JUNDAH | STONEHENGE | WINDORAH



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Outback Queensland
Live Australia's story



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY:

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, whom have a deep understanding and attachment to land and waters of the Barcoo Shire region. We wish you all safe travels and protection, asking that you respect this land and its traditions, leaving country as you find it. Take photographs – leave footprints.

WELCOME

TO THE BARCOO SHIRE

Welcome to the heart of the Channel Country – a vast natural landscape spanning 61,974 square kilometres, just shy of Tasmania's size, yet home to around 300 residents. Discover three small outback towns brimming with big hearts and unforgettable charm.



***Front Cover**: Sophia Levy; **Page 2 & 3:** RLR Photography; **Page 4 & 5:** Anne-Maree Photography; **Page 6 & 7:** Keiran Lusk Photography; **Page 8 & 9:** Helen Commens; **Page 10 & 11:** Thomson River, Jundah; **Page 14 & 15:** Charmaine Batt.*

JUNDAH

A HIDDEN GEM ON THE THOMSON RIVER

Perched along the tranquil banks of the Thomson River, Jundah is a picturesque outback town where history, nature, and community spirit come together. Whether you're an adventurer, history buff, or someone seeking peace and quiet, Jundah offers something special for every traveller.

DID YOU KNOW?

The town's origins lie in supporting the cattle and sheep grazing industries that remain a backbone of the region today.



Timeline

1878
Jundah began as a township reserve

1903
Barcoo Shire established 3 March

1959
Electricity connected

1983
Television services arrived

1988
Automatic telephone exchange



MUST SEE ATTRACTIONS:

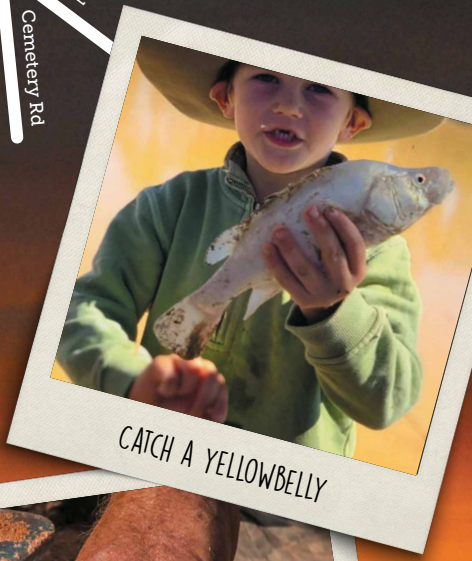
Settlers Nature Drive: A serene 7 km drive meandering along the Thomson River before branching off to take in areas beyond the township, showcasing local flora and fauna. Feeling the need for exercise, then walk or cycle the drive as it circles right back to town.

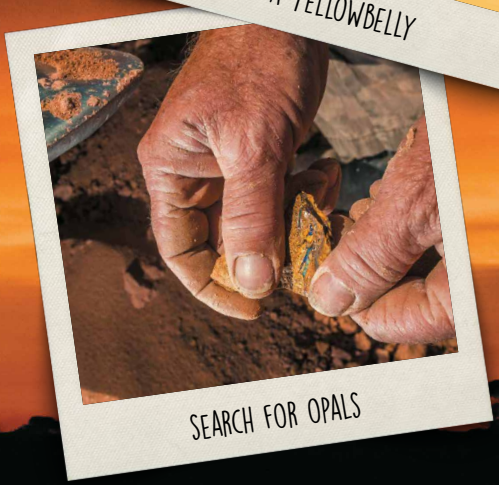
Welford National Park: 45km south southeast of Jundah. A national park since 1992, Welford covers 124,000 hectares of nature's diverse landscapes.

THINGS TO DO:

River Recreation: Try your luck catching yellowbelly or catfish in the Thomson River, a favourite pastime for locals and visitors alike, birdwatch or kayak the peaceful still waters to enjoy nature at its best.

Historical Discovery: Walk the town's informative pioneer trail, then take in the Shire's Museum to learn of Jundah's role and that of the region in the early development of the Channel Country.


CATCH A YELLOWBELLY


SEARCH FOR OPALS

1988
"Mario Star" a 60.74 carat black boulder opal discovered

1989
Mr Joe Arguranic finds the stunning "Galaxy" opal, 550 carats, worth $75K

1996
Treated water connected

2008
Barcoo Shire remains unchanged after amalgamations

2016
Mobile coverage was accessed

STONEHENGE

STONEHENGE: A WINDOW TO THE OUTBACK'S PAST AND SKY

Stonehenge, Queensland, may not have ancient standing stones, but this small outback town is steeped in its own unique history and charm. Known for its rugged landscapes, it's a place where visitors can connect with the beauty of the outback and the stories of those who came before.



DID YOU KNOW?

Stonehenge residents love a game of cricket! If you are lucky enough to visit during October and November, you may even catch a live game of Barcoo Big Bash! Ask around and feel free to join in!

Timeline

1884

John Lonergan, who pioneered Jundah from 1879, came to Stonehenge some years later and bought Byrnes' Hotel and Haylock's Store. In 1884, he built the Stonehenge Hotel.

1888

The Barcoo Divisional Board, set up under Queensland's 1879 Divisional Boards Act, met for the first time on 21 August 1888 at John Lonergan's Store in Stonehenge



MUST SEE ATTRACTIONS:

Stonehenge Rockpools:
Travel along the John Egan Pioneer Track and discover magnificent landscapes sculptured by nature into the most amazing rock formations over millions of years. If there has been local rain, talk to the Information Centre about our amazing rockpools!

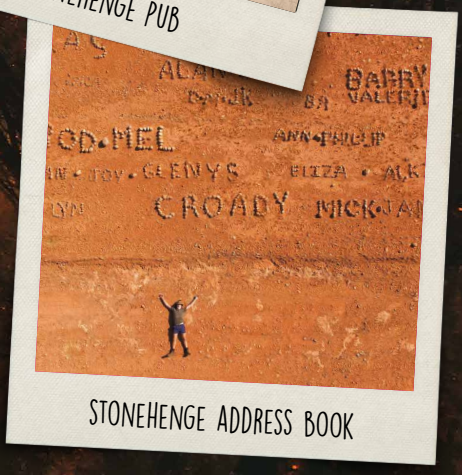
Stonehenge Hotel:
Enjoy true outback hospitality at this iconic watering hole, a great spot to meet the locals and hear their stories.

THINGS TO DO:

Leave your mark in the Stonehenge Address Book:
To sign the visitors book Stonehenge style, you write your name in stone directly beside the main road not far from town. This tradition started years ago by the then mailman - the rest is history! Take some time to read through the many names and places. Please remember if leaving your mark not to remove stones already in use.

Astronomy and Stargazing:
With its remote location and minimal light pollution, Stonehenge offers spectacular views of the night sky.

STONEHENGE PUB



STONEHENGE ADDRESS BOOK

1900
Stonehenge (Provisional) School was officially opened on the 3rd September 1900 with an enrolment of twenty four students

1959
Stonehenge Memorial Hall was officially opened on 6 June

1991
Queensland held its first Bronco Branding Competition at Stonehenge, run by Jimmy Nunn

2010
Community Centre and Library opened

WINDORAH

WINDORAH: GATEWAY TO THE CHANNEL COUNTRY

Nestled in the heart of the Channel Country, Windorah is a charming outback town that offers visitors a perfect mix of natural beauty, rich history, and iconic Australian experiences. Windorah is the Aboriginal word meaning "Big Fish" and is located 35km south of where the Thomson and Barcoo Rivers join to form the multi-channelled Cooper's Creek.

From here the mighty Cooper commences its epic journey towards Lake Eyre. Pushing through a mosaic of channels and flood plains that stretch outwards from its banks for up to 100kms, Cooper's Creek in flood is surely the beating heart of the Channel Country.

DID YOU KNOW?

Windorah P&C hold the Annual Yellowbelly hunt every year May Day weekend, this is a major fundraiser for the school and its families.

Timeline

1845
Cooper's Creek named by Charles Sturt

1880
Windorah was surveyed and gazetted as a town

1888
Windorah State School first opened

1943
Flying Doctor Services started clinics in the Town Hall

1949
Cooper's Creek bridge constructed



MUST SEE ATTRACTIONS:

Sando's Sandhills:
Just 12 km from town, these stunning red sandhills are perfect for sunset photography, sandboarding, or simply soaking up the breathtaking views. *(Please note these are on private property so please leave everything as you find it)*

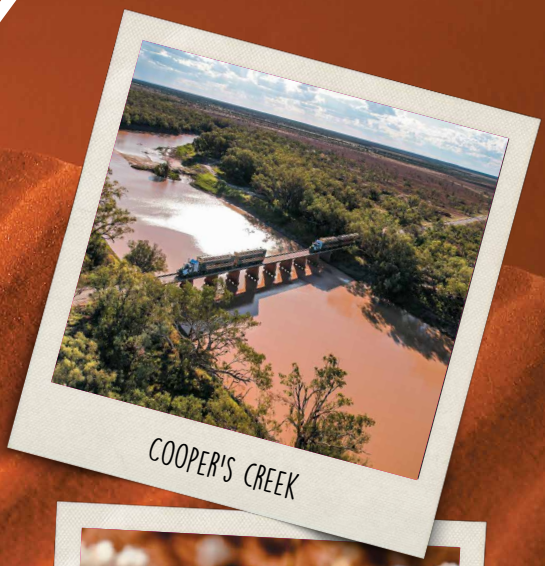
Channel Country Landscape:
Marvel at the intricate web of channels that come alive during flood seasons, creating a unique and ever-changing ecosystem.

Historical Landmarks:
Explore Windorah's heritage, including remnants of the area's pioneering days and its connection to the legendary Cooper's Creek.

THINGS TO DO:

International Yabby Races:
Join in the fun of this quirky and competitive annual event, held every September. A true outback experience.

Fishing & Birdwatching:
Cast a line in the nearby Cooper's Creek or explore the area for native bird species like the brolga and black kite.


COOPER'S CREEK


WILDFLOWERS

1974
Record flood in Cooper's Creek 8.48m

1995
Large scale community protest stopped cotton growing and irrigation on Cooper's Creek

2009
Solar Farm commissioned

2016
Mobile phone coverage and fibre optic to Windorah



ICONIC BARCOO SHIRE EXPERIENCES

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF QUEENSLAND'S CHANNEL COUNTRY

Barcoo Shire is a treasure trove of unique outback adventures and unforgettable moments. From breathtaking natural wonders to quirky local events, here are some iconic experiences that will make your visit truly special.

THE CORNER OF KNOWLEDGE PROJECT

The Corner of Knowledge project in Windorah is an initiative of the Windorah Development Board and is focused on preserving and celebrating the rich local history of Windorah. It showcases historic precincts and highlights key individuals who have contributed to the development of the community. The display is to share with and educate visitors and locals about the area's past and honour the characters and events that have shaped its identity.

WITNESS THE RED SANDHILLS OF THE BARCOO

Feel the crunch of red sand beneath your feet as you climb the towering hills just outside Windorah or within Welford National Park. Perfect for sunset photography, this natural marvel offers stunning panoramic views and an unmatched sense of serenity.

CAST A LINE IN COOPER'S CREEK

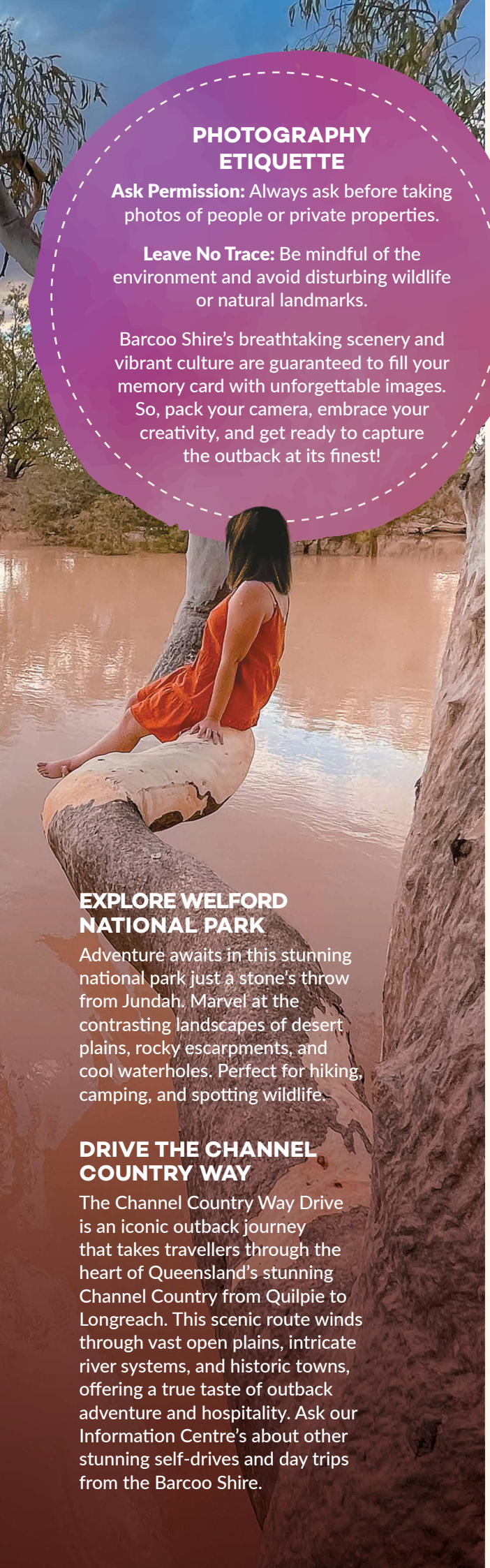
Known for its abundant fish and tranquil waters, Cooper's Creek is a haven for fishing enthusiasts. Relax under the shade of coolabah trees while trying to catch yellowbelly or simply enjoy the peaceful flow of this iconic waterway.

STARGAZE UNDER UNMATCHED OUTBACK SKIES

The skies of Barcoo Shire are a stargazer's dream. With minimal light pollution, the Milky Way shines brightly, offering unparalleled views of constellations, shooting stars, and even planets. Whether you're in Stonehenge, Jundah, or Windorah, the stars are always ready to dazzle.

WALK AMONG WILDFLOWERS AND WILDLIFE

Barcoo Shire comes alive with colour during wildflower season. Explore the Native Flora or spot native birds, kangaroos, and emus as you venture through this unique ecosystem.



PHOTOGRAPHY ETIQUETTE

Ask Permission: Always ask before taking photos of people or private properties.

Leave No Trace: Be mindful of the environment and avoid disturbing wildlife or natural landmarks.

Barcoo Shire's breathtaking scenery and vibrant culture are guaranteed to fill your memory card with unforgettable images. So, pack your camera, embrace your creativity, and get ready to capture the outback at its finest!

EXPLORE WELFORD NATIONAL PARK

Adventure awaits in this stunning national park just a stone's throw from Jundah. Marvel at the contrasting landscapes of desert plains, rocky escarpments, and cool waterholes. Perfect for hiking, camping, and spotting wildlife.

DRIVE THE CHANNEL COUNTRY WAY

The Channel Country Way Drive is an iconic outback journey that takes travellers through the heart of Queensland's stunning Channel Country from Quilpie to Longreach. This scenic route winds through vast open plains, intricate river systems, and historic towns, offering a true taste of outback adventure and hospitality. Ask our Information Centre's about other stunning self-drives and day trips from the Barcoo Shire.

OUTBACK PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS: CAPTURE THE MAGIC OF BARCOO SHIRE

Barcoo Shire's rugged beauty and vast landscapes make it a dream destination for photographers. Whether you're a professional or simply enjoy snapping shots on your phone, these tips will help you capture the essence of the outback:

GOLDEN HOUR MAGIC

The best times to shoot are during the golden hours—just after sunrise and before sunset. The soft, warm light adds depth and richness to landscapes.

Tip: *Arrive early to scout the perfect spot and frame your shot as the light changes.*

EMBRACE THE NIGHT SKY

Barcoo Shire's minimal light pollution creates an unparalleled canvas for astrophotography. The Milky Way, Southern Cross, and shooting stars are waiting to be captured.

Tip: *Use a tripod and a long exposure setting to bring out the details of the stars.*

INCLUDE THE LOCALS

Whether it's a friendly kangaroo, a wedge-tailed eagle in flight, or the vibrant characters at a local pub, photographing the region's people and wildlife tells a richer story of your visit.

Tip: *Always approach wildlife respectfully and use a zoom lens to avoid disturbing animals.*

PLAY WITH SHADOWS AND SILHOUETTES

The stark contrasts of the outback create incredible opportunities for shadow play. Try capturing a lone tree silhouetted against a glowing sunset or the dramatic shadows cast by the sandhills.

Tip: *Adjust your exposure to highlight the outlines and let the background light create drama.*

REFLECT THE WATERWAYS

When the Channel Country's rivers and creeks flow, they transform the landscape into a vibrant oasis. Reflections of the sky and surrounding scenery in the water can create stunning compositions.

Tip: *Use a polarizing filter to reduce glare and enhance colours in your water shots.*

TELL A STORY WITH YOUR SHOTS

From campfire moments under the stars to outback events, capture the unique experiences that define Barcoo Shire. Aim for a mix of landscapes, people, and candid moments to create a well-rounded photo collection.

Tip: *Look for movement and emotion to bring your photos to life.*

EVENTS

APRIL
Jundah Horse and Motorbike Sports

MAY
Windorah Yellowbelly Hunt
(Labour Day Long Weekend)

JULY
Jundah Camel Races
Windorah Bronco Branding, motorbike and horse gymkhana

AUGUST
Windorah Stockmen's Challenge, Rodeo, Campdraft
Stonehenge Bushman's Carnival

SEPTEMBER
Windorah International Yabby Races
(the Wednesday before Birdsville Races every year)

OCTOBER
Jundah Spring Fling
(October Long weekend, Horse racing, fashion and fun)

NOVEMBER
Barcoo Big Bash
(20/20 style cricket in Stonehenge)



For more information on all events held within the Barcoo Shire please visit our Events Page
www.visitbarcoo.com.au/events



FEATURED EVENTS

JUNDAH CAMEL RACES

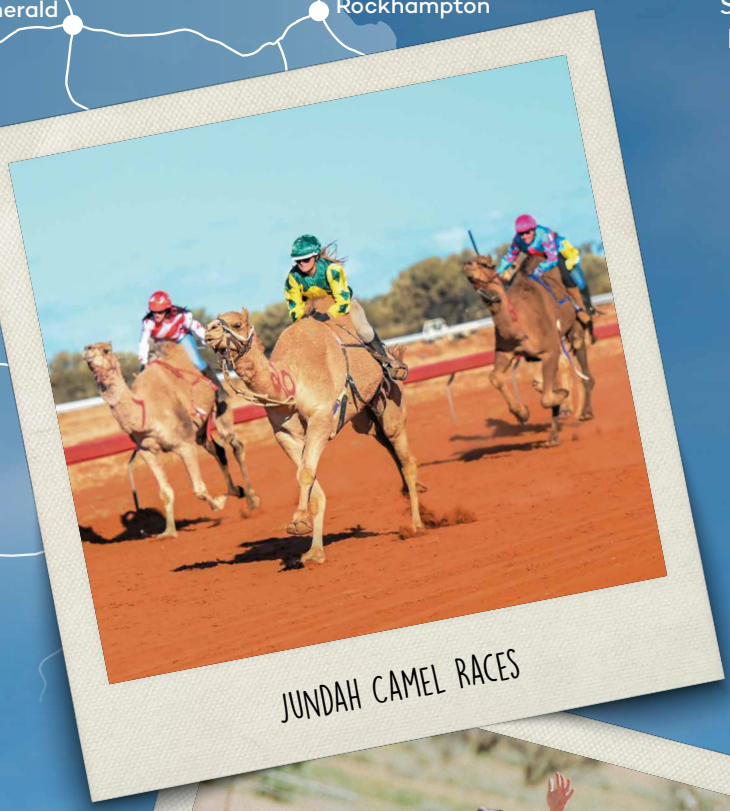
Kick off the Outback Camel Trail in Jundah! The Jundah Camel Races are an exciting new addition to the Barcoo Shire's events calendar. This unique event brings together locals and visitors for a day of fun, excitement, and unforgettable entertainment. Set against the stunning backdrop of Queensland's Channel Country, the races celebrate the adventurous spirit and rich heritage of the outback.

STONEHENGE BUSHMAN'S CARNIVAL

Stonehenge hosted the inaugural Queensland Bronco Branding competition in 1991. Bronco branding is an Australian sport created to replicate the traditional methods of branding cattle in the bush. The Stonehenge annual 3-day event held in August, includes Team Penning, Rodeo, Horse and Bike Gymkhana, Bronco Branding and Stockman's Challenge. A great weekend for young and old!

WINDORAH INTERNATIONAL YABBY RACES

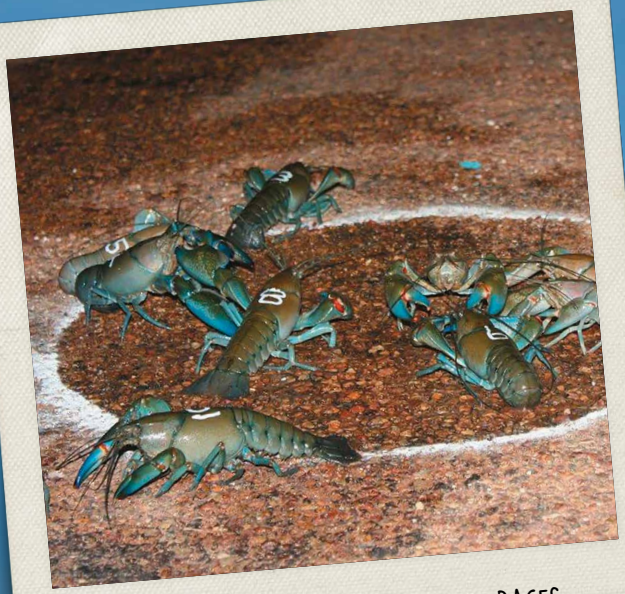
Get trackside the Wednesday before Birdsville Races in the main street of downtown Windorah. Form a syndicate with your mates, 'buy' an auctioned yabby and try your luck in one of the 4 iconic races.



JUNDAH CAMEL RACES



STONEHENGE BUSHMAN'S CARNIVAL



WINDORAH INTERNATIONAL YABBY RACES

DIRECTORY

HEALTHCARE

EMERGENCY..... 000

NURSING ADVICE 24/7
.....13 HEALTH

JUNDAH CLINIC
Jundah Primary Health Centre
(PHC). Hospital Road, Jundah
P: 4658 6500 | F: 4658 6599

STONEHENGE CLINIC*
Located at Stonehenge
Community Centre.
8 Bulford Street, Stonehenge
P: 4658 5857 | F: 4658 5859

WINDORAH CLINIC
Windorah Primary Health Centre
(PHC). 25 Cecil Street, Windorah
P: 4656 6100 | F: 4656 6199

LONGREACH
Longreach Hospital
P: 4658 4700 | F: 4658 4759

ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE – CHARLEVILLE BASE*
RFDS Medical Emergency/
Consultation
(1300 MY RFDS) | 1300 697 337
Reception/Appointment: 4656 5900

**Contact Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) Charleville Base for appointments. Only open on days RFDS flies in.*

POLICE

EMERGENCY..... 000

JUNDAH QGAP
19 Dickson Street
P: 4652 5113
E: jundah.station@police.qld.gov.au

WINDORAH QGAP
12 Maryborough Street
P: 4652 5121
E: windorah.station@police.qld.gov.au

LONGREACH POLICE
97 Galah St, Longreach
P: 4652 5200

AIR SERVICES

REX REGIONAL EXPRESS
www.rex.com.au | 13 17 13

POST OFFICE

Windorah.....4656 3155
Jundah 4658 6270

JUNDAH

JUNDAH CARAVAN PARK
Dickson Street
Manager: 4658 6166

JUNDAH HOTEL
8-12 Dickson Street
P: 4658 6166 | F: 4658 6166

JUNDAH ROADHOUSE
24 Dickson Street
(24 hour fuel)
P: 0418 500 218

SMILEY'S TRANSPORT
Jundah QLD 4736
P: 0429 420 169

STONEHENGE

STONEHENGE HOTEL
11 Stratford Street
P: 4658 5944 | F: 4658 5895
E: stonehengehotelqld@gmail.com

WINDORAH

WESTERN STAR HOTEL
15 Albert Street
P: 4656 3166 | M: 0429 277 345
F: 4656 3103 | UHF 40
E: admin@westernstarhotel.biz
www.westernstarhotel.com.au

WINDORAH CARAVAN PARK
1 Albert Street
No bookings taken
P: 4656 3063

WINDORAH OUTBACK SHOP
16 Albert Street
(Fuel available)
P: 4656 3145

MERVOS SERVO WINDORAH
3 Albert Street
P: 0427 563 143



TRAVEL TIPS

UHF AND MOBILE COVERAGE

- Jundah – UHF Repeater Channels: Duplex 3, 4 & 8. Telstra Mobile Coverage (in town).
- Windorah – UHF Repeater Channels: Duplex 1, 6 & 8. Telstra Mobile Coverage (in town).
- Stonehenge – UHF Repeater Channels: Duplex 4 & 6. Telstra Mobile Coverage (in town).

SHARING THE ROAD

- Tell someone your travel plans and keep in regular contact. Use Free WIFI at our Information Centres.
- Telstra 4G is the only phone service available.
- If possible, travel with other vehicles.
- Check current road conditions and closures. See Information Centres for up to date road reports.
- Wildlife and stock are often more active early morning and late afternoon, avoid travelling during these times if possible.
- Birds of prey sometimes feed on roadkill, slow down on approach to allow time for the bird to get airborne.
- When a road train or larger vehicle is approaching you, slow down and if possible, identify a safe place to stop and pull right off the road to give them the room they need to pass. Please be aware of soft edges after rain.
- Heavy vehicles and road trains generally use UHF channel 40.
- Always drive to conditions.
- Dust limits your visibility. Use caution on dirt roads.

OTHER TRAVEL TIPS

- Carry extra water.
- In the event of a breakdown or emergency do not leave your vehicle. Radio or phone for help and wait for assistance to arrive.
- Check your spare tyre.
- Calculate distances for re-fuelling purposes.
- Carry communications e.g. UHF Radio/Sat phones/Personal location devices.



WEATHER

Temperatures fluctuate from 0 to above 45 degrees throughout the year. Please check BOM Sites and the Information Centres in our shire for updated weather and road reports.

Road conditions and road closures change quickly. Be aware of rising creeks and channels.

Always carry additional water and be aware of sun safety.



WINDORAH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

7 Maryborough St, Windorah Q 4481
Phone (07) 4656 3063
windorahinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au

STONEHENGE INFORMATION CENTRE

9 Stratford St, Stonehenge Q 4730
Phone (07) 4651 8101
stonehengeinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au

JUNDAH INFORMATION CENTRE

11 Dickson Street Jundah Q 4736
Phone (07) 4658 6930
jundahinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Barcoo
SHIRE COUNCIL

www.visitbarcoo.com.au
tourism@barcoo.qld.gov.au