



HISTORIC BALLINA WATERFRONT TRAIL

coast & hinterland



Richmond River

The Richmond River is a dominant feature in the local natural landscape. For generation after generation it has continued to play a major role in the life of our local community; offering employment, recreation and rejuvenation.

There are excellent fishing spots along the river, its estuaries and the break walls at the river mouth. It is also the perfect place to discover marine life, pelicans and dolphins.

Aboriginal heritage

We respectfully acknowledge the past and present Nyangbul Elders and pay our respects to their descendants as the traditional custodians of this land.

Nyangbul custodianship of the Ballina Shire area dates back many thousands of generations. Together with all Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, the Nyangbul people are part of the oldest and continuing culture in the world.



European history

In 1828 Captain Henry Rous aboard the HMS *Rainbow* 'discovered' and named the Richmond River.

Cedar getting families were among the first Europeans to settle on the Richmond River at Ballina from 1842.

Within a few years, Ballina had become a small centre known as Richmond Heads that serviced smaller cedar settlements along the tributaries of the river. As the number of camps in the area grew, more settlers came including storekeepers and shipwrights, teachers, clergy and farmers.



- ▶ MAPS AND BROCHURES
- ▶ ACCOMMODATION AND TOUR BOOKINGS
- ▶ HOLIDAY AND TRAVEL PLANNING
- ▶ SOUVENIRS AND LOCAL GOURMET TREATS

Ask a local for inspiration on the Ballina Coast & Hinterland.

Connect with the team at the Ballina Visitor Information Centre to keep up to date with local tourism news, hot deals, upcoming events and more!

Ballina Visitor Information Centre
6 River Street, Ballina NSW 2478 | 1800 777 666
Open 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm

The Ballina Visitor Information Centre provides this information as a guide only and makes every effort to ensure its accuracy. Information provided may change or vary and the centre will not accept responsibility for such variations.

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ASK A LOCAL

further information

Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
6628 1829

Ballina Manor
6681 5888

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum
6681 1002

Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG)
44 Cherry Street, Ballina
6681 6167

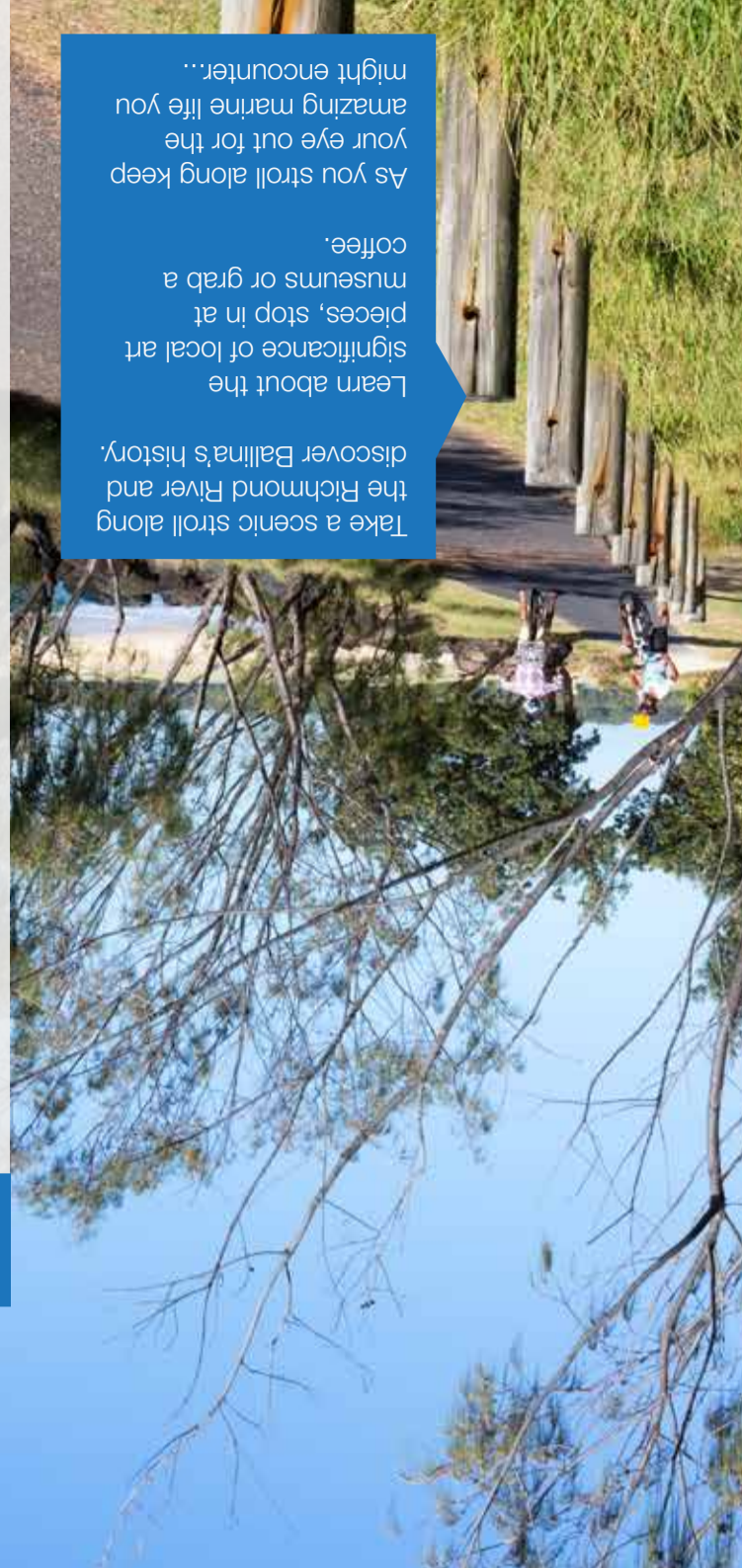
Frank Miles, Bronze Fine Art
2/5 Kays Lane, Alstonville
open weekdays 9am - 4pm
6628 3655

Australian Seabird Rescue
264 North Creek Road, Ballina
group tour bookings and school holiday tours
6686 2852

Joe Stark
www.joestarkart.com

Ballina Library
Local History Room
8 River Street, Ballina
6686 2831

Take a scenic stroll along the Richmond River and discover Ballina's history. Learn about the significance of local art pieces, stop in at museums or grab a coffee. As you stroll along keep your eye out for the amazing marine life you might encounter...



“Ballina”
believed to have been derived from the Aboriginal world *Bullinah* meaning ‘place of plenty or big stomach, plenty to eat’



Legend	Visitor Information Centre	Look Out	Post Office	Marina
Historic Ballina River Front Walk	Fishing Locations	Swimming Pool	Round About	Shopping Precincts
Norton Street Heritage Trail	Dolphin Watching	Patrolled Beach	Cemetery	National Parks
Remembrance Walk	Whale Watching	Boat Ramp	Public Library	Public Parks
Shaws Bay Loop	Light house	Picnic Area	Ballina Hospital	
Coastal Recreation Path	Offleash Area	Play Equipment	Police Station	
Wharf	Museum	Bowling Club		
	Public Art			

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Historic Ballina Riverfront Walk

4.2km 55 mins one way

The trail consists of nineteen signage panels located along the pathway between Fawcett Park and North Wall in East Ballina. The trail provides brief insights into the historic importance of the river to the shire's earliest European settlers and residents.

At the beginning of the walk, inspect the public art by some of our local artists and read about their significance and what inspired them overleaf. Take a voyage of discovery at the Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum. *Keep an eye out for dolphins, turtles and bird life as you follow the waterways – definitely a highlight!*

Norton Street Heritage Trail

1.1km 20 mins

Takes you from the Richmond River to Meldrum Park, on the edge of North Creek. The street is lined with majestic Norfolk Island pines and dotted with delightful old cottages steeped in Ballina's heritage.

Enjoy a historic tour of Ballina Manor, a former prestigious girls college, now a boutique hotel refurbished with 1920's period furniture and architecture. *The Manor offers free tours daily from 10am-4pm.*

Remembrance Walk

800m 10 mins

Follow North Creek from Meldrum Park to Missingham Bridge and read about past wars - a dedication to all those service men and women who answered the call of the nation to defend the ideals and principle of justice and fair play so treasured by all Australians. *Keep an eye out for dolphins in North Creek and the soldier crabs on low tide.*

Shaws Bay Loop

3.4km 45mins

Depending where you start this walk you have the options of cooling off with a swim in the calm, tidal, salt waters of Shaws Bay; rewarding yourself with a drink at Lighthouse Beach Café or For Shaw; or enjoying a bite to eat at the Shawsy Hotel while overlooking the bay. *Keep an eye out for dolphins in the river and fish in Shaws Bay.*

Coastal Recreation Path

1.2km 15mins to Shelly Beach

but you have the option of continuing on to Angels Beach, Sharpes Beach and beyond. Take in the 180 degree views from Ballina Headland which showcase Lighthouse Beach and Shelly Beach. The pathway follows the coastline and allows you to explore some of our popular beaches.

Public Art by Local Artists

STEPTOE Fawcett Park
Local artist, **Frank Miles** life-size bronze pelican *Steptoe* (featured on front cover) was commissioned by Ballina Shire Council in honour of the late Lance Ferris, the towns' famed 'Pelican Man'.

The wharf at Fawcett Park was renamed *Lance Ferris Wharf* in honour of Lance, who dedicated his life to the rescue, rehabilitation and preservation of seabirds, turtles, and in particular the magnificent pelican. It was through his many years as a dedicated volunteer, using his own money and whatever donations he could find that Australian Seabird Rescue (ASR) came into existence in Ballina in 1992.

FIVE STEEL STATUES Fawcett Park
Further along Fawcett Park you will notice five statues created by local artist, **Joe Stark** in 2004. These five whimsical sculptures are created from recycled stainless steel (beer kegs, sinks etc) and car axles. Freely moving in the abundant coastal wind currents that batter the region, they have weathered a few wild storms over the years.

SOMEONE'S ALWAYS WATCHING YOU River Street
Someone's Always Watching You is a suite of integrated architectural elements featuring original artworks by local artist, **Digby Moran**. Commissioned by Woolworths, Moran's paintings were transformed into corten steel window screens using a unique fabrication technique. You can see and touch these pieces and read the artists statement of what inspired him at the River Street front of Woolworths.

NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY 44 Cherry Street
The Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) is housed in the historic former Ballina Municipal Council Chambers. Built in 1927, Ballina Shire Council renovated this building in 2007 to the highest standards in lighting, climate control and security. The building now provides an exceptional space for patrons to enjoy exhibitions and other public programs.

