

CLONCURRY

Friendly Heart of the Outback

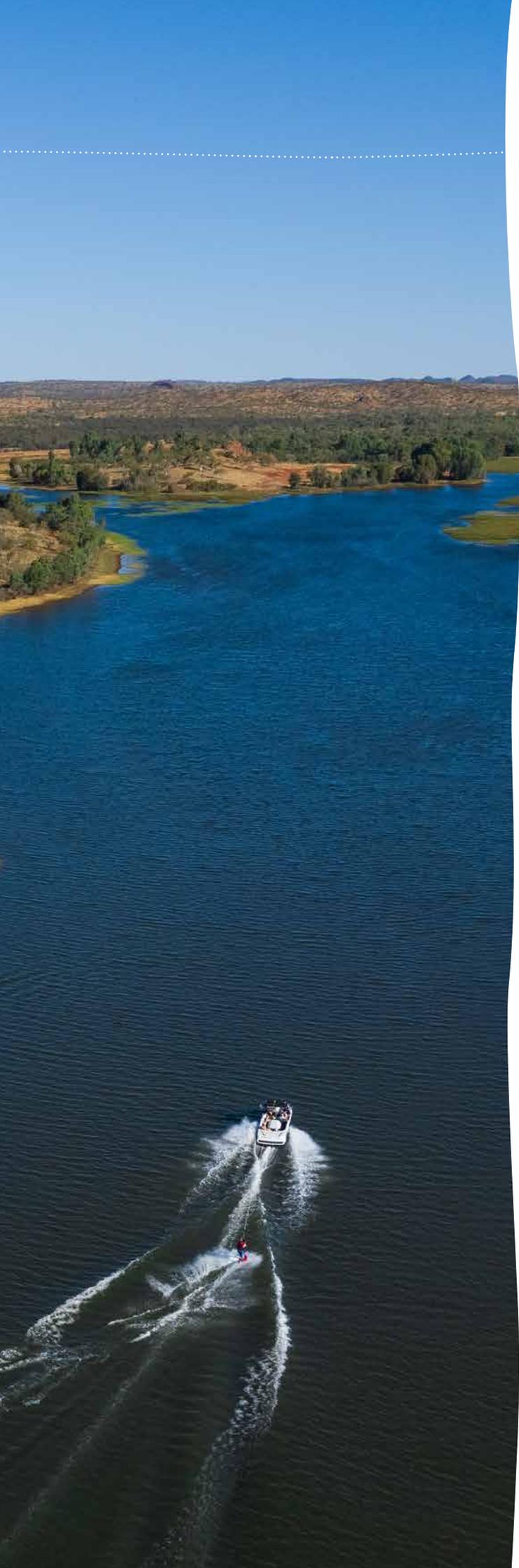


Cloncurry
Shire Council

Stay  Unwind  Enjoy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of our region, the Mitakoodi, Kalkadoon, Yullana, Waluwarra and Pitta Pitta peoples. We extend this respect to all elders past, present and future, and other First Peoples within our region. We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal peoples on this land.



INSIDE

- 4 Travelling to Cloncurry
- 6 Welcome to the Beating Heart of Outback Queensland
- 7 Down Town Cloncurry
- 10 Nature's Own
- 12 Hello, Neighbour
- 18 Cloncurry Map
- 20 Outback Events
- 22 Itineraries
- 28 Epic Outback Pub Trail
- 29 Safety in Cloncurry
- 30 Accommodation



SCAN ME
TO VIEW ONLINE

experiencecloncurry.com

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TRAVELLING TO CLONCURRY

TRAVEL TIMES AND DISTANCES

FLIGHTS

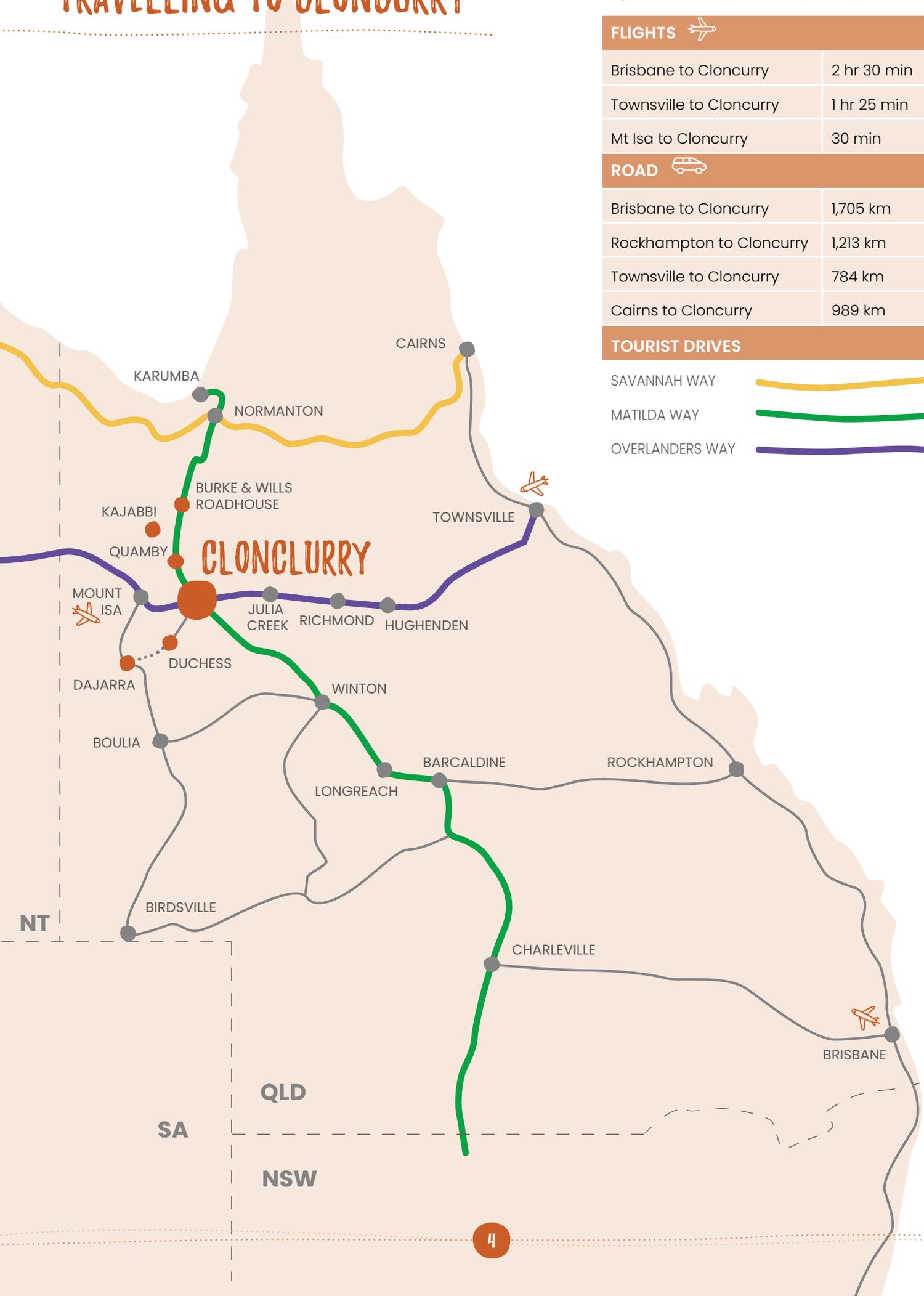
Brisbane to Cloncurry	2 hr 30 min
Townsville to Cloncurry	1 hr 25 min
Mt Isa to Cloncurry	30 min

ROAD

Brisbane to Cloncurry	1,705 km
Rockhampton to Cloncurry	1,213 km
Townsville to Cloncurry	784 km
Cairns to Cloncurry	989 km

TOURIST DRIVES

- SAVANNAH WAY 
- MATILDA WAY 
- OVERLANDERS WAY 





HITTING THE ROAD

Cloncurry is situated on the Overlander's Way, 770km west of Townsville and 119km east of Mount Isa. It is easily accessible via the Flinders Highway from Townsville and the Barkly Highway from the Northern Territory. Both highways are double-lane sealed and accessible to all vehicles during the dry season. If travelling on unsealed roads or in the wet season, it is recommended to check road conditions by calling **13 19 40** for 24 hour reports or visit: www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au. The staff at the Cloncurry Unearthed Visitor Information Centre and Museum can be contacted for local road conditions. It is especially important to regularly check road conditions during the wet season, as conditions can change rapidly. Check out the Cloncurry Dashboard (dashboard.cloncurry.qld.gov.au) for local road conditions and other local warnings.



MAKING TRACKS

Queensland Rail offers a twice weekly rail service (operates between Townsville and Mount Isa).

Cloncurry Railway Station is located on Hutchinson Parade, Cloncurry.

P: (07) 4742 4227 or 13 16 72

www.queenslandrail.com.au



TAKING TO THE SKIES

Cloncurry Airport offers five QantasLink flights per week from Townsville, Mount Isa and Brisbane.

Cloncurry Airport is located on Sir Hudson Fysh Drive, north of Cloncurry township.
P: (07) 4742 1235 for general enquiries to book a QantasLink flight phone **13 13 13** or visit www.qantas.com.au

The nearby Mount Isa Airport is 1 hour and 30 minutes drive from Cloncurry. The airport services a broad range of regional airlines and has rental vehicles available. There is also a bus link from Mount Isa to Cloncurry and a Cloncurry Airport Shuttle Bus which can be arranged by visiting the Cloncurry Travel Agency or by calling **(07) 4742 1107**.



BUS SERVICES

Bus Queensland and Greyhound Australia offers bus services in and out of Cloncurry, seven days a week. Visit or call Cloncurry Travel Agency on **(07) 4742 1107** to make bookings or book directly at:

Bus Queensland: www.busqld.com.au

Greyhound Australia: www.greyhound.com.au

WELCOME TO THE FRIENDLY HEART OF THE OUTBACK



Escape to the Queensland Outback. Behind you lies a vague memory of the everyday pressures of life, ahead of you lies an exploration of the enigmatic charm of the outback.

There is a simplicity to life that allows the clock to slow down. There is a purity to the environment that creates stunning natural beauty. There is a romance and charm that is built on the outback tradition of people looking out for each other.

And there, in the heart of outback Queensland, lies Cloncurry.

The birthplace of outback flight, Cloncurry is a bustling commercial center for the state's economy. Since its early years, this town has played a pivotal role as the friendly heart of the outback.

Walk through heritage lined country streets. Experience nature as the first explorers did. Meet local larrikins in pubs that have stood since pioneering days.

Beneath a surface of country charm and genuine smiles, lies an intricate history of pioneering ingenuity, breathtaking landscapes and the beating heart of the outback way of life.

Feel our strength, hear our stories, see our natural beauty. Be part of Queensland's outback spirit.



Address: McIlwraith Street (Flinders Highway)

Phone: (07) 4742 1361

Email: info@cloncurry.qld.gov.au

Web: experiencecloncurry.com



@ExperienceCloncurry

OPENING HOURS

May to October

Monday to Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Weekends and
Public Holidays
9:00 am - 4:00 PM

November to April

Monday to Friday
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Weekends and
Public Holidays
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

DOWN TOWN CLONCURRY



When you enter Cloncurry there is no mistake that you're in the heart of the outback. Our unique corner of Australia is complete with red dirt plains, staggering ranges, running waterways, cold beer, friendly locals and stunning wildlife. Come check it out!

Begin your Cloncurry exploration at the **Cloncurry Unearthed Visitor Information Centre and Museum**. Here you'll find all the information you need to plan your trip; collect road maps, hear local stories, purchase fossicking licenses and more.

WALKING THROUGH HISTORY

One of the best ways to explore the many different chapters of Cloncurry's history is by following the self-guided Heritage Tour; maps are available from the Cloncurry Unearthed Visitor Information Centre.

The self-guided tour features old railway stations, the Cloncurry Airport, heritage listed buildings, monuments commemorating World War II and more. Learn about historical figures and pioneers whose advancements in technology and aviation helped shape Outback Queensland and Australia.

The **Cloncurry Unearthed Museum** is rich with local history. Dig into the robust mining history of the Cloncurry region, including the museum's tribute to Ernest Henry, who first found copper in 1867. Today, the museum is home to one of the largest gem and mineral collections in Australia.

Come face to face with real artefacts left behind by members of the intrepid Burke and Wills expedition, the first explorers to traverse Australia from south to north.

The museum is home to Robert O'Hara Burke's water bottle and the Founder's Medal of the Royal Geographical Society which was awarded to Burke's family on the centenary of the expedition.

Fast Facts about Robert O'Hara Burke

- It is rumoured that Burke wanted to lead the expedition to impress a young siren of the theatre.
- He was impulsive, quick-tempered and recklessly brave.
- He kept no journal nor made any scientific findings on his journey.
- Historians speculate that Burke would have survived if he lived with local Indigenous people and awaited rescue like another member of the party.



Take your exploration of local history outside and follow the **Cloncurry Cemeteries Tour**. The self-guided tour leads you through the town's spook-tastic past.

Across four different cemeteries, located within easy reach of Cloncurry, headstones tell the stories of of bygone eras, pioneering ingenuity and exploration.

The Chinese Cemetery is the resting-place of Chinese gold miners who lived in Cloncurry at the turn of the century. The Cloncurry Cemetery is home to graves that date back to the 1880's and the Afghan Cemetery is a reminder that Cloncurry was once Queensland's largest 'Ghan Town'.

Did you know?

The Country Women's Association is a hallmark of country life in Outback Queensland. The CWA helps engage women across the community, creating a place for them to socialise and connect.

Discover the tribute to Charlotte Ellen Scott at the Cloncurry CWA building. Born in 1908, Charlotte was a long-term member of the Cloncurry CWA and famed for her "Charleston" dance.



COUNTRY CHARM

Get your outback on in Cloncurry. There are a number of great shops in Cloncurry, a chance for some retail therapy in the bush.

Fit your 4WD out with all the accessories needed for an outback adventure. Kit yourself out in an appropriate outfit for the next rodeo or campdraft. Or pick up a little treat for yourself at one of our lovely boutiques. Local shops are all conveniently located within walking distance of each other



PIONEERING INGENUITY

Cloncurry played a pivotal role in propelling Australia into the future through aviation.

A chance encounter in November 1919, between pastoralist Fergus McMaster and aviator Paul McGinness, in the dry bed of the Cloncurry River was instrumental in the formation of Qantas. Check out the monument on the edge of the Cloncurry River that commemorates this significant encounter.

The first passenger flight landed in Cloncurry on 3 November 1922. The first passenger was 84-year-old Alexander Kennedy and the pilot Hudson Fysh.

Today, one of the original Qantas hangars still stands and is in use at the Cloncurry Airport. A stone monument out front celebrates Cloncurry's role in the history of Qantas.

Cloncurry is the birthplace of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. **John Flynn Place Museum** is named after the visionary who began the 'flying doctor experiment.'

Visit the Museum to learn how the very first aerial ambulance service took flight in 1928. View records of an iconic era of technological advancement in both aviation and radio.

The combination of these technologies bridged vast distances and isolation across the outback, improving living conditions and creating a sense of security and hope for isolated outback communities.

There are very few symbols that epitomise the unwavering tenacity and pioneering ingenuity of outback Australia the way the Royal Flying Doctor Service does.

Fast facts about the Royal Flying Doctor Service

- In its first year, it flew more than 30,000km in 50 flights.
- It was the world's first flying ambulance.
- Today, it has more than 1,000 patient contacts every day.
- The service has flown the equivalent of 34 trips to the moon and back.
- Today, the RFDS has a fleet of 79 aircraft.

John Flynn Place

It's play time

Give the kids an opportunity to burn off some energy at the Mary Kathleen Memorial Park. You'll find a playground for the kids, a shady picnic and BBQ area and an outdoor display of historic mining, rail and farm equipment to explore.

Don't forget to take a short 10 minute walk up the lookout, behind the visitor centre.

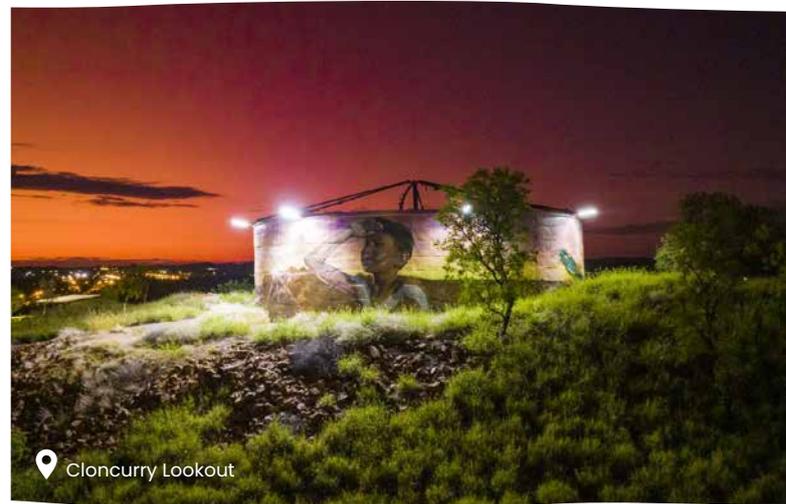
The **Cloncurry Lookout** is just three minutes drive out of town and features a stunning water tank mural, in addition to 360 degree views of Cloncurry and surrounds. Ensure you time your visit for sunset and let the orange, red and pink watercoloured sky take your breath away.



Mary Kathleen Memorial Park



Bird watching at Chinaman Creek Dam



Cloncurry Lookout

TOP 5 RELAXATION ACTIVITIES

- 1 Come face to face with history at Cloncurry Unearthed Museum.
- 2 Learn about outback aviation pioneers at John Flynn Place Museum.
- 3 Experience outback pub heritage on the Cloncurry Pub Trail.
- 4 Spend a sunrise spotting birds on Corella Dam.
- 5 Visit the ghost town of Mary Kathleen.

CULTURE CULTURE

With seemingly endless outback landscapes and inspiring pioneers to act as muses, is it any wonder that Cloncurry is home to talented artists and mesmerizing masterpieces?

Within the John Flynn Place Museum, you'll find the **Fred McKay Art Gallery**. The Gallery's subject matter is quite specific, featuring scenes inspired by the ingenuity of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the outback territory it soared over.

Inside the **Dr David Harvey-Sutton Gallery** you'll find ever-evolving exhibitions, interactive workshops and art competitions that elevate the gallery experience. From the innocent brushstrokes of a local student exhibition to the complex detail of intricate outback landscapes.

Turn art appreciation into a treasure hunt as you follow the **Cloncurry Mural Trail**. As you traverse the streets of Cloncurry, you'll find expansive masterpieces that depict outback life, mining heritage and the beauty of the outback landscapes and wildlife.



 Corella Dam

While Cloncurry is, without doubt, the friendly heart of outback Queensland, its natural landscape often contrasts what many expect from an iconic outback setting.

Unlike the flat, dry backdrops of many outback communities, Cloncurry is set amongst a family of hills, creating peaks and contrasts of green against red soils. The blue/green of the Cloncurry River snakes its way through the atypical landscape.

The earth meets clear blue skies, that at night transform into a blanket of black velvet sprinkled with silver stars.

DELIGHTFUL DAMS

Just six minutes drive from town, **Chinaman Creek Dam** is the perfect place to start your exploration of Cloncurry's natural gifts. From your stand up paddle board or kayak, glide along the dam exploring its shoreline filled with kangaroos and birds.

There is a 4.3km walking track that runs along the northern shore of the dam. The walk offers beautiful lake views and sprinkles of seasonal wildflowers. Taking approximately 1.5 hours, it's an easy way to soak in Cloncurry's natural beauty.

Chinaman Creek Dam is perfect for bird lovers. Spot Brolgas, Egrets, Ducks, Cormorants and the Cloncurry Parrot.

The dam has something for the whole family! The recreation area has a fabulous playground, picnic area and BBQs, amenities, a boat ramp and more.

Forty-five minutes west of Cloncurry you'll find Clem Walton Park and Corella Dam. The park is a flat campground area set against the dam.

The water is painted with vibrant oranges and reds at sunset. Corella Dam is one of our favourite places to melt marshmallows under the stars.



 Cloncurry River kayaking



Local Fishing Secrets

Cloncurry offers exceptional dam fishing, largely thanks to its regular fishing stock practices. Fishing in the Cloncurry region means beautiful days on calm waters where the fish are always biting.

PLACE	FISH SPECIES
Cloncurry River (walking distance)	Barramundi, Sooty Grunter, Spangled Perch, Banded Brunter, Sleepy Cod.
Chinaman Creek Dam (6 min from Cloncurry)	Barramundi, Sooty Grunter, Spangled Perch, Banded Brunter, Sleepy Cod, Triangular Shield Catfish and Redclaw Crayfish.
Corella Dam (45 min from Cloncurry)	Barramundi, Sooty Grunter, Spangled Perch and Sleepy Cod
East Leichhardt Dam (1 hr and 15 min from Cloncurry)	Archerfish, Alligator Gar, Sleepy Cod and Sooty Grunter

NATURAL SPRINGS

One hour and 12 minutes west of Cloncurry, Fountain Springs is a natural waterhole set amongst a dramatic rocky outcrop.

It was thrown into the spotlight after appearing on the Australian television series Survivor.

During and after a big wet season, the waterhole is a great place to cool off.

Soak in the serenity of the location as the song of wild birds bounces off the rocky outcrops that form a natural sound stage around you.

TOP 5 SPOTS TO CAPTURE AN EPIC PHOTO

- 1 **Cloncurry Lookout** – endless sprawling outback vistas and a masterful mural.
- 2 **Mary Kathleen Mine** – imagine deep blue water in the center of the pit, contrasted against the oranges, yellows and reds of the extinct mine walls.
- 3 **Corella Dam** – bright blue skies mirrored against an expansive lake lined with wildflowers.
- 4 **Fountain Springs** – a natural rocky outcrop softens to form a watery oasis and sanctuary for local birds.
- 5 **Mary Kathleen Memorial Park** – snap a photo of the kids on the historic mining, farm and rail equipment.

Top 3 4WD Adventure Trails

One of the most popular and rewarding adventure activities in the Cloncurry area is off-road driving. Many of our favourite 4WD adventure trails end in the discovery of a historic or natural gift.

- 1 **Mary Kathleen Uranium Mine** – discover the remnants of the old township and the awe inspiring pit of the long-closed mine.
- 2 **Fountain Springs** – stunning permanent waterhole set against a dramatic rocky outcrop.
- 3 **Wee McGregor Mine** – historic mine and railway set against an outback landscape.

HELLO, NEIGHBOUR

Situated in the heart of Outback Queensland, Cloncurry is placed well for travellers looking to explore.

There are a number of towns that surround Cloncurry, each with their own unique set of secrets waiting to be unearthed.



📍 Mary Kathleen Mine

GHOST OF THE PAST – MARY KATHLEEN

In the mid to late 1900's, Mary Kathleen was home to thousands of residents, most of which worked on Australia's largest known uranium deposit.

They enjoyed a bustling village community with a school, Olympic pool, open-air cinema, golf course, two churches and a hospital that delivered more than 200 babies.

With the mine long closed, the structures of the township have been all but removed. Mary Kathleen's secrets are not hard to uncover, you'll find the old town fountain, outline of the pool and the concrete slabs where homes once stood.

Follow the road to the abandoned mine and marvel at the sheer expanse of the pit. The earth's yellow, orange and red hues that disappear into the blue tones of the water below.

Did you know?

The company that owned the mine and village charged only \$8 per week for a two-bedroom unit and all amenities were provided at no cost.



TRACKS OF HISTORY – QUAMBY

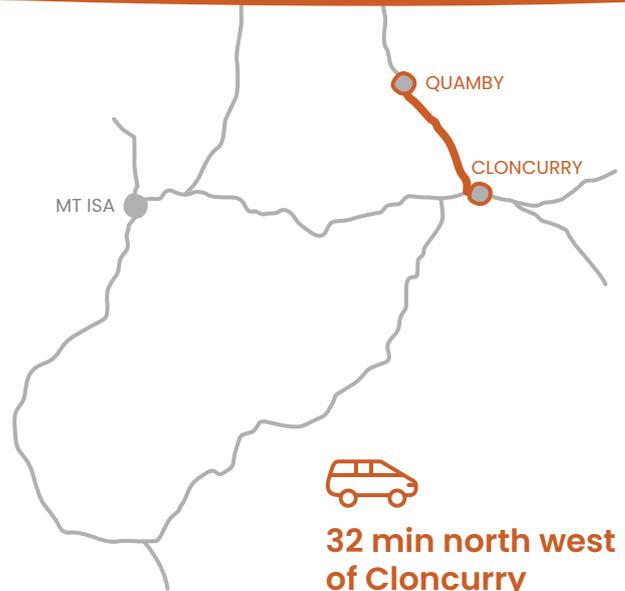
Quamby was once a little railway town that existed to serve the region's thriving cattle and mining industries.

Relics of the town that once was remain in the form of a handful of sheds, water tanks, memorabilia from nearby cattle stations and the old Quamby Pub.

The pub in the scrub, as it is affectionately referred to, has recently re-opened. The new owners brought the old 1860's Customs House back to life. Its wide verandah and rusted tin roof perfectly compliment the outback landscape surrounds.

Each year in July, Quamby attracts thousands of visitors for their rodeo. Calf roping, team roping, breakaway roping and more – each rodeo event celebrates a real life skill required to work the land in Outback Queensland.

Don't forget to pick up a fossicking license and map from Cloncurry Unearthed Visitor Information Centre and try your luck digging for zigzag amethyst or hornblende gemstones.



Did you know?

Quamby is an Aboriginal word meaning to stop and rest a while.





WILD WEST PUB TOWN – KAJABBI

A picturesque river town, Kajabbi was originally established to service the nearby Dobbyn and Mount Cuthbert copper mines and the extensive cattle stations of the region.

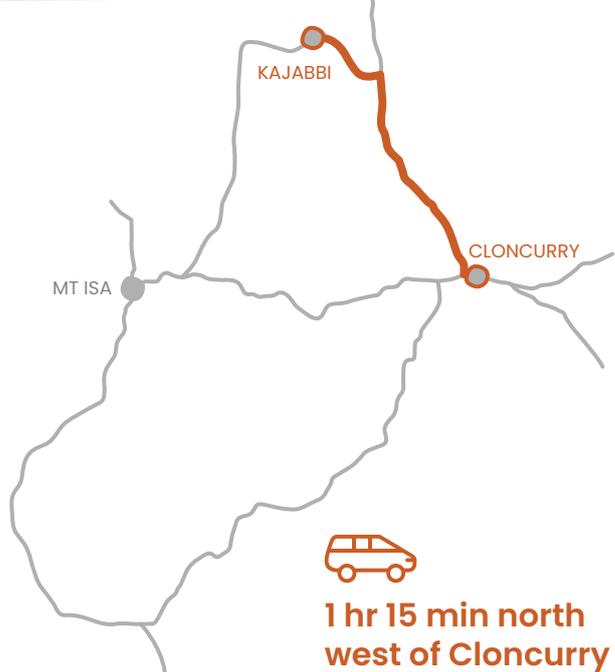
The Kajabbi railhead saw countless head of cattle bought and sold through its gates in the 1920's.

Located on the Leichhardt River, the outback town has an official population of 10 people.

A visit will uncover a landscape dotted by mining relics, like smelter stacks. The surrounds are home to kangaroos, dingoes, countless bird species and the occasional freshwater crocodile.

The Kalkadoon Hotel was named after the local Indigenous people, specifically to pay homage to their warrior spirit when fighting to defend their lands.

Australia's greatest outback pub has recently re-opened, following an extensive renovation. Drop in for a cold beer and tasty feed.



SOLITUDE OF THE BUSH – MALBON AND KURIDALA

Malbon and Kuridala are twin outback communities only 15 minutes drive from each other. The road is sealed to Malbon but dirt to Kuridala.

Malbon is essentially a collection of dwellings, old sheds and abandoned cars without any town services such as a post office. Originally established as a railway camp, today Malbon is home to a small community of people who truly love the peace and solitude of the bush.

Kuridala is an outback town that has had many names. The mining township was originally named Gulatten and then Friesland, but anti-German sentiment during World War I prompted another name change. The local Aboriginal word for eagle hawk, Kuridala, was chosen.

Today the town has a registered population of just 10 people. Malbon and Kuridala are little outback gems

Did you know?

During World War II, the Malbon Railway Station was managed by a Station Mistress during the day and a Night Officer during the evening.



**Malbon 40min,
Kuridala 55 min
south west of
Cloncurry**

 Kuridala smelter ruins





A ROYAL ROUND – DUCHESS

At the end of the gentle bend in the ochre red road, lies a tiny outback town with a regal name.

The town's delightfully royal name was given to it by local pastoralist Alexander Kennedy. The name Duchess referred to an Aboriginal woman who had turned up unexpectedly at Kennedy's homestead.

She was said to be the mistress of an English aristocrat often referred to as 'The Duke'.

When phosphate was discovered in the 1960's, Duchess continued to grow on the back of mining with enough people residing in town to warrant a school. The school remained open until 1983.

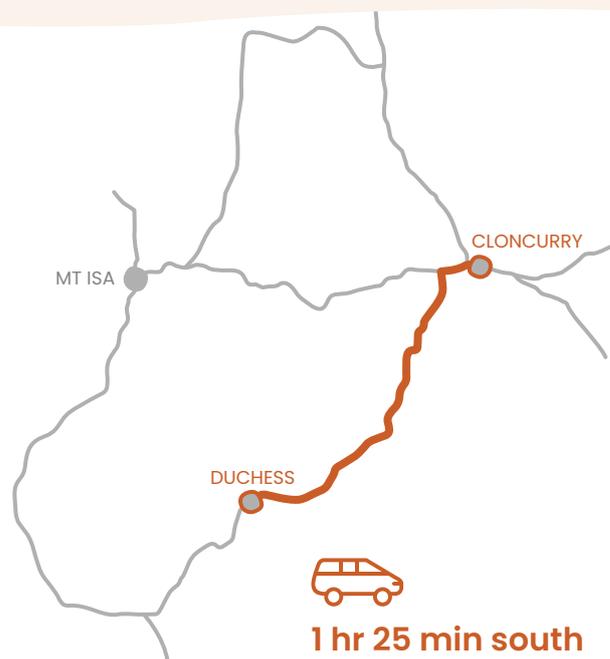
Watch the train run past the edge of the town, its abandoned houses and an outback pub that is small in stature but big in character.

The old Duchess Mine and lime quarry was a driving force behind this mining community.

Today, its most popular attraction is The Thirsty Camel Duchess Hotel where stories flow just as well as the beers.

Did you know?

Pastoralist Alexander Kennedy was the first person to discover the unique green ore (copper) that Duchess is known for. He was also the only passenger on Qantas' first passenger and mail flight.



**1 hr 25 min south
west of Cloncurry**

TRUCKING LIFE — DAJARRA

Dajarra has a proud and rich indigenous heritage that spans the stories of tribes from Diamantina River, the Gulf and the Northern Territory.

Local children are taught Aboriginal languages, how to make didgeridoos and find bush berries, wild oranges and bananas by elders.

Another important element of Dajarra's history is its role in the transportation of cattle across Australia. Dajarra was once the largest cattle trucking depot in the world.

Today, you'll find the skeleton of what was an enormous cattle yard. The yard used to hold livestock waiting to be loaded onto cattle trains.

Every September the Dajarra Rodeo and Campdraft bring a hum of excitement into the town. A true country event, the spirit of the outback can be felt as beginners and bushmen alike compete in skills their ancestors have used for hundreds of years.



Did you know?

The Dajarra cattle yard trucked more cattle than Texas in the United States of America, Australian drovers would bring cattle from as far away as Western Australia.



CLONCURRY MAP



▲
 Quamby 43km
 Burke & Wills Roadhouse 177km
 MATILDA'S WAY

Equestrian Centre
 Race Club

▲ Ernest Henry Mine 38km
 Airport 5km

OVERLANDER'S WAY
 Burke & Wills Memorial 40km
 Mount Isa 119km

BARKLY HIGHWAY

BURKE DEV. RD

HENSLEY DR

Lawn Cemetery Section
 Cloncurry Cemetery

SIR HUDSON FISH DR

Reserve
 The Cloncurry Weir
 Reserve

ISLEY ST
 HENRY ST
 SHEAFFE ST
 ALICE ST
 DAINTREE ST
 SCARR ST
 KING ST
 STATION ST
 RAMSAY ST
 SHORT ST
 STATION ST

Tennis Skate Gym
 JFP
 M H
 M H
 M H
 M H
 G

Chinaman Creek Dam

Lookout

Cloncurry River

Reserve

SPRING ST
 POWERHOUSE RD

Coppermine Creek

Annabranche

PHILLIPS ST

Cloncurry is rich with authentic heritage and modern day experiences. Visit local attractions and explore the legends, characters, colourful tales and rich landscapes of this fascinating area.



-  John Flynn Place Museum
-  Service Station
-  Hotel
-  Motel
-  Caravan Park
-  Hospital / Ambulance
-  RV Free Site
-  Van Dump Sites
-  John Flynn Place Museum
-  Cloncurry Uearthed Visitor Information Centre & Museum
-  Gallery
-  Toilets
-  Library
-  Cloncurry Community Precinct
-  Swimming Pool
-  Cemetery
-  Church
-  Railway
-  Chinaman Creek Dam Walk
-  Lookout
-  Qantas Monument



Address: McIlwraith Street
(Flinders Highway)

Phone: (07) 4742 1361

Fax: (07) 4742 0144

Email: info@cloncurry.qld.gov.au

Web: experiencecloncurry.com



@ExperienceCloncurry

OUTBACK EVENTS

Cloncurry's colourful events are a showcase of outback living, country charm and hospitality served up in unforgettable events.



1 CLONCURRY AND DISTRICT RACES

Cloncurry Race Club

Today, the club hosts five race meets annually, filled with racing action, fantastic fashion and cracking characters.

 **March, April, October and November**



2 CLONCURRY PRIZE POETRY COMPETITION AWARD EVENING

Cloncurry

One of Australia's richest poetry competitions culminates in an evening celebrating words that bring the essence of outback Australia to life.

 **June**



3 MARKETS

Twilight Markets

Mary Kathleen Memorial Park, Cloncurry

Held each month on a Saturday evening from September – April, the Twilight Markets is an artisan collection of homewares, gifts, jewelry, fashion, food, art and craft.

 **One Saturday, each month
October – April**

Sunday Markets

Mary Kathleen Memorial Park, Cloncurry

All the magic of the twilight markets celebrated in the morning light. A perfect way to spend a Sunday and pick up a unique souvenir.

 **One Sunday, each month
May – September**



4 ROCKHANA GEM AND MINERAL FESTIVAL

Mary Kathleen Memorial Park, Cloncurry

A three-day festival showcasing local fossicking sites and the variety of gemstones of the Cloncurry region, set against a backdrop of live music, stalls and activities for the kids.

 **June**



5

RODEOS AND CAMPDRAFTS

Cloncurry Stockman's Challenge and Campdraft **Cloncurry Equestrian Centre**

With a 40 year history, this campdraft attracts some of the country's finest riders that showcase elite horses and horsemanship skills.

 **July**

Quamby Rodeo **Quamby**

A sea of Akubura hats and the hum of anticipation buzzing through your veins right before they release the gate. This is outback rodeo life.

 **July**

Curry Merry Muster Festival **Cloncurry Recreation Grounds and** **Cloncurry Equestrian Centre**

This celebrated muster event that began in 1954, the Curry Merry Muster Festival continues to be a milestone local event for locals and visitors alike.

 **August**

Dajarra Campdraft and Rodeo **Dajarra**

A huge weekend of campdraft and gymkana style competition and good old fashioned outback hospitality.

 **September**

Burke and Wills Rodeo **Four Ways**

Bush life and outback hospitality come together in an epic display of cowboy and cowgirl talent in a stunning setting.

 **September**



6

CLONCURRY DISTRICT SHOW

Cloncurry Recreation Grounds

The biggest and best community show in western Queensland, you'll find traditional animal showing events run like hundreds of years before and more.

 **June**



7

BEAT THE HEAT FESTIVAL

Cloncurry, Scarr Street

A street party style celebration of Cloncurry's mining and pastoral history that includes spring horse races, markets, live music, a mine cart rally, curry cook-off and more.

 **September**

For more event details visit
experiencecloncurry.com/events



SCAN ME

ITINERARIES

One of the true beauties of a holiday in the Cloncurry area is that so many of its attractions are within such close proximity.

On our suggested three and five day itineraries, you'll discover natural beauty, rich history, off-road adventures and pubs that remain institutions of the Australian outback lifestyle.

Because everything is so close you can keep touring or come back to Cloncurry as your base at the end of each day.

A FIVE-DAY AFFAIR WITH CLONCURRY

Day 1 – Cloncurry Township

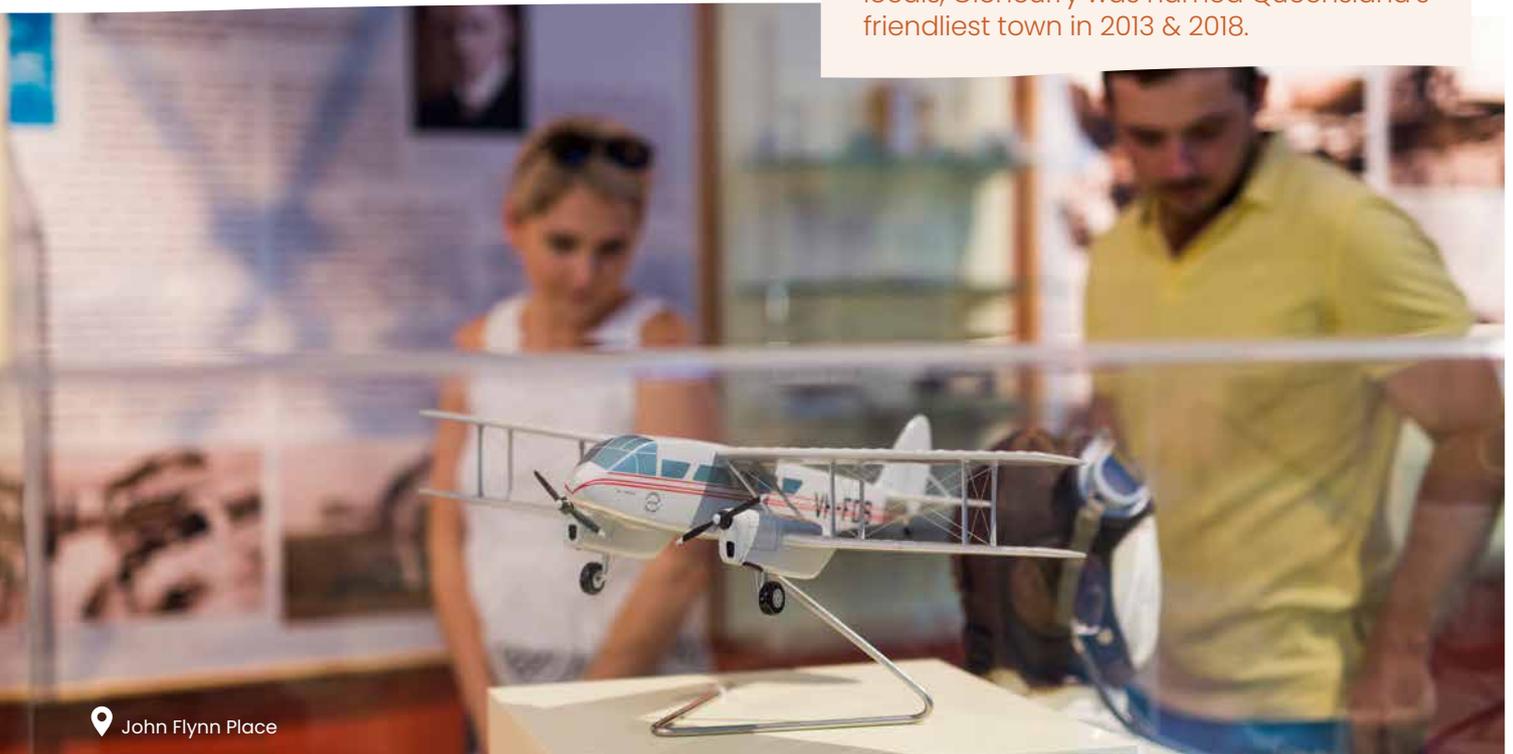
Drive into Cloncurry and feel the slower pace of outback life wash over you. You could easily spend more than a day exploring everything Cloncurry has to offer.

- 1 **Cloncurry Unearthed Visitor Information Centre and Museum** – be sure to make this your first stop, to see the friendly staff who can help assist you in your travels.
- 2 **Cloncurry Unearthed Museum** – wrapping around the visitor information centre, the museum showcases Cloncurry's rich history. Exhibitions include mining, agriculture and aviation displays, artefacts from pioneering explorers and the story of the big personalities that shape Outback Queensland.

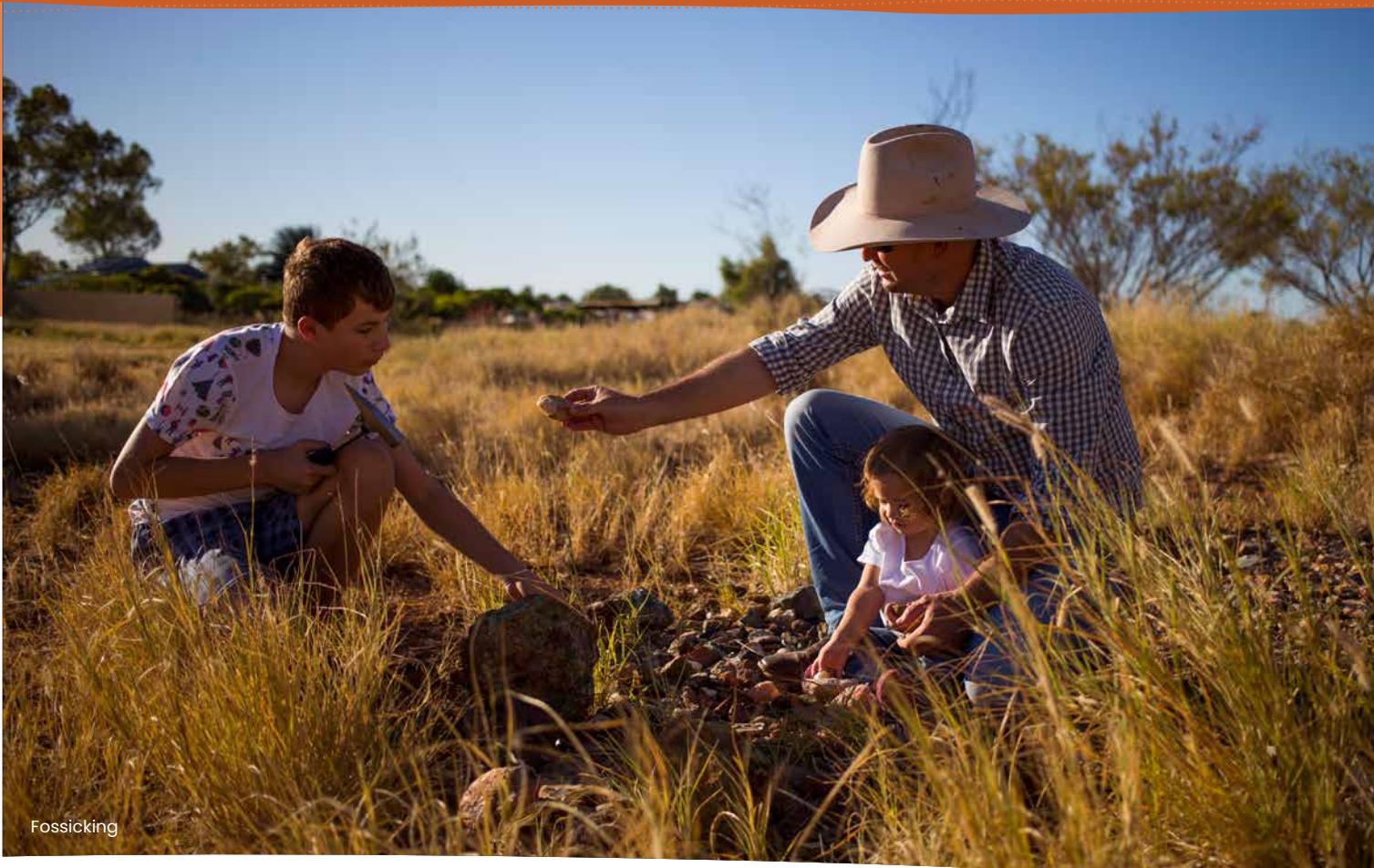
- 3 **John Flynn Place Museum** – Cloncurry is the birthplace of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, which was founded by John Flynn in 1928. The museum records an era of technological advance, when aviation and radio overcame the isolation of vast tracts of Australia.
- 4 **Heritage Tour** – unearth the key historical sites around the Cloncurry township, including beautiful heritage buildings and monuments to key historical events.
- 5 **Sunset at the lookout** – The Cloncurry lookout located at the turnoff to Chinaman Creek Dam, is the perfect location to watch one of the amazing outback sunsets.

Did you know?

Lovingly referred to as "The Curry" by locals, Cloncurry was named Queensland's friendliest town in 2013 & 2018.



John Flynn Place



Fossicking

Day 2 – Southern Gems

If you are heading out to explore the Cloncurry Shire, be sure to take a trip south, to explore Cloncurry's history and experience outback living.

- 1 **Kuridala (74km south of Cloncurry)** – once a mining township, Kuridala is now marked by skeletons of the past in the form of mining stacks still dotted throughout the landscape. A little further past the old mine are the amethyst fields. Be sure to get your fossicking license either online or at the visitor information centre before you set off to fossick.
- 2 **Duchess (132 km south of Cloncurry)** – this former mining town is situated on the rail line between Cloncurry and Mount Isa and is home to the quaint, but character-rich Duchess Hotel.
- 3 **Dajarra (180km south of Cloncurry)** – once the largest trucking depot in the world, Dajarra is now a quiet and laid back outback town.

You can choose to head back to Cloncurry or stay the night in Dajarra at the hotel or campgrounds.



Kuridala Stack

Day 3 – History of the West

With Cloncurry's rich history, no matter which direction you head, you'll stumble upon a historic site.

- 1 Clem Walton Park/Corella Dam (55km west of Cloncurry)** – built to provide water for the nearby Mary Kathleen Mining Township, the dam is now a scenic campground and great place for bird watching. Clem Walton Park and Corella Dam are free camp sites.
- 2 Mary Kathleen Mine (68km west of Cloncurry)** – the township of Mary Kathleen was home to 1,000 people in its heyday. The once bustling mining town is now a ghost town. The old open cut mine is an Instagram worthy shot with the beautiful aquamarine water.
- 3 Ballara Mining Heritage Trail (turn off 60km west of Cloncurry)** – the trail consists of the old mining towns of Ballara, Hightville and Bulunga. These towns had pubs and general stores dating back to the 1910's. Now all that remains is what once was of the railway and some old equipment. The drive is open for 4WD access. The trail also encompasses Fountain Springs, a spectacular crevice waterfall and permanent spring within Fountain Range. If you are lucky enough and the rain has been in the area you may see the waterfall.

You can choose to head back to Cloncurry or stay the night at Clem Walton Park (suitable for caravans and motorhomes).



Day 4 – Pub Culture and Pioneers

- 1 **Quamby (45km north of Cloncurry)** – once a railway town servicing the cattle and mining industries. The Quamby Pub was originally built in the 1860's. Quamby comes alive each year in July for the Quamby Rodeo.
- 2 **Kajabbi (100km north of Cloncurry)** – a small town with a population of 10, Kajabbi's railhead was a key component in outback Queensland's mining operations in the 1920's. The town's Kalkadoon Pub reopened in 2022 and is worth a visit to have a chat with the local residents and enjoy the relaxed outback lifestyle.
- 3 **Burke and Wills (180km north of Cloncurry)** – the Burke and Wills Roadhouse is exactly what you would expect from an outback roadhouse; complete with cold beer, tasty burgers, interesting characters, country charm and a road train or two parked out front.

You can choose to head back to Cloncurry or stay the night in each of the towns north of Cloncurry.



Day 5 – From the Sky to the Dam

- 1 **Qantas Hangar** – one of the original Qantas hangars is located at the Cloncurry Airport. You can view the original building, however as it is a functional hangar, visitors are only able to see the storyboards that tell the story of Cloncurry's involvement in the birth of Qantas.
- 2 **Cemeteries** – Cloncurry has a number of older cemeteries in the town including the Chinese, Afghan, original Cloncurry and old cemetery. All locations have storyboards that provide information on the cemeteries. Interesting fact: Dame Mary Gilmore is buried in the old cemetery.
- 3 **Chinaman Creek Dam** – it wouldn't be a visit to Cloncurry if you didn't relax and unwind at the Chinaman Creek Dam. If you fish, swim, paddleboard or picnic, there is something for everyone to enjoy at the dam. The newly refurbished recreation area has a great playground, picnic area, amenities, boat ramp and more.

Did you know?

For 10 years the only punters in the the Quamby Pub have been white ants. Left to the wind and dust, the pub was purchased by two Gold Coast couples, Nigel and Karen Sheiles and their friends Greg and Wendy White in 2021 after the Sheiles' spotted it on a road trip. After years of restoration, the shiny new Quamby Pub opened its doors in April 2023.

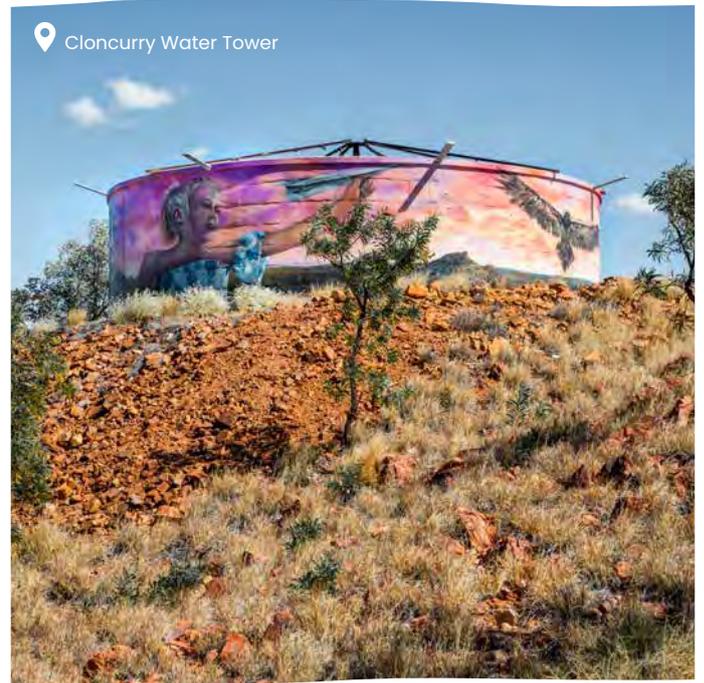


THREE-DAY DISCOVERY OF CLONCURRY

Day 1 – Heart of Outback Living

In the heart of Cloncurry, you can explore pioneering history that changed the future of outback living in Australia.

- 1 When you arrive in town your first stop simply must be the **Cloncurry Unearthed Visitor Information Centre and Museum** to help plan your trip. Don't forget to explore artefacts from Burke and Will's iconic expedition.
- 2 Visit the **John Flynn Place Museum** and discover Cloncurry's history as the birthplace of the iconic Royal Flying Doctor Service.
- 3 Head out towards **Chinaman Creek Dam** for a relaxing splash and venture up to the Cloncurry lookout for a stunning sunset photo opportunity.



Day 2 – Ghost Towns and Gems

Visit a relic of Cloncurry's mining past and try your luck fossicking for gems.

- 1 Begin the day by visiting Cloncurry's old cemeteries and discover elements of its history, including the Afghan graves where iconic cameleers came to rest.
- 2 Take a 50 minute drive south to **Kuridala** (74km from Cloncurry) and see stacks from old mines still standing. Don't forget to get a fossicking license online or at the visitor centre and hit the amethyst fields.
- 3 One hour and 15 minutes from Kuridala you'll find the ghost town of **Mary Kathleen** (68km west of Cloncurry) and the beautiful **Corella Dam**. The Dam is a wonderful place to stop for a campfire lunch or set up camp for an epic sunset.

Day 3 – Pubs and Pioneering Explorers

Day three offers an exploration of iconic outback pub culture.

- 1 The **Quamby Pub** (45km north of Cloncurry), was originally built in the 1860's. The Pub still stands today, and has retained its original character. This old town comes alive each July for the Quamby Rodeo.
Next stop – Kajabbi just 45 minutes' drive away. You'll find old copper mines, the railway head and the **Kalkadoon Pub**.
- 2
- 3 One hour and 15 minutes from Kajabbi is the renowned **Burke and Wills Roadhouse**. The home of the annual rodeo and campdraft events, the roadhouse is the perfect location to stop and enjoy the slower pace of outback living.



Clem Walton Park

EPIC OUTBACK PUB TRAIL



In outback communities, the humble pub was and still is a pivotal social icon of bush living.

It's the place where local miners and stockman came after long, hard days of work, where the community met to celebrate festivals or commiserate a loss.

Today the Cloncurry region is home to a network of outback pubs that hold their heritage in expansive balconies, long wooden bars and rustic tin roofs.



Post Office Hotel



Kalkadoon Hotel



Duchess Hotel



Quamby Pub



Burke & Wills Roadhouse

Central Hotel, Cloncurry

Survey walls of memorabilia and hear stories from Jim and Lorene who've managed the hotel for more than 20 years.

Post Office Hotel, Cloncurry

Originally The Union, the Post Office Hotel was renamed in 1901 but still holds its two-story charm with its wrap around verandah.

Quamby Pub, Quamby

Originally built in 1860's, Quamby Pub is all that remains of a once prosperous gold mining and cattle district.

Leichhardt Hotel, Cloncurry

Survey town and family history along the walls of the pub and join regular community events.

Dajarra Hotel, Dajarra

Made famous in the 1970's for nude art that lined its walls painted by local miner Mickey Rooney.

Kalkadoon Hotel, Kajabbi

Named after the warrior spirit of a local Aboriginal tribe, Kalkadoon Hotel is steeped in history.

Oasis Hotel Motel, Cloncurry

A local favourite, full of country charm that serves good food and genuinely friendly service.

Duchess Hotel, Duchess

Relive the glory days of a buzzing railway town in this unassuming, humble outback pub that is full of bush character.

Burke and Wills Roadhouse, Four Ways

A remote outback pub that continues to draw the community and local stations together.

SAFETY IN CLONCURRY

Cloncurry is a safe and friendly region. Much of its natural beauty is due to its remote outback location. However, this isolation requires some planning to ensure you're prepared and can simply relax and enjoy your visit.

We provide the following information for your consideration in planning your trip.

FIRES AND FLOODS

- Check the QFES website <https://www.qfes.qld.gov.au/Current-Incidents> to see all current bush fires and bush fire alerts
- Head to <https://qldtraffic.qld.gov.au/> for the latest up to date reports on road conditions and or flood warnings.
- Check out the Cloncurry Dashboard (**dashboard.cloncurry.qld.gov.au**) for local road conditions and other local warnings.

Bushfire danger and road closures due to rainfall occurs predominantly during the summer (Dec-Feb) however, can occur anytime during the year, for up-to-date information the above websites are advised. Wet Season is typically October/November - April. The higher the warning the more dangerous conditions become.

SAFETY TIPS FOR DRIVING

- Plan ahead and make sure you have sufficient supplies, plenty of fuel, water, food and always carry a spare tyre and a well-stocked first-aid kit.
- Ensure you have a current road map and call into the local visitor information centre to check all up to date weather and road conditions before leaving.
- When overtaking road trains, be sure that you have a clear vision, heavy vehicles and caravans should only be overtaken when you can clearly see at least 1 km ahead. Remember when travelling behind a road train, if you can't see their mirrors, they can't see you.
- When travelling on single lane sealed roads, give road trains the right of way, slow down and move off to the left as far as possible, allowing the road train to remain on the road. In wet conditions be aware that road edges can be soft, therefore when pulling off to the left ensure your right wheels remain on the bitumen.

- When driving on private property (i.e. stations), remember that it is someone's home and should be treated as such. It is crucial to leave gates as they were found, so as to not impact livestock. Open gates should be left open and closed gates should be closed, after you have passed through them.
- Beware of stock and wildlife on all roads; dawn and dusk are the times when animals are most active.
- Should you break down in the Outback, it is important that you stay with your vehicle at all times. Stay in the shade and keep hydrated, do not attempt to walk to safety.
- Take care and drive to the conditions of the road. Extra care must be taken on unsealed and loose surfaces as they can be unpredictable. Take rests when need to ensure you are driving at your best ability.

MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE

Please check with your mobile phone supplier to see if your phone will work in Outback Areas.

Best Coverage – Telstra Network

Next Best – Optus Digital

NOTE: Vodafone does not work in this area.

Services are limited when travelling between towns.

CONNECT WITH US



**CLONCURRY
UNEARTHED**

VISITOR INFORMATION
CENTRE & MUSEUM

Address: Mcllwraith Street (Flinders Highway)

Phone: (07) 4742 1361

Email: info@cloncurry.qld.gov.au

Web: experiencecloncurry.com



@ExperienceCloncurry

All efforts have been made to ensure information was correct during the time of publication. Please be aware that business may be subject to change.

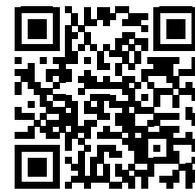
ACCOMMODATION



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LOCATION

180KM NORTH OF CLONCURRY, 240KM NORTH-WEST OF
JULIA CREEK, 200KM SOUTH OF NORMANTON & 140KM EAST
OF GREGORY.

FUEL

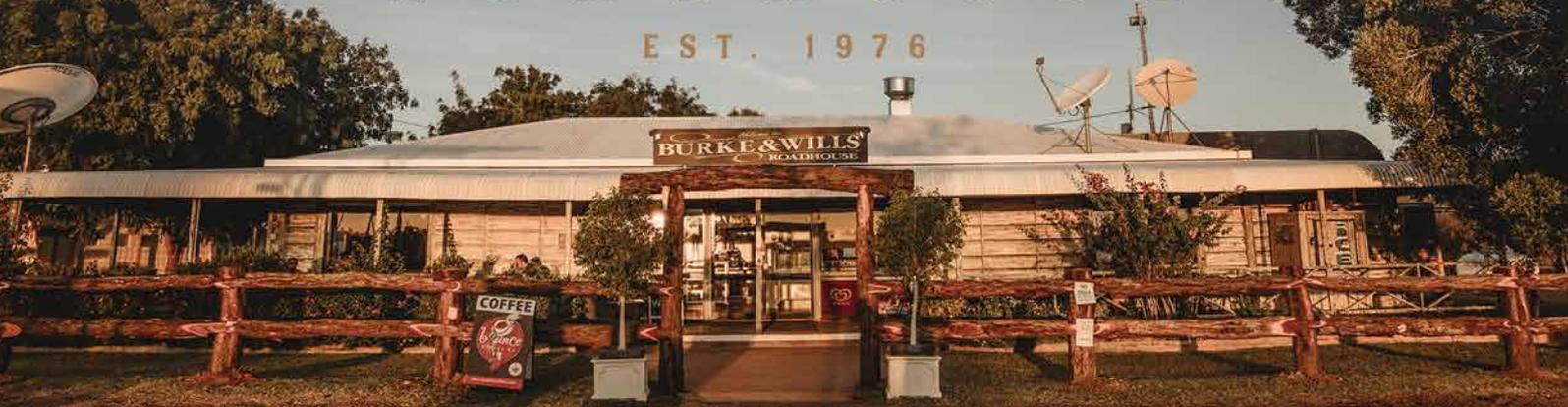
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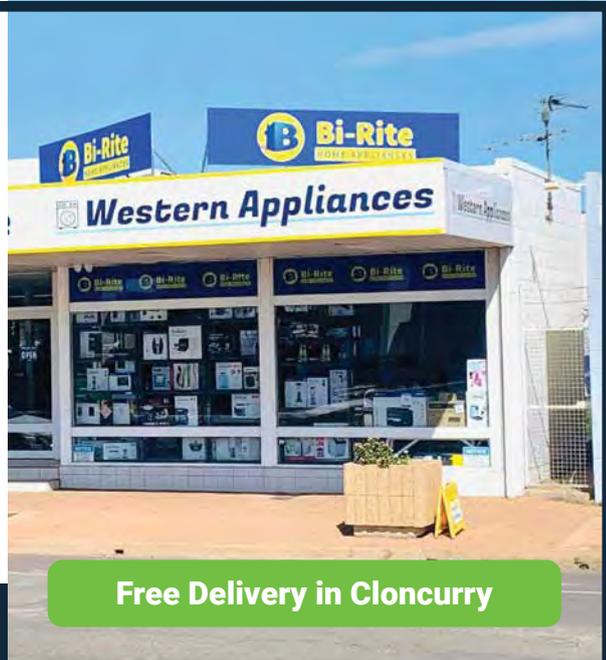
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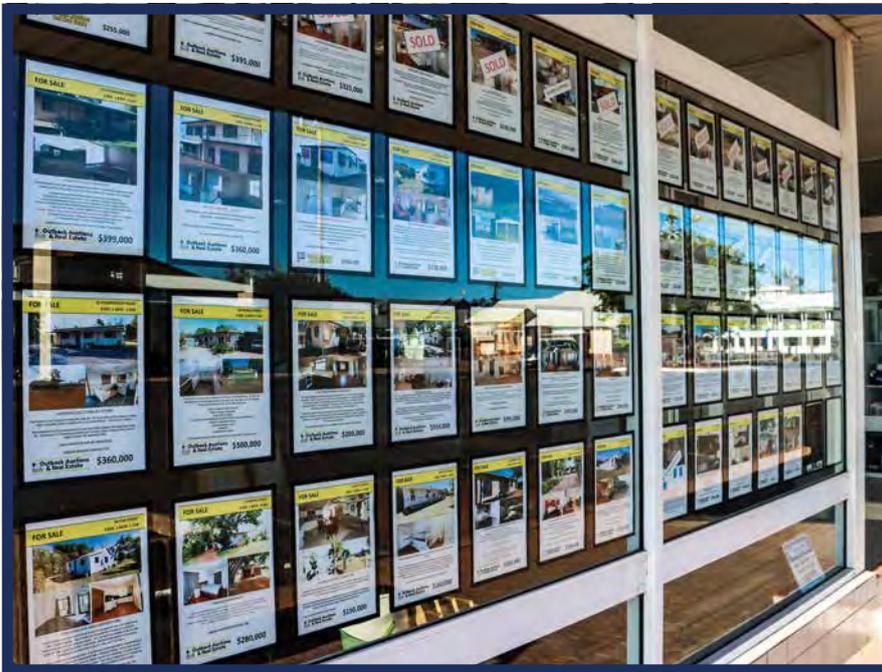
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CONTACT DETAILS

Ph: 07 4722 5561

Email Rentals: rentals@outbackauctions.com.au

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Website: outbackauctions.com.au

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Share your Cloncurry adventure with us by tagging [@experiencecloncurry](https://www.instagram.com/experiencecloncurry) or [#experiencecloncurry](https://www.instagram.com/experiencecloncurry).

We hope you enjoy your time in the Curry.

CLONCURRY

Friendly Heart of the Outback



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Cloncurry
Shire Council