

FAR WEST NSW REGIONAL PROSPECTUS 2016



Attracting investors, residents and tourists











CONTENTS

About the Far West	2	1
Our competitive advantage	6	ŝ
Regional growth and productivity	3	3
Employment by Industry	1	10
Investment and development opportunities	1	11
Our Industries		
Mining	1	13
Agri-business	1	L4
The visitor economy	1	15
Health	1	L6
Education	1	L7
Retail	1	18
Film and Television	1	L9
Arts and Culture	2	21
Renewable energy	2	22
Access to markets, and anywhere else	2	23
Real estate	2	24
Starting and growing your own business	2	25
A skilled workforce	2	26
Offering much more than just investment opportunities		28
Enjoy breakfast and dinner with your family – everyday	2	29
Enjoy affordable, friendly country living	3	32
Do you and your family enjoy sports		33
Immerse yourself, staff and family in a stunning natural envi	ronment 3	34
Quality family time	3	35
Local government committed to growing the Far West	3	36
A safe family environment	3	37
A snapshot of Broken Hill	3	38
A snapshot of Menindee	3	39
A snapshot of Wilcannia	4	10
A snapshot of White Cliffs	4	11
A snapshot of Silverton	4	12
A snapshot of Tibooburra	4	13

About the Far West



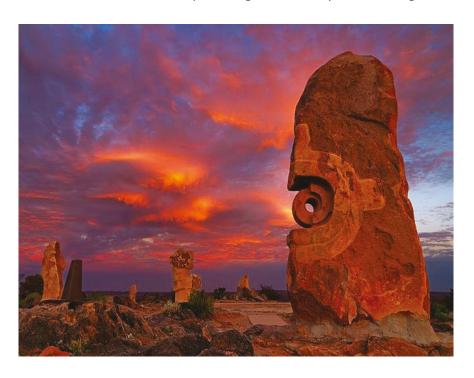
The Far West region of NSW encompasses the semi-arid lands of western NSW and is known for the Barrier Ranges, and the Darling River which flows through western NSW to join the Murray River at Wentworth. The Far West embodies the dream of the Great Australian Outback with wide open spaces, untouched natural beauty, spectacular National Parks, red desert and rolling sand dunes, the mighty Darling River, rich Indigenous culture and history and an abundance of wildlife.



The region was first settled in the 1840's with Broken Hill founded in 1883 following the discovery of silver and lead deposits and the consequent formation of BHP. The far west region has historically been the mineral powerhouse of the State. It also contains some of the State's most flourishing agricultural enterprises and large stretches of the world-famous outback.

There is a strong mining industry, historically centred in Broken Hill, with significant new prospects for expansion within the region. The Far West has a strong economy based on mining, agriculture, film, education and health, the arts and tourism. The region is rich in promise, boasting mineral wealth and climatic conditions that give this region a unique competitive advantage in many industry sectors. Our focus is on fostering economic diversity and creating opportunities for local communities.

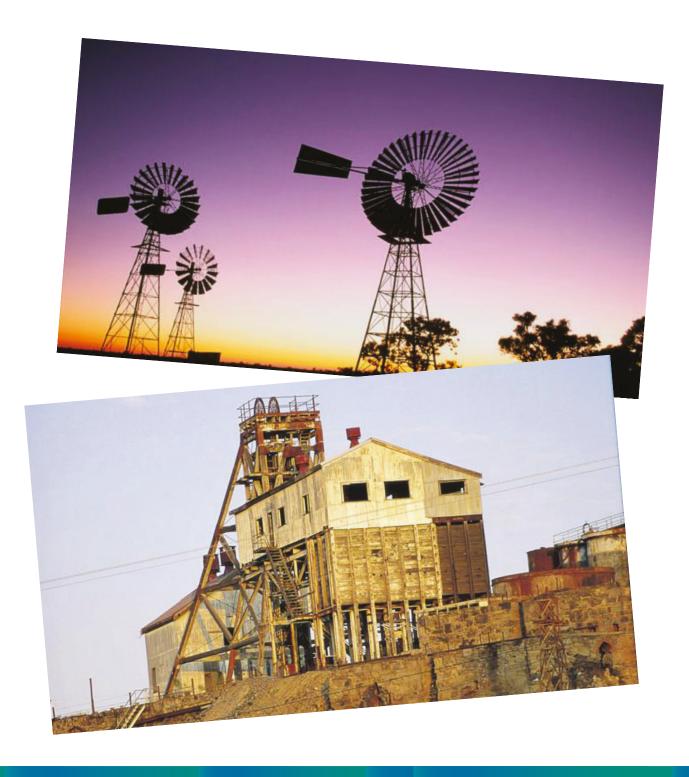
We are developing and harnessing relationships with our Indigenous communities, delivering effective coordinated services and promising sustainability in the management of our resources.



Bordering Queensland and South Australia, the Far West region of NSW is the most sparsely populated in the State, constituting 18.4 per cent of its area, but only 0.4 per cent of the population. The region comprises of two Local Government Areas-Broken Hill City and Central Darling Shire - and along with the unincorporated area of NSW covers an area of approx. 147,000 sq. km.

Key employment sectors include agriculture, retail, mining, health care and accommodation and food services. The region features a major public hospital in Broken Hill and smaller public hospitals in Menindee, Wilcannia and Ivanhoe. Westside Plaza and Broken Hill Village, along with the CBD and smaller key centres are the region's major shopping hubs. Major industrial areas are also located in Broken Hill, with Menindee developing integral infrastructure to support the ongoing growth of the agricultural industry.

Our enviable lifestyle centres around long hot summers 'up the river' at nearby Menindee, motorbike riding, fishing, cricket and socialising, which we do well! Our crisp winters come with footy and it's staunch supporters, soccer all weekend, star gazing the clear winter skies, bush walking and tourist season! With affordable real estate, laid back living and a growing and diversifying economy, the Far West Region is the perfect place to work and live.







The Far West is uniquely placed and maintains a competitive advantage sought by many of the regions current investors. The Far West embraces the traditional industry of mining but a vision, plan and strong commitment has seen sustainable economic growth over a wide array of industries. With such a robust regional economy you will be surprised by the strength, vibrancy and diversity of the region.

With an ideal climate for renewable energies, a variety of agri-business, storage and warehousing the region is forging its reputation as a clean and green environment.

Born well before easy access and air travel the region has a history of innovation and a 'can do' attitude.

Highly skilled workforce	 An existing, skilled regional workforce with vast experience and skills in mining, agriculture, manufacturing, horticulture, health, education, retail and the service sectors Excellent education and training facilities
Transport and access to markets	 The Far West is located on the transcontinental railway with close and existing access to ports in Adelaide and across South Australia Air services to Sydney, Adelaide, Melbourne and Mildura Central location with road access to major capital cities, including Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra With mining remaining strong, manufacturing increasing and the visitor economy growing, opportunities exist for the development of significant transport hubs to link road, rail and air freight
Significant mineral wealth	 As the birthplace of BHP the region has significant mineral wealth, exploration is ongoing and new mineral deposits are being discovered
Ideal climatic conditions	 The climate in the Far West allows for early harvest of produce, including stone and citrus fruits, olives, herbs, native bush foods and a large variety of flowers suitable for the floriculture industry A dry warm climate that lends itself to numerous storage and warehousing options including aircraft storage
Renewable energy	 The regions boasts perfect conditions for renewable energy and already hosts major solar farm infrastructure; planning for wind farm infrastructure is underway

Affordable commercial, industrial and residential property

- The availability and affordability of commercial and industrial land is attractive to potential start-up companies and existing professional organisations looking to relocate some or all of their business to more affordable locations
- Affordability and rental return possibilities, coupled with extremely low vacancy rates of the residential property market has made the region an attractive option for investors from across the country

Considerable opportunities for growth of the Agri-business sector and value added food and beverage processing

- Ideal climatic conditions
- Significant industry experience
- Highly skilled workforce
- Established transport and market access
- Considerable number of existing organic certified producers
- The Darling River running through the region

Manufacturing expertise and experience

- With 130 years of servicing the mining industry the region has developed significant skills in the manufacturing sector
- A long history of training highly competent and professional tradespeople

Tourism and the visitor economy

- Significant growth over a long period of time
- Major contributor to the region's economy
- Unique location boasting;
 - Iconic National Parks
 - Iconic History in mining and significance with the Australian industrial movement
 - Wide open spaces, abundance of natural wildlife and wild flowers, perfect sunsets and clear skies
- High on many peoples bucket list of must see locations
- Considerable opportunity for product development

Film and TV, and Arts industries

- Location, location
- Long history in the Film and TV industry
- Iconic location with a vast array of landscapes to meet every requirement
- 5TH largest film studio in Australia
- Industry expertise and experience
- Long history of the Arts, birthplace of Pro Hart and the 'Brushmen of the Bush'
- Significant Arts industry

Collaboration

- The region has a long history of collaboration and support
- In 2015 over 30 businesses came together to discuss and develop a regional infrastructure plan to ensure ongoing sustainable growth in a collaborative and supportive manner













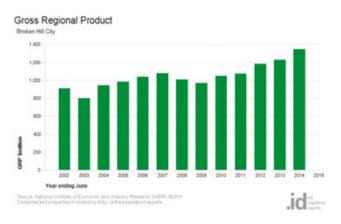


Regional Growth and Productivity



Broken Hill's Gross Regional Product (GRP) continues to increase, whilst many mining centres decline; the Far West continues to record steady growth. Gross Regional Product for the 2014 year grew by 9.4% and equated to \$1.345 billion. Since 2010, the Far West has grown at a greater rate than the average for NSW.

The Gross Regional Product of Broken Hill has seen rapid increase in comparison to the NSW average increase over the past 10 years of 2%



Year ending June	Headline GRP \$m	% change from previous year	Local industry GRP \$m	Local residents GRP \$m
2014	1,345	+9.4	658	643
2013	1,230	+4.0	641	636
2012	1,182	+10.1	596	600
2011	1,074	+2.6	578	585
2010	1,047	+8.2	583	582

New businesses planning to expand within 12 months at

61%

Hawson's Iron Ore Mine. Already over \$21 million invested. Will require up to 600 workers

Plans for a \$13 million upgrade of the Broken Hill CBD

Plans for a \$7 million upgrade at Broken Hill Airport Broken Hill City Council recently received over \$5 million to upgrade the Civic Centre

Cristal Mining recently received approval for their Crayfish development

Havilah Resources Joint venture with CMC. Currently removing overburden. Approx. 53,600 ounces of gold. Expect to be processing by June 2016

Productivity per worker by industry 2013 / 14

		New
Industry	\$	South
		Wales \$
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	73,849	79,560
Mining	1,470,255	391,283
Manufacturing	196,705	122,641
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	307,113	294,734
Construction	84,084	96,175
Wholesale Trade	181,108	124,148
Retail Trade	70,661	60,165
Accommodation and Food Services	30,204	53,388
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	143,667	123,888
Information Media and Telecommunications	150,260	213,041
Financial and Insurance Services	222,725	317,939
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	89,094	247,082
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	57,457	116,314
Administrative and Support Services	108,327	138,671
Public Administration and Safety	84,351	112,004
Education and Training	61,914	78,476
Health Care and Social Assistance	79,571	76,301
Arts and Recreation Services	59,030	87,250
Other Services	57,264	65,621
Total worker productivity	171,437	115,819

Outputs by Industry – Broken Hill 2013/14

Industry	\$ Million	Percentage of
		City's output
Mining	939.8	42.9
Construction	155.8	7.1
Electricity	144.6	6.6
Health Care and Social	130.1	5.9
Assistance		
Manufacturing	113.7	5.2
Public Administration and	114.0	5.2
Safety		
Retail Trade	104.1	4.8

National Institute of Economic and Industrial research (2015)

Exports by Broken Hill City by Industry 2013/14

Industry	\$ Million	Percentage of City's exports
Mining	1,115.8	81.1
Construction	53.9	3.9
Electricity	38.7	2.8
Health Care and Social	35.3	2.6
Assistance		
Manufacturing	31.1	2.3
Public Administration and	27.4	2.0
Safety		
Retail Trade	25.3	1.8

National Institute of Economic and Industrial research (2015)

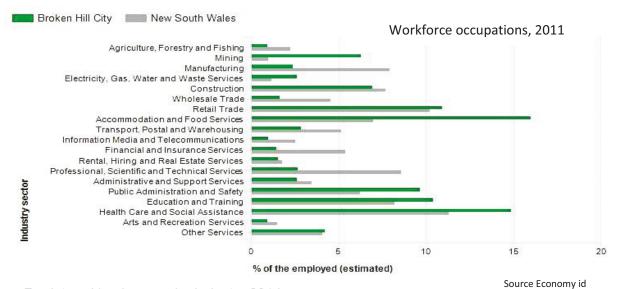
Jobs in Broken Hill City by Industry

Industry	Number of Jobs	Percentage of jobs
	in the city	in the City
Accommodation and Food	1,196	16.0
Services		
Health Care and Social	1,109	14.9
Assistance		
Retail trade	815	10.9
Education and Training	777	10.4
Public Administration and	721	9.7
Safety		
Construction	519	7.0
Mining	471	6.3

National Institute of Economic and Industrial research (2015)

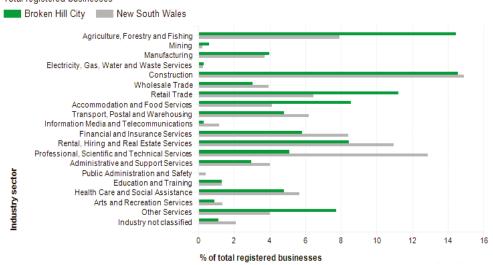






Registered businesses by industry 2014

Total registered businesses



Workforce individual income Broken Hill

Broken Hill City - All industries	2011		
Gross weekly individual income	Number	%	New South Wales %
Negative Income/ Nil income	55	0.9	1.0
\$1-\$199	307	4.9	4.9
\$200-\$299	310	4.9	4.1
\$300-\$399	406	6.4	5.6
\$400-\$599	900	14.3	12.1
\$600-\$799	1,065	16.9	15.0
\$800-\$999	760	12.0	12.6
\$1,000-\$1,249	703	11.1	12.3
\$1,250-\$1,499	509	8.1	8.8
\$1,500-\$1,999	777	12.3	11.1
2,000 or more	420	6.7	11.2



Investment and Development Opportunities

Tourism and the visitor economy

Tourist attractions in the region are mainly related to the mining history of Broken Hill, including museums, along with art galleries, Indigenous culture, and historical buildings. There is a strong emphasis on mining, cultural and Indigenous tourism, though the latter is still emerging. Nature-based experiences and the outback environment is also a key tourist attraction for the area, including several National Parks. Consultation suggests a lack of Indigenous tourism and nature-based travel experiences in the region. Opportunities also exist for ecotourism and educational excursion packages in the region, including the development of an Arid Zone Study Area and associated ranges of curriculum packages. An opportunity also exists to broaden the market to include additional singles, families and international travellers.

Menindee Lakes, located 110km south of Broken Hill offers investment and development opportunities across a wide section of the industry, including boardwalks for an interactive wetland experience and dry weather walks incorporating Aboriginal Heritage tours, Kinchega National Park and bird watching activities.

Australia's first heritage city

With Broken Hill declared Australia's First Heritage City in 2015 additional opportunities have presented in tourism, accommodation, food, agribusiness, the arts and film. With Indigenous history dating back over 40,000 years and significance in the European exploration of the 'interior' of the country the Far West has much to offer. The region also boasts mining history like no other as the birthplace of BHP and a strong union history.

Accommodation

Consultation suggests a key gap in the accommodation sector is an 'up market', branded hotel to cater for the upper ends of the leisure and corporate visitor markets. There are also considered to be opportunities for eco-tourism type accommodation for nature-based travellers.

Regional transport hub

The potential establishment of a regional transport depot in Broken Hill has received attention in recent years and there exists the possibility of creating an intermodal transport hub by also considering synergies with rail freight in the region. There is potential for a diverse range of road freight services, including specialised livestock services, transport and forwarding agents, refrigerated transport services and other general transport services. The anticipated economic growth of the region will increase the size of the local catchment in terms of transit demand.

Agri-business

Agriculture is a significant and traditional industry in the Far West Region. An abundance of land in the region makes pastoral activities an attractive option. Significant growth in irrigation in recent years has seen the sector develop cotton, malting grains, grapes and stone/citrus fruit operations. Based on extensive research and pilot studies, there has also been diversification into other horticulture sectors such as mandarins and cut flowers (roses for instance). Menindee is a leading producer of table grapes

and horticulture and has a competitive advantage due to the early timing of its season. This same competitive advantage extends to mandarins in Wilcannia.

In non-irrigation areas, pastoralists are increasingly diversifying into organic farming including lamb, goat, beef, wool and other fibres to improve yield. Markets have been established in Asia and the US. The region is considered one of the best in the world for organic farming. To further develop the fast-growing organic farming sector, a key opportunity to value add in the region is to establish an export certified abattoir in Broken Hill.

Creative industries

The Far West has significant talent and interest in the creative arts, including visual, environmental arts, music and film. A survey undertaken in 2007 (Quality of Light, Quality of Life) indicated that the average annual income received by the region's artists from their creative practices was higher than the national figure for professional artist by 32% suggesting the sector is relatively successful and there are opportunities for continued expansion.

Mining

The Far West is considered to be an attractive option for the mining sector in many respects. Stakeholders suggest that the region's supportive attitude towards investment in mining development is very positive. An existing skilled workforce and extensive infrastructure add to the attractiveness of mining investment in the region.

The Real Estate sector

Housing in the Far West is still extremely affordable. In 2014 the average house prices in Broken Hill were \$153,019, compared to many other centres investors are able to purchase an investment property in the Far West and have money left over.

With average rent for houses at around \$230 weekly and a healthy vacancy rate of less than 2%, many investors are making the most of low interest rates and growing their investment portfolio with real estate in Broken Hill.

Fantastic opportunities also exist in the commercial and industrial sector.

Air craft services

The dry warm climate of the Far West provides opportunities for investors through aircraft storage and planned upgrades to the Broken Hill airport will provide additional opportunities. Centrally located between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide and with an abundance of land the Far West provides significant advantages for investment in aircraft storage.







Our Industries Mining

Mining is one of the key industries in Australia that has made a significant contribution to the Australian economy for a very long period.

The Australian continent has the world's largest known resources of iron ore, lead, bauxite, uranium, zinc, silver, mineral sands and industrial diamonds.

Industry Statistics & Market Size

Revenue	Annual Growth 10-15	Employment	Businesses
\$212bn	3.1%	186,100	5,826

Broken Hill was founded in 1883 by boundary rider Charles Rasp. In 1883 he discovered what he thought was tin, but the samples proved to be silver and lead. The ore body they came from became the largest and richest of its kind in the world. The Broken Hill Proprietary Company (BHP), was founded by the Syndicate of Seven to mine the ore body of Broken Hill in 1885.

The Broken Hill ore body is 'world class', having produced more than 300 million tonnes of ore over the 130 years since mining commenced in 1885. Despite Broken Hill's long history, many areas still remain relatively under explored – creating new and exciting opportunities.

Recent developments have seen production extend from the traditional silver, lead and zinc to the region now also producing ilmenite, leucoxene, zircon/rutile-rich non-magnetic products and other titanium materials.

Mining exports accounted for 81% of Broken Hill's exports. This represented a 76% increase in exports from this industry from five years ago.

Key mines in the Broken Hill Local Government Area are located at CBH RASP Mine and Perilya Broken Hill Mine, with mineral processing occurring at the Cristal Mineral Separation Plant.



The region has a vast experience in the mining industry - a motivated and highly skilled workforce with some of the most experienced and skilled hard rock miners in the world.

With 130 years of experience in the mining industry the region boasts infrastructure, knowledge, skills and an exceptional service industry.

Mining accounted for \$692 million in value adding to the region in 2013/14, or 54% of Broken Hill's value added in comparison to 3.3% in NSW.

Our Industries Agri-Business



Agriculture is a well-established industry in the Far West region. An abundance of land coupled with suitable climatic conditions has played a central role in the region's historical growth and development, including suitability for a variety of agriculture including horticulture (stone fruits, citrus, roses, table grapes), and livestock (such as cattle, sheep and goats), as well as cotton, barley and wheat.

The agricultural sector accounts for approximately 11% of the area's Gross Regional Product, 6% of its employment and 20% of its exports. Traditionally, agriculture was largely based around pastoral activities such as wool production.



A 70% increase in global demand for food is predicted by 2050"

Horticulture production has long been established as a significant contributor to the region's economy. Growth opportunities to expand and diversify production and increase value added processes are abundant.

The sector has been developing cotton, malting grains, grapes and stone fruits and in non-irrigation areas, pastoralists have diversified into goat and sheep meat production.

Due to the region's hot, dry climate, high quality fruits such as grapes and peaches can be harvested many weeks before many competing regions.

The region has a long history of food production and is synonymous with meat production including sheep, goats, cattle and kangaroo.

The region has developed strategies to utilise and maximise the climate with other sectors of the industry diversifying to include carob, pistachio and olives. Olive production has increased in recent years with several local organisations producing high quality oil and fruits, having recently been recognised worldwide for the quality of their olive oil.

With growing world demand for food and an ever-increasing population the opportunities for growth and investment in the agri-food industry in the Far West are plentiful.

Several local producers are accredited organic producers with established export markets and the region is forging a reputation as clean and green meaning organic food production and processing is providing great opportunities for growth and additional investment.









Our Industries Tourism and The Visitor Economy

Accommodation and food services are now one of the region's largest employment sectors generating 1196 local jobs in 2013/14 with the value of the visitor economy continuing to rise every year. In 2013/14, the tourism industry's output was \$109.9 million with another \$57.7 million in value-added industries, up over \$7.8 million in just three years.

Investment opportunities in this growing and sustainable tourism industry in the Far West are abundant. Many aspects of the industry are still under-represented and investment in the tourism industry in the region is wide-ranging. As the market grows, product development potential continues to increase. Opportunities currently exists in;

- Nature-based and Eco tourism
- Adventure tourism, including
 - Mountain biking
 - o Hang gliding
 - Hiking
 - o 4WD and adventure
- Food and wine
- Events and conferences
- Cultural and Indigenous tourism





Our Industries Health



Whilst mining is the largest industry in the region, our health and social assistance industries employ almost three times the number of locals than the mining industry. The health industry accounts for 1294 full time and part time jobs in the region, or 17.6 % of our employment.

Health in the Far West is very productive, with \$88.1 million generated in the 2014/15 year. Employment opportunities in health have continued to grow over many years and the sector's value to the region is also growing.

Partnerships within the University Department of Rural Health have developed outstanding career pathways for our young people and career professionals alike. The Broken Hill Extended Clinical Placement Program is an innovation in undergraduate medical education. It enables students from different medical schools to come together and learn in a combined program for an extended period.

The Far West boasts excellent health facilities and in March 2000, a new hospital was completed at a

cost of \$32 million. Some key features of the facility include:

- 80 multifunctional acute-care beds (medical, surgical, obstetrics, coronary & intensive care, pediatrics, palliative care and mental health units)An eight space day procedure unit
- A rehabilitation Centre
- Emergency services

In July 2012, the Broken Hill Health Service celebrated its 125th

anniversary. In February 2013, a \$6.6million sub-acute 10 bed mental health facility was completed.



The region is supported by health facilities in Broken Hill, Wilcannia, Menindee, Tibooburra, White Cliffs and Ivanhoe and is home to the world famous corporate headquarters for the South Eastern Section of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Operating six King Air B200 aircraft and with a team consisting of medical officers, flight nurses, pilots, engineers, dentists, specialist nursing staff, mental health staff and managerial/administrative staff. With operations beginning in May 1936 the service now covers approximately 640,000 km².

Maari Ma Health

Maari Ma Primary Health Care Service provides a quality service to the Aboriginal communities of Far Western NSW - delivering health care for almost two decades and employing more than 70 people in Broken Hill and across the region.

Broken Hill Child and family Health Centre

The Child & Family Health Centre is a division of Broken Hill Health Service. The Centre is located in the CBD and provides a range of multidisciplinary child, youth and family health services that focus on early intervention and prevention.

Our Industries Education

Education is a key economic driver in the region. The education and training sector was the fourth largest industry of employment in 2011.

Educational facilities across the region include:

- Nine preschool education services
- 17 government and non-government schools
- TAFE Western Colleges at Broken Hill, Menindee, and Wilcannia
- Robinson College in Broken Hill
- Fowlers Gap Arid Zone Research Station, a teaching and research facility of the University of New South Wales
- Charles Sturt University through Broken Hill University Department of Rural Health (BHUDRH)
- School of the Air a distance education centre at Broken Hill catering for geographically isolated students. The school caters for 117 students.

In 2014 Broken Hill High School officially opened its multi-million dollar commercial kitchen and metals and engineering workshop. The region boasts state of the art facilities with commercial kitchens at 2 local High Schools and TAFE, in addition to commercial kitchen facilities at two Central Schools, new construction and engineering facilities and comprehensive agriculture facilities in several schools.

Vocational pathways are integrated into the region's senior schools and students enjoy fantastic opportunities. Committed employers provide realistic and valuable workplace learning experiences, and state of the art facilities provide first class training.











Our Industries Retail Sector



The retail sector is an important aspect of the region's economy. The sector accounted for 10.9% of the jobs in Broken Hill and 4.8% of outputs in 2011.

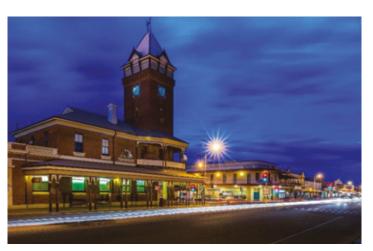
The Far West has major retail centres in Broken Hill with Westside Plaza, Broken Hill Village and the Broken Hill CBD.

The CBD is an iconic location steeped in history where you can still rent or buy premises at very reasonable prices.

Westside Plaza is a single level, subregional based shopping centre.
Located 1.5km from the Broken Hill
CBD it is a fully enclosed and air
conditioned shopping centre
offering two nationals, (Woolworths
Supermarket and Big W) and over 20
specialty stores.

In April 2014 the Broken Hill Village was officially opened. Constructed at a cost of almost \$30 million the Village features three national retailers (Coles Supermarket, Target and Cheap as Chips) and 13 specialty stores. Construction of the Village reinforced what the locals already knew – the Far West is a growing economy, the future is bright and the demand is increasing.

Home to the world-famous Bells Milk Bar, the Far West is a perfect location to begin your own niche business.











Our Industries Film and Television

The Far West is home to some of the most diverse and striking cinematic locations Australia has to offer. From spectacular outback landscapes, sand dunes, the Darling River and Menindee Lakes system to historical agriculture and buildings, significant Indigenous history and cultural places the Far West has almost every location covered. The region has been a destination for film since the 1970s and has seen over 300 film productions since 1982, with about 25% of these being from overseas production companies. The number has grown significantly over recent years with over 50%



growth in commercials, 350% growth in documentaries and 25% growth in feature films.

The Broken Hill Film Studio

In March of 2011, the Central Power Station came back to life, though for a very different purpose to that for which it had been built 80 years before. The Central Power Station is now the Broken Hill Film Studios; a \$2.2m refurbishment of the massive Station B has created the fifth-largest studio in Australia. When completed, the entire Broken Hill Studio is expected to be the second-largest studio complex in New South Wales. Stage 2 and 3 may include a variety of businesses and opportunities such as artisan studios, educational facilities and production offices.

The Far West has a long and distinguished history in film having been home to some of Australia's most iconic films, including:

- Strangerland 2014
- Last Cab to Darwin 2014
- Dirty Deeds 2001
- Mission Impossible II 1999
- The Missing 1998
- Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert 1993
- Reckless Kelly 1991
- Royal Flying Doctor Service (TV) 1991
- The Water Trolly 1989
- As Time Goes By 1987
- Dirtwater Dynasty (miniseries) 1987
- A Place to Call Home (TV) 1986
- The Blue Lightning (TV) 1986
- Alice to Nowhere (TV) 1985
- Comrades 1985
- The Long Way Home 1984
- Razorback 1983
- The Camel Boy -1983
- The Slim Dusty Movie 1983
- Hostage 1982
- A Town Like Alice (miniseries) 1981
- Mad Max II 1981



- The Golden Soak 1978
- The Battle of Broken Hill (Miniseries) 1971
- Girl in Australia 1970
- Wake in Fright 1970.

With commercials filmed in the region regularly the region certainly has the landscapes, knowledge, skills, technology and passion to support a growing film and TV industry. With so much filming in the region the Far West has an expanding cluster of experienced and emerging producers and crew and an ever-growing inventory of props and equipment









Our Industries Arts and Culture

Arts and culture in the Far West is strongly supported by a variety of arts organisations. Be it the performing arts with a variety of dance studios, the historic Theatre 44 and musical societies or the still arts-the Far West has it all.

Broken Hill and the surrounding area has many natural and manmade attractions on offer. These include mining operations (some open to the public), a cafe and lookout on top of the original Line of Lode, historic buildings, town history walking trails, many galleries and resident artists, the Sculpture Symposium, Stephen's Creek, several quarries, lakes, and the Mundi-Mundi plains where on clear days one can see the curvature of the earth. Rated in the top 100 views in Australia by Australian Traveller magazine, the sunsets are truly amazing.

The Broken Hill Regional Art gallery hosts two annual at prizes – The Far West emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Prize and the Open Outback Art Prize. The two awards place Broken Hill on the national 'arts calendar' whilst providing emerging artists the opportunity to showcase their work.

The 'Brushmen of the Bush' was a group of artists that formed in Broken Hill in 1973. Members included Pro Hart and Jack Absalom. The Pro Hart Gallery and Sculpture Park contains a large collection of Hart's paintings and sculptures. The gallery also features the Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow that he painted in his unique style.

With over 40 galleries, the region boasts galleries to cater for every style and taste in art.

Whether you are a budding artist, an art dealer or a connoisseur, the Far West provides the perfect location to indulge your passion, begin your own gallery or expand your collection.

The Murals of Broken Hill

Broken Hill is known for the abundance of artists and art galleries. There's no better way to discover the art of Broken Hill than taking a walk around town and experiencing the 'Murals of Broken Hill'.













Our Industries Renewable Energy



The Far West has ideal conditions for the development of renewable energy.

Broken Hill has one of the highest levels of solar radiation in NSW, making it an ideal location for a solar power plant. The city has a large population with several mines located nearby, meaning there is significant need for electrical power in the region. With existing infrastructure the region has the capacity to export significant amounts of clean energy.

The Broken Hill Solar Plant, developed and owned by AGL consists of a 53 MW solar PV power station located five kilometres southwest of Broken Hill. The solar plant will occupy approximately 140 hectares of land and consist of over 650,000 solar PV modules making the plant the second largest solar farm in the Southern Hemisphere with the capacity to supply clean power to a significant number of homes and businesses across the State.

The Silverton Wind Farm, due for construction, has the potential to be the largest on-shore wind project in the southern hemisphere and one of the largest in the world. With a potential operational capacity of up to 1,000MW, the wind farm could generate up to 4.5% of New South Wales' current total power consumption. This is equivalent to the energy consumption of over 430,000 NSW homes.





Access to Markets and Anywhere Else

Railway

Broken Hill is uniquely located in the Far Western region of NSW on the transcontinental railway with access to the vast rail network operating between Sydney and Perth. Passenger rail infrastructure in the region is part of the transcontinental railway that connects Perth and Sydney (with stops at Menindee, Broken Hill, and Ivanhoe). The Outback Explorer stops in Broken Hill weekly. The XPT provides a daily service between Broken Hill and Sydney. Rail freight has been the traditional and major method of



transporting mining exports from the region and a direct rail line connects Broken Hill with Port Pirie in South Australia. Major rail providers also operate a freight service between the Cristal Separation Plan in Broken Hill and Port Adelaide.

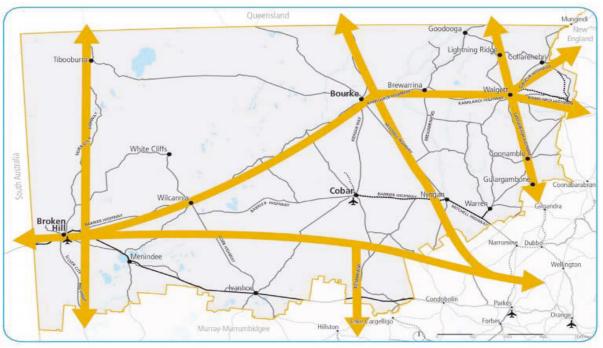
Road

Whilst remote the region is certainly not isolated with road access to five capital cities within a day's drive and easy access to a variety of ports including Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Port Adelaide. With commitment of funding from the State Government to seal the Silver City Highway, access to markets in Queensland will be even closer.

Air

With daily flights to Sydney, Adelaide, Melbourne, Mildura and Dubbo air access to and from the region is easy. And with plans to invest \$8 million on upgrades at the Broken Hill Airport the region is committed to ensuring the facilities meet expected demand over the coming years.





Major transport corridors for travel to and from the Far Western Region

Real Estate



Whilst mean house prices continue to rise Broken Hill and the Far West houses are still extremely affordable. In 2014 the average house prices in Broken Hill was \$153,019. Compare that to many other centres and investors are able to purchase an investment property in the Far West and have money left over.

With average rent for houses at around \$230 per week, and a healthy vacancy rate of less than 2% many investors are making the most of low interest rates and growing their investment portfolio with real estate in Broken Hill.



Recently advertised commercial property

Located in Broken Hill NSW.

The freehold property is now available to the open market. The property is being used as a training/workplace consultancy business.

The building features multiple offices, large showroom area, staff amenities, parking and workshop and is centrally located in Broken Hill's CBD.

Rental return: \$41,500 p.a. plus GST and outgoing's that's a 12% net return.



Recently advertised industrial land

Situated in Broken Hill's industrial precinct this is an opportunity to purchase at a realistic price. The land has a total area of 6.424 hectares with excellent frontage to Kanandah Road. Sale price \$275,000



Recently advertised residential property

Totally Renovated, Totally Satisfying

- Three bedrooms (two are doubles, one is a large sleepout). Ceiling fans, built ins.
- Stunning kitchen with island bench, SS appliances and dining combined.
- Heating and cooling throughout.
- Modern family bathroom, shower and bath.
- Landscaped grounds with outdoor decking from the kitchen, garage and rear entrance
 Sale Price \$195,000



Starting or Growing Your Business

Starting or growing a business in the Far West

The business opportunities in the Far West are endless. The Region is renowned for its mining and strong agriculture industries. However, the Far West boasts so much more.

Opportunities are arising every day and with a collaborative and supportive environment now is the time to start your dream business or relocate your existing business and live a better lifestyle.

Tourism, agri-business, retail trade, education, health, business services, the building sector, warehousing and information technology are key growth industries in the region. With good transport infrastructure, a skilled and willing workforce and Councils that are actively engaged in assisting businesses in relocating or starting in their Shires – there really is no better time to considering a country change.

The Far West is ready to help you start, relocate or grow your business



As the regional development voice of their communities, RDA committees: consult and engage with communities, promote and participate in regional programs and initiatives, provide information and advice on their region to all levels of government, and support informed regional planning.

A key focus of Regional Development Australia is on the economic, social and environmental issues affecting communities.



The Broken Hill Chamber of Commerce is serving the business and industry interests of Far West NSW, Australia. The Chamber also partners with the NSW Government to deliver the Small Biz Connect business advisory service to all businesses based in the Broken Hill, Central Darling and Unincorporated Local Government Areas.



Foundation Broken Hill is a not-for-profit organisation which has a focus on encouraging new and expanding businesses and social and educational projects that will provide new job opportunities in Broken Hill.

It does this through a discretionary fund which is able to provide financial assistance to appropriate applicants who meet its funding guidelines.



Small Biz Connect is a quality, personalised and highly subsidised business advisory program for small businesses in NSW. Through the program, you can: Get expert advice on managing your small business; Access face-to-face support; Develop key business skills. Whether you're just starting out, want to expand your business or are ready to retire, take the next step with Small Biz Connect.

A Skilled Workforce



The Far West has established a reputation for having a highly skilled and motivated workforce across a range of sectors, which is available to enable an easy transition for your business relocation.

Organisations in the Far West have successfully attracted key senior staff over sustained periods, who seek the idyllic regional lifestyle.

Currently our largest employers for the region are Health and Community Services, Education, Retail and the Agri-business sectors.

Our workforce is supported through well-established and reputable local recruitment agencies that provide a broad range of recruitment and Human Resource Management support including labour hire services.

The region is home to excellent schools and training providers working constantly with industry to ensure they meet future requirements and deliver best practice, innovative and practical training outcomes. The Far West has collaborated with industry over many years to develop Vocational Education and Training (VET) pathways in our secondary schools to ensure we are training our future workforce with relevant and valued skills. Our students are studying a variety of Vocational pathways from a cross section of industries including Primary Industries, Health, Engineering, Construction, Information Technology, Media, Retail and the Services sector.









Offering Much More Than Just Sound Investment Opportunities Affordable Housing



Are you dreaming of a change? We have the perfect location for you

The great Australian dream – is it just a dream?

Buying your own little piece of Australia has become a lot more expensive in our cities, but you will be very surprised at what you could buy in the Far West

Home ownership gives you a sense of independence, privacy and security. The satisfaction of a place you can call your own is priceless. Your own home is a place to raise your family and be a part of a community, and it can be passed down to provide security for your children and grandchildren.

Are you living with housing stress?

Households that are in housing stress are those that devote a much larger fraction of their after-tax income to housing than those households not in stress. Those in housing stress therefore have less money left over for other essential items such as food, transport, health, utilities and education. These households' ability to purchase non-essential items, or luxury items, is very much compromised.



With an average house price in the Far West of about \$153,000 in 2014 purchasing your dream home could become a reality.

Take advantage of the Far West's highly affordable, spacious family homes and lower cost of living; get ahead and enjoy the freedom from mortgage stress.

Far West real estate prices are very affordable in comparison to our capital cities. For the price of a two-bedroom flat in many cities you could purchase your own spacious family home in the Far West.

Do you dream of starting your own business?

Our industrial and commercial prices are considerably cheaper too



Enjoy Breakfast and Dinner With Your Family - Everyday And Be Healthier and Happy For It

Say goodbye to commuting; moving to the Far West means long, stressful daily commutes are a thing of the past

Hours spent commuting can wreck finances, health, and marriage





One-in-three employees with a commute of more than 90 minutes report either a neck or back condition that has caused them pain in the previous 12 months, according to a 2010 survey by Gallup of over 173,500 working adults. While it's difficult to know for certain what causes these problems — sitting at a computer may not help — only one-in-four of those who commuted 10 minutes or less reported similar problems.

A long commute could increase the chances of separation and the risk of divorce by 40%, according to a 2011 study carried out by social geographer Erika Sandow at Umeå University in Sweden, whose research was based on two million co-habiting Swedes from 1995 to 2005.





Studies show all those hours spent driving take their toll. And it's not just because commuting is a sedentary activity. "Longer commutes are also associated with an increased likelihood of non-grocery food purchases and ... lower intensity exercise activities," according to a 2009 study by the Department of Community Health at Brown University, Rhode Island. What's more, people who drive longer distances to work also tend to weigh more and have higher blood pressure.

Studies show commuters experience more stress. On a list of 16 daily activities, commuting was rated the least favourite behind working and housework.





If employees were to be paid for their travel time to and from work at the same rate they are paid once they actually get to work, they would receive, on average, an extra \$84 per week or \$4 015 per year. In Sydney the average weekly commuting cost is \$123, amounting to an annual cost of \$5 921 for each employee.

(April 2005, Commuting to Work, The Australia Institute)

One of the most significant costs of commuting is environmental, with motor vehicles in particular being the major source of air pollutants in Australia. Cars, buses, trucks and motorcycles account for more than 75 per cent of carbon monoxide emissions, most emissions of oxides of nitrogen, and are a significant contributor to emissions of organic compounds.





Many commuters come home late, grumpy and worn-out, with little physical or emotional energy to participate in family life, friendships or other related activities. Each week over 10% of parents in paid employment spend more time commuting than they do with their children, travelling for between 10 and 15 hours weekly to and from work.





Enjoy Affordable, Friendly, Country Living



Enjoy affordable, friendly country living – it's actually living

Finally, get ahead with your finances by enjoying a lower cost of living while earning a competitive salary. Afford the lifestyle you want, while building your financial future.

Big city glamor? Try big city cost. If you want to live like a king (or at least be your own landlord), move to the country.

It's cheaper

Mortgages aren't the only thing more affordable in the Far West. You have to try very hard to spend more than \$40 on a meal, even a good one. A movie still costs only \$15.00. Did I mention housing? You can live in a real house with multiple bedrooms, multiple bathrooms and a garage. Maybe even a pool, and you can *own* it for under \$200,000. You read that right.

There's space

For you, for your dog, for your kids, between you and your neighbours. In the city, you live on top of each other and your kids and dog barely know what grass is. In the country, you have something called a yard. You run around, kick a football and grow a garden. You can actually identify constellations because you see lots of them each night.

You don't get suspicious when people are nice to you

People say hello and "how are you" and generally mean it. You go to the supermarket and have a decent chance of seeing at least someone you know. Volunteer work isn't something you do for your resume - you feel a part of a genuine community, not just one out of millions.

You can breathe the air and appreciate the world around you

In the Far West we don't have smog – ever. The daytime skies are bright blue, at night they are clear of pollution and you can enjoy the stars; the air is clean and fresh. You won't need to pack up the family for the weekend away to enjoy the wildlife – its right here and we see it every day.

Remember when kids played outside until dark and you knew everybody in your neighbourhood?

With a close, friendly community and far safer streets, you can give your kids the childhood you had, or at least, the childhood you wanted.



Do You and Your Family Enjoy Sports

If you enjoy participating in sport you might be very surprised at the opportunities in the Far West

Not only will you have time for you AND the kids to play sport, you will have access too.

We love our sport in the Far West and because we aren't stuck in traffic, getting to training doesn't take an hour; we play lots.

The opportunities and variety of sport in the region will surprise you. We have a strong AFL competition with games throughout the season in A and B grade, women's competition, under 18's all the way down to our littlies. Likewise our Soccer competition is very strong and caters for men's grades, women and kids. Rugby League is growing again and the competition is quite healthy.



In the summer cricket is very competitive, with great facilities and huge community support; and our championship level 18-hole grass golf course will inspire the keenest of golfers.

The variety is endless and includes swimming, dance, artery, shooting, hockey, horse riding, baseball, basketball, bowls, gymnastics, netball, softball, tennis, mountain biking, running and athletics associations, motor bike racing, speedway, speed boat clubs, squash, karting, fishing, yoga, fitness, darts and snooker to name just a few.

If you're worried your kids won't get an opportunity at the big time, you needn't. We have a long history of our sporting champions making it to the top of their sport. We are proud of our champions and have seen local legends compete at the Olympic Games, We have three local boys who are currently playing in the AFL, a current world champion shooter, a world champion tent pegger and many others have made it to the big time from Broken Hill.



Immerse Your Business, Staff and Family in a Stunning Natural Environment



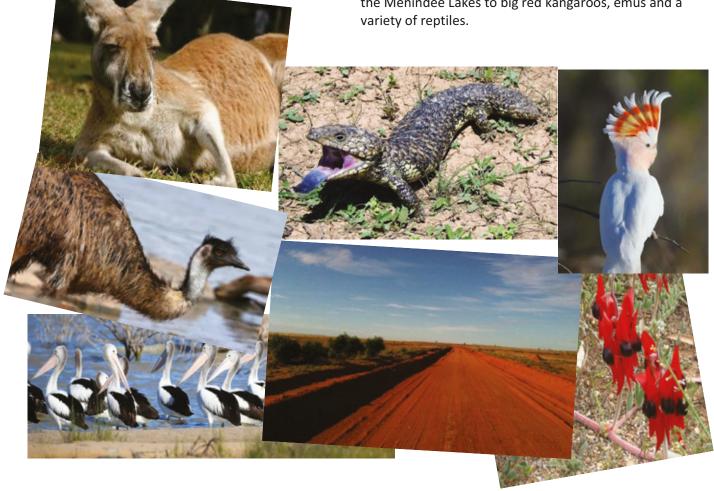


The Far West Region of NSW encompasses the semiarid lands of western NSW and is known for the Barrier Ranges, and the Darling River which flows through western NSW to join the Murray River at Wentworth. The Far West embodies the dream of the Great Australian Outback with wide open spaces, untouched natural beauty, spectacular National Parks, red desert and rolling sand dunes, the mighty Darling River, rich Indigenous culture and history and an abundance of wildlife.



Within the region lie the breathtaking Mutawintji, Sturt, Kinchega and Mungo National Parks recording a continuous record of human occupation stretching back well over 40,000 years. These breathtaking wonders cover vast areas of the Far West each with their own unique attractions, qualities and energy. You won't need to miss a thing – our National Parks are just down the road.

> You won't need to visit a zoo to see our native wildlife. Australia's unique wildlife is in abundance in the region-often venturing into our towns-from huge eagles in the bright blue skies, unique and rare birds at the Menindee Lakes to big red kangaroos, emus and a variety of reptiles.





Quality Family Time



Step away from the video game because the Far West's many sporting, social, arts and cultural attractions will keep the whole family entertained.

Enjoying the natural environment, performing arts or just dinner, a movie or a footy game, meeting with friends is easy as the Far West region is home to a rich and diverse array of dining, sporting, arts and cultural venues and events.

Moving to the Far West means moving to the great outdoors, beautiful countryside, river activities, magnificent national parks, we really have it all.

Life in the Far West means you will have more time to spend with your family. We don't have traffic jams, it doesn't take an hour to get home, and you will have so much extra time to spend with the kids, participate in sport or just walk the dog. In the cities an hour driving to and from work (on a good day) means you're wasting 480 hours a year you could spend on other activities. Wouldn't you sooner kick a footy, watch the dance your daughter made up today, ride your bike with the kids or just have the time to ask your children how their day was at school?





Local Government Committed to Growing the Far West



Broken Hill City Council

Council adopted a Business Development Policy in March 2007 in line with its Strategic Goal to contribute to achieving a viable cultural and economic base within the city and surrounding region that contributes to a prosperous economy and a vibrant lifestyle.

Council's role in economic development is to provide leadership and direction, partnering with other agencies to facilitate, encourage and maximise sustainable development opportunities. In order to encourage diverse and innovative business initiatives in the city and surrounding region, Council may offer incentives and support through the Business Development Policy.

The policy aims to provide appropriate incentives and support to:

- An existing business, located within the city, to expand its operations
- An existing business, located outside the city, to relocate or establish within the city
- A new business to establish within the city

With the expectation that the business will directly or, in some agreed circumstances, indirectly provide increases employment opportunities for residents of Broken Hill.

Contact: Broken Hill City Council

Address: 240 Blende Street, Broken Hill, NSW, 2880

Phone: (08) 8080 3300 Fax: (08) 8080 3424

Email: council@brokenhill.nsw.gov.au
Website: http://www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au





A Safe Friendly Environment

Barrier is the largest Police Local Area Command (LAC) within the State of New South Wales and covers in excess of 230,000 square kilometers of the Far West. 120 members (sworn police and unsworn civilians) provide policing services to the communities of Broken Hill, Central Darling and Wentworth Shires along with the Unincorporated Area. The LAC has a rich history including Indigenous heritage, mining and union foundations, Darling and Murray River traders and outback pioneers. Today, industry and agriculture continues



across the LAC along with tourism which has become a significant contributor to the area. Police responses include general and serious crime investigation, traffic management, community engagements, emergency management and responses. Crime rates across the LAC continue on downward trends resulting in safer communities, communities where you want to raise a family.

Our Purpose

Barrier LAC members assisting each other to become 'one stop cops' achieving sustained improvements in combating crime across the LAC whilst engaging with all of our identified communities.

Our Vision

Barrier 2020, a positive future for policing the Far West.

For further information take a tour of our facebook page (Barrier LAC), if you like what you see consider joining the team. http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment





A Snapshot of Broken Hill



Broken Hill has been referred to as 'The Silver City', the 'Oasis of the West', and the 'Capital of the Outback'.

Broken Hill is Australia's longest-lived mining city. In 1844, the explorer Charles Sturt saw and named the Barrier Range, and at the time referred to a "Broken Hill" in his diary.

Broken Hill truly is a living museum and since its birth as a promising little mining village in the 1880s, it has gone on to be recognised as the boldest of the Australian outback towns.

The Great War visited Broken Hill on New Year's Day, 1915, when two camel drivers loyal to the Ottoman Empire opened fire on a picnic train, killing five men, women and children in what remains the only act of war to be committed on Australian soil.

In the 70s and 80s, the dominant workers' culture gave way to a local passion for the arts. Artists like Pro Hart and Jack Absalom, and films such as Mad Max 2 and Priscilla: Queen of the Desert were filmed on location in and around Broken Hill, giving the region a world-wide reputation on the silver screen.

Recently listed as Australia's first heritage city Broken Hill really has the perfect blend of old world charm with new state of the art facilities.

Broken Hill is home to the beautiful Golf and Country Club, featuring a championship level 18-hole grassed golf course the recently opened Regional Aquatic Centre and the famous St Pats Races.

Broken Hill is also a major base for the School of the Air and the Royal Flying Doctor Service.





A Snapshot of Menindee

Steeped in history, Menindee is the oldest European settlement in western New South Wales, and the first town to be established on the Darling River.

The first European to visit the area was the surveyor and explorer Major Thomas Mitchell in 1835. He was followed by Charles Sturt in 1844 and the town was the advance base for the Burke and Wills expedition in 1860. The Burke and Wills expedition camped at Menindee on their journey to cross Australia from Melbourne to the Gulf of Carpentaria. They arrived in Menindee on 14 October 1860, crossing the Darling River at Kinchega Station.

Menindee Lakes have the capacity to hold three and a half times more water than Sydney Harbour and is seven and a half times the area. This makes the town of Menindee, on the banks of the tree-lined Darling River, an oasis in the outback.

Some 423 km2 of the lakes and their surrounds have been identified by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area (IBA) because it has supported up to 222,000 waterbirds, including over 1% of the world populations of freckled ducks, grey teals, pink-eared ducks, red-necked avocets, sharp-tailed sandpipers and red-capped plovers.

This is one of the finest freshwater fishing spots in New South Wales and the lakes and rivers are great for water sports too. Copi Hollow is an artificially constructed lake developed for speedboats, sailing, swimming and water.

A mecca for keen anglers and bird watchers Menindee is also a significant contributor to the nations' agriculture industry.

With a perfect climate and fertile soil, Menindee is home to some of the country's earliest ripening stone and citrus fruits. Home to the world-famous Menindee Seedless Grape the region has a rich history in the production of grapes and a variety of fruits and vegetables.

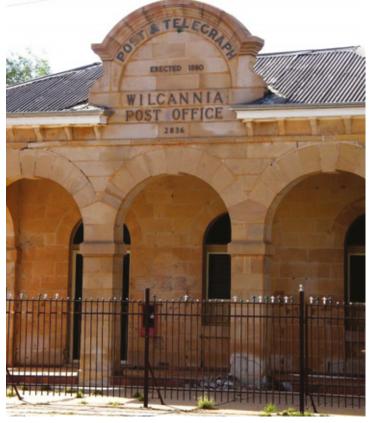


A Snapshot of Wilcannia









Founded in 1866 as a port on the upper Darling River, Wilcannia formed a base for European pastoral expansion into the region, previously occupied by its Aboriginal inhabitants, the Barkindji people. The name of the town is Aboriginal, reportedly meaning "a gap in the bank where the flood waters escape".

The traditional Aboriginal people have been calling the area in and around Wilcannia home for some 40,000 years. Since white settlement, the town has been filled with buildings constructed from locally quarried sandstone.

Wilcannia has a strong mining history, with both gold and opals discovered in the area. The township reached its height in the 1880s. In 1879 the Red Lion brewery (it is no longer standing) was built at the northern end of Reid Street. Its great claim to fame was that it was the first brewery which the famous beer baron Edmund Resch built in Australia. At this time Wilcannia became the third-largest port on the Darling River. In 1887, 222 steamers stopped there. The town was also at the centre of a number of coach routes which traversed Western New South Wales.





A Snapshot of White Cliffs







White Cliffs is widely considered to be the first commercial opal field in Australia. Opal was first found here in the 1880s but it wasn't until four kangaroo harvesters accidentally found some exceptionally good quality opal in 1889 that things really progressed. The first mining lease was lodged in 1890 and the town was established.

Today, White Cliffs is a vibrant town with a range of businesses run by entrepreneurs, artists, families, miners and professionals, as in the late 19th century when opal was discovered. Opal has been mined ever since.

Locals are friendly, quirky and welcoming. All have been drawn to White Cliffs from surprisingly diverse backgrounds and life experiences. White Cliffs is a town with an 'old' soul, immense sky and a colour palette that will take your breath away. It is synonymous with some of the world's best opal as well as opalised marine shells and bones. It is also the gateway to the Paroo Darling National Park which boasts a rich cultural and environmental history.

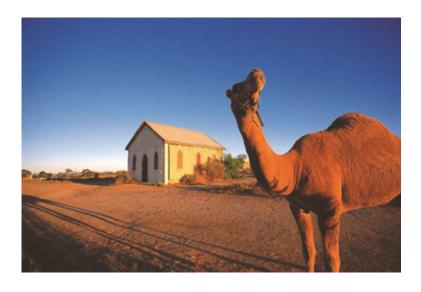




A Snapshot of Silverton

Established in 1880, Silverton was the area's largest township. Originally called Umberumberka after the nearby township from which it was considered an offshoot, Silverton was truly born in 1883 when its name was proclaimed and it received a post office.

Located 25 kilometres north-west of Broken Hill, Silverton was once a bustling home to 3,000 people, however residents began to leave in the 1880s when the nearby mines of Broken Hill surfaced and many took their houses with them.

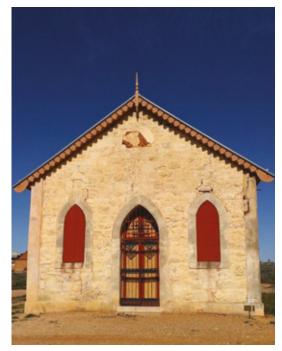


These days' less than 50 people call Silverton home and only a handful of buildings dot the landscape, however those building that do remain are a beautiful reminder of the town that once was and provide a backdrop to the countless films, TV series and commercials that are produced in the town every year. Silverton offers a thriving art scene, a beautiful landscape and an accessible way to learn about the rich heritage of the region.

















A Snapshot of Tibooburra

Explorer Charles Sturt was one of the first Europeans to visit the area in 1844. He spent six months trapped by drought at Depot Glen, south of Tibooburra. He then tried to travel north-west and was defeated by the desert. Burke and Wills also went through the area in 1861 on the journey north towards the Gulf of Carpentaria. It was the search for Burke and Wills that led to the opening up of the country for the pastoral industry.

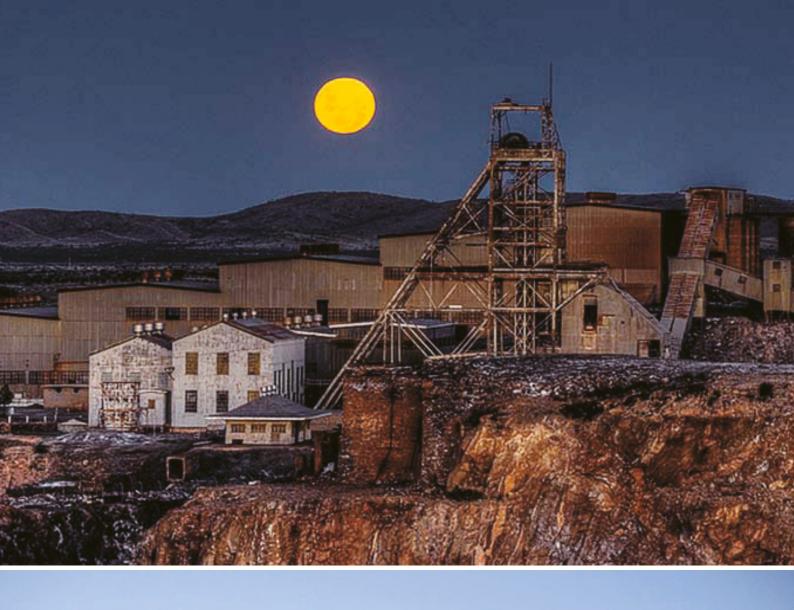
Following a gold rush to the Albert Goldfields (centred at nearby Milparinka), gold was found around Tibooburra in 1880.

Today the drive from Tibooburra to Cameron's corner, where NSW, SA and QLD meet takes visitors through a diverse landscape and onto the corner of the world's longest fence; the 5000km plus Dog Fence

















An Australian Government Initiative







