

# THE DUBBO EXPERIENCE

Welcome to Dubbo! Enjoy your ultimate three-day Dubbo Experience.



Whether you're embarking on the great Australian journey or you just want to get away from it all, be sure to make Dubbo a priority stop-over on your travel odyssey.

The following is a suggested 3 day itinerary to ensure you make the most of your *Dubbo Experience*. Encounter the City's unique offerings; connect with nature and immerse yourself in our City's diverse culture.

## DAY ONE

**Taronga Western Plains Zoo** Obley Road | (02) 6881 1400

Get away from it all; launch your Dubbo experience with a visit to the iconic Taronga Western Plains Zoo.

Find yourself surrounded by fascinating wildlife on vast open plains and allow yourself to be immersed in the unique serenity of Taronga Western Plains Zoo. The 6km circuit is surrounded by magnificent bushland with animal exhibits and picnic grounds situated along the way. Whether you travel by car, bike, electric cart or trek on foot at your own leisurely pace, your experience will take you through some of the most distinctive global wildlife habitats in the world - from the savannah grasslands of Wild Africa where zebras, rhinos and cheetahs roam, to the *Big Cat Encounter* where the Sumatran tiger and African Lion call home.

Taronga Western Plains Zoo is a proud partner in global endangered species programs. Witness how a modest Australian zoo in central NSW is making a significant contribution to the conservation of wildlife, assisting threatened species to breed, protecting their genetic diversity and even re-introducing them to the wild.

Soak up the delicious serenity; enjoy that 'novel on the go' as you bathe in the sunlight amongst the tree lined picnic areas. The perfect remedy to close your day is an icy-treat from Bakhita's Cafe'. Enjoy tasty Australian cuisine or simply grab a quick refreshment as you watch the Spider Monkeys and Lemurs frolic on the islands of the Savannah Lake.

**We recommend:**

- 1 full day or 2 half days ( your ticket is for 2 consecutive days)
- Make sure you don't miss out on your favourite animals, plan your visit by checking out a map in advance, available from the Visitors Information Centre.
- Take advantage of the child friendly areas like the Safari Park Playground.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bikes (with optional tows or cabooses), electric carts and strollers can be hired on the premises.</li> <li>• You can pack a picnic and enjoy refreshments or lunch under the shade of a eucalyptus tree in one of the many picnic areas throughout the Zoo.</li> </ul>
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## DAY TWO

### **Taronga Western Plains Zoo** *Obley Road | (02) 6881 1400*

Spend a few hours catching up on what you may have missed on Day 1. Remember, there are over 500 animals to see so don't waste a minute.

If you're eager, start at dawn as the animals awaken; leisurely-guided early morning walking tours are a fantastic way to see the world's exotic and endangered species before the zoo opens. Informative and entertaining, the walk is suitable for all ages and fitness levels, taking approximately 2 hours to complete. Opt for a relaxing breakfast while you're here, tea and toast by the Savannah Lake proves a delightful start to your second day.

If you prefer to start a little later, keeper talks are a great way to learn more about the Zoo's animals. This is a time where you can marvel at the incredible beauty and abilities of some of the Zoo's most amazing animals – see a koala up close, feed a Giraffe, book a meerkat encounter or learn more about wildlife at one of the daily shows.

***\*Additional charges apply for Early Morning Walks, only available on weekends with additional tours conducted on Wednesdays and Fridays during the school holiday period, no booking required.***

### **Western Plains Cultural Centre** *76 Wingewarra Street / (02) 6801 4444*

After a morning basking in the finesse of nature, head into the heart of Dubbo and discover some manmade artistry at the Western Plains Cultural Centre. WPCC is Dubbo's creative soul, providing a cool and welcoming atmosphere sure to satisfy the unfamiliar artisan to the creative connoisseur.

Presenting a rich and varied program of high quality exhibitions, special events and educational activities, find out why the WPCC makes such a significant contribution to the cultural life of Dubbo and surrounding communities.

Uncover the City's history and view Australia's largest and best preserved wool wagon and recently installed carved tree, an object of great cultural significance to the local Aboriginal population rarely displayed in Australia.

Indulge with some great quality coffee and cake at the Outlook Cafe. The newly furnished cafe' restaurant offers alfresco dining with a fresh light menu including salads and gourmet sandwiches plus a selection of wines by the glass.

***Please note the Western Plains Cultural Centre is closed Tuesdays.***

<b><i>We recommend:</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A stroll within the museum and art gallery followed by a meal or refreshment at the fully licensed Outlook Cafe.</li> </ul>
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**Dubbo Arts and Crafts Society Cottage Shop and Gallery** 137 Cobra Street, Dubbo /  
(22) 6881 6410

Continue to feed your artistic spirit with a visit to the Dubbo Arts and Craft Society. On offer is an impressive range of art works together with a selection of patchwork, porcelain painting, silver craft, embroidery, woodwork, spinning and weaving and wood-turning, all created by skilled, local artists. The Cobra Street cottage also offers the opportunity to exercise your mind, body and soul with a variety of leisure and learning activities. Classes in folk art and decoupage, painting, porcelain painting, silver craft, spinning and weaving, teddy bears, woodturning will have you gaining new skills before the day is out.

**Open 7 days from 10:00am – 4:00pm, free admission.**

### ***Bird Watching***

Be allured by the chase and ignite your passion, head out into the fresh air and visit untouched land well off the tourist track.

The City of Dubbo is a superb location for birdwatchers and nature lovers alike. Home to approximately 250 species of birds (download list here), the Dubbo region provides local bird routes ranging from a few hours to full day trips, all within 50km of the City.

Some great spots for bird watching are contained in the Dubbo Bird Routes brochure, download here.

**Royal Flying Doctor Service, Dubbo Base Education Centre** Off Cooreena Road,  
Adjacent to Dubbo City Regional Airport / Ph: 0407 444 690

Another *must see* attraction is the education centre at the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Located adjacent to the Dubbo City Regional Airport, come along and witness the heroic, live saving work carried out by the Royal Flying Doctors for the people of remote Australia.

Learn about the development and operations of the Dubbo Base and see the RFDS history and memorabilia. Hear how Reverend John Flynn visualised a “mantle of safety” over remote Australia more than 80 years ago.

The incredible passion and knowledge of the volunteers will pervade your understanding and encourage a truly remarkable experience. From real life medical footage to heroic tales of RFDS doctors, nurses and pilots carrying out life saving work on a daily basis. Before you go why not do your part in keeping the RFDS in the air and buy a souvenir to remind yourself of this eye opening experience.

**Open Tuesday to Saturday 1pm to 4pm. Admission \$2.00 adults**

## DAY THREE

### ***Tracker Riley Cycleway***

Start the morning of day three with a stroll along the Tracker Riley Cycleway. The Tracker Riley Cycleway was named in honour of legendary Aboriginal tracker and is popular with locals. The path leads from the Dubbo Visitors Information Centre and spans as far as Taronga Western Plains Zoo.

Be serenaded by the abundant native bird life, smell the river red gums and feast your eyes on the stunning waterway while you cycle\* or stroll along the 12.5km path that follows the majestic Macquarie River. Experience close up views of an old railway trestle viaduct and huge concrete and steel railway bridges.

***We recommend:***

- That if you didn't hire bikes, you hire bikes from the Dubbo City Holiday Park.
- Enquiries to 6801 4530

### ***Dubbo Regional Botanical Gardens*** *East Dubbo, off Coronation Drive / (02) 6801 4000 76*

Continue your nature experience with a breathtaking visit to the Dubbo Regional Botanic Gardens. The gardens sit on the side of 10 hectares of undulating land, providing a place for recreation, stimulation, science and learning.

Visitors of all ages, backgrounds, physical abilities and cultures can explore and discover the natural world. Channel your inner green-thumb through a guided tour.\* Enliven your senses with a stroll through the delightful Sensory Garden— an invigorating experience which has been designed to engage with visitors through smell, sight, sound, touch and taste.

Feast your eyes on the stunning aesthetics behind the formal Japanese gate or “Sukiyamon” within the Shoyen Garden. This Garden is maintained with the assistance of the Friends of the Dubbo Regional Botanic Gardens as well as Dubbo’s sister city, Minokamo, through annual visits by their gardeners.

Enjoy a peaceful meander through the Biodiversity Garden that showcases the plant communities of the Dubbo region.

The Oasis Valley is the newest edition – opened in April 2013 the Valley is designed to exhibit dry rainforest species and tell the story about how our local bushland species evolved from the cool forests of Gondwanaland.

Don't forget your picnic pack as the large trees provide a wonderful shade canvas and offer the perfect open-air dining setting.

***Open between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 4.30pm Saturday and Sunday.***

**Old Dubbo Gaol** 90 Macquarie Street / (02) 6801 4460

Do you know someone that needs to *serve time*? The Old Dubbo Gaol has opened the cell doors and invited you to experience the fascinating history of barbaric prison life in the 1800s. Learn about past prisoners and daring escapes with theatrical performances and guided tours.\*

Be berated by one of the strict wardens, or pick-pocketed by the cunning prisoners. Brave individuals may choose to defy fear and plunge further into the Gaol experience with a Twilight Tour;\* become a 19th century prisoner in the dead of night and explore the ominous atmosphere that offers chilling facts and frights with a theatrical twist.

\*Theatrical Performances and Guided Tours – included in your Dubbo Experience Package. \*Night Tours – additional charges apply. Approximately 1.5 hours. Bookings essential.