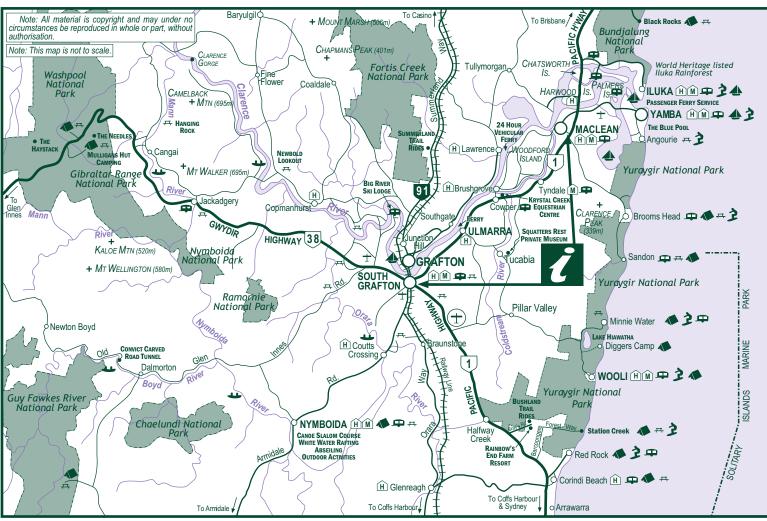
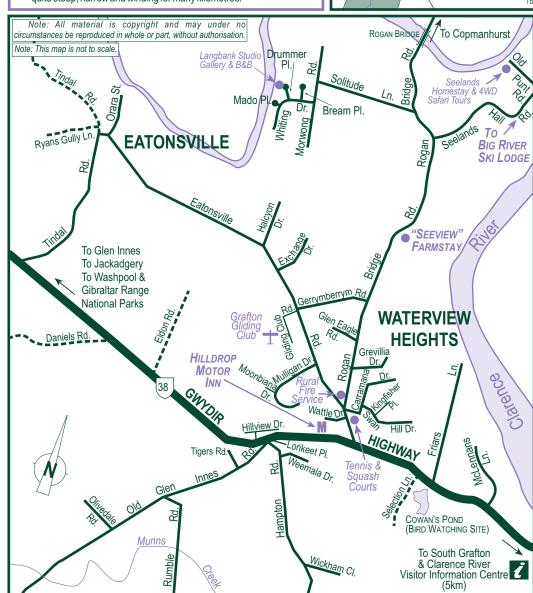


SCENIC DRIVES

- Grafton to Maclean via Lawrence Ferry pretty alternate drive to the highway. This is a sealed road with a scenic ferry crossing (free 24 hour service) suitable for caravans. Follow signs to Lawrence from Queen St., Grafton. It will take around 40 minutes to get to Maclean via this
- **Grafton to Ulmarra.** Try the ferry crossing at Southgate and return via the highway. This drive provides a scenic circuit to historic Ulmarra. Head north on Queen St., Grafton onto the Lawrence Road. The ferry at Southgate is not suitable for caravans. It will take about 30 minutes to get to Ulmarra
- Grafton to Coffs Harbour via Glenreagh. This is a sealed drive through historic towns and gold mining areas. There are picnic spots at Glenreagh and a detour to George's Goldmine at Coramba. From South Grafton follow signs to Armidale; turn off to Coffs Harbour 5km from Grafton. It will take about 1 hour.
- Grafton to Casino via Summerland Way. This is a sealed road to Casino, Kyogle, Lismore and Queensland. Follow the signs to Casino. It will take about 1 hour to Casino.
- Grafton to Glen Innes. The Gwydir Highway provides one of the best links between the coast and the Tablelands with spectacular scenery as you climb the Great Dividing Range and pass by Washpool and Gibraltar Range National Parks. This highway is fully sealed & suitable for caravans - follow the Glen Innes/Gwydir Highway signs. It will take about 2 hours to reach Glen Innes.
- Grafton to Glen Innes via Old Glen Innes Rd. This is a scenic drive passing through a convict built tunnel and old gold mining areas. There are extensive sections that are narrow & unsealed. Turn off the Gwydir Highway at Waterview Heights, at the sign to Buccarumbi/Dalmorton (not suitable for caravans). This trip can take at least 5 hours.
- Grafton to Armidale via Armidale Road. South Grafton is directly linked to Armidale by this sealed road. You travel through Coutts Crossing and Nymboida and pass close by the Ebor and Wollomombi Falls. The journey will take less than 3 hours to Armidale. The road is quite steep, narrow and winding for many kilometres





THINGS TO SEE & DO

Grafton is a city of tree lined streets and graceful old buildings, nestling on the banks of the magnificent Clarence River

There are many places you should visit. The Visitor Information Centre (map ref D7) should be your first stop. Here you will find an extensive range of brochures on the entire Clarence Valley, a wide range of maps, souvenirs and a free film show of the district in

Grafton Regional Gallery, 158 Fitzroy St. (map ref C4), is open from 10am to 4pm Tuesday to Sunday (inclusive). There are many studios and galleries in the district and these are listed on a special brochure available at the Visitor Information Centre.

Schaeffer House Historical Museum, 192 Fitzroy St. (map ref C4), is open 1pm to 4pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and

There are many brochures available on the history and the features of Grafton at the Visitor Information Centre..

Great Time Cruises provide regular cruises, meals and entertainment on the luxury River Explorer II. Cruises depart the Prince St. wharf (map ref C5) - see the River Cruises section below.

Grafton has dozens of beautiful parks. "See Park" (map ref C3) is one of the most stunning and has excellent barbeque, picnic and

There are parks overlooking the river at the end of the main streets in Grafton (Prince St. C5) and South Grafton (Skinner St. D6).

Visitors wanting coach daytours around the district can join the Hilldrop Holidays tours, 26644 9220

Grafton is the commercial and cultural centre of the Clarence Valley. The Valley has many towns, beaches, national parks and other attractions. The Visitor Information Centre can provide brochures and advice on all of these (map ref D7) 🕾 6642 4677.

RIVER CRUISES & FLOATING RESTAURANT

Great Time Cruises offer a wonderful range of river cruises aboard the luxury "River Explorer II". Cruises are priced from just \$10 per adult.

children's play facilities.

Cruises schedules may change and it is wise to 🕾 6642 3456 to check and to

make bookings. Charters are available for special occasions. The River Explorer II usually operates from Grafton during school terms, and then from Yamba during NSW school holidays.



MAJOR ANNUAL EVENTS

April/Mav: The Grafton Agricultural Show gives an insight into our rural lifestyle.

The North Coast Tennis Championships are held at Grafton on the Queens Birthday long weekend. It is also the June: date of Grafton's Weekend of Trucking which celebrates this industry with a street parade plus entertainment and

The Grafton July Racing Carnival is the richest country horse racing carnival in Australia. There is also a major

greyhound racing carnival during this month. Grafton Artsfest hosts workshops for writers, artists, craftspeople, musicians and dancers with special exhibitions September:

October: The Grafton Bridge to Bridge Ski Race provides spectacular action from Grafton to Harwood and return, on the

Sunday of the October long weekend.

October & The famous Jacaranda Festival begins on the last weekend in October and concludes on the first weekend in November: November. This is Australia's longest running floral festival and is one of the very best annual events in the Northern

July:

The Bridge to Bridge Sailing Classic attracts hundreds of competitors in all types of sailing craft. November:

The City of Grafton hosts many events in a wide range of sports, on a very regular basis. The City has excellent sporting facilities.

- The very popular Old Schoolhouse Markets are held just north of Grafton along the Lawrence Road (follow Queen St. north towards Lawrence) on the last Saturday each month (6643 3244).
- Clarence River Tourism produces an excellent Calendar of Events 🕾 6642 4677 or www.clarencetourism.com.

THE HISTORY OF GRAFTON

The first white settlers in the Clarence Valley were cedar-getters who arrived on Woodford Island in 1838. Shortly after this, a village grew at Grafton which gained the rather uninspired title of "The Settlement".

The first sale of town blocks took place in 1851 and in 1885 Governor Fitzroy mercifully renamed the town of Grafton after his grandfather, the Duke of Grafton. It was proclaimed a city in 1885.

As early as 1873 the council adopted policies for planting and preserving trees in the streets and parks in Grafton. There are now many thousands of trees in the city and there are more than 20 beautiful parks. During the 1870's a local seed merchant, Mr Henry Volkers, planted hundreds of Jacarandas, a magnificent ornamental tree native to

The first Jacaranda Festival was held in 1934. It is held every year between the last weekend in October and the first weekend in

November and is Australia's longest running floral festival.

Grafton is truly a City of tree lined streets and graceful old buildings. Excellent booklets and brochures outlining all the attractions are available from the Clarence River Visitor Information Centre in South Grafton

Schaeffer House 190 Fitzroy Street, Grafton (map ref. C4) is the headquarters of the Clarence River Historical Society. Fitzroy Street runs from the Grafton bridge with Schaeffer House in the 8th block on the right. The homestead was built by the son of a pioneer German family, Mr F.W.C. Schaeffer, between 1901 and 1903. The house had many owners and was purchased by the Grafton City Council in 1966 and has been renovated to accommodate the collection of archives and historical items held by the Society.

The society was formed in 1931 and is the oldest country historical society in NSW.

Schaeffer House displays beautiful china, glassware and furniture presented to the Society over the years. The quality of the exhibits and the magnificent building ensure visitors enjoy a most satisfying experience.

Schaeffer House is open 1pm to 4pm each Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday. **(02)** 6642 5212



GRAFTON REGIONAL GALLERY



The Grafton Regional Gallery occupies historic Prentice House, one of the most beautiful of the many fine 19th Century residences for which Grafton is celebrated.

Prentice House was built in 1880 by Alexander Fairweather, and served as a residence and surgery until its conversion into an art gallery over 100 years later. The intimacy we associate with a residence is an enjoyable and memorable characteristic of the Grafton Regional

The extensive courtyard gives the Gallery unique facilities for outdoor displays, concerts and presentations as well as accommodating the splendid Georgie's Café/Restaurant. Georgie's serves a delicious range of meals, coffees, teas and delectable cakes, 🕾 6642 6996.

There are 3 main exhibition galleries within the Regional Gallery - Prentice House, the Main Gallery and the new loft. The Gallery offers a great range of services to Grafton's visitors and residents. State-of-the-art exhibitions spaces, multi-purpose studio workshop, a community conference room, an outdoor performance arena and a collection storage facility allow the

Gallery to operate as the premier cultural centre for the Clarence Valley.

The Gallery's patron is the famous Australian artist Ken Done AM. Ken has many associations with the Clarence Valley, having spent his childhood in nearby Maclean.

The Grafton Regional Gallery is home to the prestigious Jacaranda Acquisitive award, a biennial event which was established in 1988. This national drawing award, with prize money of over \$15,000, seeks to encourage and promote innovation and excellence in contemporary Australian drawing.

The Gallery is administered by the Grafton City Council and receives further funding from the NSW Government through the Ministry for the Arts, and various other funding sources for special projects.

Grafton Regional Gallery is open 10am to 4pm every Tuesday to Sunday (inclusive). It is located at 158 Fitzroy Street (map ref C4); **2** 6642 3177.