

Scenic & Historic Drives

ROUTE

4

CROOKWELL/PEJAR/ROSLYN/CROOKWELL

APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR DRIVING TIME → 5km

From Crookwell Visitor Information Centre - travel east towards Goulburn on the Goulburn Rd

After a few kilometres, on your right, you pass the remains of the stone-built

1 WHEAT SHEAF INN: (Please respect the owner's privacy) This inn was built by George Bearchall and was named the wheat Sheaf Inn to give recognition to the district's most important product at that time. This inn was used as a stopping place for the teamsters that travelled from Goulburn to Crookwell. 500m past the Wheat Sheaf Inn you come to

2 NORMANTON: (Please respect the owner's privacy) This residence was built in 1891 by Mr John Howard. Mr Howard also built St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Crookwell Hotel/Motel. Normanton was named after Mr Howard's wife's maiden name "Norman".

You will soon cross the

3 GREAT DIVIDING RANGE (height 946m): At the top of the range the water flows in two directions, westward, mainly into the Crookwell River, and to the east, via a series of flats and gullies, into the Wollondilly River. 11 km's from Crookwell will bring you to the

4 CROOKWELL WINDFARM: this is the first in Australia to supply electricity into the National Grid. Stop at the viewing area where the information boards will tell you more about this remarkable example of renewable energy. Just a few km's further east you will come to

5 GUNDOWRINGA & MINNIMURRA: (Please respect the owner's privacy) They are both owned by the Prell family. Both properties were purchased by the current owners grandfather Charles E. Prell in 1904. Charles Prell was one of the most progressive farmers of his day and a notable pioneer of pasture improvement. The rolling hills on both sides of the road are a credit to his memory. 7 km's further along Goulburn Rd and you will come to

6 PEJAR DAM: Pejar Dam was constructed in 1979 by the NSW Department of Public Works at a cost of \$8 million. It is a rock and earth filled dam located on the junction of the Wollondilly River and Pejar Creek. When required, water from Pejar Dam is released from the tower and flows 54 km's down the Wollondilly River, where it is impounded at Rossville Weir. Toilets and picnic facilities available, fishing is allowed and no swimming. 3 km's further on there is a turn to the left which will lead you to a very quaint and interesting church.

7 ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH: at Pejar built in 1883. During the floods of 1950, a squatter moved into the church and denuded it of all its furnishings then vandals stripped the iron from the roof. Soon after a meeting was called by the rector and it was decided to

restore the church. Owing to the efforts of two local families, the Prells and the Turners, the church was returned to its original beauty.

RETURN JOURNEY

7 km's beyond Pejar Dam our route turns left into Woodhouselee Rd but if you would like to continue along the Goulburn Rd for another 2 km's you can visit

8 MT WAYO LAVENDER FARM: The lavender farm is open every day except Monday from 9am to 5pm. Closed during winter. Plants and lavender products are available for sale.

About 8 km's down the Woodhouselee Rd, look on your left for the attractive stone Anglican Church of St. James, Woodhouselee. It was built in 1884. Shortly afterwards you reach a section of dirt road but this only lasts for 6.5 km's. Continue on a little further and look to your right at

9 ROSSLYN HOMESTEAD: (Please respect the owner's privacy) was built in 1888 when the property was owned by Alexander McGuiness. The house was named "Rosslyn" (Scottish Spelling) to distinguish the property from the district of Roslyn. Continue on and you will see the railway line on your right, the station has now been demolished and there is currently some enthusiasts hoping to establish the line from Crookwell to Goulburn once again so they can run motorised trikes along this track.

Continue through this beautiful farmland until you come to

10 MERRIVALE: (Please respect the owner's privacy) on your right, renowned as the birthplace in 1865 of Dame Mary Gilmore, famous Australian author and poet. Three books or recollections illustrate her lifelong efforts to preserve early Australian traditions and folklore. Dame Mary also published six volumes of poetry between 1910 and 1954. Continue for 1 km and then turn left into Roslyn Rd. There are fine views on both sides including the Windfarm on your left. Cross the Wollondilly River and not long before you return to the Goulburn Rd look to the left for the old

11 COTTA WALLA BUTTER FACTORY: Opened in 1890, the original building still stands.

Continue and turn right into Goulburn Rd for your return to Crookwell.

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