

Village boasts notable past

FOR a small village, Wollombi has a rather large reputation as a must-see destination for visitors to the Hunter Region.

To the west is the World Heritage-listed Yengo National Park and to the east is the Watagans National Park.

The township's picturesque valley location, framed by mountains, is at the junction of Wollombi Brook and Congewai Creek. The area is home to native birds and animals such as kangaroos, wallabies and wombats.

The town's history is linked to the construction of the Great North Road in the early 19th century.

Major Thomas Mitchell raised the idea of an inland route to open up transport to regions in northern NSW, meandering through Castle Hill, Wiseman's Ferry, St Albans, Laguna and Wollombi. The Howes Valley Road, now known as the Putty Road, was considered inadequate for commercial travel.

Construction of the Great North Road commenced in 1826 and was carried out by about 700 convicts. It was completed in 1831. Remnants such as stone culverts, bridges and retaining walls can still be seen, particularly in the area between Wollombi and Wisemans Ferry. They are catalogued and cared for by the Convict Trail project.

The convict-built Great North Road is part of the Greater Blue Mountains Drive. At Wollombi, it diverges towards Singleton and Muswellbrook to the north, and Cessnock and Maitland to the north-east.

Part of Wollombi's charm stems



HISTORIC: Wollombi's allure springs from its sandstone and timber-slab buildings which lend it the air of a pioneer town.

from its 19th-century sandstone buildings and timber slab-constructed cottages and sheds.

At first glance it resembles a working pioneer village. It is a joy to visit in the winter months when the smell of wood fire is in the air.

The Wollombi Endeavour Museum is housed in the historic stone Wollombi Courthouse and contains an interesting collection from the region's rich colonial past.

Souvenirs, walking maps and local history literature are available.

Wollombi is also home to regular community markets and the Wollombi Wild Ride, and wineries in the region take part in the annual Sculpture in the Vineyards.

Laguna Wine Bar is the place to go for live music and Wollombi

Tavern's hospitality and unrivalled fireplace attracts travellers from far and wide, especially at weekends. Buses run to and from Wollombi for major events.

Accommodation options and information are at wollombi.nsw.au.

Watagan Valley Estate
Watagan Creek Road, Laguna via Wollombi
Lower Hunter NSW 2354

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Contact Justine Lemerrier for sales: 0419 616 596 jlemerci@bigpond.net.au

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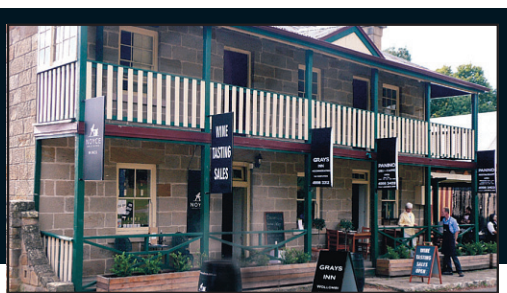
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NOYCE
BROTHERS
WINE

Discover the Noyce Brothers Wine cellar door in the historic Grays Inn in the heart of Wollombi village.

The Wollombi Valley, with its intense summer heat and crisp winter mornings, produces the beautiful grapes used to create Noyce Brothers Wine's award winning flavours.

All Noyce Brothers wines are available for tasting and purchase including semillon, verdelho, chardonnay, semillon/sauvignon blanc, sparkling chardonnay, shiraz, sparkling moscato and a wonderful late harvest semillon.



Grays Inn is a lovely two storey 19th century sandstone Georgian building with beautiful ensuite accommodation on the first floor.

While staying at Grays Inn you can relax in the recently landscaped and private back garden or take it all in from the front balcony.

Contact us Noyce Brothers Wines
Grays Inn accommodation
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0416 245 655
10-30am to 4-30pm every day
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DEFIANCE SCULPTURE PARK AT THE GATE GALLERY
2480 WOLLOMBI RD, WOLLOMBI NSW 2325



"The best sculpture park in Australia" John McDonald 2012

The sculpture park was officially opened by Art Critic and Author, John McDonald in late September 2012 and is now open to the public 10am - 3pm Fri - Mon and by appointment.

ENJOY THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW OVER 50 OUTDOOR SCULPTURES BY AUSTRALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS YEAR ROUND AT AUSTRALIA'S PREMIER PRIVATELY OWNED COMMERCIAL SCULPTURE PARK & GALLERY IN WOLLOMBI VALLEY



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THE GATE GALLERY
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