

Editorial: Quorn

Quorn is a small country town with all the city services nestled in the heart of the spectacular Flinders Ranges and a mere 3.5 hour drive from Adelaide. With a growing population of 1,230 people, Quorn is home to award winning tourism attractions such as the historic Pichi Richi Railway and the Quorn Silo Light Show. Visitors who come to Quorn get to experience everything from history and heritage, getting in touch with nature, quality food, coffee and service to burning off energy at the local skate park or hiking up the various skill leveled peaks and sterns or relaxing and enjoying some local produce whilst watching the award winning Quorn Silo Light Show.

For those that like to delve into the history of townships, Quorn has a new history walk which takes in the historic buildings and sites in Quorn and if you want to find out about some family history, the Quorn Court House is open every second Saturday and volunteers can research any links with the town and surrounding areas.

If you like to relax and take in nature and surrounds, there are many parks and gardens such as Powell Gardens, Flora Reserve and Pithi Kawi (Quorn Bush Tucker Trail) which allow you to either cook a bbq or enjoy a picnic under shade or wander through the gardens and find out about local species and bush tucker available in the area. You can also head out to one of the many great camping places such as Warren Gorge and try and spot the elusive yellow-footed rock wallabies. There are also some great bird watching areas near Powell Gardens or Pithi Kawi where you regularly hear the call of the kookaburra.

For the train buffs, the historic Pichi Richi Railway has been operating by dedicated volunteers since 1974 and runs from March to November and takes you on a journey through the spectacular Pichi Richi Pass between Quorn and Port Augusta.

Depending on when you travel you can go travel via the steam or diesel trains. The Pichi Richi Railway was a winner of the 2021 South Australian Tourism Awards for the Tourism Attraction category.

After dinner, or while you grab a take away dinner, head down to the old wheat silos and take in the award winning Quorn Silo Light Show which runs nightly and showcases stories about Quorn and local artworks and events.

If you like to brush the dust off your car head out to one of the gorges or historic ruins via one of the many 4WD tracks and spend the day exploring and taking in the amazing scenery and wildlife.

COVID-19 didn't stop Quorn from also holding many events which brought the community together and attracted visitors from all across the state. Many local events such as camp drafting or bronco branding are held regularly at the Quorn Stockyard Arena. The Quorn Agricultural Show takes place every year in September and is well know for the equestrian competition. Other major events such as the annual Rock the Ranges, held in October every year, attracts iconic bancs such as Eskimo Joe come all the way to play in Quorn and entertain locals and visitors alike. The Quorn Produce and Craft Market is held on the last Sunday of every month at the Quorn Town Hall and its the place to grab country style home made goodies and so much more.

Quorn is well known for its long history of being a well-sought-after movie town with the likes of Bryan Brown, Hugo Weaving, Robert Pattinson, Jamie Dornan, Guy Pearce and so many more stars walking the streets and mixing with the locals and starred in movies and series such as Sunday Too Far Away, Wolf Creek, The Tourist, Gallipoli,

Breaker Morant, The Shiralee.....the list is endless. On a quiet day you can hear Mick Taylor whilsting along the main street.

At the end of the day if you are looking for some supplies, Quorn has a well stocked local grocery store, hardware store, fuel and mechanical shops, butcher, craft stores, clothing stores, motels and hotels, restaurants and cafes and take aways, hairdresser, laundromat- basically anything that you need can be found here. If you are looking for a bit of a stretch or workout, Quorn has many option any night of the week including yoga, line dancing, pilates, circuit, meditation, and in the summer months the Quorn Swimming Pool is open for laps, water aerobics or leisure.

And how do you find out about all of the above....and more....that Quorn has to offer - go to the Flinders Ranges Visitor Information Centre located in the Quorn Railway Station building or telephone 8620 0510 or email vic@frc.sa.gov.au
Quorn really does have something for everyone!