



**EMERGENCY
CONTACT NUMBERS**

POLICE / FIRE / AMBULANCE **000**

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RAINBOW POLICE 5395 1051

VICTORIAN SES13 25 00
(State Emergency Services)



HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL
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tourism@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

➔ www.visithindmarsh.com.au

Hindmarsh Shire Council proudly supports
Wimmera Mallee Tourism.

www.visithindmarsh.com.au



FIRE DANGER INFORMATION

Fire restrictions are applied across Victoria by CFA, when fire danger is high.

Typically this is over the period of November through to April. Rainbow and Hindmarsh Shire Council fall within the "Wimmera" Fire Ban District. Please note at the end of the fire seasons, usually April, a number of farmers will burn off stubble and smoke may be evident in the area.

A Total Fire Ban is declared for the district by the CFA on days when fires are likely to spread rapidly and could be difficult to control. A Total Fire Ban declaration means no fires can be lit for the declared district for that day.

For more information on Fire Danger and Total Fire Bans:
www.cfa.vic.gov.au

PARKS VICTORIA 131 963

Visitors should be aware of and prepare themselves and their vehicles for all hazards in Victoria's parks. Some parks may be closed due to weather conditions. Check www.bom.gov.au before you leave and throughout your trip. Register your trip by completing the trip intentions form on www.police.vic.gov.au

Victoria's climate is harsh; make sure you survive by being sun smart and always carry drinking water with you. Always make sure you let someone know the details of your trip.

Please be aware there may be minimal or no mobile phone coverage in some areas.

For more useful information: ➔ www.parkweb.vic.gov.au
www.bom.gov.au



Activities

Be amazed and captivated by what Rainbow has to offer. There is something for everyone year round.

Rainbow Golf Club

Rainbow Golf Club is open from April to September and visitors are always welcome. Bookings are not necessary and green fees are under \$10. A practice fairway and putting scrapes are available. The warm and spacious club house has a modern kitchen and licensed bar.

Rainbow Tennis Club

Rainbow Tennis Club has four Plexipave courts situated at the Rainbow recreation reserve. During the tennis season (October – March) they host several competitions including men's and ladies' night tennis, junior tennis and coaching, and Saturday senior tennis where they enter a team in the street competition. New players and committee members are always welcome.

Bowls

Go for a roll at the Rainbow Bowls Club, where social rolls are held on Saturdays.



Rainbow Lake



Rainbow Swimming Pool

Located in Park Street, the Rainbow Swimming Pool is the perfect place to cool off during the hot Mallee summer. The 25m pool and separate toddler's pool are both solar heated, and a qualified lifeguard is always on duty.

The pool is open seasonally. Please check opening times with Council by phoning 5391 4444.

Children's Playground

At the recreation reserve, wonderful shaded play equipment and picnic tables suit the whole family.

Skate Park

Situated in Queens Street, the Rainbow skate park is nestled in the Rainbow Oasis Arts Hub. A short walk, or skate, from the Federal Street shopping precinct, the Rainbow skate park offers hours of fun and practice for those wanting to challenge themselves against the various elements incorporated into the skate park design.



Hindmarsh Highlights

Victoria's
Outback
SECRET



1. Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre [NHILL]
2. Hermans Hill
3. St John's Lutheran Church [PELLA]
4. Lake Albacutya
5. Yurunga Homestead [RAINBOW]
6. Wimmera River, Lake Hindmarsh
7. Menzies Square [JEPARIT]
8. Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum [JEPARIT]
9. Dimboola Print Museum
10. Pink Lake
11. Little Desert National Park

Big Skies. Big Lakes. Big Deserts

www.visithindmarsh.com.au

HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL

Welcome to

Rainbow
OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE

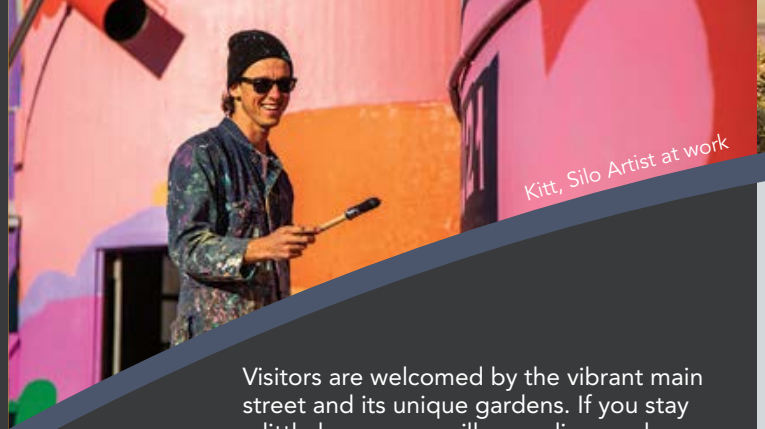


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Welcome TO RAINBOW

Rainbow is a town with a big heart and a relaxed lifestyle. Located approximately 400km North West of Melbourne, the town's proximity offers superb educational, recreational, medical and aged care facilities. The unique wilderness areas nearby are ideally suited to outdoor pursuits.

Enjoy



Kitt, Silo Artist at work

Visitors are welcomed by the vibrant main street and its unique gardens. If you stay a little longer you will soon discover how much more Rainbow has to offer. Historic buildings are found alongside state-of-the-art education and health care facilities, and our shopping strip is sure to surprise.

Sit back and relax in the central garden strip of the main street. Visit the spectacular murals that have been hand painted by the citizens of Rainbow.

Dryland farming is the predominant industry in the area, and a full range of businesses contribute to the town's employment and economic stability.

Rainbow is also the perfect base to explore the beautiful Wyperfeld National Park as well as nearby Lake Albacutya.



Attractions to Explore

FLORA & FAUNA

Tucked between Lake Hindmarsh and Lake Albacutya, Rainbow is every nature enthusiast's dream.

Four wheel driving in the area is particularly popular amongst locals and tourists alike. Don't forget to take a drive along the Netting Fence to Herman's Hill and around Lake Hindmarsh and Lake Albacutya. There are many tracks and lots of flora and fauna to explore.

With our big skies and big deserts there are hidden gems and natural beauty around every corner.

WYPERFIELD NATIONAL PARK

Established in 1909 and declared a National Park in 1921, Wyperfeld National Park is one of Victoria's largest National Parks. It is well known for its array of native flora and fauna, including kangaroos, emus, birds, spinifex, Mallee scrub, heath, and native pine, river red gum and black box trees.

The central feature of this huge park is a chain of lake beds connected by Outlet Creek, the northern extension of the Wimmera River. The lakes only fill when the Wimmera River over-supplies Lake Hindmarsh to the south of Lake Albacutya. When it rains, the semi-arid landscape is transformed by tiny desert plants that sprout from long dormant seeds, carpeting the ground with clusters of flowers.



HERMAN'S HILL NATURE WALK

Herman's Hill Nature walk is located on the edge of Wyperfeld National Park, between Jeparit and Rainbow. Here you can take a walk through the Mallee scrub to a hill overlooking the surrounding district.

The track is sandy through paperbarks. Information on plants, birds and other living things is provided in notices under well-designed lift-up aluminium covers.

The track rises a total of 25 metres, but there are a few ups and downs along the way. At the top there is a low timber platform permitting visitors to see over most of the surrounding vegetation.



Herman's Hill

EASTERN LOOKOUT

The Easter Lookout Nature Tour begins at the eastern side of the Wanga Campground. This is an easy loop drive suitable for 2WD vehicles and travelling along 15km of grove road. Pass through the usually dry lake beds, flood plains, sand dunes, and peaceful Mallee country. Morning and evening are the best times for wildlife viewing.

With over 200 bird species, and around 520 species of native plants, Wyperfeld National Park is a must see attraction.

THE BIG DESERT WILDERNESS PARK

This area is home to a wide variety of birds, reptiles and mammals. It provides a challenge for the experienced hiker, offering a rare opportunity to experience a landscape largely unaffected by human activity.



Indigenous Heritage

The Watjjobaluk were the original inhabitants of the land. Significant cultural heritage sites exist along Outlet Creek, Lake Abacutya and further north throughout Wyperfeld National Park. The Wimmera River, Outlet Creek, Lake Albacutya and lakes further to the north made an important trading route for the Wotjjobaluk. These areas are now Native Title.

Early History

European settlement of Rainbow began after the surveying and subdivision of the area in 1893 and establishment of the railway line in 1899. It derived its name from a local natural feature known as 'Rainbow Rise' because of the colourful wildflowers that grew on a crescent-shaped ridge located west of the current township.

German settlers from South Australia and landholders near Jeparit soon made their way to the district.

Pella Lutheran Church



Rainbow



Explore Heritage

Rainbow Archive

The Rainbow Archive is situated in the old Masonic Lodge Hall, and provides a fascinating look into the history of Rainbow and district. Rainbow Archive and Historical Society support the preservation, conservation, and public accessibility of local historical documents, records, and photographs.

Yurunga Homestead

Yurunga Homestead is a huge Edwardian style home made of brick and limestone. Built in 1909 for Mr. A.G. Cust, the homestead now displays furniture, antiques, and historical displays and is regularly open to the public.

Open on Sunday between 2-4pm. Afternoon tea is usually available on the first Sunday of the month. Please ring to confirm: (03) 5395 1233.

Tours can be arranged at other times. Groups welcome. Please phone above contact numbers.

St John's Lutheran Church Pella

The construction of the church began near the end of 1910. The limestone was grubbed and broken out of a quarry only half a mile from the building site.

Most of the labour used to build the church was volunteer, and the work was very hard. There was no mechanical equipment, so manageable stones had to be lifted manually into horse drawn drays and wagon, and carted to the building site.

The Fuller pipe organ was built in 1885 and purchased from the Howe Crescent Congregational Church of South Melbourne. The main keyboard, the 'Great', has 258 pipes in five ranks. The second, or 'Swell', keyboard has 200 pipes enclosed in a large box, which can be opened by means of shutters. There are a total of 495 pipes and ten 'speaking stops' (or 'ranks') of pipes.

Rainbow Murals

The widely renowned Rainbow Murals provide a colourful pictorial acknowledgement and understanding of the life and history of the early pioneers, the town, and the district. A brochure is available in town to guide visitors around the many sites.

Kenmare State School

Kenmare State School number 3221 is situated on the Beluah-Rainbow Road, 15 kms east of Rainbow. This one teacher school was built and opened in September of 1903 with 18 pupils attending. It continued to successfully educate the local children until its closure in 1982. The school building itself is not open to the public, but worth the trip to see an authentic early regional school.

Rainbow Radar

The Rainbow Radar is located on private farmland near Rainbow, 340 kms north-west of Melbourne. It went live on 31 March 2020.

The C-band 1-degree dual polarisation Doppler radar delivers real-time weather information, including short-term rainfall forecasts, providing significant benefits to farmers.

The new radar has filled a gap in the country's weather radar network and is enabling farmers in the Wimmera Southern Mallee to make better, more time-critical farming decisions.

The Rainbow Radar is now providing the region with real-time access to critical information about approaching weather. Data available through the radar, and the accurate rainfall estimates and forecasts, helps growers to make informed choices about harvesting, tillage and the use of chemicals and fertilisers.

Explore Arts & Culture

Rainbow is the perfect destination for all artists. Whatever your interest, or mode of expression, there is plenty of inspiration in the surrounding areas, and a vibrant community of artists at work.

Rainbow Players

The Rainbow Players have been entertaining Rainbow and district for nearly 40 years. Their first production was Agatha Christie's 'The Hollow' in 1982. Since then, the group has performed more than 30 plays, with the aim being to put on one performance a year.

The Oasis Arts Hub

The Oasis project reinvented a historic school building in Rainbow, turning it into a pivotal site for creative production, exhibition and cultural connection. Made possible by a Regional Arts Victoria grant, the Oasis has gone from strength to strength, regularly hosting live music events and offering a space where artists of all kinds can express and showcase their skills.

The Albacutya Silo

Only a short drive from Rainbow, this silo features a stunning contemporary artwork by Melbourne artist, Kitt Bennett. Work on the silo began in May 2021 and was completed around one month later. Drawing inspiration from the silo's owner and incorporating ties back to Rainbow and the local area, the artwork presents a fun, quirky, colourful and exciting style that attracts the interest of both young and old, and the family touring market. It presents a significant point of difference to existing Silo Art Trail artworks.

Accommodation

Rainbow "Pot of Gold" Motel

Located only a short drive from the Rainbow town centre. Offering budget priced accommodation, the owners welcome you to their motel for a friendly and relaxed stay. Phone (03) 5395 1060.

Royal Hotel

The historic Royal Hotel Rainbow offers clean and comfortable bed and breakfast style accommodation. A relaxed and friendly public bar stocking an exceptional range of boutique wines, ciders and beers. Phone (03) 5395 1477.

Eureka Hotel & Rainbow Brewery

Dinner meals seven days a week and lunch meals on the weekends. Friendly, inviting public bar with separate dining room. Open fire, air-conditioned. Accommodation. Phone 0413 611 359.

Rainbow Caravan Park

The Rainbow Caravan Park is located in a quiet rural setting in Railway Street. The park has powered and unpowered sites, three onsite vans, a free BBQ and is pet friendly. Bookings can be made over the phone. Phone: (03) 5395 1062.

Hindmarsh Happenings Rainbow

PANCAKE DAY

SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY
Hosted by Rainbow Fire Brigade

RAINBOW RISES 240

MARCH
Short Course Off-Road Race

LIONS BIGGEST BBQ

APRIL

RAINBOW PLAYERS PRODUCTION

SEPTEMBER
The Rainbow Players have been entertaining Rainbow and district for 30 years. The Players aim to produce one play each year, from murder/mysteries and comedies to the much loved melodramas.

RAINBOW DESERT ENDURO

SEPTEMBER
3rd Round of CAMS
Australian Off-Road Championships

A&P SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW

OCTOBER
A Highlight of the region's Calendar, the Rainbow Show offers a wide range of fun activities for all ages.

For further information, visit: www.visithindmarsh.com.au