

# THE PIONEER VALLEY AND EUNGELLA NATIONAL PARK

*Where nature takes its course!*



**PIONEER VALLEY  
EUNGELLA**

*Where nature takes its course*

[www.mackayregion.com.au](http://www.mackayregion.com.au)



**Mackay Tourism**  
vibrant spirit • thriving region



**Mackay**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Embark on your own course Through the Pioneer Valley and Eungella

Approximately 80km west of Mackay, the Pioneer Valley leading to Eungella National Park ('young-g'lah' meaning land of the clouds) and the Mackay Highlands, are must-sees for every visitor to Mackay. The emerald green lowlands are carpeted by sugarcane fields and quaint townships and the Eungella National Park is home to Australia's longest stretch of sub-tropical rainforest. The Pioneer Valley and Eungella can be easily visited in a day from Mackay – the road to Broken River is sealed throughout, though steep for heavy vehicles and cars towing caravans just prior to Eungella township. Regular day tours by bus operate year-round. There is a public bus as far as Mirani and rental cars may be taken the full length of the route. Beyond Eungella and Crediton, the route west continues (unsealed) through beautiful highland country and eventually to Homevale, Mount Britton, Nebo (approx three hours from Mackay by this route), Lake Elphinstone and beyond.



## « EXPLORE EUNGELLA NATIONAL PARK AND THE MACKAY HIGHLANDS

The Eungella National Park provides a lush, cooling environment in which to relax and enjoy the beauty of nature. Covering over 51,700 hectares of rugged land, the walking tracks lead to varying mixes of tropical and temperate rainforest. Adjacent are working dairy farms and areas of state reserve. Camp at Fern Flat (walk-in) or Crediton Hall, or along various points on the Mackay Highlands Great Walk. Please note: caravans can be taken up the Eungella Range with care.

## SPOT THE SHY PLATYPUS »»

An elusive mammal that hatches its young from eggs, the platypus is spotted at various locations along the Valley, but most commonly at early morning or late afternoon from the viewing platform at Broken River. With a ducklike snout, the platypus feeds on freshwater molluscs, crustaceans and other small invertebrates. The Park is also home to 225 species of birds.



## « DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF FINCH HATTON GORGE

Part of Eungella National Park, Finch Hatton Gorge offers a tropical nature experience at its best. After several creek crossings, the car park offers adjacent picnic tables and toilets before formed paths lead deep into the rainforest and two delightful, crystal clear, freshwater swimming holes at Araluen Falls and Wheel of Fire. Don't miss this enchanting rainforest experience, including the flying fox cableway, creek-side kiosk and boutique accommodation.

## LEARN ABOUT SUGAR »»

For over 100 years, sugar has been grown in the Valley with labour sourced from the New Hebrides and Solomon Islands in the early years. Working mills still exist at Marian, Racecourse (Mackay), Farleigh and Sarina. Crushing season is from mid June to late November, during which time the Valley is a hive of activity as cane cutters work the fields and small trains cart the crop to the mills.



## « WARM COUNTRY HOSPITALITY AT OUR FRIENDLY TOWNS

The drive along the Valley brings you through a succession of small communities, each offering 'something special' to locals and visitors alike, including Walkerston, Pleystowe, Marian, Mirani, Gargett, Pinnacle, Finch Hatton and Eungella at the top of Eungella Range. Caravans may be towed with care up the steep section of the road to Eungella.



## « ENJOY SOME SPECIAL EVENTS

EVENT	MONTH
Country Music Festival at Finch Hatton	March
River Rock to Mountain Top Festival	May
Melba House 150th Birthday	May 2011
Pioneer Valley Show at Finch Hatton	June
Dad's Day Out at Pinnacle	September
Fishing Tournament – ABT (Australian Barra Tournament)	November

## TAKE SOME FASCINATING WALKS »»

In the Eungella area there are 25km of graded walking trails, ranging from a 300m wheelchair accessible walk to a 17km circuit hike through stunning mountain and rainforest scenery. The most challenging is the 57km Mackay Highlands Great Walk from Eungella to Homevale National Park (Moonlight Dam) on the western slopes, with excellent camping facilities along the route. Short walks include the Pine Grove, Sky Window, Granite Bend and Rainforest Discovery circuit. There are also numerous great picnic spots in the area.



## « VISIT OUR DAMS, CAST A LINE

The region is home to three spectacular impoundments – Eungella, Teemurra and Kinchant dams, each well-stocked with barramundi, sooty grunter and sleepy cod. Popular for water-skiing and other water sports, these dams can be enjoyed as family holiday locations for camping, picnicking and recreational pursuits. Fishing permits are required and may be purchased at the accredited Visitor Information Centres. Water-skiing and camping are not permitted at Teemurra Dam.

## STEP INTO OUR PAST AT GREENMOUNT »»

Greenmount Homestead, original home of the pioneering Cook family, is an unusual, nationally significant museum. Built in 1915, Greenmount is located on the cattle run originally established by Captain John Mackay, not far from Walkerston at the eastern end of the Valley. After extensive restoration, the homestead was re-opened in 2001 and today offers a fascinating glimpse of early lifestyle in the area. The annual Heritage Fair in May is a day well worth attending to see Greenmount in its full glory. **Call 4959 2250 for more information.**



## « DON'T MISS MELBA HOUSE AND MIRANI MUSEUM

Originally the home of Dame Nellie Melba, Melba House dates back to 1882. It was moved twice and now stands in Edward Lloyd Park at Marian, overlooking the Pioneer River. The house contains a selection of Melba memorabilia, handicrafts for sale, as well as offering the full services of an accredited Visitor Information Centre. Staff will be delighted to provide impartial advice and information, or to make bookings ahead, **call 4954 4299**. You can also purchase your fishing and camping permits here.



The world's best place to see platypus in the wild.

**How cool is that?**

Stay in a lodge just footsteps away from a platypus colony in the cool mountain tranquility of Eungella National Park.

Exceptional cuisine, a warm fireplace for winter, a cool pool for summer, just an hour's drive from Mackay. That's a cool break.

Enquiries: (07) 4958 4000  
www.brokenrivermr.com.au



**eco CERTIFIED**  
Advanced Ecotourism

The naturally cool place to stay



OLD SCHOOL house

Sleep-overs for Grown-Ups

Surrounded by lush sugarcane paddocks and mist shrouded mountains, the old schoolhouse "sleep-overs for grown-ups" offers luxury ensuite bed and breakfast style accommodation for adults only with a maximum of six guests at any one time. Located in the Pioneer Valley only 60km from Mackay.

Phone - (07) 4958 5760  
oldschoolhouse.com.au

Incorporating a  
**MUD BATH**  
*Retreat*  
& HEALING CENTRE

**PINNACLE HOTEL**



Come and experience country hospitality at its best at the Pinnacle Hotel. Enjoy a cold beer at one of Queensland's most iconic pubs with live entertainment every Sunday 12-4pm. Why not try our extensive lunch and dinner menu or sink your teeth into one of our 'Famous Pies', served all day. Accommodation available: pub style rooms or non-powered caravan sites.

**PIONEER VALLEY . OPEN 7 DAYS . PH 4958 5207**



**kookaburra's**  
STORE

4959 1194 **Mirani**

- .. Fuel—Diesel & Unleaded
- .. Groceries
- .. Online Lotto
- .. Take Away Food
- .. Hardware
- .. Papers/Magazines
- .. Express Photo Lab

**TAKE THE TOUR – TASTE THE ACTION**

**SARINA SUGAR SHED**

A miniature sugar mill and distillery - the only one of its kind in Australia!

Experience an educational and tasting tour of the Queensland Sugar Industry. Take a tour and enjoy the freshly crushed cane juice, a complimentary taste of the liquers, schnapps and its very own ginger beer - all produced at the facility. Children will love the fairy floss!

Sarina Sugar Shed is an ideal adventure for all ages, experience the whole factory tour in one easy accessible level.

Located at the Field of Dreams Parkland, Railway Square, Sarina.  
Email: [info@sarinasugarshed.com.au](mailto:info@sarinasugarshed.com.au)

Open Mon-Sat from 9.00am  
Tour Times 9.30am 10.30am  
12.00 noon and 2.00pm  
Closed some public holidays



Mackay REGIONAL COUNCIL

Tourist information and bookings Ph: (07) 4943 2801 [www.sarinasugarshed.com.au](http://www.sarinasugarshed.com.au)



Drop in and see the friendly staff at the Melba House Visitor Information Centre, for free expert local knowledge, honest advice and for bookings to suit all tastes and budgets.

Melba House Visitor Information Centre - Mackay-Eungella Road, Marian



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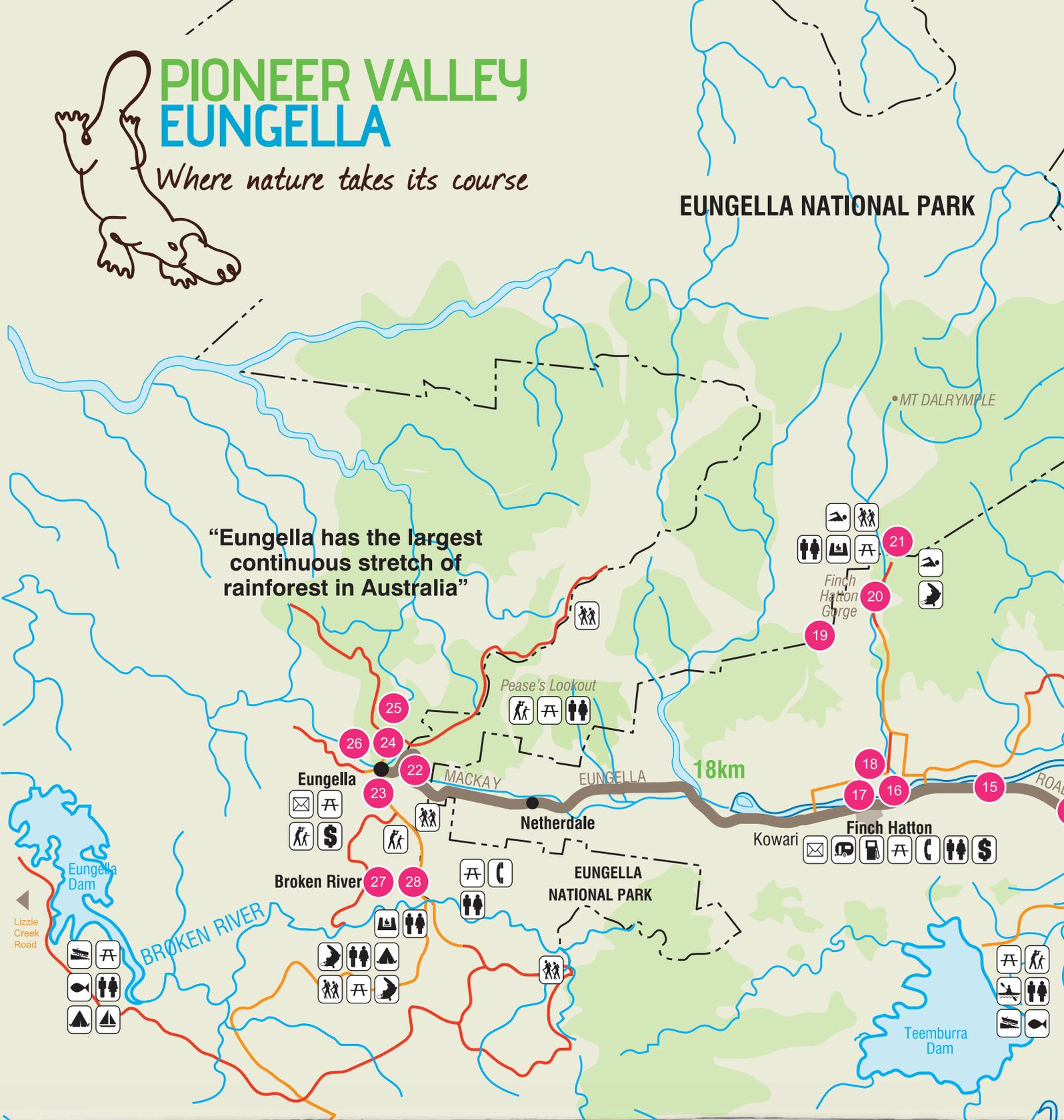
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Melba House  
Mackay-Eungella Road  
Marian QLD 4753  
Phone: 4954 4299





# PIONEER VALLEY EUNGELLA

Where nature takes its course



## THE PIONEER VALLEY AND EUNGELLA NATIONAL PARK

- Highway
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Unsealed Road
- Railway Tracks

EFTPOS or ATM

Post Office

Public Telephone

Boat Ramp

Service Station / Garage

Picnic Site

Caravan & Tourist Park

BBQ - Public Site

Swimming Site

Canoeing Site

Lookout Site

Platypus Spotting Site

Public Toilet

Bushwalking Tracks

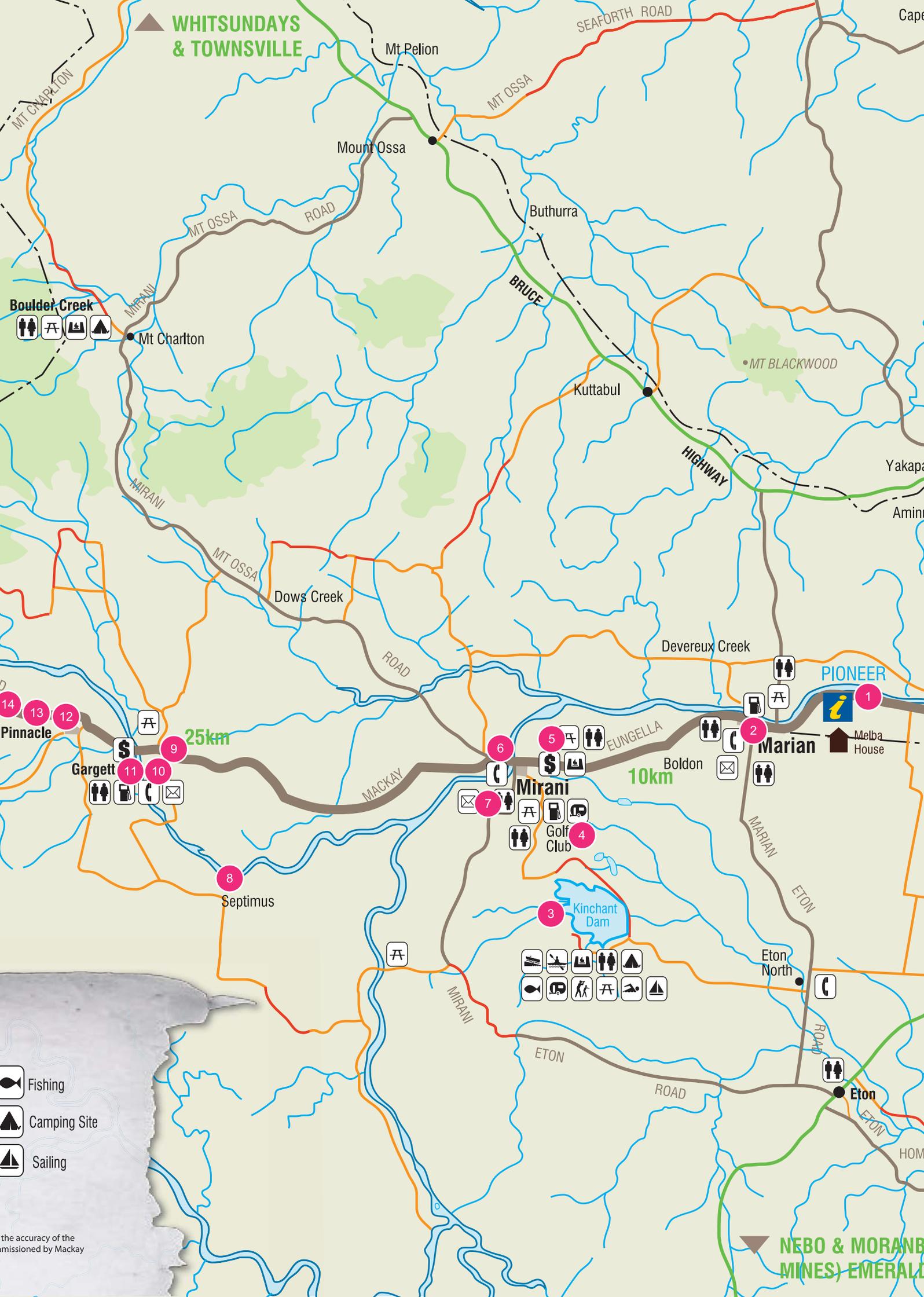
ECO Eco-Touring Location



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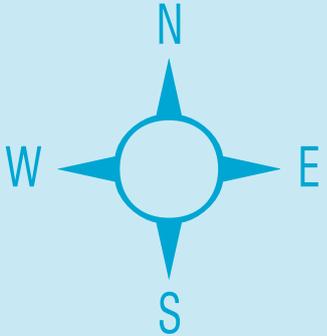
Unsealed Roads: Some roads that appear on this map may be unsealed or only suitable for off-road vehicles. Travel with care when using the region's roads.

# WHITSUNDAYS & TOWNSVILLE



the accuracy of the  
missioned by Mackay

# NEBO & MORAN (MINES) EMERALD



**BRAMPTON ISLAND & GREAT BARRIER REEF**

**MACKAY CITY**

**Walkerston**

**Northern Beaches**

**SARINA**

**BRISBANE**

**RIVER**

**ROAD**

**25km**

**Pleistowe**

**Greenmount Homestead**

**HIGHWAY**

**PEAK DOWNS**

**Homebush**

**COAL (GEMFIELDS)**

**SARINA**

**Hay Point Coal Terminal**

**Mackay Harbour & Marina**

**Lamberts Beach**

**Blacks Beach**

**Dolphin Heads**

**Shoal Point**

**Bucasia**

**Eimeo**

**Farleigh**

**Mackay West**

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**1. Melba House Visitor Information Centre & PVTDA:**

Tourist information; Dame Nellie Melba memorabilia, arts & crafts.  
Open 9am-3pm 7 days.  
**Ph 4954 4299**

**2. Railway Hotel:**

Daly Street, Marian. Open lunch & dinner 7 days, live music on Fri nights, weekend dinner specials, takeaway espresso.  
**Ph 4954 3223**

**3. Kinchant Waters Leisure Camp:**

Camping, caravans, cabins, backpacker accommodation, licensed café, water sports.  
**Ph 4954 1453**

**4. Pioneer Valley Golf Club:**

Leichhardt Rd, Mirani. Open 7 days: Mon 9.30am, Tues 8.30am, Wed-Fri 9am, Sat 6.30am & Sun 8.30am.  
**Ph 4959 1277**

**5. Coop's Travel and Tours:**

Day, short & extended tours.  
**Ph 4959 1543**  
**Email: nola.cooptt@bigpond.com**

**6. Kookaburra Store:**

Fuel, groceries, hardware items, fruit & veg, hot meals, in store ATM, gifts & souvenirs. Open 7 days.  
**Ph 4959 1194**

**7. Mirani Country Meats:**

Located at 12 Victoria Street, Mirani. Weekly specials available ask in store for details.  
**Ph 4959 1828**

**8. Old Schoolhouse "Sleepovers for Grownups":**

Mud Bath Retreat & Healing Centre. Luxury 4 ½ star, adults only, B&B retreat.  
**Ph 4958 5760**

**9. Celsa's Trading Post:**

Collectables, crystal, small antiques, retro items, glassware and general second hand goods.  
**Ph 4958 5287**

**10. Gargett Gallery & Studio:**

Showcasing the work of local and regional artists, cappuccinos & Devonshire teas. Open 10am-4pm Thurs-Sun.  
**Ph 4958 5024**

**11. Pioneer Valley Hotel:**

Cnr Jim Moule St & Septimus Rd, Gargett. Great country hospitality & claim to have the coldest beer in the Valley.  
**Ph 4958 5106**

**12. The Valley Theatrical Players:**

Located at The Pinnacle Playhouse. With 3 major productions throughout the year.  
**Ph 4959 8469 for details.**

**13. Pinnacle Family Hotel:**

Famous for the Pinnacle pie, accommodation available, pies available all day. Lunch 12-2pm Dinner 6-8pm.  
**Ph 4958 5207**

**14. Coffee Devine:**

Outdoor dining Fri- Sun, weekend breakfasts, chai espresso coffee. Located left past the Pinnacle Hotel in the old Church.  
**Ph 4958 5167**

**15. Valley Rural Services:**

Service station, oils, auto parts, tyres, mechanic, groceries, hot food, BOC & LPG gas. Open 7 days 7am-6.30pm.  
**Ph 4958 3174**

**16. Pioneer Valley Show Association:**

Camping at Finch Hatton Show Grounds, powered & unpowered sites, toilets & hot showers.  
**Ph 4958 3162**

**17. Finch Hatton General Store:**

Groceries, takeaways, fruit & veg, newspapers. Open Sun-Thurs 7am-6.30pm. Fri-Sat 7am-7pm.  
**Ph 4958 3272**

**18. Criterion Hotel Finch Hatton:**

Budget accommodation & meals. Lunch 12-2pm Dinner 6-8pm. (8.30pm Fridays).  
**Ph 4958 3252**

**19. Forest Flying:**

A unique experience as you ride a flying fox cableway 25m high through the rainforest canopy. Bookings essential.  
**Ph 4958 3359**

**20. Rainforest Bed & Breakfast:**

Van Howeninges Rd Finch Hatton Gorge. Luxury accommodation, cosy romantic escape. Relax & unwind.  
**Ph 4958 3099**

**21. Finch Hatton Gorge Cabins & River Rock Café:**

Self contained holiday cabins with private ensuite. Café open Tues-Sun 10am-3pm.  
**Ph 4958 3281**

**22. Follow Me 4wd Tours:**

Rugged mountain country tracks to pristine creek crossings. In your vehicle or as a passenger in ours.  
**Ph 4958 4541/ 0427 030 941**

**23. Eungella Historic Chalet:**

A getaway in the clouds with pub-style meals & rooms, ensuite guesthouse rooms, 1 & 2 bedroom cabins.  
**Ph 4958 4509**

**24. Eungella Holiday Park:**

Top of the range grassy powered & unpowered sites. Hot showers, laundry, BBQ's, self registration. Cash only.  
**Ph 0437 479 205**

**25. Quandong Creek Rainforest Lodge:**

Low cost cosy bunkhouse accommodation for groups (min 15people), located on Clark Range.  
**Ph 4958 4557**

**26. Eungella Mountain Edge Escape:**

1 & 2 bedroom self-contained cabins featuring private balconies, reverse cycle aircon & spectacular views.  
**Ph 4958 4590**

**27. Broken River Mountain Resort:**

Eco resort, motel style studios & lodges, licensed restaurant, guided rainforest walks, swimming pool.  
**Ph 4958 4000**

**28. Reeforest Adventure Tours:**

Pick-up & return from Mackay. Breakfast or Lunch with the platypus at Broken River. Bookings essential.  
**Ph 4959 8360**

**29. Cape Hillsborough Nature Resort:**

Beachfront caravan park, camping, cabins in national park, good walking tracks. No pets.  
**Ph 4959 0152**

**30. THAT Sapphire Place:**

Bruce Highway, The Leap. Specialising in QLD Sapphires, jewellery display and sales. Open Wed-Sat 10am-4pm.  
**Ph 4954 0011**

**31. Sarina Sugar Shed:**

Experience a mini sugar mill & distillery. Café & souvenirs. Open Mon-Sat 9am  
Tours 9.30 & 10.30am, 12 & 2pm.  
**Ph 4943 2801**

**32. Smart State Vehicle Rentals & Fourways Auto Care:**

Cnr Bridge & Nebo Rd Mackay. Vehicles for hire and mechanical workshop.  
**Ph 4957 5588**

**33. Mackay Canegrowers Ltd:**

**Ph 4944 2612 or**  
**www.canegrowers.com.au.**

**34. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service:**

**Ph 4944 7800** for all National Park enquiries.