



GOULBURN

This information is intended as a guide only. Please check websites.

Location:

Goulburn is a regional city in the Southern Tablelands of NSW. It is approximately 195 km from Sydney and 90 kilometres from the national capital, Canberra.

Goulburn is on the Hume Highway, main road between Sydney and Melbourne, and is also on the main route between Sydney and Canberra and a major stop on the north-south train line.



Overview:

Goulburn was Australia's first inland city, built around rich farming land. It has many beautiful historical buildings and museums. Sheep farms in the Goulburn region produce some of Australia's finest Marino wool and the Big Marino (a 15m tall statue) sits on the southern side of the city.

The Goulburn region enjoys four distinct seasons and has a variety of annual attractions including music, flower and multicultural festivals as well as regular open-air markets. Goulburn has a vibrant arts community with several art galleries and theatres as well as a variety of restaurants, community groups and sporting clubs.

Goulburn is mainly a service centre for agricultural industries in the region and a growing tourist centre attracting people travelling along the Hume Highway. It is also the site of the NSW Police Academy (where police are trained), Goulburn Correctional Centre (prison) and some light industry.

Goulburn is a Refugee Welcome Zone and Goulburn Multicultural Centre supports the settlement of people in the Goulburn region.

Who lives there:

Goulburn has a population of about 23,000 people. While most of the population is Australian born and of European ancestry, there is a growing community of people from other parts of the world including India, China and the Philippines. There are over 200 people of refugee backgrounds living in Goulburn. Most recent refugee arrivals have come from Sierra Leone, Liberia, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chin State Burma and Iran. In addition, there are growing communities of people from Asia and the Middle East.

How to get there:

The main ways to get to Goulburn are by car, train and bus.

Goulburn is just over 2 hours drive from Sydney and 1 hour from Canberra.
There are 9 trains daily between Goulburn and Central Sydney and the journey takes about 2.45 hours.

There is also a daily bus service between Goulburn and Sydney.

You can also travel from Goulburn to Canberra by car (1 hour), train (1.35 hours) and bus (1 hour).

Employment:

Goulburn is not an area with a big skills shortage but areas where there are employment opportunities include:

- professionals in education and training
- community and service workers (especially aged care, disability care and care homes)
- administrative workers
- drivers and operators.

Other areas of employment include:

- hospitality (in restaurants, hotels/motels, community service clubs)
- health care (hospital professionals and hospital support staff)
- retail
- construction
- manufacturing
- mining and quarrying
- agriculture (farm work, orchard work and stock management).

The following jobactive centres in Goulburn provide direct assistance with employment:

- MBC Employment Services: phone (02) 4821 4611. www.mbcemployment.com.au
- Employment Services Group: phone 1300 658 414. www.esg.com.au
- Max Employment: phone (02) 4824 3500. www.maxsolutions.com.au
- Salvation Army Employment Plus: phone 13 61 23. Email: Goulburn_Eplus@aep.salvationarmy.org.

Goulburn Multicultural Centre (GMC) also has an employment program to assist people looking for employment in the region. www.gmc.org.au

There are also websites you can look at to find employment including:

- Goulburn Post (local paper): www.goulburnpost.com.au
- Multicultural Employment Service: www.mes.org.au
- Seek: www.seek.com.au/jobs/

You might also like to make contact with:

Refugee Talent: specialises in linking refugees and employers (www.refugeetalent.com)

Thrive Refugee Enterprise: supports refugees to establish small businesses and provides access to micro-finance (www.thriverefugeeenterprise.org.au).

Education and training:

Illawarra TAFE has a campus in Goulburn. It offers a range of courses, including Smart and Skilled courses that are free for refugees.

Inquiries about AMEP (English classes) can be directed to Max Solutions, phone 1800 021 560.

Three universities (Australian National University, the University of Canberra and Australian Catholic University) are located in Canberra which is approximately one hour's drive south. The University of Wollongong's Moss Vale Campus is about 1 hour to the north.

Many people in Goulburn enrol in on-line distant learning programs to study for university and other qualifications. Read more at <http://futurestudents.csu.edu.au/csu-online>. If you hold a SHEV it is important to know that on-line study might not count as 'studying in a regional area' so if you are planning to do this to qualify for a future visa, you need to check before you enrol.

There are 15 primary schools and 3 secondary schools in Goulburn. Information about the schools can be found at www.goulburnaustralia.com.au.

There are also facilities for pre-school age children (long day care and pre-schools).

Accommodation:

The median weekly cost of renting a one bedroom apartment in Goulburn is \$180 per week. It is \$220 for a two bedroom apartment and \$340 for a three bedroom apartment. As is typical in regional centres, there are many fewer apartments than houses available for rent.

The median weekly cost of renting a two bedroom house in Goulburn is \$280 per week and \$330 for a three bedroom house. There are smaller numbers of four bedroom houses, with the median weekly cost being \$400.

Websites you can look at to find rental accommodation include:

Domain: www.domain.com.au/rent/goulburn-nsw-2580

Ray White Goulburn: www.raywhitegoulburn.com.au.

There are some share accommodation options starting at about \$150 per week. One site you can look at for this is www.gumtree.com.au.

Short term accommodation options can be found via Hometogo: www.hometogo.com.au. You can also get cabins at two local caravan parks:

Goulburn South Caravan Park: 149 Hume Highway. www.goulburnsouthcp.com.au

Governor's Hill Carapark: 77 Sydney Rd. Phone 1800 227 373.

For links to these and other short term accommodation options go to www.goulburnaustralia.com.au.

Health Services:

Goulburn Base Hospital is at 130 Goldsmith Street, approximately 1km from the centre of town.

Goulburn also has 9 medical centres and various specialist health services (dentists, physiotherapists etc). Goulburn Multicultural Centre can assist with referrals for medical services and counselling for refugees.

Companion House in Canberra provides specialist medical and counselling services for survivors of trauma www.companionhouse.org.au.

Places of worship:

There are many Christian Churches in Goulburn. People from other faiths will either join together informally or travel to Canberra (1 hour away) to worship.

Local transport:

The local bus company is PBC Goulburn. Go to www.pbcgoulburn.com.au for a list of routes and for timetables.

Goulburn is quite flat so getting around town on a bicycle is feasible and people often work to town from home. Schools are generally located close to residential areas.

Sport and recreation:

Goulburn has many sporting and recreational facilities.

There are facilities for all sports including football, basketball, cricket, cycling and swimming and there are several gymnasiums in town. Racing (cars, trucks, horses and dogs) is very popular. For more information go to www.goulburnaustralia.com.au.

Goulburn also has a vibrant art and musical community. It hosts the Australian Blues Festival each February, has a Conservatorium of Music that has regular concerts, there is a theatre and a 4-screen cinema complex.

Shopping and food:

Auburn St Goulburn is the central retail shopping and café area of Goulburn. It has a variety of stores, supermarkets, specialty shops, cafes, restaurants, medical services and clubs. Goulburn shops cater for most shopping needs however people often go to Sydney or Canberra for specialty food stores.

Who can help you:

Goulburn Multicultural Centre staff and volunteers provide personal support to migrants and refugees settling in Goulburn and run a variety of community programs and activities. GMC can help with finding accommodation and employment, introduce parents and students to schools, as well as link families to health and family services. Programs and activities include:

- Information workshop on health, parenting, legal information, etc.
- English and computer classes
- health and fitness activities
- multicultural women's group
- multicultural youth group.

Goulburn Multicultural Centre is located at 148 Sloan St, phone 02 4803 9042. To contact them go to www.gmc.org.au/contact.

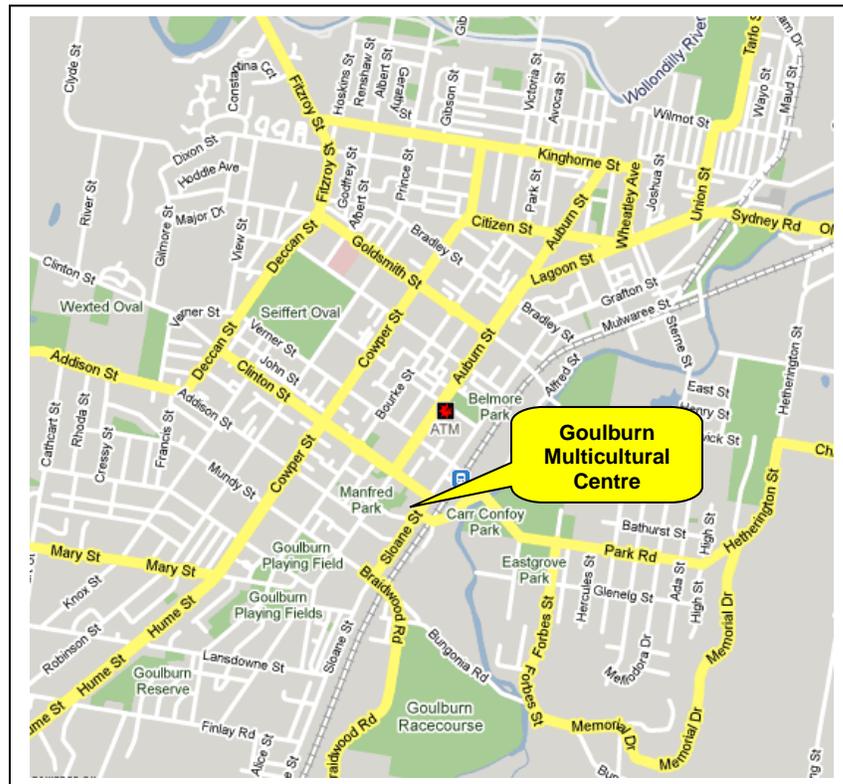
There are also members of the South East NSW Regional Refugee Network based in Goulburn. This is part of the Rural Australians for Refugees network. See www.ruralaustraliansforrefugees.org.au.

For more information:

Goulburn Multicultural Centre: www.gmc.org.au

Goulburn Visitors Information Centre

<https://www.goulburnaustralia.com.au/Live-Work/View-All-Live-Work.aspx>



For general information in community languages about services available to people holding a Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (SHEV) or Temporary Protection Visa (TPV), see the DSS Fact Sheet: www.dss.gov.au/settlement-and-multicultural-affairs/programs-policy/australian-government-support