October 2017 - Ajahn Brahm announced to his monks that due to overcrowding at Bodhinyana Monastery, opportunities for those wishing to take up the Buddha’s training & to ordain as monks was unfortunately no longer possible.

To open new spaces, he invited his monks to volunteer to step forward & giving up their kutis, to seek out other places of stillness for practicing the Dhamma.

Teaching meditation, one of Ajahn Brahm’s monks had already began to establish the foundations of a dhamma community in a region of Western Australia known as The Great Southern.

Less than 5 hours drive south of Perth, with a population of 37,686, this cool oceanside city of Albany eventually attracted other meditators from nearby towns such as Denmark, Mt. Barker, & Katanning (to name a just few).

In the form of chaplaincy, this meditation community also grew to include the local prison populations - Pardelup Prison Farm & Albany Regional Prison.

After only a short while the community expressed their wish for monks to be accessible on a more permanent basis, & several invitations were received to establish a forest monastery in the region.

With Ajahn Brahm’s blessing, a beautiful beach side location on top of a hill & surrounded by pristine bush was chosen as a potential site for the very first, official Bodhinyana branch monastery.

Covered in Australian native flora & fauna, this quiet 160 acre property is 14 minutes drive from Albany’s city centre, & with only 500m of state forest separating it from the Southern Ocean, the closest landmark south is Antarctica’s South Pole.

From its breathtaking 120 metre high cliffs tracing Albany’s picturesque shoreline, whales alongside newborn calves can be seen passing by.

It’s elevated location also affords spectacular views of Torbay Inlet, Broke Inlet, & Lake Powell Nature Reserves, as well as the Porongurup & Stirling Range National Parks - home to Australia’s very own “Reclining Buddha”.

The proposed development, modelled on a smaller version of Bodhinyana Monastery in Serpentine will include:
• dhamma hall
• dining hall
• monks huts (i.e. kutis) x 5 off
• male & female guest accommodation
• workshop
• water tanks
• roads & other services, etc
You’re invited to be part of this project.

All contributions regardless of size will be gratefully received. Donations can be offered directly to the BSWA by:

- **Cheques made payable to:**
  The Buddhist Society of Western Australia
  “Albany Monastery”;

- **Bank transfer BSWA account**
  BSB: 306 073
  Account: 10 63 018
  Narration/description: “Albany Monastery”
  Swiftcode (for donors using foreign banks): BKWAAU6P

**For further details please contact:**
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**Website:**
https://bswa.org/location/bodhinyana-great-southern
- monastery-project/

All photographs by Matt Gibson (except Reclining Buddha image)
revised: 17th March 2019