



GRIFFITH

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

Location:

Griffith is a city in an area of southern NSW called the Riverina.

It is 574km from Sydney, 459km from Melbourne and 358km from Canberra.

Griffith is 190km from the major regional centre, Wagga Wagga and 61km from Leeton.



Overview:

Griffith is the major centre in an area of the Riverina called the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. This region grows large amounts of citrus fruit, grapes, rice and vegetables. The area around Griffith has many wineries and food processing industries related to local farming activities.

The city plan was designed by famous planners Walter Burley Griffin and his wife, Marion, who also designed the plan for Canberra and Leeton. There are many similarities with Canberra, including the roads that run in circles around major buildings.

From its early days, Griffith had a large Italian population. Approximately 60% of the approximately 20,000 people who live in Griffith now claim Italian ancestry. Possibly because of this heritage, Griffith is well known for good food and wine.

Griffith City Council area is a Refugee Welcome Zone. This means that it has made a commitment to welcoming refugees into the community.

Who lives there:

Approximately 24,000 people live in Griffith and it has increasingly become a multicultural centre. There is a sizeable population of Sikhs (from India) and smaller communities of people from Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, India, the Philippines and other parts of the world.

How to get there:

You can get to Griffith by car, bus, plane and train.

It takes approximately 6 hours to drive from Sydney to Griffith. The bus from Sydney to Griffith takes about 6 hours and tickets start at about \$67.

There are 3 direct flights between Sydney and Griffith each day. They take about 1 hour 30 minutes and one way prices start at \$179. There are also 2 flights that stop once on route and these take approximately 2 hours. The fares are the same.

The main train service to Sydney is via Cootamundra, with tickets starting at \$57.

Employment:

The largest sectors for employment in the area include;

- agriculture;
- manufacturing (beverages, food and tobacco);
- retail (store-based retailing, food retailing);
- health care and social assistance;
- construction;
- education and training .

The main growth areas for employment are agriculture (sheep, beef cattle, grain and poultry farming), health care and social assistance.

Other growing industries include almond processing, hospitality, retail and medical services.

Large employers of unskilled labour are the local chicken factories and abattoirs.

Local employment agencies include:

- Sureway Employment and Training
- Evworks employment solutions
- CVGT Australia
- National Business Advisory Services
- CoAct/The Personnel Group
- Advanced Personnel management
- MADEC.

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

- The Area News (local paper): www.aneanews.com.au
- Seek: www.seek.com.au/jobs/in-Griffith

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:

For adults:

- English classes (AMEP) are run by TAFE Riverina campus. The TAFE is located in the middle of Griffith's civic city centre. Go to: www.rit.tafensw.edu.au/plan-your-career/education-pathways/english-language/amep/ for more information.
- TAFE Riverina also offers a number of other vocational courses. See www.rit.tafensw.edu.au/.
- Western Riverina Community College is another education provider offering vocational and leisure-related courses. More information can be found on www.wrcc.nsw.edu.au/.

- There is a small regional study centre in Griffith which is part of Charles Sturt University. It is located on the campus of TAFE.

For children:

- There is a number of both primary and secondary schools to choose from in Griffith.
- Griffith Public School and Griffith High School both state that they are multicultural schools.
- There is a multicultural playgroup called 'Sprinkles Multicultural Playgroup' which caters for families with children up to school age.

Accommodation:

The median weekly cost of renting a one bedroom apartment in Griffith is \$163 per week and \$220 for a 2 bedroom unit. Median weekly rent for a 3 bedroom house is \$320 and \$390 for a 4 bedroom house. It is harder to find rental accommodation in Griffith than in a number of other regional centres.

Websites you can look at to find rental accommodation include:

Domain: www.domain.com.au/rent/griffith-nsw-2680/

Griffith Real Estate: www.griffithre.com.au

Ray White: www.raywhitegriffith.com/rent/property/

Short term budget accommodation options include:

Griffith Tourist Park has budget accommodation in cabins and a bunk house. See www.griffithtouristcaravanpark.com.au.

Rental accommodation in some areas of Griffith may have been affected by floods and you should ask about this if you are affected by respiratory illnesses that could be aggravated by mould. As many Griffith urban areas adjoin irrigation canals and channels, or bushland and operational farms, you should be familiar with the dangers and management of venomous snakes and spiders.

Health Services:

The main hospital in Griffith is Griffith Base Hospital (1 Noorebar Ave).

Griffith Community Health Centre: 39 Yambil St, www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/. This centre offers a number of health services, including special services for women and children.

Staff from STARTTS (the specialist service for those who have experienced trauma) visit Griffith. Phone the STARTTS Wagga Wagga office on (02) 6921 4403 to make an appointment.

Places of worship:

There are many places of worship in Griffith, including Christian churches and a Sikh Temple.

Jamia Masjid Griffith Mosque (Sunni) is located near the centre of town. There are other less established Shia prayer rooms in the area. You can ask at Griffith Library (233 Banna Street) about places of worship for other faiths.

Local transport:

Griffith Buslines operates the local bus service. Information about their routes and timetables can be found at www.buslinesgroup.com.au/griffith.

Sport and recreation:

Griffith City Council has a website (www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/community-services-directory/) that gives information about sporting clubs and interest groups. Griffith Library (233 Banna Street) is also a good place to go for information.

Shopping and food:

There are many shops in Griffith providing most basic needs. Halal food is readily available from local butchers and also takeaway shops and restaurants.

Who can help you:

Multicultural Council of Griffith: 265-329 Banna Avenue, phone (02) 6964 4366.

Centacare: 140 Yambil St, phone (02) 6964 1447.

St Vincent de Paul Society: 67 Yambil St, phone (02) 6964 3863.

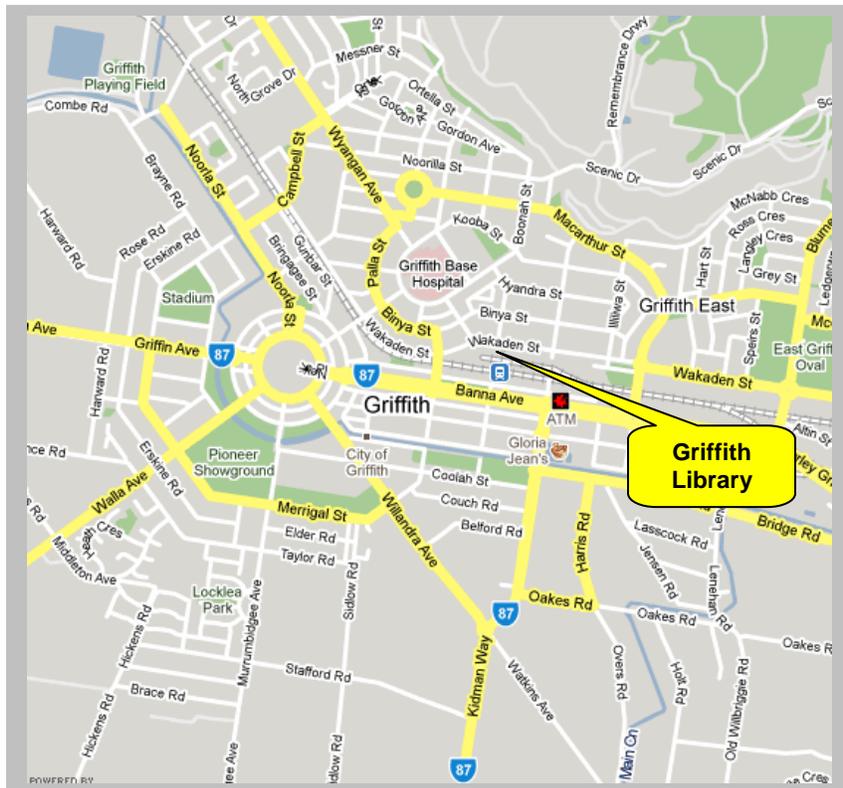
Australian Red Cross: contact the Wagga Wagga office on ((02) 5963 2952.

Where to get more information:

Griffith Community Directory: www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/community-services-directory/

Griffith City Library: 233-237 Banna Avenue, phone 6962 1422. www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/library.

Griffith Neighbourhood House Community Centre Berenambrah Street (behind TAFE).



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