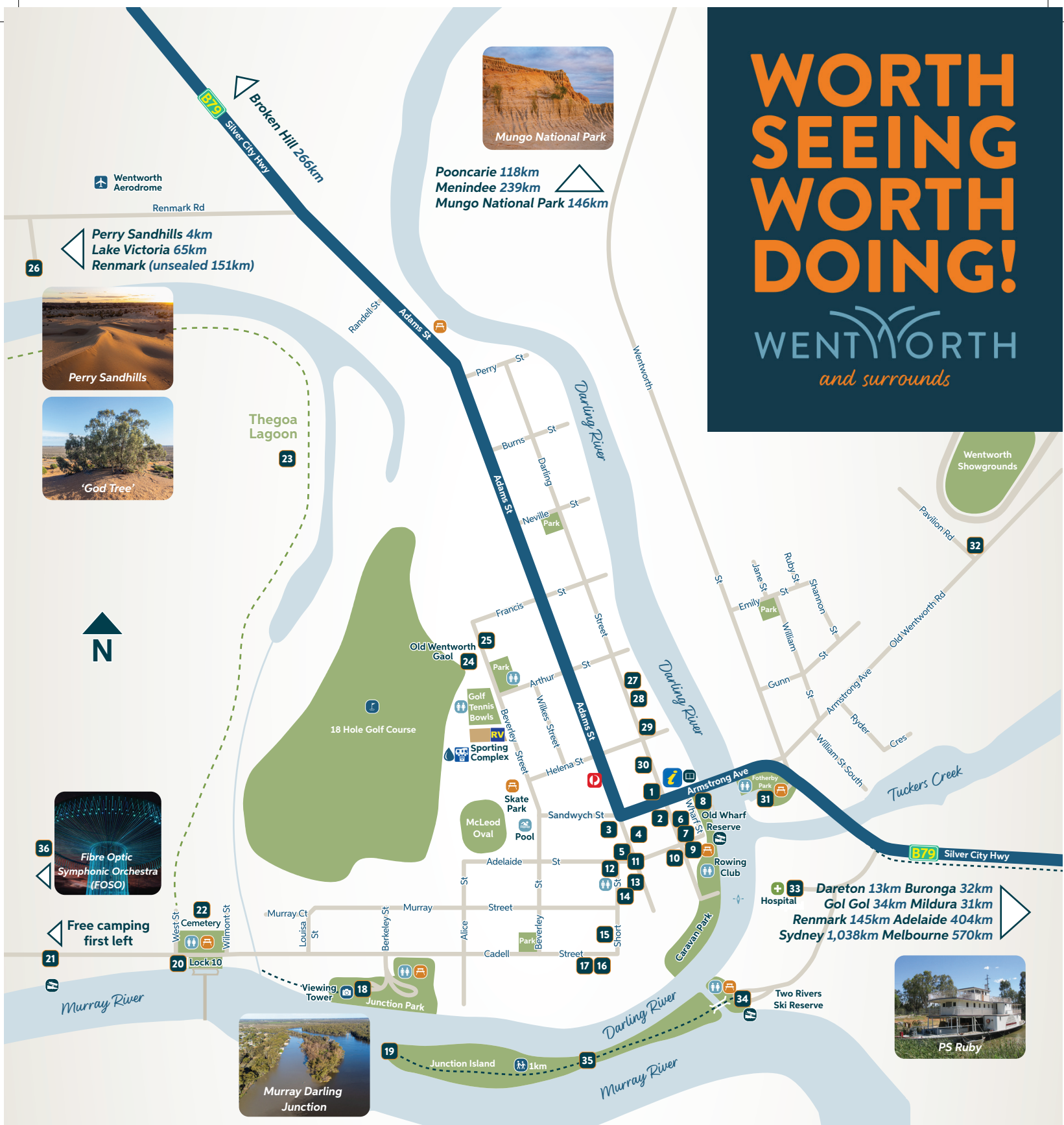


WORTH SEEING WORTH DOING!

WENTWORTH
and surrounds



TOP 8 WENTWORTH ATTRACTIONS

- Confluence of Murray & Darling Rivers (19)
- Junction Park & Viewing Tower (18)
- Old Wentworth Gaol (24)
- Perry Sandhills (26)
- Pioneer Museum (25)
- Model Paddlesteamer Display (7)
- Wentworth Wharf (8)
- Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra (FOSO) (36)

Wentworth Shire Council | April 2026



Wentworth Visitor Information Centre
61 Darling Street, Wentworth NSW 2648
Ph: (03) 5027 5080

experience WENTWORTH

Welcome to the Historic Port of Wentworth.



Approximate distance from the Wentworth Visitor Information Centre

1. The Old Wentworth Post Office (30 m)

Built in 1884, with later additions in 1899 instigated by Postal Inspector Brewer, this elegant building—with its ornate verandahs and picket fences—once buzzed with weekly arrivals of mail and newspapers, keeping the frontier town of Wentworth connected to the outside world.

2. Crown Hotel (75 m)

First opened on 1 July 1861, the original Crown Hotel was a striking two-storey brick building adorned with cast-iron balconies. Though the building no longer stands, the current pub evokes that initial grandeur, where stockmen, settlers and river workers once gathered to share news and camaraderie.

3. Rendelsham House (210 m)

This impressive residence, built in 1882 by Wentworth's first mayor, William Gunn, functioned over time as tearooms, a restaurant, a bed and breakfast and now a private home. It remains a proud architectural statement of the town's growth and civic pride during the late nineteenth century.

Note: Private residence – not open to the public

4. Captain Sturt Hotel (250 m)

Originally known as the Commercial (built in 1886), the hotel was renamed in 1925 after the addition of a second storey, honouring Captain Charles Sturt, the explorer who discovered the Murray River in 1830. Its country-pub atmosphere invites you to imagine the dusty boots and hearty glasses of its early patrons.

5. Ink Berry Tree (305 m)

An exotic curiosity along this route, this South American Ink Berry tree is one of a handful mysteriously planted by an unknown settler. It stands as a living botanical oddity—inviting speculation and wonder.

6. Royal Hotel (160 m)

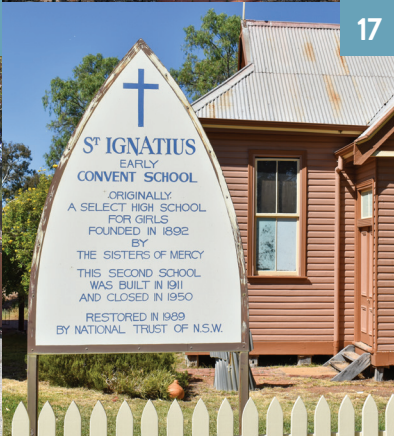
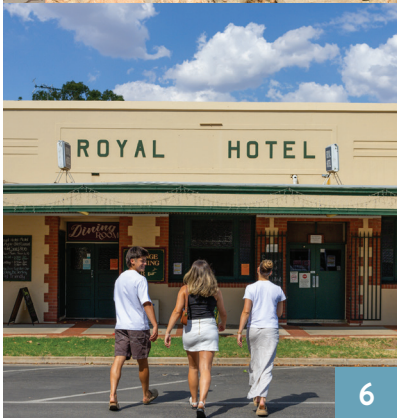
Established in 1866 by the Felgate family, the Royal Hotel quickly gained a reputation as the region's finest. While its brick frontage is modern, stepping inside through the rear reveals original timber floors where countless evenings of local news, laughter and harmony have passed.

7. Model Paddlesteamer Display (200 m)

Take in the grandeur of Wentworth's river past through Rodney Hobbs's meticulously crafted paddlesteamer models. Detailed fact sheets bring to life the era when nearly 500 vessels called at this port each year—an era when river trade, wool and wheat defined the town's wealth.

8. Wentworth Wharf (410 m)

Imagine days when the wharf was alive with steam whistles and whirling paddlewheels. The original 1879 wharf was central to Wentworth's prosperity. Today's replica and a statue of Captain John Egge—an entrepreneurial Chinese-born trader—pay homage to the town's multicultural river heritage.



9. Customs House (250 m)

Completed circa 1884, this building replaced an earlier structure and remained pivotal in regulating river trade until well into the early twentieth century. A 2001 plaque marks its heritage, and today it stands as a private reminder of Wentworth's role in customs history. **Note: Private residence – not open to the public**

10. Lock 10 & Weir Restaurant Site (230 m)

This site once housed offices, shops, and the Lyric Picture Theatre, serving the civic and cultural needs of early Wentworth. Today it welcomes visitors as a restaurant with river views, continuing a legacy of local gathering.

11. Tractor Monument (330 m)

A poignant testament to human resolve, this monument commemorates the tractors that protected Wentworth during the devastating 1956 floods. The stone cairn marks the exact height the waters would have reached, and the inscription praises those saved by technology and courage.

12. Wentworth Town Hall (430 m)

Originally a Mechanics Institute built in 1884, this hall once hosted public lectures, a lending library and early film screenings. Today, carefully restored, it serves as a venue for conferences, weddings and town meetings—continuing its civic legacy.

13. Saint Francis Xavier Church (450 m)

The first Catholic church along the Darling River, its foundation was laid on a rain-drenched day in 1871, and its first mass took place in early 1872. The building stands as a testament to the determination and faith of its early congregation.

14. Saint Francis Xavier Primary School (480 m)

Opened in the Jubilee Year of 1925, this school nurtured generations until closing in 2006. The building keeps vivid echoes of school bells, community meetings, and the everyday joys of rural education.

15. The Uniting Church (St Andrews) (600 m)

With roots in the Presbyterian congregation of the 1880s and a Methodist hall brought here in 1977, this church reflects spiritual amalgamation. A sunlit sundial, made from the chimney of the former manse, adorns the garden, functioning as a gentle marker of time and heritage.

16. Rendelsham (The Nunnery) (800 m)

This was the original Rendelsham house—Mayor Gunn's first residence—later repurposed as a presbytery and finally a convent for the Sisters of Mercy. The building's walls still resonate with quiet prayers and lessons from its days as a centre of faith and education. **Note: Private residence – not open to the public**

17. Saint Ignatius Catholic School (810 m)

Constructed in 1911, it claimed the distinction of being the first Catholic high school in the region. After closing in 1950, it was lovingly restored and heritage-listed in 2002. The wooden structure offers a window into early twentieth-century rural education. **Note: Private residence – not open to the public**

18. Junction Viewing Tower (1.5 km)

Ascend thirty-five spiral steps to panoramic views over the intersecting waters of the Darling and Murray rivers. On days when the rivers flow, you can witness the distinct hues of two great waterways merging—a powerful visual metaphor for cultural convergence.

19. Murray/Darling River Confluence (1.5 km)

Stand on the platform where the rivers meet. On 23 January 1830, Captain Charles Sturt journeyed to this very point and recognised the Murray River. Later, the site became a camp for pastoralists and a pivotal crossing on their route—a defining moment in inland settlement.

20. Lockmaster's Residence, Lock 10 & Weir (2 km)

This residence, built for Dr Emil Renner in 1855 and later expanded for the engineer overseeing Lock 10's construction (completed 1929), still overlooks the weir. The weir controls water levels and ensures river travel and irrigation—an engineering marvel of its era. **Note: Private residence – not open to the public**

21. The Common (2.5 km)

Once communal grazing land where residents paid for livestock pasturing, today The Common is a riverside open space—a place for picnics, reflection and repose beside the Murray River.

22. Wentworth Cemetery (2.3 km)

Among the quiet headstones are the resting places of early river traders, civic leaders and families who shaped the town. Some graves were moved, but the stories of these pioneers remain integral to local identity. Pick up a Wentworth Cemetery guide from the Wentworth Visitor Centre.

23. Thegoa Lagoon (2.5 km)

A once-central meeting place for the Barkindji people, the lagoon reveals middens, waterholes, scar trees and interpretive signage narrating a living link between the land and its First Peoples. Bird hides invite quiet observation of native wildlife.



Wentworth Visitor Information Centre,
61 Darling Street, Wentworth NSW 2648

Nestled on the banks of the Darling River, the Wentworth Visitor Centre is your welcoming gateway to the town's extraordinary history. Inside, you'll discover interactive displays celebrating Aboriginal culture, early explorers, the golden age of riverboats, and pioneer life. At Junction Café, enjoy a cup of coffee or light meal as you overlook the water—an ideal moment to gather your bearings and plan your journey.



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24. Old Wentworth Gaol (1 km)

From 1879 to 1881, this convict-style facility housed prisoners under the design of Colonial Architect James Barnett. Repurposed as school classrooms until 1963, it now offers heritage tours of cells and guardrooms—bringing the past vividly to life.

25. Wentworth Pioneer Museum (1 km)

Over 3,000 artefacts—including riverboat photographs, pioneer diaries and Aboriginal relics—are curated by Rotary Club volunteers. The museum's displays offer a personal look at the people who built and shaped Wentworth's community.

26. The Perry Sandhills (6 km)

These ancient red dunes, moulded by wind over 40,000 years, are etched with Aboriginal footprints and the shade of the "God Tree"—a red gum estimated at 500 years old. Used once as a Bomber Range in WWII, these sands now draw photographers, filmmakers and adventurers.

27. Wentworth Public School – 1881 Classroom (400 m)

An extension of the original 1860 National School, the 1881 gallery classroom remains part of the school grounds. It supports the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program—educating children about gardening and cooking while preserving history.

28. St John the Evangelist Anglican Church (200 m)

Completed in 1871, this church used bricks both shipped by barge and produced locally, following an English church design. It remains a sacred space within the community and holds heritage listing with the National Trust.

29. The Rectory (150 m)

Constructed in 1873, this brick residence was the district's grandest private home of its time, built for the Reverend William Cocks. Today, manicured gardens surround this privately-owned heritage house, offering a glimpse of 19th-century clerical living.

Note: Private residence – not open to the public

30. Wentworth Court House (20 m)

Opened on 13 April 1880, this clay-brick courthouse replaced a smaller building and continues to operate within its original purpose. The restored picket fence enhances the building's stateliness—a local icon of justice and authority.

31. Fotherby Park (500 m)

This picturesque park honours the community's heritage with three distinctive features:

- Paddlesteamer Ruby: built in 1907, restored and returned to water in 2007.
- McClymont's Cottage: the first courthouse, relocated and preserved.
- Statue of "Possum": paying tribute to a reclusive local who lived in the area for decades—his story is made accessible via a 20-cent voca-phone.

32. Wentworth Showgrounds Entrance Gates (1.2 km)

Once part of the original nineteenth-century Wentworth Bridge, these gates have been repurposed to welcome showgoers. They symbolise resilience, restoration and continuity within the town's public life.

33. Hospital and Water Tower (1 km)

Built in 1887 to isolate infectious patients, the hospital once used a bell to summon boat transport. Next to it stands the Hudson Brothers iron water tower (built in Scotland in 1885), a striking example of early municipal water infrastructure.

34. Junction Island Ski Reserve (1.5 km)

Funded by the Wentworth-Broken Hill Pipeline project, this reserve offers picnic facilities, fire pits and boat ramps. A scar tree at the entrance stands as a testament to Aboriginal cultural practices.

35. Junction Island Reserve & Walk (1.5 km)

This scenic walk meanders through river red gum woodlands on the island formed by the river confluence. Along the path, interpretive signage recounts stories of Captain Sturt's encounter with Barkindji guides in 1830 and offers moments of quiet reflection on the power of nature and shared histories.

36. Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra (FOSO) (4.9 km)

Set against the backdrop of the ancient Perry Sandhills, this immersive masterpiece by artist Bruce Munro reimagines 80 iconic Hills Hoist clotheslines as a "symphonic orchestra" of light. As you wander through the installation, cylindrical fiber optic cables pulse with a rainbow of colors synchronized to an original score by composer Nainita Desai, creating a multisensory experience where sound is translated into vivid visual patterns. It is a stunning fusion of Australian heritage, technology, and the artist's fascination with the connection between color and music.



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