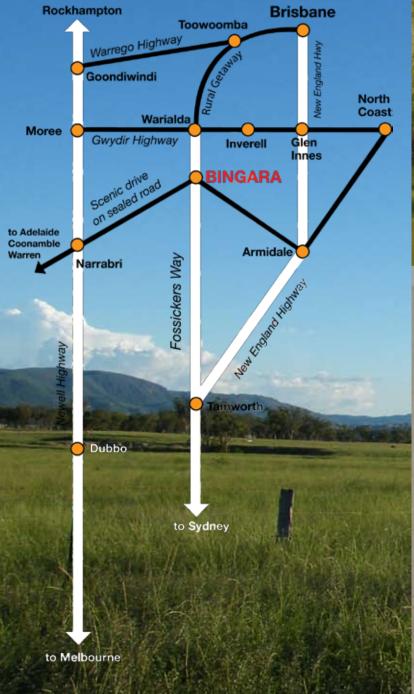
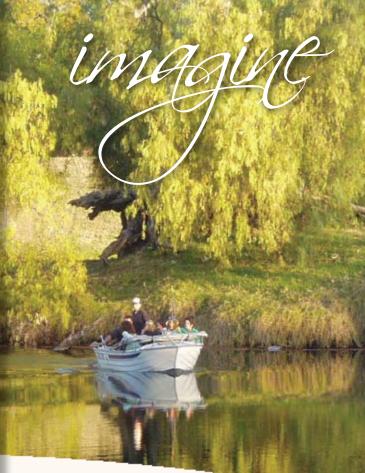


where we?





BINGARA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE Roxy Theatre Complex 74 Maitland St BINGARA NSW 2404 Phone: 02 67240066 or 1300 659 919 email: bingaratourism@gwydir.nsw.gov.au website: www.bingara.com.au



For ten thousand years or more, Koori people lived along the shore of the big river they called the Koomar. At a special place, where the mountains meet the plains, there was a shallow river crossing the Gamilaraay tribe called "Bingara". Imagine the importance of that special place for Koori people!

Ironically, in 1827 explorer Allan Cunningham, on his northward journey, came to the same crossing and camped on the north bank. This was the biggest river he was to cross between the Hunter Valley in NSW, and the Darling Downs in Queensland. He named the river the Gwydir, after his benefactor Lord Gwydir of Wales. For many decades, the new settlers in the area just called it the Big River.

Partly responsible for the formation of that ford at Bingara is the Peel Fault, a mighty fracture in the earth's crust, stretching from just south of Warialda almost to Newcastle. Here, 300 million years ago, the ocean edged the ancient Australian land mass. Seashell fossils testify to this.

Edges also exist around Bingara of other features, both natural and human. For example, the territory of coastal birds overlaps that of the inland birds, giving one of the largest populations and variety of birds in the world. Discover these birds using the 'Bird Guides', part of the extensive information available from the Information Centre.

...a place the edge

Within the Bingara district, the grazing lands of the New England Tableland meet the croplands of the North West Slopes and Plains, creating a wide diversity of agricultural activities.

Bingara sits snuggly in the middle of a magnificent part of Australia. It is central to a huge range of attractions. These include Copeton Dam, and the volcanic Nandewar Range featuring Mount Kaputar (at 1510m the highest peak in NSW outside the Great Dividing Range).

The many National Parks in the area reflect complex geology, intricate biodiversity, and are mysterious places begging to be investigated.

Bingara is a great place to explore, to relax and to reflect. Here, you can truly live life at the edge!

Imagine...'Australia's best climate!'

Bingara has over 300 days each year when, as the locals would have it ...the weather is 'just perfect'.

Autumn and Spring are especially kind, and even winter days can see a frosty start lead to a magical morning, and a sparkling afternoon.

How to find us?

Bingara is on the Fossicker's Way, the major north-south road along the North West Slopes. It parallels the Newell Highway (which runs along the plains), and the New England Highway (along the tablelands).

An average drive from Sydney takes seven hours, while Brisbane can be reached in a leisurely five hours. The Country Link Rail Coach Service meets the XPT train at Tamworth six days a week. Major regional airports are at Tamworth, Armidale, Narrabri and Moree.

Killarney Gap Road connects the Newell Highway at Narrabri, to Bingara and all points North and East. Fully sealed, and passing over the saddle of the Nandewar volcanoes, and across the Horton Valley, this route is a tourist's delight. In addition to fantastic scenery, this is the shortest sealed route between Brisbane and Melbourne. Motoring is easy, even when towing a caravan.

Consider Bingara as the ideal stop over. You will want to stay longer! Bingara's central location makes it the ideal base to explore the New England North West. It also has a reputation as a centre for conferences, weddings and other functions.



fascinating past

The journey of discovery by explorer Allan Cunningham in 1827 ended the pristine era of indigenous people in the Bingara district. Gold was discovered in 1852, and soon hundreds of settlers were making their way into the area. By the 1880's copper and diamonds were added to the mix.

Bingara's diamonds are the hardest naturally occurring gems in the world. Sorted and deposited by an ancient river, the search goes on to find the source.

All Nations Hill Stamper Battery



The All Nations gold mine (established 1860), is on the hill at the southern end of town. It was the last of the boom gold mines to close (in 1948). It developed into a large underground mine, operating at four levels in two shafts (the deepest being 100m). The ten-headed stamper battery remains.

Bingara Historical Society Museum

The Museum is located in Maitland St. The original building was the Post Office Hotel (1860). It is constructed from pit sawn and hand adzed local cypress timber, and features a puddled iron roof.

An extensive rock collection, an original one-teacher school building, the first blacksmith shop, and a collection of historical machinery are all featured within the grounds. Sir Henry Parkes, the 'Father of Federation', and Fred Ward, the notorious bushranger 'Thunderbolt', were among the characters who had dealings with the Post Office Hotel.

Our painted History

Bingara has streetscape murals reflecting its rich history. An information sheet is available from the Visitor Information Centre.





The Myall Creek Massacre

In 1838, an infamous massacre occurred at Myall Creek Station, 20 kms north-east of Bingara. Twenty-eight aboriginal women, children, and old men were murdered. The Myall Creek massacre marked the first time in Australian history where white men were tried for capital crimes against aborigines. Seven men were hanged.

An annual 'Friends of Myall Creek' Memorial Service attracts people from all over the country, and is held every June long weekend. In 2008, the site was listed on the National Heritage List, and in 2010 was also listed on the NSW State Heritage Register. Myall Creek is now one of Australia's most important centres for reconciliation.

Heritage Buildings

The brick courthouse and lock-up keeper's residence were erected in 1879. The courthouse has been restored as an excellent public library. Other heritage buildings include the Police Station and Residence (1882), the Anglican Church (1889), St Andrew's Presbyterian (now Uniting) Church (1904), St Mary's Catholic Church (1906), and the Gwydir Inn (1879)(changed to the Imperial Hotel in 1889).

The Country Women's Association

Bingara played an important part in the history of the Country Women's' Association (the CWA). The founding President in 1922 was Mrs Grace Munro from Keera Station. She believed passionately that a better life for country women could be provided 'for women, through women and by women'

The Orange Trees - A Living Memorial

The orange trees lining Finch Street are a unique feature of Bingara. Planted in the 1950's as a living memorial to Bingara's fallen in both World Wars, the trees have become a symbol of community pride.

The oranges remain untouched until one day in winter when, following a ceremony held outside the RSL Club, the town's children rush to pick them.



exciting future

We have a Vision for the future of Bingara and its surrounds. This can be viewed on the Bingara website.

We recognised that whilst we cannot know or predict the future with any certainty, we can work towards creating the future we want.

Since we created our vision in 2006, our achievements have been extraordinary - new roads, new hospital, new watersupply system, restoration of the Roxy Cafe and museum, award winning townscape design to name a few. We recognise that the future will be very different from the past, and we look for the opportunities in change, rather than to be threatened by it.

This long list of positive changes has been achieved by many partnerships within the community, and between community groups, Gwydir Shire Council and State and Federal governments.

We are creating the future that we want!



BINGARA CENTRAL SCHOOL

PRIDE • HONESTY • RESPECT

Our school has a proud, 150 year tradition, of providing quality public education to the young people of the Bingara community.

From Kindergarten to Year 12 we offer a comprehensive curriculum with strong emphasis on numeracy and literacy, sport and the arts. Our senior students are able to access both academic and vocational pathways.

A proud member of the Gwydir Learning Region and the Gwydir Community of Schools





55 Finch Street, BINGARA NSW 2404 Ph: 02 6724 1606 • Fax: 02 6724 1927 Email: bingara-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au Web: www.bingaracentralschool.com.au

Imagine Bingara



The Living Classroom is turning 150 hectares of little used town common into a food production wonderland. It is combining many agricultural activities with horticulture, aquaculture and forestry.

The Living Classroom is focused on quality food and the links between soil health, plant and animal health, and human health. The site is for the casual visitor and for those who wish to learn. A beautiful place to wander around, soak up nature, be inspired, or to 'get down and dirty'.

Bingara is utilising The Living Classroom to become a 'closed loop' community – self sufficient in food and recycling all compostable waste (including treated sewage).

The project is a model for regeneration of agriculture and for rural communities. It will enable us to prosper in a rapidly changing world.

Upper Gwydir Landcare working in the community



Upper Gwydir Landcare Association p: 02 67242 052 m: 0427 291 073 www.ugla.com.au The illustration above is an aerial view of the most intensive part of the project. Full details can be viewed on the website www.thelivingclassroom.com.au



The Gwydir Learning Region (GLR) is a cooperative venture between the Gwydir Shire Council, TAFE, the Gwydir community of schools, Community Colleges and a number of universities, including

the University of New England. Winner of the national 2006 NSW Training Initiative Award, the GLR caters for all ages and competencies with a focus on individual learning rather than one size fits all.

Three trade training centres in the Shire give students access to state of the art facilities in Hospitality (located behind the Roxy café), Primary Industries (part of the Living Classroom) and Automotive Services (at Warialda).







The Roxy Complex

Built by three Greek immigrants from the island of Kythera, the Roxy was an ambitious project, part of the post-Depression surge in rural Australia. The introduction of television in the 1950's saw the Roxy cinema falter, and in 1958 its doors closed for forty years.

The building has been restored to its original art deco glory. It includes the theatre and cinema, conference centre, tourist office, training centre, museum (recognising Greek heritage in rural Australia) and cafe. It is home to the North West Theatre Company, and the annual North West Film Festival.

It is a unique place, and ideal for weddings, functions and conferences.

Our Vibrant Country Town

The two thousand locals and our visitors are well serviced. We have excellent schools, medical and aged care facilities, and sporting venues. Bingara MPS is a new hospital and ambulance complex, and next door is Touriandi Lodge, the hostel for our frail and aged citizens. Nearby is the Gwydir River Caravan Park, and the swimming pool complex surrounded by lovely parks.

Near the river's edge, **the Bingara Sporting Club** provides first-rate golf, lawn bowls, tennis, squash and fitness opportunities. The Sporting Club also has a licenced restaurant offering Asian and Australian meals. Visitors are welcome to participate in the wide range of exercise and relaxation activities on offer within the community.



THE ROXY

Built in 1936, The Roxy is a fully-restored and unique art deco cinema with an adjoining café.

The Roxy is the region's premier entertainment venue offering:

- Cinema screenings
- Live performances
- Meetings, conferences, seminars
- Private functions
- Weddings
- Behind-the-scenes tours

The Roxy • 74 Maitland St, Bingara Tel: **02 67 24 0006** • Mob: 0427 241 582 email: roxy@gwydir.nsw.gov.au website: **www.roxybingara.com.au**





The **Bingara Returned Services Club** features the Gwydir Grill (open seven days) and has regular live entertainment. Both the **Imperial** and the **Sportsman's Hotels** are located in Maitland Street, and offer fine meals, coffee and refreshments, as well as a range of accommodation. The **Roxy Café** offers fine dining, the art deco interior reflecting a glorious past.

Our shops cater for the everyday through to the unusual. Expect to find the unexpected! Our main street features independent family businesses proud of their service and presentation. Our town landscape, already attractive, is planned to become even more wonderful.



Ceramic Break Sculpture Park

Bronze sculpture & paintings for sale. Dinosaurs, bush walks and fun!

Open: Thurs-Sun 10am-5pm from March 1st to December 22nd, and by appointment. Phone: **02 6729 4147**

"Bondi" Warialda, 25km north of Bingara on Fossicker's Way

email: kerry@cbreaksculpturepark.com.au website: www.cbreaksculpturepark.com.au

Ceramic Break Sculpture Park is 20km along the Fossicker's Way towards Warialda. The Park consists of several galleries of fine art and sculpture, and is the realisation of a "dream" of internationally renowned sculptor Kerry Cannon.

Guest artists exhibit regularly at the Park. You can spend a day walking around the galleries and the extensive grounds of the property, with its many tracks and trails displaying amazing sculptures.

The North West Theatre Company and Film Club



Join us for a classic film at the Roxy on the last Sunday in the month and stay linked to the Roxy website for our next live show.

Roxy website: **www.roxybingara.com.au** Contact Bingara Visitor Centre: (02) **6724 0066**



The Big River

Imagine Bingara 10

The Gwydir River flows from the New England Tablelands westward, and is part of the Murray-Darling system. At Copeton it is dammed forming a magnificent body of water, three times larger than Sydney Harbour. This water is captured for use in the irrigation areas around Moree, and feeds the Gwydir River wetlands.

The flow of clear and sparkling water is showcased at 'The Junction', at the northern end of Maitland Street.

Jackaroo Jillaroo Downunder



John and Cathy Wade invite you to climb into the saddle and enjoy an authentic Jackaroo Jillaroo Experience

Tel: 02 67 241 562 • Fax: 02 67 241 562 Email: info@jackaroojillaroodownunder.com.au www.jackaroojillaroodownunder.com.au **Copeton Waters State Park** is a 900Ha recreational and adventure playground about a 30 minute drive from Bingara.

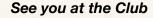
The park offers a fascinating day trip, weekend or holiday experience for the whole family. Relax by the water, try your hand at fishing, go for a ski, or check out the native flora and fauna.

Below Copeton Dam, the Bingara Gorge has some amazing white water, especially when irrigation water is being released. It also provides great trout fishing sites.





Why not join us for some great food at the Gwydir Grill open for lunch and dinner. Live entertainment every Sunday





Finch Street, Bingara • Phone: 02 6724 1404



Between Copeton Dam and Bingara there are many beautiful spots for primitive camping. Be mindful that the river may rise quickly and please, leave no rubbish. At Bingara the Gwydir flows out of the hills and onto the plains.

Just upstream of town the river features many stretches of smooth water, interspersed with small rapids. You can try a canoe, or launch your tinny near Campbell Bridge, or just upstream of the town's Pump Station.

Rest, Relax, Engage

Visitors to Bingara can choose life at the pace they desireenjoying 'full on' activities, or the ambience of a private place to just 'chill'.

Why not try...

Fishing from either boat or bank will experience some of the best inland fishing in Australia – just be mindful of size and bag limits, and the need for a licence.

Bingara volunteers established a hatchery in 1980, and have released millions of Murray cod, yellowbelly and silver perch fingerlings into the river system.

Canoeing is available. One of life's great experiences is a peaceful paddle from upstream of Bingara, finishing under Campbell Bridge, or a few gentle rapids downstream to finish below the Golf Course.

Copeton Waters State Park Nature's Wonderland



the affordable family break

 Accommodation ranges from deluxe and standard self contained cabins, bunk house (sleeps 44), onsite vans, 88 powered van/ campsites and unlimited bush camping.



 Facilities include numerous amenities blocks, adventure playgrounds, tennis courts, golf course, splash park, giant jumping pillow, kiosk selling take-a-way food, ice, bait, fuel and gas.





Contact: Copeton Waters State Park Private Mail Bag Inverell N.S.W. 2360 Phone 02 6723 6269 • Fax 02 6723 6207 Email: copetonwaters@bigpond.com www.copeton.com.au

In **fabulous** facilities

Horse riding at Gwydir River Trail Rides, offering superb bush trails along the river, or up in the ranges. Jackaroo Jillaroo Downunder offers a broader farm experience.

Bird Watching Bingara, because it is 'on the edge', is central to one of the most exciting areas for 'twitchers' in the world. Here coastal birds meet the birds of the plains.

Trail bike riding Bike Territory near Killarney Gap, is the place to take your family and your motor bikes for spectacular trails and challenges.

Bush Tranquillity

The "blue hills" of Bingara are caused by the dominant cypress pine and ironbark trees. There are magical spots hidden away in these hills with many beautiful streams, groves, cascades and waterfalls.

The night sky is spectacular - starry, starry nights abound. Watch the moonrise over the Gwydir, and feel a peace that you may have forgotten existed.

Batterham Lookout offers a panorama of the town and westward down the Gwydir Valley. It is a great spot to view spectacular sunsets.

Upper Bingara The loop road to Upper Bingara cuts through the serpentine rocks of the Peel Fault. Along the road is a magnificent stand of grass trees (xanthorea australis). These grass trees include some of the largest and oldest in Australia.



Situated between Bingara and Narrabri in the picturesque Nandewar Ranges, Bike Territory offers 10,000 acres of Trailriding for ATVs and Trailbikes.

There is comfortable on site accommodation and camping available. Day rides are welcome. Open all year round. Booking essential.

Contact Scott and Gina p: 02 6783 4218 e: info@biketerritory.com.au www.biketerritory.com.au



Imagine Bingara





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Peranjou Cottages

Peranjou is a great place to get away from the hustle and bustle of fast paced living, a place to relax and enjoy the quiet county atmosphere. Alternatively it's a great base for touring and sightseeing around North West NSW where there are many sightseeing attractions and activities on offer.



Peranjou has two self-contained units situated side by side. Each sleeps four and boasts a fully equipped kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, separate toilet, laundry and a large open plan living area leading onto a shared deck overlooking the picturesque Gwydir Valley.

Contact: Peter & Ann Mack Ph: 02 67 294 146 Mob: 0427 715 726 • email: peranjou@yahoo.com.au website: www.peranjoucottages.com.au

SPORTSMANS HOTEL



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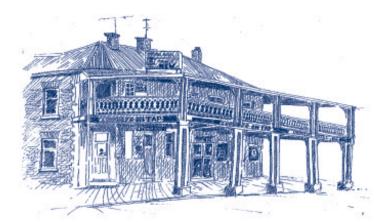
31 Maitland Street ph: 02 6724 1880 mob: 0427 241 505 Dine in our modern restaurant. Indulge in delicious gourmet meals and Monte coffee. Enjoy ice cold beer and friendly hospitality. Flutter with full TAB facilities and KENO. Stay in the spacious pub style accommodation. Be entertained by regular live bands

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Touriandi Lodge is a low level aged care facility situated in a pleasant setting with views of hills and rural scenes. Trained and competent staff provide 24 hour care to residents.

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Or phone us: +(61 2) 6724 1629

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imperialhotelbingara.com.au



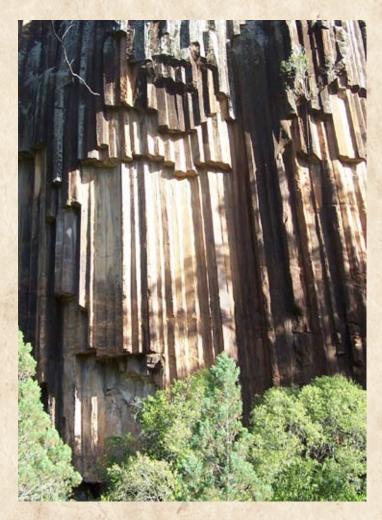
The Horton Valley is extremely picturesque and there are many photo opportunities. The Horton River and its tributaries are crystal clear and abundant with water animals and fish. In addition, there are a number of geological

sites marked. Information for these sites is available from the Bingara Visitor Information Centre.

Enjoy a picnic or, in the village of Upper Horton, enjoy the comfort and facilities of the licensed Sports Club. The club holds cricket and night light tennis competitions, campdrafting, rodeos (both open and junior), dog trials and motorcycle pony express events. It is also a great place for a cold beer and a chat with the locals.

The New Year's Eve Rodeo at Upper Horton Sportsground is one of the most exciting on the circuit, and is world renowned for producing some of Australia's toughest cowboys.

Travel along Killarney Gap Road (the Bingara-Narrabri Road) to the **Glacial Area**, and then **Sawn Rocks**. At Sawn Rocks, you can see the youngest rocks in the area towering like organ pipes, part of the colossus that was the Nandewar Volcano. Mount Kaputar, Mount Grattai, Mount Waa and Mount Lindesay are some of the remnant features left from this violent geological past.







Imagine how the volcanoes would have glowed red in the night sky 20 million years ago (a very recent event in geological time!).

Keep your eyes and ears peeled for rare plants, birds and animals day and night. You will be delighted and surprised by what you find.

Three Creeks Gold Mine is on the Upper Bingara Road, 20km from town. It is a working mine with special tourist facilities for panning and fossicking.



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Peranjou Cottages offer country farmhouse accommodation in the midst of a working property, while in town The River House has beautifully appointed self contained accommodation just a stone's throw from the river, and only one block from the centre of town.

Bingara's arts and crafts are another cultural feature, and are on display and available for sale at Bingara Wattle Arts and Crafts. Regular classes in crafts, work skills and general training can be undertaken and enjoyed through the Bingara Community College.



Community College Northern Inland

Learn Locally

Bingara 02 6724 1965 Warialda 02 6729 1487 Barraba Gunnedah Inverell Narrabri Moree

www.communitycollegeni.nsw.edu.au

Inproductive Landscape

There is a good chance that the best steak you have ever eaten came from the Bingara district, or the most succulent pork, the most mouth-watering Murray Cod, or the sweetest orange.

BINGARA SPORTING CLUB



Bingara Sporting Club is a Licensed Club with wonderful sporting, entertainment & function facilities. Bowls, Tennis, Squash and Golf. The new restaurant serves Chinese and Australian meals. Visitors are welcome.

8 Bombelli Street Enquiries: 02 6724 1206 binsport@bigpond.net.au



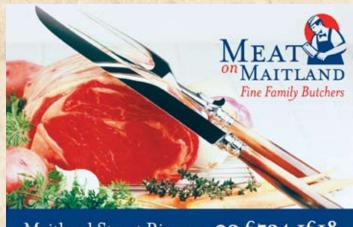


Bingara prides itself on its food, whether from a local farm, from a country garden, from the Living Classroom, or from one of half a dozen local restaurants.

It seems that natural goodness abounds in Bingara, with fresh air, sunshine, lovely rain and good soils. This goodness is enhanced by the enterprise of many local farmers and gardeners.

The Bingara/Barraba district is a special place for raising beef cattle, and therefore many studs are located here. Sheep for wool and meat are grown, especially on the hilly country, and prime pork is a feature of the Horton Valley west of Bingara.

You can get some 'hands-on' experience of farming in Bingara. Ask for details at the Bingara Visitors Information Centre.



Maitland Street Bingara 02 6724 1618

Imagine Bingara





Real Estate & Stock Agents 40 Maitland St



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Bingara Wattle Arts & Crafts



Fine jewellery • Art and local crafts • **Open 7 days** Come & browse a while. Home of 'Oscar the Emu' 47 Maitland St. Ph: 0418 649 057 or 0427 031 663 *New members always welcome*



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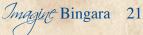
Maitland Street, Bingara • Enquiries: 02 6724 1484

The Lucky Bingara Newsagency

Newspapers, lotto, lottery tickets, magazines, stationery, cards and gifts

Maitland Street, Bingara Phone: 6724 1500





Gwydir Shire Annual Events

January	Upper Horton Campdraft & Rodeo
	Australia Day Celebrations
February	Bingara Cup Race Meeting
	Gravesend Rodeo
Feb/March	National Servicemen's Reunion
March	Brendo's Charity Golf Day Warialda
	Opera in the Paddock
Easter	Bingara Easterfish
April	Anzac Day March and Luncheon
	St Johns Anglican Flower & Wool Exhibition
	Warialda Cup Race Meeting
	Bingara Charity Campdraft and Sporting (Jnr
Мау	Warialda and Bingara Agriculture Shows
	Warialda Polocrosse Carnival
	Coolatai Tractor Pull
	Upper Horton Pony Express
June	June Long Weekend Tennis Tournament
	Myall Creek Memorial Anniversary
	Upper Horton Yard Dog & Arena Trials
July	Bingara Orange Picking & Orange Festival
	Bingara Polocrosse Carnival
	North Star Trail Bike Rides
August	North Star Polo Tournament
September	Warialda Off Road 200
	Coolatai Hanging of the Quilts
	North Star Bushman's Carnival Campdraft
October	Gwydir Art Show
	Fossicker's Way Veterans' Week of Golf
November	Warialda Honey Festival
December	Bingara Christmas Carnival
	Warialda Christmas Tree
	Barney's Day - Bingara Charity Golf Day

The Bingara Riverside Caravan Park is situated in an idyllic position opposite the mighty Gwydir River, next door to the swimming complex and within walking distance to town and Batterham's Lookout. Set among exquisite matured trees, just the right amount of shade is provided all year round. Spring is particularly picturesque as the jacaranda trees lining Keera Road create a canopy and carpet of purple as you approach the park.

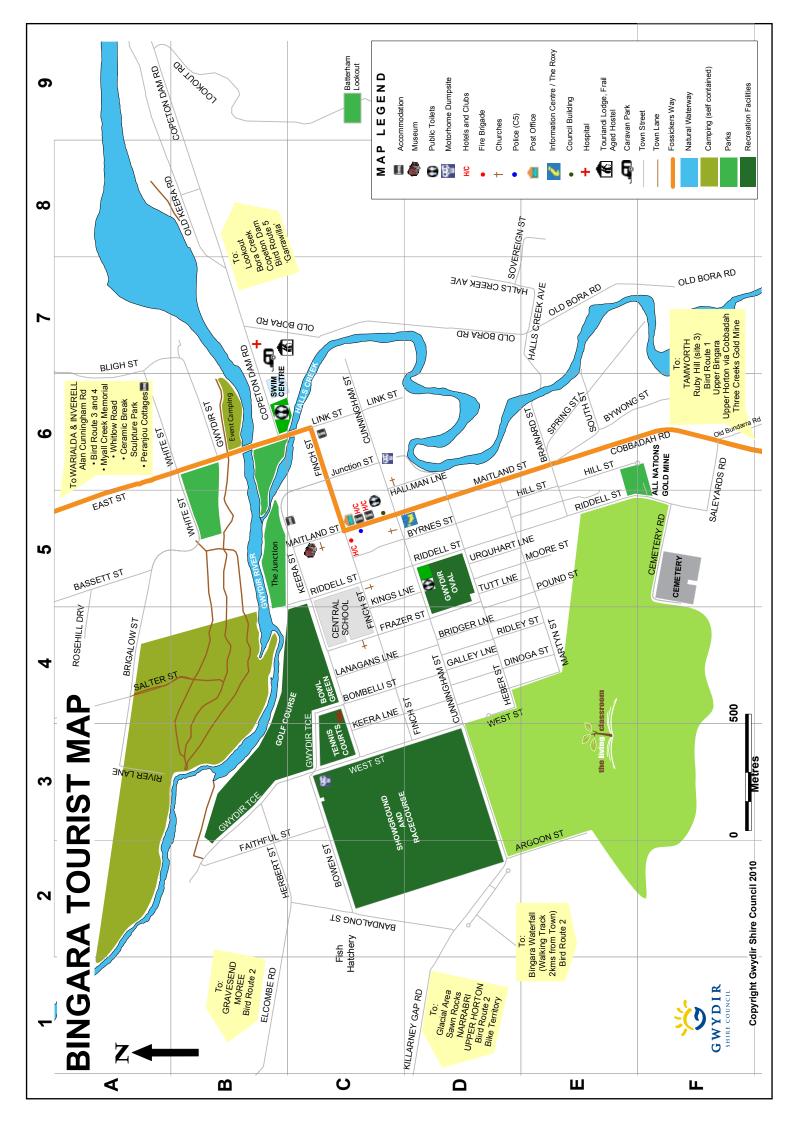
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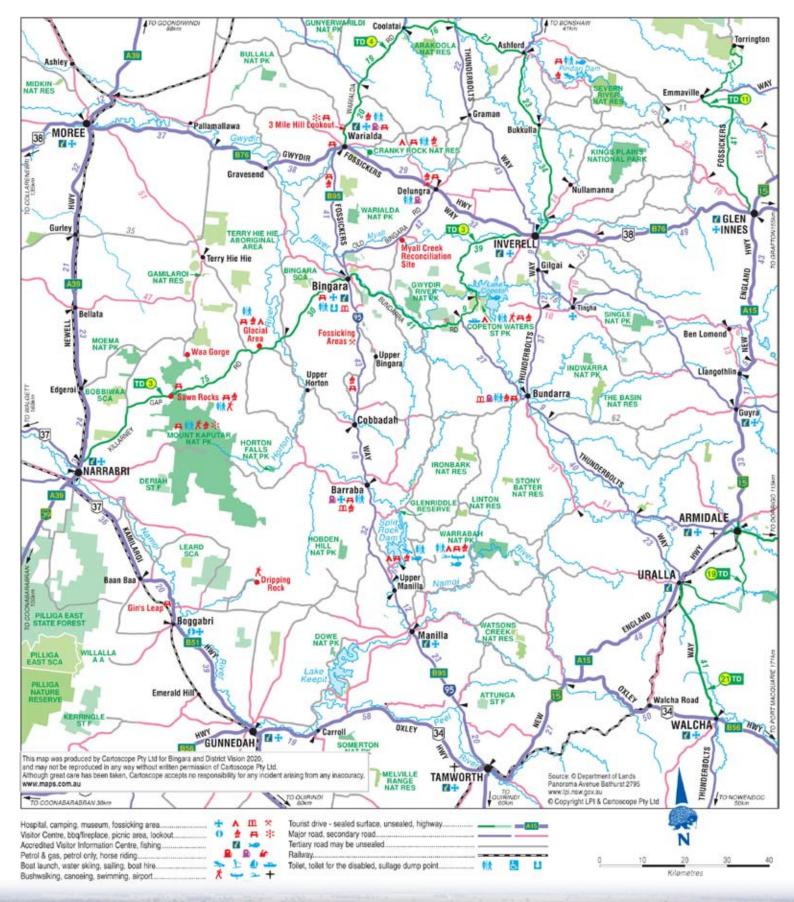
Level grassed sites are available if you have your own caravan, or you can hire one of our ten new and well maintained cabins. A cabin with ensuite is available for disabled visitors. Camp sites are also available. Electric barbecues are provided free of charge.

A caretaker is there to assist and the park operations are designed to ensure that the amenities of the park can be enjoyed by all residents and visitors. Pets are welcome, provided that they are kept under control and on a leash at all times. NO PETS are allowed in any cabins.

For all enquiries or to make a booking contact: Bingara Riverside Caravan Park Keera Road, Bingara NSW 2404 Tel: **02 6724 0081** or Mobile: **0427 241 300** email: mail@gwydir.nsw.gov.au







Bingara Regional Map

www.bingara.com.au