

Murray Region

Moama, Mathoura, Bunnaloo, Womboota & Caldwell

As the name suggests the Murray Region is located on the mighty Murray River, making the area a haven for anyone who loves the water. With two main townships and quaint surrounding villages the Murray Region is an ideal holiday location just hours from Melbourne. The area is steeped in history and is a great base from which to explore nearby regions, red gum forests and wetlands.



Murray Region at a glance

Towns and Villages: Moama, Mathoura, Bunnaloo, Womboota & Caldwell

Population: Moama - 5,119 Mathoura - 824

Main Industries : Tourism, Manufacturing, Timber, Sheep, Wheat, Rice and Viticulture

River: The Murray

Did you know?

Echuca - Moama is home to the oldest paddlesteamer in the world - the PS Adelaide built in 1866

Events

- February -** Riverboats Jazz Food and Wine Festival
- March -** Echuca Moama Autumn Harvest Festival
Mathoura Fishing Classic
- June -** Steam, Horse and Vintage Rally
- October -** Port of Echuca Heritage Steam Festival
- November -** Cadell Fair, Mathoura - Saturday before Melbourne Cup

Must See And Dos

- ✓ Discover the historic Echuca Wharf, an authentic working river port, and cruise the Murray River aboard an historic paddlesteamer.
- ✓ Take a peaceful cruise through the Barmah Wetlands, an area of international recognition. See the world's largest red gum forest and hundreds of types of birds including wading and migratory species.
- ✓ Check out the internationally important Gulpa Creek Reed Beds Bird Observatory.
- ✓ Experience the first class food and wine on offer at the many local restaurants and wineries.
- ✓ Witness the trials of drovers in days gone by in 'The Drover and Horse' Sculpture at Mathoura.



Echuca Moama Visitor Information Centre
2 Heygarth Street, Echuca Vic. 3564
Freecall: 1800 804 406
Website: www.Echucamoama.com



Mathoura Visitor Information Centre
Cobb Highway, Mathoura NSW 2710

Moama

Echuca and Moama are neighbouring towns separated by the Murray River, the border between Victoria and New South Wales. They have become a combined community aiming to make the area a desirable place to live and an interesting destination for visitors and both sides work together to this end. Each has a different history.

History

Moama, established in 1845 by James Maiden - ex-convict, punt owner, station manager, stock dealer, publican and post master - became a market, providing meat for miners at the Bendigo diggings. It was known then as Maiden's Punt. Big deals took place in Maiden's Junction Inn and for a time it was the busiest stock market in Australia. Maiden made a fortune supplying the Bendigo diggings and then lost it.

Three years later the village area was surveyed. Lots were put up for sale and the town was renamed Moama.

But its prosperity was short lived. When the gold petered out and the big flood of 1870 submerged it, Moama followed Maiden into obscurity.

Relocated to higher ground it rallied again with the arrival of the Deniliquin and Moama Railway in 1876 and the opening of the Iron Bridge across the Murray two years later.

Today, visitors are encouraged to wander around 'Old Moama' and the site of Maiden's Inn and punt crossing, located in Chanter Street, in Moama's east.

Echuca was founded by another ex-convict, Henry Hopwood, who established a commercial empire on the south bank of the Murray in 1853. That year marked the arrival of the first paddle steamer and Hopwood recognised the potential. He pressured the Government into providing a railway, which opened in 1864. Soon afterwards a port was established at the terminus and the river boats began transporting wool and other goods along the Murray-Darling and Murrumbidgee Rivers to the new railhead.

Attractions

The Historic Port Area in Echuca was once the largest inland port in Australia, with a 1.2 kilometre wharf built in 1865. Today, the Port of Echuca is an authentic working steam port where you can tread the boards on the huge redgum wharf and be taken back to an era when Echuca was once a bustling river port.

The Port is now home to the world's largest collection of paddle steamers. Many have been fully restored and offer daily cruises, which provide an insight into life on the river 100 years ago. Visitors can enjoy short trips, lunch and dinner cruises or overnight stays aboard the paddle steamers.

The historic Port area adjoining the wharf is like a living museum. Horse drawn carriages crunch gravel roadways lined with historic buildings, hotels, tearooms, a working blacksmith and woodturner, all adding to the character and atmosphere at the historic precinct.

With more than 50 eateries in Echuca-Moama, dining experiences are plentiful. Enjoy great shopping in big-name department stores, intimate gift shops and many cafes in the town-centre, as well as the unique shopping strip of historic High Street.

Surrounded by the mighty Murray River and bushland, Moama has a lot to offer visitors and residents alike, with impressive clubs, international bowling greens, championship golf course, cellar doors and outstanding tourist drives.



Mathoura

Mathoura is just 40km north of Echuca - Moama. It is a gateway to Australia's largest redgum forest and wetlands of international significance. It has arguably the best access in the region to the Murray River, with good dry weather roads and no high banks.

It began as a market garden and a pub on a drovers' track beside the Gulpa Creek in the mid - 1800s, and built itself as a timber source for the developing young nation of Australia. Today, it is a favoured destination for lovers of a gentle country lifestyle and those seeking peaceful holidays amid forests, waterways and a beautiful natural environment.

History

As the overlanders trekked Queensland cattle and sheep to Adelaide and Melbourne markets, the runs they passed through soon began to sprout services and settlements. Mathoura Station was one such run. It was taken up by Peter Stuckey in 1842 and comprised 60,000 acres.

Around 1853 a Yorkshireman named William Carter took over a rough pub known as Ward's Inn. Two years later he replaced the original slab inn with a brick building and named it "Redbank Inn" after the distinctive edge of the Cadell Fault on which it perched. (The Cadell Fault is a ridge running from Echuca to Deniliquin, formed when the land was thrust upwards by earthquakes perhaps 30,000 years ago).

The Cadell uplift diverted the Murray River's westward course which formerly ran close to Mathoura - look for undulations marking the river's old bed near the town. The wall of earth holding back water in flood times created new flood plains and a complex system of lakes and creeks, ideal conditions for the establishment of what is now the largest river red gum (*Eucalyptus Camaldulensis*) forest in Australia.

The Cobb Highway runs along the uplifted portion, up to 15 metres above land east of the fault, making it possible in some places to look directly over the canopy of trees growing on the lower level.

Mathoura's history owes much to the sleeper cutters, sawmill operators and charcoal producers who cut and processed the region's renowned timber.

Attractions

The collectively known Barmah-Millewa Forest covers more than 70,000 hectares and is the largest Redgum forest in Australia. Frequent flooding has created a vast mosaic of seasonal wetlands. The area is home to hundreds of plant, bird and animal species and is a great playground for visitors to explore.

The Murray and Edward Rivers and the Gulpa Creek, prized by anglers, are within 10km of Mathoura. The Gulpa Creek Reed Beds Bird Observatory is a world class bird watching facility, providing accessible viewing of exceptional birdlife, when the wetlands are flooded.

Experience one of the many forest walks and drives on offer, utilise the picnic sites and barbeque facilities available, go camping, canoeing, swimming, play golf or tennis, wander along the heritage walk, enjoy wine tasting or learn more about the region along the Murray Valley Trail.

Stop in at the Mathoura Visitor Information Centre to see the amazing 'Horse and Drover' sculpture. The centre also sells local wine and produce and houses a bank and library.



Accommodation



Magic Murray Houseboats

Cruising the Murray River is the ultimate way to relax. Experience the magic of the Murray River in your own floating home. Explore the Murray River, experience the rich pioneering past at the Historic Port of Echuca, enjoy food, wine, and country hospitality second to none.

Discover a wonderful climate and location that will reward you with a fantastic holiday.

Address: Deniliquin Street, Moama NSW 2731
Freecall: 1800 356 483
Phone: 03 5480 6099 **Fax:** 03 5480 6690
Email: magicmurray@aspensparks.com.au
Website: www.aspenparks.com.au

Accommodation



Maiden's Inn Holiday Park

Maiden's Inn Holiday Park is located on the banks of the Murray River and close to the historic Port of Echuca.

The twin towns of Echuca - Moama offer a diverse range of activities and year 'round events to entertain holiday makers of all ages.

Maiden's Inn offers a variety of holiday accommodation options from Caravan and Camping Sites through to Deluxe Spa Villas.

Address: Deniliquin Street, Moama NSW 2731
Freecall: 1800 356 801
Phone: 03 5480 9253 **Fax:** 03 5482 1732
Email: maidensinn@aspensparks.com.au
Website: www.aspenparks.com.au

Accommodation



Murray River Holiday Park

Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of Murray River Holiday Park.

Offering a diverse range of accommodations to suit all budgets - Caravan, Camping & Cabin accommodation. Located approximately 100 metres (walking distance) to Moama Bowling Club, V/Line bus terminal, shopping centre, restaurants, hotels or a 5 minute walk to the mighty Murray River.

Address: 2 Blair Street, Moama NSW 2731
Freecall: 1800 357 215
Phone: 03 5480 9899 **Fax:** 03 5480 9898
Email: murrayriver@aspensparks.com.au
Website: www.aspenparks.com.au

Accommodation



A Shady River Holiday Park

Just two and a half hours from Melbourne, located in the twin towns of Echuca - Moama.

A Shady River Holiday Park is situated on 10.5 hectares of natural bush and gardens. Offering Caravan, Camping and Cabin accommodation, A Shady River Holiday Park has something for everyone!

Experience the Murray - take a journey in a paddlesteamer, go fishing, canoeing or waterskiing.

Address: Merool Lane, Moama NSW 2731
Freecall: 1800 674 239
Phone: 03 5482 5500 **Fax:** 03 5480 9358
Email: shadyriver@aspensparks.com.au
Website: www.aspenparks.com.au

Accommodation



Yarraby Holiday Park

Yarraby Holiday Park provides guests with a magnificent holiday destination right on the Murray River. Offering Caravan, Camping, Cabin and Villa accommodation at great value rates. Yarraby Holiday Park the perfect environment to simply relax and enjoy life.

There is plenty to keep the kids entertained while Mum & Dad sit back on one of the well sized verandahs and enjoy a relaxing beverage with friends.

Address: 75 River Avenue, Echuca Vic. 3564
Freecall: 1800 222 052
Phone: 03 5482 1533 **Fax:** 03 5482 5809
Email: yarraby@aspensparks.com.au
Website: www.aspensparks.com.au

Accommodation



Rich River Holiday & Lifestyle Village

Rich River Holiday & Lifestyle Village is the perfect place for your next Victorian holiday. Just a brief stroll from the mighty Murray River & close to a popular boat ramp and fishing spot, our village is a short drive to the historic river port of Echuca.

The Village features an outdoor pool with shaded toddler pool, games room, undercover BBQ areas, playground and grassed sites. The Park's facilities and friendly, relaxing atmosphere mean that you can unwind from the moment you arrive. We offer a range of accommodation whether you're looking for a holiday for a couple or the whole family, there's truly something for everyone.

Address: Crescent Street, Echuca Vic. 3564
Phone: 03 5482 3658 **Fax:** 03 5480 2214
Email: info@richriver.net
Website: www.richriver.net

Accommodation



Cadell On The Murray Motel Resort

The only motel in Echuca - Moama right on the banks of the Murray! Relax, discover and enjoy our peaceful surrounds, great facilities and first class hospitality.

Address: Perricoota Road (PO Box 461), Moama NSW 2731
Phone: 03 5482 4500 **Email:** enquiries@cadellonthemurray.com
Fax: 03 5482 6863 **Website:** www.cadellonthemurray.com

Accommodation



Sportslander Motor Inn

Commence your "Long Paddock" experience enjoying country hospitality at The Sportslander Motor Inn. Offering spacious Queen, Family, 2 Bedroom and Luxury Spa Suites in a stunning garden setting. *Mention this ad. for "special rates"*

- Salt water Pool
- BBQs & Gazebos
- Opposite Shopping Centre
- Adjacent to Club

Address: 1 Perricoota Road, Moama NSW 2731
Phone: 03 54824366 **Email:** admin@sportslander.com.au
Fax: 03 54806467 **Website:** www.sportslander.com.au

Accommodation / Attractions



Border Inn Hotel

Fantastic open plan restaurant with beautiful el fresco dining areas. Public bar with full TAB facilities, TV's sky channel & Fox sports. Drive Bottle shop - Thirsty Camel. 24 room 3.5 star motel complex. 12 budget motel rooms available. Conference and Function room with all required equipment courtyard and bar.

Address: 19 - 21 Meninya Street, Moama NSW 2731
Phone: 03 5480 9966 **Email:** info@borderinn.com.au
Fax: 03 5482 5284 **Website:** www.borderinn.com.au

Accommodation

Bridges On Meninya Motel & Apartments

Modern facility with a variety of motel rooms, S/C 1 bedroom apartments & 2 bedroom S/C balcony spa apartments. Free wireless broadband internet & Austar, 82cm LCD TV, microwave, solar heated pool, grass recreation & BBQ area with bush setting.

Address: 38 Meninya Street, Moama NSW 2731
Phone: 03 5482 1885 **Email:** bridgesonmeninya@bigpond.com
Fax: 03 5480 0432 **Website:** www.bridgesonmeninya.com



Attractions

Chanter Estate Winery and Military Museum

Enjoy the ambience of this 100 year old church building that has been transformed into a tasting bar and cellar door sales. Historic commercial and military vehicle display. Open weekends, school & public holidays 10am - 4:30pm any other time by appointment please ring A/H 03 5480 7878

Address: Chanter Street, Moama NSW 2731
Phone: 03 5480 0334 **Fax:** 03 5480 0335
Website: www.chanterestate.com.au



Attractions

The Old School Winery & Meadery

Taste the romance of the past
 Distinctive handcrafted wines and meads (honey wines).
 Mead - Mulling, free wine tasting, pottery studio tea & coffee. OPEN DAILY.

Address: School Road, Wamboona NSW 2731
Phone: 03 5489 3249
Email: oscwinery@mcmedia.com.au



Attractions

Sharps Magic Movie House and Penny Arcade

On entering Sharps Magic Movie House and Penny Arcade your senses will be filled with the sounds of audiences laughing at the silent movies, penny's dropping into the antique penny arcade machines and the sumptuous smell of fudge being made in front of your eyes. We have over 30 flavours of fudge and tasting is free.

Phone: 03 5482 2361 **Address:** 43 Murray Esplanade, Echuca Vic. 3564
Email: smmhpa@bigpond.net.au **Website:** sharpsmoviehouse.com.au



Attractions

Echuca Heritage Sweet Company

Located near the historic Port of Echuca, the ECHUCA HERITAGE SWEET COMPANY offers only the finest quality chocolate and confectionery. Our range includes confectionery manufactured locally and around Australia by craftsmen confectioners using the finest ingredients.

Address: 606 High Street, Echuca Vic. 3564
Phone: 03 5480 6072 **Email:** lollies@echucaheritagesweetcompany.com.au
Website: echucaheritagesweetcompany.com.au



Attractions



Murray River Paddlesteamers

For those who are just passionate about steam the PS Emmylou offers daily cruises where you can let go of your worries and watch the world drift slowly by. Why not enjoy lunch or an evening cruise where you can sit back and enjoy a relaxing meal. For a unique experience, PS Emmylou also offers accommodated steaming with fine cuisine. One, two or three night cruises are available.

Address: 57 Murray Esplanade, Echuca Vic. 3564
Phone: 03 5482 5244
Email: info@emmylou.com.au
Website: www.murraypaddlesteamers.com.au

Attractions



Echuca Moama RSL & Citizens Club

- Suvla Bay Bistro and Corvettes Cafe • FREE Courtesy Bus (bookings essential) • NSW TAB and ClubKENO
- Outdoor Children's Playground • Indoor PlayStation Centre (FREE playing PS2/PS3 games) • Sports Bar with HUGE Plasma Screens • Takeaway Alcohol and Ice
- Open for Lunch and Dinner 7 Days
- Club Memberships

Open daily from 10am until late

Think! About your choices
 CALL GAMBLING HELP 1800 858 858
 www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au
 All information is correct at time of printing.

Address: Merool Lane (PO Box 41) Moama NSW 2731
Phone: 03 5482 6677 **Fax:** 03 5482 4162
Email: enquiries@rslmoama.com.au

Attractions



Kingfisher Cruises

Eco-tourism at its best. You will experience timeless, natural beauty and peace when gliding along the "Barmah Choke" on the Murray River. An area 25,000 years in the making.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Only 30 minutes drive from Echuca-Moama – departs from **Barmah Lakes Day Visitors Area.**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

Address: PO Box 62 Merrigum Vic. 3618
Phone: 03 5855 2855
Website: www.kingfishercruises.com.au



Long Paddock Audio Tour CD

Take a tour along the Long Paddock at your own pace. The Long Paddock Audio Tour CD is a great way to get to know the region. The 2 CD's are packed with local information, tales and stories both historical and current. Pick up a CD at one of the Visitor Information Centres along the route.

The Long Paddock also has a terrific range of merchandise available to remind you of your trip, including a DVD and stress cow!

For more information visit
 www.thelongpaddock.com.au