

# Explore Nyah/Nyah West Region



DiscoverMore  
Swan Hill Region Trails

## LEGEND

- Tour Route
- Highway
- Sealed Road
- Unsealed Road
- Railway Line
- Statewide Route Number
- Accredited Visitor Information Centre
- Other Reserves & Public Land
- Lake
- Intermittent Lake
- Winery
- Pheasant Farm
- RV Park
- Ferry
- The Flume
- Wood Wood
- The Ring Tree
- Nyah-Vinifera Park Track 1
- Nyah-Vinifera Park Track 2
- Nyah Township
- Nyah West Township
- Nyah-Vinifera Park Track 2
- First Rice Grown in Australian
- Harvey's Tank
- Nyah West Park
- Wire Sculptures Park
- The Memorial Gate
- Nyah Primary School
- Pioneers Cairn
- Nyah's First Irrigation Scheme
- Scarred Tree



Start from the clock tower, Cnr Campbell and McCallum Streets. This drive takes you through the Swan Hill region's central area where you can share in our history, heritage, forest and farmland interests. It's 170km however you can access the Murray Valley Highway at many points to return to Swan Hill from Piangil, it's not much further to cross into NSW to return via Tooleybuc, the Ring Tree, Koraleigh and Nyah or cross the Murray an old fashioned way, on a ferry at Speewa.

### Andrew Peace Wines

One of Australia's largest family owned wineries, located on the Murray River in Piangil.

### Olson's Pheasant Farm

Olson Game Birds have been producing top quality free range Pheasant, Guinea Fowl and Partridge for restaurants and food outlets throughout Australia for almost 50 years. This unique combination of commercial enterprise and tourist operation is a year round attraction for many local and overseas visitors.

### Nyah Free RV Riverside Camping

Located on the Murray River adjacent to the football oval. Over 100 campsites, dump site and potable water. Swimming, fishing, boating and bushwalking. Stay limited to seven days. Please leave a donation in the donation box. The Lions Club maintains this camping area.

### Speewa Ferry

Cross the Murray River in style on the famous Speewa Punt, one of the last remaining punts in operation along this section of the river. (The Speewa Ferry is a free service.)

### **1 The Flume**

As seen from the road, it's a "channel on legs" over private land (in preference to a longer route on contour lines around sand hills). Built by the Water Commission (1914-1917) of corrugated iron, this was replaced in 1930 with corrugated asbestos. It supplied stock and domestic water to farms, but today it is a piped supply.

### **2 Wood Wood**

The general store and post office was once called a Wine Shade! The 80-acre Mallee Flora Reserve at the back of the caravan park has much of floral interest, as well as a picnic table, and regional information board.

### **3 The Ring Tree**

A remnant of pre-colonial days, the tree is a rare example of an Aboriginal boundary or river crossing marker. Ring trees are normally formed by binding branches together to form the shape of a ring. It is believed that this tree marked the direction of a safe river crossing which was used by local tribes and drovers to cross between NSW and Vic.

### **4 Nyah-Vinifera Park Track 1** (dry weather track only)

Start at the Boat Ramp or from Byrnes Lane 1km along the Murray Valley Highway. About 6km along find Pick's Point and sand bar, fenced middens, walking tracks and many ideal camping and fishing spots. This track is not maintained by the Swan Hill Rural City Council and may be subject to erosion, fallen trees and other obstacles, proceed with care and at your own risk.

### **5 Nyah Township**

The township of Nyah, on the banks of the Murray River was formed as the "Taverner Community Village Settlement" in the 1890s and has a population today of approximately 490.

### **6 Nyah West – A Heritage Town**

Nyah West was established when the railway line was extended from Swan Hill to Piangil in 1915 and has a population today of around 690 people. The main street landscape is heritage listed and has been awarded the 'Most Intact Streetscape' by the National Trust.

### **7 Nyah-Vinifera Park Track 2** (dry weather track only)

Travel along Takasuka's Levee Bank built with horses and scoops to control floodwaters from Gunbower Creek during his rice growing trials. This 7km track takes you through the forest, beside the river, passing small middens where Aboriginal people camped and fished above the floodwaters. As you cross a small earthen bridge over Gunbower Creek, about 500m from the forest exit, you are near where it flows out of the Murray River and became the site of; Nyah's First Irrigation Scheme 1901-1904. This track is not maintained by the Swan Hill Rural City Council and may be subject to erosion, fallen trees and other obstacles, proceed with care and at your own risk.

### **8 First Rice Grown in Australia**

In 1905 Joe Takasuka and family arrived from Japan and began experimenting with different rice varieties, finally succeeding with rice suitable for Australian conditions. See full story on memorials at "The Japs" as this area was locally known.

### **9 Harvey's Tank**

Harvey's Tank is one of many natural Mallee soaks where for centuries Aboriginal people obtained fresh water in otherwise waterless country by digging deeper into the usually clay soils. It was deepened during the 1893 drought. To control evaporation, a brush roof was built over it, later replaced with corrugated iron. The Bushland Reserve opposite contains native flora.

### **10 Nyah West Park**

A great place to stop, toilet facilities, children's playground, barbecue and a massive red gum.

### **11 Wire Sculpture Park**

Created by retired farmer Jim Watson, these unique artistic features are a must to see while in the township of Nyah West. Jim has been able to transform rustic old wire into living breathing amazing artistic sculptures.

### **12 The Memorial Gate**

Erected in 1927, these Gates list the names and commemorate local men who made the Supreme Sacrifice in WW1 and WW2.

### **13 Nyah Primary School**

From 1913-1996 the Nyah Primary School was here. On the east side of the school ground several large old trees mark the probable site of an Aboriginal Burial Ground.

### **14 Pioneers Cairn**

Erected in 1930. Honours explorers, Major Mitchell and Captain Sturt 1836. The Overlanders, Hawden and Bonney 1838 who all travelled through here.

### **15 Nyah's First Irrigation Scheme 1901-1904**

In 1899 Jim Thwaites and Andrew Heath obtained an official license and develop the first irrigation system for the region. This irrigation system included a 70 foot deep shaft which pumped water into a concrete basin, from where it flowed to each of their blocks. The concrete basin is still there, with information that tells the story of this early event.

### **16 Scarred Tree**

The scar on this tree was created when Aboriginal people removed bark. Bark was used to make canoes, shelters, food and water containers, baby carriers and other items.