

New South Wales (NSW)

Australia's oldest state, New South Wales, is located on the East Coast. The huge popularity of this region with visitors is due to the wide variety of attractions and a pleasant climate. The beautiful cosmopolitan city Sydney, excellent beaches and national parks offer you the possibility of a wide range of summer- and water sport activities. And surprising enough, you even can go skiing during the Australian winter between June and October.



New South Wales – Overview and Highlights –

- Sydney – one of the most beautiful cities in the world
- Blue Mountains National Park & Jenolan Caves (lime stone caves)
World Heritage listed in 2000
- Hunter Valley – one of the most important wine areas in Australia
- South Coast, Central Coast & North Coast
1400 kilometres (874 miles) coast with long stretches of beaches and beautiful national parks
including the Central Eastern Rainforests - *World Heritage listed in 1987*
- Broken Hill – centre of the Outback with excellent art galleries
- Mt. Kosciusko – Skiing in winter (June – October)
& hiking and all sorts of summer activities (November – May)
- Lord Howe Island – an often forgotten paradise
World Heritage listed 1982
- Climate tables - Sydney, Coffs Harbour, Mt. Kosciusko, South Coast

You will find more details, about the above mentioned attractions and activities in the following section. Additionally, we have provided some climate tables.



SYDNEY is one of the most beautiful harbour cities in the world and offers something for everybody. Explore Sydney and discover the world famous **Opera House**, view or climb over the **Harbour Bridge**, called 'coat hanger' by Sydneysiders. Wander around **The Rocks**, the oldest part of Sydney, or stroll through the **Royal Botanical Gardens of Sydney** which are located right on the harbour. Take a ferry ride to the **Taronga Zoo**, or take a leisurely walk through the largest **Chinese Gardens** outside China. There are also the **Art Gallery of New South Wales**, **Homebush**, home of the 2000 Olympic Games, and the **Sydney Aquarium**. Soak up the atmosphere at **Bondi**, **Coogee**, **Bronte** or **Manly** beaches and enjoy any of the many museums, restaurants, theatre, other attractions and nightlife The choice is yours!



Activities: Scenic Flights, Jet Boating, Sailing, Harbour Cruises



The **Blue Mountains** are situated approximately 2 hours west of Sydney and combine fantastic mountain views, remarkable geographic features and beautiful gardens. **Katoomba**, the tourist centre of the Blue Mountains is a good starting point for trips to the rock formation of the **Three Sisters** as well as for hiking and climbing tours.

Enjoy awesome views, hike through spectacular gorges, passing waterfalls. You may even see a Koala sleeping in a Gum tree or a Kangaroo hopping along.

If you want to “get off the beaten track”, you might want to travel to the westerly part of the Blue Mountains. This area around **Lithgow** offers the **Zig-Zag Railways**, a highlight for steam train enthusiasts, or visit the **Kanangra Boyd National Park** with superb views and hiking opportunities. In this part of the Blue Mountains you can also find the **Jenolan Caves** one of the most spectacular limestone caves, as well as the **Abercrombie** and **Wombeyan Caves**.



Activities: Hiking, Climbing, Horseback Riding, Canyoning, Rafting, Mountain Biking.

The **Hunter Valley** is the oldest and one of the most important wine areas in Australia and more than 80 vineyards invite you to taste and to buy. The good quality of Cheese, Olive Oil and Chocolate are also famous in this area and



available for tasting and purchase. The Hunter Valley is also known for some unusual accommodation, maybe you would like to enjoy a stay at a former Convent, almost 100 years old, which has been converted to a Bed & Breakfast accommodation with a touch of luxury. All of this surrounded by the beautiful landscape of vineyards adds to the relaxing atmosphere, a characteristic of the Hunter Valley.

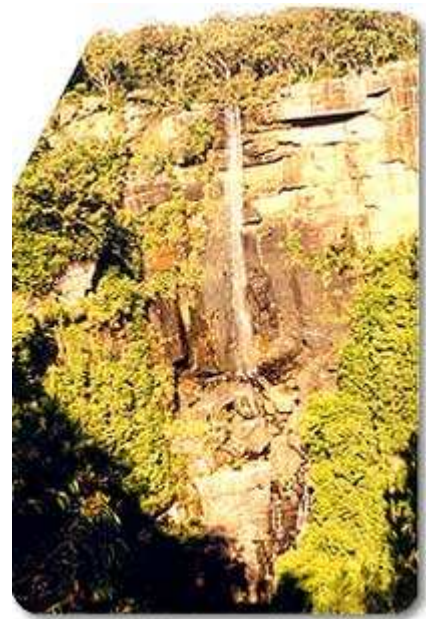
Activities: Hot Air Ballooning, Horse Carriage Rides, Golf, Horse Back Rides



The 1400 kilometres (874 miles) coast of **New South Wales** starts in the South at the border of the state Victoria (Cape Howe) and ends in the North at the border of the state Queensland (Tweed Heads). This coastal area is divided into three main areas:

The **South Coast** (south of Sydney), the **Central Coast** and the **North Coast** (north of Sydney) offer all long stretches of beaches with a wide diversity of water activities like surfing, sailing, swimming, scuba diving, snorkelling, fishing or a romantic walk along the beach. It is possible to see dolphins, pelicans, seals, turtles, whales (between June and October) and much more Australian fauna and flora.

The **South Coast** brings you through many charming villages, beautiful national parks, coastal cliffs, long beaches or small coves inviting you to a refreshing dip into the Pacific Ocean. Some of the highlights include the easily accessible **Minnamurra Rainforest** with a system of BoardWalks to the **Minnamurra Falls**, or the **Fitzroy Falls** in the **Morton National Park**. **Jervis Bay** with its big variety of ecological features, or **Montague Island**, famous for its abundance of wildlife including seals, penguins and many water birds, are popular places to visit. A special experience will be an overnight stay at the former accommodation of a Lighthouse Keeper at the **Green Cape Lighthouse** in the **Ben Boyd National Park**.



An excellent starting point for many excursions are the old whaling towns of **Eden** or **Bega** which is famous for superb cheese, **Batemans Bay** is popular for houseboat trips or **Jervis Bay** with regular dolphin sightings. **Berry** with its beautiful gardens, outstanding art galleries and shops is a good place for tasteful souvenir shopping.

Activities: Hiking, Walking, Houseboat Tours, Golf, Fishing, Deep Sea Fishing, Surfing, Swimming, Scuba Diving, Snorkelling, Parasailing, Horse Back Riding, Canoe and Kayak Tours, Parachute Jumping, and Dolphin, Seal, Pelican and Whale Watching.



Byron Bay, Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie, Foster and Newcastle are very well developed attractive townships at the **Central** and at the **North Coast** and are good places to start your tours. Easily accessible from these townships are the national parks **Wollemi, Barrington Tops, Dorrigo, Mt. Warning** or **Border Ranges**. The UNESCO has listed the rainforest areas within these national parks on the World Heritage List.

The Central Coast offers furthermore the **Hawkesbury River** and the bay at **Port Stephens** with its 99% success rate with dolphin sightings, while the lake system of **Tuggerah, Myall** and **Lake Macquarie** invite their guests to a challenging sailing or relaxing houseboat tour.

Activities: Hiking, Walking, Houseboat Tours, Golf, Fishing, Deep Sea Fishing, Surfing, Swimming, Scuba Diving, Snorkelling,

Parasailing, Horse Back Riding, Canoe and Kayak Tours, Parachute Jumping, Dolphin and Whale Watching.



Broken Hill is located 1150 kilometres (718 miles) west of Sydney and is known as the capital of the Outback of New South Wales. The city developed to the largest silver/lead/zinc mine and when you explore the city and the adjacent area you will come across many relics of this history. Additionally you will find an outstanding collection of art galleries, full of evidence of this exceptional Outback scenery. **Lake Menindee** and the **Kinchega National Park**, located approximately 100 kilometres (63 miles) out of Broken Hill, offers a surprising variety of water activities in the middle of the desert like landscape.

Activities: Outback Tours, Visit an Art Gallery or a Museum, Mine tour, Opportunity to go on an Australian Post Mail Run into the Outback, Camel tours, Fishing, Boat Tours, Visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service or the School of the Air.



The Australian ski fields around **Mt. Kosciusko National Park** with the centres in **Jindabyne** and **Thredbo** are worth a visit in the Australian winter (June – October) AND the warm months. Although this region is not comparable with European or North American ski fields, it still offers an excellent variety of slopes for every skier, snowboarder or cross country skier. While the warmer months (November – May) offer a wide selection of summer activities. In January, you can also admire wildflowers unique to this part of the world.

Activities: Down Hill Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, Mountain Biking, Hiking, HorseBack Riding, Swimming, Tennis, Rock-Climbing, Fishing and Golf.

Lord Howe Island is an often forgotten paradise and is located approximately 700 kilometres (437 miles) north east of Sydney. The number of yearly visitors is limited and the only mode of transport is the bike, as there are no cars allowed. There is plenty to do on this small island. You'll find the most southerly coral reef where you can go scuba diving, snorkelling, swimming, or, if you prefer activities on land, there are plenty of hiking trails available.

Activities: Hiking, Golf, Scuba Diving, Snorkelling, Swimming, Deep Sea Fishing, Sailing, Cycling and Tennis.

Climate Tables

Please note, that the following charts show average temperatures.

<u>Sydney</u>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	26	26	25	22	19	17	16	18	20	22	24	25
Minimum °C	19	19	17	15	11	9	8	9	11	13	16	17
Maximum °F	78.8	78.8	77	71.6	66.2	62.6	60.8	64.4	68	71.6	75.2	77
Minimum °F	66.2	66.2	62.6	59	51.8	48.2	46.4	48.2	51.8	55.4	60.8	62.6
Rainfall mm	104	113	134	126	121	131	101	80	69	79	83	78
Raindays	12	12	13	12	12	12	10	10	11	12	11	12

<u>Coffs Harbour</u>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	27	27	26	24	21	19	19	20	22	23	25	26
Minimum °C	19	19	18	15	11	9	7	8	11	14	16	18
Maximum °F	80.6	80.6	78.8	75.2	69.8	66.2	66.2	68	71.6	73.4	77	78.8
Minimum °F	66.2	66.2	64.4	59	51.8	48.2	44.6	46.4	51.8	57.2	60.8	64.4
Rainfall mm	197	221	241	180	161	119	73	90	67	97	125	150
Raindays	16	15	17	13	11	10	8	8	9	12	11	14

<u>Mt. Kosciusko NP</u>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	21	21	18	14	10	6	5	6	9	13	16	19
Minimum °C	7	7	6	2	0	-3	-4	-2	-1	2	3	5
Maximum °F	69.8	69.8	64.4	57.2	50	42.8	41	42.8	48.2	55.4	60.8	66.2
Minimum °F	44.6	44.6	42.8	35.6	32	26.6	24.8	28.4	30.2	35.6	37.4	41
Rainfall mm	110	90	122	131	183	146	144	184	200	220	161	113
Raindays	11	10	11	13	15	16	16	17	17	17	15	12

South Coast	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	24	25	23	21	19	16	16	17	18	20	21	23
Minimum °C	15	15	14	11	8	6	4	5	7	9	12	11
Maximum °F	75.2	77	73.4	69.8	66.2	60.8	60.8	62.6	64.4	68	69.8	73.4
Minimum °F	59	59	57.2	51.8	46.4	42.8	39.2	41	44.6	48.2	53.6	51.8
Rainfall mm	80	71	95	71	70	64	37	45	52	77	85	65
Raindays	3	3	2	3	8	8	9	7	5	6	4	4