

# Walcha.

## MOTORCYCLING IN THE WALCHA REGION

Our unique and diverse scenery, distinct four seasons and excellent range of both gravel and sealed roads make for great riding.

Walcha is located on top of the great divide, surrounded by magnificent national parks and world heritage listed areas that offer breathtaking scenery. It is ideally suited for those wanting to enjoy multiple days of riding to explore the area, offering motorcycle friendly accommodation and good food. Enjoy your stay in the region and please ride carefully.



## PLAN YOUR RIDE

With winding roads and breathtaking views, travel time can be longer than you expect. It is easy to become tired or lose concentration, so plan your days carefully with plenty of rest breaks.

### ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIMES

FROM	DESTINATION	DISTANCE	TIME
Walcha	Gloucester	146	1 hour 45 mins
Walcha	Wauchope	162	2 hours
Walcha	Armidale	65	45 mins
Walcha	Tamworth	90	1 hour
Walcha	Nundle (via Topdale Rd)	141	1 hour 30 mins



## TOP 3 MUST SEE

Walcha is well known for its natural wonders, amazing art and fascinating Indigenous and European heritage.

### 1. APSLEY FALLS

The awe-inspiring Apsley Falls and Gorge, in Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, are only 19km east of Walcha on an all sealed access. This natural wonder is one of the most accessible waterfalls in the New England region and is a must see if you are riding in the area.

### 2. OPEN AIR GALLERY

Walcha has a thriving arts community and lays claim to having the most public art per capita in Australia, thanks to its renowned Open Air Gallery of artworks and sculptures. This ever-growing permanent outdoor gallery boasts works from local, national and international artists. Stretch your legs, taking a wander around the streetscape and river bank to enjoy these wonderful large scale works of art.

### 3. PIONEER COTTAGE & MUSEUM COMPLEX

Walcha has a rich history, being the oldest settlement in the New England region. Visit the fascinating Pioneer Cottage & Museum complex. Take in the gorgeous historic buildings in the area and all that lies within them; art galleries, antiques, boutiques, handmade wares, cafes, pubs and more.

## two legendary roads to ride

### 📍 OXLEY HIGHWAY

Arguably Australia's most iconic motorcycling road, the Oxley Highway runs from the coast at Port Macquarie inland to Walcha, then through Tamworth and on to Coonabarabran. The wonderful 163km section of highway from Wauchope to Walcha is what motorcyclists rave about, with its wide variety of corners on offer, it keeps riders continuously coming back. It's a two-hour run and is regarded as one of the most spectacular riding roads, both for the views and riding enjoyment. This stretch of road snakes through a variety of landscapes, from rainforest to vast open farmland, offering up some truly beautiful scenery. Don't miss the 1km sealed detour into Apsley Falls (19km east of Walcha) for a spectacular panoramic view of the waterfalls and gorge, which make up part of Oxley Wild Rivers National Park.

### 📍 THUNDERBOLT'S WAY

Thunderbolt's Way tops the list for its wide-open vistas of rolling farmland and its tight bends across the Great Diving Range. It runs from the mid-north coast hinterland town of Gloucester through Walcha and Uralla before continuing on to Inverell.

## THREE ROUTES – TO GET YOU STARTED

THERE ARE PLENTY OF GREAT RIDES ON THE MAP FOR BOTH ROAD AND ADVENTURE RIDERS. WALCHA IS A FANTASTIC HUB TO START EXPLORING FROM. WHY NOT START WITH ONE OF OUR SUGGESTED ROUTES.

### WALCHA – NUNDLE – KOOTINGAL – WALCHA

Places to rest, eat and fuel at Walcha, Nundle, Woolamin, Kootingal, Walcha Road Hotel.

*Route can be done on all sealed roads.*

### WALCHA – BENDEMEER – URALLA – WALCHA

Places to rest, eat and fuel at Walcha, Bendemeer, Uralla, Walcha Road Hotel.

*Route can be done on all sealed roads or by taking alternate unsealed roads if adventure riding.*

### WALCHA – GINGERS CREEK – NOWENDOC – WALCHA

Places to rest, eat and fuel at Walcha, Gingers Creek, Nowendoc Store.

*Route includes unsealed roads for adventure riding.*

## look OUT FOR ...

- LIVESTOCK AND FARM VEHICLES ALONG ROADSIDES AND AT PROPERTY ENTRANCES
- TRUCKS, CARAVANS, BICYCLES OR MACHINERY TRAVELLING SLOWLY OR CREATING A HAZARD
- GRAVEL, DIRT, ROCKS AND SOFT CORNERS
- CATTLE TRUCK EFFLUENT ON THE ROAD, BLACK ICE AND MOSS – ESPECIALLY IN SHADY AREAS.



## SAFE RIDING TIPS

- Obey speed limits
- Keep left at all times
- Be prepared for rapidly changing road and weather conditions. Walcha is 1,067m above sea level so be prepared for cooler weather, particularly at night.
- Adjust your speed to suit the conditions – speed limits are a guide not a target
- Be aware of roadkill, fallen tree limbs, gravel and ice
- It can be cold and dark, so wear highly visible protective clothing



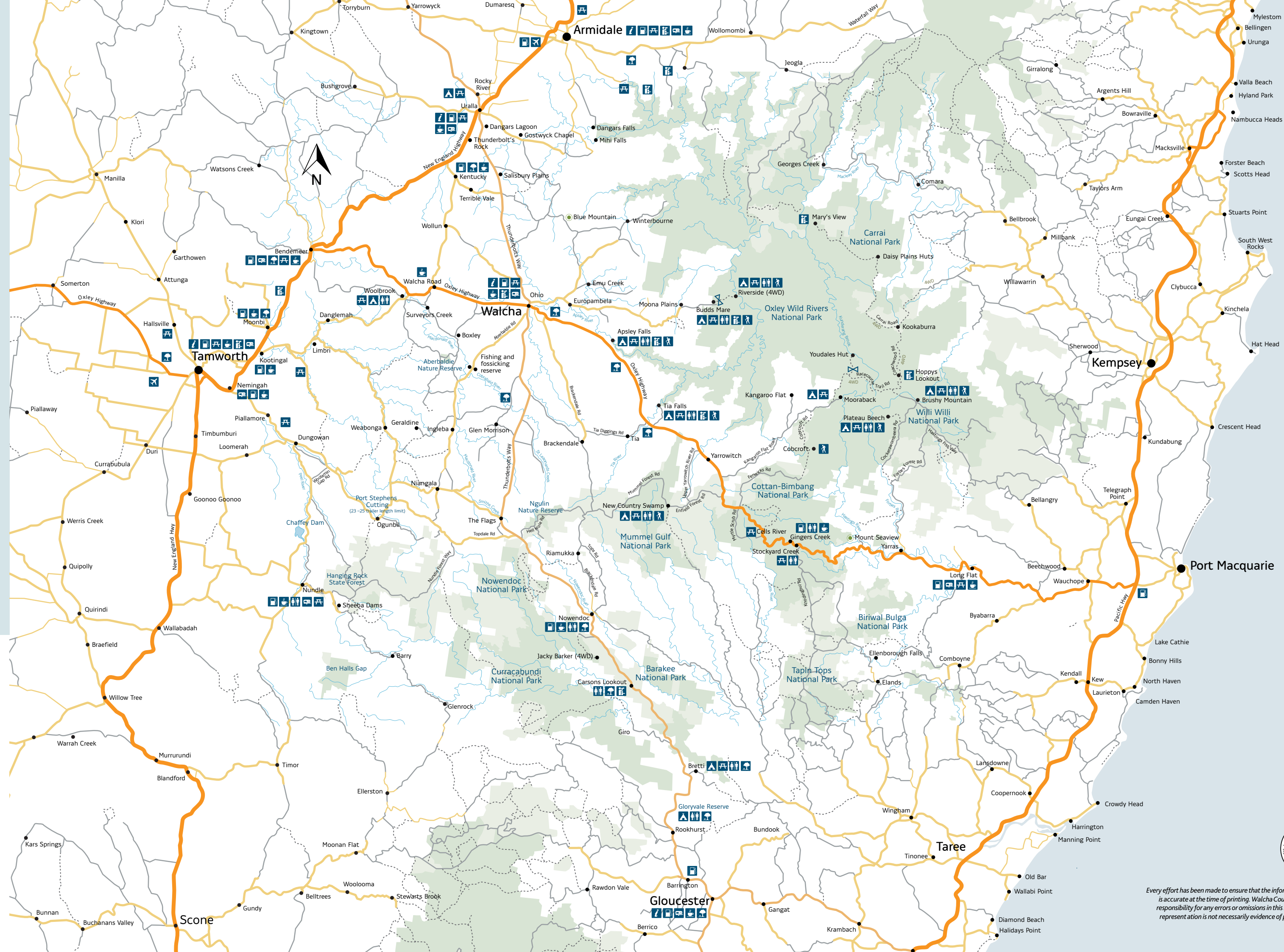


WALCHA IS LOCATED HALF WAY BETWEEN SYDNEY AND BRISBANE ON THE CROSSROADS OF THE OXLEY HIGHWAY AND THUNDERBOLTS WAY.

Arriving via Thunderbolts Way through Gloucester from Sydney is only 410km and 496km via Tamworth on the New England Highway.

Thunderbolts Way is a great alternative to the Pacific Highway and New England Highway offering beautiful scenery at every turn and is, without a doubt, the preferred route for locals.

BACK COVER HERE



COVER HERE

Come and see why Walcha is known as a motorcycling mecca. Ride one of the best roads in Australia – the Oxley Highway – while enjoying motorcycle friendly accommodation and hospitality.

#walchansw #wildwalcha

- Highway
- Arterial Road
- Sub-arterial Road
- Unsealed road
- Track (some 4WD access only)
- Locked gate, limited access
- River
- Township
- National Park
- Visitor Information Centre
- Petrol
- Toilets
- Food and Beverages
- Caravan Park
- Camping
- Rest Stop
- Lookout
- Day use area
- Bushwalking
- Airport



Walcha Visitor Information Centre  
 29w Fitzroy Street, Walcha NSW 2354.  
 P 02 6774 2460  
 walchansw.com.au

*Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this map is accurate at the time of printing. Walcha Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions in this map. Road or track representation is not necessarily evidence of public right of way.*