

GRIFFITH

Griffith, situated in the fertile heart of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) of south-west NSW, is one of the most vibrant cosmopolitan centres of Australia. With a population of around 28,000 and supporting a regional catchment in the western Riverina of 60,000 the prosperous and growing city of Griffith offers employment and lifestyle opportunities of much larger cities free from the associated traffic, tension and overcrowding.

Griffith's outdoor dining cafes and stylish up-market retail outlets create an ambiance and culture more like that of a European city than one located in south western NSW. In fact, a major strength of the area is its cultural mix, with a higher than average number of people of European descent, along with people from many other cultures. This multicultural flavour adds a special quality of life and vibrancy to the area.

Just a few kilometres away the lifeblood of the region, the Murrumbidgee River, feeds a comprehensive irrigation scheme and provides one of Australia's most reliable supplies of quality water.

The blend of water, climate and geography combined with a community with a diverse range of skills, ambitions and heritage has helped develop a thriving economy incorporating agriculture, food processing, manufacturing, education providers, research facilities and tourism. Griffith City Council actively encourages economic development including expansion of existing business, start-up of new business, and relocation of business to the area.

Key Industries

Food Processing: Griffith hosts a number of recognised companies processing foods such as chicken meat, gherkins, frozen corn, precooked rice, canned vegetables and concentrates, fruit and vegetable juices and wine. Piped natural gas, sewer and secure water are available throughout the diverse commercial and residential property developments in the area.

Manufacturing: Griffith is home to a variety of medium to large-scale manufacturers of equipment required nationally and internationally in the agricultural and food and wine processing industries.

Wine Industry: Fourteen wineries produce a range of world-class premium wines and a wide range of bottled and bulk wines.

Retail: A wide range of strip and centre shopping precincts supports owner operated, franchise and chain retailers servicing an estimated regional population of 60,000. Further developments are planned by national and local enterprises.

Tourism: Griffith has defined itself as a cosmopolitan food and wine destination famed for its multicultural special events. The city welcomes up to 150,000 visitors annually as free independent travellers, group tours and itinerant workers. Business opportunities exist to establish B and Bs, Farmstays, expansion of wine tasting facilities and small to medium group tours.

AT A GLANCE

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| Population | 28,000 |
| DISTANCE: | |
| To Sydney | 568 km |
| To Melbourne | 512 km |
| To Canberra | 358 km |





Employment Opportunities

Employment abounds in Griffith, particularly around harvest time. There are a number of vacancies regularly available with the food processing industries. A number of vocational training providers also operate in Griffith along with four Job Network agencies plus a number of labour and contract hire organisations.

Employment opportunities exist for: Skilled engineers, Metal trades workers, Skilled tradespeople, Labourers, agriculture, food/wine processing, Health workers, Teachers, Administrative/ clerical workers.

Health and Education

Excellent hospital, aged care and social support systems are available, including nursing homes and respite care. The Griffith Base Hospital provides most services through consulting specialists. Medical, dental, physiotherapy, chiropractic, pathology and radiography services are located in the city. Griffith has two large nursing homes and a number of retirement villages.

Education facilities are excellent, with public and private schools offering education from Kindergarten to Year 12. There are three high schools and 13 primary schools throughout the area, while local pre-schools, playgroups, and childcare facilities provide support and pre-education services. Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, is a two hour drive to the east. The University is currently investigating opening a campus in Griffith. Vocational education and training is offered through a number of agencies and a state of the art Wine and Food Training Centre has been established at the TAFE campus in recognition of the huge potential for development in these industries.

Communications and Telecommunications

Griffith is a centre for communications for the Riverina and MIA.

We boast five radio stations, two commercial television stations with local content as well as SBS and ABC TV and community radio station 2MIA-FM. The local newspaper is The Area News which is published three times per week.

The area is well serviced with a number of ISPs charging local call access and ADSL broadband is available throughout the city and is quickly expanding to the villages. The city will soon be host to a new state of the art wireless broadband technology.

Contact

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Transport

Passenger and freight rail service the Griffith to Sydney line. There is regular high volume intermodal containerised transport and Griffith has locally based road transport companies as well as nationwide haulers.

The city is well served by intra and interstate coach services to Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Adelaide.

Commercial flights from Griffith are through Regional Express which offers a daily service to Sydney. More than 25 return services each week cater for both leisure and business visitors.

Single and twin charter flights are also available.

Distances to major centres

6 hours – Sydney via Sturt Highway/Burley Griffin Way
5 hours – Melbourne via Kidman Way/Newell Highway
3 hours – Canberra
9 hours – Adelaide

Sport and Leisure

Griffith has around 100 sporting organisations covering a wide range of activities from archery to waterskiing. All codes of football are played in winter and there is a strong summer cricket competition. The city boasts a vast and well maintained system of sporting facilities and venues including a modern multi-million dollar heated indoor aquatic and fitness centre.

A large multicultural population influences the vibrancy of the city and has contributed to the many culturally based facilities and activities on offer, including the Regional Theatre, Art Gallery, Pioneer Park Heritage Museum and a variety of festivals celebrating the people and produce of the city.

Housing and Real Estate

Housing in Griffith is available to suit most requirements including units, semi detached villas, single dwellings, and rural residential blocks. Residential estates and subdivisions are being released to meet the demand associated with the growth of the city. Blocks range in size from around 800 square metres in the City to one hectare in rural residential areas.

A number of large industrial zones are situated on the city fringes. Blocks with full amenities are available for sale.



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