

Welcome to Winchelsea 48 Hour RV Stop

Winchelsea is an attractive rural town by the banks of the picturesque Barwon River, steeped in the rich history of Victoria's Western District including Barwon Park Mansion and eight other national trust listed properties in the area.

The Barwon River is framed by historic churches and a series of reserves, picnic and BBQ areas as it flows through the centre of Winchelsea. A heritage trail takes in the town's older buildings and points of interest.



For further information please contact
Surf Coast Shire Tourism and Economic
Development unit

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Things to see and do in Winchelsea

Conditions of stay



BARWON PARK MANSION

This majestic 42-room bluestone National Trust mansion and stables is largely in its original condition, resonating with the glory of Victoria's pastoral heritage. The mansion was built for Thomas and Elizabeth Austin (founder of the Austin Hospital) who had lived in the Western District at Barwon Park since their marriage in 1845. Barwon Park at Winchelsea, when completed in 1869, was the finest and most celebrated mansion house in western Victoria and, having established the reputation of architects, Davidson and Henderson, survives as perhaps the most notable homestead designed by this prolific practice. At Barwon Park, Thomas Austin, royal host, public figure, eminent pastoralist and leader of the Acclimatisation Society, was the first to introduce rabbits to Australia, an achievement now universally condemned.

Barwon Park is 3km north of town on the Inverleigh Road and is signposted off the Princes Highway.

Open 11am to 4pm, Wednesdays and Sundays. Ph: 03 5267 2209

WINCHELSEA TEA ROOMS

Situated in a fine bluestone building (1908) in the heart of Winchelsea, it originally served as the shire hall.



BARWON RIVER

Near the hotel is a three-span bluestone arch bridge (1867) over the Barwon River which is considered one of the most impressive stone structures in Victoria. There are a number of picnic spots beside the river. A platypus has frequently been spotted on early mornings close to the bridge.

WINCHELSEA HERITAGE WALK

An intriguing insight into the town's rich history and its people. The trail commences at the Winchelsea Visitor Centre and includes features such as the Globe Theatre, Barwon Park Mansion, the Barwon River and heritage listed triple arched bluestone bridge to name a few historic sites.



CAUTION FLOOD ZONE!
MONITOR RIVER HEIGHTS
IF BEACON IS FLASHING,
RV SITE IS CLOSED



- If the Beacon is flashing at the entrance to the reserve, the site is closed for RV overnight stays.
- Check the Bureau of Meteorology website for Barwon River heights. (Scan QR code above)
- Exercise caution if river is above 2.5m
- Phone 1300 659 217 to check for flood warnings
- Monitor the VicEmergency app or emergency.vic.gov.au
- Park at your own risk.
- The entire site is subject to flooding when river heights exceed 3m.
- Self-Contained vehicles only (RVs, Motorhomes or Caravans). Parking is permitted from this point to the railway bridge.
- Camping is prohibited (no tents). Penalties apply.
- All waste must be retained in the vehicle and taken with you (including rubbish, grey and black water).
- No fires.

- No generators between 8pm and 9am
- No public consumption or possession of alcohol.
- No noise after 10pm.
- Pets must be under effective control at all times.
- Please take your rubbish with you.
- A Dump point is available at the Barwon Hotel for grey / black water disposal.
- Area is prone to flooding. Use at own risk.
- Please be considerate of other users and access.
- This site is regulated by Council. Authorised officers undertake routine patrols of this area.
- Take care of the natural environment for other travellers and users of the area.
- Please come into Winchelsea for food and supplies. Thanks for staying with us.
- If you would like to stay longer, nearby caravan parks are located at Winchelsea, Colac and all coastal towns.
- Sleeping in vehicles and camping is not permitted in coastal towns in the Surf Coast Shire.
- Council encourages the 'Leave No Trace' RV code of conduct.

Flood Risk	Site Status	River Height (metres)	Description of RV Site
High to Extreme Hazard	Closed	4m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is flooded with water. • Hazardous to people. • Evacuation by vehicles will be impossible
Medium Hazard	Closed	Between 3m and 4m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting to flood in some areas. • Water levels may rise quickly. • Evacuation by vehicles may become difficult due to wet and boggy ground
Low Hazard	Open	Under 3m	Not flooded.