

Welcome to the Broken Hill Community



**Meeting people
and making friends**

We recognise that moving to a new location can be a very challenging time for you and your family.

Whether you are planning to move yourself or your whole family to Broken Hill, you will need to find out about key services like housing, transport, work, schools and recreational opportunities.

To assist you in this process we have developed this resource to ease your transition into your new environment.



This booklet includes information about:

Welcome to Broken Hill

Moving to the Region

Getting to Broken Hill

Broken Hill Lifestyle and demographics

Climate

Finding Rental or Permanent Accommodation

Getting Around

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Things To Do And See – Community Groups; Night Life; Sport and Recreation; Events; Radio & TV; Useful Websites

Arts And Culture Night Life

Places of Worship

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RTA Information

Outback Driving Tips

Welcome to Broken Hill

We hope this booklet and the Far West Local Health District (FWLHD) websites will assist you to make the transition into the workplace and our community.

www.fwlhd.health.nsw.gov.au

www.farwesthealthjobs.com.au

From the harsh but fragile rugged beauty of Outback NSW to the quintessential country town Broken Hill, also known as The Silver City, Far West LHD offers great career opportunities and a superb place to live. Broken Hill has a rich and colourful history being both the birthplace of BHP and unionism in Australia. The city is known for its art and creativity, being the birthplace of the "Brushmen of the Bush". Broken Hill is also a tourist destination for interstate and international visitors as the gateway to the outback.

We are all about helping new staff integrate into the community and to help them feel welcome and valued as a community member.

It is a particularly friendly community with a strong sense of family and is a wonderful and rewarding place to work in health, with very appreciative patients. At any one time there are usually a number of other new employees in the town. This includes students as well as new staff from a range of health disciplines. There are many opportunities for recreational and sporting activities including mountain-bike riding, bush-walking, rodeos, gymkhanas, several balls including the Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) Ball. The city has a choir, an orchestra and there are several churches. The Sydney Ballet and Opera Australia visit annually as do other musicals and shows and there are also some local theatre productions.

We have compiled information from many sources in an attempt to provide current information that will assist new staff as they transition to the area, either temporarily or permanently. Every effort has been made to provide details on where to get further information including websites and contacts.

The Broken Hill Business & Shopping Guide is your local guide to Business & Shopping in the City of Broken Hill. The Guide brings together information from a wide range of sources to make it easy for you to find what you're looking for.

<http://www.brokenhill.communityguide.com.au/community.cfm?/brokenhill/cat/shopping/>

After deciding to live in Broken Hill be prepared to be inspired because once you get here you'll understand why the locals love the place.



Moving to the Region

Please ensure you give yourself plenty of time to make the required arrangements prior to moving to the area, as the more time you put into planning, the easier it will be to relocate to the area.

A definite MUST READ when planning a move to NSW is the "Living In NSW Booklet" which can be found at:

<http://www.business.nsw.gov.au/investment/living>.

This resource has a wide range of information that will help you when moving to NSW.

Other Useful Local Information:

<http://www.visitbrokenhill.com.au/>

<http://www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au/>

<http://www.brokenhillaustralia.com.au/>

Getting to Broken Hill

Broken Hill Airport is located 6km from the City centre and is the major airport in the Far West Region serviced by Regional Express (REX) providing regional passenger transport services each day. Regional Express operates on a regular passenger route into and out of the Broken Hill Airport using Saab 340 aircraft. REX fly to Sydney, Dubbo, Adelaide and Melbourne via Mildura. See their web site at <http://www.rex.com.au>

The Countrylink train services our area, stopping at most towns. Buses link up with the Countrylink train to transport passengers to Broken Hill.

There are two Countrylink train services that travel from Sydney to Broken Hill. The first train is the 'Outback Explorer', which travels directly to Broken Hill for the whole journey. The second is called the XPT service and leaves Sydney each morning arriving in Broken Hill via Fraser's Coaches at 10.15 p.m. Passengers transfer to coaches at Dubbo.

The Indian Pacific train service also travels to Broken Hill and Adelaide once or twice a week depending on the season. For further information Phone Countrylink on 13 22 32 or visit:

<http://www.countrylink.nsw.gov.au>

Buses R Us provides a regular bus service between Broken Hill and Adelaide: Contact 08 8088 6900 for up to date schedules ad times: or

<http://www.busesrus.com.au/services/1103/1103.htm>

There are two local taxicab service, "Broken Hill Yellow Radio Cabs", Phone 131 008 or 08 8087 2222; and "Independent Taxi": Phone 08 8087 7744.



Accessibility by road

Roads

The major highways in the Broken Hill region are:

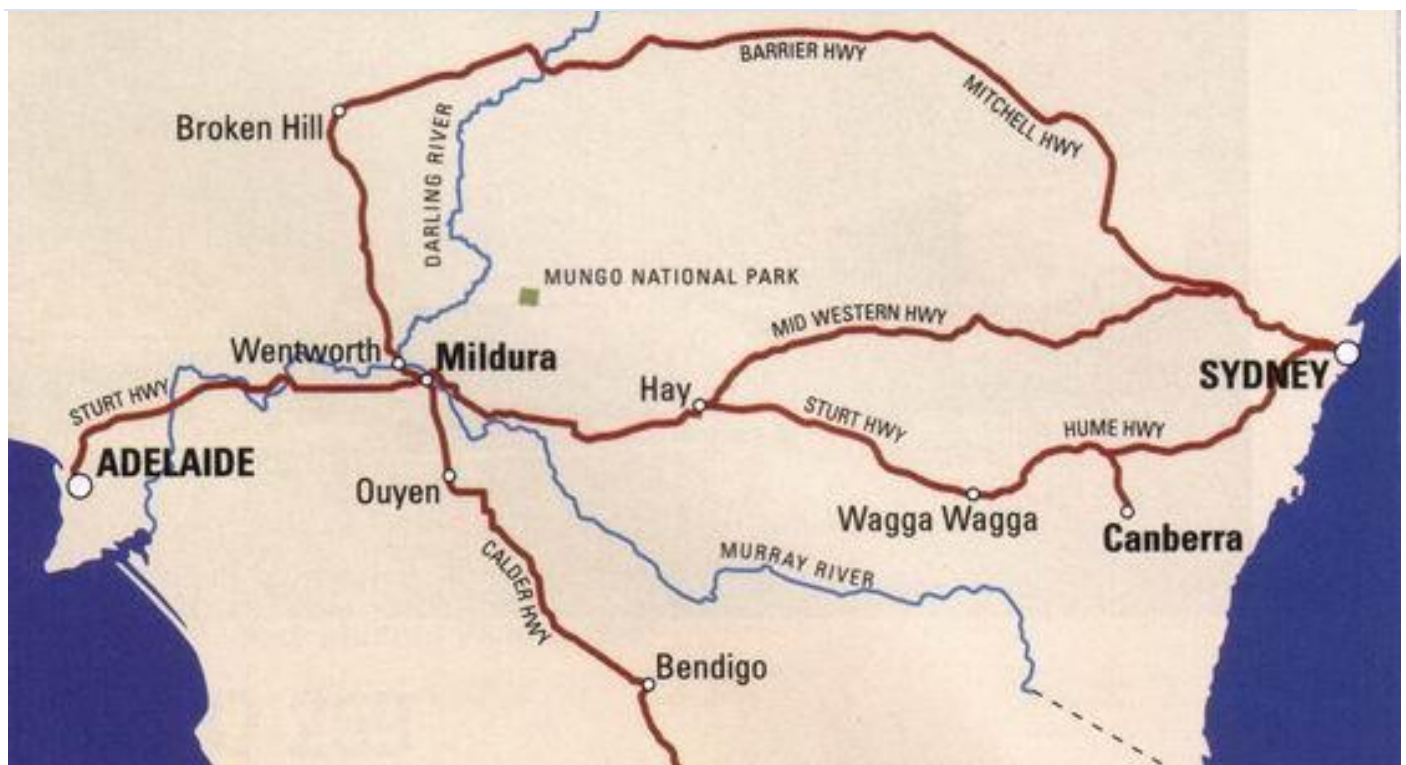
Silver City Highway – Renamed Changes to the Sturt Highway in Mildura.

The Mid Western Highway is one of the most direct routes between Sydney and Adelaide, however since the Hume Highway has been improved, the route via the Hume Highway and Sturt Highway through Wagga Wagga is probably quicker.

Barrier Highway – also forms part of the inland route between Adelaide and Sydney through outback NSW.

Travel Distances

Sydney	1,167km	Melbourne	817km
Adelaide	506km	Canberra	1,067km
Dubbo	760km	Mildura	296km



Broken Hill Lifestyle and Demographics

If a move to a country town, where people are friendly and there is a real sense of community and the lifestyle is what you have been seeking, then Broken Hill is where you need to be.

Broken Hill is a self-reliant, strong regional community with services and facilities to support an active, vibrant residential population. The community values and shares the region's unique natural and built environment with regional, national and international visitors.

Broken Hill is a really beautiful place. The landscape is amazing and there is so much to see! If you are a keen photographer, love nature or enjoy trying new things you will always find something to do.

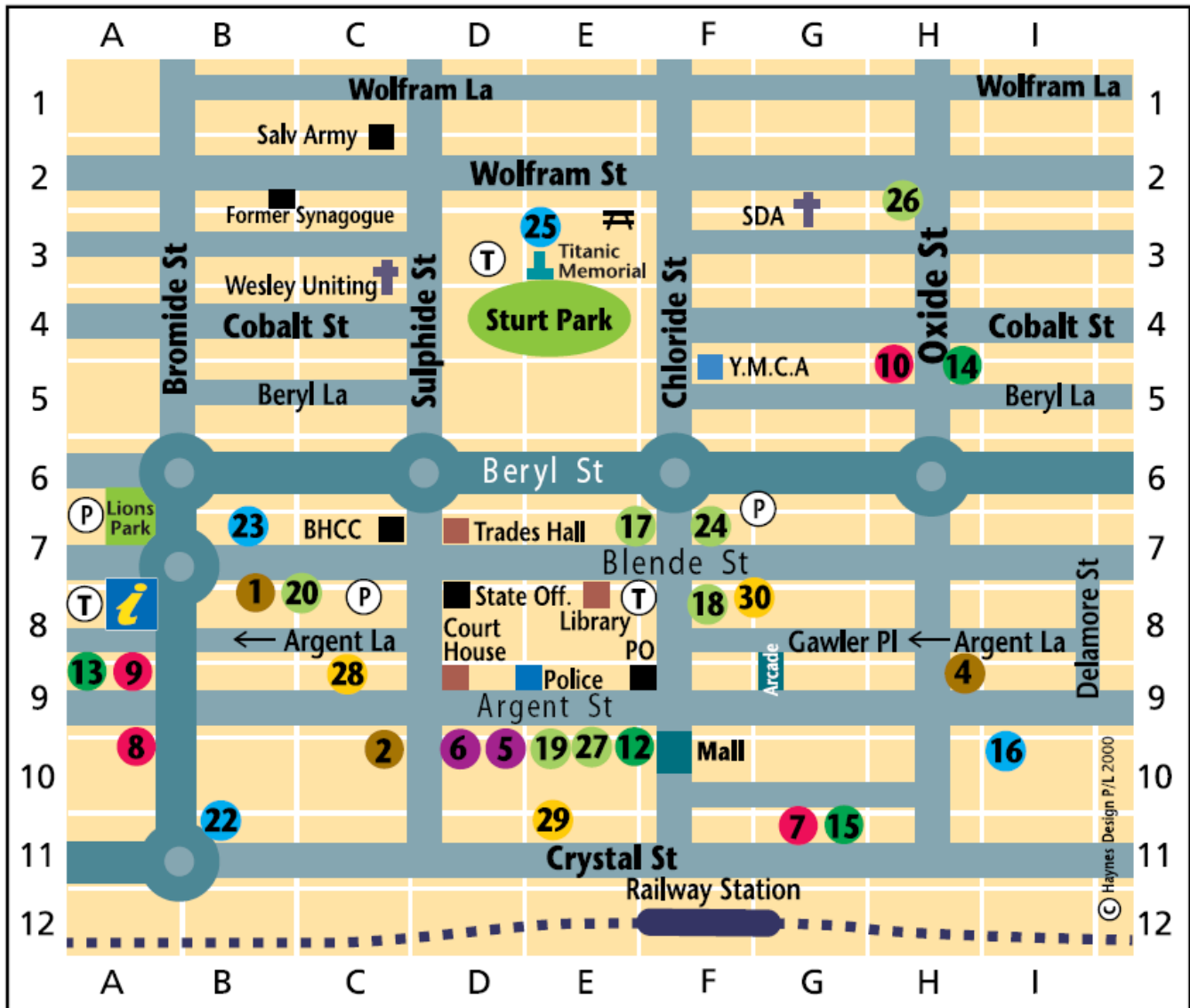
The landscape around the town is mostly flat but there are some hills around too. The sky is an incredible blue and the dirt is a fantastic red colour with lots of native vegetation. In the town itself there are lots of historic buildings and the streets are very wide.

As for information on the Silver City itself, there are around 18,600 people living in Broken Hill. It is a very tidy town and everything including old buildings are well maintained. The closest major city is Adelaide, which is about 500kms south, where you can stop at some of Australia's best wine locations including the Barossa Valley and Clare Valley on the way to Adelaide.

The city is easy to get around, as it is set out as a grid. Shops, restaurants and accommodation are plentiful in the main street, Argent Street, and surrounding Central Business District.

For a look at a Broken Hill street map visit:

http://www.tripadvisor.com.au/LocalMaps-g255318-Broken_Hill-Area.html



Broken Hill CBD

The Railway Station is a short walk east from the CBD (F12), and the bus stop is outside the Visitor Information Centre which is situated on Blende Street (A8).

Your Online Guide to the City of Broken Hill can be found at:

www.brokenhill.communityguide.com.au/

Information on the Visitor Information Centre can be found on:

<http://www.visitnsw.com/visitor-information-centres/broken-hill-visitor-information-centre>

A snapshot of the FWLHD Services

The Broken Hill Base Hospital consists of a 108-bed acute care hospital with general medicine, general surgical, obstetric, paediatric, emergency, mental health and drug and alcohol services. The bed numbers include two ten bed sub-acute units on site. The town has a community based Diabetes Centre, a Child and Family Health Service, an Aboriginal Health Service and a number of general practices, including a Super Clinic. Broken Hill is also home to the headquarters of the South Eastern Section of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Wilcannia Health Service: Located two hours east of Broken Hill, Wilcannia has a population of 827, mostly Aboriginal. The health team operates out of a multipurpose service providing 24-hour primary health care (including emergency care). The RFDS also runs a General Practice clinic four days a week.

Menindee Health Service: The township of Menindee has 450 people and is located 100kms southeast of Broken Hill. About one third of the population is Aboriginal. The local primary health care facility is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and provides an emergency service after hours. The RFDS also runs a General Practice clinic three times a week.

Ivanhoe

Ivanhoe is located 310 kms east of Broken Hill, with a population of 201. The roads between Ivanhoe and Wilcannia and Ivanhoe and Menindee are unsealed, the only sealed access is to Hay, 212 kms southeast. Ivanhoe has a primary health care service in addition to 24 hour emergency service; stabilisation and evacuation.

White Cliffs

White Cliffs is a small town with a population of 103 and 95 kms north of Wilcannia. It is a small service centre for surrounding properties and continues to have some opal mining activity. White Cliffs has a primary health care service, in addition to 24 hour emergency service; stabilisation and evacuation.

Tibooburra

Tibooburra is located 335 kms north of Broken Hill with a population of 262. It functions as a service centre to stations in the district and attracts many tourists, being the closest centre to the junction of New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia at Cameron Corner. The road between Broken Hill and Tibooburra is approximately 50% sealed. Tibooburra has a primary health care service in addition to 24 hour emergency service; stabilisation and evacuation.

Balranald

Balranald is a rural community located in the south west of NSW within the Balranald Shire LGA with a population of 1,627. Located 462 kms southeast of Broken Hill and it is 165 kms east of its closest larger service centre in Mildura (Victoria). Balranald is the oldest settlement on the Lower Murrumbidgee River. Balranald multipurpose service comprises 16 beds; (15 high care and one respite bed); 2 bay 24 hour level 2 Emergency Service with additional observation bed. Acute medical rehabilitation, palliative care and a range of primary health care services.

Dareton Primary Care and Community Health Service

Dareton is situated 280 kms south of Broken Hill and 20 kms from Mildura, with a population of 516. The town developed as part of a post war soldier settlement scheme and is now part of the Wentworth Shire, which also includes the township of Wentworth. Dareton's current health service is a primary health care service and a hub for primary health and community mental health specialists.

Wentworth Health Service

Wentworth is a small town on the Murray-Darling river junction, population of 1,227, and is located 268 kms south of Broken Hill with its closest large service centre being Mildura (Victoria) approximately 30 minutes drive.

Current health service – 20 beds; (4 acute and 16 aged care beds); 24 hour Emergency Service – stabilisation and evacuation.

Climate

Broken Hill has a desert climate. Winter in Broken Hill can be very cold and dry, while summers are highly variable - mostly hot and dry. The average maximum during the summer months (November to March) is about 32 °C (90 °F) with an average of 25% humidity, although occasional rainfall and cooler weather occur. Dust storms are a common problem in the desert but the people of Broken Hill created reserves to surround the town thus somewhat protecting the town from the worst of the storms.

Broken Hill is well known for its magical sunsets amongst red desert sands and clusters of wildflowers and Sturt Desert peas.



Broken Hill is really an area with climate contrasts that lead to geographic diversity, from the desert in the west that blooms with wild flowers in the spring, to the mountains in the East and the South. With such a great diversity of climate and landscapes comes a great range of lifestyles – pick the one you want.



Finding rental accommodation or permanent housing

Rental accommodation can range from \$120 – \$400 per week depending on what you are looking for.

For a comprehensive listing of Australian rental properties, properties for sale and information relating to home loans and lending authorities, visit the realestate website at: <http://www.realestate.com.au/> or try these local real estate agencies.

Broken Hill First National

383 Argent Street,
Phone: 08 8088 4488

Century 21 McLeods

355 Argent Street,
Phone: 08 8087 2297

Ray White Real Estate

57 Oxide Street,
Phone: (08) 8087 3700

Elders Real Estate

422 Blende Street,
Phone: 08 8087 3450

LJ Hooker

257 - 259 Argent Street,
Phone 08 8087 3666

Finding accommodation can be a stressful time when relocating to the region. It is recommended that you begin your search as early as possible as most real estate agents advertise their properties well in advance. It is important that you or someone you trust view the property before committing to a rental lease. You should consider such things as:

- Distance from the hospital
- Transport options – walking/cycling distance, public transport
- Distance from schools, childcare
- Social activities available – sporting clubs, night life, cycle ways, open spaces etc

For a comprehensive listing of local rental properties visit:

<http://www.realestate.com.au/> or www.domain.com.au

Education in Broken Hill

All facets of education are available in the region. From early childhood facilities right through to access to tertiary institutions, your education needs will be met.

Broken Hill Early Education

Happy Day Pre-School (08) 8087 7997 at 367 Kaolin Street Broken Hill

Rainbow Pre-School (08) 8087 5793 at 2 Patton Lane Broken Hill

Broken Hill Schools

Alma Public School (08) 8088 2181 Comstock Street

Broken Hill High School (08) 8088 1522 Garnet Street

Broken Hill North Public School (08) 8088 2155 Chapple Street

Broken Hill Public School (08) 8087 3522 Mica Street

Burke Ward Public School (08) 8088 4700 Rakow Street

Morgan Street Public School (08) 8087 5155 482 Morgan Street

Sacred Heart Primary School (08) 8088 5777 192 Lane Street

School of the Air-Broken Hill Campus (08) 8087 3565 Lane Street

Willyama High School (08) 8088 1055 Murton Street

Education website

www.schools.nsw.edu.au

www.tafensw.edu.au

<http://www.careforkids.com.au/family-day-care/broken-hill/2880>

Department of Rural Health, Broken Hill

<http://www.sydney.edu.au/medicine/drh>



Childcare

There is an extensive range of childcare options available in the region. Everything from family day care and long day care centres and after school care is available.

**Busy Kids Child Care Centre (08) 8088 7033 –
www.busykidschildcare.com.au**

Happy Day Child Care Centre (08)8088 1405

Check the links below for details on Family Day Care in Broken Hill:

Broken Hill Family Day Care (08) 8087 7526

<http://ifp.mychild.gov.au/ChildCareService/Provider.aspx/11234/Broken-Hill-Day-Care>



(Picture courtesy of Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery: drawing by local children from the Gallery's Holiday Art Workshops)

Community Groups

The towns of our region have strong local communities, which can be seen through the many community groups that abound in the region. Whether it is the local craft group or a Lions or Apex Club that you wish to join, there are any number of different community groups that welcome all to their fold. To find out more about the types of groups available in the region, go to the link below to download a comprehensive guide to Broken Hill and other towns.



The Broken Hill Community Groups Guide is your local guide to Community Groups in the City. The Guide brings together information from a wide range of sources to make it easy for you to find what you're looking for in the Broken Hill Community:

<http://www.brokenhill.communityguide.com.au/community.cfm?/brokenhill/cat/communitygroups/>

Some of the many categories of groups and activities you will find include:

Adult Riding Clubs	Advisory Committees	Aged Services	Agriculture
Heritage & History	Hobby & Interest	Arts Organisations	Theatres
Birds & Wildlife	Horse & Pony Clubs	Scouts & Guides	Gardening
Service Clubs	Children's Playgroups	Leisure & Fitness	Arts

Multicultural Broken Hill

Social Clubs:

Italo International Club:

90-100 Bonanza Street South Broken Hill (Corner of Bonanza & Eyre Streets)

For further information contact:

Mr John DeFranceschi – President: 08 8087 5403 or 0418 421 894

Mrs M Vendrasco – Treasurer: 08 8087 6758

Napredak Club: 305 Piper Street Broken Hill

For further information contact: 08 8088 3181

Information on the history of both Clubs can be found on:

<http://www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/sharingthelode/sociallife.php>

Also of interest may be the Sulphide Street Railway & Historical Museum which houses the Broken Hill Migrant Museum:

<http://www.brokenhillaustralia.com.au/explore-and-discover/local-attractions/sulphide-street-railway-and-historical-museum/>

The Migrant Museum was set up by the Broken Hill Migrant Heritage Committee Inc and details of the web exhibition is available on the following website:

<http://www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/sharingthelode/>

Night Life

Surprisingly, for a country town, Broken Hill has a flourishing nightlife. There are a number of clubs in town open every night and some until late on weekends.



The various pubs and clubs around the city offer food as well as atmosphere, staying open most of the night at weekends. There are also a variety of restaurants offering modern Australian and international cuisine.

The Palace Hotel is popular amongst Two-Up players at regular Friday night sessions.

The Village Silver City Cinema is located at 41 Oxide Street Broken Hill: Phone 08 8087 4569



Sport and Recreation



Our town has two 18 hole golf courses where you need not worry about having to put your name down weeks in advance for that tee-off time; you will be able to get a booking at the squash or tennis courts; or head to the pool to do some laps without the crowds.

Working Out

Aquatic Centre - McCulloch Street, with heated indoor pools and an outdoor pool to enjoy in summer. A variety of fitness classes and gyms are available at the Temple of Fitness, YMCA and Anytime Fitness, to name a few.

<http://www.templeoffitness.com.au/>

<http://www.ymcansw.org.au/centre/brokenhill/>

www.fitnessfirst.com.au/

Children's sport abounds right across the region, with AFL, soccer, tennis, golf, netball, basketball, rugby league, rugby union, cricket and swimming amongst many others.

There are several nearby fantastic venues for water skiing and recreational fishing. Then there are the motocross events, dirt bike riding, triathlon clubs, rodeos, camp sites as well as pony clubs and other recreational riding clubs. If you are into sport, you will love living here!

For more information visit Active Broken Hill, which is a community project aimed at improving the health and well-being of people living in the Broken Hill area. They do this by improving access to community groups, sporting clubs and events that help promote healthy lifestyles.

Sports photos courtesy of Barrier Daily Truth

<http://www.activebrokenhill.org.au/>

You can also browse through all the local sporting clubs



have to offer by visiting the following sites.

<http://www.brokenhill.communityguide.com.au/community.cfm?/brokenhill/cat/sportingclubs/>

http://www.investinbrokenhill.com/LifeStyle_Sport.asp

Events

The Silver City hosts a number of large events including the St. Patrick's Races (2 weeks before Easter), Ag Fair (May-biennial), the Silver City Agricultural Show (September) and the Silver City Cup held on the last Saturday in October. There are a number of social functions throughout the year, such as the Civic Ball and Royal Flying Doctor Service Gala Ball.

Broken Hill also celebrates its links with its Indigenous communities with NAIDOC Week, a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander culture's which enables everyone in our community to recognise the contributions of Indigenous Australians in various fields.

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee; more information can be sourced from the link below:

<http://www.naidoc.org.au/>

Music Groups

For the music lovers there are a variety of music options to enjoy:

BIU Brass Band – Contact:

Secretary Ross Mawby 8087 9887

Broken Hill Community Voices - Contact:

Music Director Robynne Sanderson 8087 9522

Broken Hill Civic Orchestra: www.bhco.com.au

Cameron Pipe Band – Contact:

Secretary Brian Wood 0412 748 797

Philharmonic Choral Society – Contact:

Secretary John Bennett 8087 4004

Radio & TV

Broken Hill is serviced by AM band stations; 2BH (567), ABC 2NB (999), FM band stations include; Hill FM (106.9), 2DRY FM (107.7), Triple J (102.1), ABC National (102.9), ABC Classical (103.7), 2KY Racing (100.5), Christian (87.6) and Tourist channel (88.0), along with 21 free to air digital TV and 5 Radio channels.

Useful Websites

Travel and Tourism details on this area can be obtained from The Visitors Information Centre is located on the corner of Blende and Bromide Streets: Phone 08 8087 6077 or:

<http://www.visitbrokenhill.com.au>

<http://www.outbacknsw.com.au>

<http://www.planbooktravel.com.au>

State NSW, Region Outback

<http://www.murrayoutback.org.au>

<http://www.seeaustralia.com.au>

History of Broken Hill

<http://www.geocities.com/bhhsi/>

Freeview TV Channels

<http://www.freeview.com.au/channels/default.aspx?regionId=15>

Attractions

There are more than 40 art galleries, including the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, Sculpture Symposium, Living Desert Reserve, a heritage trail (includes Mario's Palace Hotel and Trades Hall), Silverton, mine tours, National Parks, film-making, Royal Flying Doctor Service, School of The Air and the Menindee Lakes.

Broken Hill is the home of the Brushmen of the Bush, the famous Australian group of great artists, who took Australian art to the world. The group consisted of:

Eric Minchin, Pro Hart, Jack Absalom, Hugh Schultz and John Pickup.

Further information on the Brushmen of the Bush:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brushmen_of_the_Bush

<http://www.kevinhillstopten.com.au/artists.php?NEXT=0&NEXTPAINTING=&artist=10&Name=BRUSHMEN%20OF%20THE%20BUSH>

Pro Hart Gallery:

<http://www.prohart.com.au/>

Jack Absalom

<http://www.jackabsalom.com.au/>

Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery

<http://www.bhartgallery.com.au/>



Places of Worship

Cultural and religious diversity is an important part of life in Australia. Broken Hill has Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Broken Hill Christian Fellowship (Churches of Christ), Assemblies of God- Outback Church, Crusade Centre, Seventh Day Adventist, St. Paul's Lutheran, Uniting Church, Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Jehovah's Witness and an Afghan Mosque.

You can find places of worship listed alphabetically by denomination on the White Pages online – www.whitepages.com.au

http://www.investinbrokenhill.com/Lifestyle_Religious.asp



Broken Hill Cathedral

A number of major religions and their Australian websites are listed below:

Anglican Church of Australia www.anglican.org.au

Buddhism www.buddhanet.net

Catholic Church in Australia www.sydney.catholic.org.au

Hinduism www.hindunet.com.au

Islam <http://www.islam-australia.net/>

Judaism www.jewishaustralia.com

Presbyterian Church <http://www.pcns.org.au>

Seventh Day Adventist <http://www.spd.adventist.org/default.aspx>

Sikhism <http://www.sikhinterfaithvic.org.au/new/about-sikhs/sikhs-in-australia.html>

Uniting Church in Australia www.nsw.uca.org.au

Amenities

Banking

Broken Hill is serviced by many of the major banks and has its own Community Credit Union:

ANZ Branch Broken Hill
384 Argent St, Broken Hill NSW 2880 (ATM at Branch)
13 13 14 · locate.anz.com

ANZ ATM Westside Plaza Centro
5 Galena St, Broken Hill NSW 2880
Westside Plaza
13 13 14

The Broken Hill Community Credit Union
2 Chloride St, Broken Hill NSW 2880 (08) 8088 2199 · bhccu.com.au
ATMs at Branch; Super Clinic Thomas Street; Centro Plaza Shopping Centre;
Broken Hill Village Shopping Centre; Patton Street South Broken Hill

CBA Branch and ATM
338-340 Argent St, Broken Hill NSW 2880
13 22 21 · <https://www.commbank.com.au/>

CBA ATM (Street Front)
178 Argent St, Broken Hill NSW 2880
13 22 21

NAB Branch and ATM
Shop 8 & 9 Centro Westside Shopping Centre, Broken Hill NSW 2880
13 22 65 · nab.com.au

St. George Bank/ATM
346 Argent St, Broken Hill NSW 2880
(08) 8087 7033 · <http://www.stgeorge.com.au/>

Westpac Branch/ATM
297/301 Argent St, Broken Hill NSW 2880
(08) 8080 0000 · <http://www.westpac.com.au/>

Westpac ATM at Westside Plaza Centro
5 Galena St, Broken Hill NSW 2880

City Library

The Broken Hill City Library is situated in Blende Street: Phone 08 8080 3460 and is open Mon – Fri 9.00 am to 6.00 pm.

<http://www.bhlibrary.org.au/>

Personal Health Care

Doctors or general practitioners (GPs) are available to treat everyday illnesses and refer patients to specialists for additional treatment if necessary. GPs are listed under 'Medical Practitioner' in the Yellow Pages telephone directory and Yellow Pages online.

It is recommended that all people have a regular GP. Asking friends and colleagues to recommend a GP or a practice is also worth doing, prior to registering.

For a comprehensive list of Medical Practitioner in Broken Hill visit:

<http://www.yellowpages.com.au/search/listings?clue=doctors-medical+practitioners&locationClue=Broken+Hill%2C+2880&x=0&y=0>

Shopping

Broken Hill has three major shopping areas - the Central Business District area of Argent and surrounding streets. Centro Westside located at 5 Galena Street; comprising: Woolworth's, Big W, Reject Shop and Dick Smith as well as specialty shops.

Broken Hill Village shopping complex located at 7-11 Gossan Street; comprising: Coles; Target; Liquorland; Cheap As Chips and 14 Specialty stores. There are another three supermarkets and a number of corner stores.

Veterinary Clinics

In addition our four legged friends are catered for with the:

Broken Hill Veterinary Clinic located at 129 Rakow Street: Phone 08 8087 4242

The RSPCA Veterinary Hospital located in South Road Phone: 08 8087 7753

<http://www.rspcansw.org.au/our-work/vet-services/broken-hill>



Driving Licence Information

International Drivers – copy of RTA Brochure attached, or see website detailed below.

www.rta.nsw.gov.au or contact 13 22 13

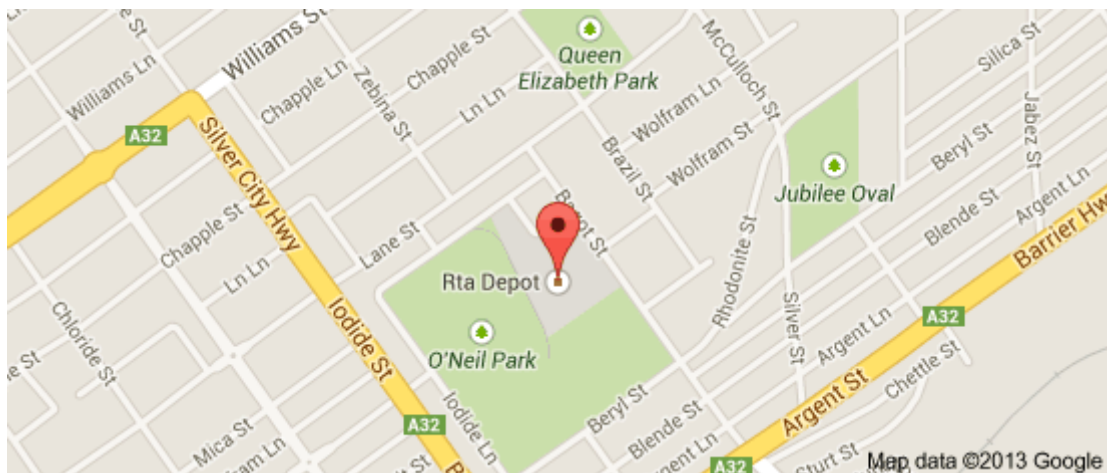
For those transferring from interstate – remember to notify RTA Broken Hill of change of address and update your knowledge on the NSW Road Rules – Information can be obtained from:

Address 115 Bagot St
BROKEN HILL 2880

Business Hours Mon-Fri 9.00am-4.30pm
Saturday Closed

Phone 13 22 13

Broken Hill Motor Registry, 115 Bagot St, is easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport.



Outback Driving Tips



Driving in the Outback, especially on unsealed roads and over vast distances, has its own hidden dangers that all drivers should be aware of to ensure their safety. For example, encountering potholes and soft road edges whilst speeding can very easily result in a rollover and a fatality.

Outback drivers are well advised to note the following:

- Always carry an ample amount of drinking water with you if embarking on a long journey; also take a supply of water for the car's radiator.
- Watch out for animals on the road. Apart from the native animals lingering on the road, there is also the risk that cattle or sheep are roaming on the road.
- Drive with your headlights on during the day. Other cars see you better especially if a dust cloud surrounds your car.
- Fatigue: This is another danger when you drive long distances. Plan frequent stops; there is always something worth looking at and many photo opportunities in the beautiful Australian Outback.
- Avoid driving on wet roads. If a road is closed due to rain, wait until it is declared re-opened. The fines for driving on closed roads will ruin your budget.
- Grids and gates: They help station owners to keep the animals in the paddocks they belong. On main roads there are grids which animals won't walk over, so keep a look out for these, the majority of which are signposted.
- Minor roads may have a gate. You may have to get out of the car and open the gate if it's closed. Don't forget to close it after you have passed. The golden rule is: Always leave a gate as you find it!

- Another fact you should be aware of is Outback roads and tracks usually traverse private property. Please stay on designated roads and tracks.
- When a road train comes across your way it is a good idea to drive as far to the left as possible and slow down. Better still; wait until the truck has passed. You won't see anything driving in the dust.

So what has to be done to prepare your car?

- Be sure that your vehicle is in good mechanical condition. Check the tyres and the spare tyre before you go. Don't forget the manual. Take some essential spare parts and tools with you. Even if you don't know how to use them, the friendly person in the car passing by probably can help you if you have the right spare parts.
- If you hire a car, check the tool kit. When you're in doubt, ask at a garage for advice. You should carry a high-jack, a wheel spanner and a ground plate (to adjust the high-jack on soft ground) to change a flat tire.
- Other useful tools include insulating tape, lubricating spray, and set of screwdrivers, shovel, some ring and open spanners and wire.
- Spare parts should include engine oil, fan belt, set of hoses, radiator hoses, spare bulbs, and spare fuses. Go to a car dealer, buy the essentials, and arrange with them to return the spare parts if you don't use them.
- If your car breaks down, don't be a fool and try to walk somewhere to get help. Perhaps you have to wait a few hours, or even a day, until another car comes by, but if you have enough water you are safe. Don't panic! And never leave your car. People perish in the Australian Outback because they don't obey this most important rule.

The above are a few handy tips, but prior to undertaking any Outback driving it is recommended that you obtain further information and one of many useful website is: **<http://www.raa.com.au/page.aspx?TerID=1358>**

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