



ATTRACTIONS GUIDE

Coolah · Mendooran · Dunedoo



COOLAH

Coolah Tops National Park

With its tall strands of Eucalypt forest and spectacular views across the Liverpool Plains, Coolah Tops National Park is one of New South Wales best kept secrets.

Enjoy unspoilt features of panoramic lookouts, waterfalls, giant grass trees and the largest snow gums ever recorded.

Gazetted as a national park as recently as 1997, there are great opportunities for bushwalking, peaceful bush camping and seeing wildlife such as grey kangaroos, wombats, wedge-tailed eagles, echidnas and reptiles in their natural habitat. Coolah Tops also supports a delightful species of possum, the nocturnal Greater Glider – Australia's largest gliding possum with a wingspan of up to one metre.

Highlights include:

- Giant Grass Trees** – wander through towering ancient grass trees on a 2 km walk near Barracks camping area;
- Norfolk Falls Picnic Area** – cascading waterfalls after rain;
- Bundella Lookout** – panoramic views extending across the Liverpool Ranges and north to Mt Kaputar;
- Shepherds Peak** – basalt outcrop reached by short but rugged walk (accessible from eastern forest drive);
- Pinnacle Lookout** – stunning views of surrounding escarpment short walk from Bundella Lookout. (Be careful of rocky edges at this lookout).

Camping is un-powered only. A rustic bush hut is available (BYO everything), but must be pre-booked with NPWS.



Brochures on Coolah Tops are available from Coolah Library and Coonabarabran Visitor Centre.

How to get there

Coolah Tops is 30 km north-east of Coolah. The road leading to Coolah Tops includes 20 km unsealed road. All roads within the park are unsealed. Towing caravans is not recommended although campervans & 2WD vehicles are ok – though not after rain. Some trails are 4WD only. These are marked.

Further information & hut bookings: Mudgee NPWS Office.
Ph (02) 6370 9000
www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

Coolah Crafts

Browse the lovely selection of locally made country hand-crafts including woodwork, patchwork and exquisite jewellery designed by local artisan Annette Piper. Or sample delicious home made condiments. Thursday-cake day.

37 Binnia Street, Coolah

Open Mon – Fri 10am – 4.30pm.
Sat 10am – 12.30am
Ph (02) 6377 1166

Black Stump Rest Area

Have you ever heard of the expression 'beyond the black stump'? Coolah lays claim to being the original site where this iconic Australian phrase, meaning beyond the limits of civilisation was first coined.

A rest area has been established, near the location where the former Black Stump and Black Stump Wine Saloon stood (prior to fire). To strengthen Coolah's claim, the Aboriginal name for the area is said to mean 'place where the fire went out and left a black stump.' The locality names of Black Stump Run & Black Stump Creek are also located nearby.

How to get there

10 km north of Coolah on the Gunnedah/ Coonabarabran road.

King Togee's Headstone

King Togee's headstone marks the site of a notable Aboriginal leader and friend to the early white settlers.

He was speared to death by a jealous young Aboriginal man named Cuttabush who later became king of a Coonabarabran sub-tribe. Visit the weather-worn sandstone headstone with interpretation, telling the story of 'Togee – King of the Butheroe Tribe.' Free entry. Accessible all times.

How to get there

Located 29 km west along the Neilrex Road, just past 'Langdon' homestead.

Black Stump Nursery Rhyme Village & Camel Farm

The 'village' features 17 nursery rhyme characters, reminding you of childhood memories. Wander through the gnome village complete with 174 quirky gnome characters, each with their own personality. There is also a playground, BBQ area, log chapel, matchstick display & souvenir shop.

How to get there

96 Scully Road, Coolah. Drive 5km south on Scully Rd (Mudgee direction), take signed turn-off on your right. Drive 1 km and it is your first tarred entrance.

Open 9am – 5pm, 7 days.
\$7 Adults, \$6 pens., \$3 child (5-16).
Includes Devonshire tea with scones.
Ph (02) 6377 1375

MENDOORAN Mendooran Mural Town

The village of Mendooran is the oldest settlement on the Castlereagh River and NSW premier mural town. Artist Karin Duce has painted the main street with colourful murals reflecting country life and Mendooran's history. Don't miss the great horseracing scene on the parallel to the Community centre or the giant black glossy cockatoos mural, which inhabit the Goonoo Forest nearby. Free.

DUNEDOO

Dunedoo Local Museum

A comprehensive collection of materials covering the military history of the area and other local history and treasures. Family history resources also available.

Open 10.00am – 3pm, Wed,
or by appointment.

Bolaro St, part of Dunedoo Library
complex, near newsagency.

Ph (02) 6375 1457

Talbragar Country Antiques

Huge collection of early Australian
furniture – restored and unrestored. A
treasure trove of interesting bits and
pieces, large and small.

Open 6 days 10am – 4pm
(closed Tue)

62-66 Bolaro St, Dunedoo

Ph (02) 6375 1595

Dunedoo Art and Craft

Locally made arts and crafts. Gifts for
all occasions.

Opening times Mon – Fri 10am - 4pm,
Sat 9am - 12pm

38 Bolaro St, Dunedoo

Ph (02) 6375 1585

PICNIC AREAS COOLAH

Cunningham's Campsite and Pandora Pass

A memorial plaque marks the site
where explorer Allan Cunningham and
his party camped the night before
moving further up the valley and dis-
covering Pandora Pass. The pictur-
esque camp site is adjacent to Coolah
Creek about 20 km east of Coolah.

Just beyond, Cunningham's Campsite,
a gradual climb will take you to
Pandora Pass, 815m above sea level.
From here you get magnificent views of
the Coolah Valley & Liverpool Plains.

How to get there

Travel east from Coolah on the
Cassilis Road for 2 km and then turn
left onto Coolah Creek Road.
Continue for 23 km to Norfolk Falls
turnoff. Do not take the Falls road, but
continue for approx 3 km. Across from
Coolah Creek is the memorial.
Pandora Pass is 4 km further on.

Beni Crossing

A peaceful picnic spot on the sandy
banks of the Castlereagh River. This
area holds almost mythical
connotations for shearers and drovers
working in the area at the end of the
19th Century.

How to get there

Located 13km east of Mendooran –
unsealed shortcut between Dunedoo
and Coonabarabran.

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS Coolah McMaster Park

Pleasant garden and lawn area with a
visitor map, BBQ facilities and play
equipment.
Cnr of Binnia St & Booyamurra St.

Bowen Oval Playground Coolah

Enjoy this new playground with excit-
ing new equipment for the children.
The park is undercover with picnic ta-
ble and chairs and is situated next
door to The Sporting Club.

Mendooran Park

Relax under the shade of a large shel-
ter with BBQ, rainwater and toilet facili-
ties and children's playground nearby.
Bandulla St, Mendooran

Mendooran Rest Area

Picturesque, peaceful free camping
area with amenities including cold
shower, toilets and basic
wood BBQ pits.

Junction of Castlereagh
River and Merrygoen Ck,
behind Police Station.



Dunedoo OL Milling Lions Park

A lovely landscaped park and
recreation area that extends almost
the entire length of the main street.
Features a safe playground area, with
sheltered BBQ & amenities.

SCENIC DRIVES

Scenic Drives – 234 km loop

Coolah – Dunedoo – Mendooran –
Coonabarabran – Binnaway – Coolah

Starting at any point in this circuit
allows you to take in five of the six
towns in the Warrumbungle Shire as a
day trip or extended stay.

After exploring Coolah Tops National
Park, depart Coolah and head south
east to Dunedoo, passing through
Leadville where mining for silver lead
occurred in the early 1900's. After
browsing Dunedoo's wares, continue
north to admire the murals of Men-
dooran's and enjoy morning tea in the
pretty picnic area or a cuppa at the lo-
cal café. Then onwards to Coonaba-
rabran. Drop into the Visitor Centre to
find out about the area's highlights in-
cluding Warrumbungle National Park &
Siding Spring Observatory. Return via
Binnaway, stopping at Black Stump.

Pandora Gallery Coolah

Pandora Gallery has regularly changing
exhibitions, giving opportunities to
emerging and established artists to ex-
hibit and sell their work. The Art-Deco
complex houses a Tourist Information
Centre and Macquarie Regional Library
with Internet access. Photographs by
renowned photographer, Max Dupain
are permanently on display in the
Gallery.

Open Mon, Tues & Thurs 10am—
5.30pm, Wed—Fri 1pm—5.30pm, Sat
10am—12pm

57 Binnia St, Coolah

Ph: 02 63 785030.

Coolah Library

Open Mon, Tues & Thurs 10am –
5.30pm, Wed – Fri 1pm – 5.30pm.
Sat 10am – 12pm

(closed 1-2 Mon & Thur for lunch)

Ph: 02 63771910

Mendooran Post Office

Open Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm
Ph: 02 68861239

Coonabarabran Visitor Information Centre

Information on

Coonabarabran, Coolah, Ba-
radine, Binnaway,
Mendooran and Dunedoo.



Open 7 days, 9am – 5pm

FREECALL: 1800 242 881

Email coonavic@hwy.com.au

www.warrumbungleregion.com.au