



Bulahdelah



Heart of Myall Lakes
www.bulahdelah.net

Full Of
Surprises

Bulahdelah on the Mid North Coast of NSW is not just a town, it's a destination – a destination that's right in the middle of one of the most exciting tourism hotspots in NSW. Why? Because everything is within easy reach.

To the North and West there are magnificent eucalypt forests with towering flooded gums including the spectacular Grandis which stands over 70 metres tall, the tallest tree in NSW. And breathtaking natural features like the Ellenborough Falls, the largest single drop waterfall in NSW and of course the world heritage listed Barrington Tops.

To the East is the tourism hub of Forster and so many pristine beaches that it's hard to choose. If you don't know these names you soon will and once seen, you will never forget – Seal Rocks, Elizabeth Beach, Bluey's Beach or Boomerang Beach, recently voted the second most beautiful beach in the world!

To the South is Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest, well known for fresh seafood, fine cuisine, great golf courses, bushwalks and more first class beaches.

And right in and around Bulahdelah you will find the award winning Big 4 River Myall Holiday Resort, the relaxing Bombah Point Eco Cottages, the magnificent Alum Mountain and the gateway to the fabulous Myall Lakes – Myall Lakes Getaway Houseboats. And this is just a taste. In fact we are sure you will find that Bulahdelah is *Full of Surprises*.

Day 1 Itinerary

Morning

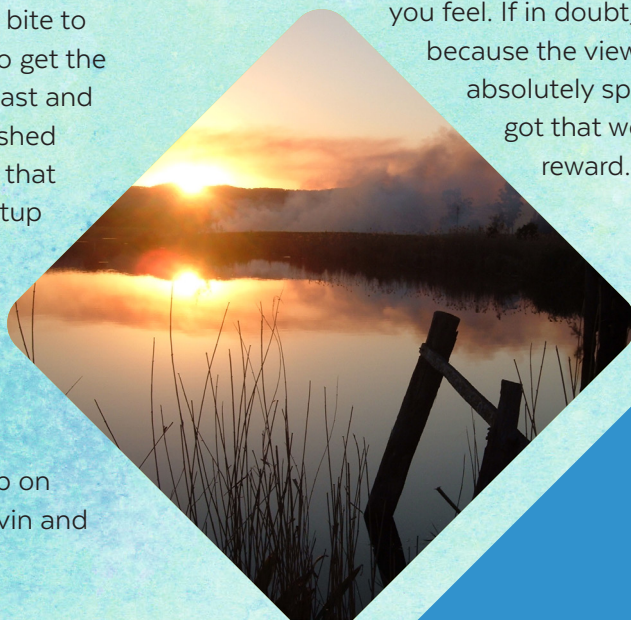
Aim to reach **Bulahdelah** by 10.00am (3 hours North from Sydney and 1 hour North from Newcastle). Check into your chosen accommodation and start your long weekend with a relaxed bite to eat at **Café on Main** - ask any local where to get the best coffee and cakes on the Mid North Coast and they will point the way. When you have finished take a stroll through the local gift shops for that special little something and why not get setup for a picnic, you'll learn why in a minute.

Mr Ben & the Weasel stocks fabulous local cheeses, honey and sour dough bread plus mouth watering charcuterie. Bulahdelah is also famous for its pork sausages and meat pies. Wander across to the **Tourist Information Centre** and load up on what you need to take with you. Ask for Kevin and he will set you straight.



Afternoon

It's getting close to lunch so take the short drive from the Information Centre to **Bulahdelah's Historic Courthouse** built in 1888 on a hill to the east of town overlooking the Myall River. From there it's a short hop across to the base of **Alum Mountain**. This mountain is significant to the local Worimi Aboriginal people who call it Boolah Dillah, meaning 'the Great Rock' so take care to respect your surroundings and keep to the track please. Let the kids loose in the skate park while you prepare for the hike up the mountain. There are easier walks if you have young ones or take the hike to the top, depending on how fit you feel. If in doubt, make the effort because the view from the top is absolutely spectacular and, you've got that wonderful picnic as a reward.



Evening

Wherever you have chosen to stay there will be a hot shower and a magnificent **Bulahdelah sunset** to get you ready for dinner. The views over the river from the fabulous glamping tents at the **Big 4 River Myall Holiday Resort** are sensational - add that to the luxury bathroom with large double shower and the only other requirement is a glass of locally grown, award winning, Old Inn Road Wine. Send the kids off to play on the giant jumping pillow, take a swim in the pool or have a game of mini golf while you enjoy some together time. Finish the day with home-made pizzas served fresh at the **Lady Jane Pizza Bar Café**. The pizza bases are hand-made and there are plenty of interesting toppings with gluten free and vegan options for adults and kids. Don't stay up too late because tomorrow is a big day.

Day 2 Itinerary

Morning

If you chose to stay at the beautiful **Bombah Point Eco Cottages** then on day two you'll wake up in a 4.5-star eco-retreat with exceptional sustainable credentials and ground breaking green technology that's so good, you won't even notice it. The ambiance is unspoiled natural landscapes with sea eagles, pelicans, egrets, wallabies, kangaroos, bandicoots, goannas and even the occasional koala for neighbours. Nature is so close you can reach out and touch it. But, there's lots to see and do so get yourself a coffee, relax, and decide where to go today as there are two options depending on what takes your fancy. Option 1 is a northern loop through beautiful bush and spectacular natural wonders. Option 2 is an Eastern loop to **Forster via Seal Rocks**, the **Sugar Loaf Point Lighthouse** and world class beaches, beaches and more fabulous beaches.

If you decide to head North brush off the SatNav then jump in the car and

head along the stunning Wootton Way towards **Wootton**. You won't believe the size of the magnificent Flooded Gums growing out of the heavily forested valleys and on the steep, misty hillsides. Watch for the signs to the Grandis and check it out - it is absolutely worth it. **The Grandis** is the tallest tree in NSW. As you traverse the boardwalk imagine for a moment that before Europeans came, there would have been whole forests of trees this size, unbelievable! Take your binoculars if you want to bird watch - seriously.

When you get to **Wootton** stop in at the wonderfully quaint **Hardwood Espresso Café** and meet mine hosts Neal and Jo. Tell them Kevin sent you and order breakfast from their uniquely Australian menu. When you have finished follow the Wootton Way North to the Pacific Highway. Continue on to **Taree** then to **Wingham**. Wingham was the first government town established in the Manning and there is an interesting self-guided heritage walk around town. Otherwise find your way to the award winning **Bent-on-Food Café** in the main street for a coffee and something tasty for lunch. Now, head West to **Ellenborough Falls**. At 200 metres, Ellenborough Falls is the tallest single drop waterfall in New South Wales and amongst the tallest in the southern hemisphere. It's an iconic experience of the **Manning Valley** region in the Barrington Coast.

There are four ways to experience the Falls depending on your fitness level. The fourth option is the toughest but truly worth the effort. You descend 641 steps to the base of the falls, with rest stops that you'll appreciate on the way back up.



Day 2 Itinerary

Day 2 continued...

At the bottom is a rock pool misted by the spray of the water, splash some of the icy water on your face to cool off. The view looking back up the waterfall is mesmerising. On the slower walk back up notice the changing plants and foliage, keeping an eye out for the birds and animals that make this special place their home.

On your way back get to **Tinonee** then head West and continue down the Bucketts Way to the beautiful town of **Gloucester** at the foot of the **Barrington Tops**. Stop for refreshments at one of the many cafes in the main street then continue South on the Bucketts Way, through historic



Stroud. This picturesque heritage listed village owes its existence to the first major agricultural enterprise to be attempted in the country: the Australian Agricultural Company (AACo) that is now quite famous. At **Booral** head East on Booral Road and enjoy the spectacular drive over the Myall River Range on the return to your accommodation.

For Option 2, set the SatNav for **Bungwahl** when you leave the Grandis and take the road to the famous **Seal Rocks /Sugar Loaf Point Lighthouse**. Seal Rocks is a typical isolated seaside village. It's famous for the magnificent lighthouse that overlooks the wild and remote beaches and as the gateway to unspoilt surfing, snorkelling, diving, idyllic picnic areas and the nearby **Myall Lakes National Park** and **Great Lakes Marine Park**. When you are ready, return to the Lakes Way and continue North. Be prepared to be surprised by the spectacular **Bluey's Beach, Boomerang Beach** (recently voted the 2nd best beach in the world!) and **Elizabeth Beach**. Stop for a swim and a leisurely walk on the pristine white sand. If you are a bit peckish swing by the **Good Food Store** at Smiths Lake that some say has the best take-away food on the Mid North Coast. When you get to **Forster** there's lots to see and do but make sure you drop in and meet Helen and David at the award winning **Coastal Brewing Company**. Take a tour through the brewery and sample some of their fabulous craft beers. To get back to base take the Pacific Highway South. Just past **Coolongolook** turn right at the sign for **Great Lakes Paddocks** where you can pause, relax, and sample some of their tasty wine a cheese flights. Once you are back in your accommodation kick your shoes off, pour a glass of wine and watch the sunset.

Evening

Having refreshed and relaxed it's time to head out to **Fireflies Restaurant** for dinner. The restaurant is located right in town with great food, good service and a kids friendly menu. There's even a play area where the kids can amuse themselves while you enjoy your meal. Complement the food with a glass of chilled Verdelho, something **Bulahdelah** is getting a real reputation for - you'll want to take some home.



Day 3 Itinerary

Morning

If you chose to hire a **Myall Lakes Getaway Houseboat** then you'll wake up on water to the sounds of Cockatoos, Magpies and Rainbow Lorikeets. Roll over to peer out of your bedside window and catch the first glimpses of the unspoilt wilderness that is the **Myall Lakes**. The Lakes are popular for water skiing, wake-boarding, canoeing and sail boarding, or just laze around and fish while you enjoy the scenery. If you're in the car then head South to **Tea Gardens/Hawks Nest**. Take a seat at the famous **Tillerman's Restaurant**, the longest-operating restaurant on the North Coast, where Peter and Kerri will knock you up a breakfast to die for - their pancakes are legendary. With its beautiful stretch of sand backed by wild dunes, Hawks Nest is a classic Aussie seaside destination defined by its spectacular ocean beach, known as **Bennett's Beach** and the more tranquil **Jimmy's Beach** that offers sheltered areas for children to play in and is popular with picnickers.

For a sensational view of the area, take the challenging, 6km **Yacaaba Headland Walking Track**, ascending 228m from Bennett's Beach through tall open forest and a rocky ridgeline to the summit. From the top, you can see as far as Seal Rocks and Barrington Tops, while out to sea, **Cabbage Tree Island** protects the only known breeding colony of the endangered Gould's Petrel. Follow the Dark Point Walking Track through the dunes to discover Dark Point Aboriginal Place, a rocky headland overlooking Broughton Island that served as a ceremonial and feasting place for Worimi people for more than 4,000 years.

If this sounds a bit challenging take a guided kayak tour on the Myall River or hire a stand up paddle board for self-exploration, paddling along the river to the remote **Engels Reach Picnic Area** or **Pipers Creek Picnic Area** for a scenic lunch. After lunch it might be time to think about heading home to Newcastle or Sydney. It's only been three days but it probably feels like three weeks because you've made so many new and wonderful memories. You make a promise to come back soon as you turn to your partner and say **"Bulahdelah really is a place that is Full of Surprises"**.

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