

Dowerin is an ideal destination for visitors and is only a 2-hour scenic drive from the city, the gateway to the Wheatbelt Way and the midpoint of the historic Pioneer's Pathway. Dowerin is surrounded by farmland, native reserves, heritage buildings and sites and seasonal wildflowers.

Dowerin has a range of services including a roadhouse, post office, visitors centre, general store, café, hotel and light industrial consisting of mechanics, tyre service along with top-class recreational facilities, including the Community Club.

HISTORY

The name 'Dowerin' is taken from the Aboriginal word 'Daren' that was given to a series of lakes 8 kilometers South of the town, established near a soak or waterhole known as the 'Tin Dog Creek', the creek was named by gold miners travelling to the Yilgarn goldfields who called their tinned beef "tinned dog" and would discard tins at the creek.

The first settlement for agriculture was in 1897 and the town was not established until 1906 when the railway line was extended from Goomalling. The town of Dowerin grew rapidly from that point, with the first store opening in 1906 and in a short time was able to cater for most of the settlers needs.

The Road Board was formed in 1912. The area was previously administered by the Goomalling Road Board and the new Dowerin Road Board covered a vast area including both Wyalkatchem and Koorda.



ACCOMMODATION

Dowerin Short Stay Accommodation & Caravan Park - Bookings Required

Corner East & Fraser Street
P: (08) 9631 1202
A/H: 0429 311 202

www.dowerinaccommodation.com.au

Dowerin Motel & Caravan Park - Bookings Required

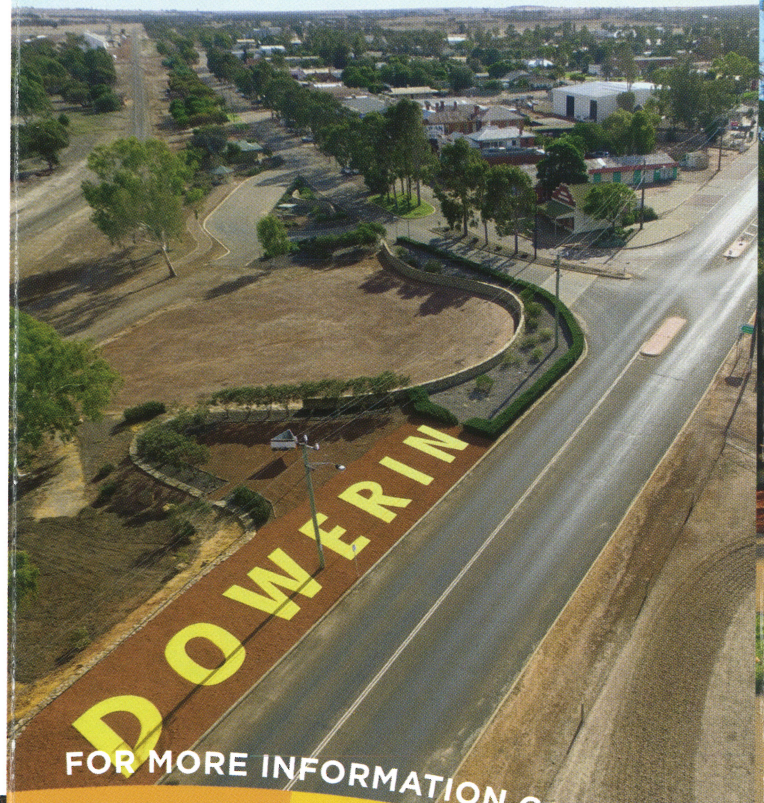
12 Goldfields Road
P: (08) 9631 1135

Dowerin Commercial Hotel - Bookings Required

4 Stewart Street
P: (08) 9631 1206

Minnivale Campground - NO Booking Required

Corner Hewitt St & Cunderdin-Minnivale Road
P: (08) 9631 1202



DOWERIN

'Tin Dog Territory'

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Shire of Dowerin: (08) 9631 1202
Dowerin Community Resource Centre: (08) 9631 1662
Email: dowshire@dowerin.wa.gov.au
Website: www.dowerin.wa.gov.au

Pose for a photo with Rusty & Rosey, delve into pioneering history at the Dowerin Museum, take a stroll along Tin Dog Creek Walk Trail or simply sit back and breathe in that country air while watching the world go by in Centenary Park.



WALK TRAIL & BIRD HIDE

Located near the Tourist Information Bay on Goldfields Road; follow the signs to enjoy the long or short walking trail.

Take a stroll through some of the last of untouched bush in the Wheatbelt and you will not have to look hard to find some fantastic native flora and fauna throughout the trail. Along the walk trail, you will discover the Dowerin Bird Hide, view a large variety of birds through the newly constructed viewing area.



RUSTY & ROSEY

In 2004, Rusty was designed by students at Dowerin District High School as an initiative to encourage visitors to stop and enjoy the town of Dowerin. The inspiration for Rusty comes from the legend of 'Tin Dog Creek'. Tin Dog Creek got its name during settlement of the area and the commencement of mining in the Yilgarn Goldfields.

Settlers in Northam began to use the land surrounding Yilgarn Goldfields to feed and rest stock during winter before driving them home as the feed began to dry off.

Rosey was designed and built in 2020 by a local business. Rosey joins Rusty in celebrating Tin Dog Creek and acknowledges the contribution of the women pioneers who were integral to the development and growth of Dowerin.



NAMELKATCHEM RESERVE

Located 17km east of Dowerin at the intersection of Cunderdin-Minnivale Road is a 600 acre A1 reserve. The Namelkatchem Reserve was used by travellers on their journey to the Goldfields in the late 1800's. The tracks made by wagon wheels are still visible today.

Within the Namelkatchem Reserve is the Namelkatchem Well. The Well was built in approx 1865, making it the earliest European built structure in the area. The Well was initially used to provide water to miners travelling to the Goldfields, and was later used to provide water to horse teams transporting wheat to and from Minnivale.

DOWERIN & DISTRICT MUSEUM

A visit to the Dowerin District Museum offers a unique view of how settlers lived. It is a genuine cottage with furnishings from 1915-1930's and various artefacts from around the district.

The building was originally built in 1915 by Eugene O'Shaughnessy to bring his new bride to Dowerin. Its inhabitants are rich accounts of life in Wheatbelt WA during the first half of the 20th century offering a unique and compelling vision of family and business life at that time. The building itself is a very authentic weatherboard and iron-roofed cottage.

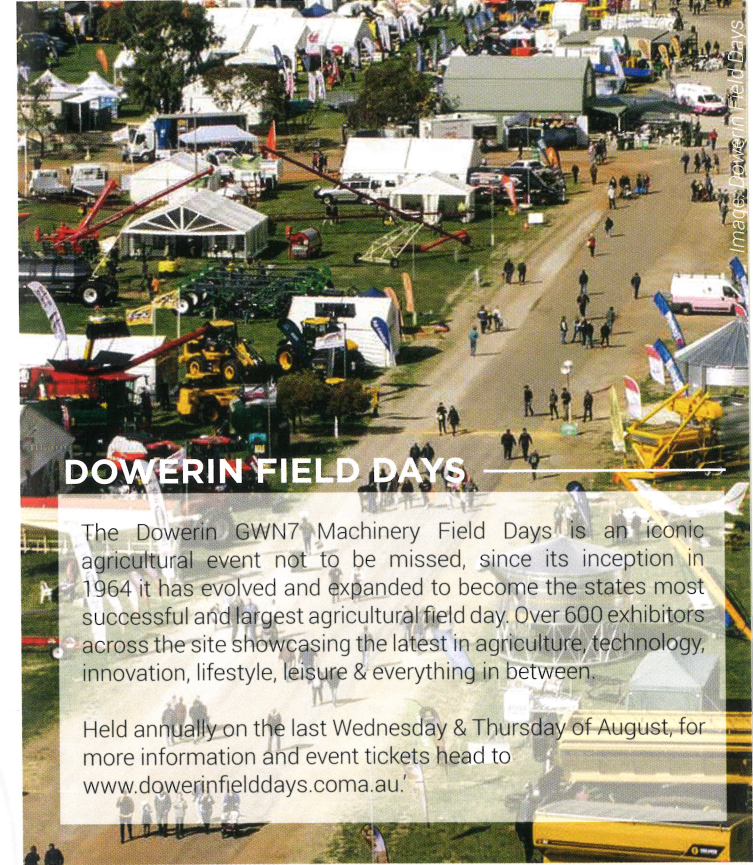
The museum, located at 16 Cottrell Street, Dowerin is open by request. Please make arrangements through the Shire of Dowerin.

WILDFLOWERS

The best times to view wildflowers in Dowerin is from mid-July through to mid-September with different species putting on their displays over the season (depending on rainfall received). Some orchid and wattle species flower as early as April and May.

In normal seasons, opening rains set Dowerin up for a brilliant display of wildflowers including masses of white, pink and yellow everlastings, up to 20 varieties of orchids and many bigger trees and shrubs such as wattles, melaleuca, hakea, grevillea, and climbing clematis vines. Calothamnusquadrifidus provides a great display of red one-sided flowers as does Leptospermum erubescens with its show of pink and white.

For more information on where to view wildflowers please visit the Wheatbelt Way website or contact the Dowerin Community Resource Centre (08 9631 1662).



DOWERIN FIELD DAYS

The Dowerin GWN7 Machinery Field Days is an iconic agricultural event not to be missed, since its inception in 1964 it has evolved and expanded to become the states most successful and largest agricultural field day. Over 600 exhibitors across the site showcasing the latest in agriculture, technology, innovation, lifestyle, leisure & everything in between.

Held annually on the last Wednesday & Thursday of August, for more information and event tickets head to www.dowerinfielddays.com.au/

RABBIT PROOF FENCE 2

Running from North to South through the Eastern third of the Shire. This fence was built in 1907-1908 and much of it remains in good condition. Mileposts mark the distance from the South coast.

The fence originally went from Point Anne to North of Cue, where it turned east to join Rabbit Proof Fence No. 1 at Gum Creek. It is one of three long fences in the State designed to control the rabbit plague, which could wreak enormous havoc in agricultural areas. The fences failed in their purpose, although much time and money were expended to make them work.

NAANING WELL

Located East of Dowerin, just off the Goomalling-Merredin Road, Naaning Well site was significant for supplying water to gold seekers on the goldfields track to the Yilgarn Goldfield in the late 1800's. The rest area near Naaning Well offers ample parking space, picnic table & an eco-toilet.

