

# Planisphere Guide To The Galaxy?

## WHAT TO SEE IN THE NIGHT SKY

Naked-eye stargazing in country WA is spectacular. The star charts below show what's up in the southern sky at approximately 8 pm throughout the seasons. Use the Giant Planisphere to help you find the constellations.

Winter: Southern Cross on 11 March (21 March each year) | Winter: Southern Cross on 11 March (21 June each year)

Summer: Southern Cross on 11 March (21 September each year) | Summer: Southern Cross on 11 March (21 December each year)

### OUT FOR:

- W stars appear to move over time as the Earth spins on its axis.
- The plane of our Milky Way Galaxy: the thick band of stars across the sky. Different coloured stars.
- The Southern Cross constellation.
- The Magellanic Clouds: two galaxies in the Milky Way neighbourhood.

Scan the QR code for more information about stargazing in Margaret River. To learn more about Margaret River in Western Australia, visit [margaretriver.com.au](http://margaretriver.com.au). For local tourist information, visit the Shire of Margaret River website at [margaretriver.com.au](http://margaretriver.com.au).

**GIANT PLANISPHERE**  
WHAT'S UP IN THE SKY TONIGHT?

Spin the star wheel to match today's date with the time of night.

The planisphere shows a picture of the stars and constellations visible at that time. The bottom part of the disc shows the constellations you can see in front of you - the southern sky. The top part of the planisphere shows the constellations you can see when you turn around - the northern sky.

Please use the planisphere gently and with care. Please don't bend the disc as fingers may be injured.

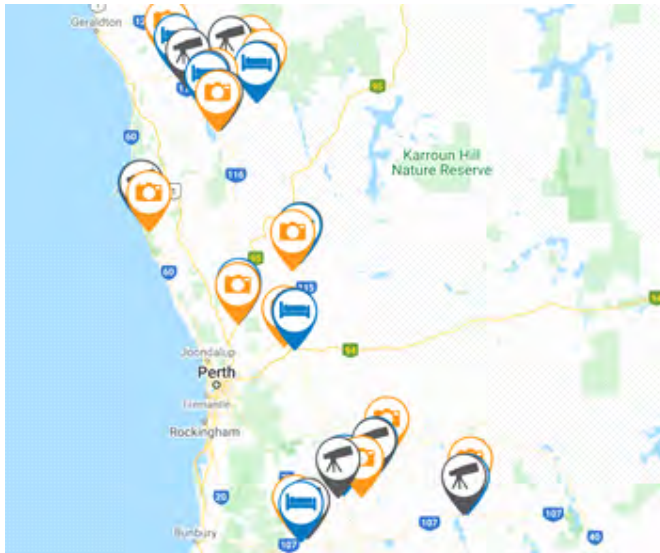
# Signage That's Out Of This World!

## Star Gazing!

Not every signage project involves an interactive star gazing constellation wheel - but this one did! In October 2021 our team headed off into a totally new galaxy to create three custom designed giant planispheres to assist viewers see into the night sky.

Our client, Astrotourism WA, ordered three new planispheres and associated signage, for the Shire of Narmbeben, Shire of Narrogin and Shire of Perenjori.

Western Australia (WA) is uniquely placed for star gazing due to it's lack of light pollution. The Milky Way Galaxy offers some incredible stargazing experiences in a number of key locations around the state. Locations near Perth are shown on the map below.



## Project Summary

Project: Interpretive Signage - Planispheres  
Location: Various locations, WA  
Environment: External  
Client: Astrotourism WA  
Date: October 2021

## Unique Design Features of a Planisphere

As a central theme of the artwork viewers match the date with the time to clearly identify the stars and constellations visible at night. The rotating wheel mechanism provides information pertinent to 365 days of the year.

Achieving an efficient rotating mechanism was further challenged by the need for safety. We mitigated the safety risks of the signage by creating a self-braking bearing so that the risk of getting little hands stuck was significantly reduced.

As well as looking good and working well, the planisphere also had to be designed to withstand the harsh environmental conditions of remote WA (temperature, dust etc) and our team went the extra mile to ensure durability with innovative solutions.



## What is a Planisphere?

In astronomy, a planisphere is a star chart analogue computing instrument in the form of two adjustable disks that rotate on a common pivot. It can be adjusted to display the visible stars for any time and date. It is an instrument to assist in learning how to recognize stars and constellations.

The planisphere was made from a number of components including an aluminium cogged disc, anodised stand-offs, viewing frame panel and circular 750mm diameter aluminium planisphere disc installed onto a steel frame with a bearing. The elements were sprayed in 2 pac paint for durability, with digital print overlays showing the star maps and laminated (UV).

## Star Gazing for Beginners

In addition to the Planispheres, Astro tourism WA commissioned three "Stargazing for Beginners" signs with instructions of how to use the signage.

## Dark Sky Tourism Trail Markers

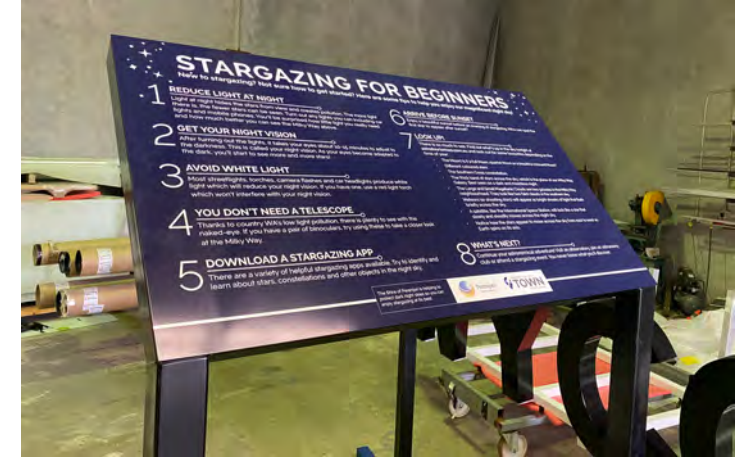
In addition, a number of trail markers were supplied using class 2 reflective film to shine in the dark.

The signage was provided in kit format with instructions for the Shires to install in situ.

## Making a Statement With Interpretive Signage

Interpretive signage is becoming a popular way to create relevance to an area or an environment. The planispheres and associated signage used for this project represent simple yet unique equipment that can be used to inspire and educate star gazers.

This Case Study shows the ways in which our team can take a custom signage requirement and design and manufacture unique solutions for different environments.



## Why Signs & Lines For Interpretive Signage?

Working to professional project management standards our service includes a complete turnkey package. And we will work closely with you to customise your signs to a budget.

As a result we will take ideas from concept through design to manufacturing and installation – using cost effective production techniques. Value engineering can be introduced where possible to drive efficiencies.

## Priorities When Creating Public Artwork & Sign Statements

Drawing Inspiration – How will we create impact? Our priorities whilst creating a new public artwork or statement are to:-

- Design a dynamic creation that enhances the environment;
- Develop decorative concepts that promote either the social, economic, historical or environmental context of an area;
- Provide for a talking point that encourages people to engage with the area;
- Raise an iconic profile for locals and visitors alike;
- Engender a feeling of community and pride in the heritage of the area;
- Develop a narrative that creates a strong cultural identity;
- Showcase innovation, creativity and technology related to the area;
- Obtain full collaboration and buy-in from all stakeholders.

## Popular Sign Types For Art Statements

From large scale to small, we can design, manufacture and install the following signage types:

- Pylons, totems, monoliths;
- Equipment;
- Interpretive fencing;
- Painted art and murals;
- Dynamic LED custom lighting projection;
- Custom designed wheels, planispheres, interactive features.

Whilst these are the most common forms, this is where imagination offers not boundaries.

If what you're looking for is not on the list feel free to get in touch. All our work is custom made so Signs & Lines will "make to measure" using our in-house resources. Talk to us today about what you have in mind – 08 9274 5151.





## Our Service Promise

As a professional outfit, we take great pride in our customer service. All engagements with art statement projects will be built using innovation and a genuine desire to provide outstanding results. Our people are signage experts, with a depth and breadth of experience across design, signs, electrical, engineering, cabinet making, fabrication and marketing backgrounds.

The Signs & Lines team can handle projects from small to large. From the outset, a sales consultant will offer professional advice based on years' of experience in signage. Complex rebrands or strategic signage projects will be handled by our project management team. Working with your team, the project manager will co-ordinate with all stakeholders to ensure a seamless result.

## Need more than just Signage

Our team offers a number of additional services that will help with your signage.

- Design Concepts: Either a wayfinding strategy or conceptual drawings for a new building or precinct.
- Let us create your next project.
- Audits: Full or partial audits of indoor or outdoor facilities. Is your signage working well? Let us give you the full story.
- Aftercare & Maintenance: Servicing or maintenance requirements with photos. Our technology solution will provide a detailed status.
- Repairs: Fix or repair existing signage. Plus a detailed report outlining signage issues & recommended fixes.

## The Final Wrap

The team will give you non-biased recommendations and gear your signage to the future. Our experience of static and digital signage solutions will ensure that you receive our trademark outstanding experience.

We're ready to start talking! Speak up now about your next project or idea.



# STARGAZING FOR BEGINNERS

How to stargazing? Not sure how to get started? Here are some tips to help you enjoy our magnificent night sky.

- 1 REDUCE LIGHT AT NIGHT**  
Light at night hides the stars from view and creates light trails in the longer darks. Turn off any lights you can, including the mobile phones. You'll be surprised how little light you really need and how much better you can see the Milky Way above.
- 2 GET YOUR NIGHT VISION**  
After turning out the lights, it takes your eyes about 30 minutes to adjust to the dark. You'll be called your night vision. As your eyes become adapted to the dark, you'll start to see more and more stars.
- 3 AVOID WHITE LIGHT**  
Most streetlights, homes, camera flashes and car headlights produce white light which will reduce your night vision. If you have a red light torch, which won't interfere with your night vision.
- 4 YOU DON'T NEED A TELESCOPE**  
Thanks to country WPA's low light pollution, there is plenty to see with the naked eye. If you have a pair of binoculars, try using these to take a closer look at the Milky Way.
- 5 DOWNLOAD A STARGAZING APP**  
There are a variety of helpful stargazing apps available. Try to identify and learn about stars, constellations and other objects in the night sky.
- 6 ARRIVE BEFORE SUNSET**  
Start a few minutes before sunset and stay until about 15 minutes after sunset. This is called your twilight. At this time, your eyes are still adjusting to the dark, so you can see more stars.
- 7 LOOK UP**  
There's no need to see. Find out what you can see in the sky by looking at the Milky Way. The Milky Way is a band of stars that stretches across the sky. It is made up of billions of stars, including our own Sun. The Milky Way is the closest galaxy to Earth. It is a spiral galaxy with a central bulge. The Milky Way is the only galaxy in our local group. It is the only galaxy in our local group. It is the only galaxy in our local group.
- 8 WHAT'S NEXT?**  
Continue your astronomical observations. Join an astronomy club or attend a stargazing event. You may want to...

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