



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

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- ▶ ACCOMMODATION AND TOUR BOOKINGS
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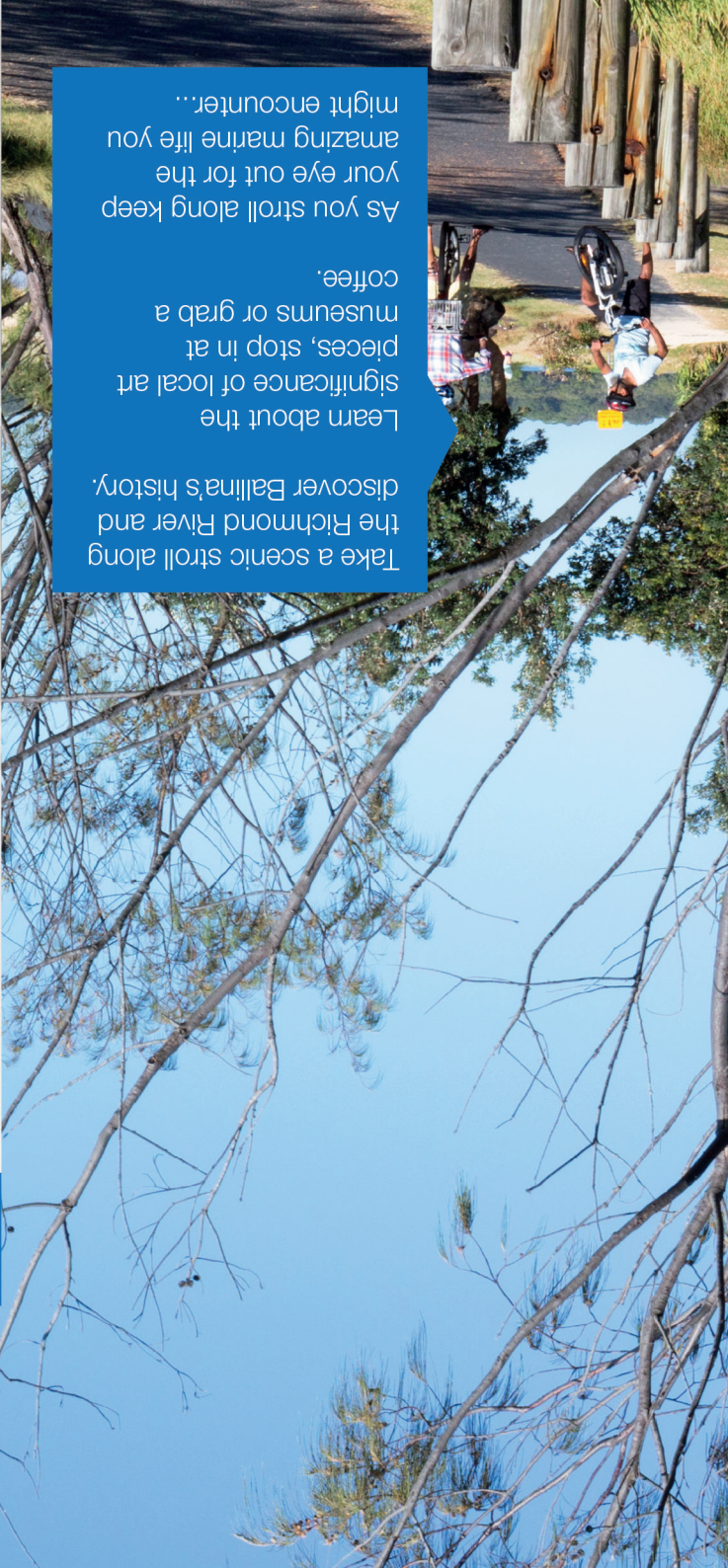
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**Ballina Visitor Information Centre**  
6 River Street, Ballina NSW 2478 | 1800 777 666  
Open 7 days a week  
Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm | Sunday 10am to 2pm

discover **ballina**.com.au

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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

coast & hinterland

## ASK A LOCAL

## BALLINA WATERFRONT TRAILS

### 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.

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

### further information

**Alstonville Plateau Historical Society**  
Crawford House Museum  
10 Wardell Road, Alstonville  
02 6628 1829

**Ballina Manor**  
25 Norton Street, Ballina  
02 6681 5888

**Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum**  
Regatta Avenue, Ballina  
02 6681 1002

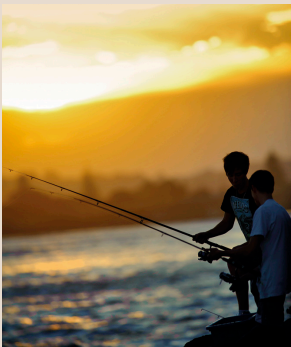
**Northern Rivers Community Gallery**  
44 Cherry Street, Ballina  
02 6681 6167

**Frank Miles, Bronze Fine Art**  
2/5 Kays Lane, Alstonville  
02 6628 3655

**Australian Seabird Rescue**  
264 North Creek Road, Ballina  
Only available for group tour bookings and school holiday tours  
02 6686 2852

**Joe Stark**  
[www.joestarkart.com](http://www.joestarkart.com)

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







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

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Although all care is taken in the preparation of this plan, Ballina Shire Council accepts no responsibility for any misprints, errors, omissions or inaccuracies. The information contained within this plan is for pictorial representation only. Do not scale. Accurate measurements should be undertaken by survey.

## 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 and 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**

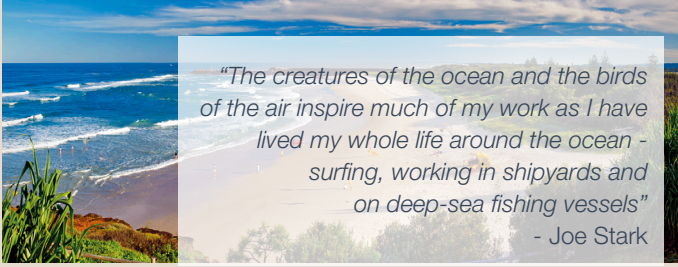
Depending where you start this walk you have the options of cooling off with a swim in the calm, tidal, salt waters of Shaws Bay; rewarding yourself with a drink at Lighthouse Beach Café or For Shaw; or enjoying a bite to eat at the Shawsy Hotel while overlooking the bay. *Keep an eye out for dolphins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

- Shelly Beach - Angels Beach 2km 20 mins**
- Angels Beach - Sharpes Beach 2km 25 mins**
- Sharpes Beach - Pat Morton Lookout 3km 1 hour**



## 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 5 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.