



A flip through the visitor's book at the Nundle Visitor Information Centre gives insight into what attracts tourists to the small northern inland town of Nundle, 60 kilometres south east of Tamworth.

Words like "So peaceful", "Beautiful country", and "Friendly and charming" are among the compliments from visitors, surprised by what such a small town of 250 people offers. Undulating hills surround the town on the eastern bank of the Peel River. It is a rare location with a 600-metre difference in elevation within 10km from Nundle to Hanging Rock.

This creates pretty snow capped hills in the depth of winter and a beautifully cool summer climate. It is this striking landscape and distinctive four seasons that have attracted visitors to Nundle and Hanging Rock for decades.

Fossickers Tourist Park, The Birches Bed and Breakfast, Hills of Gold Motel, Mount Misery Gold Mine Retreat, The Peel Inn, The Rose and Willow River Cottage and The Dag Sheep Station offer a high standard of accommodation ranging from elegant B&B, characterful pub stay, and quality self-contained cabins, to well-maintained camping ground and bunk houses.

Whether staying for several days or just a few hours, there is so much to see and do. For nature lovers Sheba and Chaffey Dams are tranquil camping, fishing, and picnicking destinations. Nundle Pool, Nundle Sport and Recreation Club bowling green and golf course, Nundle Pony Club, Nundle Campdraft, Nundle Fishing Club, and Nundle Bushwalking Club attract visitors who enjoy the town's quality recreational facilities in a quiet, uncrowded, country town.

Arc-en-ciel Trout Farm at Hanging Rock welcomes visitors to throw in a line in its stocked dam and catch a trout, tour its trout breeding ponds or purchase its award winning fresh and smoked trout products.

Cottage on the Hill patchwork barn outside Nundle attracts thousands of visitors each year to stock up on patchwork supplies, join weekly patchwork retreats, annual Girls Day in the Country in March and view the Airing of the Quilts on the October long weekend.

The town of Nundle is a delight for visitors to explore on foot. Park the car and stroll the village to browse for antiques at Jenkins Street Antiques and Fine China and Nundle Country Traders, house wares with vintage flavour at Odgers and McClelland Exchange Stores, homemade produce at Nundle Craft Co-operative, pre-loved clothing and bric-a-brac at the Old Church Boutique, and pure wool and wool fashions at Nundle Woollen Mill.

Nundle Woollen Mill's vintage English wool spinning machinery, Nundle Museum, and Nundle and Hanging Rock Cemeteries are fascinating for history enthusiasts. The Gil Bennet Gem and Mineral Collection at the Nundle Visitor Information Centre is one of the most comprehensive private catalogues of its kind and intriguing for lapidaries and fossickers.

The Peel Inn, Mount Misery Gold Mine Café, Café Nundle and Nundle Sport and Recreation Club are welcoming, friendly locations for meals.

The Dag Sheep Station and The Peel Inn are creating a niche as venues for country weddings, celebrations and gatherings from significant birthdays and family reunions to vintage motorbike and car rallies.

In 2012 Nundle and nearby Hanging Rock commemorate the 160th anniversary of the discovery of gold in the area, the springboard for settlement.

Nundle's active community-minded volunteers organise several high profile events throughout the year, starting with live music at The Peel Inn, The Dag Sheep Station and Fossickers Tourist Park during the Tamworth Country Music Festival. This closes with a patriotic Australia Day Ceremony and Breakfast at Nundle Public School and live music and lunch at The Dag Sheep Station.

In March the focus turns to local produce with the Nundle Gourmet Picnic, fashion parade and jazz in the landscaped grounds of Nundle Woollen Mill.

The biggest event on the Nundle calendar is the Nundle Go For Gold Chinese Easter Festival, held annually on Easter Saturday and Sunday. Nundle's main streets are closed to traffic and replaced with colourful Chinese dance performances, gold panning, magic show, live music and more than 100 market stalls.

On the first Sunday in May, red and gold autumn leaves are the backdrop for the Great Nundle Dog Race when more than 1000 people and hundreds of dogs compete in races to raise funds for Nundle Public School Parents and Citizens Association.

The Dag Sheep Station joins the mid-year "Hats Off" Tamworth country music festival in June with live music and meals.

Nundle CWA Pre-school hosts the annual Chicken and Prawn fundraising dinner dance in September, while Nundle CWA Art Show attracts hundreds of entries for its November exhibition. Also in November is the popular Tour de Rocque bike ride and fun run from Nundle to Hanging Rock.

Whatever the time of year, the Nundle community does its best to offer visitors a beautiful place for peaceful respite from the hectic pace of contemporary life, friendly conversation, helpful advice and great reasons to recommend the town to friends and return.

Back to the visitor's book at the Nundle Visitor Information Centre, the entries "We hope to be back soon", "Beautiful. Will be back" and "Love Nundle. Will be back" are the best possible recommendations to visit.