

Your Echuca-Moama Itinerary

Introduction

Echuca and its sister town Moama are located along the majestic Murray River on the Victoria/NSW border. A two and half hour drive from Melbourne, and approximately an eight hour drive from Sydney and Adelaide, the area was the centre of the river trade in the late 1800s, and is steeped in historic tradition. The warmer months in Echuca-Moama are absolutely stunning, as the sunshine makes cruises on the river, fishing and outdoor lunches all the more enjoyable. In the colder months, increased water levels and a hearty pub and restaurant scene make the area well worth a visit.

Saturday

Once you arrive at the cottage take some time to unpack and settle in, then grab a shopping bag and head for **Echuca Moama Farmers Market**. The Farmers Market is held in Echuca Alton Reserve on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturday of every month and is a great way to mix with the locals. Pick up some fabulous local produce including olives, cheese, fruit and vegetables, organic lamb or boutique sausages and the best pork pies this side of the Murray River!

If your stay does not fall on a Farmers Market weekend you can also stop by the local IGA, located on nearby Meninya Street, to pick up some groceries and other essentials for your stay. Meninya Street also has a post office, pharmacy, bakery, news agency and several eateries.

After settling in, wander across the street to the newly renovated **Moama Bowling Club** (about a three minute walk) and enjoy a drink or two in the Pavilion Bar, which serves an array of the world's best beers, chic cocktails and wines. The Moama Bowling Club offers a wide variety of dinner options including café, bistro, tapas and BBQ style dishes. After dinner, return to the Pavilion Bar to enjoy the Saturday night live entertainment or head to the Café (open until 10pm) in the Sports Lounge for a coffee and pastries cooked by the in-house pastry chef.

Sunday

The perfect Sunday begins with a **Paddlesteamer** cruise on the Murray, then a leisurely stroll around historical buildings and glory-days infrastructure finishing with a well-earned drink or two and some delicious pub grub at **the Star**.

Drive five minutes down the Cobb Highway into the Port of Echuca and to the Murray Esplanade for a ride on a Paddlesteamer. **Murray River Paddlesteamers** offers one hour cruises daily from 10am to 3pm, and the scenic cruise is the best way to take in the majestic river and surrounds. Lunch, dinner and overnight cruises on the Paddlesteamers are also available with the gourmet meals prepared by a Chef using local produce (call 03 5482 5244 to make a reservation).

After your cruise, take a guided **Port of Echuca Wharf Walk** or simply explore the area, taking special note of the historic buildings and stunning **Red Gum Wharf** which has been reconstructed true to the original plans. The **Port of Echuca** is an authentic working steam port and on most days you can see shipwrights and apprentices at work. Make sure you stop by the Star Hotel for a meal or coffee. Located on the Murray Esplanade, **the Star Hotel** date back to the 1890s and comes complete with an illegal underground Bar and escape tunnel used in the 1800s to avoid police. Sit by the river bank as the light fades, watch the horses and carriages go by on Murray Esplanade, while steamboats whistle in the distance.

For dinner, walk across to High street and enjoy the delicious Linguini Olio, a risotto or pizza cooked in a wood fire oven at **Antonio's on the Port**. Warm, picturesque and inviting, Antonio's can get quite full so you may want to make a booking to ensure your table. Alternatively, there are a number of great eateries in the area to try out including **Fish in A Flash** on High Street (award winning fish and chips) or **Oscar W's Wharfside Red Gum Grill and Deck Bar** on the Murray Esplanade which has a stunning riverside location.

Monday

Shank's Pony or a V8? Today's itinerary allows you time to experience both. A morning explore by foot and then onto the **National Holder Motor Museum** with a delicious pit-stop at **Beechworth Bakery** for lunch.

First up, take the opportunity to discover the area around the cottage by foot, the camping area just beyond Berry Street, is perfect for a leisurely stroll or walk around the residential area, exploring Moama's wide streets. Finish up at the Meninya Street shops (approximately a 15 minute walk from the cottage) and grab a quick bite or cold drink at the **Moama Bakery**.

After your morning walk, drive down to Hare Street in Echuca where you will find a bustling shopping strip with all the stores that you would find at a major shopping centre - such as Sportsgirl, Sussan, House, Priceline - intermingled with local souvenir and craft shops and delicious eateries. Continue up to High Street, where historic buildings now house gift shops, second-hand book stores and gourmet produce. Stop at the renowned **Beechworth Bakery** on High Street for lunch and enjoy delicious cakes, pies, foccacias or the all day breakfast menu. The grand two storey bakery is part of a rural bakery chain originally established in Beechworth which has enjoyed phenomenal success and is a must to visit during your stay.

On nearby Warren Street, the **National Holden Motor Museum** is the perfect way to spend a couple of hours if you are a motoring enthusiast or simply have an interest in Australia's most iconic car makers. The museum's displays are forever changing as the vehicles and memorabilia are provided courtesy of Holden, Holden enthusiasts and private collectors. See over 40 vehicles, including rare prototypes, historic film footage, and photographic exhibition and explore the wide range of merchandise on the souvenir and gift shop.

In the evening, you will be spoilt for choice with the amount of eateries in the precinct. Check out **Ceres Restaurant** on nearby Nish Street which is housed in a converted flour mill. Tapas is available all day as well as an a la carte menu for dinner and a relaxed lounge area for after dinner drinks.

Tuesday

An amazing day awaits you, a hearty breakfast at the **Border Inn Hotel**, a visit to a 1920's **Penny Arcade** and for the curious the challenge of **Oz Maze**.

Breakfast in the sunny courtyard at the **Border Inn Hotel** on Meninya Street is served from 8am seven days a week. Breakfast options including the big breakfast, pancakes and smoked salmon scrambled eggs, we can guarantee this won't be the only time during your stay you'll come here for breakfast!

Head into Echuca and to the Murray Esplanade where you will find **Sharps Magic Movie House & Penny Arcade**, a 1920's style picture theatre. Tickets are valid all day, so you can wander in anytime and enjoy the continuous montage of film, including old time comedy classics, Australian archival material, relevant local Murray River footage, shorts and other features. Use the pennies supplied with your movie ticket to play the rare penny arcade machines. Try your luck as some of the machines pay out additional pennies if you win!

You won't need a sweet tooth to enjoy the fudge which is made on site and comes in an array of gourmet flavours including Echuca's Irish Crème, Chocolate Cointreau & Orange Swirl and Lemon Myrtle & Macadamia. You won't be able to resist taking some back for family and friends. Purchase your fudge as well as boiled lollies, country pantry items, hot popcorn, hats, caps, flags, postcards and film at the in-house souvenir shop.

A couple of minutes walk from the Port of Echuca, near the roundabout at Moama Bridge, is **Oz Maze & Miniature Golf**. Try your luck at the maze record, the average time to complete it is 45 minutes, and if you do happen to get lost there are trained Maze rescuers to help you out. Afterwards, have a round of mini golf or relax in the tea room.

After your fudge tasting experience you may feel the need to work it off, and the **Moama Sports Club Gym** is the perfect place to do just that. Afterwards dine at the **Moama Sports Club** bistro with dinner hours until 8.30pm.

Wednesday

Take a day trip to the township of Kyabram and explore the **Kyabram Fauna Park**, world-renowned for its breeding and conservation of native Australian animals, birds and reptiles. Five hundred species of wildlife including free-roaming kangaroos, emus, koala, alpine dingoes, owls, snakes, Tasmanian Devils, cranes and a variety of water birds call this 55 hectare reserve home and can be observed from hides.

On the way stop by the **Golden Cow Dairy Centre** in Tongala (approximately 30 minutes drive from the cottage), and take a self guided tour around the dairy. Visitors can enter the pens and pat the calves and lambs, and look at the display of old style Nestle milk tins. Witness the daily milking at 11am and enjoy a milkshake in the Café from your choice of over 39 flavours!

Continue on to Kyabram, which is about a 20 minute drive from Tongala, arriving at the **Kyabram Fauna Park**, there is a large walk-through aviary, an energy efficient reptile house, wetland viewing hides, a wetland observation tower and a café, playground, barbecues and a tourist information centre. Guaranteed hours of fun and outdoor activity, children and adults alike will be enthralled.

In the evening, dine at the **Kyabram Club** and experience local produce cooked by internationally trained chefs. Tempting and surprising mains are the norm here, with dishes such as Kangaroo Rogan Josh and Duck & mushroom Ragu exciting the taste buds or if you prefer familiar favourites you can't go past the Parmagiana or the Fisherman's Basket.

Thursday

Head north in the morning for a forty minute drive to visit the **Barmah State Park** and **Barmah State Forest**, part of the world's largest River Red Gum forest and an internationally recognized wetland. Barmah's history spans thousands of years and has a rich and continuing Indigenous heritage. Descendants of the original people still live in the area and are involved in sharing their heritage and managing the natural environment.

The Dharnya Centre is the starting place for walking trails that range from one to seven kilometres in length. Although these walking trails are signposted, you may wish to visit the Parks Victoria website (http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/1park_print.cfm?park=43) to work out which track best suits your interests and fitness level best. The Barmah region could easily absorb a whole day, however if you do decide to return a little earlier, stop by **Morrison's Riverview Winery & Restaurant** for lunch or a wine tasting by the river on your way back to Moama. Morrison's serves a lunch menu from 11.30 to 2.30 and offers gourmet local produce served with quality wines.

Depending on your mood, for dinner, try out the **Moama Pizza Café** or **Double Dragon Chinese Restaurant** on Meninya Street. Both come highly recommended by the locals and provide quality food in a relaxed friendly environment. The Double Dragon restaurant does get quite busy during peak times so it is recommended that you book.

Friday

Golfers should take advantage of having a round on one of Australia's premier golf courses the **Rich River Golf Club Resort**. Kids (young and old) will enjoy the facilities and the adrenalin of **Silverstone Go-Karts**. Or hire a canoe, motor boat or BBQ boat for your own unique Murray River experience.

Have a round of golf in the lush surroundings of the **Rich River Golf Club Resort**. Featuring two award winning 18 hole champion golf courses, the **Rich River Golf Club Resort** has become one of regional Australia's premier golfing venues. Afterwards, enjoy lunch at the Club's James Maiden Bistro, open every day for lunch from 12-2pm.

Alternatively, if you are feeling adventurous, why not hire a canoe, motor boat, Kayak or Barbeque Boat for a different way to experience the Murray River. **Echuca Boat and Canoe Hire** will hire watercraft by the hour, or longer if you require. Most of the watercrafts do not require a boat licence and can accommodate children.

If Go-Karting is more your style, **Silverstone Go-Karts** has a Grand Prix track in Bremner Ave (off Echuca St) with barbecue facilities, amusements and a kiosk and is open daily from 10am.

For your last night in Echuca Moama, head down to the **Moama Bowling Club** for some drinks and to enjoy the live acoustic style entertainment in the Piano Lounge.

Markets and Events

Check the calendar at www.echucamoama.com/ for markets or events that may be occurring during your stay. The Echuca Farmers Market and Echuca Moama Markets are held on various weekends each month and are a great way to mix with the locals.

Useful Contacts

Echuca-Moama Taxis: 03 5482 2700

V/Line: 136 196

Echuca-Moama Tourism: 1800 804 446

Directory**Antonio's on the Port**

527 High Street

ECHUCA VIC 3564

Ph: 03 5482 6117

www.antoniosechuca.com.au

The Beechworth Bakery Echuca

513 High Street

ECHUCA VIC 3564

Ph: 03 5480 6999

Open 6am to 6pm every day except Christmas day

www.beechworthbakery.com

Border Inn Hotel

19-21 Meninya Street

MOAMA NSW 2731

Ph: 03 5480 9966

www.borderinn.com.au

Ceres Restaurant

2 Nish Street

ECHUCA VIC 3564

Bookings essential: (03) 5482 5599

Dharnya Centre

Sandridge Road

BARMAH VIC 3639

Ph: 5869 3302

Double Dragon Chinese Restaurant

16 Meninya Street

MOAMA NSW 2731

Ph: 03 5482 5077

Echuca Boat and Canoe Hire

Ph: 03 5480 6208

Mob: 0412 719 968

Email: info@echucaboatcanoehire.com

<http://www.echucaboatcanoehire.com/>

Located in Echuca, upriver from the Victoria Park Boat Ramp and behind the Echuca City Caravan Park at the Northern end of town. For Bookings phone 03 5480 6208.

Fish in a Flash
602 High Street
ECHUCA VIC 3564
Ph: 03 5480 0824

Golden Cow Dairy Centre
Cnr Henderson & Finlay Roads
TONGALA VIC 3621
Ph: 03 5859 1100
<http://www.goldencow.com.au/>
10.30am to 4pm, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday. Closed Tuesday and Saturday.
Adults \$9, pensioners \$3, concessions \$7.50, children \$7.50 and families from \$25.
Download self guided tour map from http://www.goldencow.com.au/golden_cow/golden_cow_home.html

Holden Museum, Echuca
7-11 Warren St
ECHUCA VIC 3564
Ph: 03 5480 2033
<http://www.holdenmuseum.com.au>
Open 7 Days 9am-5pm
Full Disability Access

Moama Bakery
3/57 Meninya Street
MOAMA NSW 2731
Ph: 03 5482 5671

Moama Bowling Club
6 Shaw Street
MOAMA NSW 2731
Ph: 1800 806 777
Sunday - Thursday 10am -12 midnight, Friday 10am-1am, Saturday 10am-1.30am

Moama Pizza Restaurant & Café
Meninya Street
MOAMA NSW 2731
Ph: 03 5482 5146

Moama Sports Club
Perricoota Road
MOAMA NSW 2731
Ph: 03 5480 6444
Gym Hours: Mon - Thurs: 6am - 8pm, Friday: 6am - 7pm, Sat & Sun: 9am - 12.30pm.

Morrison's Riverview Winery & Restaurant
2 Merool Lane,
MOAMA NSW 2731
Ph: 03 5480 0126
Email: rivrwine@echuca.net.au
<http://www.morrison.net.au>

Murray River Paddlesteamers

57 Murray Esplanade

ECHUCA VIC 3564

Bookings: 03 5482 5244

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

1 hour cruise on *Pride of the Murray* or *PS Canberra* - Adult: \$20.00, Senior: \$16.00, Child: \$8.50, Family: \$50.00

Flash your API Membership card to receive one complimentary admission with the payment of an admission with equal or greater value on *Pride of the Murray* (with unimpeded access for those with disabilities) and *PS Canberra*.

Oscar W's Wharfside Redgum Grill and Deckbar

101 Murray Esplanade

ECHUCA VIC 3564

Bookings Essential: 03 5482 5133

Ozmaze & Oz Minigolf

Located beside roundabout at Moama bridge.

Ph: 03 5480 2220

www.ozmaze.com.au

Rich River Golf Club Resort

Twenty Four Lane

MOAMA NSW 2731

Ph: 03 5481 3333

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

Booking are recommended, contact the Pro Shop on 03 5481 3372.

Sharps Magic Movie House & Penny Arcade

Bond Store, Murray Esplanade

(Port of Echuca) ECHUCA VIC 3564

Ph: 03 5482 2361

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

9am - 5pm 7 days a week (Closed Christmas Day)

ALL Day Tickets - Adults \$15.00, Seniors \$12.00, Child \$10.00 (U 5 FREE), Family \$45.00

Full Disability Access

Silverstone Go-Karts

Bremner Ave

MOAMA NSW 2731

Ph: 03 5482 6611.

It is open daily from 10.00 a.m. until late.