Heritage Tour App

Love History? Download the ‘Heritage tour’ app on your smartphone and experience living history in Glen Innes. The app includes an interactive and comprehensive walking and driving tour - offering information on over 50 historic buildings in the town of Glen Innes.

CBD Walking Tour
Travel back in time whilst viewing the modern day town’s main street and business centre (Grey Street) with historic images and stories.

Driving Tour
Showcasing federation and early homes, historic showgrounds, churches built by pioneers and other heritage buildings around the township of Glen Innes.

Features
- High quality, easy to navigate user interface
- Ability to download each tour and use offline
- Compatible with Apple and Android mobiles
- Location technology with detailed and interactive maps

Country Drives through the Highlands

Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre
02 6730 2400
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gleninneshighlands.com
Tour Drive 11
The Mining Villages
A journey of richly contrasting landscapes steeped in the romantic history of the old mining boom days.

140km round trip, including 23kms of sealed road.

Glen Innes to Emmaville
Enjoy a journey through Majestic Avenue of poplars as you head out of town towards Emmaville. Take in the prime New England farmland known for beef cattle, fine wool sheep and seasonal crops. You will cross a bridge over Redstones Creek, home of the prized blue sapphire and site of the discovery of a giant diprotodon tusk. The remnants of the Y Water Tin Mine, closed in the 1980’s, are visible as large wetland ponds on either side of the road, before climbing over the hill into Emmaville.

Take time to explore the streets of Emmaville, with many original public buildings, miner’s cottages, cemetery and of course the Emmaville Mining Museum famous for its collection of Gems and minerals, home to replicas of an old mine shaft, blacksmith’s shop, the nostalgic Foley’s General Store and rare photographs of the towns history. The Museum is run by local volunteers. Enjoy a counter meal and chat with the locals at one of the towns original hotels before continuing your journey through to Torrington.

Emmaville to Torrington
The Emmaville to Torrington road is unsealed and weather dependent. Known locally as the ‘Zig Zag’, the road winds downhill past rocky outcrops, to arrive at Glen Creek, a popular picnic area. The unsealed section of the road commences. Climbing up through the spectacular granite territory of the Torrington State Conservation Area, the glistering rock face of Feathertop is visible to the right. Further on is Thunderbolt’s Lookout, and the enigmatic Mystery Face Rock.

Torrington to Glen Innes
The tour continues eastward from Torrington through granite country on an all-weather road. The village of Stanium, a small tin mining village is 12 km along. The old cemetery is on the left entering town. In Stanium, turn right at the Tascott Farm signed to Deepwater. The road continues back through New England pasture land.

Approaching the intersection with the New England Highway, on the left is Deepwater Station, the region’s earliest private pastoral holding, visible as a cluster of red-roofed farm buildings including the original 1842 homestead. The station, still a working farm with farm stay accommodation available, has remained in the same family since 1877. The Deepwater Racecourse is the site of the celebrated annual Deepwater Races held every January and the Deepwater Golf Course a 9 hole country course with sand greens. Turn right on the New England Highway. Grab refreshments and a nice meal at one of the two hotels, bakery or service station. If you are a fan of craft beer, be sure to stop in at the Deepwater Brewery before leaving town.

Continuing south you will drive past Oakhurst which is a working farm with accommodation available. Further on the historic locality of Dundee, 15km from Deepwater, is home to prime sheep and cattle grazing properties. A church and the cemetery are all that remain of Dundee’s early history. As you journey along the highway past Dundee, Beardy Water’s Heritage Park is located on the right and is a popular free overnight camping and picnic area. As you start to see the town of Glen Innes and picturesque valley below you will notice the impressive Wind Turbines of the Whiterock Wind farm, one of the two commercial renewable farms in the region.

Experience Glen Innes Highlands
We’ve made a list of the top things to make your driving tour an unforgettable adventure.

Tour Drive 11

1. Airport constructed during WWII as a northern base in case of Japanese invasion.
2. Y Water Tin Mine
3. Emmaville Mining Museum, $2 entry open 10am-4pm everyday except Thursday.
4. Torrington State Conservation Area
5. Mystery Face Walk is an enjoyable walk through the woodland to a remarkable rock feature. This is a medium grade walk, with uneven ground and some minor rock-hopping, distance 3.5km loop.
6. Thunderbolts Lookout accessed from Nomads Picnic Area, the last 200m includes steps climbing through a rock shelter and up a 5m metal ladder. The panoramic view is a good reward for your climb.
7. Deepwater Station Farmstay
8. Deepwater Railway Station
9. Deepwater Brewing
10. Beardy Waters Heritage Park

Tour Drive 2

11. Stonehenge Recreation Reserve
12. Balancing Rock, observed from the highway.
13. Red Lion Tavern
14. Little Llangothin Nature Reserve, a 120 ha freshwater shallow lagoon. Home to over 100 bird species with 4.8km walking track and picnic facilities.
15. Ben Lomond War Memorial Hall

Around Glen Innes
1. Land of the Beareids History House Museum
2. Centennial Parklands and Australian Standing Stones
3. Heritage tour (over 50 historic buildings)
4. Glen Innes Chapel Theatre
5. The Super Strawberry
6. Glen Gowrie Distillery

Tour Drive 2
The Mountain Villages
A fascinating journey deep into the high country and mountain villages of the New England.

65km round trip, including 12kms of unsealed road.

Glen Innes to Glencoe
See the ancient rock formations of Stonehenge and the defying Balancing Rock, bird spot at the Little Llangothin Lagoon and take a back trip in time weavong along picturesque mountain roads to historic Ben Lomond.

Departing from the Visitor Information Centre and travelling south along the New England Highway be sure to stop at The Super Strawberry for a coffee or milkshake on the way out of town. This drive takes you through the rolling New England countryside and majestic stands of elms and poplar trees, afflame with colour in autumn.

The Stonehenge Recreation Reserve elevation 1067m is accessed through a stone gateway on the left 12km south of Glen Innes. Wander through the acres of parkland exploring the towering granite boulders which give the region its name, or simply enjoy a picnic beneath the shady trees. Balancing Rock is a further 500m on. Spectacularly balanced on a point, this giant boulder is visible on the left of the highway, and can be viewed from the signed roadside area.

The picturesque village of Glencoe is 22km south of Glen Innes. It is known for sheep and cattle farming. The Red Lion Tavern is an atmospheric old English style pub and is the perfect spot for lunch and refreshments.

Glencoe to Ben Lomond
Continuing southward winding high into the Ben Lomond range elevation 1500m where the signed exit to the village of Ben Lomond is on the right. Ben Lomond at the top of the Great Dividing Range (elevation 1370m) was once a thriving town on the Great Northern Railway. The station c.1864, the highest on the National line, was the resting point after the long mountain climb. The Brothers Mountains rise above the village to the east and Mt Rumbore to the north west. The school has been operating for over 125 years.

Returning to Glen Innes
there are two options:
Via Maybole and Graham’s Valley. This route winds along the top of the range on 12kms of unsealed single lane country road, affording spectacular panoramic views to the east and west.
Or travel 12km south via the sealed Ben Lomond Road back to the New England Highway. Turn left heading north through Glen Innes - there is the option of diverting into Little Llangothin Nature Reserve. Take the signed right turn 5km further along the highway on to the unsealed Tubbamurra Rd for 2.5km then turn left into Ben Lomond Road or continue on to more unsealed road and travel another 3.5km to the Lagoon.
Stately heritage buildings, the Australian Standing Stones, impressive views and charming old world rotundas in abundance throughout the towns magnificent parklands. Perhaps a trip back in time to the Land of the Beardies History House Museum. This drive weaves into the heart of Glen Innes for an intimate look at daily life and the town’s proud heritage.

Top Things to See on Tour Drive 1

1. Centennial Parklands and the Australian Standing Stones
2. Crofters Cottage
3. Martin’s lookout above the Stones has panoramic views of the township
4. Historic Showgrounds with its charming old pavilions and shady trees
5. Glen Innes High School Originally built as a gaol and converted to a school in 1927
6. Gawura Gallery
7. The Super Strawberry
8. TAFE and The Learning Centre which houses the Library and Art Gallery
9. The Bowling Club welcomes visitors for a game or a meal at the clubhouse
10. Knick Knackery
11. Railway Station opened in 1884 when the line was extended from Armidale
12. Railway Tavern enjoy meals and refreshments daily at the Tavern
13. The Hospital in its grandeur, was built in 1956
14. The Land of the Beardies History House Museum, housed in the original hospital building which dated from 1877
15. Holy Trinity Anglican Church established in 1867
16. Anzac Memorial Gates
18. Uniting Church and Church Manse established in 1870
19. The Court House
20. The Post Office with its ornately arcaded porches
21. Great Central Hotel 1874
22. The Bank Guesthouse, formally the Bank of NSW
23. The Town Hall
24. The old Sunlight Flourmill, a three story brick mill built in 1882
25. The original Council Offices built 1910
26. The Fire Station built 1916 still rings its original locally made bell on ceremonial occasions
27. The Chapel Theatre built 1885 formally the Methodist Church now the home and performance venue of the Glen Innes Arts Council