

## Newcastle and our Surrounds

If you want to learn more about Newcastle and its surrounds, just ask any local... Novocastrians love where they live!

Our friendly staff are available for you to ask questions. And, to help you decide what to do while in "Newy", we've made a little list here of some of our favourite things and some websites which give some ideas too.

- Glenrock National Park – walk, run, mountain bike
- Blackbutt Reserve – Nature preserve featuring native wildlife, plus a playground, picnic shelters & BBQ grills. Plenty of trails for bush walking or trail running
- Redhead beach – swim or walk along the sand
- Caves Beach – for some cave exploring
- Merewether beach – an active and vibrant beach stretch and Merewether baths are good for those of you who are not keen on the waves. Rock exploring.
- Bar beach – also a popular spot with a skate park and playground across the road. The “granny pool” is usually a calm spot with minimal waves. Good for rock climbing and exploring. Walk up the Newcastle Memorial Walk.
- Strezlecki Point – such a great view! Keep a look out for whales and walk along Newcastle Memorial Walk down to Bar Beach.
- Bogey Hole & King Edward Park – swim at the bogey hole or just admire it's beauty, take a picnic and enjoy the park.
- Nobby's breakwall – walk to the end and back and continue along Newcastle foreshore; or wander and explore around Fort Scratchley
- Newcastle Foreshore – walk or ride bikes along the path, head toward Honeysuckle or catch the ferry over to Stockton to explore a little more. Look up Nova Cruises for more great foreshore experiences.
- Honeysuckle – a popular and vibrant place where you can pop into the maritime centre or Newcastle Museum
- Newcastle Civic Theatre
- Civic Park, Newcastle – and pop up to the Newcastle Art gallery and/or wander down Darby Street
- Lake Macquarie – drive to Warners Bay and then walk or bike ride along the path. A popular destination for picnics and icecream overlooking the lake.
- Hunter Valley – visit the Hunter Valley Gardens, explore the many great vineyards and cellar doors
- Port Stephens – dolphin watching, boat trips, gorgeous views, great beaches. A great place to visit.
- Stockton sand dunes – try quad biking or sand boarding down the dunes – too much fun!
- Shopping:
  - Westfield Shopping Centre, Kotara
  - Charlestown Square, Charlestown
  - The Olive Tree Markets – check the calendar for the next date
  - Darby Street, Cooks Hill – boutique stores
  - The Junction – boutique stores
  - Hunter Street Mall, Newcastle – pop up shops
- For more information, try these websites:
  - <https://www.visitnewcastle.com.au/visitor-information/maps-and-guides>
  - <https://www.visitlakemac.com.au/>
  - <https://newywithkids.com.au/20-best-things-to-do-newcastle/>
  - <https://huntervalleyvisitorcentre.com.au/>
  - <https://www.portstephens.org.au/>