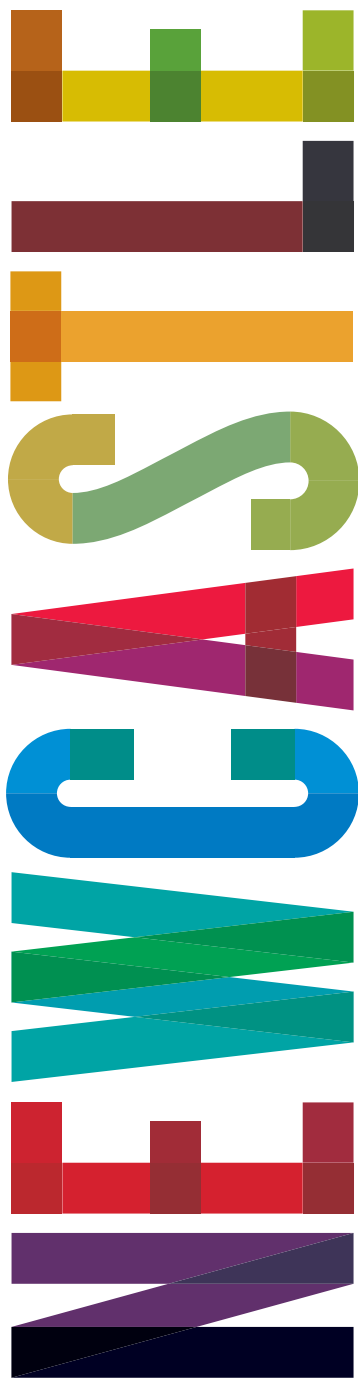


# Free Guide and Map



SEE CHANGE

# Welcome to Newcastle



The city of Newcastle has an enviable position, resting on a peninsula bordered by the magnificent working harbour and spectacular surfing and swimming beaches.

Newcastle's unique geography and 200 year story has helped create distinctive precincts. Explore and uncover the flavour and allure of the city's streetscapes and waterfronts – each with its own individual character.

### Newcastle East

Where the city meets the ocean This is Newcastle's oldest precinct and was the original town site. The area affords delightful contrasts, with the city centre surrounded by

beach on one side and harbour on the other. As Australia's second oldest city, the streetscapes abound with gracious heritage buildings and this precinct showcases some of the nation's most significant sites. There is FREE WI-FI in the CBD.

### Civic Cultural Precinct

Where Newcastle's cultural scene comes alive The Civic Cultural Precinct features the city's most prestigious venues, including City Hall and the Art Deco Civic Theatre, both built in the 1920s. On the other side of Civic Park is the Newcastle Art Gallery and library housing a magnificent collection and art housing an impressive schedule of exhibitions year round. On the waterfront side is Newcastle Museum, with three permanent exhibitions including a

Supernova, BHP heritage exhibition and hands on science centre for kids.

### The Junction

Newcastle's boutique shopping village This area is a junction of designer labels, unique jewellery and hip home wares. To satisfy your appetite, The Junction also has a smattering of restaurants and cafes and is a popular spot for a weekend brek after a dip at the nearby Bar Beach or Merewether Ocean Baths.

### Hamilton

For a multicultural mix and old world treasures Hamilton was home to Newcastle's first Italian and Greek arrivals and there is still a strong international focus in the dining offerings along Beaumont Street. After the corner of Beaumont

Street and Maitland Road is Islington, an area known for fantastic antique and bric-a-brac shopping.

### Cooks Hill

For the young and hip The lifeblood of Cooks Hill, Darby Street is a local favourite for quirky sidewalk cafes, shops and galleries. The street is buzzing day and night with hipsters hanging out of the many cafes or seeking out the latest street designer wear, alternate music, second-hand books and unique jewellery, gifts and homewares. The leafy streets branching off Darby Street are also dotted with private art galleries where you have the rare opportunity to meet the artists behind the works.



## Visitor information

visitnewcastle.com.au

## Local Visitor Information Centres

**Maritime Centre**  
3 Honeysuckle Drive  
Newcastle, NSW 2300

Open  
10am - 4pm Tuesday to Sunday

**Hunter Wetlands Centre**  
412 Sandgate Road  
Shortland, NSW 2307

Open  
Open 9am - 4pm, 7 days

Both centres are closed on Christmas Day and Good Friday.

**Official visitor website**  
visitnewcastle.com.au

**Convention and business events website**  
newcastleconventionbureau.com.au

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# Walks and rides



### Ride around Newcastle

Riding a bike is one of the best ways to get around inner city Newcastle as many attractions are located within minutes of each other. Get around the city, even easier with Newcastle Electric Bikes. The city has both on road and off road bike track and is a mixture of last and hilly terrain.

### Shipwreck Walk

Catch the ferry from Queens Wharf to Stockton and take in impressive views of the city. From Stockton ferry terminal it's a short walk following the picturesque foreshore to the breakwater.

Numerous ships were lost during the 19th and early 20th centuries on a sand bank to the north of Nobbys Island when navigating the entrance to the Hunter River.

The remains of the timber vessel have not survived the wrecks and hulks of several iron and steel ships were incorporated into the breakwater during its construction.

### Bathers Way

Stretching from the lighthouse at Nobbys Headland to Merewether Ocean Baths, Bathers Way is a scenic 5km coastal walk waiting for you to discover.

It takes two hours to walk the path or you can stroll short section and circle back via the city streets. Engaging in takes of Newcastle's Indigenous and convict heritage, culture and natural history weave their way along the track. Look for the yellow information signs that tell you the story.

There are a variety of walking and cycling maps available including Breakwall to Breakwall, Newcastle City Map, City to Newcastle University, Local Trails, Foodies Delight and a Harbour to Botanical Gardens.

Download your FREE copy of these walking and cycling maps from [www.visitnewcastle.com.au](http://www.visitnewcastle.com.au).



## Newcastle East Heritage Walk

The Newcastle East Heritage Walk passes many points of interest and spectacular coastal views that will enrich your understanding of Newcastle East's remarkable history.

Information signs help you navigate your way along the 3km path, which is a comfortable 1 to 2 hour walk.

A number of points of interest have lit for evening viewing and these are indicated on the accompanying map.

- 1 Watt Street wharf
- 2 Watt Street
- 3 Customs House and Convict Lumber Yard
- 4 Scott Street and Newcastle East residential warehouse Precinct
- 5 Jean Perrett stairs
- 6 Former rail marshalling yards and commercial wharf area
- 7 Acknowledgement of Newcastle's indigenous inhabitants - the Awabakal people
- 8 Former Zaara Street Power Station
- 9 Nobbys Road south towards Parnell Place and old gaol site
- 10 Newcastle East streets
- 11 Newcastle Ocean Baths
- 12 Promenade to Newcastle Beach and surf pavilion
- 13 Former Shortland Park then to subway
- 14 Pacific Park
- 15 Former Royal Newcastle Hospital
- 16 Fletcher Park
- 17 Upper Watt Street
- 18 End opposite Newcastle Railway Station

## Newcastle East Heritage Walk



- Key**
- 1 Heritage walk signs
  - A Newcast sites
  - I Illuminated sites
  - T Toilet
  - K Kiosk
  - Route
  - Disabled access route

### Places of interest

- A Nobbys Headland
- B Fort Scratchley
- C Ocean Baths
- D The Obelisk
- E King Edward Park Rotunda
- F Christ Church Cathedral
- G Court House
- H Post Office/Telegraph Office/The Lock up
- I Paymaster's Office
- J Stationmaster's Residence
- K Customs House
- L Earp Gillam Bond Store
- M Boat Harbour
- N Former Military Barracks
- O Soldiers Baths
- P Convict Yard



## Fernleigh Track

This shared pathway connects the cities of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie. A natural asset and popular with walkers and cyclists, the former railway corridor extends 15kms from Park Avenue, Adamstown in Newcastle to Belmont in Lake Macquarie.

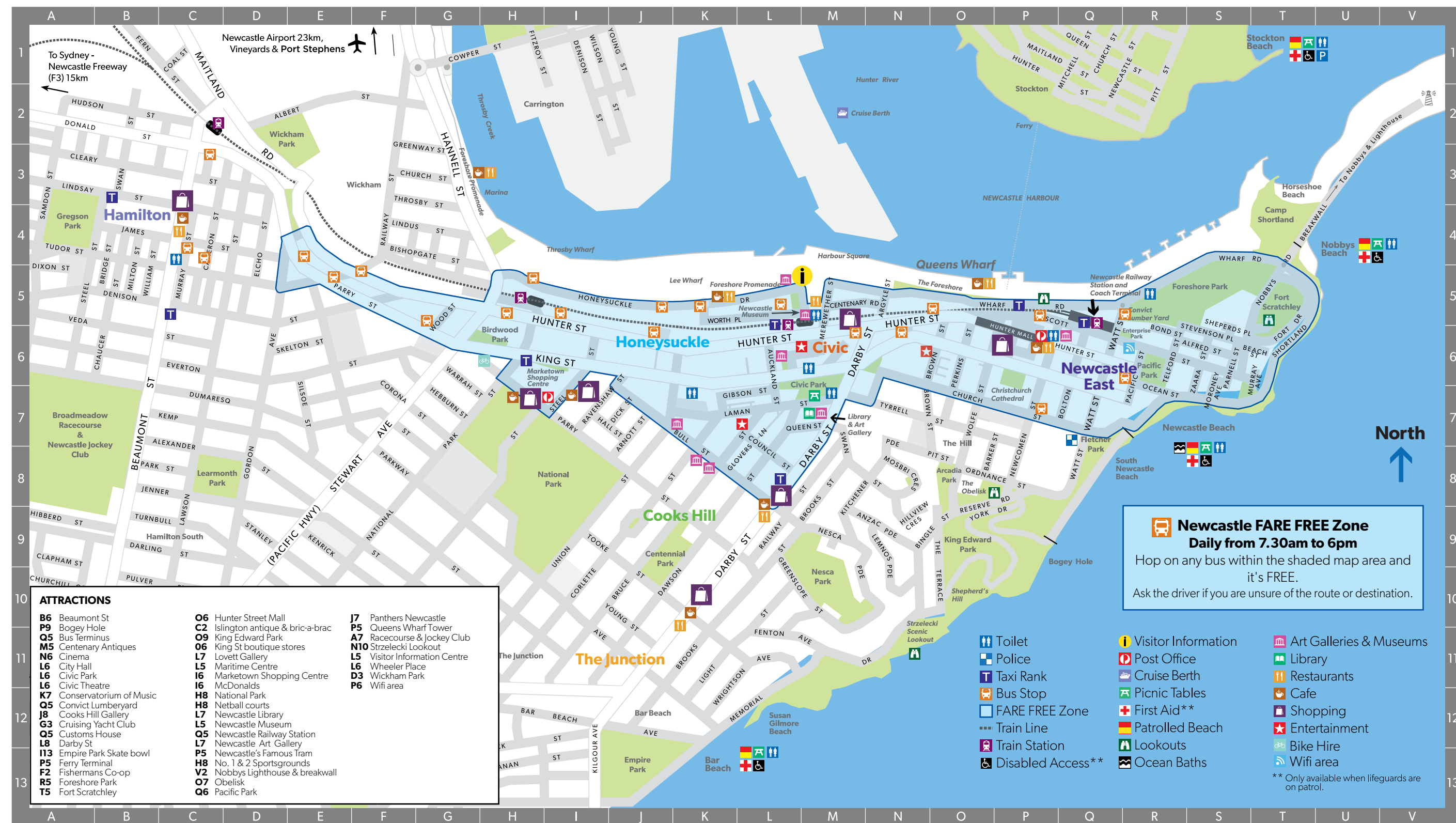
Originally constructed in the late 1880s the transport coal, the route passes mainly through a range of bushland settings, with links to adjoining residential communities.

The Fernleigh Tunnel, at the Adamstown end of the path, is 180m in length and connects the track with the Glenrock State Recreation Area, which is popular with bushwalkers and birdwatchers.



- Key**
- A Track access points
  - P Parking

# Newcastle city centre



ATTRACTIONS		
<b>B6</b> Beaumont St	<b>O6</b> Hunter Street Mall	<b>J7</b> Panthers Newcastle
<b>P9</b> Bogey Hole	<b>C2</b> Islington antique & bric-a-brac	<b>P5</b> Queens Wharf Tower
<b>Q5</b> Bus Terminus	<b>O9</b> King Edward Park	<b>A7</b> Racecourse & Jockey Club
<b>M5</b> Centenary Antiques	<b>O6</b> King St boutique stores	<b>N10</b> Strzelecki Lookout
<b>N6</b> Cinema	<b>L7</b> Lovett Gallery	<b>L5</b> Visitor Information Centre
<b>L6</b> City Hall	<b>L5</b> Maritime Centre	<b>D3</b> Wickham Park
<b>L6</b> Civic Park	<b>I6</b> Marketown Shopping Centre	<b>P6</b> Wifi area
<b>L6</b> Civic Theatre	<b>H8</b> McDonalds	
<b>K7</b> Conservatorium of Music	<b>H8</b> National Park	
<b>Q5</b> Convict Lumberyard	<b>H8</b> Netball courts	
<b>J8</b> Cocks Hill Gallery	<b>L7</b> Newcastle Library	
<b>G3</b> Cruising Yacht Club	<b>L5</b> Newcastle Museum	
<b>Q5</b> Customs House	<b>Q5</b> Newcastle Railway Station	
<b>L8</b> Darby St	<b>L7</b> Newcastle Art Gallery	
<b>I3</b> Empire Park Skate bowl	<b>P5</b> Newcastle's Famous Tram	
<b>I5</b> Ferry Terminal	<b>H8</b> No. 1 & 2 Sportsgrounds	
<b>F2</b> Fishermans Co-op	<b>V2</b> Nobbys Lighthouse & breakwall	
<b>R5</b> Foreshore Park	<b>O7</b> Obelisk	
<b>T5</b> Fort Scratchley	<b>Q6</b> Pacific Park	



## Getting here and around

**By road**  
If approaching from the south, the M1 Pacific Motorway from Sydney will have you arriving in Newcastle in just two hours. Alternatively, if you are entering the city from the north, follow the Pacific Highway.

**By air**  
Newcastle Airport is the major regional airport and is located 30 minutes north of Newcastle's city centre. Many direct flights are available on a daily basis from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Ballina and the Gold Coast.

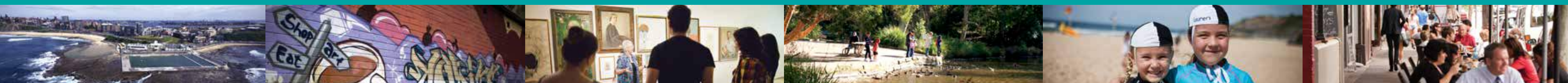
**By rail**  
Newcastle is part of the CityRail network. There are frequent return services daily. CountryLink trains connect Newcastle to Sydney, Brisbane and other country centres.

**Stockton Ferry and Newcastle Buses**  
Timetables for the Stockton Ferry and Newcastle Buses are available from The City of Newcastle's Administration Centre (located on ground floor), 282 King Street, Newcastle. For more information visit [www.newcastlebuses.info](http://www.newcastlebuses.info)

Port Stephens Coaches service Newcastle Airport from Newcastle Station 11 times a day during the week and five times a day on weekends. For more information on timetables and services contact Port Stephens Coaches on **+61 2 4982 2940** or [www.psoaches.com.au](http://www.psoaches.com.au)

**Newcastle Taxis**  
For bookings or enquiries call – **131 000** or **131 008**

# Newcastle and the city



## Tours

Want to go exploring but not sure where to start? Take one of Newcastle's informative tours to show you in and around the city. Take a walking tour with **Newcastle Heritage and Ghost Tours** to explore the darker side of Newcastle's history, or sit back and see the highlights of Newcastle in comfort onboard **Newcastle's Famous Tram**. Discover Newcastle harbour, see Newcastle's major sites from the water and spot local marine life on **Moonshadow Cruises** or **Nova Cruises**.

Get amongst the harbour activity with **Newcastle Kayak Tours**, enjoy a private surf lesson with **Newcastle Surf School** at Nobbys Beach, or take a half day tour with some mates around to some of Newcastle's local pubs with **Newcastle Scenic Pub Tours**.

## Arts and Culture

Newcastle is the ideal place to catch some culture, with a cluster of galleries and boutiques along Darby Street, Newcastle East and Cocks Hill.

If you are an art lover, look for **Cooks Hill Galleries** (K9) which is regarded as the Hunter Valley's and Newcastle's premier commercial art gallery.

Watch a performance at the spectacularly-restored Art Deco **Civic Theatre**(L6), which presents an amazing, diverse range of amazing shows.

Or visit **Newcastle Art Gallery** (L7), one of Australia's leading regional galleries with a magnificent collection from local, national and international artists and a full schedule of impressive travelling exhibitions.

## Nature

Newcastle is home to a variety of natural attractions offering ample opportunities for exploration and discovery. Stroll, cycle or ride a segway around the 45 hectare, internationally recognised **Hunter Wetlands Centre** to see a spectacular sites of birds, animals, reptiles and plants.

If you want to get up close to Australia animals, visit **Blackbutt Reserve**, a 182 hectares of natural bushland where you can walk the trails, discover the wildlife or get up close and personal with a Koala.

Take a family day out to swing and climb like Tarzan at **Tree Top Adventure Park** or for something more relaxing, pack up the picnic basket and head to King Edward Park, Foreshore Park or one of the many beautiful parks within Newcastle and have the perfect picnic with friends or family.

## Dining out and entertainment

To satisfy your appetite Newcastle offers a diverse range of dining. Sip cocktails at a one of the many harbourside restaurants at **Honeycastle** with bustling maritime views by day and glittering shores by night.

Dine in cosmopolitan **Beaumont Street** home to a range of international restaurants and quirky sidewalk cafes. Check out the live music at one of our many local pubs around the city and finish up with late night coffee at funky inner city **Darby Street**.

For those who prefer fine dining go no further than **Newcastle city centre**, a busy business precinct with a smattering of first class restaurants.

## Beaches and Ocean Baths

There are few cities in the world beyond Newcastle that can say their city centre is surrounded by six major beaches. With popular surfing, swimming and fishing locations and are all within minutes of public transport, shops and cafes. Newcastle also has three public ocean baths, including Newcastle Ocean Bath, the Canoe Pool and Merewether Ocean Bath.

**Stockton Beach**  
The largest sand dunes in the Southern Hemisphere, it is a popular spot for sand board riding and 4WD tours.

**Nobbys Beach**  
A popular surfing beach and a favoured swimming spot for family groups.

**Newcastle Beach**  
Spot whales and dolphins during migration season.

## Great photo opportunities/vantage points

**Queens Wharf Tour**  
Map reference: P5

**Nobbys Headland**  
Map reference: V2

**Fort Scratchley Historic Site**  
Map reference: T5

**Christ Church Cathedral:**  
Map reference: O7

**Shepherds Hill Lookout/Bogey Hole**  
Map reference: O10

**Bar Beach viewing platform**  
Map reference: K12

## Shopping

Shopping at some of the city's many quirky shops and galleries. **Darby Street** and **Newcastle East** are local favourites for bric a brac shopping, retro browsing and artisan made gifts and homewares. Wander the Junction for designer labels, fascinating jewellery and hip home wares. Shop the multicultural hub that is **Beaumont Street** which offers fine dining, unique specialty shops and quality second hand clothing.

Explore one of the many local markets for fresh local produce, wines, gourmet foods, arts, crafts, fashion, jewellery, home wares, everything from hand made originals to commercial products including **Newcastle Farmers Markets**, **The Olive Tree Markets** and **Hunt and Gather Markets**.

Major shopping centres in the area are **Westfield Kotara** and **Charlestown Square**.

## History

Newcastle is one of Australia's oldest and most interesting cities, containing a quirky blend of new and old architecture, a rich indigenous history, and one of the busiest ports in the world. The land and waters of Newcastle are acknowledged as the country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples, whose culture is celebrated in community events, place naming, signage and artworks. Visit the **Miramaa Aboriginal Language and Technology Centre** to learn more about the local Indigenous language, history and culture in the Newcastle area.

To learn more about Newcastle's history, take a walk through **Newcastle Museum** (L5), **Newcastle Maritime Centre**(L5), or visit **Fort Scratchley Historic Site**(T5), at its commanding position guarding the Hunter River Estuary. Explore **Christ Church Cathedral** (O7) and its exquisite architecture, beautiful grounds and wide views of Newcastle harbour.

## Other activities

Life in and on the water is a part of Newcastle's culture. Whether swimming, body boarding, surfing, paddle boarding, kayaking, kite surfing, cruising, fishing, sailing or just dipping your toes in, Newcastle has all the water activities you could want.

Alternatively stick to the sand at Stockton Beach with **Sand Dune Adventures** and go quad bike riding or 4WD driving for an exhilarating experience.

Enjoy a food and wine experience in Newcastle at **Inner City Wine Makers**, or for something different play a round of virtual golf at **Slice Virtual Golf** or go for a joy flight with **Jet Flight Simulator**.

## Events

Winner of an International Festivals and Events City Award, Newcastle is home to many exciting major events.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events at **Newcastle Entertainment Centre**, **Civic Theatre**, **Newcastle Jockey Club** and **Lizotte's** for great musical showcases, theatre shows, race days and exhibitions.

Regular events include Newcastle Knights, NRL and the Newcastle Jets A-League games taking place at **Hunter Stadium**. Other annual events include Newcastle Jazz Festival, Surfest, Craft Beer Week, Mattara Festival, This is Not Art Festival, Newcastle Writer's Festival and many more.

Visit [www.visitnewcastle.com.au](http://www.visitnewcastle.com.au) or 'Like' our Facebook page Newcastle, Australia for the latest information about upcoming events.

## Newcastle Ocean Baths and Canoe Pool

a favourite place for walking and exercise by the water and the canoe pool is the perfect place for young children to swim in safety.

**The Bogey Hole**  
One of the oldest ocean baths in NSW and is significant historic landmark on Newcastle's coastline.

**Bar Beach**  
The quintessential family beach, closely located near tennis courts, a skate bowl and cricket pitch.

**Dixon Park Beach**  
The quiet one, perfect for children and family picnics.

**Merewether Beach**  
Home to the annual International Surfist Competition

**Merewether Ocean Baths**  
The largest ocean bath complex in the Southern Hemisphere.

## Traveller Essentials

**Supermarkets**  
Marketown Shopping Centre (I6 on map)

**Currency exchange**  
Commonwealth Bank (P6 on map)  
Westpac (Q6 on map)  
Post Office: P6 or H7 on map

**Internet**  
Wifi is available throughout the city centre, or internet access is available at Newcastle Library (L7 on map)

**Souvenirs**  
Newcastle Museum  
Maritime Centre (both L5 on map)