welcome to WOLLONGONG





Wollongong essentials: everything you need to know at a glance!

POPULATION

APPROXIMATELY 290,000 (Wollongong Statistical District)

TIME ZONE

AUSTRALIAN EASTERN STANDARD TIME (GMT + 10)

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

SUMMER 18 - 26 C AND WINTER 8 - 17 C

Wollongong has a mild coastal climate with most rainfall between February and June.

FUN IN THE SUN

23 BEACHES

Of which 17 are seasonally patrolled with North Wollongong Beach patrolled 365 days a year.

PARKING

Available at four central locations in the CBD www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/city/parkingtransport/pages/parking.aspx

TRANSPORT

ROAD FROM SYDNEY: 1 hr 15 mins, 80kms, M1 Princes Motorway, Grand Pacific Drive or the Westlink M7.

ROAD FROM CANBERRA: 2 hr 30 mins, 250kms, Hume Highway.

DRIVING DISTANCES / TIMES FROM WOLLONGONG:

- > Shellharbour 29km / 30min
- > Kiama 38km / 45min
- > Bowral 60km / 1hr
- > Nowra 78km / 1hr

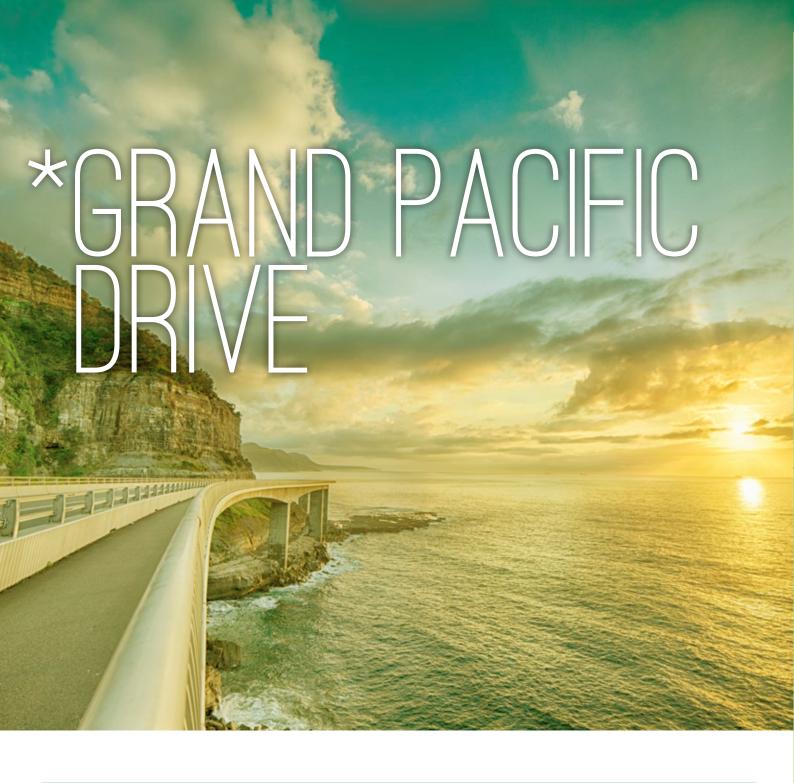
RAIL FROM SYDNEY: 1 hr 30 mins, www.131500.com.au One of City Rail's most scenic routes!

SYDNEY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TERMINALS: 75 kms by road or 1 hr 30 mins by train.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Premier Illawarra, Dions and Greens operate throughout the region. The FREE Gong Shuttle also circles the CBD regularly; please refer to the map on page 3. Car hire is also available with all major companies represented.

*WOLLONGONG CBD MAP





Grand Pacific Drive encompasses some of the most spectacular scenery and coastline in Australia.

Starting just 45 minutes south of Sydney at the entrance to the Royal National Park (the world's second oldest), the 140km drive takes you through coastal rainforests, quaint seaside villages and traverses the iconic 665 metre Sea Cliff Bridge.

Grand Pacific Drive then makes its way into the bustling city of Wollongong and through to the beautiful coastal

towns of Shellharbour and Kiama, passing rolling hills, wineries and dairy farms on your way to the Shoalhaven.

From here, either continue south to Batemans Bay and the greater South Coast or head west into the Southern Highlands and then onto the nation's capital, Canberra.



GRAND PACIFIC DRIVE DISTANCE CHART



FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

	SYDNEY	WOLL	SHELL	KIAMA	SHOAL	STH HLDS	B BAY	CANBERRA
SYDNEY		85km	l I0km	I23km	I45km	I I 2km	278km	285km
WOLLONGONG	85km		29km	38km	78km	60km	197km	234km
SHELLHARBOUR	I I 0km	29km		I4km	54km	60km	173km	216km
KIAMA	I 23km	38km	l 4km		40km	62km	I 59km	218km
SHOALHAVEN	I 45km	78km	54km	40km		61km	I I 8km	216km
STH HIGHLANDS	I I 2km	60km	60km	62km	61km		179km	169km
BATEMANS BAY	278km	197km	173km	159km	I I 8km	179km		149km
CANBERRA	285km	234km	216km	218km	216km	169km	l 49km	



Framed by the Pacific Ocean and the stunning Illawarra Escarpment, Wollongong is the destination for adventure activities ranging from hang gliding at Bald Hill to air acrobatics, skydiving and Harley Davidson rides.

Visitors can hop on a bike and enjoy a cycling soujourn through some of the most spectacular scenery in the region, from rainforests to wave-washed headlands. Immerse yourself in one of the region's many natural drawcards.

For the kids there is whale watching, wildlife parks, 17 glistening surf beaches and NSW's largest theme park, Jamberoo Action Park. NSW's third largest city also offers plenty of opportunities to shop in the vibrant CBD. Enjoy a selection of cultural treats including art galleries, museums and performance venues. Be sure to visit Wollongong's beautiful Botanic Garden.



Wollongong's City Centre is the leading shopping and entertainment precinct in the Illawarra.

Located in the heart of Wollongong, the City Centre is the leading shopping and entertainment precinct in the Illawarra.

With Myer, David Jones, JB Hi Fi, Rebel Sport and over 350 specialty stores, there's something for everyone! The abundance of cafes and street entertainment also make it the perfect place to gather with friends.

Crown Street Mall is conveniently located in the heart of Wollongong's CBD, boasting a great line up of well known brands, niche retailers, trendy cafes and restaurants and a variety of business services.

NSW Tourism Award Winners



2010:

2012:

Hosted Accommodation - Gold Award: Mollymook Beach Waterfront. www.mollymookbeachwaterfront.com.au

2011: Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Boutique Breweries - Silver Award: Silos Estate www.thesilos.com Visitor Information and Services, The Rod Murdoch Memorial Award - Bronze Award: The Next Revolution:

Visitor Services 2.0. www.visitwollongong.com.au

Hosted Accommodation - Silver Award: Mollymook Beach Waterfront. www.mollymookbeachwaterfront.com.au Qantas Award for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism - Silver Award: Crystal Creek Meadows Luxury Cottages

& Spa Retreat. www.crystalcreekmeadows.com.au

Tourism Marketing - Bronze Award: We Love the Gong. www.visitwollongong.com.au

2009: Tourist Attractions and Indigenous Tourism - simultaneous Gold Awards: Booderee National Park. www.environment.gov.au/parks/booderee

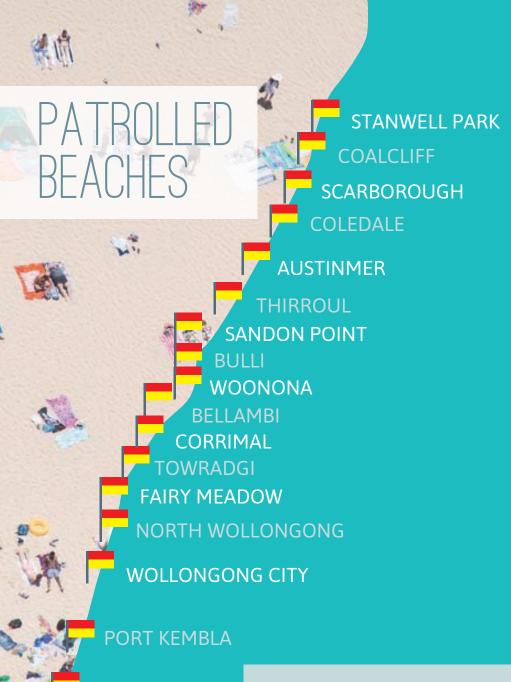
Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Boutique Breweries - Gold Award: Coolangatta Estate.

www.coolangattaestate.com.au

Adventure Tourism - Silver Award: Skydive the Beach Sydney. www.skydivethebeach.com. Tourism

Marketing - Silver Award: Grand Pacific Drive. www.grandpacificdrive.com.au

Hosted Accommodation - Bronze Award: Milton Country Cottages. www.miltoncountrycottages.com.au







NO FLAGS, NO SWIM!

WINDANG



designated swimming area



swimming prohibited beach closed



surfboard riding not permitted



stinger warning



dogs prohibited



do not litter

AWARD WINNING BEACHES

Wollongong's beaches have long been acknowledged as some of the best in the world and are regularly recognised not only as great surfing locations but award winners.

In 2013 North Wollongong Beach and Wollongong City Beach won recognition in the Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches awards. North Wollongong Beach was the NSW winner of the Sydney Water 'Conservation Award' and Wollongong City Beach being the winner of the 'Friendly Beach Award'.

Our beaches are indeed beautiful and to ensure you make the most of your visit always seek and heed the advice of Lifeguards and Lifesavers and remember NO FLAGS = NO SWIM.

All 17 beaches are patrolled from commencement of NSW School Holidays in September to end of April school holidays. In addition, North Wollongong beach is open all year round.

For patrol times visit wollongong.nsw.gov.au



With over 60km of shared cycleway, cruise alongside the beach from Thirroul to Wollongong, then continue to Shellharbour and beyond. You'll find plenty of tracks to explore and enjoy.

Whether you're after an easy coastal ride or rugged mountainous terrain, you'll find a cycleway to suit all fitness levels in Wollongong.

Not able to bring your bike with you? Don't worry! We have some great local bike-hire operators that can provide you with a set of wheels. If you're near the Novotel Wollongong Northbeach, you can also take advantage of the new four-bike Spinway hire stand located outside the foyer of the hotel.

A number of local operators can assist with bike hire or Australian Cycling Holidays offer self guided cycling tours throughout the South Coast.



Wollongong is where the mountains meet the sea. Not sure what that looks like? Then head to one of the amazing lookouts in the Illawarra and you'll understand what we mean!

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK

Established in 1879, it's the world's second-oldest national park. It features unique heritage attractions, along with fascinating plants, birds and animals. Perfect for bushwalking, cycling, surfing, picnicking or whale watching, this diverse park offers everything from beaches to rainforest.

Located within an hour's drive from both the Sydney CBD and Wollongong, the 16,000ha Royal National Park is like a big beautiful backyard. Whether you come for a morning jog or a week-long camping holiday, you'll discover something new each time.

BALD HILL LOOKOUT. STANWELL TOPS

Bald Hill is one of Australia's most well known and most popular lookouts situated a top the hill of that name. Not only are the views excellent, the area is also internationally known as a major hang gliding point.

It was on the beach below Bald Hill that Lawrence Hargrave, an Australian pioneer of flight, experimented with box kites in the early part of the 20th century. A memorial cairn dedicated to him has been erected at the peak of the hill near the car park.

Bald Hill overlooks the one and only Sea Cliff Bridge which extends along the Grand Pacific Drive, a 140 kilometre award winning coastal drive beginning 45 minutes south of Sydney International Airport in the Royal National Park.

SOUTHERN GATEWAY CENTRE. BULLI TOPS

If you're on your way to Wollongong and need some directions, or want to know more about what you can do when you get here, pop into the Southern Gateway Centre and have a chat with a member of our team.

Perfectly perched on the Illawarra Escarpment at Bulli Tops, the Southern Gateway Centre is easily accessible for those heading south towards Wollongong on the Princes Motorway (M1).

Not only will you get the information you need, you will be able to enjoy the stunning 180 degree ocean views of Wollongong as you look down on the city.

The centre is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm with plenty of free parking available. (Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday)

SUBLIME POINT LOOKOUT, BULLI TOPS

Sublime Point Lookout doesn't disappoint, providing the best vantage point in the Illawarra. Sublime Point delivers 180-degree views of Wollongong and its surrounds, capturing the beauty of the rainforest and the dazzle of the ocean.

The Sublime Point walking track is 850 metres with the difficulty level considered to be hard and best suited to fit walkers. The track branches of Gibson's track and then ascends sharply to the lookout. A series of steel ladders assist walkers up the jagged cliff lines to the top of the climb. We suggest allowing 45-minutes to complete the track.

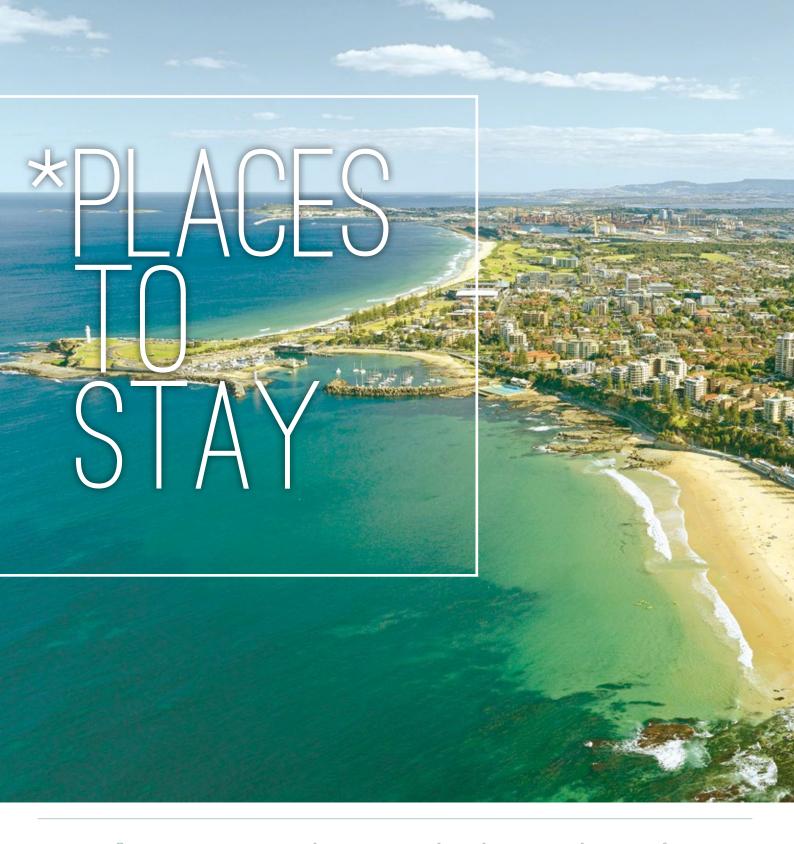


Wollongong is passionate about good things to eat and drink. Its reputation as one of NSW's premier fishing spots is reflected in the abundance of amazing seafood on offer at Wollongong's many seaside restaurants; but there is much more to the city's growing foodie following.

Dining options in Wollongong are many, from beachside cafes to award-winning restaurants and a great variety of clubs, pubs and cool cocktail bars on offer.

Visitors to Wollongong will find something to tempt all tastebuds and need look no further than Wollongong's very own recipe book, We Love the Gong: EAT, to find the perfect spot to dine.

Coffee afficionados can start the day with a perfect cup, custom blended and brewed at Wollongong's own roastery. For a brew of a different kind, those looking for a refreshing end to the day can taste a selection of craft beers fresh from the brewery, available only on tap and with a beach view as backdrop.



Everyone needs a place to rest their heads at the end of a long day of exploring and with so many great options in Wollongong weary travellers will be spoilt for choice!

Wollongong is the perfect holiday haven for couples, families and singles, whether guests want to splash out in luxury or get close to nature at one of the many beautiful beachside camping grounds.

There's something to suit everyone from comfortable and affordable family accommodation in self contained apartments to any one of a number of great hotels, B&Bs, coastal cottages, backpacker hostels and camp grounds.



A beautiful location for team building and business interaction.

Wollongong is a city bursting with innovation. A growing regional hub with an impressive presence across many business sectors, Wollongong is the ideal location to hold your next event or conference.

Our proximity and the natural beauty that surrounds us is key. Only an hour's scenic drive from Sydney and the domestic and international airport, but with a slightly slower pace of life that lends itself to clear thinking.

Our interactive Event Planners' Guide illustrates the breadth of exceptional event and conference facilities available in this compact yet illuminating destination. From major international sporting events to smaller corporate functions, we have the space, accommodation

and attractions to ensure your delegates enjoy their time at your event and in our city.

Wollongong boasts a thriving food scene and urban art culture coupled with marked traction in burgeoning industries such as Knowledge Services, ICT, Financial and Business Services and a strong footing in traditional industries such as Education, Manufacturing, Mining, Technology and Logistics. This successful diversification means Wollongong is fast becoming the best place to do business in New South Wales.

For more information visit wollongongeventplannersguide.com.au





IHUB 93 CROWN STREET, WOLLONGONG NSW

SOUTHERN GATEWAY CENTREM1 PRINCES MOTORWAY, BULLI TOPS NSW

P. 1800 240 737 OR (02) 4267 5910 VISITWOLLONGONG.COM.AU









WOLLONGONG Destination

