable job in the lead up to the Avon Descent and on the weekend itself. As a past participant, I know the relief that comes with seeing the team in red along the river and at certain intense locations—it brings a sense of relief in the knowledge you will be supported on your journey to the finish line.

If you want to get involved in the Avon Descent, I encourage you to consider joining our Volunteer team.

We now have our sights set on the 50th year celebrations during 2023. The NADA Board hope to provide an opportunity for everyone who has taken on the challenge of the Avon Descent to join in acknowledging this incredible achievement.

For now — enjoy the 2022 Avon Descent festival!



## WELCOME MESSAGE

HON ROGER COOK MLA  
DEPUTY PREMIER;  
MINISTER FOR TOURISM  
AND  
HON ALANNAH MACTIERNAN MLC,  
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Avon Descent  
29 July - 14 August 2022



The State Government is a proud sponsor of the Avon Descent through its Regional Events Scheme.

RES was established to support smaller and emerging events in regional Western Australia to boost tourism, increase community vibrancy and participation, and develop regional areas.

The scheme also plays an important role in positioning Western Australia as an exciting destination to visit and a great place to live by showcasing and promoting the host region's unique and diverse attractions.

Sixty-eight regional events across WA have been funded through the 2022-23 Regional Events Scheme, which includes the Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme, which contains a funding pool of \$150,000 exclusively allocated to events delivering Aboriginal activities and experiences.

We are pleased to sponsor all RES events, which help to revitalise regional economies and communities as we reconnect and welcome back visitors from around the world.

Tourism is a key part of the State Government's plan to energise the economy, create jobs and develop business opportunities, especially in regional Western Australia.

Events also play an important role in this plan, with the State Government sponsoring a range of sporting, cultural, arts and culinary events across Western Australia, through Tourism Western Australia, to attract visitors and encourage them to stay longer, disperse further and do more while they are here.

We hope everyone enjoys this event and takes the time to explore the Wheatbelt region.

HON ROGER COOK MLA  
DEPUTY PREMIER;  
MINISTER FOR TOURISM

HON ALANNAH MACTIERNAN MLC  
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# When do the Boats arrive?



		High Water		Medium Water		Low Water	
		Power	Paddle	Power	Paddle	Power	Paddle
Day One	Northam	8:00	8:30	8:00	8:30	8:00	8:30
	Extracts Weir	8:20	10:20	8:25	10:30	8:30	10:45
	Duidgee Park	8:25	10:30	8:30	10:40	8:35	10:55
	Cobbler Pool	8:45	11:45	8:55	12:00	9:05	12:30
Day Two	Cobbler Pool	12:00	7:00	12:00	7:00	12:00	7:00
	Bells Rapids	12:45	9:10	12:55	9:50	13:15	10:15
	Middleswan	13:05	10:30	13:15	11:15	13:30	12:00
	Lilac Hill Park	13:05	10:50	13:15	11:35	13:35	12:25
	Garvey Park	13:10	11:05	13:20	12:00	13:40	12:45
	Bayswater	13:15	11:15	13:25	12:15	13:45	13:00

The above arrival times are a guide only. These indicate when the first paddle and power craft will pass by each spectator location at high, medium and low river levels. Many factors affect these times including rainfall and start times.

For instance, higher river levels means faster flowing water and faster moving participants... which could be the case this year! For more information on current and historical river levels visit [water.thebeatentrack.org](http://water.thebeatentrack.org)

Be aware that start times may be delayed 30-minutes or more if there is fog along the course to allow time for it to clear, and this will affect times throughout that day.

Please visit the Avon Descent website for historical race times and current participant information through the AvonTracker [www.avondescent.com.au](http://www.avondescent.com.au)

# Family Fun Days

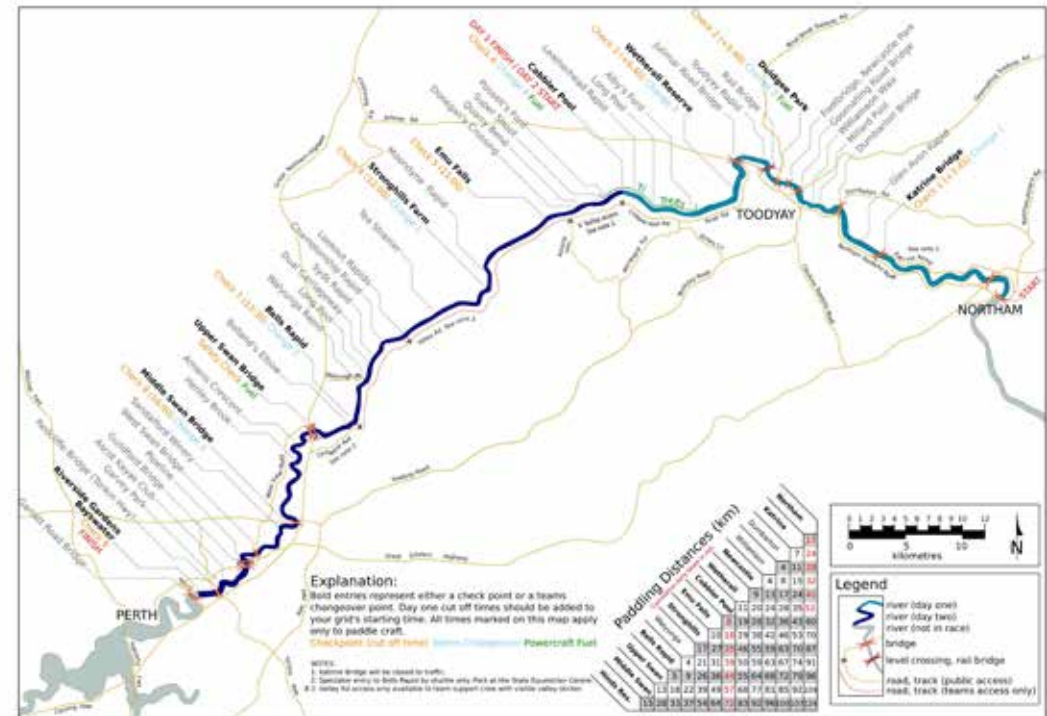
For some perfect family fun, check out the Avon Descent Family Fun Days!

During the annual Avon Descent weekend, spectators can enjoy all the action from the river bank during the Northam, Toodyay, Swan, Belmont and Bayswater family fun day events.

Enjoy race commentary, free entertainment and much more. Fun for all the family!

Northam's Avon Descent Association is proud to work alongside the Shire of Northam, the Shire of Toodyay, the City of Swan, the City of Belmont, the City of Bayswater and the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council to deliver these fantastic events.

For more information, please head to [www.avondescent.com.au/festivals](http://www.avondescent.com.au/festivals)



## AVON Descent 2022 FAMILY FUN DAYS

FREE FAMILY EVENT  
 #AvonDescentFamilyDays

**FRI 12 AUG**  
**Northam Bilya Festival**  
 Bilya Koort Boodja Centre Garden,  
 Minson Avenue, Northam, 5pm - 9pm

**SAT 13 AUG**  
**Toodyay International Food Festival and Family Fun Day**  
 Stirling & Duidgee Parks Toodyay,  
 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay, 10am - 4pm

**SUN 14 AUG**  
**City of Swan Avon Descent Festival**  
 Lilac Hill Park, 850 W Swan Rd,  
 Caversham, 10am - 3pm

**City of Bayswater Finish Line Festival**  
 Riverside Gardens, Milne Street,  
 Bayswater, 11am - 5pm



Find out more [www.avondescent.com.au/festivals/](http://www.avondescent.com.au/festivals/)

Northam Avon Descent

# Bilya River Festival

Friday 12 August | 5pm-9pm

Bilya Koort Boodja Gardens, Minson Avenue, Northam

Join us on the banks of the Avon River on the eve of the thrilling Avon Descent for the 2022 Northam Bilya Festival.

Show your community spirit at the reimagined street parade led by our very own Wargal, learn about living sustainably with our educational activities, or relax and enjoy the atmosphere with the street food, live entertainment and amusement rides.

**FREE ENTRY**

Friday



## BILYA RIVER FESTIVAL & AVON DESCENT START LINE SHIRE OF NORTHAM

Date: Friday 12 August 2022

Time: 5pm - 9pm

Where: Bilya Koort Boodja Centre Garden, Minson Avenue, Northam

The Northam Bilya Festival will return on Friday, 12 August with a sustainability theme, offering the most exciting amusements, food stalls, and live entertainment that you'll find in the Avon Valley this year! Don't miss the ever-popular street parade featuring the very exciting appearance of the Wargal (Aboriginal Rainbow Serpent). Come and celebrate the evening in style with the Shire of Northam.

Get in quick and book some accommodation and enjoy the evening of festivities and cheer on the Race starting line in the morning.

This event truly has something for everyone to enjoy. Join us at the Bilya Koort Boodja gardens for:

- The giant Wargal puppet designed by local aboriginal artist leading the much-loved street parade
- Sustainability-themed stalls
- Face painting, caricatures, henna, a butterfly house and wildlife animal exhibition
- Amusement rides and side show alley
- 500+ recycled lanterns (made by the local school children)
- Recycled artwork display
- Painted rock treasure trove (hidden around the festival site for you to find on the night) Don't forget to tag any you find with #bilyarocks
- Food vendors along Minson Avenue and an activated fire pit with a giant community paella demonstration (kindly facilitated by Duke's Inn) in an illuminated BKB garden.
- Acoustic music playing all night in the BKB gardens, with furniture to relax and enjoy the show



Shire of Northam  
Council, Community and Leisure

AVON  
DESCENT

lotterywest  
supported

northam  
bilya  
river  
festival  
home of the avon descent



# Saturday



## TOODYAY INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL & FAMILY FUN DAY

Date: Saturday 13 August  
Time: 10am - 4pm  
Where: Stirling Park & Duidgee Park, Toodyay

The Shire of Toodyay's International Food Festival will keep visitors fed and entertained on Saturday, 13 August. Just an hour's drive from the CBD, come and enjoy a variety of food stalls, carnival activities, bouncy castles, face painting and roving entertainment at this free Family Fun Day event.

For more information go the Shire of Toodyay Facebook event or [www.toodyay.wa.gov.au](http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au).



## Toodyay International Food Festival & Family Fun Day

Enjoy kids entertainment, a licensed area for the adults and loads of entertainment for the whole family

Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>  
10am - 4pm





# Sunday



## AVON DESCENT FESTIVAL CITY OF SWAN

Date: Sunday 14 August  
Time: 10am - 3pm  
Where: Lilac Hill, Caversham

The Avon Descent Festival returns to Lilac Hill with a splash in 2022!

The City of Swan's Avon Descent Festival and the City of Bayswater's Finish Line Festival will bring the program to a rousing finish. Cheer on the Avon Descent competitors from the banks of Lilac Hill as they paddle and race by - the best seat in the house. Wander through the pop-up Artisan markets which will be full of delicious gourmet food and wine, watch demonstrations and take home a treat from a local grower. Be entertained by local musicians and the kids will have fun with roving entertainment and show rides.

The Avon Descent Festival is proudly presented by the City of Swan and Perth Airport, and supported by Lotterywest and VCMPerth Events.



## BOND TO BAYSWATER BELTER

Starting at 9am at Reg Bond Reserve, Viveash  
Arriving at the Riverside Gardens in Bayswater from 11am

The introduction of the Bond to Bayswater Belter is an opportunity for anyone to take part in the excitement of the iconic Avon Descent!

The Bond to Bayswater Belter is a unique event that will take participants from Reg Bond Reserve in the City of Swan, through to the City of Bayswater's Riverside Gardens.

Participants include the Dragonboats, surf boats, stand up paddlers, outriggers and the Royal Western Australian Regiment or the Australian Army! Cheer loudly as they head to the finish line!

CITY OF SWAN PRESENTS...

# Avon Descent Festival

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 10AM TO 3PM**  
**LILAC HILL PARK, CAVERSHAM**  
[avondescent.com.au/festivals](http://avondescent.com.au/festivals)

**FREE FAMILY EVENT**

SUPPORTED BY PRESENTED BY



CITY OF BELMONT

# AVON DESCENT AT GARVEY PARK

- ◆ Discounted Helicopter rides
- ◆ Live race commentary
- ◆ Covered viewing of the race
- ◆ Family friendly activities
- ◆ Free food voucher for City of Belmont residents

**FREE  
EVENT!**



 **Sunday 14 August, 11am to 3pm**  **Garvey Park, Ascot**

 **Book tickets at: [avon-descent.eventbrite.com.au](https://www.avon-descent.eventbrite.com.au)**

## Visit [belmont.wa.gov.au](https://www.belmont.wa.gov.au) for further information.

This smoke free and alcohol free event is proudly brought to you by the City of Belmont – the City of Opportunity.

TravelSmart – why not cycle, walk or take public transport?

### City of Belmont

215 Wright Street, Cloverdale WA 6105  
Locked Bag 379, Cloverdale WA 6985  
Open 8:30am - 4:45pm, Monday - Friday  
PH: (08) 9477 7222  
A/H: (08) 9477 7224

 [belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au](mailto:belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au)  
 [belmont.wa.gov.au](https://www.belmont.wa.gov.au)  
 [BelmontCouncilWA](https://www.facebook.com/BelmontCouncilWA)  
 [BelmontCouncil](https://twitter.com/BelmontCouncil)  
 [City of Belmont](https://www.youtube.com/CityofBelmont)

**BELMONT**  
CITY OF OPPORTUNITY



# Sunday



## AVON DESCENT FAMILY FUN DAY CITY OF BELMONT

Get up close to all of the action at the free family fun day and celebrate the Avon Descent.

Date: Sunday, 14 August 2022

Time: 11am - 3pm

Where: Garvey Park, Ascot

Enjoy live race commentary on the banks of the beautiful Swan River. There will be free children's activities, giveaways, discounted helicopter rides and much more!

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# AVON DESCENT

## Finish Line Festival



Cheer on the Avon Descent competitors as they cross the finish line at Riverside Gardens.

Enjoy food trucks, market stalls, entertainment and activities for the whole family.



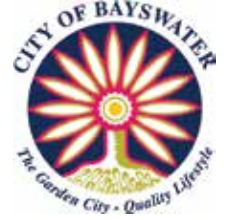
Sunday  
14 August  
11am - 5pm



Riverside  
Gardens  
Bayswater

**FREE  
EVENT**

# Finish line



## AVON DESCENT FINISH LINE FAMILY DAY CITY OF BAYSWATER

Date: Sunday 14 August  
Time: 11am - 5pm  
Where: Riverside Gardens, Bayswater

Join support crews and spectators to welcome participants over the Finish Line at the City of Bayswater Avon Descent Finish Line Family Fun Day. Enjoy a sensational FREE day out with bouncy castles, children's rides, face painting and live commentary over the loud speakers.

Visit [www.bayswater.wa.gov.au/events](http://www.bayswater.wa.gov.au/events) for more information.

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Visit [bayswater.wa.gov.au](http://bayswater.wa.gov.au) for more great events

[facebook.com/bayswatercity](https://facebook.com/bayswatercity)

[instagram.com/cityofbayswater](https://instagram.com/cityofbayswater)





**Paddle WA is fundraising to develop a business case to construct a White Water Centre in Perth**

**Yes! Access to White Water all year round**

**For more information and to donate, please visit our fundraiser [asf.org.au](http://asf.org.au)**

**We need your help to make this a reality**



[www.paddlewa.asn.au](http://www.paddlewa.asn.au)



## Formula 8

Formula 8 is the entry class for juniors and are raced at our Burswood clubrooms. They are 8hp centre steer boats.

## Bathtub's

Bathtub's are as the name suggests and are comprised of a bathtub mould on a hull. These are 10hp for 17yo and up.



## Adventure Class

Adventure class is a relatively new class which consists of standard aluminum hull boats with up to 10hp outboard motor.

## Dinghy Class

Dinghy 's are our premium class with fibreglass and timber hull's and a 10hp outboard motor.



## Mini Jet's

Mini Jets are a new class with an aluminium hull, front steer and jet ski motor.

**Keep an eye out for the electric mini jet at this years Avon Descent**

# Being mentally healthy feels good



**Act**

Do something



**Belong**

Do something with someone



**Commit**

Do something meaningful



For ideas on how to keep mentally healthy, visit [actbelongcommit.org.au](https://actbelongcommit.org.au)



**act belong commit**  
**Avon Descent Volunteers**

During 2022, the Avon Descent is proudly partnering with Healthway to promote the Act Belong Commit message, encouraging positive physical and mental health through volunteer participation in Western Australia.

The Avon Descent has a long and intimate history with volunteering with more than 99% of its organising teams consisting entirely of volunteers. Over its 49 year history, Northam's Avon Descent Association has engaged thousands of volunteers and hundreds of different volunteer groups to deliver our events.

Did you know?

Northam's Avon Descent Association works directly with volunteer groups to create active involvement and fundraising and contributes more than \$50,000 each year to local volunteer groups and initiatives.

What is it about?

- Creating new opportunities for community involvement, group fundraising and support networks.
- Providing more recognition and appreciation for the hard work of volunteers
- Up-skilling, training and self-improvement
- Promoting the rewarding experience that is volunteering in WA

A volunteer recognition function will be held towards the end of August. Speak with your volunteer group leader for more information.

## Healthy Food & Drink Policy

As part of our partnership, Northam's Avon Descent Association is working with 'Fuel to Go & Play' to deliver healthy food options to promote and support participants to make healthier food choices at our event locations.

[www.fuelto.com.au](https://www.fuelto.com.au)



# W A N D E R O U T Y O N D E R WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## AVON VALLEY

Journey through patchworks of green rolling hills, babbling brooks and historic country towns.

### Top Adventures

- Explore the region's museums, art galleries, historical attractions, antique shops.
- Picnic beside the beautiful Avon River or at one of the many lovely parks.
- Enjoy country cuisine or a beer at the local historic pub.
- Escape the everyday to New Norcia and spend a day in Australia's only monastic town.
- Sample a variety of wines, olive oil and lavender grown in the region.
- Enjoy colourful wildflowers in spring.
- Enjoy a variety of scenic walk trails and wildflower trails through native bush and parks.
- Try white water rafting on the Avon River's fast flowing waters during winter.
- Purchase free fruit and vegetables from roadside stalls or visit a weekend market.
- Visit Goomalling's historic Slater Homestead offering an 'early world experience'.

Follow us at @WesternAustralia #wanderoutyonder