

Makuru

Learn about it from Noongar man Jason Barrow:

<https://www.facebook.com/abcperth/videos/noongar-seasons-makuru/541801876990722/>

Information taken from: <https://www.ecu.edu.au/centres/kurongkurl-katitjin/cultural-leadership/nyoongar-six-seasons/makuru>

Season of fertility: Time to travel to inland hunting areas

Colour: Wooyan (dark-blue): it symbolises rain and cold weather

Weather: Coldest and wettest time of the year in the South West

<https://twitter.com/PerthAirport/status/1398139492264038402>

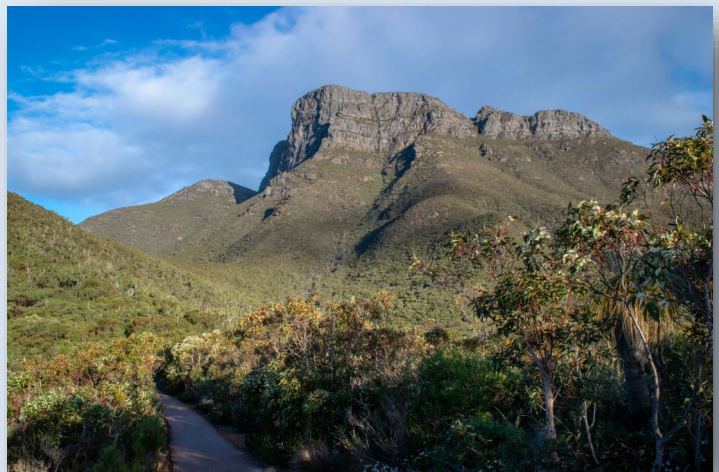


As well as a food source, animals provided people with many other things. For example, the 'yongar' or kangaroo, not only provided meat but also 'bookas' (animal skin cloaks that were used as the nights became much cooler). Nothing was left. Even the bones and sinews were used in the manufacturing of bookas and for affixing barbs to hunting tools such as spears.

<http://museum.wa.gov.au/research/collections/anthropology-and-archaeology/aboriginal-cultures-collection/booka-kangaroo-skin>

Traditionally, this was a good time of the year to move back inland from the coast as the winds turned to the west and south bringing the cold weather, rains and occasionally snow on the peaks of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges.

<https://perthisok.com/best-of-wa/bluff-knoll/>



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Makuru is also a time for a lot of animals to be pairing up in preparation for breeding in the coming season. If you look carefully, you might see pairs of 'wardongs' (ravens) flying together.

<https://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2015/06/08/4250907.htm>



Upon the lakes and rivers of the South West, you'll also start to see a large influx of the Black Swan or 'Mali' as they too prepare to nest and breed.

[https://southperth.wa.gov.au/about-us/news-and-public-notices/news-detail/2019/07/17/black-swan-breeding-season](https://southperth.wa.gov.au/about-us/news-and-publications/news-and-public-notices/news-detail/2019/07/17/black-swan-breeding-season)

Flowers that will start to emerge include the blues and purples of the blueberry lily (*Dianella revoluta*) and the purple flags (*Patersonia occidentalis*).



<https://iamsafari.com/2016/05/26/makuru-is-blue/>



As the season comes to a close, you should also start to notice the white flowers of the weeping peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) as the blues start to make way for the white and cream flowers of Djilba.