

WALKING TRAIL

A DAY IN NEWCASTLE

Explore the best of Newcastle
in a day with this self-guided
walking tour.



i Newcastle Visitor Information Centre

1 Newcastle Beach and surrounds

2 Fort Scratchley

3 Nobbys Lighthouse

4 Macquarie Pier

5 The Station

6 Honeysuckle

7 Newcastle Museum

8 Darby Street

9 Civic Park

Walking trail

Light Rail

L Light Rail stop

Art gallery/street art

Cafes and restaurants

NEWCASTLE

SEEK OFF BEAT

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Newcastle Acknowledges its Local Government Area (LGA) sits within the Country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We Acknowledge that Country for Aboriginal peoples is an interconnected set of ancient relationships.

The City of Newcastle Acknowledges the custodianship of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples and the care and stewardship they have performed in this place since time immemorial.



Newcastle Visitor Information Centre

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Drop by the Newcastle Visitor Information Centre to experience the best the city has to offer. The welcoming staff share all their insider tips for exploring the city and uncovering its hidden gems.

It also stocks a range of maps and brochures on local attractions, such as harbour cruises, scenic tours, and themed self-guided walks.

Across the road from the Visitor Information Centre the Newcastle Light Rail passes through Civic Station every 7.5 minutes on weekdays and every 15 minutes on weekends. 'Tap on' using a credit card (e.g., Visa, Mastercard, or American Express) or Opal card, or buy a single trip ticket from the ticket machine on the Civic Station platform.

To begin your journey, head east on the light rail towards Newcastle Beach, the last stop, which takes 7 minutes from Civic Station. Once onboard the light rail you'll travel along Hunter Street. On the left, you will see glimpses of Newcastle Harbour and the foreshore precinct, which you will explore later. On the right, you will pass Newcastle CBD.



Newcastle Light Rail

DIY NEWCASTLE ARTS ADVENTURE

Newcastle is known for its dynamic street art and murals, many of which are thanks to Big Picture Festival. The icons on the map over the page will show you where you can find these, but if you'd prefer a detailed map of Newcastle's street art, see the Visitor Information Centre staff.

'Constance' the camel, designed and sculptured by **Susan Bleach** and **Andrew Townsend**, represents Newcastle's migrant history. It is built up of trade tools and mementoes, as well as cultural, historical, and everyday items.

In the small lane near Newcastle Museum is the quirky, iconic works of artist **Trevor Dickinson**. Trevor is renowned for bold colourful, humorous works, perfect for posing in front of for that ultimate happy snap.

Just past the Visitor Information Centre – look up! The towering **Fintan Magee** portrait titled 'Shadow' is a beautiful, yet provocative piece exploring the role of de-industrialisation, isolation and renewal.

On Hunter Street, near Newcastle University's City Campus you'll discover the mural 'Mirror Ocean' by Newcastle artist, **Bronte Naylor**, sprawling along the Civic Theatre façade. The alley between the University buildings (NUspace and University House) will take you to **Inari Meyer's** striking portrait of a flower-holding, tattooed beauty.

On Hunter Street is **Blackstone Gallery**, one of Newcastle's 19 independent art galleries. A few doors down is **Cstudios Art Gallery** (open Wed to Sat) to explore their latest exhibition, before turning up Auckland Street to **Watt Space Gallery**, run by the University of Newcastle. All galleries are known for showcasing contemporary, multidisciplinary fine art.

Newcastle Visitor Information Centre
430 Hunter Street, Newcastle NSW 2300
Open 7 days
Phone (02) 4974 2109
Email visitorinformation@ncc.nsw.gov.au

visitnewcastle.com.au
facebook.com/visitnewcastle
[@citynewcastle.au](https://instagram.com/citynewcastle)



City of
Newcastle

1 NEWCASTLE BEACH AND SURROUNDS

At Newcastle Beach, there are a few options available, such as taking a dip in the ocean or enjoying a barista-made coffee. Newcastle Beach is a short stroll from Newcastle Beach light rail stop.

To get there, walk across Pacific Park and through the Newcastle Beach pedestrian tunnel. The tunnel currently features an abstract surrealist mural by Newcastle artist, Nickolas Stuart AKA Olas One. Newcastle Beach is a favourite amongst swimmers and surfers and has lifeguards on patrol during the summer season.

If you love the ocean but would prefer a pool experience, along the coast to your left is the recently renovated Newcastle Ocean Baths, which is free to enter and use. Public shower and toilet facilities are available at both the beach and the nearby baths.

Newcastle is renowned for its strong café culture and there are many excellent cafes near Newcastle Beach and surrounds. Kick-start your day with a delicious morning tea featuring fresh, local ingredients:

Estabar

Seriously good coffee, house-made seasonal gelato, and a menu featuring local produce.

The Kiosk

Cold pressed juice, house-made kombucha, ethical coffee, shakes, and more.

East End Ice Creamery

Flavour-packed unique ice creams, plus sorbet and dairy-free options.



Newcastle Ocean Baths and Beach

2 FORT SCRATCHLEY

Australia's only fort to return enemy fire overlooks both Nobbys and Newcastle Beaches. Entry is free and is open daily from 10am to 4pm, except Tuesdays. Tunnel tours run at various times throughout the day and cost a small fee. The cannon is fired daily at 1pm.

To access Fort Scratchley from the Newcastle Ocean Baths, walk across Shortland Esplanade, up through Tramway Reserve, and then turn right to walk along Parnell Place Park. Follow the road and Fort Scratchley's entrance is ahead.

Fort Scratchley Historic Site



3 NOBBYS LIGHTHOUSE

To reach Nobbys Lighthouse from Newcastle Ocean Baths simply follow the path extending away from Newcastle Beach, which wraps around the coastline. You will pass the Cowrie Hole, a favourite of surfers and bodyboarders, and Nobbys Beach and the Lighthouse will soon reveal themselves around a gentle bend. Open on weekends from 8am to 4pm.

Established in 1854, the old Signal Master's cottages are now home to artist exhibitions and residencies with a small gift shop featuring artist wares and works.



Betty Loves Books at The Station Newcastle

5 THE STATION

The Station is the site of Newcastle's former main train station and has been transformed into a community piazza and boutique marketplace. The Station is a short walk from either Nobbys Headland or Fort Scratchley and takes you towards your lunch destination.

Enjoy a quick shop before lunch at one of the bespoke stores on-site:

Betty Loves Books

Betty Loves Books is a community-minded independent bookshop, stocked with many eclectic holiday reads.

Make Space Gallery & Workshop

Make Space is a collective of local artisan's creations, including jewellery and homewares.

Jayaa Interiors

Jayaa sells ceramics, textiles, rugs, and handmade crafts.



Jayaa Interiors at The Station Newcastle

7 NEWCASTLE MUSEUM



Photo opportunity in front of the Trevor Dickinson mural at Newcastle Museum

Newcastle Museum is open Tuesdays to Sundays (open seven days in NSW school holidays) from 10am to 5pm. General entry is free, and fees apply for special events and exhibitions.

One of the permanent free exhibitions is 'A Newcastle Story' which will have you discovering the true character of this city in all its beauty, grit, colour and life. 'Fire and Earth' explores the danger and hard work of coal mining and BHP steel production in Newcastle's earlier years, when the city earned its nickname of 'Steel City'.



Newcastle Museum 'Fire and Earth' Exhibition



4 MACQUARIE PIER THE BREAKWALL

Known to locals as simply 'The Breakwall', along this wide and easily accessible path there are illustrated information panels outlining some of the pier's history. There are also seated viewing areas to allow visitors to relax and watch the working harbour in action.

Macquarie Pier is a 3km round trip, and the end of the pier offers expansive water views and a chance to spot whales during migration season.

Macquarie Pier "The Breakwall"



6 HONEYSUCKLE

Dining in Honeysuckle



It's time to treat those tastebuds to some lunchtime refreshments – and to do that you're heading along the Newcastle Foreshore to the Honeysuckle dining precinct, by foot or on the light rail.

For the light rail, head west for 2 minutes along Scott Street to the Queens Wharf light rail stop. It takes 5 minutes to reach the Civic Station stop, where you cross Hunter Street and continue towards the harbour. If you are choosing to walk from The Station, walk towards the water. Walk west along the harbour, away from Nobbys. There are places to stop and relax along the way, and you will reach Honeysuckle in approximately 20 mins.

Honeysuckle Dining Precinct offers a range of dining options, casual to refined, all in close proximity. Simply choose your culinary adventure, relax and refuel, ready for more exploring in the afternoon.

For refined seafood, we suggest **Thermidor** or **The Kingfish**. Authentic Italian lovers are sure to savour the rich tastes on the **Casa Nova Italian** menu. If the thought of Japanese cuisine makes your mouth water, then **Nagisa** and **Apé Yakitori Bar** are two excellent options known for impeccable flavours and impressive wine matches.

Inspired Mediterranean share plates and incredible cocktails can be found at **Blanca**, or for stacked burgers and fresh pizzas head to **MoneyPenny** or **Harbour Bar**.

For visitors wanting classic Australian pub food, we recommend trying either **The Dockyard** or **Honeysuckle Hotel**.

8 DARBY STREET

Whether coming from the Newcastle Museum or you just finished soaking up Newcastle's art scene, you're bound to need a sit-down and a refreshing drink. Nearby Darby Street has something for everyone, including plenty of comfy seating to take a break after your busy day. Plus, it features a collection of boutique gift and clothing shops to satisfy any retail needs.

Darby Street is a village-style café and restaurant strip, where freshly roasted brews are poured all day long and the teas, treats, and juices are worthy of writing home about. Some of our favourite cafés include **Autumn Rooms** and **Three Monkeys Café** (both open until 3pm), **Goldbergs Coffee House** (closed Tuesdays, open until late), and **Coco Monde Chocolateria** (open 7 days until late).

Boutique shops are dotted all along Darby Street in between the many cafés and restaurants, including **Ramjet**, **Palinopsia Ceramics**, **Abicus**, **Blackbird Corner** and **Steel & Anchor**.

Goldbergs Coffee House, Darby Street



9 CIVIC PARK

Civic Park



Simply walk back down Darby Street, strolling through Civic Park and past Newcastle City Hall. Make sure you wander past the centrally located sculptural fountain created by artist Margel Hinger in 1966 and the War Memorial.