



the Manning Valley ...naturally!

Visitor guide



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Getting here

Road

Driving from Sydney, it takes 3 to 3.5 hours to get to the Manning from the start of the F3 freeway at Wahroonga, use the Pacific Highway to travel north to the Manning, along the Legendary Pacific Coast.

From Brisbane, it takes 7 to 8 hours driving south from Queensland using the Pacific Highway to pass through Coolangatta via Coffs Harbour to the Manning Valley.

Plane

Regional Express Airlines (REX) operate daily from Sydney to Taree - 131 713
www.rex.com.au

Train

Countrylink XPT operates 3 services daily to Sydney and northern NSW

Phone: 132 232

www.countrylink.info

Visitor Information Centre

Drop into the Manning Valley Visitor Information Centre at 21 Manning River Drive, Taree North. Free local maps, information on events, accommodation, activities and attractions is available. Our Centre also provides a unique variety of local products, produce and art for visitors.

Phone: 6592 5444 or 1800 182 733.

Open 363 days per year, closed Good Friday and Christmas day.

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Thanks to all the local photographers for their contribution.



Greater Taree
City Council

Welcome to the Manning Valley

'Goodji yiigu and bawa' greetings and come here, our door is open. These are words from the local Biripi people and are from the Gathang language used throughout the Mid North Coast.

In the Manning Valley we are proud to hold our doors open to you all, to showcase what we experience every day, the natural beauty, clean air and the lush landscapes of our stunning region.

From the centre of Taree on the Manning River, visit beautiful coastal towns showcasing white sand beaches or quaint inland villages with their bustling markets and friendly locals. The Manning Valley offers a perfectly authentic Australian holiday where you can renew your spirit, take a breath, pause for a while and experience it all.

Swim, surf or fish your way across our 45 kilometres of pristine coastline and freshwater streams.

Eat at one of our award winning cafes and restaurants.

Shop at one of our colourful local markets

Watch Whales and dolphins from the historic location of the Crowdy Head lighthouse.

Take a stroll or drive through one of our 9 National Parks and Reserves

Be amazed by Ellenborough Falls, one of the longest single drop waterfalls in the southern hemisphere.

We know you will enjoy your stay and look forward to seeing you back again soon.

XX



Beaches



Known for our river and rainforest, the Manning Valley's coastline is equally as impressive. With over 45 kms of pristine white sand beaches for you to explore, have fun and relax away your days during your visit.

Old Bar

Old Bar Beach is the closest surfing beach to Taree and just a 10-minute drive from the Pacific Highway. This location is perfect for fishing, boating and water sports for the whole family. Named one of the best beaches for kite boarding in the world you can hire a kite board or take in one of the numerous walking tracks leading to the beach.

Hallidays Point

At the southern end of the Manning Valley discover the coastal area of Hallidays Point, taking in Black Head, Tallwoods, Red Head and Diamond Beach.

Black Head beach is patrolled in summer and is considered one of our best swimming beaches. It features an ocean pool, excellent fishing, picnic and barbeque areas under shady Norfolk Island Pines. The local rainforest walk encompasses striking coastal landforms, rare tracts of littoral rainforest and two headlands with lookouts at Black Head and Red Head.

The uncrowded beaches continue to Diamond Beach where you will find resort facilities fringing the beaches with dining options and a resort spa to pamper yourself.

Saltwater and Wallabi Point

If you are a surfing enthusiast, then drive just south of Old Bar to the surfing Mecca of Saltwater and Wallabi Point with its basalt boulder beach and perfect waves. For the family, a warm, shallow, saltwater lagoon nestled against the picnic reserve provides an excellent swimming or canoeing area.

Manning Point

Located just 25 minutes drive east of Taree is Manning Point Beach, part of Manning Entrance State Park. Over the years the lands of Farquhar Inlet and Manning Point have been the most successful breeding and fledgling sites in the State for the endangered shore bird the Little Tern.

There is four wheel drive access to beach users (permits required), however, you are asked to be careful and to stay away from designated areas to avoid any damage to nesting sites. There is a picnic area with electric BBQ's and toilets.



An aerial photograph of a coastal town and beach. The town is nestled in a lush green valley, with houses and roads visible. A long, sandy beach curves along the coastline, meeting the turquoise ocean. In the background, a large bay or inlet is visible, surrounded by more land and distant mountains under a clear sky. The image is framed by teal and white curved borders at the top and bottom right.

Beaches

Harrington Beach

Part of the Harrington Beach State Park, Harrington Beach has a family friendly swimming lagoon off the beach area and the Harrington Break Wall for walking, fishing and taking in views of the ocean. Four wheel driving for 5.8kms; entry north of Harrington Beach Holiday Park is also available. There are amenities at this location and fish cleaning facilities. There are also plenty of picnic tables, BBQ's and shops.

Crowdy Head Bay

On the northern side is a family friendly beach, patrolled in summer with a Surf Life Saving Club and kiosk. The beach has 4WD access available. Crowdy Head South Beach is a beautiful natural beach, which has 4WD access and it is not patrolled.

Diamond Head Beach

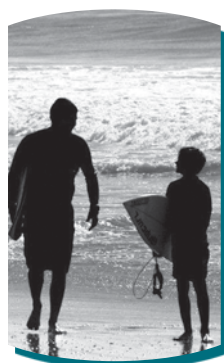
Part of the Crowdy Bay National Park, the local Kangaroo community can often be found on the sand in the early hours of the morning or on dusk. There is four wheel drive access available at Kyllies Beach, which is just south of Diamond Head

Driving on beaches

We allow for 4WD access to certain beaches. Pick up your permit for this activity from Council offices in Taree and Wingham or at the Manning Valley Visitors Information Centre located at 21 Manning River Drive. Also available at outlets in the coastal villages.

The Manning River

For a day off the beach, you cannot go past the heart of this region – the Manning River. Australia's only double delta river system with two entrances, one at Harrington and one at Old Bar, it offers 150kms of navigable waterways to enjoy boating, water sports and fishing for a variety of species from flathead to bass. Extensive mangrove stands, large areas of wetlands important for aquatic birds, together with intensive oyster farming, fish and prawn production, make the Manning the lifeblood of our valley





Discover the great Outdoors

The Manning Valley is an area rich with natural assets and unexplored forests. Take a walk, drive or cycle through the stunning natural beauty that is our back yard and keep your eyes peeled for the wild life we know lies within...





Tapin Tops National Parks

Tapin Tops National Park (10,828 hectares) is located on Knodingbul Road approximately 30kms north-west of Wingham.

The Tapin Tops Rest Area is a well developed picnic area, with amenities, Gas BBQs, picnic shelters and some gorgeous shady camp spots. The park was once a forestry work camp and features an array of European deciduous trees that do well in this mountain environment. Most noticeable is the row of impressive Californian redwoods which were planted in the rich volcanic soil in the early 1960's.

Two walks are available off the picnic area; an easy 15 minute rainforest walk featuring a variety of rainforest species like Red Cedar, Coachwood, Brushbox, Corkwood and Yellow Carabeen. Or opt for the more strenuous 35 minute walk through open Sclerophyll forest, taking in some stunning trees and ferns commonly found in the area.

Potoroo Picnic Area Located on Little Run Creek is a beautiful place for a picnic. The spectacular Potoroo Falls lie a kilometre upstream past NSW's largest recorded watergum in the adjacent State Forest. Take your swimming gear on a hot day, the water's great.

Coorabakh National Park

Around 25 kilometres north of Taree take a drive through Coorabakh National Park. Wander amongst giant Blackbutt forest over the shaded boardwalks of the Starrs Creek sub tropical rainforest. Amble down along a fresh creek to Newbys cave and if the day is warm you simply have to take yourself for a dip in the ever cool Waitui Falls. Some of the most amazing views over the Manning Valley and out to the coastline can be enjoyed here from both Newbys and Flat Rock lookouts.

Be sure to check out Big Nellie, Flat Nellie and Little Nellie, prominent ancient volcanic plugs which as a sneaky piece of trivia are part of the same volcanic vent that formed the famous Glass House Mountains in Queensland.

Good overnight camping facilities are available at Coopernook Forest Park located in the adjacent Coopernook State Forest, just 10 minutes from the highway.

Saltwater National Park

Saltwater National Park adjoining Saltwater beach has special significance for the local Aboriginal community (Biripi). This National Park contains Aboriginal sites, which relate to Dreamtime beliefs and a section of the park has been declared an Aboriginal Place.

There is swimming and surfing at the ocean beach and canoeing in the tranquil waters of Khappinghat Creek. The lagoon nestled against the Reserve provides safe swimming for families.

The picnic area has gas BBQ's, picnic tables, amenities and cold showers. Take a walk through the rainforest on the headland or explore the Five Islands walking track, which follows the Khappinghat Creek in the Nature Reserve.

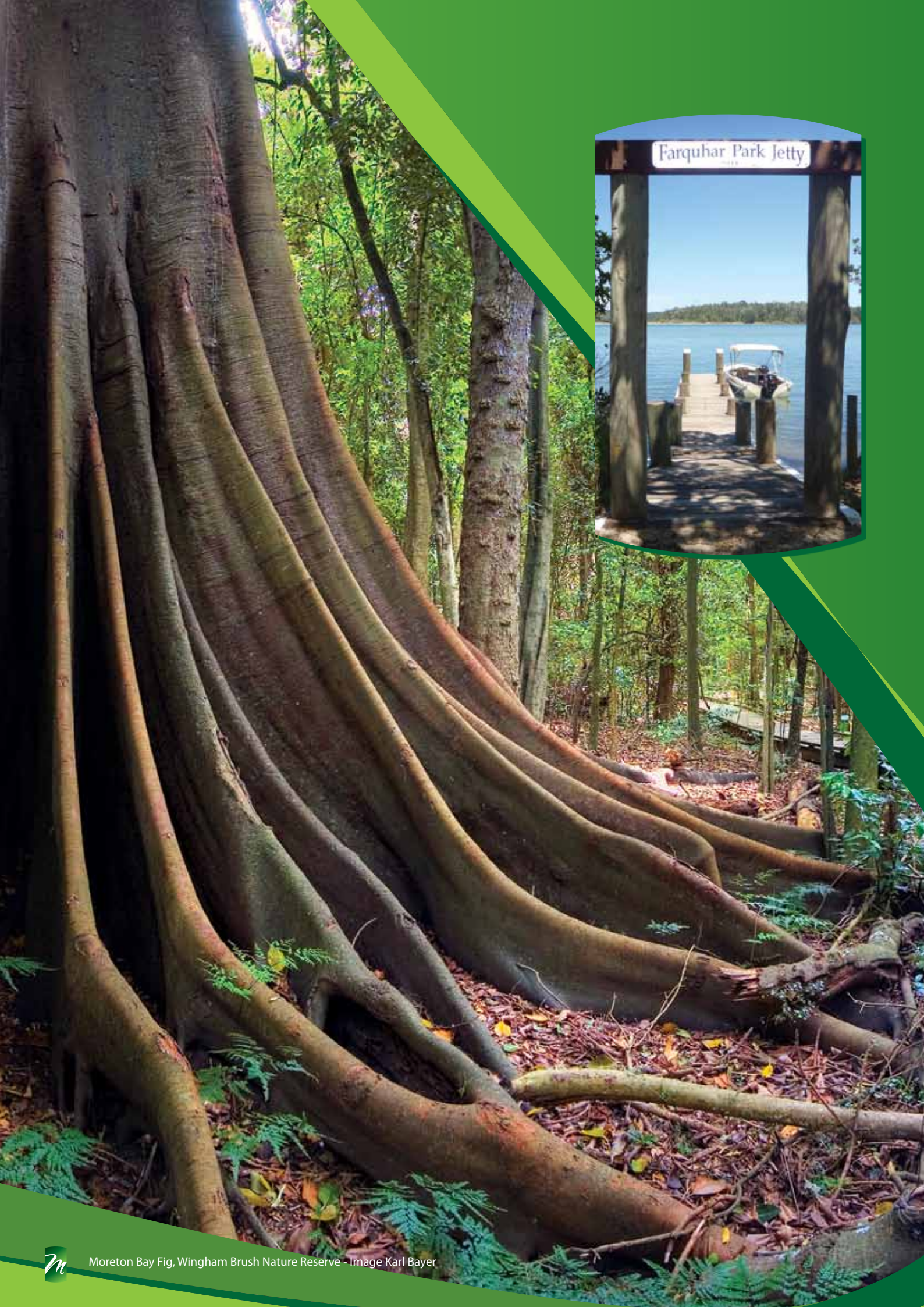
Crowdy Bay National Park

Crowdy Bay National Park (9,519 hectares) has long been admired for its rugged coastline cliffs, rockpools and beaches while its heath and forests are a haven for wildlife. At low tide, explore the rock formations and pools along the cliff-base walk.

There is good fishing, plenty of opportunities for swimming, surfing and water activities and it is a particularly fruitful area for bird watching.

The park's main topographical feature and its highest point, is Diamond Head, which rises abruptly to 113 metres. It takes its name from quartz crystals that are found in the area.

A number of camping areas at Diamond Head accommodate short term camping. Amenities, tables and fireplaces are provided. There is no readily available freshwater in the park, so make sure you take plenty along for those hot summer days in the sun.



Discover the great Outdoors

Brimbin Nature Reserve

Brimbin Nature Reserve is located approximately 12kms North West of Taree and an easy 20 minutes drive from town. Brimbin Nature Reserve has important historic connections with Taree and Port Macquarie's early settlement being situated on the original main road between the two centres in the days of horse-drawn transport. This area is also significant to the local Biripi people. The name "Brimbin" is an Aboriginal word derived from "Borembit" or stringybark, a tree species common in the reserve.

Brimbin is home to an endangered species of eucalypt, the narrow leaved redgum, *Eucalyptus seeana*, which occurs at its southern limit in the Taree area. This species is an important food and habitat for koalas.

Located on the banks of the Dawson River and Tommy Owens Creek there is a day use picnic area with shelter, free gas BBQs, and water and amenities. There are also two walking tracks to choose from: the Dawson River walk and the Kate Kelly walk.

Wingham Brush Nature Reserve

For a nature reserve with a difference, head to Wingham Brush located right in the town centre of Wingham, off Farquhar Street. This rainforest remnant is part of the last remaining 10 hectares of floodplain rainforest in NSW. Giant Moreton Bay figs dominate the Brush along with one of the largest permanent breeding populations of Grey-headed flying foxes in NSW. If you get to the Brush on sunset, the sight of 1000's of Grey-headed flying foxes heading out for the evening meal is awe-inspiring.

There is overnight camping available for self-contained vehicles at the entrance to the brush on Wingham Reserve.

Lansdowne Nature Reserve

Lansdowne Nature Reserve is located 16km north of Taree and 10km north-west of Coopernook. Adjoining the Lansdowne River, which at this point is still tidal, Lansdowne Nature Reserve protects one of the few remnants of lowland subtropical rainforest surviving on the NSW North Coast.

Lansdowne Nature Reserve also includes a historic wharf and mill sites, which date back to the river transporters of the 1880's.

Middle Brother National Park

This park was created to protect two of the largest coastal Blackbutt trees in NSW - Bird Tree and Benaroon. Bird Tree is 69 metres high, with a girth of 11 metres. Its age has been estimated at around 300 years old, meaning it predates the arrival of Captain Cook to Australia.

Boorganna Nature Reserve

Only an hours drive from Taree and just 6km from Comboyne along the Innes View Road lies Boorganna Nature Reserve. A real treasure trove, a rainforest remnant on volcanic soils surrounded by the cleared farmland of the Comboyne Plateau.

The Reserve is only an hour's drive from Taree. Take your lunch and enjoy the restful mood of this unique place. Stroll down the 2.7km walking track from the picnic area and descend through the tranquil rainforest to Rawson Falls.

Coocumbac Island Nature Reserve

This small island next to the bridge in the Manning River at Taree is the site of a major rainforest regeneration program. It is an ideal place to see one of the few remaining areas of lowland subtropical rainforest that once covered extensive areas of the North Coast. The island is only accessible by water.





Discover the great Outdoors

*The state parks of the Manning Valley are host
to some of the regions must see attractions.
Get adventurous and get out there!*



Ellenborough Falls

From Wingham follow the Tourist Drive 8 signs to the legendary Ellenborough Falls at Elands. Ellenborough Falls is reported to be one of the highest waterfalls in the southern hemisphere with a single drop of 200 metres.

There are two walks at the falls, a nice easy 10 minute stroll to the viewing platform and for the more adventurous a steep walk down 641 steps to the bottom of the valley. To get the best Ellenborough Falls experience head up over the weekend or school holidays when the Ellenborough Falls Kiosk is open offering freshly baked goodies.

Cattai Wetlands

Just off the Pacific Highway at Spring Hill Road lives Cattai Wetlands, open to the public from Friday to Monday.

This wonderful and unique site is located 20 minutes north of Taree and is described as a hidden gem in our Valley. Cattai is a beautiful wetland that provides a sanctuary for over 100 species of birds, Kangaroos, Wallabies and regularly spotted Goanna's.

Make your way along one of the many walking tracks, go bird watching, take a picnic or just relax and enjoy the scenery. Guided tours are available by appointment – call Greater Taree City Council on 02 6592 5399.

Harrington Beach State Park

This 431-hectare site stretches from Harrington to the picturesque fishing village of Crowdy Head and features a privately run Big 4 caravan park, lighthouse and boat harbour.

Harrington Beach State Park is a fisherman's paradise with plenty of opportunities to pull in a great catch at the protected fishing boat harbour, break wall, river estuary or ocean. The park contains stunning surf beaches and features panoramic views from Crowdy Head headland and Pilot Hill at Harrington.

Manning Entrance State Park

The Manning Entrance State Park comprises lands surrounding and including the Manning River's southern entrance at Old Bar. The 487 hectare site runs from Old Bar to the southern side of the Manning River's northern entrance at Manning Point and features a caravan park, primitive camping ground, sporting fields and historic airstrip.

Made up of some beautiful white sand beaches and estuary areas, the Manning Entrance State Park is the perfect spot for a picnic, camping, swimming, fishing, 4WD or bushwalk.

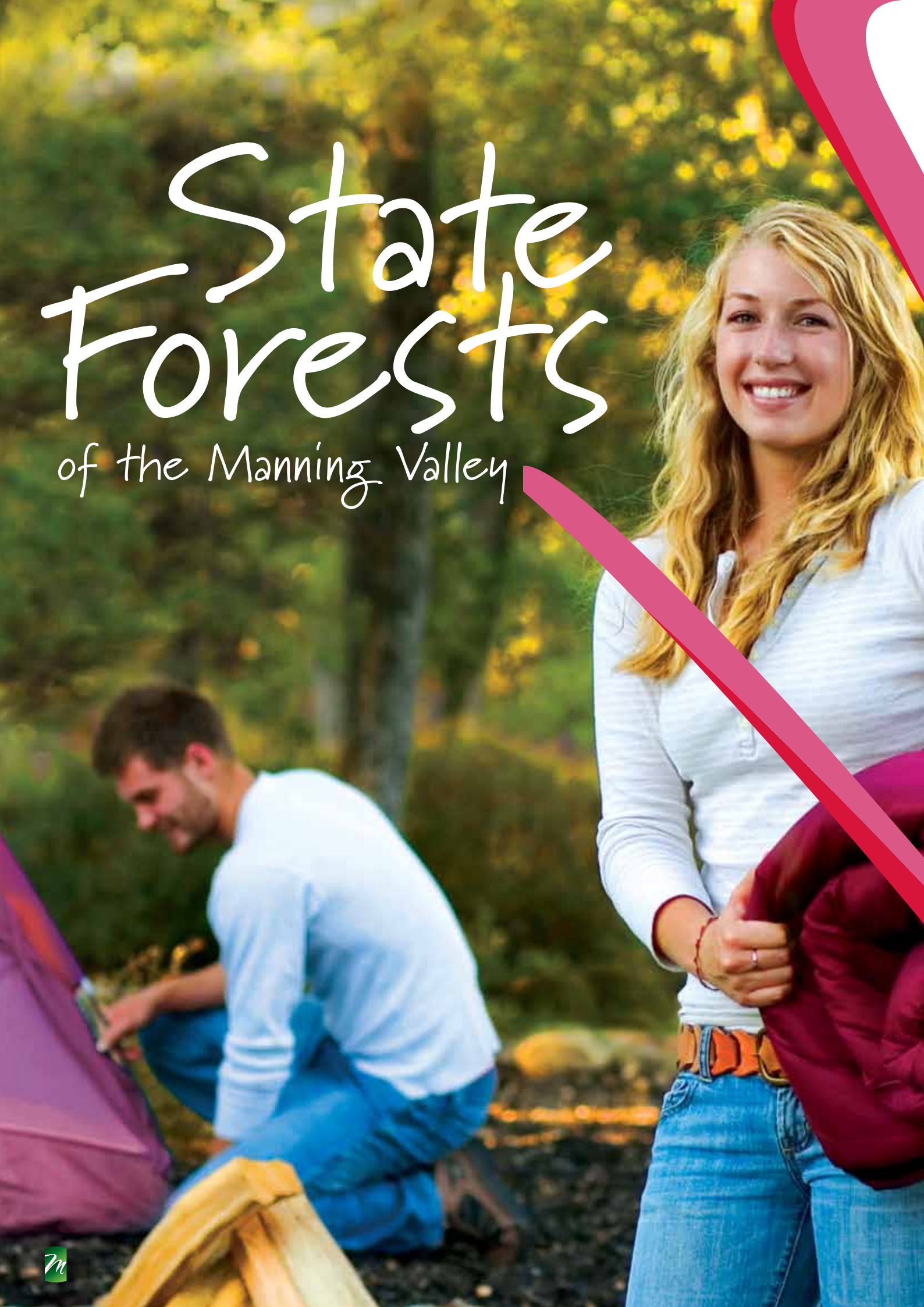
Over recent years the Park at Farquhar Inlet and Manning Point has become a safe breeding ground for a number of endangered shorebirds including the Little Tern who visits from Asia over the summer. Keep an eye out for these tiny little birds and their highly camouflaged eggs, ensuring you do not disturb their homes if you come across them.

Helpful Points

- All parks and reserves are sensitive areas
- Pets are allowed only in State Parks – not in National Parks or Nature Reserves
- Please take your rubbish with you
- Drive carefully and keep to public roads
- All vehicles including trail bikes must be registered
- Many of these parks and reserves are located on unsealed roads, so please drive to conditions.
- Leave everything as you find it: "take only photos and leave only footprints ..

State Forests

of the Manning Valley



*Want to know a best-kept tourism secret?
Some of the most popular outdoor camping
areas in NSW State forests are located within
the Manning Valley!*

The gently undulating slopes of the coastal forests of the Manning Valley support a rich and diverse bushland environment including spectacular Blackbutt forest - some of the best on the north coast. These forests are home to an amazing range of flora and fauna such as the beautiful and vulnerable Square-tailed Kite, Powerful Owl, Stuttering and Barred frogs, amongst more commonly encountered species.

What's the best way to experience the State forests of the Manning Valley? Take time-out in one of the popular (and free) picnic and camping areas the region has to offer.



Kerewong State Forest

Swan's Crossing

Only 20 minutes from Kew and half way between Taree and Kempsey, Swan's Crossing is a popular and well-loved area visited by locals and travellers alike. Its expansive, gently-sloping grassed areas lie adjacent to a magnificent river and are perfect for camping, kicking the footy or playing cricket. Formerly farmland, the area is now surrounded by regenerated native forest and hardwood plantations which muffle the sounds of the modern-day environment. Swan's Crossing offers well-maintained toilet facilities, fire pits, barbeques and picnic tables for campers and day trippers alike.

Longworth's Tramway heritage walk

Longworth's Tramway heritage walk is a short drive or a healthy 2km walk from Swan's Crossing and offers a fantastic insight into the heritage of the area. Located on Upsalls Creek Road, the walk showcases a section of the reconstructed track as well as the original tramway cutting.



Coopernook State Forest

Coopernook HQ

The Coopernook Forest Headquarters site, or HQ, is a tranquil oasis amongst scenic eucalypt forests, located just north of Coopernook and only a short drive off the Pacific Highway. The lush, grassed area is popular with interstate motor-home and caravanning enthusiasts, offering grassed areas for overnight stays as well as toilet and new day-use facilities (due for completion 2014).

Want to know more?

Web: forestrycorporation.com.au

Facebook: facebook.com/forestplayground

Twitter: @visitNSWForests

Email: tourism@fcns.w.com.au

Our Towns

Charming seaside villages, rub shoulders with quaint rural towns in the Manning Valley. Each has their own unique character and interesting history, which is what makes our region so special today. Have a yarn with the locals and immerse yourself in all the experiences on offer.



Wingham

A ten-minute drive west of Taree is the historic town of Wingham. Settled in 1853 on the banks of the Manning River, Wingham offers visitors a step back in time. Its rich heritage evident in the many splendid National Trust listed Federation buildings, which surround the town common modelled on the English square.

From the second you drive past the Wingham town entry sign on Wingham road, you enter the history of the Manning. To the left is Chrissy Gollan Park originally the site of Chinese market gardens and now an open green space for meeting friends, throwing a ball around, having a picnic or just lying under a tree in the shade.

Stroll the streets of this regional town where best selling Australian author Di Morrissey's book "The Valley" is based on the pioneering characters and places of the Manning Valley. Spend some time at the Historical Museum, which is open 7 days and showcases a vast collection of interesting memorabilia. Shop at the gorgeous boutique stores and eat at one of the cafes, including one multi award winning Café open for breakfast, lunch, morning and afternoon teas and using all local produce.



Down by the river's edge, Wingham Brush Nature Reserve is rare and beautiful covering 10 hectares of subtropical floodplain rainforest and is a maternity site for the endangered grey-headed flying fox. Stroll along the short, wheelchair friendly looped boardwalk under the boughs of huge majestic Moreton Bay and strangler fig trees. There are also barbeque, picnic, toilet facilities and boat ramp access to the Manning River near Wingham Brush.

On the weekends, Wingham comes alive with the Wingham Community Markets every 2nd Saturday of the month on the corner of Farquhar and Isabella Streets and the Wingham Farmers Markets on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Wingham Showground from 8 till noon where you can purchase fresh produce grown locally, oysters, fish and local cheese.



River Towns

Taree

Taree is the major commercial centre of the Manning Valley and is a great place to use as your base to explore. The local Aboriginal people originally named Taree "Tareebit" after the fruit of the majestic fig trees found growing in the region.

Located on the Manning River, Taree offers a great variety in shopping; modern undercover complexes, arcades, boutique gift and clothing shops, craft centres, antiques and speciality stores.

The town's recreational facilities include Taree Recreation Centre, numerous sporting fields, racecourse, ten pin bowling centre, entertainment centre, aquatic and leisure centre, rowing and sailing clubs and the adjacent river, making a great lifestyle. For a spot of exercise or relaxation, take a plunge in our modern Aquatic Centre with indoor and outdoor swimming or play some golf at one of our five excellent golf courses.

Explore our riverside parks with their shady grassed areas, meandering paths, pontoons and jetty facilities. For some adventure and excitement, grab your kayak, boat or Jet Ski and get out on the mighty Manning River itself. Or relax at one of our many cafes or enjoy a picnic lunch stretched out on the grass, in the shade of the trees overlooking the flowing water.

Tinonee & Mondrook

Tinonee was once a bustling riverside centre and is now home to an historical museum, orchid nursery, cafe and gallery. Driving towards Wingham, Mondrook has some charming cafes, galleries and an artisans retreat. There is a breathtaking view across the river at Brushy Cutting Lookout where you can look out at the picturesque valley, encapsulating all the rural side of the Manning Valley beautifully. (See the cover of this guide).

Cundletown

The peaceful village of Cundletown is nestled next to the Manning River just north of Taree. Take a stroll along Cundletown's streets, which feature markers identifying historical places of interest. Self-guided heritage walk brochures can be found online at www.manningvalley.info or at the Visitor Information Centre and Council.

Kendall Reserve in Cundletown is a lovely riverside park providing boat launching and picnic facilities overlooking lush farming land on Dumaresqu Island.





Croki

Just north of Cundletown, along the Pacific Highway, lies Croki. A sleepy little rural village on the river surrounded by lush dairy farms with spectacular scenery over Oxley and Mitchell Islands to the South and the Brother Mountains to the North. There are giant Moreton Bay fig trees great for picnicking under and a river pool for those hot summer days.



Harrington Crowdy Head



Clockwise: Crowdy Head Lighthouse, Crowdy Head Harbour, Harrington Totems, Harrington Waters Community Village Church and 1960's Harrington beach shack, now Hairworks - Images Aaron Cuneo

Harrington

Ten minutes north of Taree, just off the highway to another world, is the tranquil seaside village of Harrington. It sits at the northern mouth of the Manning River. In 1894 a long breakwall was built to protect the entry channel for shipping, now it serves as a scenic walk and great fishing location. The adjacent Pilot Hill Lookout provides expansive views over the river delta and the graves on the hill bear witness to the pilots whose task was to guide the boats over the bar. Close by, over 50 ships foundered between 1824 and 1941 and three wrecks still lie under the sand today.

A taste of holidays from our past, Harrington's relaxed seaside lifestyle is a welcome escape from today's frantic pace. Stroll along waterfront pathways where bollards form a visual display of Harrington's history. Rest in riverside parks or cast a line for that elusive catch of the day. See the resident pelicans rest atop colourfully painted power poles waiting for the fishing boats to return.

There are riverside and seaside caravan parks, cabins, pubs, clubs and cafes with great views so you can watch the resident pelicans waiting for fishing boats to return.



Crowdy Head

Just north of Harrington, the small fishing village of Crowdy Head retains evidence of its European settlement and history around the area with a strong maritime flavour.

A must do for all is a visit to the iconic Crowdy Head Lighthouse. The lighthouse perched high on the headland provides 360-degree views of the coast. Between May and August, keep your eye out for passing humpback whales. The lighthouse itself is picturesque and a great place for a photograph as well as being easily accessible on a sealed road.

Driving north of Crowdy Head you can enter Crowdy Bay National Park. There are two camping spots, Crowdy Gap and Diamond Head. The Park provides spectacular cliff top views, easy walking tracks, abundant wildlife and good fishing. Diamond Head and Indian Head provide unforgettable backdrops to the colourful wildflower displays in spring and summer. Access to the park is via an unsealed road from Crowdy Head or from Moorland 35 kilometres north of Taree.

History and literary buffs should also visit the hut near Diamond Head of celebrated Australian novelist Kylie Tennant. This "retreat in nature" was the inspiration for her novel, *The Man on the Headland*.





The Three Brothers Region

Around 25 kilometres north of Taree is the stunning mountainous Three Brothers Region. It is perfect for a scenic day trip where you drive through lush hinterland, green rolling hills and pristine bushland.



Coorabakh National Park

Turn west from the Pacific Highway at South Moorland into Forest Road. This leads onto the unsealed Coopernook Forest Drive with interesting attractions along the way to Coorabakh National Park. Stop at Newbys Cave, a 5 minute walk from Newbys Creek Road, then onto Newbys Lookout which is wheelchair friendly and a great place to observe soaring wedge-tailed eagles. Newbys and Flat Rock Lookouts afford sweeping views from the Lansdowne Escarpment and Starrs Creek Rainforest Area has great picnic facilities and a rainforest boardwalk.

Big Nellie, Flat Nellie and Little Nellie are prominent volcanic plugs in Coorabakh National Park and Big Nellie has picnic facilities at its base and a viewing platform.

Waitui & Hannam Vale

After Coorabakh National Park, make sure you pull into Waitui Falls in the Coopernook State Forest. It is a popular water hole with the locals on hot days.

Nestled between three National Parks is the pretty hinterland village of Hannam Vale. Free from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Visit the local general store for directions, refreshment or a good ole country chat. Over the summer period pick some of the juiciest berries straight from the fields at the local berry farm.

Johns River

At the end of Hannam Vale lies the bypassed village of Johns River. It is now a peaceful setting with views to the Brother Mountains. Lively markets are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month showcasing local products and fresh produce.

Middle Brother

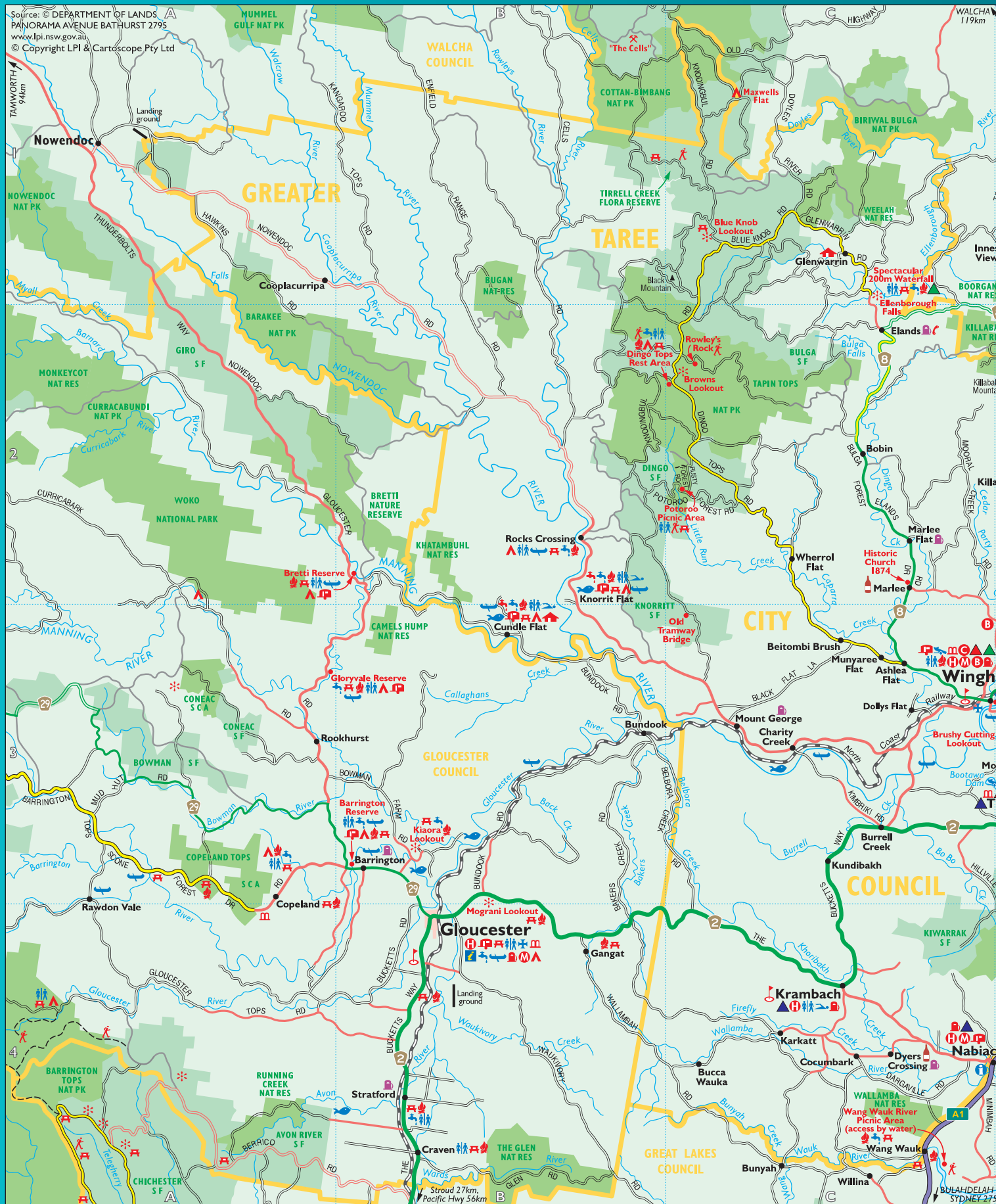
There are two massive Blackbutt trees near Middle Brother Mountain. This can be accessed from The Pacific Highway North of Johns River. Marvel at the Bird Tree which is the largest tree by volume in New South Wales with a diameter of 3.6 metres and height of 69 metres. There are also some great lookouts and the mountain trails make for fun 4WD.

Moorland

To the south of Johns River is the village of Moorland which in exchange for a quick detour off the highway you can taste the "best scones on the coast" and some of the sweetest, tastiest fresh orange juice in the region.



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www.lpi.nsw.gov.au
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the
Manning Valley
...naturally!



THE LEGENDARY
PACIFIC COAST
 SYDNEY TO BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Food + drink

The Manning Valley was originally founded on agriculture and is renowned for fresh produce. From the melt in your mouth organic beef in the hills of Wingham to the fresh seafood and oysters direct from our streams and oceans. Tasty mushrooms, juicy tomatoes, crunchy macadamias, the freshest eggs and sweet berries straight from the farm have inspired local chefs to create some extraordinarily inventive and tantalising menus.

With some of the best local produce in the world our diverse local eateries love to ensure you all get a taste.

An endless culinary world

Tempt your tastebuds with the regions diverse range of flavours and styles to suit every occasion. Throughout the Valley there are dining options to please all tastes (and budgets), from elegant gourmet restaurants to funky casual eateries.

Coastal or country pubs and eateries capture the ambience of bygone times and offer quality restaurant or bistro dining, al fresco beachside and riverside cafes offer delicious meals and even more enjoyable views, while busy in town restaurants provide a variety of cuisines, drop in for Italian, seafood, Thai, Chinese and Australian fare, a great atmosphere with friendly staff and award winning service.

Cleanse the palate

Throughout our scenic countryside we have an abundance of award winning wineries that all offer something more than just good wine. Each one presents a unique experience, a perfect picnic spot, an outdoor concert, secret bird watching, a tasty cafe or a meandering maze.

Take your time and visit them all, or pick out your favourite as you travel the countryside sampling the cheeky chardonnays, summery savs and charming chambourcin's of the Manning Valley.

Taste it all

Our list of where to eat at manningvalley.info gives you an up-to-date list of what is available every day. The ambience, the aroma, the natural produce and the beautiful region make the Valley the ideal environment for enjoying fine food and great company... naturally.







Fashion innovation at The Flair Awards - Image by Six 6 Photography Brad Hick

Arts & performance

Giet Arty

The Manning Valley features a wide array of arts and craft establishments, many located in breathtaking hinterland and seaside settings.

For a touch of culture in your holiday, visit the Manning Regional Art Gallery located in Macquarie Street, Taree. The Gallery is committed to curating more than 12 exhibitions each year and is responsible bringing some amazing world class shows to the Manning Valley.

The Gallery is open Wednesday through to Saturday 10am to 4pm and on Sundays from 1pm to 4pm.



For information about the Manning Regional Art Gallery and their current exhibitions or call 02 6592 5455.

Smaller privately run galleries can be found at Taree, Wingham, Mondrook, Ghinni Ghinni and Tinonee.



Bright Lights

Treat yourself to a night out at the state of the art Manning Entertainment Centre holds a variety of shows throughout the year with touring celebrities and local talent. Past shows include Guy Sebastian, The Royal Sydney Ballet Company, and crowd pleaser The Wiggles!

Local clubs and the numerous Community Halls dotted around the countryside offer a variety of entertainment throughout the year, from big name musical acts to not to be missed delightful amateur player productions.

Each weekend live Music can be heard at venues around the region including Taree, Old Bar, Harrington and Diamond Beach.

Information on what's on can be found at www.manningvalley.info or the Manning Valley Visitor Information Centre.

Events



Major events in the Manning



Here in the Manning Valley we are proud to host and share with you a diverse range of events throughout the year. From rodeos to music festivals, the Manning Valley has it all and we cannot wait to share it with you. For full details of what's on in the Manning phone 1800 182 733 or go online at Facebook Visit Manning Valley or www.manningvalley.info

January

- Harrington Festival, New Year's Day featuring John Gollan Fireworks and Family Fun Day
- Manning River Summer Festival
- Tagged Fish Round Up
- Wingham Summertime Rodeo
- NSW's Rowing - Taree Summer Regatta

February/March

- Wingham Show
- Manning Marathon Sailing Regatta
- NSW Rowing CDRA Championships
- Artisans Expo



VW Kombi enthusiasts at The Old Bar Beach Festival - Image Carl Muxlow

April/May

- Taree Aquatic Powerboat Easter Spectacular
- River City Classic BMX competition
- The Wedding Party
- Taree and District Eisteddfod (April – June)
- Wingham Beef Week
- Autumnfest
- Weekend on wheels

June/July

- Wingham Bonnie Scottish Heritage Festival
- Envirofair
- Junior Rodeos

August/ September

- Manning River Dragon Boat Regatta
- Taree Gold Cup Carnival
- Flair Fashion Awards
- Taree Crazy Day

October/ November

- Old Bar Beach Festival
- Akoostik Festival
- Upper Lansdowne Craft in the Country
- Taree Show
- Wingham Campdraft
- Hannam Vale Open Gardens
- Killabakh Day in the Country
- Taree Arts Council Major Production

December

- Carols by Candlelight, Harrington, Hallidays Point, Old Bar, Taree and Wingham
- Wingham Chamber of Commerce Christmas Carnival
- New Years Eve Fireworks, Taree and Black Head





Shopping markets

Shopping is one of our favourite past times here in the Manning Valley, so while you are here take in some retail therapy and enjoy the friendly service and free parking on offer in our towns.

Shops

Check out Taree's two shopping centres or stroll through the main street, arcades and speciality stores. In Wingham make yourself at home in the gorgeous boutiques, offering home wares and fashions. Or spend your weekends trawling through the array of bustling markets in our seaside and rural villages where you can be sure to find a secret bargain.

Don't forget to treat yourself at one of the day spas, beauticians or salons dotted about the region, for that chance to unwind after a hard days holidaying.

Markets

Wingham Farmers Market

1st Saturday of the month, 8am – 12 noon
Wingham Showground

Black Head Bazaar

1st Sunday of the month from, 8.30am – 2pm,
Wyllie Breckenridge Park

Bobin Community Markets

Last Sunday of the month 10am – 2pm,
Bobin Hall, Bulga Road

Wingham Community Markets

2nd Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 12.30pm,
Corner Wynter and Isabella Streets (on old
Hawkins Ford Car Yard)

Hub Markets

3rd Saturday of the month, 8am – 12 noon

Krambach Markets

3rd Sunday of the month, 9am – 1pm
School of Arts Hall, Bucketts Way, Krambach

Old Bar Markets

4th Sunday of the month, 7am – 1pm
next to Old Bar Tennis Courts

Burrell Creek Markets

2nd Sunday of every month, 9am – 1pm

Johns River Community Markets

2nd Saturday of the month, 8am – 2pm
Johns River Hall

Harrington Markets

Easter Sunday and new Years Day, 7am – 1pm,
Oxley Reserve

Nabiac Farmers Market

Last Saturday of the month, 8am – 2pm,
Nabiac Showground



History

Throughout the Manning Valley there are reminders of our pioneering days. A proud agricultural and maritime history

Museums

Towns such as Taree, Tinonee, Cundletown and Wingham on both sides of the Manning River, boast rich pioneering and agricultural history, which can be discovered at one of our three regional museums located at Tinonee, Wingham and Cundletown. The three museums all offer a glimpse into our past with photographs, furniture, fashions, war memorabilia, craft, tools, industrial machinery and a 19th Century police cell that once housed Jimmy Governor (local outlaw from the late 1800's).

Walks

Self-guided heritage walk brochures can be found online at www.manningvalley.info or at the Visitor Information Centre and Council for Taree, Tinonee, Cundletown and Wingham. The walks take in historic sights of the area and significant architectural buildings of each town.

Signs

In Harrington and Crowdy Head information signs can be found on Pilot Hill and Crowdy Headland outlining the macabre maritime history with stories of ship wrecks and drowning's. In the Manning Valley we are proud of our heritage and look forward to sharing it with you.

A display at the Tinonee Historical Museum - Image Aaron Cuneo



Fishing

The Manning Valley
is a fisherman's paradise

The fishing in our region is outstanding with a place to drop a line or experience adventure fishing just around every corner.

Fish our numerous, pristine freshwater streams for Australian Bass (perch). Fish our estuaries for quality flathead, bream, whiting and much more. Use the endless miles of deserted beaches and headlands for the land based blue water angler. Take advantage of our excellent boat launching facilities to access the big ones off shore and for whale watching (May to August). Chase the big blue water species such as snapper, kingfish, jewfish, pearl perch, marlin and more from destinations like Crowdy Head with these species just offshore.



Boat Ramps

- Andrews Reserve (Taree - end of Edinburgh Drive)
- West End Ave (Taree)
- Endeavour Park (Taree)
- Cundletown (Kendall Reserve)
- Wingham Brush Nature Reserve Picnic Area (end of Farquhar Street)
- Tinonee (near Tinonee Park)
- Croki (off Ferry Road)
- Bohnock (Neville Weilly Bridge, Manning Point Road)
- Old Bar (Mudbishops Point Reserve)
- Harrington (off Beach Street)
- Manning Point (Main Street)
- Coopernook (near Hotel)

Pick up a fishing license at the Manning Valley Visitor Information Centre, Greater Taree City Council or selected local outlets.



Adventure



With 45 kilometres of pristine coastline, the Manning Valley was made for adventure. Sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding, and kite surfing are some of our favourite pastimes.

Back inland there is an endless amount of bush tracks, hills and lookouts that can be walked on, climbed up, cycled across or flown over. You are never short of something to see or do in the Manning Valley, whether you are a beginner or an expert in the art of having fun we cannot wait to find something to suit you.

Cycling in the Manning

To breathe in our fresh air, why not think about cycling in the Manning Valley. We have various options for cycling enthusiasts, whether it is BMX riding, mountain bike riding or riding on our cycling track at our sports complex.

The Manning-Great Lakes Tip Riders is a mountain bike club catering for riders who wish to ride socially as well race. Rides go through State Forests with over 40km of single-track on the outskirts of Taree. The Manning Valley BMX Club located at Urara Lane race on Saturdays and for a more leisurely ride, collect a brochure from our Visitor Centre or jump online to our website.

Cycling Trails

Fotheringham Park to Andrews Reserve

4 kms – approx. 40 minutes – Flat sealed roads.

Old Bar Road to Manning Point

34kms – approx. 2hrs Mostly flat sealed roads.

Wingham to Charity Creek

Mt. George Rd to Burrell Creek to Bootawa Dam to Wingham - 50kms – 4 to 5 hours (including lunch) – sealed roads, hills – Fit cyclists only.

Harrington to Diamond Head to Harrington

Approx 40kms – approx 3hrs -15kms of gravel road, sometimes quite rocky but quite flat.

Walking Tracks

A full list of walking tracks can be found at the Manning Valley Visitor Information Centre or online at our website. We have walks for all levels of ability, here are a few of our favourites.

Coorabakh National Park

Newbys Creek Walk and Caves – Five minutes walk up the creek from Newbys Creek Road, you can explore the fascinating Newbys Cave. The cave has a large overhanging rock formation, making a natural shelter in the creek bed. The walk continues further upstream amongst lush ferns and sparkling creek waters. All 30 minutes.

Crowdy Bay National Park

Diamond Head Loop Track - A well-formed track begins from Diamond Head camping area. The track links Diamond Head and Indian Head camping areas, passing through heaths and forests. Views of the fascinating eroding cliff arches around Diamond Head are possible in the southern section of the walk. Ensure your safety by keeping to the track. Allow 2 hours.

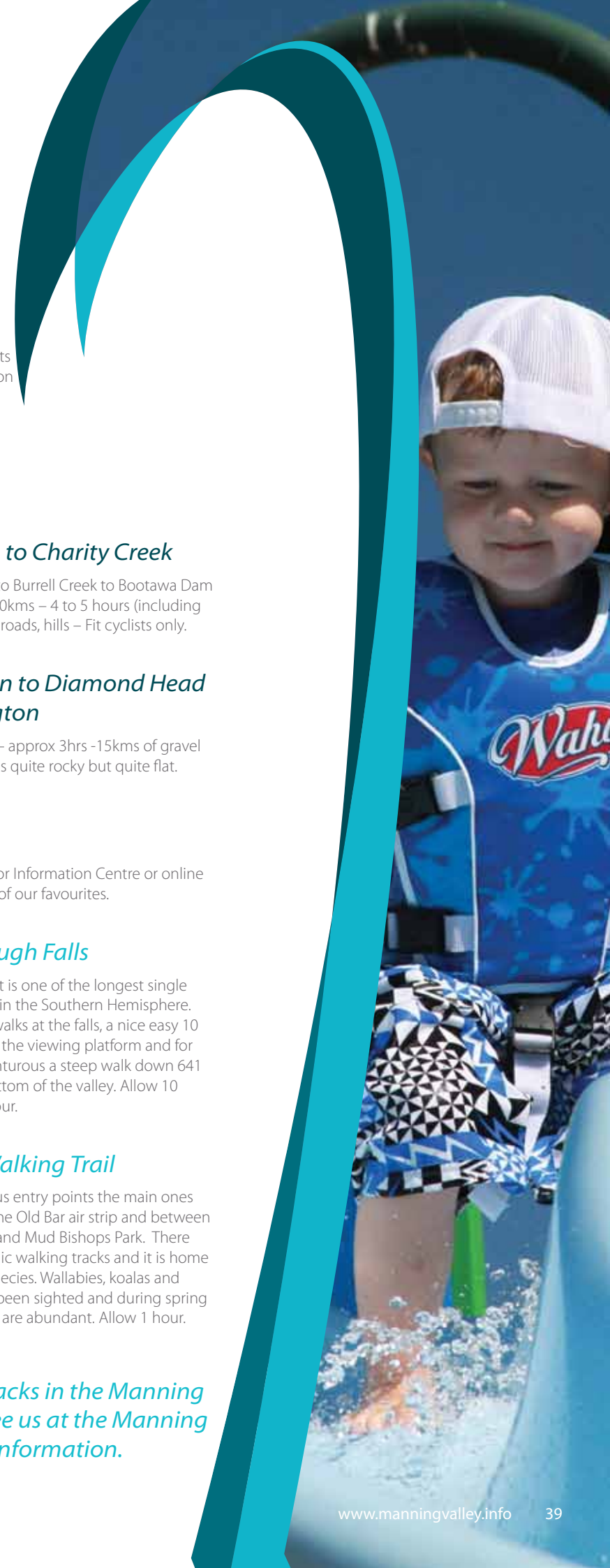
Ellenborough Falls

At 200 metres, it is one of the longest single drop waterfalls in the Southern Hemisphere. There are two walks at the falls, a nice easy 10 minute stroll to the viewing platform and for the more adventurous a steep walk down 641 steps to the bottom of the valley. Allow 10 minutes or 1 hour.

Old Bar Walking Trail

There are various entry points the main ones being behind the Old Bar air strip and between Old Bar village and Mud Bishops Park. There are 4km of scenic walking tracks and it is home to many bird species. Wallabies, koalas and echidnas have been sighted and during spring the wildflowers are abundant. Allow 1 hour.

There are so many more walks and cycle tracks in the Manning Valley, head to our website or pop in and see us at the Manning Valley Visitor Information Centre for more information.



Villages



Family fishing at Manning Point

Nabiac

Travelling north to the Manning Valley from Sydney, the first village in the Manning is Nabiac. Nabiac houses an extensive motorcycle museum, a delicious cafe, some gorgeous boutique shops and a local winery all within a short drive from the town.

Just out of town, stretch your minds and legs at a unique privately run 5 acres of resilience gardens and pop into the Farm gate shop where you can see, purchase honeys, sauces and jams all made from produce grown in the on site gardens.

Coopernook

Peace and quiet has descended on the village of Coopernook since the highway was diverted, making it even more attractive as the gateway to the northern forests. There is motel accommodation and a local pub on the riverside serving meals. Coopernook is close to the northern National Parks of the Manning Valley but only 15 minutes from the coast at Harrington.

Old Bar

The vibrant seaside village of Old Bar provides access to the Manning River and ocean, attracting visitors throughout the year wanting a relaxed laid-back atmosphere. In the village of Old Bar you will find everything you need from resorts, to self contained accommodation and holiday parks. There are alfresco dining options, supermarkets and retail outlets. A heritage listed airstrip is unique to this coastal town which provides the perfect place for surfing, kite boarding lessons and swimming. Old Bar is also home to the Old Bar Beach Festival which is held each year on the October long weekend. Thousands of visitors come to town for the array of festivities over two full packed days.

Killabakh

Killabakh is a small village 20 minutes north of Wingham towards Comboyne. Each year on the first Saturday in November the community holds its 'Day in the Country' event. The festival celebrates locally made arts and crafts and fresh local produce. There is entertainment and home cooked country style food to be enjoyed.

Manning Point

Manning Point is nestled behind one of the two river entrances from the ocean where peace and quiet is part of every day life. On the way at Bohnock, stop off and hire a boat to explore our waterways.

A picturesque village located almost at the mouth of the Manning River it sits on a narrow spit between the river and the sea. It is part of a landscape of islands and the many tributaries that form the Manning River delta, the largest in Australia.

Krambach

From Tinonee, travel west along The Bucketts Way towards Gloucester to the hillside village of Krambach. Krambach features a local pub and boasts a unique country golf course with the greens fenced off from cattle and kangaroos. The views from Krambach extend towards Gloucester overlooking idyllic countryside with secluded villages dotted along the way.



Travelling with Pets

Here in the Manning Valley we are a dog friendly region with plenty of accommodation for you and your pet, from 4 star resorts to basic cabins and camp sites. See our website for listing of all types of pet friendly accommodation available.

Furry family on Beaches

The Greater Taree City Council has made its beaches dog friendly. Dogs are allowed on beaches if accompanied, off leash between 7pm and 8am other than prohibited areas, on leash between 8am and 7pm at designated beaches

Make sure your dog also enjoys the holiday by taking advantage of the chance to have a roll in the surf!

Beach fun with Lulu! - Image Aaron Cuneo

Indigenous history

The original occupiers of the Manning Valley were speakers of the Biripi language. Today the term Biripi has come to signify the people rather than just the language.

The first European settlers and explorers arrived in the Manning Valley in the early 1800's. As they arrived they observed the lifestyle of the populous Aboriginal people, spread over the entire region, occupying all manner of ecosystems, marine, riverine and inland. There were distinct groups of Aboriginal people and attributed lands around various points in the landscape. These distinct groups had lifestyles and material cultures varying slightly from one another, depending upon their immediate environment. However, they all spoke the Biripi language.

Saltwater Reserve has special significance for the local Aboriginal community. It contains Aboriginal sites which relate to Dreamtime beliefs. The reserve is part of the Saltwater National Park.



Saltwater lagoon



THE LEGENDARY ELLENBOROUGH FALLS

ONE OF THE TOP 20 LEGENDARY EXPERIENCES

Whether visiting friends and relatives, exploring the region or stopping over during your trip along The Legendary Pacific Coast, the Manning Valley is home to one of the top 20 legendary experiences along Australia's top tourism drive, stretching from the Central Coast in the south to the Tweed in the north.

The Legendary Ellenborough Falls is a day trip to remember and one not to be missed for any traveller. Recorded as the second longest single drop waterfall in the southern hemisphere at 200 metres, the

viewing platform and a 10 minute stroll to the Knoll lookout on the opposite side of the falls provide excellent photo opportunities. For the more adventurous, a walk to the bottom of the falls gets you up close and personal in the mist of the falls and into the ravine where the Ellenborough River continues to flow towards the Manning River. However, there are 641 steps back to the top to keep you fit. A quaint kiosk is open in school holidays and on weekends, serving homemade delights and local jams and pickles.

HOW TO GET THERE

The ancient forests, farmland and steep canyons wrap the road as you adventure through the lush hinterland of the Manning Valley along Tourist Drive 8. It is a memorable drive through either Taree or Tinonee through Wingham with a distance of approximately 55kms to the Falls located just past the village of Elands. There are 16kms of unsealed and winding roads from Bobin up to Elands and it is not recommended for towing caravans, however, once several hundred metres above sea level on the Bulga Plateau, the views are unsurpassed.

For a longer day trip, travel from Elands to Comboyne before passing by the stunning rocky outcrop of Bago Bluff and the rolling green plains and patchwork hills of the countryside. From Comboyne, pass through the village of Byparra and the town of Wauchope on the Oxley Highway and onto Port Macquarie. This drive is approximately 250km from Taree and is approximately 2.5 hours long but take the whole day to discover the diversity of this region at a relaxed pace along The Legendary Pacific Coast through the Manning Valley and Greater Port Macquarie.

To see the top 20 legendary experiences along the North Coast of NSW visit www.pacificcoast.com.au

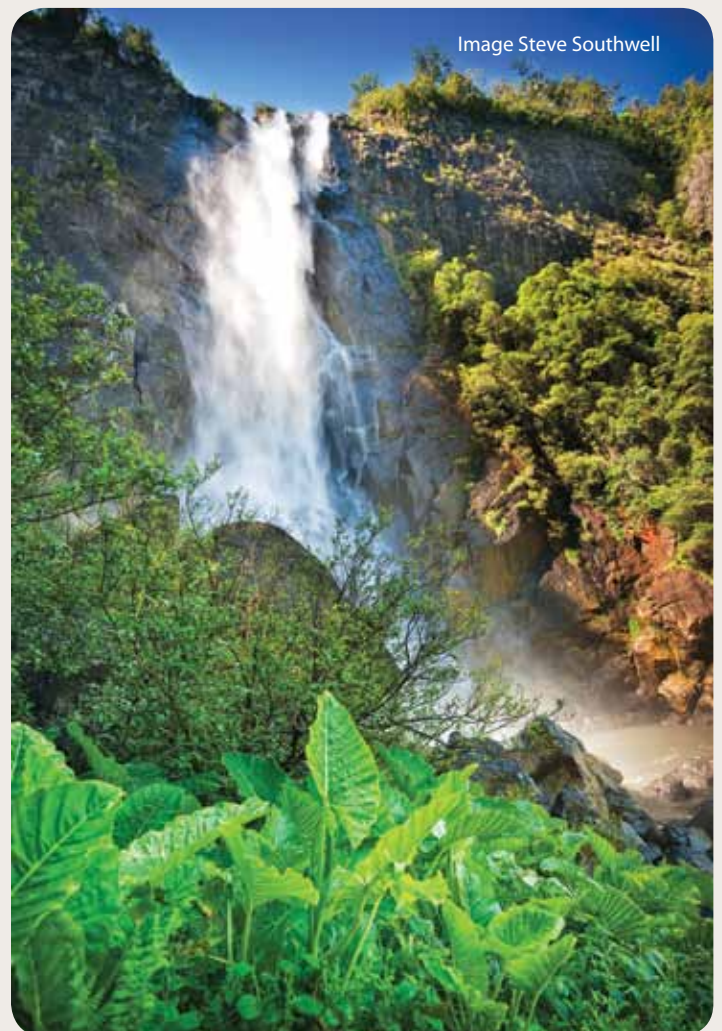


Image Steve Southwell

LEGENDARY
EXPERIENCES
THAT WILL
BECOME
LEGENDARY
MEMORIES.

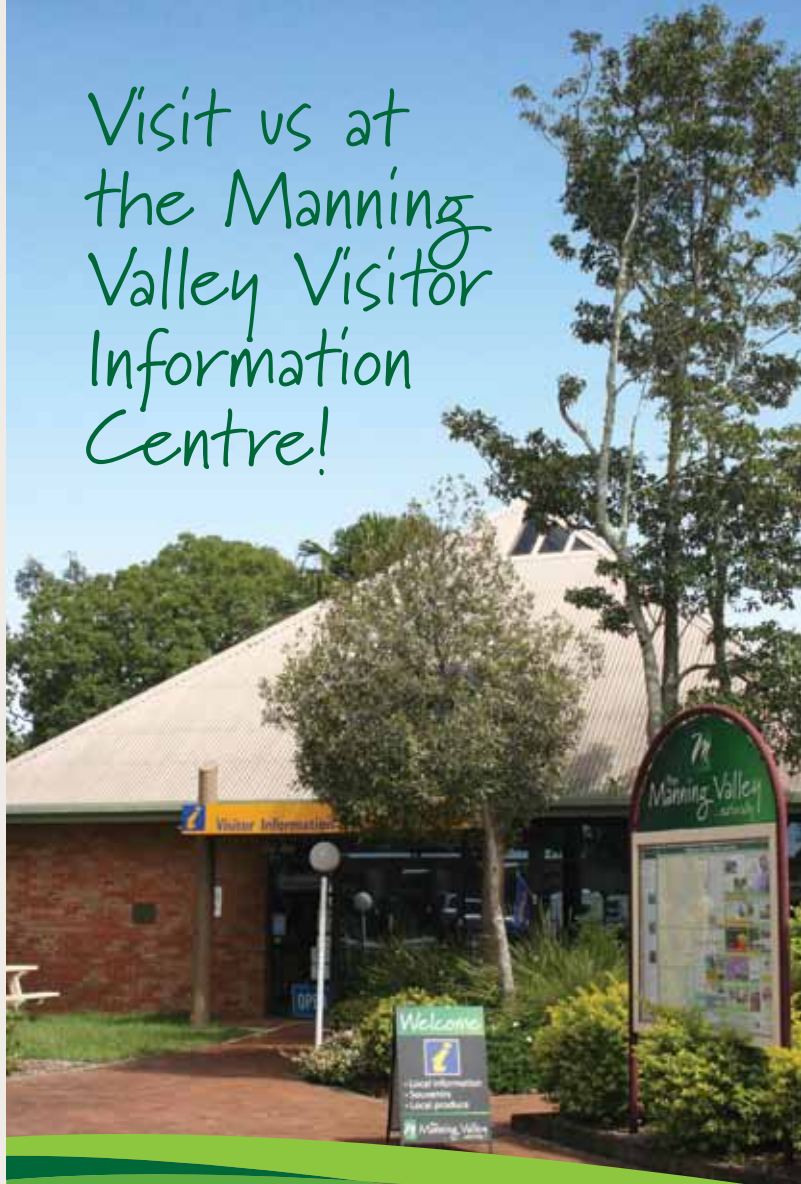
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Visit us at
the Manning
Valley Visitor
Information
Centre!



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We can help if you want to swim, fish, eat, golf, walk, explore,
shop or even if you just want to watch and relax. If it's
happening in the Manning Valley our staff will know about it
and be able to point you in the right direction.

Whether you want to take in a leisurely day trip, find the best
surf beach, see a show at the Manning Entertainment Centre
or shop at some of our gorgeous local markets, we have all the
information at the Manning Valley Visitor Information Centre.

While you're there, check out our great range of unique local
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www.manningvalley.info
Ph: 1800 182 733





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www.saltwaterwine.com.au

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www.clubtaree.com.au



Black Head Bowling Club

Our club is located on the Mid-North coast at Hallidays Point N.S.W. Midway between Forster-Tuncurry and Taree. Club is open from 10:30am daily. Bistro is open 7 days a week lunch & dinner. Courtesy bus service available phone club for bookings.

Main Street Black Head
02 6559 2923

eagles@blackheadbowlingclub.com.au
www.blackheadbowlingclub.com.au

Working with our catchments

With a commitment to protecting and enhancing our catchments to ensure optimum water quality and river flows, MidCoast Water is working in partnership with our community and other organisations to bring about the best outcome for our river systems

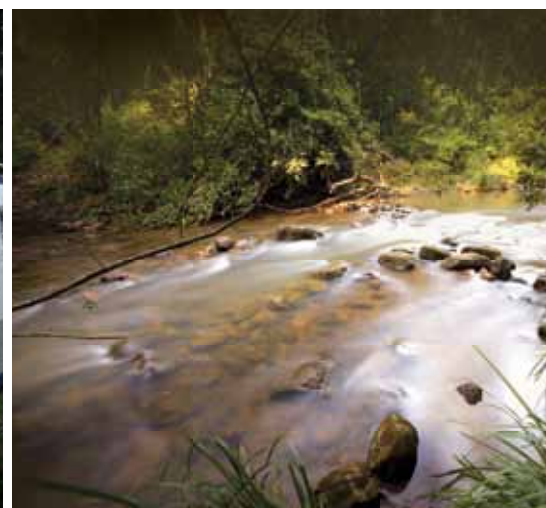
1300 133 455 midcoastwater.com.au



Manning Valley dining & attractions

COME AND STAY IN YOUR BACKYARD

EXPERIENCE A
FOREST
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Some of the best natural assets in the Manning Valley can be discovered by exploring all that State forests have to offer. Go bushwalking, relax over a picnic lunch or simply enjoy the native surrounds.

There's so much to see and do in NSW State forests!

Kerewong State Forest

Popular with locals and visitors alike, the Swans Crossing camping and picnic areas in Kerewong State Forest are nestled in beautiful native forest.

Paddle in the shallows of Upsalls Creek or stroll the historical Longworths Tramway Heritage Walk. Experience your local State Forest today!

Coopernook State Forest

A favourite amongst caravan and campervan travellers, Coopernook State Forest offers a free highway-stopover and peaceful rest area.

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