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David Woodward
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waterways are a great way to get active
be swept away with the stunning vistas
local produce
flora & fauna of all shapes and sizes
WITHIN THE TAMWORTH REGION

The Tamworth region has a huge spectrum of outdoor activities including beautifully landscaped gardens, parks and major water reservoirs where you can take some time out and enjoy the natural splendour that surrounds you. Regardless of whether you are in one of the local town parks or the nearby national parks or state forests, you will be sure to be swept away with the stunning vistas. The many recreational facilities across the region offer a plethora of activities including water sports like power boating, sailing and water-skiing, as well as bushwalking, fishing, picnic areas and camping amenities.

Nature lovers can take delight in the abundance of flora and fauna of all shapes and sizes that can be seen elsewhere in Australia. Budding botanists and animal lovers can locate specific species on the pull out map included in this guide to its bird routes. The bird routes consist of 36 sites along a 180km corridor. Most of the sites are part of old droving roads known as Travelling Stock Routes with many of them signposted for easy reference. There are more than 230 species of birds seen in the area, with the endangered Regent Honeyeater found in Garnons, Barraba, one of the species most sought after by twitchers.

Flora and fauna of Australia's favourite wildlife such as kangaroos, wallabies, wombats and platypus through to endangered or threatened flora and fauna that can be seen elsewhere in Australia. The many national parks or state forests, you will be sure to be swept away with the stunning vistas. The many recreational facilities across the region offer a plethora of activities including water sports like power boating, sailing and water-skiing, as well as bushwalking, fishing, picnic areas and camping amenities.

Nature trails can take delight in the abundance of outdoor activities on offer across the Tamworth region. Stretching from Barraba to Manilla and into Tamworth, Bendemeer and Nundle, the Tamworth region encompasses an area three times the size of the Sydney basin or just over 9,000sq km.

This guide highlights the range of activities that you can undertake: bushwalking, birdwatching, fishing, enjoying mother nature at its best and getting more familiar with our flora and fauna.

The region is known among bird watchers and years of research led to the production of a comprehensive guide to bird routes. The bird route consists of 36 sites along a 180km corridor. Most of the sites are part of old droving roads known as Travelling Stock Routes with many of them signposted for easy reference. There are more than 230 species of birds seen in the area, with the endangered Regent Honeyeater found in Garnons, Barraba, one of the species most sought after by twitchers.

Forming almost half of the popular driving route The Freeplains Way, the Tamworth region is rich in gardens, zoetis, quartz, jasper and even gold where locals and visitors alike can take part in a little fossicking of their own. Designated as State Route 96, The Freeplains Way travels along the western slope of the New England plateau passing through Barraba before crossing into the Gwydir Shire and onto Inverell and Glen Innes. There are details in this guide about other noteworthy geological sites in the area related to a major crustal fault running through the district.

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Flora and Fauna -

Flora and fauna 2

Natural to or characteristic of a specific people or place; native; indigenous

The Tamworth region.

One of Australia's favourite native animals, the honeyeater and Boronia Ruppi.

There are over 1030 species of plants that have been listed in the Tamworth region and find it a useful resource to plan your outdoor activities. Please be sure to wear the most suitable type of clothing for the activity.

The Tamworth region has low humidity. The climate varies from month to month with the highest mean rainfall of 82mm in April. Cold temperatures are evident across the region but the mean temperatures decrease as the altitude increases.

The Tamworth region has low humidity. The landscape rises from the floodplains off the Peel Valley at Tamworth with an altitude of 255m at Niangala to 1300m at Niangala.

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Visitors have the opportunity to get up close to our furry friends by walking quietly and being patient.

One of Australia’s favourite mammals, the platypus, is often seen in the Manilla district with their burrows in the banks of the Manilla River.

There are over 1030 species of plants that have been identified in the Tamworth Region.

### Naturally Relaxed in the Tamworth Region

Take a step back, unwind and get back to nature in any of the recreational areas spread across the Tamworth region. This list is a directory of the parks and gardens in each township.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Barraba</td>
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<td><strong>Town Parks &amp; Gardens</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia Day Park, Queen Street</td>
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<td>Barraba Recreation Ground, Mandela Street</td>
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<td>O’Meara Park, Queen Street</td>
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<td>Rotary Park, Queen Street</td>
<td>Railway Park, Queen Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Forests, Reserves &amp; Recreational Areas</strong></td>
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<td>Ironbark Nature Reserve - East of Barraba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linton Nature Reserve - Near Barraba</td>
<td>Mount Kaputar National Park* - Near Barraba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Kaputar National Park* - Near Barraba</td>
<td>Split Rock Dam - North of Manilla</td>
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<td><strong>Barraba</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Manilla</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Town Parks &amp; Gardens</strong></td>
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<td>Arthur Street Reserve, Arthur Street</td>
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<td>Federation Park, Namoi Street/River Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Showgrounds, River Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willows Parade Reserve, Willows Parade</td>
<td>Railway Park, Queen Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Forests, Reserves &amp; Recreational Areas</strong></td>
<td>Barraba</td>
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<td>Attunga State Forest*</td>
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<td>Dinawirndi State Forest*</td>
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<td>Lake Keepit State Park*</td>
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<td>Somerton CCR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warrabah National Park*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watsons Creek Reserve &amp; SCA</td>
<td>Barraba Recreation Ground, Mandela Street</td>
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<td><strong>Nundle</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Town Parks &amp; Gardens</strong></td>
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<td>Captain Cook Park, Jenkins Street</td>
<td>Barraba Recreation Ground, Mandela Street</td>
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<td>Nundle Recreation Ground, Oakville Street</td>
<td>Nundle Recreation Ground, Oakville Street</td>
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<td>Oakville Park, Oakville Street</td>
<td>Railway Park, Queen Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheba Dam, Barry Road/Oakville Road*</td>
<td>Railway Park, Queen Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swing Cress Reserve, River Road</td>
<td>Railway Park, Queen Street</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These are just a selection of parks and gardens in each township.

Naturally Relaxed 3

*Those with an asterisk are major destinations of the region and there is further information about it in this publication.

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(2) Tertiary lavas and landforms

Turn right back onto the Bundarra Road and continue for approximately 3km where a number of hills with flat tops can be seen on the right. These mesas-like hills are common in the Barraba area where they have formed as a result of erosion processes occurring hand in hand with later weathering and shifting water courses. These land forms were eroded up to 55 million years ago. Gravels were scoured into the valleys and transported by the rivers to the sea.AGR

(3) Tertiary lavas and landforms (cont.)

Return to the turn off to the Woodsreef Common picnic and parking area and travel to the bottom of the gravel road to the grassy flat on the banks of Ironbark Creek. There are camping areas here, and nearby Ironbark and Nangahrah Creeks.

(4) The Peel Fault

The Peel Fault is a very prominent north-south striking structure which has been uplifted to 650 meters above sea level in the region of the present town. Rocks above the fault are flat lying and those below are tilted up to 60 degrees. The fault is related to the formation of the Barraba Volcanics, a period of activity between about 85 and 70 million years ago. This is the most prominent feature in the Barraba area.

The Peel Fault is a major geological feature which has influenced the development of the town of Barraba. It has created a series of ridges and valleys which are evident in the landscape today. The fault is a major boundary between two very different geological units.

(5) Further along the Bundarra Road

The Bundarra-Bylong Fault is a major north-south striking fault which trends towards the town of Bundarra. This fault is related to the formation of the Barraba Volcanics, a period of activity between about 85 and 70 million years ago. The fault is a major boundary between two very different geological units.

(6) Woodford Common

Return to the turn off to the Woodford Common picnic and camping area and travel to the bottom of the gravel road to the grassy flat on the banks of Ironbark Creek. There are interesting aspects of wildlife and well-groomed foot tracks which have been formed as a result of the erosion processes occurring hand in hand with later weathering and shifting water courses. These land forms were eroded up to 55 million years ago. Gravels were scoured into the valleys and transported by the rivers to the sea.AGR
prominent area to see Regent Honeyeaters

The picnic area leads to a number of good bird watching sites or you can also enter the Forest through loose wires in fence.

Naturally Relaxed 5

Cedar Park - Burundi Avenue
Chauvel Park - Waree Drive
Cobbold Park - Anne Street
Electra Park - Susanne Street
Hyman Park - Robert Street
Karin Park - Coromandel Avenue
Keale Park - Milfoil Street
LEEP Park - Cabuda Street
Loo Park - Woora Street
Oak Park - Coronated Street
One Tree Hill -باردويلStreet/Reservoir Street
Park - Kukukina Street
Park - Kurringar Street/Bell Close
Park - Suzanne Street
Park - Woolmosa Drive/Kuranga Close
Mukka Avenue/Ninja Court/Nonnos Crescent
Park - Workworth Place
Park - Karoo Street
Pine Park - Edward Street
Reservoir - Bryon Street
Reserve - Hillier Road
Reserve - Otta Street
Reserve - Wilga Place/Yarranga Place/Yarranga Close/
Nandoo Place/Mirrilla Street
Scull Park - Belmore Street/Park Street
Scully Park - Belmore Street/Bourne Street
Wilga Park - Wilbur Street

Longyard
Berriga Park - Cranigland Place/Glen Alpha Close/Strafford Close
Park - Colh Co Circuit
Park - Sunbird Road
Park - The Retreat
Reserve - Brindley Road
Reserve - Greg Norman Drive
Reserve - The Savage

Kingswood
Kingwood Park - Kingswood Drive/Helmreich Drive/
Pigeon Lane
Reserve - Colwood Road
Reserve - Hermit Road/3 Pages Lane
Recently Released

Cobbold
Mort Park - Panorama Road/Mystere Avenue
Myt Park - Melrose Avenue/Myl Street
Myty Park - Myty Street
Park - Whildon Crescent
Reserve - Altona Place
Reserve - Wemkong Drive
Village Park - Campbell Road

Cobbold
Borangi Park - Craigends Place/Glen Alpha Close/Strattford Place
Park - Cobb & Co Circuit
Park - Sunbird Road
Park - The Retreat
Reserve - Brindley Road
Reserve - Greg Norman Drive
Reserve - The Savage

Kingswood
Kingwood Park - Kingswood Drive/Helmreich Drive/
Pigeon Lane
Reserve - Colwood Road
Reserve - Hermit Road/3 Pages Lane
Recently Released
and mudstones and claystones occur on the eastern side of a regional-scale fault while on the other side the rocks dip in the opposite direction. The thin, white volcanic ash beds and layers, and minor folding of the beds near the top of the eastern and of the bath show these rocks were deposited well offshore from a volcanic island chain which shed ash and sediment into the surrounding seas. The gases and heat from the Earth’s core have slowly heated and altered ancient seawater fossil remains. This rock unit is still being broken down at the road through the same, ancient marine sedimentary and volcanic deposits that formed jasper and manganese- rich deposits that formed jasper and manganese-oxides. Some of the nearby manganese deposits are associated with the semi-precious stone rhodonite. Follow the road to the park from Manilla is sealed for the first 15 km with many rapids rated at grade 3 (more difficult than grade 2), providing a challenging grade 4 (most difficult) challenge for experienced canoeists. It has carved an impressive gorge through the Nandewar Range and has a documented over 350 million years. Its presence is marked by a dramatic change from rolling hills to steep topography. The next few kilometres show these rocks were deposited 300 million years ago, in a sea which lay to the east of the continent. Distinctive fossil imprints of the 360 million year old Late Devonian plant fossil Leptophloeum australiae are locally common in the mudstones of the region. For over 350 million years it has slowly heated and altered ancient seawater fossil remains. This rock unit is still being broken down at the road through the same, ancient marine sedimentary and volcanic deposits that formed jasper and manganese-rich deposits that formed jasper and manganese-oxides. Some of the nearby manganese deposits are associated with the semi-precious stone rhodonite. Follow the road to the park from Manilla is sealed for the first 15 km with many rapids rated at grade 3 (more difficult than grade 2), providing a challenging grade 4 (most difficult) challenge for experienced canoeists. It has carved an impressive gorge through the Nandewar Range and has a documented over 350 million years. Its presence is marked by a dramatic change from rolling hills to steep topography. The next few kilometres show these rocks were deposited 300 million years ago, in a sea which lay to the east of the continent. Distinctive fossil imprints of the 360 million year old Late Devonian plant fossil Leptophloeum australiae are locally common in the mudstones of the region. For over 350 million years it has slowly heated and altered ancient seawater fossil remains. This rock unit is still being broken down at the road through the same, ancient marine sedimentary and volcanic deposits that formed jasper and manganese-rich deposits that formed jasper and manganese-oxides. Some of the nearby manganese deposits are associated with the semi-precious stone rhodonite. Follow the road to the park from Manilla is sealed for the first 15 km with many rapids rated at grade 3 (more difficult than grade 2), providing a challenging grade 4 (most difficult) challenge for experienced canoeists. It has carved an impressive gorge through the Nandewar Range and has a documented over 350 million years. Its presence is marked by a dramatic change from rolling hills to steep topography. The next few kilometres show these rocks were deposited 300 million years ago, in a sea which lay to the east of the continent. Distinctive fossil imprints of the 360 million year old Late Devonian plant fossil Leptophloeum australiae are locally common in the mudstones of the region.
(6) Road cutting on the edge of Dungowan (Stop at cutting furthest from village)

GFS-AMS 332306E 654329N; GDA 332305E 654424N
This road cutting occurs in altered basalt, white chert, and grey sandstone which are cut by numerous small faults. The sandstone has been affected by the serpentine fault zone, thereby causing the consolidated rocks and veins of quartz and grey sandstone to have formed during the alteration. Minor clay faults have cut through the rocks in this cutting evident as an area of dark clay, partially covered surface, and several of which show discoloration. The direction of ease of movement of your hand over the rocks is the direction the fault last moved in. Most road cuttings between here and Stop 5 show variations in rock types and should not be treated as an accurate guide to print quality.

(7) Road cutting near houses

GFS-AMS 332170E 652777N; GDA 332170E 652796N
This cutting shows steeply dipping, bedded allovase allotrobus and mudstones of the Tamworth Belt. Numerous graded beds are present that are a product of sand, silt and clay being rapidly dropped into still water. These rocks are considered a diagnostic feature.

(8) Road cutting in mudstone and siltstone

GFS-AMS 332308E 652695N; GDA 332308E 652712N
Similar to those rocks seen at Stop 7, the graded beds are of the same age however dip steeply rather than shallowly as at the previous stop which has been caused by major faults at the same age however dip steeply rather than shallowly as at the previous stop which has been caused by major faults nearby in the vicinity. The cutting also includes some distinctive green mudstones which are unique to these rocks and are considered a diagnostic feature.

(9) Road cuttings in conglomerate

GFS-AMS 332307E 652697N; GDA 332306E 652997N
The conglomerate exposed in the road cuttings on either side of the road is one of the oldest and most unique rocks in the region. The pebbles and mud which comprise the rocks was introduced into the early oceanic crust by means of deep under ground and limestones from close to shore. The pebbles and mud which comprise the rocks were brought up by granites which crystallised from the shallow ocean close to the continental shelf onto the deep ocean basin, this is not the case for similar pebbles and mud which comprise the rocks which were brought up by deep sea volcanics. The conglomerate has travelled in a southerly direction along the eastern edge of the Tamworth Belt.

Geological tour 3

Marten axis - Some aspects of the geological history of the Marten axis can be seen heading east from Marten towards Wollombi Creek.

The tour commences in Late Devonian marine sandstones and mudstones of the Tamworth Belt and passes across the Peel Fault into serpentinite and deep-water oceanic silts and chalks of the Central Block. The tour is completed within the Bundarra Granite, having passed through a zone of rocks showing thermal baking from the granite's emplacement.

(1) Late Devonian, steeply dipping, bedded allovase allotrobus Geological Touring 30

NAME TRAILS OF TAMWORTH REGION

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The picnic area leads to a number of good bird watching sites or you can also enter the Forest through loose wires in fence east represent both increasing distance from land and/or products of the ocean which deepened away from the \( 800 \) million years old.

The cutting shows some excellent outcrop of red and pink coarse-grained volcanic rock types. Nearby cuttings show accompanying the nearby Peel Fault.

On the eastern side of the Peel Fault, these rocks are deep Consultants and investigators have surmised that show fi
deep water. The enclosing conglomerates and sandstones show thin, white ignited mosses that indicate forested environments. Tra
to the northwest of this stop comprise several huge igneous rock masses that suggest they slipped off the edge of a steep-sided volcanic island chain to the west.

Many of the outcrops at this stop are composed of a highly fractured and jointed sandstone with a vesicular texture that is associated with the southward axis crossing of the major, regionally extensive fold. This outcrop is characterised by a distinctive white and dark coloration and is a well-known feature of the Glengarry volcanic suite. The outcrop is located on the north side of the highway at the roadside cut, and is approximately 50m east of the Glengarry front gate. The outcrop is well exposed and provides an excellent opportunity to study the geometry and relationships of the volcanic rocks in this area.

On the return to Tamworth you are witnessing the drive to Mt Kaputar. The route is extremely steep and is not suitable for the unfit. Horton Falls Reserve has several bush camping and picnic areas but there are no amenities. Walkers can expect to be rewarded for their efforts with a view over a wide range of flora and fauna. The reserve is home to many rare and threatened species. The drive to Mt Kaputar is a popular route used by walkers and cyclists.

Bicentennial Park (Kable Ave, Tamworth) has its own network of walkways through different features in the grounds. The site was first set aside as a reserve for recreation and public education in 1988 and named after Tamworth's Bicentenary in 1988 and renamed Bicentennial Park. There are various points of interest, such as pagodas, pergolas and benches, tree and shrub plantings as well as a wide pathway.

A wide pathway runs along Scots Rd near the Peel St intersection along the river flats to Goonoo Goonoo Road. Anyone who prefers to walk on pavement should not miss taking a walk along the banks of the Peel River. It extends from near the Tamworth Visitor Information Centre to the Bicentennial Park. The track is well-marked and signed. It is a popular route used by walkers and cyclists. There are also pleasant views of the river and its surroundings. The track is well-maintained and suitable for all ages and abilities. It is a good route for a leisurely walk or a more strenuous hike, depending on the individual's fitness level. The track is open daily from dawn to dusk and there are no fees for entry. For information on national parks call 1300 361 967 during business hours or visit www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or go to find out about State Parks visit www.stateparks.nsw.gov.au.
**National Parks**

Fishing is also a favourite past-time with yellowbelly, mud and cattail stuffed with seaweed which act as pelicans, Cormorants and Bobbin found on the banks and surface of the dam. There are beautiful parks and reserves around the dam where bushwalking and picnicking is enjoyed and camping sites (plus amenity services) are available.

The Peel Fault line that splits inland, ancient marine sedimentary and volcanic rocks (to the west) from ancient, very deep water marine sedimentary and volcanic rocks to the east.

Bob Brown, a geologist with the NSW Department of Mineral and Energy who supervised the mapping and drilling of the reserve is at the northern end of Split Rock Dam, named after the large rock formation on the north-eastern side of the dam. The reserve is at the southern end of the Peel River which flows to the west.

(3) Road cutting on south side of the highway. GPS ANS A2758E 8070990N; GPS A2758S 8072325N

(2) Road cutting on south side of the highway. GPS A2756E 8075247N; GPS A2756S 8075431N

(1) Road cuttings by abandoned roadside open cut pit GPS A2755E 8075322N; GPS A2755S 8055880N

The road cuttings reveal shallow sheet-welded bedded mudstone (fine-grained, grey, flaggy, sandstone) and a few metres thick beds of large ooids. The mudstones are probable bedded later than 300 million years old. The limestone contains small teeth and other fragments of kilometres. The limestone is composed of abundant fossils, broken shell debris and coral stems, which is significant as it represents a unique marker bed through the whole of the Carboniferous period.

Despite its inland location fresh water sports are a popular form of recreation for visitors and residents.

Travel north of Moonbi along the highway and pull over to the side of the road to find a spectacular viewpoint overlooking the east. The dam on the reserve which is about 11km east of Nundle. Facilities include toilets, barbecues/BBQ and picnic area is a walking track which winds its way part of the road to the reserve. The road was built by hand in 1848 to provide the most direct route over the Nundle area. Their recreation potential was realised after the road was completed.

The dominant mudstones of the Early Carboniferous included abundant corals, crinoid stems and trilobites. The mudstones are dealt with in the south of the reserve, which is about 11km east of Nundle. Facilities include toilets, barbecues/BBQ and picnic area. The road to the reserve is at the northern end of Split Rock Dam, named after the large rock formation on the north-eastern side of the dam. The reserve is at the southern end of the Peel River which flows to the west.

(1) Road cuttings by abandoned roadside open cut pit GPS A2755E 8075322N; GPS A2755S 8055880N

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A April just downstream of Manilla weir (accessed through Chaffey Park on Hills Close Rd) to protest with locusts. Site is bordered by mature poplars and willows, and murgums along the river banks, near the green areas, a playground and sports oval. It is adjacent to the carpark.

Lake Keepit, which straddles the Tamworth Regional Council and Gunnedah Shire Council areas, is the biggest water storage in the area and is a major destination for local residents visiting fiduciary sports and other forms of recreation. More than 65,000 recreational visits to Lake Keepit each year.

Lake Keepit State Park, about 55km north-west of Tamworth offers facilities for all ages. It has an array of facilities including toilets areas with gas barbecues, amenities blocks with laundry facilities, camp kitchen, boat ramp, children’s playground, tennis courts, walking trails, skate bowl suitable for roller blades, roller skates or skateboards, five-hole golf course, tennis courts and a well-stocked kiosk.

Through the spring and summer seasons the lake offers pleasure boating, sailing, swimming, water skiing and windsailing. You can bring your own equipment or hire it from one of the clubs on site. There is also an abundance of facilities including picnic areas with gas barbecues, amenities blocks with laundry facilities, camp kitchen, boat ramp, children’s playground, tennis courts, walking trails, skate bowl suitable for roller blades, roller skates or skateboards, five-hole golf course, tennis courts and a well-stocked kiosk.

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Tawam's 4X4 Club suggests the Barraba Track, which leads to the summit of Mount Nalupa, as a good choice. The Barraba Track is 63 km long and is a popular destination for 4WD enthusiasts. If you are interested in fossicking, you can contact the Tamworth 4X4 Club on 02 6769 3459 or Barraba Visitor Information Centre on 02 6760 5740.

The region is well known among bird watchers and boasts 55 bird route sites along a 180km corridor. Sites of the active that follow the watercourse.

Limbri has several established bird watching and picnic sites parrots and finches can be found. The Cockburn River near the Moonbi Common and New England Gully Road, where some of the most popular routes to observe birds include.

Turquoise Parrot.

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Turquoise Parrot.
Wedge Tailed Eagles can be seen soaring on the air currents deflected by the

Tamworth Bird Watchers Inc. Phone: 02 6760 5740.

Take in the delightful sites

around the Road which will take you up to Bereen Mountain

Head out from Barraba along the Woodsreef/Bundarra

Moonbi Common and New England Gully Road

Head further north, past the Moonbi Store and turn left into

...driving north towards Armidale

...the railway line to Morpeth station and the Morpeth (top of Brisbane St).

...the lookout which contains a great variety of bird life including

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Wedge Tailed Eagles can be seen soaring on the air currents deflected by the Mountain and the views from this point are superb stretching across the Valley's nature trails. Take in the delightful sites of waterbirds can be seen including cormorants, swans and Grey Crested Grebes. Further up Lowes Creek Road a turn into Tintinhull Road and follow it for 4km; the Reserve is on the right after the 'T' intersection with Porcupine Lane. Regent Honeyeaters were observed here in 2004.

Heading north along the New England Highway, about 8km north of the Halfway house between Nemingha and Kootingal, take a left-hand turn into Corella Road. Further along the river down past the junction of Manilla and Namoi Rivers to the Showground. A good remnants of Grassy White Box Woodlands with an understorey of native shrubs such as Acacia Decora. Finches and Painted Honeyeaters have been observed in this locality.

Proceed north along ‘The Fossickers Way’ driving route to Split Rock Dam where you will reach the creek and in through the small gate behind the concrete main Dam wall. Ospreys and Honeyeater have been sighted in this area.

Starting at the bridge towards Bridge Road and approximately 2.5km out, the open reserve begins. You can also walk or drive along a dirt track into Silver-leaved Ironbarks located on the northern edge of Lake Keepit. Enter through the gate and drive down to the Manilla River. Parrots and Honeyeaters have been observed in this area.

From Split Rock Creek TSR (No 5) head west for 4km then turn off the road to the left where you will come to a reserve gate located amongst Silver-leaved ironbarks, (patches of Grassy White Box Woodland). This former town common is 16km east of Barraba on the ‘Weekly River Road’ (entry by appointment on 02 6760 5740). Sacred Kingfisher’s are known to nest in the area.

An abundance of bird life has been sighted in this area such as Honeyeaters (including Regent), Common Bronzewing, Turquoise Parrots, Little Lorikeets and Red-browed Firetail. At the end of Tapooy Reserve telephone 02 6760 5740. Continue further west to Elembee Fibre Farm (entry by appointment on 02 6762 8144), then onto Cut Road Creek sign; enter lane on the left hand side and continue through to Horiton Falls. There are regular sightings of Turquoise Parrots and Honeyeaters.

Manilla

(2) Manilla Weir

A good remnants of Grassy White Box Woodland. Blossom time brings many species of Honeyeaters.

(3) Mille Creek Travelling Stock Reserve

This former town common is 16km east of Barraba on the ‘Weekly River Road’ (entry by appointment on 02 6760 5740). Sacred Kingfisher’s are known to nest in the area.

(4) Mille Creek Travelling Stock Reserve Site 2

Continue further north along the Bingara Road for 10km. The picturesque setting of Mount Keepit and the Piney Dam is on the right after the ‘T’ intersection with Piney Dam Road. White-breasted Choughs have been seen roosting in the old Grass Tree Stump. To access the reserve, cross over the bridge and take an immediate right hand turn (coming from Barraba) into Barraba Creek Road. The Reserve begins after the grid.

(5) Pinehurst Travelling Stock Reserve

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(6) Little Creek Travelling Stock Reserve

Vehicles other than 4WDs should check the state of the road otherwise you can walk upstream towards the creek and in through the small gate behind the concrete main Dam wall, near the bridge.

(7) Adams Travelling Stock Reserve

Barraba Springs Travelling Stock Reserve

Entrance to a number of good bird watching sites or you can also enter the Forest through loose wires in fence leading down to the Manilla Weir. Ospreys and Honeyeaters have been observed in this locality.

(8) Split Rock Dam

This site is currently being developed by the Tamworth Council with no public access, but is worth visiting for the nature trails and scenic views. Note the nesting holes and remnants of aged box and gum trees. This is on the right after the ‘T’ intersection with Porcupine Lane. Regent Honeyeaters were observed here in 2004.

(9) Uralla Reserve

Halfway north along the New England Highway, about 8km north of the Halfway house between Nemingha and Kootingal, take a left-hand turn into Tintinhull Road and follow it for 4km; the Reserve is on the right after the ‘T’ intersection with Porcupine Lane. Regent Honeyeaters were observed here in 2004.

(10) Oxley Stewards Travelling Stock Reserve

This reserve’s location is 1.5 hours’ drive south from Tamworth heading towards Armidale on the New England Highway. The picnic area leads to a number of good bird watching sites or you can also enter the Forest through loose wires in fence located amongst Silver-leaved Ironbarks, (patches of Grassy White Box Woodland). This former town common is 16km east of Barraba on the ‘Weekly River Road’ (entry by appointment on 02 6760 5740). Sacred Kingfisher’s are known to nest in the area.

(11) Bolton’s Creek

From Split Rock Dam head north along the Bingara Road and approximately 2km out, the open reserve begins. You can also walk or drive along a dirt track into Silver-leaved Ironbarks located on the northern edge of Lake Keepit. Enter through the gate and drive down to the Manilla River. Parrots and Honeyeaters have been observed in this area.

(12) Uralla Reserve

This reserve is located 5km from Tamworth in the vicinity of McFarlane Road. It’s a small area of bushland with nature trails and many species of Honeyeaters including breeding Blue-faced Cuckoo-Shrike and Pacific 17s.