

# Get Out of Town

- **FOSSICKING FOR PETRIFIED WOOD** – Enjoy some fresh air and country scenery when you join the fossicking enthusiasts with your own pick, shovel and bucket and dig for a piece of petrified wood.

Chinchilla petrified wood dates back to the Jurassic period with cycads, conifers and ferns being covered with massive amounts of volcanic ash and mud flows. A DNRM licence and fees to fossick on two local sites must be obtained and are available at the Chinchilla Visitor Information Centre.

- **BIRD WATCHING AND BUSHWALKING** – Pack your picnic lunch and binoculars and take a walk in the country or just sit on the water's edge to observe the many species of bird life at Old Man Lagoon, Round Waterhole, Archer's Crossing, Chinchilla Weir and parts of Barakula State Forest.
- **KOGAN TOWNSHIP** – Take a drive from Chinchilla through farming districts to Kogan, now at the centre of Queensland's energy hub. Stop and take a walk through the Q150 Hugh Sawrey Walkway which features sculptures and artwork made by local artists. Meet a local at the Kogan Hotel where artist Hugh Sawrey painted wall murals while working on local cattle properties after WWII.
- **KOGAN CREEK POWER STATION** – Clearly visible from the Warrego Highway between Warra and Brigalow, this plant opened in 2007 and marked the beginning of the resources industry entry to the region providing power to the national grid. Drive down Banana Bridge Road at Brigalow for a closer look.

## ASK A LOCAL

We hope you enjoy your stay. The information is a guide only. Always drive to conditions and if in doubt, ask a local!

**Dalby Visitor Information Centre**  
Thomas Jack Park  
Cnr Drayton & Condamine Streets  
DALBY QLD 4405  
 (07) 4679 4461  
 dalby.vic@wdrc.qld.gov.au

**OPENING HOURS:**  
Monday to Friday 9am–4.30pm  
Saturday 10am–2pm  
Sunday 10am–12pm

**Miles Visitor Information Centre**  
Miles Historical Village Museum  
Murilla Street  
MILES QLD 4415  
 (07) 4627 1492  
 miles.vic@wdrc.qld.gov.au

**OPENING HOURS:**  
Monday to Sunday 8.30am–4.30pm



Chinchilla Botanic Parkland



Chinchilla Museum

*Chinchilla* - "Jinchilla" is an aboriginal word recorded as describing the plentiful cypress pine growing in the region.



Q150 Hugh Sawrey Walkway (Kogan)

**Chinchilla Visitor Information Centre**  
Warrego Highway (opposite Pioneer Cemetery)  
CHINCHILLA QLD 4413  
 (07) 4660 7291  
 chinchilla.vic@wdrc.qld.gov.au

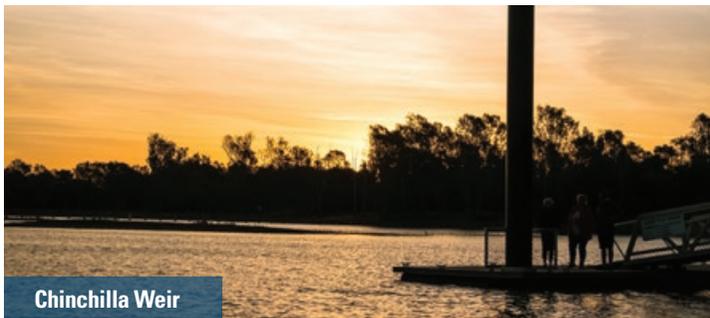
**OPENING HOURS:**  
Monday to Friday 9am–5pm  
Saturday 9am–1pm  
Sunday 10am–12pm



# Explore CHINCHILLA



 **Western Downs**  
Queensland



Chinchilla Weir

**1 THE BIG MELON** – Stop and take a photo of this giant four tonne, nine metre wide watermelon slice which stands pride of place on the Warrego Highway, between the Chinchilla Visitor Information Centre and the railway crossing.

A national on-line travel company competition to build a new “Big Thing”, saw Chinchilla’s bid for a big melon slice beat three other finalists for an over-sized tourist attraction.

**2 CHINCHILLA BOTANIC PARKLAND** – This Parkland incorporates the prehistoric flora and fauna native to the area, the region’s Aboriginal cultural history and the town’s railway heritage connection with the early western line.

Diverse flora including wildflowers and wattles, White Cypress Pine and Chinchilla White Gums feature in the Parkland’s garden.

Be inspired by the Demonstration Garden or walk along the meandering Ephemeral Creek which mirrors the banks of nearby Charleys Creek.

Enjoy a splash of water when the showpiece watermelon fills up and empties in the custom built watermelon water play area.

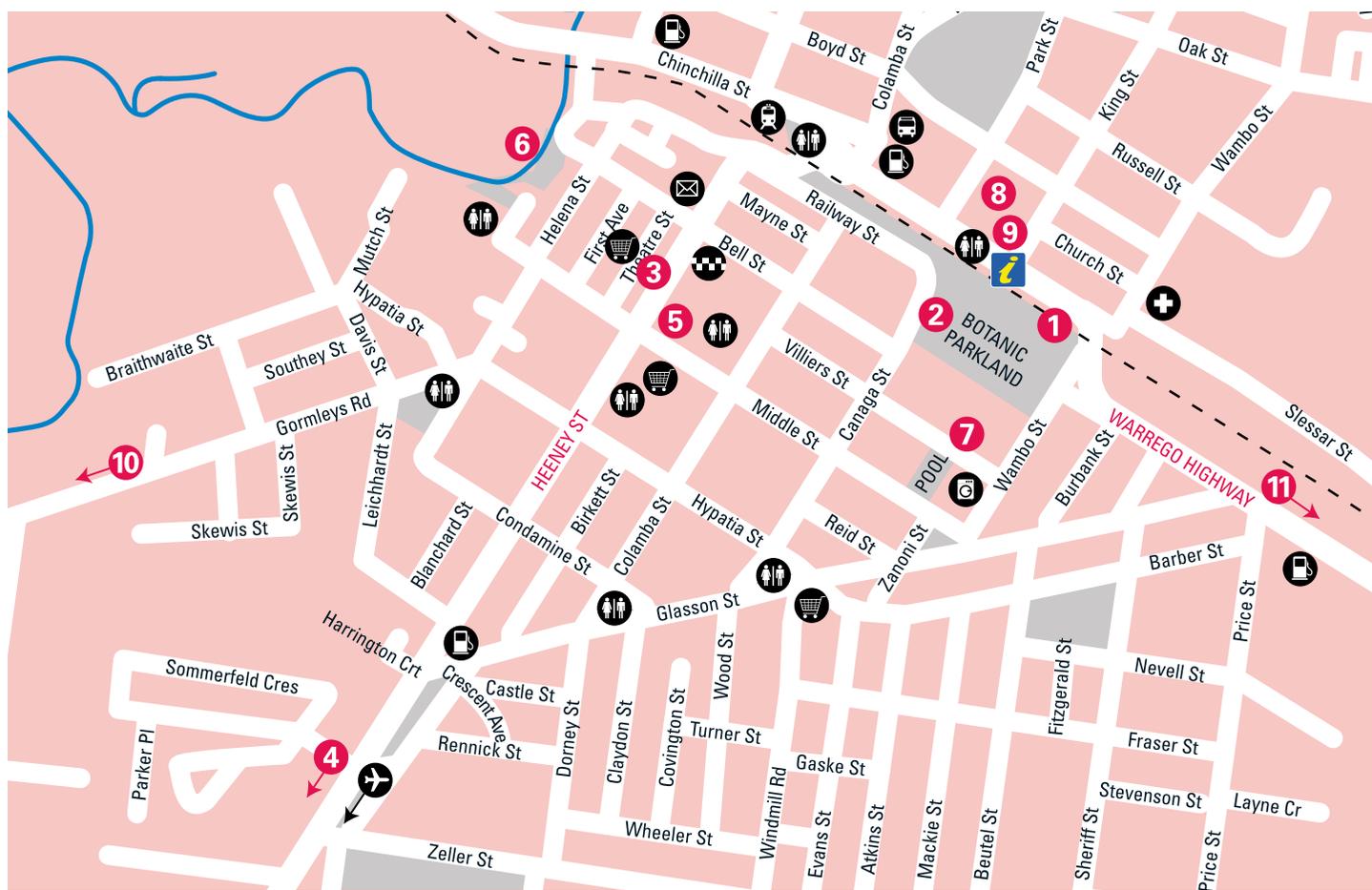
**3 TOWN CENTRE** – The Camphor Laurel tree-lined Heeney Street in the town’s centre was named in 1887 after Francis Xavier Heeney, a Warrego district Crown Lands Commissioner. A walk along this street takes in the main retail precinct, the old Court House, Post Office, historical markers and the Cypress Pine Art Sculpture round-a-bout. Take a rest in Fuller Place, a community space in the middle of Heeney Street which is surrounded by the Lapunyah Art Gallery, Cinema and Library.

Nearby, Bell and Middle Streets also feature historical points of interest and other retail shops.

**4 CHINCHILLA WEIR** – Located on the Condamine River, 10km south of Chinchilla, the Weir is a freshwater playground for locals and visitors. Camping is available (two nights maximum) with toilets, limited powered sites, bbq and picnic facilities. Donations for camping are accepted at the Chinchilla Visitor Information Centre.

**5 LAPUNYAH ART GALLERY** – This local gallery has a regular changing program of exhibitions from local and visiting artists.

# Things to See and Do



**6 CHARLEYS CREEK WALK** – This creek-side walk extends under both the Railway and Highway bridges and includes a restful picnic area and park at the Mutch Street end of the walk.

**7 CHINCHILLA MUSEUM** – A showcase of the town and surrounding district’s past history, featuring a petrified wood display, the cactoblastis story and Cypress Pine Interpretive Centre.

**8 PIONEER CEMETERY** – Delve into Chinchilla’s history with a wander through this cemetery with burials dating back to 1892.

**9 LEICHHARDT MONUMENT** – Located in the Pioneer Cemetery across the road from the Visitor Information Centre. This Prussian explorer passed through the area in 1848.

**10 “THE SHANTI” CACTOBLASTIS MONUMENT AND SHED** – The cactoblastis moth and its larvae eradicated the nuisance plant, the “prickly pear” which covered much of Queensland’s farm land in the early 1900s. A monument and replica shed is located near the entrance to the property “The Shanti” on Clarke’s Road which operated as a Field Station to breed the moth in the early 1930s.

**11 BOONARGA CACTOBLASTIS MEMORIAL HALL** – Located on the Warrego Highway, the hall was built in 1936 after the Field Station closure to recognise the success of this “Miracle Bug” program in the effected district.