





Change your life with a move to the Riverina!

Life could be different. Make more time for your family, get ahead financially and give yourself a better future. The Riverina is full of exciting career and business opportunities, excellent infrastructure, affordable and spacious housing, beautiful scenery, friendly people and plenty to see and do.

Sun setting over The Rock Nature Reserve - Kengal Aboriginal Place, Lockhart. Credit: Destination NSW



Couple enjoying a picnic in the Ardlethan countryside.



Couple enjoying an afternoon at Wagga Beach, Wagga Wagga. Credit: Destination NSW



Your Country Change: what are you waiting for?

Friends enjoying a long lunch with scenic views at Food I Am, Wagga Wagga. Credit: Destination NSW

Tired of huge mortgage repayments, long commutes and the high stress city lifestyle? Do you dream of a life without mad dashes through city traffic to appointments and activities? Imagine being able to leave home minutes before you have to be somewhere, easily finding a parking spot and sauntering to your destination. Take out the stress of daily city life and focus on what matters. This can be your life in the Riverina, with both peaceful, spacious rural townships and vibrant regional hubs teeming with great jobs, homes, culture and lifestyle.

Career

With exceptional career and business openings available across the region, The Riverina offers diverse and challenging opportunities, without all the stress of the rat race. View some Riverina Jobs to see how far moving to the country can take you!

Housing

Take advantage of the Riverina's highly affordable, spacious family homes and lower cost of living; get ahead and enjoy the freedom from mortgage stress. View some Riverina Real Estate to see how spacious moving to the country can be!

A Better Future

With low crime, quality infrastructure and health care, the Riverina ticks all the boxes for long term growth. The Riverina offers excellent educational options including a highly regarded university, TAFEs and quality public and private schooling options. Moving to the country could be the best thing you do for your family's future.

Affordability

Get ahead with your finances by enjoying a lower cost of living while earning a competitive salary. Afford the lifestyle you want, while building your financial future.

Family Time

The Riverina's many sporting, social, arts and cultural attractions will keep the whole family entertained! Galleries, wineries, museums, performing arts or just dinner, a movie or a footy game, the Riverina region has it all. Moving to the Riverina means the great outdoors, beautiful countryside, river activities, magnificent national parks and the Kosciusko ski fields are right on your doorstep.

Country Lifestyle, City Convenience

The Riverina is home to two regional hubs that tick all the boxes for convenience, lifestyle, culture, infrastructure and outstanding potential for growth. With Wagga Wagga, New South Wales' largest inland city, and border city Albury close by, city convenience is never far away.

Moving to the Riverina is simple. Let us show you how.



Ready to move to the country? We can help!

We're ready to support you all the way with advice and practical assistance. Moving to the country is as easy as A-B-C!

A Shortlist towns that tick all the boxes

Once you've decided to move to the country, you'll be spoilt for choice by the Riverina towns on offer. Each town offers its own unique infrastructure and lifestyle features. Review each town in the Riverina, looking at jobs, real estate, tourism and climate to create a shortlist! If you need help, simply get in touch with Country Change or request an info pack on the Riverina.

B Arrange a visit to your favourite towns

Arrange a visit to your preferred towns, guided by a Country Change consultant (click here to request a guided tour of towns in the Riverina). We can show you schools, entertainment options, infrastructure, job networks, real estate agencies and even introduce you to some locals who'd be happy to help you get settled. Once you know which town is the right one for you, it's time to make that tree change, NSW!

Move to the country with confidence

Country Change exists to help make the move to the country easier for you. You'll be supported all the way (and our service is completely free) with help finding everything you need to get here and get settled. We'll help you and your whole family to establish a great support network so you can thrive in the Riverinal



Streetscape in the town of Gundagai.
Credit: Destination NSW

Testimonial



Wayne and Mia Bond - Leeton

With a population of just over 11,000, you might be tempted to think of this place as 'just another country town' to pass through on your way to somewhere else. But Leeton has plenty of reasons for you to stick around.

Wayne and Mia Bond liked this Riverina township so much they stayed. And as owners of the Leeton Heritage Motor Inn and Charley's Bar and Grill, they invite you to stay too.

The couple met two and a half decades ago while working at a Salvation Army hostel.

"She said hello...", Wayne said, "We went out... and the rest is history, so they say." Their strong commitment to community kept them both working in Sydney for the Salvos, where they spent 10-12 more years in service.

The couple then moved to Toowoomba, Queensland, which is where they first started in the Motel business. They worked in several places in south-east Qld (Ipswich, Brisbane, Redcliffe) before the opportunity to run the Leeton Heritage Motor Inn came up. Ready for a new challenge, they took a drive to Leeton to get a feel for the place.

Their first thoughts were, "This looks like a great motel, a great business and a great town." And it turns out that Leeton is all of those things and more. People are genuinely friendly and welcoming. "We really like the country lifestyle. You have clean country air, so you can get out and you can go for a walk without smog. There are sports clubs, gyms, restaurants, hotels and bars, an RSL club, and shops, little novelty sort of shops that you wouldn't find in most places with gifts and clothes and those sort of things."

Although running the Leeton Heritage Motor Inn requires the same amount of effort and hours as the Bond's were accustomed to, life seems to go at a more relaxed pace. "It's more peaceful, you get to know people better," affirms Wayne. "For a work environment, and for families as well, it's just a great community to live and grow in."

Wayne's main piece of advice for anyone thinking of a making a Country Change is to go and visit the town. "I think you need to just go and experience it. Check out a country town and try the coffee in the cafes and just talk to people... they're just friendly, and they like to say, 'G'day.' If you want to chat, they're happy to chat. But until you actually experience [a town] and give it a go, then it's hard to really know whether it's going to be for you or not."



Checklist

- Compare services, facilities and livability of each town, including cost and availability of housing.
- Identify employment opportunities to suit your family's needs. Consider school hours, weekend or even after school opportunities, depending on your family's needs.
- Plan a visit to your favourite options it is important to visit and see the town, services and facilities for yourself and where possible, spend a night or two.
- Get in touch with the local council and ask for a guided tour of the area. We can help you connect to the right people in each area.
- Visit the educational facilities, childcare or pre-school facilities if you have a young family.

 Consider a visit to local TAFEs or the University
- Consider a visit to the health care and seniors recreation facilities if you're retiring to the region.
- If you love your sport, visit the local sporting facilities, meet with representatives from the local sporting associations and get to know your new team!
- Make arrangements to visit real estate agents, view properties on the market, and talk to them about your requirements. They may be able to keep you in mind if your dream property comes up!
- Make comparisons between cost of housing, cost of living and lifestyle opportunities.

- Ensure the services and infrastructure you require are available, discuss your requirements with local representatives.
- Bring the family, show them around. Let the kids check out the local schools and see what takes their interest. (Check the public school catchment area here).
- Where possible, speak to others that have already relocated to your preferred location(s) or know the area well.
- Ask the locals! Locals, friends, colleagues, family and local tourism guides can help with information on local clubs, recreation and other lifestyle services.
- Check out health services, art and culture, recreational activities – don't be afraid to ask questions!
- Take the time to get to know the town, get a feel for the local culture and really consider which town is right for you. With so many unique towns in Riverina, chances are, at least one will "just click".



Crowds enjoying live music at the 2019 Lost Lanes event in Wagga Wagga.

Credit: Destination NSW

Lifestyle Links

- Riverina Tourism www.theriverina.com.au
- Charles Sturt University www.csu.edu.au
- TAFE Riverina www.tafensw.edu.au/locations/riverina
- Regional Development Australia Riverina www.rdariverina.org.au
- South West Arts Inc www.southwestarts.com.au
- Eastern Riverina Arts Program www.easternriverinaarts.org.au
- Western Riverina Arts Program www.westrivarts.com.au
- Griffith Regional Art Gallery www.griffithregionalartgallery.com.au
- National Art and Glass Museum www.waggaartgallery.com.au
- Southern Sports Academy www.ssa-nsw.org.au
- Riverina Fishing www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/ resources/info/local-fishing-guides/riverina
- Bike Riding www.bicyclingaustralia.com
- Motorcycle clubs Enduro, Dirt track, Amcross & Motox www.holbrookmotorcyclesportsclub.com www.sites.google.com/a/leetonmotorcycleclub.com/lmcc www.temoramotorcycleclub.com www.griffithmsc.com.au
- Bushwalking www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au
- Temora Aviation Museum www.aviationmuseum.com.au
- Coolamon Cheese www.coolamoncheese.com.au
- Batlow Ciderfest www.batlowciderfest.com.au
- The Kidman Way www.kidmanway.org.au
- Gears and Beers Festival www.gearsandbeers.org.au
- Lost Lanes Festival www.visitwagga.com/lostlanes
- Riverina Outdoor Art Trail theriverina.com.au/riverina-outdoor-art-trail
- Tumut River Brewing Company www.trbc.com.au

- Spirit Of The Land Festival www.spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au
- Griffith Springfest www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/visit
- Henty Machinery Field Days www.hmfd.com.au
- Roxy Community Theatre www.roxyleeton.com.au
- Lake Talbot Water Park www.narrandera.com.au/project/ lake-talbot-swimming-complex

Riverina Towns and Cities

- Bland www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au
- Carrathool www.carathool.nsw.gov.au
- Coolamon www.visitcoolamonshire.com.au
- Cootamundra www.visitcootamundra.com.au
- Greater Hume www.visitgreaterhume.com.au
- Griffith www.griffith.nsw.gov.au
- Gundagai www.visitgundagai.com.au
- Hay www.visithay.com.au
- Junee www.youmeandjunee.com.au
- Leeton www.leetontourism.com.au
- Lockhart www.visitlockhartshire.com.au
- Murrumbidgee www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au
- Narrandera www.narrandera.com.au
- Snowy Valleys www.visitsnowyvalleys.com.au
- Temora www.temora.com.au
- Wagga Wagga www.visitwagga.com



Country Change – Free Services to Help You Move to the Riverina

Country Change is a free service for those planning a Tree Change in NSW. We exist to help people to escape the city rat race and move to the country region known as the Riverina, in the heart of NSW. Thinking of moving to the country? We can help and we'd love to hear from you.



