

CARCOAR ITINERARY

<https://www.orange360.com.au/Places-to-go/Villages/Carcoar>

www.carcoarvillage.com

The picture-perfect village of Carcoar is nestled in a small sheltered valley beside the meandering Belubula River. A true historic gem, it is the third oldest settlement west of the Blue Mountains. One of the most perfectly preserved 19th century villages in Australia, the entire village of Carcoar is classified by the National Trust.

Carcoar is a 3 hour drive from Canberra, and a 4 hour drive from Sydney. It's a 45 minute drive from Orange, Bathurst and Cowra.

Our ideal guests are couples (aged 30-65) and groups of friends (aged 30-65) and we have designed this itinerary with accommodation options in mind. Please plan ahead to secure your accommodation and dining options - since emerging from lockdown our little village has become an increasingly desirable weekend escape destination and we tend to book out far in advance.

ACCOMMODATION

For couples looking for a stylish and intimate country village experience, we recommend staying at Hargans Cottage (trust us, you'll never want to leave) (www.tomolly.com.au/blogs/hargans-cottage/stay) and for two couples travelling together Arisaig Cottage with its open fires and saltwater pool is ideal (www.facebook.com/arisaigofcarcoar/).

Guesthouse accommodation is available at The Stokehouse (www.stokehousecarcoar.com.au/new/) and there are rooms available at our local pub (www.royalhotelcarcoar.com.au).

If you're travelling with a large group of friends why not take over an entire heritage homestead at Hilton Homestead (www.thehiltonhomestead.com/) or The White House (<https://www.airbnb.com.au/rooms/4968594>) and Woodstock (www.airbnb.com.au/rooms/45818979) both perfectly located in the heart of our village.

There are many other housesharing options available through AirBnB too:

<https://www.airbnb.com.au/carcoar-australia/stays>

Immerse yourself in our village experience, somewhere in time

An authentic experience of life in one of Australia's most perfectly preserved 19th century villages. Slow down, switch off, meander along the river and through our village, browse through boutiques, savour homestyle slow food and local produce, take your time over a local beer or wine at our pub.

DAY ONE, FRIDAY – Meet the Village People

11am Arrive in Carcoar at your leisure around 11am to check into your accommodation.

12pm Start your Carcoar experience the Carcoar way – make sure you're outside and you'll hear the bells of our local church ringing merrily to let you know it's midday and lunchtime. They also ring at 9am (time for coffee) and 6pm (see you at the pub).

Meander along to the Village Grocer (<https://www.facebook.com/thevillagegroccarcoar/>) and grab a coffee. Pick up your pre-ordered grazing box for a relaxing picnic by our Belubula River. The Royal Hotel does takeaways if you'd like to grab a bottle of wine.

Carcoar means 'frog' in Wiradjuri and in summer the sound of Carcoar is little frogs singing along the Belubula (which means 'stony river').

1pm Take a stroll through our village.

Start at the Carcoar School of Arts and take a walk past our Courthouse (also home to Carcoar Pottery <http://www.carcoarpottery.com>) and collect your Historical Tour of Carcoar guide providing all the information you need for a walking tour of the historic village.

Walk past our local fire station and police station, take a left and accept the challenge of walking up the hill towards the Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception (est. 1870) and the old convent (now Shalom, a private retreat residence <http://shalomcarcoar.com/>). You are welcome to go inside the Church to take a look.

Directly across the road is St Paul's Anglican Church (est.1845), which has recently been purchased by the villagers for the enjoyment and use of our entire community (<http://stpaulscarcoar.com/>). Take a walk through the grounds, down to Belubula Street which is the start of our main street.

Make sure your first stop on Belubula Street is the Tomolly homewares & interiors store. Introduce yourself to owner Belinda Satterthwaite, who is our unofficial ambassador for Carcoar (<https://tomolly.com.au/>)

You haven't lived until you've visited Carcoar's 20th Century Toy Museum in the former CBC Bank (est, 1877)
<https://www.carcoarvillage.com/20th-century-toy-museum>

Across the Belubula Bridge you'll find vintage wares at The Rustic Flamingo, located in the original village bakery.
<https://www.facebook.com/The-Rustic-Flamingo-107016533579043/>

Right next door is the Stoke Stable Museum (built by convict labour in 1849) and now full of historical memorabilia.
<http://www.centralnswmuseums.com.au/museums/stoke-stable-museum/>

Continue walking up Iceley Road and take a left at Eulamore Street to visit the Carcoar Hospital Museum, housed in Carcoar's original district hospital which was built in 1860 and which was still operational until the 1980s. Most of the local villagers were born here!
<https://www.facebook.com/CHMCarcoar/>

Walk up to our heritage Carcoar Train Station where you can get a view of the whole town. Walk along the tracks of the no longer active Blayney - Demondrille line to view the 1849 Train Tunnel.

3pm Take a break and enjoy your accommodation

5pm Now would be a good time to stroll up to The Royal Hotel for a refreshing ale or glass of local cool-climate wine with the locals.
<https://www.royalhotelcarcoar.com.au/>

We often have live music but the jukebox at the back of the pub is also a cracker.

Stay for dinner at The Royal's bistro. These days it's advisable to book in advance.

DAY TWO, SATURDAY – Explore the Countryside

9am Grab a coffee from the Village Grocer, you're practically a local already!

10am Now it's time to start exploring the local region, we have provided two options for day trips in different directions from Carcoar to nearby Orange or Cowra.

OPTION ONE: BLAYNEY & ORANGE

Platform Arts Hub, Blayney

<https://artsoutw.managedwp.com.au/platform-arts-hub-blayney/>

It's just a 12 minute drive to Blayney, and this is a perfect first stop on your way to Orange to view this local art gallery. Platform Arts Hub Blayney is a regional art gallery and community hub located at the Blayney Railway Station in Central NSW. The continually changing cultural and exhibition program, showcases regional and local artists, meaning there is always something new and exciting to inspire you. Get involved and hands on with the creative arts workshops and various community activities. Platform is located in the refurbished 1876 heritage listed Blayney Railway Station.

Orange Wine Region

<https://www.orange360.com.au/>

From Blayney you're only a 35 minute drive from the centre of Orange where acclaimed vineyards, lush orchards, boutique shopping experiences and beautifully preserved heritage are paired with stunning natural surroundings.

For information on vineyards to visit, tour operators and places to eat visit the Orange360 website (<https://www.orange360.com.au/>)

OPTION TWO: COWRA & CANOWINDRA

Cowra

<https://visitcowra.com.au/>

A scenic 45 minute drive through the countryside will bring you to Cowra, home to some additional wineries and the beautiful Japanese Gardens.

Japanese Gardens, Cowra

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

Canowindra

<https://www.orange360.com.au/Places-to-go/Villages/Canowindra>

On the way back to Carcoar take a detour to Canowindra (pronounce it like a local, 'ca-noun-dra') another gorgeous 19th century village well-worth a visit. This is Ben Hall country, so make sure you book in for a bushranger tour with Blind Freddy's Bushranger Tours (<https://www.blindfreddytraveltours.com/>) to learn more about the bushranger and goldrush-era heritage of the local region.

- 4pm Return to Carcoar and enjoy your accommodation. Or a cheeky local beer or wine at The Royal!
- 7pm Bring along your newly found favourite wines and settle in for the Antica Australis experience (www.anticacarcoar.com). An Italian slow food locanda in the heart of Carcoar, featuring food & stories and serving a four course set menu starring local and seasonal produce. Antica is BYO and was awarded an AGFG Chef Hat for 2021. It has been described as 'one of the most interesting regional Italian restaurants in the state, let alone the country' by Myffy Rigby, editor of the SMH Good Food Guide. Bookings are essential, as far in advance as possible.

DAY THREE, SUNDAY – Explore Another Historic Village

9am Grab a coffee from the Village Grocer, you're Carcoarian now.

Drive up Belubula Street towards the Brady Road entrance/exit of Carcoar, but before the highway exit take a left along Carcoar Cemetery Road. We are taking you the SECRET WAY that links the historic villages of Carcoar and our neighbouring village of Millthorpe.

This is about a 12-15 minute drive. Some of it is dirt road. All of it is scenic.

10am Arrive Millthorpe (<http://www.millthorpevillage.com.au/>)
Explore the many fantastic boutiques, antique stores and cafes of this goldrush-era village.

Millthorpe is also home to three cellar doors serving local cool-climate wine tastings and sales. Make sure you pre-book your wine tasting.

Angullong

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

Tamburlaine

<https://tamburlaine.com.au/>

Slow Wine Company

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

1pm Have an amazing fine-dining lunch at Tonic Millthorpe. Reservations are essential, make sure you book ahead in advance.

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

Other more casual lunch options include Millthorpe Providore or The Old Mill Café.

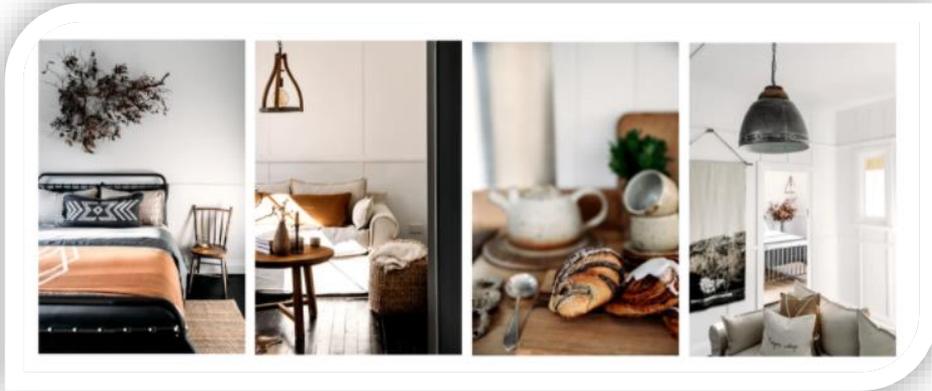
<https://www.facebook.com/MillthorpeProvidore/>

<http://www.theoldmillcafe.com.au/>

4pm It should be part of your DNA by now – return to Carcoar and join us all for a Sunday afternoon session at The Royal. We will see you there!

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

We have many gorgeous options for couples and groups of friends to stay in our friendly, heritage village. Our recommendation is to book as far in advance as possible to secure your preferred dates.



FOR A COUPLE - Hargans Cottage

www.tomolly.com.au/blogs/hargans-cottage/stay

Right in the heart of Carcoar village, this is the most gorgeous boutique experience for two with freshly made sourdough, local pastries and local sparkling provided to welcome you. Owned by Belinda of our local homewares store, Tomolly, you will be fully immersed in her distinctive country styling. We can almost guarantee you will never want to leave.



FOR A COUPLE OR TWO COUPLES - Arisaig Cottage

Boutique cottage accommodation in heart of Carcoar, has four bedrooms but you are also welcome to book the whole house just for two. Has an inground saltwater pool.

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FOR COUPLES - Stokehouse Bed & Breakfast

www.stokehousecarcoar.com.au/new/

Just a leisurely stroll from our main street over our heritage wooden bridge. Heritage double rooms, ideal for couples.



FOR THREE TO SIX COUPLES – Hilton Homestead

www.thehiltonhomestead.com/

Ideally located on a private property outside of Mandurama with six bedrooms and sleeps up to 12. A Gorgeous heritage property just a 10 minutes drive from Carcoar village.



FOR SIX COUPLES – The White House

<https://www.airbnb.com.au/rooms/4968594>

Has six bedrooms and can sleep a group of 12-14 with gorgeous surrounding gardens and an in-ground pool. Beautiful heritage building just a walk across the bridge from Antica Australis