# Explore Sector S

WEEKEND ITINERARY: 3 DAYS. 2 NIGHTS. ZERO STRESS.





# A CREATIVE COUNTRY VILLAGE WITH A VISITOR-FIRST HEART

Just 40 minutes east of Canberra, Bungendore is the kind of place that draws you in with its small-town charm — and keeps you coming back for its warm hospitality, creative spirit and connection to the land. It's a village that lives and breathes the good things in life. Handmade, homegrown, and heart-filled.



















PUSH

Mis's coming to Bungendore?

# BUNGENDORE IS LOVED BY

- Day trippers chasing long lunches, market strolls and boutique finds.
- Weekend wanderers escaping the city for fresh air and country calm.
- Touring travellers seeking a scenic stop packed with personality.
- Event-goers making memories at local weddings, markets and festivals.





# WHAT VISITORS LOVE

- Food that tells a story from paddock-to-plate to vineyard views.
- Creative makers artists, artisans, and boutique businesses proud to call Bungendore home.
- Nature's beauty rolling hills, crisp air, changing seasons, and landscapes perfect for grazing (of all kinds).
- Real connection locals who'll stop for a yarn and send you home with tips for your next adventure.

# A TOWN THAT KNOWS TOURISM MATTERS

Tourism isn't just part of Bungendore's economy; it's part of its identity. The village thrives on welcoming visitors, sharing stories, and showcasing the talent, tastes and traditions that make this place special. From local markets to seasonal events, from creative studios to country pubs, Bungendore is proudly building a visitor experience that's authentic, sustainable, and full of heart. It's not just a place to visit, it's a place to slow down, stay a little longer, and feel right at home.



Getting to Know Bungendore

# SMALL TOWN, BIG HEART

**Population:** 4,881 locals **Land Size:** 296 km<sup>2</sup> of country charm

# WHERE IS BUNGENDORE

**40km east of Canberra** — around 35–40 min drive

**280km south-west of Sydney** — around 3-hour drive

# SEASONAL SNAPSHOT

### Average highs/lows:

Summer 26°C / 12°C Autumn 18°C / 7°C Winter 11°C / 1°C Spring 18°C / 6°C

# WHAT DRIVES BUNGENDORE

**Key Industries:** Agriculture & Livestock | Renewable Energy | The Arts | Tourism **Average Rainfall:** 775mm per year

# THE LAY OF THE LAND



X Gallery

Surrounding Towns: Queanbeyan | Captains Flat | Braidwood | Hoskinstown

**Elevation:** 700m above sea level: Crisp mornings, cool temps, winter frosts & lush grazing country.

# A TOWN OF MAKERS & CREATORS

Bungendore is full of creative souls, sustainable philosophies and country characters.

### Expect to meet:

- Artists selling ceramics & paintings from backyard studios
- Market stallholders with stories from generations past
- Hobby farmers & tree-changers chasing the good life
- Locals who'll happily share their favourite fishing spot or tip you off on where to score the freshest local produce.

O Playlist On, Stress off. 3 DAYS. 2 NIGHTS. ZERO STRESS. ONE SERIOUSLY SOUL-NOURISHING ROAD TRIP. Day One R

# MORNING

### **ROAD TRIP RITUALS & VILLAGE MEANDERING**

Pick up your besties and start your morning road trip adventure from Canberra, playlist loaded (Fleetwood Mac to Cardi B is the vibe). Cruise the Kings Highway north-east to Bungendore — just 40 minutes from the city but a world from the weekday grind.

Ease into the day with gallery hopping **Bungendore Fine Art**, **Suki & Hugh Gallery**, and **X Gallery**, each space filled with carefully crafted works by local artists and makers.

Grab a coffee and something flaky or creamy from **Gunna Doo Bakery**, then take your time exploring **Bungendore Leather & Trading Co**, a local institution that's been blending bush spirit with handmade quality since way before it was cool. You'll drift into **Sage Natural Living** for earthy calm and consciously sourced homewares.



### **SLOW SIPS & BELLY LAUGHS**

Stroll to the new in-town cellar door, **Sapling Yard**, where cool-climate wines are poured like you're already part of the family. Pair your glass with a cheese and charcuterie platter or drop in next door to **Scrumpers Kitchen** for a soul-warming lunch, where Ruth, chef and owner, cooks with only local, sustainable produce. You'll love the menu so much you'll then head next door to **Southern Harvest Community Store**, a volunteerrun store bringing together the region's best growers and makers,

to pick-up every single ingredient Ruth uses in her menu.

Sage Natural Iiving



### FIRESIDE FEASTS & FLOWING CONVOS

Check in at **The Carrington Inn**, a heritage hotel tucked among gardens with generous rooms, soft lighting, and the kind of quiet you notice immediately. There's space to pause, to unwind, to breathe.

Take a sunset walk to **The George Bar** & **Dining**, warming up around the open fireplace. Instantly you can smell the food is crafted with heart, bursting with bold seasonal flavours, featuring the very best local produce. Menu highlights change with the seasons, but if the 12-hour beef cheeks are on — don't hesitate.

Grab a seat near the fire, raise a glass, and lean into the kind of conversation and belly laughs that only comes when there's nothing else on your to-do list.



# MORNING

### **GROW & GATHER**

Fuel up on country air and flavours at the weekly **Southern NSW Harvest Farmers Markets** (held every Saturday morning). Expect: truffle oil, warm sourdough, fresh herbs, and honey sticks. This is Bungendore's foodie heart — authentic, regenerative, zero-waste produce grown and made by locals, for locals...and trust us, you'll be treated like one the moment you arrive.

Afterwards, take time to explore **Phil's Emporium**. Part op-shop, part treasure trove, it's packed with character. Leave time for rummaging — the retro jacket of your dreams is waiting. AFTERNOON

### THOUGHTFUL CONNECTION

A quiet stroll to the **The Malbon**, a local creative precinct home to antiques, florals, homewares, and artisan makers. It's here you'll discover internationally renowned **Jerusha McDowell Photography**, where Jerusha (or "Rushe" to locals) captures the soulful quiet of Australian regional life — rolling landscapes. Horses. Hills. Hazy mornings. That feeling of standing still on purpose, thoughtful connection,

and a deep appreciation for the land and its stories.

The Malbon

EVENING

### LIVE TUNES & SMALL-TOWN SOUL

Wrap up your day at the **Royal Hotel**, the kind of place that makes you feel instantly welcome, whether it's your first visit or your fifth. Live music. Open mic. Locals with guitars. A place of laughs, and spontaneous singalongs. Grab a classic chicken parmi and a local red to match. It's the kind of atmosphere that makes you feel like you and your mates have always been part of the place. Sing like nobody is listening. There's no judgement here — just joy.





# MORNING

# A SOFT LANDING (WITH SEASONAL TRUFFLE MAGIC)

Sleep in. Take it slow. Start your Sunday with a slow brunch at **The Gathering Café**, where everything from the buttery mushrooms to the house-made onion marmalade is packed with flavour and love. Sip your oat flat white. Stretch out the conversation. There's nowhere else you need to be.

The Gathering Calé

Blue Frog

Truffle Hunt

If you're visiting in July or August, make room for one final treat — the seasonal **Blue Frog Truffle Hunt**. Boots on, jackets zipped, you'll follow a trained truffle dog through misty rows of oak trees, watching as it paws hidden treasure beneath the soil. Afterwards, warm up with truffle soup and simple tastings while learning about cultivation, harvesting and grading, a fascinating glimpse into the magic behind one of the world's most prized ingredients. It's an experience rich in aroma, curiosity, and the grounded beauty Bungendore does so well.

Leave Bungendore feeling lighter. Full of good food, fresh air, and conversations that only happen when you've got nowhere else to be.