THE
Murrumbidgee River
River Wisdom

It is important to enjoy the river responsibly and safely. The following tips will help make the most of your visit and maintain the ecological integrity. Please contact the closest Visitors Information Centre for more information.

Fishing
The prime target species for anglers is the Murray Cod, followed by Golden Perch (Yellow Belly), Trout and Murray Crayfish. A NSW Recreational Fishing Fee (License) is required. There are fishing closures near weirs and fishing gear restrictions generally apply. Trout Cod, Macquarie Perch, Silver Perch, Freshwater Catfish and River Blackfish are totally protected. Be aware of the sizes, bag limits and seasons to ensure the continued protection of these species.

Camping
Visitors can camp on reserves but it is important to keep to areas marked as public land. It is advisable to take your own drinking water.

Swimming/Water Sports
Before swimming, boating or partaking in other water activities, care should be taken to test the depth, and the current of the river. Also be sure to check for submerged objects and take note of other river users. Children should always be supervised in and around water.

Waste
All visitors to the river are responsible for the removal of their own rubbish.

Fruit Fly
The Riverina is an important food producer and fruit fly can have a devastating impact on production. Please abide by the Fruit Fly Exclusion Zone signage and use roadside disposal bins.

Lighting Fires
There may be firebans at any time of the year. It is important you adhere to these.

Road Access
Many roads used to access sites are unsealed and care should be taken. Check weather forecasts when planning your trip and avoid using unsealed roads and tracks in wet weather.

Wildlife
The Murrumbidgee River is home to a number of diverse ecosystems and indigenous plant and animal species, some of which are endangered. Shooting or hunting is prohibited on public land.
The Murrumbidgee River

The Murrumbidgee River flows through the heart of the Riverina from Gundagai to the Hay Shire. It originates from high in the Great Dividing Range and runs west through to Balranald where it eventually meets the Murray River. It is a naturally beautiful river with many undisturbed pockets, and is home to a variety of native flora and fauna species.

Prior to white settlement the Murrumbidgee was a part of a network of rivers which provided sustenance, shelter and a spiritual base for the Wiradjuri people, an important indigenous group in the region. There is much effort directed at preserving and sharing the river knowledge.

The Murrumbidgee River is readily accessible at various locations throughout the Riverina offering croquet camping and canoeing sites, quiet fishing tows, swimming spots and planned events and activities for visitors to participate in. There are also numerous opportunities for nature lovers, with bird watching, local colonies and fish塘es throughout the region. Canoeing enthusiasts can choose from small rapids from Bunjup or to Woggins Wiggie to the meandering calm waters in the lower plains.

This map highlights some of the best spots to visit the river.

Be sure to contact the local visitor information centres for any further information or queries.

For accommodation, special offers and event information go to: www.riverinatourism.com.au

For National Park information, go to: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

For the latest updates, follow: www.twitter.com/Riv_Tourism

www.facebook.com/VIC.Riverina

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Transport data (February 2007), Hydrography, Parks and Reserves (May 2006). NSW National Parks and Wildlife Estate

For any further information or queries, please contact the local visitor information centres.

www.riverinatourism.com.au

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Gundagai

Located off the Hume Highway and on the peaceful banks of the Murrumbidgee River, Gundagai has long been a favourite stopover for travellers.

The historic township is serviced by two caravan parks, camping sites and a number of hotels and motels, many with close proximity to the river.

- South Gundagai Recreation Reserve is one of the best places to take full advantage of the river in peaceful Gundagai with easy access and plenty of flat, shady areas for camping.

  This site provides a peaceful and beautiful setting to view the historic Prince Alfred & Railway Bridges and offers basic camp sites, swimming, fishing and walking tracks.

- At North Gundagai there are a number of access sites after the Jones Creek Bridge. There is a boat ramp site 700m past the bridge which is ideal for passive boating activities such as fishing. Another kilometre along the road is a site more suited to swimming and camping.

**Must See:** Take in the natural surrounds from the scenic lookout atop Mt Parnassus.

For more information on camping grounds & recreation activities contact the Gundagai Visitor Information Centre:

**Gundagai Visitor Information Centre**
249 Sheridan Street  Gundagai  NSW  2722
Ph: 02 6944 0250
www.visitgundagai.com.au
Wagga Wagga is a major regional hub located on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River offering a variety of accommodation options and natural attractions. Located on the plains along the Sturt Highway, the river offers a number of reserves perfect for camping, caravanning or just taking in the scenery.

- Oura Beach has great access for caravans and is a great swimming spot.
- Wagga Beach is ideal for picnics, and swimming, with car parking and play facilities. Camping is available through Wagga Beach Caravan Park.
- Wiradjuri Reserve is a quiet spot close to town and offers a large beach, good road access, formed boat ramp and shade.
- Kohlhagan’s Beach is a good all round site with a fantastic swimming, picnic and camping area.

There are numerous fishing spots where anglers can vie for freshwater species. Riverbank fishing is popular and there are plenty of quiet, deep spots for year round fishing enthusiasts.

**Must See:** The Wiradjuri Walking track is 30km long with 4km encompassing the river. The track is very popular amongst locals and there is informative signage throughout. Expect to encounter cockatoos, rosellas, parrots and Ibis during the day and listen for the Book Book Owl at night.

For more information on activities and events in Wagga Wagga contact the Visitor Information Centre:

**Wagga Wagga Visitor Information Centre**
183 Tarcutta Street  Wagga Wagga  NSW  2650
Ph:  1300 100 122
www.visitwagga.com
Located on the busy Newell Highway and the Murrumbidgee River, Narrandera is a haven for nature lovers with a variety of accommodation options. The town boasts Lake Talbot which is perfect for water skiing and canoeing. The Lake Talbot Aquatic Park is perfect for summer swimming. Other natural attractions include the Narrandera Wetlands, the wreck of an historic paddle steamer, the Koala Reserve and the Bundidgerry Walking Track. It is in Narrandera where the River widens and makes its steady journey toward the Hay Plains. The best places to relax and access the River include:

- Lake Talbot – offers excellent road access with a concrete boat ramp and grassed area with seating. This site is perfect for bushwalking, picnicking, fishing and water skiing. The caravan park adjacent provides excellent camping facilities with picturesque views. The adjoining swimming complex has many aquatic attractions including a rampage slide.

- The Narrandera Flora and Fauna Reserve and Koala Park – located just off the highway, includes picnic areas on the River and plenty of shade. Suitable for swimming and koala spotting.

- Five Mile Reserve – perfect for picnics, water skiing and camping. It has sandy banks and slow currents, making it great for swimming.

- Highway Bridge Area – great for fishing and picnicking with a boat ramp, pontoon and covered barbeque area.

- Brewery Flat Picnic Area – great for fishing and picnicking with a boat ramp, pontoon and covered barbeque area.

**Must See:** The John Lake Centre & Murray Cod at the Narrandera Fisheries Centre.

For further information on exploring the river and lake environs contact the Visitor Information Centre:

**Narrandera Visitor Information Centre**
Narrandera Park, Newell Highway Narrandera NSW 2700
Ph: 1800 672 392 or 02 6959 1766
www.narrandera.com.au
Griffith & surrounds

Griffith is a thriving cultural hub located approximately 33kms north of the Murrumbidgee River. With world class wineries and local produce, it is a great base from which to explore the river and surrounds.

Native fishing is among the best in this area with near natural water temperatures. The sites featured below are typically quiet and scenic; and the river is broad and good for slow boating.

- Darlington Point Town Beach has good road access, with a large beach area for swimming, open area for camping with toilet facilities and a caravan park close by with full amenities.
- Tonganmain Reserve Euranbrennan has secluded camping spots, and a sandy beach for swimming.

Must See: Drop in a line & have a picnic at Lake Wyangan or take one of the popular walking trails at Scenic Hill.

Griffith Visitor Information Centre
Cnr Banna & Jondaryan Ave  Griffith  NSW  2680
Ph:  1800 681 141
www.griffith.com.au

Carrathool

Nature and the environment play an important role in the Carrathool Shire with an abundance of native flora and fauna. There are two notable sites in this region offering great camping sites, facilities and peaceful surrounds.

- At Pinker’s Beach, Carrathool there is plenty of camping space, swimming and has relatively good shade. A secluded spot close to the historic village.
- Shaded by tall river red gums, the State Heritage listed Carrathool Bridge Reserve is perfect for picnicking, camping and fishing.

To find out more about the historic Carrathool Shire and its natural attractions contact the Carrathool Shire Council located in Goolgowi. Please note that there isn’t a Visitor Information Centre in the village of Carrathool.

Carrathool Shire Council
9-11 Cobram Street  Goolgowi  NSW  2652
Ph:  02 6965 1900
www.carrathool.nsw.gov.au
Hay & surrounds

Hay is situated on the Murrumbidgee River, opening out onto vast plains. It is part of the Long Paddock touring route (Cobb highway) and marks the gateway to the Australian outback. The river is quite wide and lends itself well to a variety of activities including kayaking, canoeing, swimming and fishing; and there are a number of very accessible sites and accommodation options in and around town.

- Bushy Bend provides good access, an excellent beach for swimming, tables and plenty of shade. Keen walkers can access the Hay Nature Walk near this site and the Long Paddock Artback Sculptures.

- Hay Weir is a very popular fishing site and is easily accessible. There are also shaded picnic areas with tables and seats.

- Sandy Point is the town’s swimming beach, perfect for a relaxing dip, picnic or kayaking. Wood barbeques are provided and there are plenty of shaded tables/areas.

Fishing is a popular past time with a number of warm water species caught locally. Contact the Visitor Information Centre for detail on the many camping and fishing sites dotted along the river.

Must See: Delight in the wildlife and old Red River Gums on the Hay Nature Walk

Hay Visitor Information Centre
407 Moppeet Street Hay NSW 2711
Ph: 02 6993 4045
www.hay.nsw.gov.au
There are more than thirty places where visitors can access the River between Wagga Wagga and Narrandera. This region is also home to Old Man Creek which diverges from the Murrumbidgee River. Coolamon is approximately 30kms north of the River and Lockhart is approximately 56km south of the river and both are unique and picturesque bases from which to explore the River. Both townships have caravan parks and other accommodation options.

Here are a few of the best river sites in this region:

• Currawarna State Forest provides a flat and open camping ground with a large beach area perfect for swimming. Fishing is also popular at this site.

• Piper’s Reserve has good road and boat access and is a perfect area for fishing with many deep spots. There are a number of camping facilities including tables and wood barbeques.

• Berembed Weir (north and south sites) provide easy access for campers, some swimming and a great shaded picnic area with gas barbeques at Berembed North. Camping is allowed downstream below the weir.

**Must See:** Nature lovers will be in their element with the Murrambang Interpretive Nature Walk in Gannmain; and the scenic views at Galore Hill Nature Reserve.

**Coolamon Shire Council**
55 Cowabbie Street  Coolamon  NSW  2701
Ph: 02 6930 1800
www.coolamonshire.com.au

**Lockhart Shire Council**
69 Green Street  Lockhart  NSW  2656
Ph: 02 6920 5305
www.lockhart.nsw.gov.au
Leeton

Leeton is situated a short distance from a number of well positioned and attractive spots along the River. The town is an important rice producer in the region and has a rich agricultural history and natural attractions.

Bird watching is a popular past-time around Leeton.

There are also a number of ski clubs that operate on the Murrumbidgee River, one in Leeton and another in Coleambally.

Below are a number of sites that offer good access, facilities and a variety of activities:

- **Middle Beach** is located in the MIA State Forest providing clean sites, sand beaches for swimming and canoeing; and fireplaces.

- **Gogeldrie Weir** offers complete camping facilities including showers, gas barbeques and bitumen road access.

- **Whitton Punt Reserve** has a secluded camping and picnic area, and shallow spots for swimming.

**Must See:** Spot a Brolga or one of 175 bird species at the internationally recognised Fivebough and Tuckerbil Wetlands.

**Leeton Visitor Information Centre**
10 Yanco Avenue  Leeton  NSW  2705
Ph: 02 6953 6481
www.leetontourism.com.au
Junee & surrounds

Junee is located approximately 30kms from the Murrumbidgee River and has a variety of accommodation options including a well serviced caravan park complete with cabins and excellent amenities.

The town is a relaxed central base for exploring the region and parts of the river.

- Sandy Beach at Wantabadgery is just a short trip from Junee. Following the Nangus Road out of Junee you will reach this beautiful and very accessible site. It is ideal for camping and caravanning; has a boat ramp and is a popular site for swimming and picnicking.

**Must See:** Take in the heady scents of the Kaybunda Lavender fields located in Old Junee.

Sweet tooth's head to the Junee Licorice and Chocolate Factory or if history is more your thing, visit Australia’s most haunted house, Monte Cristo Homestead.

Information and a detailed map of the township and shire can be found at the Junee Visitor Information Centre:

**Junee Visitor Information Centre**
181 Lorne Street Junee NSW 2663
Ph: 02 6924 4682
www.visitjunee.com.au

and visitors are advised to contact the nearest Visitor Information Centre for up to date information.
Murrumbidgee River
The Reel Deal

Reconnect with your family and friends in one of our beautiful national parks. There are some great places to pitch the tent (for free!) and fish along the Murrumbidgee River.

MURRUMBIDGEE VALLEY NATIONAL & REGIONAL PARKS

Reconnect with your family and friends in one of our beautiful national parks. There are some great places to pitch the tent (for free!) and fish along the Murrumbidgee River.

FOR ALL THE HOT TIPS CONTACT VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES AT LEETON, NARRANDERA, GRIFFITH, HAY OR BALRANALD
For further information:

Carrathool Shire Council  
9-11 Cobram Street  
Goolgowi NSW 2652  
Ph: 02 6965 1900  
www.carrathool.nsw.gov.au

Coolamon Shire Council  
55 Cowabbie St  
Coolamon NSW 2701  
Ph: 02 6930 1800  
www.coolamonshire.com.au

Cootamundra Visitor Information Centre  
Hovell St Cootamundra NSW 2590  
Ph: 1800 350 203  
www.cootamundra.nsw.gov.au

Deniliquin Visitor Information Centre  
Peppin Heritage Centre  
George St Deniliquin NSW 2710  
Ph: 1800 650 712  
www.denitourism.com.au

Griffith Visitor Information Centre  
Cnr Banna & Jondaryan Ave  
Griffith NSW 2680  
Ph: 1800 681 141  
www.griffith.com.au

Gundagai Visitor Information Centre  
249 Sheridan St Gundagai NSW 2722  
Ph: 02 6944 0250  
www.visitgundagai.com.au

Hay Visitor Information Centre  
407 Moppett St Hay NSW 2711  
Ph: 02 6993 4045  
www.hay.nsw.gov.au

Junee Shire Council  
181 Lorne Street Junee NSW 2663  
Ph: 02 6924 4682  
www.visitjunee.com.au

Leeton Visitor Information Centre  
10 Yanco Ave Leeton NSW 2705  
Ph: 02 6953 6481  
www.leetontourism.com.au

Lockhart Shire Council  
69 Green St Lockhart NSW 2656  
Ph: 02 6920 5305  
www.lockhart.nsw.gov.au

Narrandera Visitor Information Centre  
Narrandera Park  
Newell Hwy Narrandera NSW 2700  
Freecall: 1800 672 392  
www.narrandera.com.au

Temora Visitor Information Centre  
29 Goldfields Way  
Temora NSW 2666  
Ph: 02 6977 1086  
www.temora.com.au

Wagga Wagga Visitor Information Centre  
183 Tarcutta St  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650  
Ph: 1300 100 122  
www.visitwagga.com

West Wyalong Visitor Information Centre  
Bland Shire Library  
6 Shire St  
West Wyalong NSW 2671  
Ph: 02 6972 2266  
www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Riverina Regional Tourism  
PO Box 50 Marrar NSW 2652  
Ph: 02 6927 2866  
Fax: 02 6927 2877  
www.twitter.com/Riv_Tourism  
www.facebook.com/VisitRiverina  
www.riverinatourism.com.au

The NSW Department of Lands have produced a Canoe & Kayak Trail Map.  
Grab a copy online or at your nearest Visitor Information Centre.