



PORT MACQUARIE - HASTINGS

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

Location:

Port Macquarie (the main centre in the Hastings Region) is located midway along the New South Wales' Mid North Coast.

It is 420 kilometres north of Sydney (260 kilometres north of Newcastle) and 510 kilometres south of Brisbane.

The area is bisected north to south by the North Coast Rail Line and the Pacific Highway which connects Sydney and Brisbane.

Overview:

About 80,000 people live in the Hastings region, about half in Port Macquarie.

The region had many smaller towns, many of which are experiencing growth (so offer opportunities for people coming to the region). Several of these towns are in the Camden Haven area, south of Port Macquarie. They include Kendall, Kew, North Haven, Dunbogan and West Haven. Laurieton is the service town for this area.

21 kilometres from Port Macquarie is the town of Wauchope which serves the inland agricultural region.

How to get there:

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

It is an easy 4 hour drive from Sydney and less than 3 hours from Newcastle. From Brisbane it is a 6 hour drive south. It's less than 4 hours from the inland cities of Armidale and Tamworth.

The XPT train service between Sydney and Brisbane stops at Wauchope 3 times a day with a coach connection between Wauchope and Port Macquarie on some services.

Busses operated by Greyhound Australia and Premier Motor Service stop at Port Macquarie.

QantasLink and Virgin Australia provide direct daily flights from Sydney and Alliance Airlines/Virgin Australia partnership offers daily direct service from Brisbane.

Employment:

The main areas of employment are health care & social assistance, retail, accommodation and food services, education & training, construction and manufacturing.

For useful information about seeking employment, go to www.jobsearch.gov.au.



Information about jobs in the local area can be found through

- Port Macquarie News (local paper): www.portnews.com.au/
- Eather Recruitment, 6583222, resumes@eatherrecruitment.com.au

Jobs are also listed on the following websites:

- www.seek.com.au/
- <https://au.jora.com>

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:

There is a wide range of educational opportunities in this region from basic English to training to be a doctor. The following providers can assist:

Charles Sturt University has a range of courses and offers course support, accommodation assistance and scholarship opportunities. See: <http://www.csu.edu.au/portmacquarie/courses>

Port Macquarie TAFE provides a variety of courses including those that link into university courses, mainly Newcastle University. For information about TAFE go to www.northcoasttafe.edu.au.

TAFE also offers **AMEP** (English) classes. See <https://www.skillslinktraining.com.au/>.

Port Macquarie Community College is open to all members of the community and offers a range of course linked to employment (e.g. Aged Care, Hospitality and IT) and lifestyle. It can also provide free courses to students with specific needs.

For Children:

There are many public and private schools in the area both in Port Macquarie and regional towns. For the full list go to: <https://www.yellowpages.com.au/find/schools/port-macquarie-hastings-council-nsw>

Accommodation:

The median weekly cost of renting a two bedroom house is \$340. It is \$420 a week for a 3 bedroom house and \$495 per week for a 4 bedroom house.

One bedroom rental options are very rare. If you are by yourself, it is much more economical to share a property with other people.

Websites you can look at to find rental accommodation include:

<https://www.realestate.com.au>

<https://www.nestoria.com.au/port-macquarie/real-estate-properties/rental>

Health Services:

Port Macquarie Base Hospital is the major regional hospital. It is located in Wrights Rd, Port Macquarie. It offers a wide range of medical services and has an emergency department. Many other health related services such as physiotherapy and social work are also located at the Hospital.

See <https://mnclhd.health.nsw.gov.au/hospitals/port-macquarie-base-hospital/> for more information.

Local transport:

Busways provides local bus services in the region. See www.busways.com.au/region/port_macquarie

For Muslims:

There are people of many faiths in the Port Macquarie region but if you are a Muslim, you might like to know that:

- Friday prayers are performed every Friday from 1:00 pm at the historic court house which is on the corner of Hay and Clarence Streets, Port Macquarie.
- Halal certified chicken is available from Coles and Woolworths and Halal lamb from Aldi.

Who can help you:

Migrant Settlement Project Worker:

Old Wingham Court House
4 Farquhar Street

Contact: Jane O'Dwyer Email: rmw@mvns.org.au; Mobile: 0497 832 079

Website: www.mvns.org.au

Port Macquarie Neighbourhood Centre

Corner Muston & Dodds Streets
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
Phone: 02 6583 8044 or 02 6584 1914
Contacts:

- Lindy – Manager portmac@midcoast.com.au
- Julie – Coordinator pmncinfo@midcoast.com.au

Website: www.pmncinfo.org.au/

Port Macquarie Neighbourhood Centre provides many services that assist families, adolescents and older people. The Neighbourhood Centre offers free community programs, information, advocacy, advice and referral on a wide range of topics. It also provides information about things in the local area and has a (free) Community Services Directory.

Wauchope Neighbourhood Centre

3 Waugh Street, Wauchope 2446

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