

suggested itineraries



Mildura Rural City Council

# mildura red cliffs trail

Travel Distance - 58km Time Required approx. 4 - 6 hours

Red Cliffs is situated 13km south of Mildura on the Calder Highway and is a relaxed country town surrounded by horticultural farmland and near to the Murray River. The township was established following World War 1 as a Soldier Settlement, with blocks of land allocated to 700 returned soldiers, making it the largest soldier settlement in Australia. The land was cleared and developed into an irrigation settlement planted largely to grapes for dried fruit. Today Red Cliffs continues to be involved in the horticulture industry but is predominantly planted to table and wine grapes, along with citrus, dried fruit, almonds, asparagus and melons.

This itinerary, when downloaded to your smart device, is fully interactive, so you can choose to follow the itinerary as offered, or pick just those items that pique your interest, after all this is all about you!

Simply select the destination and hit "Take Me There" and your smart device will bring up the destination on Google Maps. Just select start and Google Maps will direct you there – simple!

Have a fantastic journey and enjoy the many points of interest and adventures on the trail. If you need any assistance along the way please give us a call on 1800 039 043.

## 1 Mildura Visitor Information & Booking Centre

Make the Mildura Visitor Information and Booking Centre the start of your journey of discovery of the Mildura region. Our team of expert staff can help you plan your time in Mildura and share the secrets only a local would know. The centre offers local knowledge and personal insights about Mildura and the wider region, guides, brochures and maps, and can help to make your visit one that you won't forget.

An attraction in itself, the centre boasts a myriad of interpretive displays, an indigenous canoe tree, virtual reality headsets, theatre and a gift shop selling local produce, gifts and souvenirs for family and friends.

Open 9am – 5.30pm Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm Weekends and public holidays.

180 – 190 Deakin Avenue, Mildura  
Telephone: **03 5018 8380**

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## 2 Cappa Stone Wines (12.7km from previous point)

A locally-owned and operated boutique winery, Cappa Stone sources super premium parcels of local grapes along with those from cool climate regions to make premium hand-made wines. The winery uses open fermentation vats and basket presses, and age their wines in the finest of oak barrels to produce a range of super premium wines.

Open: 12-5pm Daily

107 Twenty Second Street, Sunny Cliffs

Telephone: **03 5024 2442**

Website: [www.cappastonewines.com.au](http://www.cappastonewines.com.au)

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## 3 Big Lizzie - Barclay Square (4.1km from previous point)

Big Lizzie is a 45 tonne 'Prime Mover' Tractor which was constructed in 1915 to replace camel trains which carried wool and other heavy loads on sandy terrain. Leaving Melbourne with two trailers in 1916, bound for Broken Hill, and after a long and colourful journey it arrived in Mildura where floodwaters prevented it from completing the journey. Its owner Frank Bottrill sought work in the area, and in 1921 commenced clearing scrub to make way for the Red Cliffs irrigation area, a role it carried out until 1924.

The restored machine, with one of its trailers now sits in Barclay Square and is a popular tourist attraction. More detailed history and machine specifications are at the site to tell the story.

Barclay Square, Calder Highway, Red Cliffs

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mildura  
experience better

[www.visitmildura.com.au](http://www.visitmildura.com.au)

#### 4 Red Cliffs Water Tower Mural

The water tower mural is a pictorial expression of the history of Red Cliffs undertaken by students from the Red Cliffs Secondary College in 1991, under the direction of Broken Hill artist, Clark Barrett. The project, funded by the local branch of the Australian Dried Fruits Association, took over 12 months to plan and paint.

Barclay Square, Calder Highway, Red Cliffs

TAKE ME THERE

#### 5 German Howitzer Cannon

The Howitzer Canon situated in Barclay Square is one of only eight produced and is believed to be the last surviving one on display anywhere in the world. Donated to the community of Red Cliffs following the end of World War 1, the surrendered cannon was officially unveiled on Anzac Day in 1928. The barrel has an intricate etched pattern well worth a look.

Barclay Square, Calder Highway, Red Cliffs

TAKE ME THERE

#### 6 Mildura Farms (250m from previous point)

Mildura Farms stocks a range of nuts, dried fruits, honey and juices sourced from the local region and packaged in convenient eat now, or bulk packs. They also stock a wide range of other locally grown and packaged products and can help you out with hampers which make the ideal gift for family and friends, if you can resist the temptation yourself of course!

It is co-located with The Shed Café which provide great breakfasts and lunches along with great coffee.

Open: 6am-3pm Mon-Fri, 8am-3pm Sat/Sun

59 Jacaranda Street, Red Cliffs

Telephone: **0418 502 460**

[Mildura Farms Facebook Page](#)



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#### 7 The Red Cliffs (5.4km from previous point)

The spectacular Red Cliffs are 70 metre high red/orange cliffs after which the township was named, and are well worth a visit. Their colour is accentuated by the sun, particularly approaching sunset, and offer great shots for the photographic enthusiast.

Woomera Avenue, Red Cliffs

TAKE ME THERE

#### 8 Psyche Pumps (13.2km from previous point)

Psyche Bend Pump Station was built in 1891 by the Chaffey brothers to meet the needs of the irrigation settlement. Five years earlier, George Chaffey had selected Mildura as the site for an irrigation development because of its large tracts of Crown land, climate, soil types and proximity to two major rivers, the Murray and Darling.

The need to raise water from the Murray to land approximately 28 metres above river level challenged George Chaffey to design his 'billabong system', which elevated water in four lifts by pumping water from the Murray River into Kings Billabong and then lifting water via a number of pumps. The system supplied an area of approximately 20,000 hectares and was the first stage of a grand scheme to irrigate more than 100,000 hectares around Mildura.

George Chaffey's solution was to design a triple-expansion steam engine coupled to centrifugal pumps. Tangye's of Birmingham, who manufactured the equipment, at first refused to build the engine and then only manufactured it under duress on the proviso that the name plate 'Chaffey's improved Pumping Engine made by Tangye's for Mildura Irrigation Colony' was fixed to the engine. This was in case the engine failed and they were deemed liable for the failure.

The Chaffey steam engine and pumps at Psyche Bend operated successfully until 1959, when electric pumps were installed nearby and the pumping station was decommissioned.

Today, the pumps are maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers and are open for inspection to the public. The pumps are fired into action each New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, Queens Birthday weekend (Sunday) and the middle Sunday of the Victorian July and September school holidays.

Open: 1pm-4pm Tues/Thurs, 10.30am-12.30pm Sun

Psyche Bend Road, Kings Billabong

Telephone: **03 5024 5637**

Website: [www.thechaffeytrail.com.au](http://www.thechaffeytrail.com.au)



TAKE ME THERE

#### 9 Chateau Mildura Winery (4.2km from previous point)

In 1887 Canadian brothers George and W B Chaffey established irrigation colonies at Mildura and Renmark to produce a wide range of horticultural crops, on their own property on Belar Avenue Irymple. They planted 150 acres of wine grapes and established Chateau Mildura, giving birth to an industry that in the Sunraysia and Riverland areas has grown to produce over 50% of Australia's wine grapes.

In 2002 it was purchased by fourth generation local horticulturalist Lance Milne who has re-established table wine production and cellar door sales in the building. A museum takes up a large portion of the complex and is well worth a look.

Chateau Mildura's boutique range of wines are made on a small scale with varieties of grapes from the Mildura region. They employ a unique mix of both old and modern techniques and technology in the winemaking operation.

Open 10am – 4pm Daily

191 Belar Avenue, Mildura

Telephone: **03 5024 5901**

Website: [www.chateaumildura.com.au](http://www.chateaumildura.com.au)

TAKE ME THERE

### 10 Woodsies Gem Shop (3.4km from previous point)

Experience one of Australia's largest gem and giftware complexes at Woodsie's Gem Shop. The showroom boasts a large range of jewellery, gemstones, carvings, gifts and more. Test your skill in the one hectare Garden Crazy Maze, or explore Aladdin's Cave where the Woods' family have on display their personal collection of gemstones, which have been sourced from around the world.

Learn how jewellery is cast and how stones are cut and polished at the gem cutting and grinding demonstrations which take place at 11am and 2.30pm daily.

Feeling peckish? Try a snack or meal from the Cave-Inn Café, which offers indoor or outdoor dining and a playground for the kids.

Open 9.30am-5.30pm Daily

516 Cureton Ave, Nichols Point

Telephone: **03 5024 5797**

Website: [www.woodsiesgemshop.com](http://www.woodsiesgemshop.com)



TAKE ME THERE

### 11 Kings Billabong Walking Trails (5km from previous point)

Commencing from the Billabong carpark there are approximately 15km of walking trails to choose from, including the popular 4km return walk to the bird hide, through beautiful wetlands with huge River Red Gums and Black Box woodlands. The Billabong and wetlands are home to hundreds of water birds including Swans, Whistling Kites, Kookaburras, Ducks and many types of Parrots. Be sure to take the camera along.

Most of the walks are wheelchair and pram friendly. There are seats and tables at the carpark, ideal for a family picnic.

Billabong Walks Carpark, Kings Billabong, Nichols Point

TAKE ME THERE

### Return to Mildura (9.9km)

Using the link below, return to Mildura.

TAKE ME BACK TO MILDURA

The following activities are available on the first Sunday of each month only.

### Red Cliffs Market

One of the great local markets, The Red Cliffs Market boasts more than 100 stalls of local produce, crafts, bric a-brac, gourmet delights, plants, jewellery and more. Their food court offers a variety of snacks, light meals, and there is live local entertainment and rides and activities for the kids. Many local businesses open their doors on the day to make this a true community event well worth a visit.

Open: 9am – 1pm First Sunday of the month

Ilex Street, Indi Avenue & Barclay Square, Red Cliffs



TAKE ME THERE

### Red Cliffs Military Museum

The Red Cliffs Military Museum was established in 1997 to display the large collection of items which had been handed to them for safe keeping. Since then it has grown quickly and now boasts an extensive display of artefacts and memorabilia from the Boer War through to Vietnam and East Timor, covering all services.

The museum also has a very extensive library of military related books and DVDs. Run purely by volunteers the museum has been described as one of the best outside of the major cities.

Open: 10am-3.30pm First Sunday of the month

12 Jamieson Avenue, Red Cliffs

TAKE ME THERE

### Red Cliffs Courthouse Museum

Operated by the Red Cliffs Historical Society the Courthouse Museum has a range of displays focusing on the early history of Red Cliffs. Each year the group pick a theme and focus

that aspect of the past. A great community museum which will highlight the progress and sacrifices made since the establishment of the township.

Open: 11am – 1pm First Sunday of the month

24-28 Jamieson Avenue, Red Cliffs

Telephone: **03 5024 1229**

TAKE ME THERE

## Red Cliffs Historical Steam Railway

This is the only tourist steam train in the area and one of the few small gauge railways throughout Australia.

The steam engine, known as "Lukee" was built in 1901 and spent its first years operating in India. It was acquired by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in 1924 and was put to work carrying briquettes from the railway siding in Red Cliffs to the Pumping and Power Station at Cliffside, until its retirement from service in 1954.

The Sunraysia Steam Preservation Society restored the engine in 1987, and in 1992 the current site was developed as a tourist attraction where "Lukee" and his diesel counterpart "Harry" take the public on a tour past the vineyard to Thurla Station and return.

Come and enjoy a ride on this authentic steam train, an ideal family experience.

Departing every half hour, the last train leaves at 3.30pm.

Open: 11am – 4pm first Sunday of the month (excluding January and February)

Cnr. Calder Highway & Millewa Road, Red Cliffs

Telephone: **0427 211 098**

Website: [www.redcliffshistoricalsteamrailway.org](http://www.redcliffshistoricalsteamrailway.org)



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