



GLEN INNES HIGHLANDS

Visitor Guide

Highlights

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



Fast Facts

About Glen Innes

Location: 1135m in New England Tablelands, at the intersection of New England and Gwydir Highways. 5hrs from Brisbane, 7hrs from Sydney, 3hrs from Coffs Harbour.

Population: 9000

Temperature averages: Summer minimum 12.5°C maximum 26°C. Winter minimum 1°C maximum 13.5°C.

Rainfall average: 860mm annually

A man in a kilt and sporrans is playing bagpipes in front of the Australian Standing Stones. The stones are large, grey, and standing upright in a grassy field. The man is wearing a green jacket, a kilt, and a sporrans. The background shows trees and a clear sky.

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.

On 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, Celtic Dog Trials, 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, central business district 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





A U S T R A L I A N
C E L T I C F E S T I V A L

Celebrating Our

Rich History

Grey Street,
Glen Innes

An Indigenous
man performing
a traditional
dance

Indigenous Roots

The Ngarabal (also: Ngoorabal, Ngarrabal) people are the traditional Aboriginal owners of the Glen Innes area. The Ngarabal name of the township of Glen Innes is Gindaaydjín, 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.



A photograph of a man and a woman standing in a lush forest, looking at a waterfall cascading over a rocky ledge into a small pool of water. The woman is in the foreground, seen from the back, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt and a watch. The man is standing next to her, also looking at the waterfall. The scene is surrounded by dense green foliage and trees.

Surrounded by

National Parks

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 World Heritage 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

New England Highway,
Glen Innes NSW 2370

(02) 6739 0700

www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au





Boundary Creek Falls
Gibraltar Range National Park



Gibraltar Range
National Park

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 hide-aways. At Beardies Waters 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

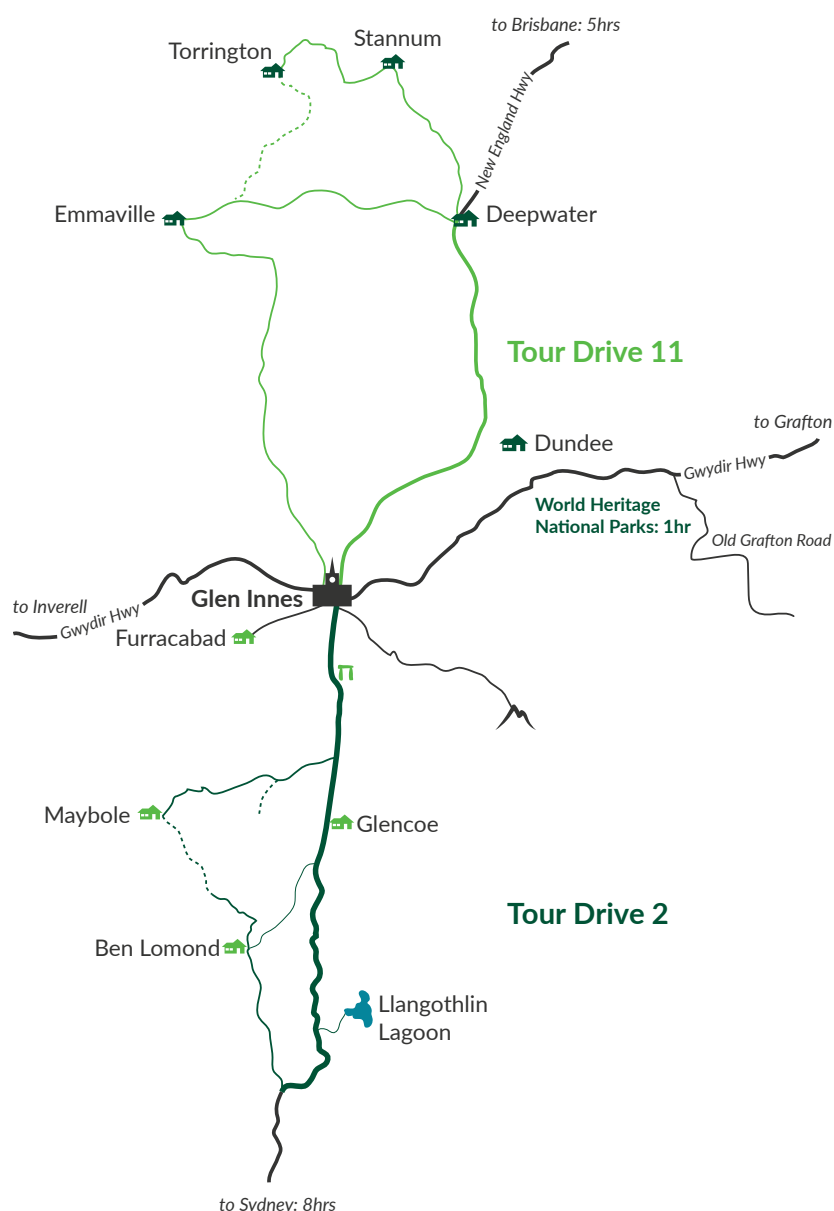
For mountain bikers and hikers, the Gibraltar Range and Washpool World Heritage National Parks offer 80km of scenic trails. Bike riders can complete the World Heritage Walk in one day, 45km of scenic National Park in 6-9 hours or you can complete these in 3 separate rides



Stunning

Country Drives

Old Grafton
Road



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 at *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 farm-stay accommodation and fine country hospitality along the way.



A hidden gem

Fossicking

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, entry is FREE:

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!





Annual Events

Street Parade
Australian Celtic Festival

What's on in Glen Innes Highlands



Glen Innes Cup Horseracing

January

Deepwater Jockey Club Cup

January

Glen Innes Agricultural Show

February

Minerama Fossicking Gem & Jewellery Show

March

Vintage Truck and Machinery Show

April

Australian Celtic Festival

May

New England Alpaca Show

June

Chill n Glen (biannual)

July 2020 & 2022

Anglican Church Fete

October

Emmaville Vegetable Creek Hospital Fete

October

Christmas in the Highlands

November



Where to stay

Accommodation

Motels

New England Motor Lodge

neml.com.au | 02 6732 2922

Rest Point Motor Inn

restpointmotel.com.au | 02 6732 2255

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 Haven Motor Inn

glenhavenmotorinn.com.au | 02 6732 3266

Glen Innes Motel

gleninnes-motel.com | 02 6732 1211

Jillaroo Motor Inn

02 6732 3378

Apartment & Holiday Accommodation

Apartments on Grey

apartmentsongrey.com.au | 0427 736 437

Apartments on the Park

apartmentsonthepark.com.au | 02 6732 6699

Carelle's Apartment

0488 027 147

Glen Innes Cottage

gleninnescottage.com.au | 0438 375 252

Sapphire & Topaz Cottages

fossickercaravanpark.com.au | 02 6732 4246

Serenity Cottage

0427 015 277

Starlight Cabin – Kai Iwi Estate

kaiiwiestate.com | 0419 170 581

The Bank Guesthouse

0404 312 441

B&B and Farmstays

Oakhurst Cottage

oakhurstcottage.com.au | 02 6734 5035

River Glen Farmstay

riverglenfarmstay.com.au | 02 6734 4162

Glen Waverly B&B Cottage & Alpacas

glenwaverleyfarmstayandalpacas.com |
0408 482 158

Sharron Park Farmstay and B&B

sharronpark.com | 02 6732 3858

The Glass House Boutique Accommodation

theglasshouse.net.au | 0409 040 933

Three Waters "High Country" Holidays

threewatersholidays.com.au | 02 6732 4863

Halloran House

02 6732 3932

Waterloo Station Pastoral Company

waterloo-station.com.au | 02 6733 6702

Caravan Parks

Fossicker Caravan Park

fossickercaravanpark.com.au | 02 6732 4246

Glen Rest Tourist Park

gleninnes.com/glenrestpark | 02 6732 2413

Poplar Caravan Park

poplarcaravanpark.com.au | 02 6732 1514

Blue Sapphire Tiny Homes Village

find us on facebook | 0428 483 099

For all Glen Innes Highlands accommodation providers visit:
gleninneshighlands.com/accommodation



Where you'd rather be

Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre

152 Church Street

New England Highway

Glen Innes NSW 2370

02 6730 2400



GlenInnesHighlands.com



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[GlenInnesHighlands](https://www.youtube.com/GlenInnesHighlands)



[/GIHighlands](https://twitter.com/GIHighlands)