



Signpost to Duaringa



DUARINGA

We are 'The Gateway to the Central Highlands' and celebrate our strong focus on families, culture and country living.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND US?

We are located at the eastern entrance to the Central Highlands region on the Capricorn Highway, 108 kilometres west of Rockhampton. It is a further 80 kilometres west along the highway to Blackwater and 160 kilometres to Emerald, while the Fitzroy Development Road links us to southern regions.

HOW DID DUARINGA BEGIN?

For thousands of years, Duaringa has long been a gathering place for people and we believe our name comes from the aboriginal word meaning 'a meeting place on the swamp oaks'.

Early pastoralists settled in the area in the 1850s. Buildings dating back to the 1860s are preserved in our town as a testament to the pioneering lifestyle. As construction of the railway progressed westward from Rockhampton in 1876, our town was established as a rural and railway service centre.

The Brigalow Development Scheme in the 1960s opened up considerable tracts of brigalow scrub to the north of us.

The fertile floodplains and catchments of the Dawson and Mackenzie River systems now produce some of the finest grain crops and beef cattle in Central Queensland. This further boosted our role as a rural centre providing essential

services to people on the land and travellers to our area.

WHAT MAKES OUR COMMUNITY UNIQUE?

As a long-established town and locality, we have been described as 'the essence of a small rural community'. We respect both our indigenous and pioneering heritage. Our active Arts and Heritage groups value collecting, recording and preserving our history.

Our population totalled 604 in 2010 with 263 people living in Duaringa and 341 living in the surrounding rural area.

We have easy-going friendly attitudes and offer old fashioned 'country hospitality'. We cherish our integrity as a rural community and nurture strong family ties. Our community is a safe and happy place to raise children.

We have long relied on each other to progress opportunities and deal with hardships such as drought and floods. Our community spirit has enabled us to work together to develop a number of facilities in our town such as the golf course, walking-track and Mackenzie Park.

Our visitor information centre and the rare stringybark tree can be found in Mackenzie Park with our historic cemetery nearby.

We enjoy active lifestyles and outdoor activities including sports like camp-drafting and golf. We take advantage of our areas' many natural features such as the Dawson River for fishing and camping.



WHERE DO OUR PEOPLE LIVE AND WORK?

Continuing the tradition which began some 135 years ago, we are a town which provides reliable and loyal service to others.

Employment in agriculture, mining and local government are the economic backbone of our community.

As a small rural community, our town has all the facilities we require for everyday living. We have a primary school, swimming pool, police station, courthouse, library, ambulance and other emergency services. We have access to telecommunications networks, a hotel, post office, churches and sporting facilities.

The grain depot performs a vital service for primary producers. The roadhouse is not only a place to refuel for truck drivers but also a refreshing spot for travellers and tourists to revive.

HOW DO WE GET AROUND?

We are a significant transport hub for our local area. Trains hauling coal and other commodities pass through our town.

With our frontage to the Capricorn Highway, we are in a prime position to attract stop-overs from travellers. With Rockhampton and Blackwater only a one hour drive away, we have close access to more specialised services such as doctors and banks.

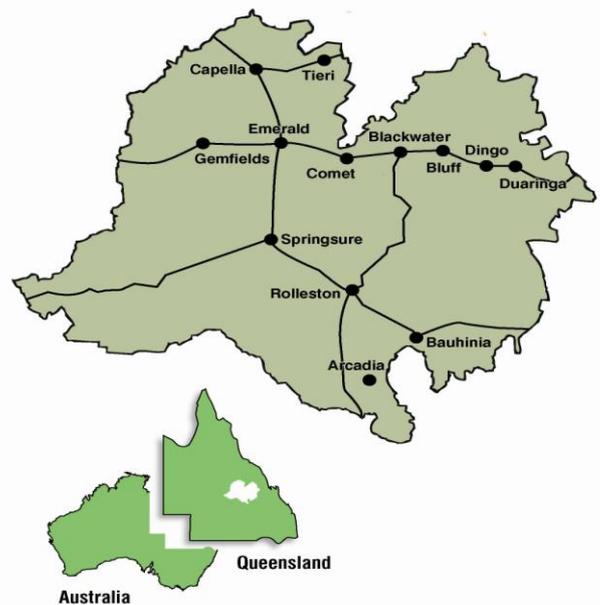
Close proximity to the huge cattle selling complex at Gracemere outside Rockhampton makes transport efficient and economical for beef producers.

Apis Creek Road and the Fitzroy Development Road connect us to farming communities and cattle stations to the north and south.

DUARINGA – A JOURNEY INTO THE FUTURE

As we look to the future, we hope to improve town services and achieve a sustainable population by capitalising on our ‘country lifestyle’ and close city access.

Central Highlands Region



This signpost was created as a brief introduction to our town/locality. Information was accessed from a variety of sources including tourism brochures, web-sites and local people.

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