



# GLEN INNES HIGHLANDS

## *Visitor Guide*

### Highlights

- Australian Celtic Festival
- Australian Standing Stones
- Cool Climate
- Historic Town
- National Parks

Glen Innes • Deepwater • Emmaville • Glencoe

[GLENINNESHIGHLANDS.COM](http://GLENINNESHIGHLANDS.COM)





## Fast Facts

# About Glen Innes

**Location:** 1,062m in New England Tablelands, at the intersection of the New England and Gwydir Highways.

4.5hrs from Brisbane, 7hrs from Sydney and 3hrs from Coffs Harbour.

**Population:** Approx. 9,000

**Temperature averages:**  
Summer maximum 26°C, minimum 12°C.  
Autumn maximum 20°C, minimum 10°C.  
Winter maximum 14°C, minimum 2°C.  
Spring maximum 20°C, minimum 9°C.

**Rainfall average:** 860mm annually



## The Australian Standing Stones

### A Monument to Our Heritage

The ambitious Australian Standing Stones project, was commenced by a few dedicated citizens, committed to acknowledging Glen Innes' Celtic Heritage.

In Australia's 1988 Bicentenary Year, the Celtic Council of Australia developed the idea to erect a national monument to honour all Celtic peoples who helped pioneer Australia.

Glen Innes responded with a submission for the Australian Standing Stones based on the Ring of Brodgar in Scotland's Orkney Islands. When Glen Innes was granted the honour to build it, volunteers carved the massive granite boulders from the bush.

Now the Standing Stones are recognised as the national monument to Australia's Celtic pioneers, the recognised national gathering place for Celtic descendants and clans and venue for the hugely successful Australian Celtic Festival.

The Standing Stones is a working calendar, like those used by the ancient Celts to decide when to sow and harvest.

Visit the Australian Standing Stones with the step-by-step guide to the Australian Standing Stones brochure from the Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre.







# The Australian Celtic Festival

## Australian Celtic Festival

On the first weekend of May thousands of spectators, clans, national groups and artists flock from across Australia and overseas for the annual Australian Celtic Festival.

It's a unique, colourful and exciting spectacle of Celtic celebrations, including up to twenty different clans from Wales, the Isle of Man, Ireland, Brittany, Galicia, Asturias, Scotland and Cornwall.

What's constant is the spine-tingling skirl of pipes, roll of drums, massed bands, Celtic dancers and entertainers, boutique traders, Highland Games, re-enactment village and the hallmark Glen Innes tartan.

The Australian Standing Stones are the perfect setting for the Festival's weekend celebrations with concerts, performers, local business window displays and attractions within the township of Glen Innes.

Celtic traditions are also re-enacted throughout the year including winter solstice celebrations at the Standing Stones on 21 June and a flag lowering ceremony for the summer solstice on 22 December.

[australiancelticfestival.com](http://australiancelticfestival.com)



# Celebrating Our Rich History

Grey Street, Glen Innes

## Indigenous Roots

The Ngarabal (also: Ngoorabul, Ngarrabal) people are the traditional Aboriginal owners of the Glen Innes area. The Ngarabal name of the township of Glen Innes is Gindaaydjinn, meaning 'plenty of big round stones on clear plains', and the region historically has been a significant meeting place for various indigenous tribes.

## Early Settlers

The first settlers were guided to the district in 1838 by two convict stockmen with long, flowing beards and it is believed to be the origin of the name Land of the Beardies.

Town and district history has been lovingly preserved in the superb folk museum, Land of the Beardies History House Museum and Research Centre where the wide range of exhibits include a re-created pioneer's cottage, early farm equipment and moving representation of the wars. Even the building itself,

formerly the Glen Innes and District Hospital, is a museum piece, the first section built more than 130 years ago.

Emmaville Mining Museum, 45km northwest of Glen Innes, recalls the village's past as a late-19th century tin mining boom town which attracted thousands of European and Chinese miners. The museum has an extensive mineral collection, replicas of a mine and blacksmith's shop, rare photographs and a nostalgic general store and military display room.



An Indigenous man performing a traditional dance







Surrounded by  
*National Parks*

Boundary Creek Falls  
Gibraltar Range National Park



Gibraltar Range  
National Park

## National Parks

Dramatic and diverse contrasts, dry eucalypt forests, broken ridges and granite tors, a mosaic of subalpine swamps... lush rainforests safeguarding the world's largest coachwood area, waterfalls plummeting from a lacework of streams and wild rivers. That's a mere glimpse of the Gibraltar Range and Washpool National Parks.

Other nearby national parks and nature reserves include:

*Torrington State Conservation Area*

*Kings Plains National Park*

*Mann River Nature Reserve*

*Nymboida National Park*

*Guy Fawkes River National Park*

*Capoompeta National Park*

*Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve*

*Warra National Park*

### NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

68 Church Street,  
Glen Innes NSW 2370

(02) 6739 0700

[www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)



## Fishing

More and more Australians are discovering Glen Innes Highlands as an outstanding fishing area. This includes families, expert anglers and some of Australia's leading television and fishing writers.

## Kayaking & Canoeing

The many creeks, rivers and dams that surround the Glen Innes Highlands make up some great water sport hideaways. At Beardy River Bridge, 11km North of Glen Innes, there are plenty of spots to go kayaking and canoeing. Many of our farm stays also have flowing creeks and rivers where you can kayak, canoe and fish.

## Bird Watching

Glen Innes is a popular destination for observing the array of birds that inhabit the surrounding countryside and national parks.

## Mountain Biking

For mountain bikers and hikers, the Gibraltar Range and Washpool World Heritage National Parks offer 80km of scenic trails. Bike riders can complete the World Heritage Walk in one day, 45km of scenic National Park in 6-9 hours or you can complete these in 3 separate rides







## Stunning Country Drives

Old Grafton  
Road



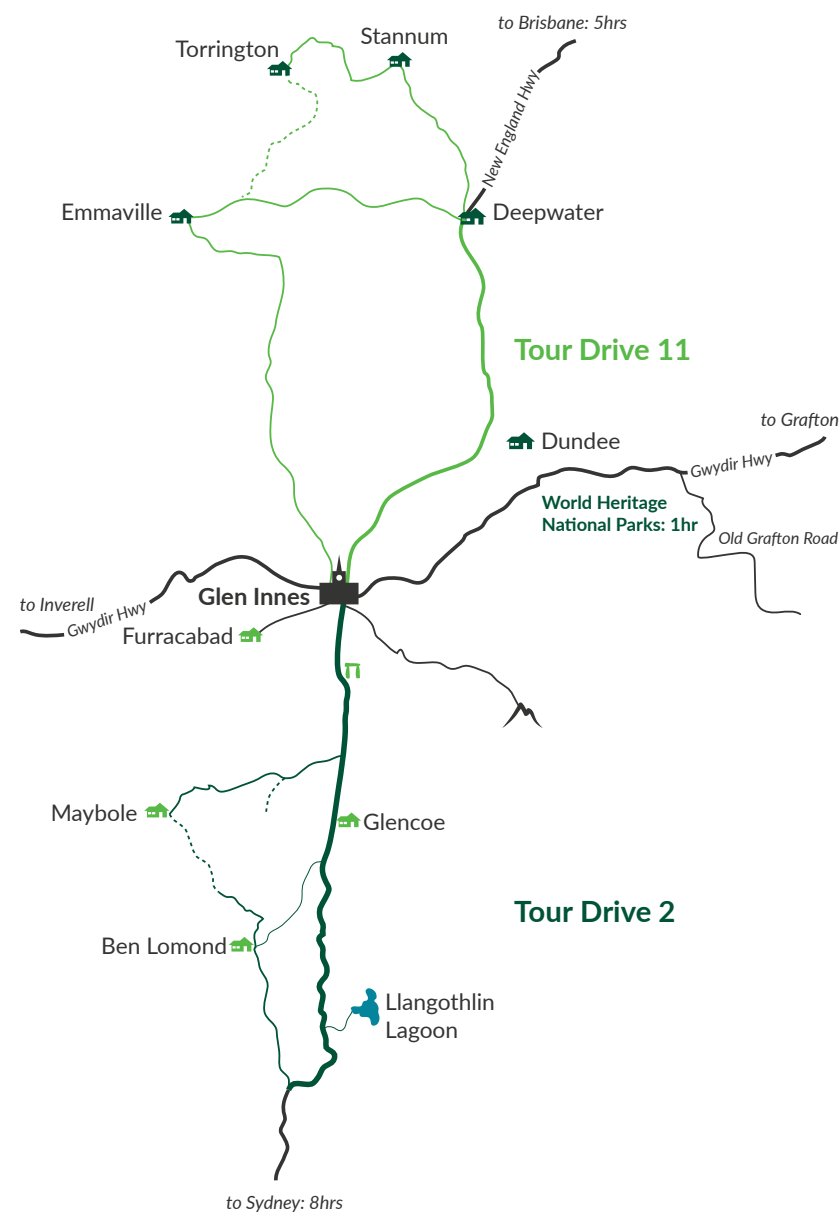
## A hidden gem Fossicking

### Tour Drive 11

A 140km loop from Glen Innes taking in the historic villages of Emmaville and the fascinating Emmaville Mining Museum, Deepwater, Dundee and Torrington. Great accommodation along the way at Deepwater Station, Oakhurst Cottage or River Glen B&B.

### Tour Drive 2

65km round trip from Glen Innes, including 12km of unsealed road through the picturesque mountain villages of Glencoe and Ben Lomond. Enjoy farmstay accommodation and fine country hospitality in great locations, including Sharron Park or Kai Iwi Estate.



### Fossicking

Fossicking in Glen Innes is a simple, easy and fun family activity, with the chance to 'strike it rich.'

Glen Innes is part of New South Wales' most prolific sapphire region, said to be the world's richest mineral diversity belt.

There's a wide range of fossicking sites, and no licence is needed except in State Forests. Call in at the Visitor Information Centre for guidance and a brochure.

Guided field trips to fossicking sites are a feature of the annual three-day Minerama Fossicking Gem & Jewellery Show, one of the biggest of its kind in NSW! Held on the second full weekend in March.

[minerama.com.au](http://minerama.com.au)

Scores of commercial and hobby traders, dealing in gemstones, minerals, fine jewellery, lapidary supplies and other items display their wares at Minerama. There are over 100 stalls trading in gemstones, fine jewellery, facet rough, lapidary tools & supplies, crystals, beads, fossils, mineral specimens, arts, crafts and more.

So try your luck fossicking!







## Calendar of Events

Street Parade  
Australian Celtic Festival

### What's on in Glen Innes Highlands

**Markets in the Highlands**  
Monthly (2nd Saturday)

**Glen Innes Cup Horseracing**  
January

**Deepwater Jockey Club Cup**  
January

**Glen Innes Agricultural Show**  
February

**Minerama Fossicking Gem & Jewellery Show**  
March

**goodnessgravel Glen Innes: Gravel Fondo**  
April

**Australian Celtic Festival**  
May

**New England Alpaca Show**  
June

**Anglican Church Fete**  
October

**Emmaville Vegetable Creek Hospital Fete**  
October

**Christmas in the Highlands**  
November

Discover more events



## Glen Innes Highlands

# Accommodation

### Motels and Hotels Glen Innes

**Amber Motel**  
ambermotel.com.au | 02 6732 2300

**Anna Bella Motel**  
annabellamotel.com.au | 02 6732 2688

**Central Motel**  
centralmotel.com.au | 02 6732 2200

**Clansman Motel**  
clansmanmotel.com.au | 02 6732 2044

**Glen Innes Lodge Motel**  
02 6732 3266

**Glen Innes Motel**  
gleninnes-motel.com.au | 02 6732 1211

**Great Central Hotel**  
greatcentralhotel.com.au | 02 6732 1966

**Jillaroo Motor Inn**  
jillarooMotorinn.com.au | 02 6732 3378

**New England Motor Lodge**  
neml.com.au | 02 6732 2922

**Rest Point Motor Inn**  
restpointmotel.com.au | 02 6732 2255

### Apartment and Self Contained Glen Innes

**Apartments on Grey**  
apartmentsongrey.com.au | 0427 736 437

**Apartments on the Park**  
apartmentsonthepark.com | 02 6732 6699

**Carelles Apartments**  
carelles.com.au | 0488 027 147

**New England Rest Apartments**  
0410 314 838

**Nuallen House**  
nuallenhouse.com | 0431 148 115

**Sapphire Cottage**  
fossickercaravanpark.com.au | 02 6732 4246

**The Bank Guesthouse**  
0404 312 441

**Topaz Cottage**  
fossickercaravanpark.com.au | 02 6732 4246

**Roswell Luxury Apartment**  
0429 344 195

### Camping and Caravan Parks Glen Innes

**Blue Sapphire Holiday Village**  
0428 483 099

**Fossickers Caravan Park**  
fossickercaravanpark.com.au | 02 6732 4246

**Glen Innes Showground**  
gleninnesshowground.com | 0439 984 043

**Glen Rest Tourist Park**  
gleninnes.com/glenrestpark | 02 6732 2413

**Kookaburra Camping**  
kookaburracampingandcaravanpark.com | 0429 462 473

**Poplar Caravan Park**  
02 6732 1514

### B&B and Farmstays

**Ben's Falls Retreat**  
bensfallsretreat.com | 0428774101

**Bullock Mountain Homestead**  
bullockmountainhomestead.com | 0457 357 909/0498 090 370

**Deepwater Station**  
deepwaterstation.com | 0419 183 746

**Gimardi Gatehouse**  
gimardi.com | 0428 451 360

**Glen Waverly Farm Stay**  
0418 835 260

**Halloran House**  
02 6732 3932

**Kings Plains Castle B&B**  
kingsplainscastle.com.au | 0455 849 099

**Oakhurst Cottage**  
oakhurstcottage.com.au | 02 6734 5035

**River Glen B&B Farmstay**  
riverglenfarmstay.com.au | 02 6734 4162

**Sharron Park Farmstay and B&B**  
sharronpark.com | 02 6732 3858

**Starlight Cabin Kai Iwi Estate**  
kaiiwiestate.com | 0419 170 581

**Three Waters High Country Holidays**  
threewatersholidays.com.au | 02 6732 4863

**Waterloo Country Accommodation**  
waterloostationnsw.com.au | 02 6733 6702

**Wattlebend Riverside Retreat**  
0413 212 979

### Deepwater

**Deepwater Bank BnB**  
deepwaterbankbnb.com.au | 0412 401 664

**Deepwater Inn**  
02 6734 5111

### Emmaville

**Emmaville Caravan Park**  
0480 387 288

**Emmaville Club Hotel**  
02 6734 3043

**Tattersalls Hotel**  
02 6734 7309

Discover more  
accommodation





*Where you'd rather be*

Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre



152 Church Street, Glen Innes NSW 2370  
tourism@gisc.nsw.gov.au  
02 6730 2400

Gleninneshighlands.com



/GlenInnesHighlands



@gleninneshighland



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